

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

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

**Signed July 24, 2025** 

United States Bankruptcy Judge

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

In re:

S
Chapter 11

Case No. 24-90000 (ELM)

Debtors.

S
(Jointly Administered)

# FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND ORDER CONFIRMING TRUSTEE'S FIRST AMENDED JOINT CHAPTER 11 PLAN, AS MODIFIED

Upon the *Trustee's First Amended Joint Chapter 11 Plan* [Docket No. 879] (the "Original Plan"), as modified by Docket No. 935-1 (the "Plan Modification") (as so modified, attached hereto as **Exhibit A**) and supplemented by the supplement and related exhibits filed by the Trustee on May 26, 2025 [Docket No. 917], as amended on July 1, 2025 [Docket No. 1002]

(1070); Tommy's Stockton, LLC (1338); and Tommy's Knoxville, LLC (8052).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Debtors in these chapter 11 cases, along with the last four digits of each Debtor's federal tax identification number, are: Tommy's Fort Worth, LLC (3473); Tommy's Holding Company, LLC (2662); Tommy's Grand Rapids, LLC (9224); Tommy's Castaic, LLC (7501); Tommy's Lewisville, LLC (4750); High Country Watersports, LLC (6160); Walloon Lake Village Marina, LLC (0277); MKB Florida Holdings, LLC (5698); Tommy's Detroit, LLC (5242); Tommy's California Fresno, LLC (8597); Tommy's Phoenix, LLC (3036); Tommy's Las Vegas, LLC (7721); Tommy's Chattanooga, LLC (0839); Tommy's California Ventura, LLC (5149); Tommy's Rancho Cordova, LLC

(collectively, the "Plan Supplement") (see Trustee Exh. 7 and M&T Exh. 1) (the Original Plan, as modified by the Plan Modification, supplemented by the Plan Supplement, and further modified by the Classification/Treatment Stipulations (as hereafter defined) and Additional Plan Modifications (as hereafter defined), the "Plan");<sup>2</sup> and the Original Plan and the corresponding Disclosure Statement Regarding Trustee's First Amended Joint Chapter 11 Plan [Docket No. 880] (the "Disclosure Statement") (see Trustee Exh. 2) having been distributed or made available to holders of Claims and Equity Interests and other parties in interest as provided in the Solicitation Order;<sup>3</sup> and good and sufficient notice of the Original Plan, the Disclosure Statement, the Plan Supplement, the Plan Modification, and the Confirmation Hearing having been provided to holders of Claims and Equity Interests in accordance with title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code"), the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the "Bankruptcy Rules"), the Local Rules of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Texas (the "Local Rules") and the orders of this Court, as established by the certificates of service filed with the Court (the "Certificates of Service"),<sup>4</sup> and such notice being sufficient under the circumstances and no other or further notice being required; and after due consideration of (i) the Declaration of Mark E. Andrews, Chapter 11 Trustee, in Support of Confirmation of the Trustee's First Amended Joint Chapter 11 Plan [Docket No. 1005] (the "Andrews Declaration") (see Trustee Exh. 19) and further testimony adduced at the

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Capitalized terms used but not defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to such terms in the Plan.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See Order (I) Approving the Disclosure Statement, (II) Approving the Solicitation and Notice Procedures with Respect to Confirmation of the Joint Chapter 11 Plan, (III) Approving the Forms of Ballots and Notices in Connection Therewith, (IV) Scheduling Certain Dates with Respect Thereto, and (V) Granting Related Relief [Docket No. 882] (the "Solicitation Order") (see Trustee Exh. 4).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See Docket Nos. 892 (Certificate of Service for the publication notice served pursuant to the Solicitation Order), 924 (Certificate of Service for mailing of initial Plan Supplement documents), 929 (Certificate of Service for mailing of Solicitation Packages), 947 (Certificate of Service for mailing of notice of Plan Modification), 955 (Certificate of Service for mailing of Notice of Adjournment of Confirmation Hearing), and 1019 (Certificate of Service for mailing of amended Plan Supplement document).

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Confirmation Hearing and (ii) the Second Amended Declaration of Jeriad R. Paul of Omni Agent Solutions, Inc. Regarding the Solicitation of Votes and Tabulation of Ballots Cast on the Trustee's First Amended Joint Chapter 11 Plan [Docket No. 1001] (the "Ballot Tabulation") (see Trustee Exh. 15); and upon the objection to confirmation of the Plan filed by the Tennessee Department of Revenue [Docket No. 923] (the "TDOR Objection"), the United States Trustee [Docket No. 934] (the "UST Objection"), and the Borisch Parties [Docket No. 994] (the "Borisch Objection" and, collectively with the TDOR Objection and the UST Objection, the "Objections"); and upon the Trustee's Omnibus Reply in Support of Trustee's First Amended Joint Chapter 11 Plan [Docket No. 937] and the Trustee's Supplemental Reply in Support of Trustee's First Amended Joint Chapter 11 Plan [Docket No. 1015]; and upon the entire record of these Chapter 11 Cases, the record made at the Confirmation Hearing and the arguments of counsel and the evidence adduced thereat; and the Court having determined, based upon all of the foregoing, that the Plan should be confirmed; and after due deliberation and good cause appearing therefor, the Court hereby FINDS, DETERMINES, AND CONCLUDES AS **FOLLOWS:** 

A. <u>Findings and Conclusions</u>. The findings and conclusions set forth herein and on the record at the Confirmation Hearing, including the findings and conclusions issued by the Court through its oral ruling on July 18, 2025, a transcript of which is attached hereto as <u>Exhibit</u> **B** (the "Oral Ruling"), which Oral Ruling is incorporated herein by reference, constitute the Court's findings of fact and conclusions of law pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 7052, made applicable to this proceeding pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 9014. To the extent any of the Court's findings of fact constitute conclusions of law, they are adopted as such. To the extent any of the Court's conclusions of law constitute findings of fact, they are adopted as such.

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## **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

B. <u>Jurisdiction, Venue, Core Proceeding.</u> This Court has jurisdiction over the Debtors' Chapter 11 Cases and the proceeding involving confirmation of the Plan pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1334 and 157 and Miscellaneous Order No. 33 of the District Court for the Northern District of Texas. Consideration of whether the Plan complies with the applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code constitutes a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157(b)(2)(A), (L), and (O). This Court may enter a final order on confirmation of the Plan consistent with Article III of the United States Constitution. Venue is proper before this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409.

#### CHAPTER 11 CASES

- C. <u>Commencement of the Chapter 11 Cases</u>. Between May 20 and 21, 2024 (the "<u>Petition Date</u>"), each of the Debtors commenced a voluntary case under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. In accordance with the Court's *Order (I) Directing Joint Administration of Debtors' Chapter 11 Cases and (II) Granting Related Relief* [Docket No. 43], these Chapter 11 Cases are being jointly administered pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 1015. On June 14, 2024, the Court entered an unopposed order for the appointment of a chapter 11 trustee in the Chapter 11 Cases. Shortly thereafter, the United States Trustee appointed Mark E. Andrews to serve as the chapter 11 trustee (in such capacity, the "<u>Trustee</u>"), which appointment was approved by the Court on June 18, 2024. *See* Docket Nos. 174 and 178. On June 24, 2024, the United States Trustee appointed the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors (the "<u>Committee</u>"). *See* Docket No. 197.
- D. <u>Judicial Notice</u>. The Court takes judicial notice of the docket of the Chapter 11

  Cases maintained by the Clerk of the Bankruptcy Court and pleadings reflected therein

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including, without limitation, all pleadings and other documents filed, all orders entered, and all evidence and arguments made, proffered, or adduced at the hearings held before the Court during the pendency of the Chapter 11 Cases.

### **SOLICITATION AND NOTICE**

- E. <u>Solicitation and Notice</u>. The Original Plan, the Disclosure Statement, and other materials distributed by the Trustee in connection with solicitation of the Original Plan, as they may have been modified, amended, or supplemented from time to time, were transmitted and served in compliance with the Bankruptcy Rules, including Bankruptcy Rules 3017 and 3018, with the Local Rules, and with the procedures set forth in the Solicitation Order. As described in the Andrews Declaration and the Certificates of Service, (a) the service of the Solicitation Packages (as defined in the motion for approval and entry of the Solicitation Order, filed at Docket No. 839) was adequate and sufficient under the circumstances of these Chapter 11 Cases, and (b) adequate and sufficient notice of the Confirmation Hearing and other requirements, deadlines, hearings, and matters described in the Solicitation Order was timely provided in compliance with the Bankruptcy Rules and the Solicitation Order.
- F. <u>Voting on the Original Plan</u>. Votes on the Original Plan were solicited after disclosure to holders of Claims of "adequate information" as defined in section 1125 of the Bankruptcy Code was provided pursuant to the Disclosure Statement. As evidenced by the Andrews Declaration and the Ballot Tabulation, votes to accept or reject the Original Plan were solicited and tabulated fairly, in good faith, and in a manner consistent with the Solicitation Order, the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, and the Local Rules.
- G. <u>Plan Modifications</u>. Prior to the Confirmation Hearing, the Trustee made certain modifications to the Original Plan pursuant to the Plan Modification. Additionally, the Trustee

has agreed to certain additional modifications provided for pursuant to the terms of the confirmation stipulations filed and approved in advance of the Confirmation Hearing (collectively, the "Classification/Treatment Stipulations")<sup>5</sup> and those provided for in accordance with the other settlements and resolutions announced on the record at the Confirmation Hearing, all of which are reflected herein (collectively, the "Additional Plan Modifications", and together with the Plan Modification and the Classification/Treatment Stipulations, the "Plan Modifications"). For reasons indicated below and in the Oral Ruling, the Original Plan, as modified by the Plan Modifications, complies with the classification requirements of section 1122 of the Bankruptcy Code and the content requirements of section 1123 of the Bankruptcy Code. Thus, in accordance with section 1127(a) of the Bankruptcy Code, the Original Plan was validly modified by the Plan Modifications, the Plan is the only chapter 11 plan sought to be confirmed by the Trustee, and the Plan is the only chapter 11 plan before the Court for confirmation consideration.

H. Application of Votes to Plan. None of the Plan Modifications materially or adversely change the treatment of any Claim in comparison to the Original Plan. Therefore, except as indicated in paragraph I below in relation to the Borisch Parties, it is and was unnecessary to provide an opportunity for the holders of Claims that voted on the Original Plan to change their previous acceptances or rejections of the Original Plan in relation to the Plan. Consequently, with the exception of the votes cast by the Borisch Parties on the Original Plan, all votes cast on the Original Plan by the holders of Claims apply with equal force and effect to the Plan.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See Docket Nos. 930, 931, 932, 933, and 1004.

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I. The Provision of an Opportunity for the Borisch Parties to Conduct Supplemental Discovery, to Change Their Votes, and to Object to the Plan. With respect to the Borisch Parties, while none of the Plan Modifications adversely change the treatment of any Claims held by the Borisch Parties in comparison to the Original Plan, on June 9, 2025, after the filing of the Plan Modification, and at the request of the Borisch Parties, the Court held a status conference to consider the Borisch Parties' oral request for a continuance of the Confirmation Hearing, originally scheduled for June 13, 2025. Finding that the Plan Modification had the effect of correcting certain definitional errors discovered in relation to the Third-Party Releases that the Borisch Parties claim to have relied upon in casting their original Ballots on the Original Plan, the Court granted the oral continuance request, entering a Scheduling Order Following the June 9, 2025 Status Conference [Docket No. 945] (the "Scheduling Order") pursuant to which the Court adjourned the Confirmation Hearing for 25 days, to July 8, 2025, and granted the Borisch Parties additional time to conduct discovery relating to the Plan, to submit amended Ballots in relation to the Plan, and to file objections to confirmation of the Plan. As explained in greater detail in the Oral Ruling, the Borisch Parties availed themselves of all three of those opportunities and the Borisch Parties holding Claims changed their votes from acceptance of the Original Plan to rejection of the Plan. See Borisch Exh. 13. The rejection votes have been taken into account and are reflected in the Ballot Tabulation.

## COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 1129 OF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE

J. <u>Burden of Proof.</u> The Trustee has met his burden of proving the elements of sections 1129 of the Bankruptcy Code by a preponderance of the evidence, which is the applicable evidentiary standard.

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- K. <u>Bankruptcy Rule 3016</u>. All Plan documents, including, without limitation, the Original Plan and Plan Modification, are dated and identify the Trustee as the Plan proponent, thereby satisfying Bankruptcy Rule 3016(a). The Trustee appropriately filed the Disclosure Statement in relation to the Original Plan, thereby satisfying Bankruptcy Rule 3016(b). The injunction, release, and exculpation provisions in the Disclosure Statement and the Plan describe, with specific and conspicuous language, all acts to be enjoined, released, and exculpated and identify the entities that will be subject to the injunction, releases, and exculpations, thereby satisfying Bankruptcy Rule 3016(c).
- L. <u>Plan Compliance with the Bankruptcy Code (11 U.S.C. § 1129(a)(1))</u>. The Plan complies with the applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, thereby satisfying section 1129(a)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code.
- (i) Proper Classification (11 U.S.C. §§ 1122, 1123(a)(1)). As required by section 1123(a)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code, Article III of the Plan designates eight (8) Classes of Claims against, and Equity Interests in, the Debtors. Administrative Claims (including Professional Fee Claims) and Priority Tax Claims, which are addressed by Article II of the Plan, need not be classified. As required by section 1122(a) of the Bankruptcy Code, 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 under the Plan. Thus, the Plan satisfies sections 1122 and 1123(a)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code.
- (ii) Specified Unimpaired Classes (11 U.S.C. § 1123(a)(2)). Articles III and IV of the Plan specify that Class 3 is unimpaired under the Plan, thereby satisfying section 1123(a)(2) of the Bankruptcy Code.

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- (iii) Specified Treatment of Impaired Classes (11 U.S.C. § 1123(a)(3)). Articles III and IV of the Plan specify that Classes 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 are impaired, and set forth the treatment of such impaired Classes, thereby satisfying section 1123(a)(3) of the Bankruptcy Code.
- (iv) No Discrimination (11 U.S.C. § 1123(a)(4)). Article IV of the Plan provides the same treatment 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 in respect of such Claim or Equity Interest, thereby satisfying section 1123(a)(4) of the Bankruptcy Code.
- (v) <u>Implementation of the Plan (11 U.S.C. § 1123(a)(5))</u>. The Plan, including the various documents included in the Plan Supplement, provide for adequate and proper means for the Plan's implementation including, without limitation, (a) sources of consideration for Plan Reserves and distribution thereof, (b) the cancellation of Equity Interests, (c) authorizing the transfer of certain of the Debtors' Assets to the Creditor Trust, (d) the reservation and transfer to the Creditor Trust and Prepetition Lender of the Assigned Causes of Action and Other Retained Causes of Action, as applicable, and (e) the execution, delivery, filing, or recording of all contracts, securities, instruments, releases, and other agreements or documents related to the foregoing, thereby satisfying section 1123(a)(5) of the Bankruptcy Code.
- (vi) Non-Voting Equity Securities (11 U.S.C. § 1123(a)(6)). Because the Plan provides for the liquidation of the Debtors, the prohibition on the issuance of nonvoting equity securities contained in section 1123(a)(6) of the Bankruptcy Code is not applicable.
- (vii) <u>Designation of Directors and Officers (11 U.S.C. § 1123(a)(7))</u>. Article VI of the Plan provides for the establishment of the Creditor Trust and the appointment of the

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Creditor Trustee. These provisions are consistent with the interests of holders of Claims and public policy, thereby satisfying section 1123(a)(7) of the Bankruptcy Code.

- M. Additional Plan Provisions (11 U.S.C. § 1123(b)). The additional provisions of the Plan are appropriate and consistent with the applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, thereby satisfying section 1123(b) of the Bankruptcy Code.
- (i) <u>Impairment/Unimpairment of Any Class of Claims or Equity Interests (11 U.S.C. § 1123(b)(1)</u>). Pursuant to the Plan, Class 3 is unimpaired and Classes 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 are impaired, as contemplated by section 1123(b)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code.
- (ii) Assumption and Rejection of Executory Contracts (11 U.S.C. § 1123(b)(2)). Article X of the Plan provides for the rejection of the Debtors' remaining executory contracts and unexpired leases (if any), effective as of the Effective Date, except for any executory contract or unexpired lease that (a) was previously assumed, assumed and assigned or rejected pursuant to an Order of the Bankruptcy Court entered on or before the Confirmation Date, (b) previously expired or terminated by its own terms, or (c) is the subject of a motion to assume, assume and assign or reject filed on or prior to the Confirmation Date.
- (iii) Settlement of Claims and Causes of Action (11 U.S.C. § 1123(b)(3)). In consideration for the distributions and other benefits provided under the Plan and with the support of the various creditors, stakeholders, and other parties in interest, the provisions of the Plan constitute a good-faith compromise of all Claims, Equity Interests, Causes of Action, as applicable, and controversies released, settled, compromised, or otherwise resolved pursuant to the Plan. Those settlements and compromises are fair, equitable, and reasonable and approved as being in the best interests of the Debtors and their Estates. In this regard, as further discussed in

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the Oral Ruling, the Plan embodies a Plan Settlement which is fair and equitable and in the best interests of the Debtors and the Estates.

- (iv) <u>Modification of the Rights of Holders of Claims (11 U.S.C. § 1123(b)(5))</u>. Article IV of the Plan modifies or leaves unaffected, as the case may be, the rights of holders of each class of Claims and Equity Interests.
- (v) Other Appropriate Provisions (11 U.S.C. § 1123(b)(6)). The Plan's other provisions, including, without limitation, provisions for (a) distributions to holders of Claims, (b) releases by Debtors of certain parties, (c) exculpation of certain parties, and (d) consensual Third-Party Releases, are appropriate and consistent with the applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code.
- N. <u>Cure of Defaults (11 U.S.C. § 1123(d))</u>. The Plan does not contemplate the cure of any defaults. Thus, section 1123(d) of the Bankruptcy Code is not applicable.
- O. <u>The Trustee's Compliance with the Bankruptcy Code (11 U.S.C. § 1129(a)(2))</u>. The Trustee has complied with the applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code. Specifically:
  - (a) Each of the Debtors is an eligible debtor under section 109 of the Bankruptcy Code;
  - (b) The Trustee has complied with all provisions of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rules, except as otherwise provided or permitted by orders of this Court; and
  - (c) The Trustee has complied with the applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, and the Local Rules in transmitting the Original Plan, the Plan Modification, the Disclosure Statement, the Ballots, and related documents and notices and in soliciting and tabulating the votes on the Plan.
- P. <u>Plan Proposed in Good Faith (11 U.S.C. § 1129(a)(3))</u>. The Trustee 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. The Trustee's good faith is evident from the facts and

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record of these Chapter 11 Cases, the Disclosure Statement, the Andrews Declaration, the record made at the Confirmation Hearing, and the other proceedings in these Chapter 11 Cases. The Plan was proposed with the legitimate and honest purpose of maximizing the value of the Debtors' Estates for the benefit of creditors. The Plan and its classification, distribution, exculpation, release, and injunction provisions were all negotiated in good faith and at arm's length among various stakeholders in these Chapter 11 Cases, including, without limitation, the Prepetition Lender and the Committee. Such provisions are consistent with sections 105, 1122, 1123(b)(6), 1125, 1129, and 1142 of the Bankruptcy Code, they are each necessary for the success of the Plan, and they were not included in the Plan for any improper purpose.

- Q. Payment for Services or Costs and Expenses (11 U.S.C. § 1129(a)(4)). Any payment to be made by the Trustee, or by a person issuing securities or acquiring property under the Plan, for services or for costs and expenses in connection with the Chapter 11 Cases, or in connection with the Plan and incident to the Chapter 11 Cases, is subject to the approval of the Bankruptcy Court as reasonable, thereby satisfying section 1129(a)(4) of the Bankruptcy Code.
- R. <u>Directors, Officers, and Insiders (11 U.S.C. § 1129(a)(5))</u>. The Trustee has complied with section 1129(a)(5) of the Bankruptcy Code. The Trustee has disclosed the identity and nature of compensation of the Creditor Trustee, whose appointment is consistent with the interests of holders of Claims and with public policy.
- S. No Rate Changes (11 U.S.C. § 1129(a)(6)). Section 1129(a)(6) of the Bankruptcy Code is not applicable to the Debtors.
- T. <u>Best Interest of Creditors (11 U.S.C. § 1129(a)(7))</u>. The Plan satisfies section 1129(a)(7) of the Bankruptcy Code. The liquidation analysis attached as <u>Schedule 1</u> to the Disclosure Statement and the other evidence related thereto in support of the Plan that was

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proffered or adduced at, prior to, or in connection with, the Confirmation Hearing: (a) are reasonable, persuasive, credible, and accurate as of the dates such analysis or evidence was prepared, presented, or proffered; (b) utilize reasonable and appropriate methodologies and assumptions; (c) have not been controverted by other evidence; and (d) establish that holders of Allowed Claims and Equity Interests in each Class will recover at least as much under the Plan on account of such Claim or Equity Interest, as of the Effective Date, as such holder would receive if the Debtors were liquidated, on the Effective Date, under chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code.

- U. Acceptance by/Unimpairment of Certain Classes (11 U.S.C. § 1129(a)(8)). Class 3 is unimpaired by the Plan, and holders of Claims in such Class are thus conclusively presumed to have accepted the Plan pursuant to section 1126(f) of the Bankruptcy Code. Classes 7 and 8 are impaired by the Plan, will receive nothing under the Plan on account of such Claims and Equity Interests, and thus are conclusively deemed to have rejected the Plan. Classes 1, 2, 4, 5, and 6 are impaired, and the holders of Claims in such Classes were entitled to vote on the Plan. As established by the Ballot Tabulation, the holders of Claims in Classes 2, 4, and 5 voted to accept the Plan in accordance with section 1126(d) of the Bankruptcy Code. Therefore, Section 1129(a)(8) of the Bankruptcy Code has been satisfied with respect to Classes 2, 4, and 5. For the reasons set forth in more detail by the Court in its Oral Ruling, and as discussed below, the Plan satisfies the "cram down" requirements of section 1129(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, and the Plan may be confirmed notwithstanding the lack of acceptance of the Plan by Classes 1, 6, 7, and 8.
- V. <u>Treatment of Administrative Expense Claims and Priority Tax Claims (11 U.S.C.</u> § 1129(a)(9)). The treatment of Administrative Expense Claims and Priority Tax Claims

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pursuant to Article II of the Plan satisfies the requirements of sections 1129(a)(9) of the Bankruptcy Code.

- W. Acceptance by at Least One Impaired Class of Claims (11 U.S.C. § 1129(a)(10)). As described above, in the Andrews Declaration and in the Ballot Tabulation, Classes 1, 2, 4, 5, and 6 are impaired, and the holders of Claims in Classes 2, 4, and 5 voted to accept the Plan in the requisite number and amount. Section 1129(a)(10) is, therefore, satisfied.
- X. <u>Feasibility (11 U.S.C. § 1129(a)(11))</u>. The Plan provides for the liquidation of the Debtors under the terms of the Plan in a manner that complies with the priority scheme and other provisions of the Bankruptcy Code and other applicable law. There will be no need for any further restructuring or liquidation of the Debtors or the Estates after implementation of the Plan. As a result, the requirements of section 1129(a)(11) of the Bankruptcy Code have been satisfied.
- Y. Payment of Fees (11 U.S.C. § 1129(a)(12)). All fees due and payable pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1930, as determined by the Court, have been or will be paid by the Trustee on the Effective Date pursuant to Article II of the Plan, thereby satisfying the requirements of section 1129(a)(12) of the Bankruptcy Code.
- Z. <u>Continuation of Retiree Benefits (11 U.S.C. § 1129(a)(13))</u>. The Debtors do not pay any "retiree benefits," as defined in section 1114 of the Bankruptcy Code and section 1129(a)(13) of the Bankruptcy Code is thus inapplicable in these Chapter 11 Cases.
- AA. No Domestic Support Obligations (11 U.S.C. § 1129(a)(14)). The Debtors are not required by a judicial or administrative order, or by statute, to pay a domestic support obligation. Accordingly, section 1129(a)(14) of the Bankruptcy Code is inapplicable in these Chapter 11 Cases.

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BB. <u>Debtors Are Not Individuals (11 U.S.C. § 1129(a)(15))</u>. The Debtors are not individuals, and accordingly, section 1129(a)(15) of the Bankruptcy Code is inapplicable in these Chapter 11 Cases.

CC. No Applicable Nonbankruptcy Law Regarding Transfers (11 U.S.C. § 1129(a)(16)). The Debtors are not non-profit corporations or trusts. Accordingly, section 1129(a)(16) of the Bankruptcy Code is inapplicable in these Chapter 11 Cases.

DD. Confirmation Over Nonacceptance of Impaired Classes (11 U.S.C. § 1129(b)). Notwithstanding the fact that Classes 1, 6, 7, and 8 have not accepted the Plan, the Plan may be confirmed pursuant to section 1129(b)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code because (a) all requirements of section 1129(a) of the Bankruptcy Code, other than section 1129(a)(8), have been satisfied; (b) the Plan does not discriminate unfairly and is fair and equitable with respect to the Claims and Equity Interests in the Classes 1, 6, 7, and 8; (c) the Plan has been proposed in good faith and is reasonable; (d) with respect to Class 1, the Plan meets the requirement that each holder of a Priority Non-Tax Claim receive or retain on account of such Claim property of a value, as of the Effective Date of the Plan, equal to the allowed amount of such Claim; and (e) with respect to Classes 6, 7 and 8, the Plan meets the requirements that (i) no holder of any Claim or Equity Interest that is junior to each such Classes will receive or retain any property under the Plan on account of such junior Claim or Equity Interest and (ii) no holder of a Claim or Equity Interest in a Class senior to such Classes is receiving more than 100% on account of its Claim. As a result, the Plan satisfies the requirements of section 1129(b) of the Bankruptcy Code.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Class 3 of the Plan – the Class of Other Secured Claims – has been designated, without objection, as a Class that is unimpaired under the Plan and, thus, deemed to have accepted the Plan. Should, however, the Class ever be determined to be impaired on account of the fact that the Plan provides the Creditor Trustee with the option to satisfy an Allowed Other Secured Claim with the transfer of the collateral securing such Allowed Other Secured Claim to the holder of the Claim, thereby causing Class 3 to also be a Class that has not accepted the Plan because votes were not solicited from the holders of Class 3 Claims, then all of the findings in paragraph DD shall apply with equal force to Class 3, and specifically in relation to the right to satisfy an Allowed Other Secured Claim by

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- EE. Only One Plan (11 U.S.C. § 1129(c)). For the reasons stated by the Court in its Oral Ruling and in paragraph G above, the Plan is the only chapter 11 plan subject to confirmation. Section 1129(c) of the Bankruptcy Code has been satisfied.
- FF. Principal Purpose of the Plan (11 U.S.C. § 1129(d)). The principal purpose of the Plan is not the avoidance of taxes or the avoidance of the application of section 5 of the Securities Act of 1933, thereby satisfying section 1129(d) of the Bankruptcy Code.
- GG. Not Small Business Cases (11 U.S.C. § 1129(e)). These Chapter 11 Cases are not small business cases, and accordingly, section 1129(e) of the Bankruptcy Code is inapplicable in these Chapter 11 Cases.

#### COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 1125 OF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE

HH. Good Faith Solicitation (11 U.S.C. § 1125(e)). Based on the record before the Court in these Chapter 11 Cases, the Trustee, the Committee, and each of their respective Professional Persons 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, the Bankruptcy Rules, and the Local Rules in connection with all of their respective activities arising out of, relating to, or connected with the administration of the Chapter 11 Cases, the negotiation and pursuit of approval of the Disclosure Statement, the preparation and solicitation of acceptances of the Plan, the pursuit of confirmation of the Plan, and the funding of the Plan, as applicable, and are entitled to the protections afforded by section 1125(e) of the Bankruptcy Code. Each such party has, and upon completion of the Plan shall be deemed to have, participated in good faith and in compliance with the applicable laws with regard to the solicitation of votes and distribution of consideration pursuant to the Plan and, therefore, is not,

transferring the underlying collateral to the holder of such Claim, such treatment is fair and equitable because it enables such holder to realize the indubitable equivalent of the Allowed Other Secured Claim as contemplated by section 1129(b)(2)(A)(iii) of the Bankruptcy Code.

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and on account of such distributions shall not be, liable at any time for the violation of any applicable law, rule, or regulation governing the solicitation of acceptances or rejections of the Plan or such distributions made pursuant to the Plan.

## **COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 1126 OF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE**

II. <u>Acceptance of Plan (11 U.S.C. § 1126)</u>. As set forth in the Andrews Declaration and in the Ballot Tabulation, Classes 2, 4, and 5 have voted to accept the Plan, in accordance with the requirements of section 1126 of the Bankruptcy Code.

#### PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

- JJ. The terms of the Plan are incorporated by reference and are, except as addressed herein or in any future order of the Court contemplated by this Confirmation Order, proper in all respects, and constitute an integral part of this Confirmation Order.
- KK. The Plan and this Confirmation Order have been negotiated in good faith and at arm's-length and, subject to the occurrence of the Effective Date, shall bind any holder of a Claim or Equity Interest and such holder's respective successors and assigns, whether or not the Claim or Equity Interest is Impaired under the Plan, whether or not such holder has accepted the Plan, and whether or not such holder is entitled to a distribution under the Plan. The Plan and this Confirmation Order constitute legal, valid, binding, and authorized obligations of the respective parties thereto and shall be enforceable in accordance with their terms. Pursuant to section 1142(a) of the Bankruptcy Code, the Plan and this Confirmation Order shall apply and be enforceable, and, notwithstanding any otherwise applicable nonbankruptcy law, rule, or regulation relating to financial condition, the Debtors, the Trustee, Creditor Trust and any other entity organized or to be organized for the purpose of carrying out the Plan (as applicable) shall carry out the Plan and shall comply with any order of the Court.

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LL. All documents and agreements necessary to implement the transactions contemplated by the Plan, including those contained or summarized in the Plan Supplement, and all other relevant and necessary documents have been negotiated in good faith and at arm's-length, are in the best interests of the Debtors, and shall, upon completion of documentation and execution, be valid, binding, and enforceable documents and agreements not in conflict with any federal, state, or local law. The documents and agreements are essential elements of the Plan, and entry into and consummation of the transactions contemplated by each such document or agreement is in the best interests of the Debtors, the Estates, and the holders of Claims. The Trustee has exercised reasonable business judgment in determining which documents and agreements to enter into and has provided sufficient and adequate notice of such documents and agreements. The Trustee is authorized to take any action reasonably necessary or appropriate to consummate such agreements and the transactions contemplated thereby.

#### **EXECUTORY CONTRACTS AND UNEXPIRED LEASES**

MM. The Trustee has exercised sound business judgment in rejecting each of the Debtors' remaining executory contracts and unexpired leases pursuant to Article X.H. of the Plan.

#### EXCULPATIONS, INJUNCTIONS, RELEASES, AND GATEKEEPER

NN. The Court has jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1334(a) and (b) to approve the exculpation, injunctions, stays, releases, and gatekeeping provisions set forth in Article X of the Plan, as modified herein. Section 105(a) of the Bankruptcy Code permits issuance of the injunctions and approval of the releases and injunctions set forth in Article X of the Plan (as modified herein) if, as has been established here based upon the record in the Chapter 11 Cases and the evidence presented at the Confirmation Hearing, such provisions (i) were integral

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to the settlement, and are essential to the formulation and implementation of the Plan, as provided in section 1123 of the Bankruptcy Code, (ii) confer substantial benefits on the Debtors' Estates, (iii) are fair, equitable, and reasonable, and (iv) are in the best interests of the Debtors, their Estates, and parties in interest. Pursuant to section 1123(b)(3) of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rule 9019(a), the releases, exculpation, injunctions, and gatekeeping provisions set forth in the Plan and implemented by this Confirmation Order are fair, equitable, reasonable, and in the best interests of the Debtors and their Estates, creditors, and equity holders.

- OO. For the reasons set forth in more detail by the Court in its Oral Ruling, the releases set forth in Article X of the Plan are fair to holders of Claims and are necessary to the financial restructuring proposed pursuant to the Plan and the resolution to these Chapter 11 Cases. Such releases are given in exchange for and are supported by fair, sufficient, and adequate consideration provided by each and all of the parties receiving such releases. The record of the Confirmation Hearing and these Chapter 11 Cases is sufficient to support the releases, exculpation, injunctions, and gatekeeping provisions provided for Article X of the Plan. The gatekeeping provisions are appropriately tailored to protect the Exculpated Parties from unnecessary litigation and contain appropriate carve outs for gross negligence, actual fraud, and willful misconduct.
- PP. For the reasons set forth in more detail by the Court in its Oral Ruling, the injunction provisions set forth in Article X of the Plan are essential to the Plan and are necessary to implement the Plan and to preserve and enforce the discharge and the release provisions of the Plan, including the release, exculpation, and gatekeeping provisions of the Plan. Such injunction provisions are appropriately tailored to achieve those purposes.

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QQ. Accordingly, based upon the record of these Chapter 11 Cases, the representations of the parties, and/or the evidence proffered, adduced, and/or presented at the Confirmation Hearing, including the Andrews Declaration, and for the reasons set forth in more detail by the Court in its Oral Ruling, this Court finds that the injunctions, exculpation, and releases set forth in Article X of the Plan are consistent with the Bankruptcy Code and applicable law.

#### **OTHER FINDINGS**

- RR. <u>Conditions Precedent to Confirmation</u>. The conditions precedent to confirmation set forth in Article IX.A. of the Plan have been satisfied.
- SS. <u>Retention of Jurisdiction</u>. This Court may properly retain, and if appropriate, shall exercise jurisdiction over the matters set forth in Article XI of the Plan and section 1142 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- TT. <u>Objections</u>. All parties have had a full and fair opportunity to file objections to confirmation of the Plan and to litigate any such objections.

#### THE PLAN SATISFIES CONFIRMATION REQUIREMENTS

UU. Based upon the foregoing, the Plan satisfies the requirements for confirmation set forth in section 1129 of the Bankruptcy Code and shall be confirmed.

#### ACCORDINGLY, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED THAT:

- 1. <u>Confirmation</u>. The Plan shall be, and hereby is, confirmed pursuant to section 1129 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 2. <u>Solicitation and Notice</u>. Notice of the Confirmation Hearing and the solicitation of votes on the Original Plan: (a) complied with the terms of the Solicitation Order; (b) were appropriate and satisfactory based upon the circumstances of the Debtors' Chapter 11 Cases; and (c) were in compliance with the provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules and

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the Local Rules. In relation to the Borisch Parties, the solicitation of votes on the Original Plan as modified by the Plan Modification: (a) was appropriate and satisfactory based upon the circumstances of the Debtors' Chapter 11 Cases; and (b) was in compliance with the provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, the Local Rules, and the Scheduling Order.

- 3. Approval of Plan Modifications. In accordance with Bankruptcy Rule 3019, the Plan Modifications do not require additional disclosure under section 1125 of the Bankruptcy Code or the re-solicitation of votes with respect to the Plan under section 1126 of the Bankruptcy Code, and they do not require that Holders of Claims (other than the Borisch Parties) be afforded an opportunity to change previously cast votes accepting or rejecting the Original Plan (which will apply with equal force and effect to the Plan). The Borisch Parties were afforded an extended opportunity to amend their Ballots and object to the Plan. Under the circumstances, such extension was and is reasonable and appropriate, and no further solicitation is necessary. Accordingly, the Plan is properly before this Court, and in accordance with section 1127 of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rule 3019, all votes cast with respect to the Original Plan by holders of Claims other than the Borisch Parties shall be binding and apply with equal force and effect to the Plan. In the case of the Borisch Parties, all newly-cast Ballots by them in accordance with the Scheduling Order in relation to the Original Plan as modified by the Plan Modification shall apply to the Plan.
- 4. <u>Objections</u>. All objections to the Plan, including the three formal Objections filed by the U.S. Trustee, the Tennessee Department of Revenue, and Matthew Borisch, to the extent not otherwise withdrawn at or prior to the Confirmation Hearing, are overruled for the reasons articulated by the Court on the record at the Confirmation Hearing and in the Court's Oral Ruling.

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- 5. <u>Binding Effect</u>. Pursuant to section 1141(a), and except as otherwise provided in section 1141(d)(3) of the Bankruptcy Code and subject to the occurrence of the Effective Date, the provisions of the Plan shall bind any holder of a Claim against or Equity Interest in the Debtors and such holder's respective successors and assigns, whether or not such Claim or Equity Interest of such holder is impaired under the Plan and whether or not such holder has accepted the Plan.
- 6. <u>Implementation</u>. The Trustee, the Creditor Trust, and the Creditor Trustee are authorized to take all actions necessary, appropriate, or desirable to enter into, implement, and consummate the contracts, instruments, releases, agreements, or other documents created or executed in connection with the Plan. Without further order or authorization of this Court, the Trustee, the Creditor Trust, and the Creditor Trustee, and their successors are authorized and empowered to make non-material modifications to the Plan documents, or otherwise modify the same as necessary to conform to the terms of the Plan and this Confirmation Order. Execution versions of the Plan and all related documents, where applicable, shall constitute legal, valid, binding, and authorized obligations of the respective parties thereto, enforceable in accordance with their terms. The Creditor Trustee shall have the authority to act on behalf of the Debtors to the extent necessary, appropriate, or desirable to effectuate the provisions of the Plan and this Confirmation Order.
- 7. <u>Plan Classification Controlling</u>. The classification of Claims and Equity Interests for purposes of the distributions to be made under the Plan shall be governed solely by the terms of the Plan. The classifications set forth on the Ballots submitted in connection with voting on the Original Plan (or Original Plan as modified by the Plan Modification, in the case of the Borisch Parties): (a) were solely for purposes of voting to accept or reject the Original Plan (or

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Original Plan as modified by the Plan Modification, in the case of the Borisch Parties); (b) do not necessarily represent, and in no event shall be deemed to modify or otherwise affect, the actual classification of such Claims and Equity Interests under the Plan for distribution purposes; and (c) shall not be binding on the Debtors for any purpose other than voting on the Plan.

- 8. <u>Distribution Under the Plan</u>. All distributions under the Plan shall be made in accordance with Article VII of the Plan.
- 9. <u>Transfer of Retained Causes of Action</u>. On the Effective Date, the Debtors shall be deemed to have transferred and assigned: (a) the Assigned Causes of Action to the Prepetition Lender, and (b) the Other Retained Causes of Action to the Creditor Trust pursuant to the Creditor Trust Agreement. The transfer and assignment of the Assigned Causes of Action and Other Retained Causes of Action to the Prepetition Lender and the Creditor Trust, as applicable, shall be free and clear of all liens, claims, and encumbrances except as otherwise specifically provided in the Plan. Upon delivery of the assignment, the Creditor Trust shall be deemed the owner of the Other Retained Causes of Action, and the Prepetition Lender shall be deemed the owner of the Assigned Causes of Action, each with full power and authority to prosecute the Other Retained Causes of Action and Assigned Causes of Action, as applicable.
- 10. <u>Vesting of Assets (11 U.S.C. § 1141(b), (c))</u>. As set forth in Article X.A. of the Plan, as of the Effective Date, pursuant to sections 1141(b) and (c) of the Bankruptcy Code, the Creditor Trust Assets shall vest in the Creditor Trust, free and clear of all Claims, Liens, encumbrances, charges, and other interests, except as otherwise provided in this Plan.
- 11. <u>Creditor Trust and Creditor Trustee</u>. On the Effective Date, the Creditor Trust shall be established and shall be authorized to implement and adopt any other agreements, documents, and instruments and to take any other actions contemplated under the Plan or

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Creditor Trust Agreement as necessary or desirable to consummate the Plan or to carry out the Creditor Trust functions. On and after the Effective Date, the Creditor Trustee shall carry out the Creditor Trust functions on behalf of the Creditor Trust as required by the Creditor Trust Agreement. The Creditor Trust shall be administered and controlled by the Creditor Trustee as set forth in the Plan and the Creditor Trust Agreement.

- 12. <u>Post-Confirmation Governance.</u> On and after the Effective Date, the Creditor Trustee, or its successor after the effective date of such Person's appointment as the Creditor Trustee consistent with the terms of the Creditor Trust Agreement, shall serve in such capacity through the date the Creditor Trust is dissolved in accordance with the Plan or the Creditor Trust Agreement. The Creditor Trustee shall be deemed the representative of the Estates in accordance with section 1123 of the Bankruptcy Code and shall have all powers, authority, and responsibilities specified in the Plan and Creditor Trust Agreement, including, without limitation, the powers of a trustee under sections 704 and 1106 of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rule 2004, to act on behalf of the Creditor Trust.
- 13. Notice of Entry of Confirmation Order and Occurrence of Effective Date. Within five (5) business days after the Effective Date, the Trustee or Creditor Trustee, as applicable, shall file with the Bankruptcy Court and serve on all parties in interest in these Chapter 11 Cases notice of: (i) entry of this Confirmation Order and occurrence of the Effective Date; and (ii) the last date to file Professional Fee Claims pursuant to Article II.B. of the Plan.
- 14. <u>Administrative Claims</u>. Pursuant to the Solicitation Order, requests for payment of Administrative Claims (other than Professional Fees or Claims by Governmental Units for payment as specified in section 503(b)(1)(B) or (C) of the Bankruptcy Code) must be filed no later than the Administrative Claims Bar Date. Holders of Administrative Claims that were

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required to file and serve a request for such payment of such Administrative Claims that did not file and serve such a request on or before the Administrative Claim Bar Date are forever barred, estopped, and enjoined from asserting such Administrative Claims against the Debtors, and such Administrative Claims are hereby deemed compromised, settled, and released as of the Effective Date.

- 15. Professional Fee Claims. Unless otherwise excused by an order of the Bankruptcy Court, every Professional Person holding a Professional Fee Claim that has not previously been the subject of a final fee application and accompanying Court order shall file a final application for payment of fees and reimbursement of expenses no later than the first Business Day that is thirty (30) days after the Effective Date. Any such final fee application shall conform to and comply with all applicable rules and regulations contained in the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, and the Local Rules. The last date to object to any final fee application shall be the twenty-fourth (24th) day after such fee application has been filed with the Bankruptcy Court. All final fee applications shall be set for hearing on the same day, as the Court's calendar permits, after consultation with counsel to the Trustee and the Committee. Allowed Professional Fee Claims shall be paid in accordance with and pursuant to Article II.B. of the Plan.
- 16. Rejection of Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases. Pursuant to Article X.H. of the Plan, except as otherwise provided in the Plan or in any contract, instrument, release, indenture or other agreement or document entered into in connection with the Plan, each Debtor is hereby deemed to have rejected each executory contract and unexpired lease to which it is a party, unless such contract or lease (i) was previously assumed, assumed and assigned, or rejected by the Debtors or the Trustee, (ii) previously expired or terminated pursuant to its own

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terms, or (iii) is the subject of a motion to assume, assume and assign, or reject filed by the Trustee on or before the Confirmation Date. This Confirmation Order shall constitute approval, pursuant to sections 365(a) and 1123(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, of the rejection of executory contracts and unexpired leases as described above upon the occurrence of the Effective Date. Such rejection shall be legal, valid, and binding upon the applicable Debtor and all non-Debtor counterparties to such contracts or leases and satisfies the requirements of section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code, including without limitation, section 365(d)(4).

- 17. <u>General Authorization</u>. Upon the Effective Date, all actions contemplated under the Plan shall be deemed authorized and approved in all respects. All matters provided for in the Plan involving the structure of the Debtors, and any action required by or in connection with the Plan, shall be deemed to have occurred and shall be in effect, without any requirement of further action by any person or entity.
- 18. <u>Effectuating Documents; Further Transactions</u>. On and after the Effective Date, the Creditor Trustee is authorized to and may issue, execute, deliver, file, or record such contracts, securities, instruments, releases, and other agreements or documents and take such actions as may be necessary or appropriate to effectuate, implement, and further evidence the terms and conditions of the Plan in the name of and on behalf of the Debtors and Creditor Trust, as applicable, without the need for any approvals, authorization, or consents except for those expressly required pursuant to the Plan and the Creditor Trust Agreement.
- 19. <u>Payment of Statutory Fees</u>. All fees payable under 28 U.S.C. § 1930 shall be paid on the Effective Date and thereafter, as appropriate.
- 20. <u>Taxing Authorities.</u> Notwithstanding anything else to the contrary in the Plan or this Confirmation Order, any Governmental Unit asserting a claim arising from taxes reserves

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the following rights: (1) any statutory or common law setoff rights in accordance with 11 U.S.C. § 553; (2) any rights to pursue any non-debtor third parties for tax debts or claims pursuant to applicable law; (3) the right to pursue payment of interest on the Governmental Unit's allowed administrative expense tax claims, if any, in accordance with applicable law; (4) to the extent that interest is payable with respect to any allowed administrative expense, priority, or secured tax claim of the Governmental Unit, payment of the statutory rate of interest pursuant to applicable non-bankruptcy law; and (5) the Governmental Unit is not required to file a motion or application for payment of administrative expense claims pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 503(b)(1)(D). Should the Trustee or the Creditor Trustee fail to make any payments as required in this Plan or this Confirmation Order, or remain current on post-petition and/or post-confirmation ordinary course tax reporting and payment obligations, the Governmental Unit shall provide written notice of that default to the Creditor Trustee advising of that default and providing the Creditor Trustee with a period of fifteen (15) days to cure the default. In the event the default is not cured within fifteen (15) days, the Governmental Unit may, without further order of this Court or notice to the Creditor Trustee, pursue all rights and remedies available under applicable nonbankruptcy law to collect the full amount of all taxes, penalties, and interest owed.

- 21. Resolution of Objection by the Tennessee Department of Revenue. The Tennessee Department of Revenue ("TN DOR"), by virtue of its objection filed at Docket No. 923 (the "Tennessee Objection"), shall not be considered a Consenting Creditor for purposes of the Third-Party Releases.
- 22. <u>Post-Confirmation Reporting</u>. After entry of this Confirmation Order, the Trustee or the Creditor Trustee, as applicable, will comply with the United States Trustee's reporting requirements by filing with the Bankruptcy Court quarterly reports for each Debtor in a form

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reasonably acceptable to the United States Trustee until such respective Debtor's Chapter 11 case is converted, dismissed, or closed, whichever occurs first. From the Confirmation Date through the Effective Date, the Trustee will file such post-confirmation reports for each Debtor as are required. All fees due and payable by the Debtors pursuant to section 1930 of Title 28 of the United States Code before the Effective Date shall be paid by the Debtors on or before the Effective Date. After the Effective Date, the Creditors Trust and Debtors shall be jointly and severally liable for paying all quarterly fees when due and payable until such respective Debtor's Chapter 11 Case is converted, dismissed, or closed, whichever occurs first. No quarterly fees shall be calculated on the disbursement of funds from the Debtors to the Creditors Trust.

23. Effect of Releases on United States Government Entities. Nothing in the 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 the 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 the 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.

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- 24. <u>Governmental Approvals Not Required.</u> This Confirmation Order shall constitute all approvals and consents required, if any, by the laws, rules, and regulations of any state or any other Governmental Unit's authority with respect to the implementation or consummation of the Plan and any documents, instruments, or agreements, and any amendments or modifications thereto.
- 25. Filing and Recording. This Confirmation Order (a) is and shall be effective as a determination that, on the Effective Date, all Claims and Equity Interests existing prior to such date have been unconditionally released, discharged, and terminated, except as otherwise provided in the Plan, and (b) is and shall be binding upon and shall govern the acts of all entities including, without limitation, all filing agents, filing officers, title agents, title companies, recorders of mortgages, recorders of deeds, registrars of deeds, administrative agencies, governmental departments, secretaries of state, federal, state, and local officials, and all other persons and entities who may be required, by operation of law, the duties of their office, or contract, to accept, file, register, or otherwise record or release any document or instrument. Each and every federal, state, and local government agency is hereby directed to accept any and all documents and instruments necessary, useful, or appropriate (including Uniform Commercial Code financing statements) to effectuate, implement, and consummate the transactions contemplated by the Plan and this Confirmation Order without payment of any recording tax, stamp tax, transfer tax, or similar tax imposed by state or local law, including, but not limited to, the transfer of any assets of the Debtors' Estates to the Creditor Trust.
- 26. <u>Exemption from Transfer Taxes</u>. Pursuant to section 1146(a) of the Bankruptcy Code, the issuance, transfer, or exchange of notes or equity securities under or in connection with the Plan, the creation of any mortgage, deed of trust or other security interest, the making or

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assignment of any lease or sublease, or the making or delivery of any deed or other instrument of transfer under, in furtherance of, or in connection with the Plan, including any merger agreements or agreements of consolidation, deeds, bills of sale, or assignments executed in connection with any of the transactions contemplated under the Plan, shall not be subject to any stamp, real estate transfer, mortgage recording, or other similar tax. All sale transactions consummated by the Debtors or Trustee and approved by the Court on and after the Petition Date through and including the Effective Date, including the transfers effectuated under the Plan, the sale by the Debtors or Trustee of owned property pursuant to section 363(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, and the assumption, assignment, and sale by the Debtors or Trustee of unexpired leases of non-residential real property pursuant to section 365(a) of the Bankruptcy Code, shall be deemed to have been made under, in furtherance of, or in connection with the Plan and, thus, shall not be subject to any stamp, real estate transfer, mortgage recording, or other similar tax.

Exculpation, Releases, and Injunctions. The exculpations, releases, injunction and stay, and gatekeeping provisions contained in Article X of the Plan are hereby approved, as modified herein. For the avoidance of doubt, (x) any prior versions of the plan have been replaced in their entirety by the Plan and are of no further force and effect to the extent inconsistent with the terms of the Plan; (y) none of the exculpations, releases, injunctive or gatekeeping provisions of the Plan shall be effective unless and until the Effective Date occurs; and (z) there are no intended third party beneficiaries of such provisions not expressly identified therein. Notwithstanding the foregoing or anything in the Plan to the contrary, for the reasons set forth in this Court's Oral Ruling, and because the Creditor Trust Assets will not vest in the Creditor Trust until the Effective Date, the definitions "Released Parties" and the "Releasing

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Parties" shall exclude the Creditor Trustee for purposes of the Trustee Releases in Article X.C of the Plan and the Third-Party Releases in Article X.D of the Plan.

- 28. <u>Conditions to Effective Date</u>. The Plan shall not become effective unless and until the conditions set forth in Article IX.A of the Plan have been satisfied or waived pursuant to Article IX.C. of the Plan.
- Appeal of the Confirmation Order. Except as otherwise provided herein, if any provision of this Confirmation Order is hereafter reversed, modified, vacated, or stayed by subsequent order of this Court or any other court, such reversal, stay, modification or vacatur shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any act, obligation, indebtedness, liability, priority, or lien incurred or undertaken by the Debtors, Trustee, or Creditor Trustee prior to the effective date of such reversal, stay, modification, or vacatur. Notwithstanding any reversal, stay, modification, or vacatur of this Confirmation Order, any act or obligation incurred or undertaken pursuant to, or in reliance on, this Confirmation Order prior to the effective date of such reversal, stay, modification, or vacatur shall be governed in all respects by the provisions of this Confirmation Order and the Plan or any amendments or modifications thereto, and shall remain binding.
- 30. <u>Conflicts Between Confirmation Order and Plan</u>. The failure to specifically include any particular provision of the Plan in this Confirmation Order shall not diminish the effectiveness of such provision, it being the intent of the Court that the Plan is confirmed in its entirety and incorporated herein by this reference. The provisions of the Plan and this Confirmation Order shall be construed in a manner consistent with each other so as to affect the purposes of each; *provided, however*, that in the event of any inconsistency among the Plan, the Plan Supplement, the Disclosure Statement, and any exhibit or schedule to the Disclosure

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Statement, the provisions of the Plan shall govern. In the event of any inconsistency between the Plan and this Confirmation Order, the Confirmation Order shall govern. The provisions of this Confirmation Order are integrated with each other and are nonseverable and mutually dependent unless expressly stated by further order of the Court.

- 31. <u>Applicable Nonbankruptcy Law</u>. Pursuant to, and to the extent of, sections 1123(a) and 1142(a) of the Bankruptcy Code, the provisions of this Confirmation Order, the Plan, and related documents, and any amendments or modifications thereto, shall apply and be enforceable notwithstanding any otherwise applicable nonbankruptcy law.
- 32. <u>Retention of Jurisdiction</u>. Upon the Effective Date, the Court may properly retain, and if appropriate, shall exercise, jurisdiction over the matters set forth in Article XI of the Plan and section 1142 of the Bankruptcy Code.

### END OF ORDER ###

## Exhibit A

Trustee's First Amended Joint Chapter 11 Plan [As Modified June 6, 2025] Case 24-90000-elm11 Doc 1036 Filed 07/24/25 Entered 07/24/25 13:02:53 Desc Case 24-90000-elm11 Doc 935-1 Filed 06/06/25 Entered 06/06/25 16:10:54 Desc Exhibit A - Modified Plan Page 2 of 39

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

In re:	§ §	Chapter 11
TOMMY'S FORT WORTH, LLC., et al.,1	§ §	Case No. 24-90000 (ELM)
Debtors.	§ §	(Jointly Administered)
	§	

## TRUSTEE'S FIRST AMENDED JOINT CHAPTER 11 PLAN [AS MODIFIED JUNE 6, 2025]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Debtors in these chapter 11 cases, along with the last four digits of each Debtor's federal tax identification number, are: Tommy's Fort Worth, LLC (3473); Tommy's Holding Company, LLC (2662); Tommy's Grand Rapids, LLC (9224); Tommy's Castaic, LLC (7501); Tommy's Lewisville, LLC (4750); High Country Watersports, LLC (6160); Walloon Lake Village Marina, LLC (0277); MKB Florida Holdings, LLC (5698); Tommy's Detroit, LLC (5242); Tommy's California Fresno, LLC (8597); Tommy's Phoenix, LLC (3036); Tommy's Las Vegas, LLC (7721); Tommy's Chattanooga, LLC (0839); Tommy's California Ventura, LLC (5149); Tommy's Rancho Cordova, LLC (1070); Tommy's Stockton, LLC (1338); and Tommy's Knoxville, LLC (8052).

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Mark E. Andrews, chapter 11 Trustee for the Debtors in these Chapter 11 Cases, hereby proposes the following First Amended Joint Chapter 11 Plan pursuant to section 1121(a) of the Bankruptcy Code.

#### ARTICLE I DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION AND CONSTRUCTION

#### A. Definitions.

For the purpose of this Plan, the following terms shall have the respective meanings set forth below:

- Administrative Claim means any right to payment constituting a cost or expense of administration of the Chapter 11 Cases pursuant to sections 503(b) or 507 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- Administrative Claim Bar Date means the deadline to file all Administrative Claims, as established pursuant to the Solicitation Procedures Order.
- Administrative Claims Reserve means the Plan Reserve established on or before the Effective Date by the Trustee from the Contributed Cash Collateral for the sole purpose of paying Allowed Administrative Claims pursuant to section II.A hereof, in the amount of \$500,000, unless a different amount has been fixed by stipulation of the Committee, the Trustee and the Prepetition Lender; or, if the Committee, the Trustee, and the Prepetition Lender cannot agree, by the Bankruptcy Court.
- Allowed means any Claim (i) for which a proof of claim has been filed and as to which no objection has been made on or before the Objection Deadline or such other applicable period fixed by this Plan, the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, or the Bankruptcy Court, (ii) which appears in the Debtors' Schedules and is not listed as contingent, liquidated or disputed, (iii) which is allowed by Final Order of the Bankruptcy Court, or (iv) which is expressly allowed under this Plan.
  - 5. Assets means property of the Debtors' Estates and proceeds thereof.
- Assigned Causes of Action means all of the Retained Causes of Action scheduled in the Plan Supplement as being assigned to the Prepetition Lender pursuant to section IV.B hereof, as more specifically enumerated in a Plan Supplement, including, without limitation, all Avoidance Actions against any of the Borisch Parties and any other Causes of Action against any of the Borisch Parties, and, to the extent applicable, any subsequent transferee thereof. For the avoidance of doubt, upon payment of the Malibu Settlement Payment, no Claims or Causes of Action against Malibu Boats shall be assigned Causes of Action.
- Avoidance Actions means any and all avoidance, recovery, subordination or other claims, causes of action, or remedies that have been or may be asserted by or on behalf of the Debtors or their Estates under the Bankruptev Code or applicable non-bankruptev law, including claims, causes of action, or remedies under sections 502, 510, 542, 544, 545, 547 through 553 of the Bankruptcy Code, or under similar or related local, state, federal, foreign law, or common law.
- Ballot means the form of ballot approved by the Bankruptcy Court pursuant to the Solicitation Procedures Order and provided to holders of Claims to indicate their votes to accept or reject the Plan and to make an election with respect to the Third-Party Releases provided under section X.D hereof.
  - 9. Bankruptcy Code means title 11 of the United States Code, as amended from time to time.
- Bankruptcy Court means the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Texas, Fort Worth Division, or any other court of the United States having jurisdiction over the Chapter 11 Cases.

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- 11. **Bankruptcy Rules** means the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure as promulgated by the United States Supreme Court under section 2075 of title 28 of the United States Code, as amended and in effect from time to time.
- 12. *Bar Date* means the last date to file proofs of claim against the Debtors, which was September 30, 2024 for all creditors except Governmental Units, and November 18, 2024 for Governmental Units.
- 13. *Borisch Parties* means Matthew A. Borisch, Kara A. Borisch, Jonathan L. Borisch, MKB Holdings, LLC a/k/a Simplified Investments, The Matthew Allen Borisch Trust, The Kara Ann Borisch Trust, The Michael Allen Borisch Trust, Matthew Allen Borisch Trust UAD September 19, 2005, Walloon Lake Facilities, LLC, Walloon Lake Holdings, JLB Restaurant Holdings LLC, MKB Restaurant Holdings, LLC, Hotel Walloon, Gen3 Defense & Aerospace LLC, Expedited Travel LLC, JLB Property Holdings LLC, Legacy Water Sports and Marina and Steadfast Marine, and each of their respective current and former officers, directors, employees, managers, attorneys, professional advisors, and agents.
- 14. **Business Day** means any day other than a Saturday, Sunday, or "legal holiday" as defined in Bankruptcy Rule 9006(a).
  - 15. *Cash* means legal tender of the United States of America.
- 16. Cash Collateral Order means that certain Final Order (I) Authorizing the Use of Cash Collateral Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 363; (II) Granting Adequate Protection to the Prepetition Secured Lender; and (III) Granting Related Relief [Docket No. 272].
- 17. Causes of Action means any claims, causes of action, interests, damages, remedies, demands, rights, actions (including Avoidance Actions), suits, debts, sums of money, obligations, judgments, liabilities, accounts, defenses, offsets, counterclaims, crossclaims, powers, privileges, licenses, liens, indemnities, guaranties, and franchises of any kind or character whatsoever, whether known or unknown, foreseen or unforeseen, now existing or hereafter arising, contingent or non-contingent, liquidated or unliquidated, choate or inchoate, secured or unsecured, assertable, directly or derivatively, matured or unmatured, suspected or unsuspected, in contract, tort, law, equity, or otherwise, owned by or otherwise accruing to the Debtors and their Estates, whether arising before, on, or after the Petition Date.
- 18. *Chapter 11 Cases* means the above-captioned jointly administered chapter 11 cases of the Debtors.
- 19. *Chapter 11 Trustee* or *Trustee* means the trustee appointed in these Chapter 11 Cases pursuant to sections 1104 of the Bankruptcy Code, and with all the rights, powers, and duties enumerated in sections 1106–1108 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 20. *Claim* means a claim against a Debtor within the meaning of section 101(5) of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 21. *Class* means any group of Claims or Equity Interests classified by this Plan pursuant to sections 1122 and 1123(a)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 22. **Collateral** means any interest in property of the Debtors subject to a Lien, charge, or other encumbrance to secure the payment or performance of a Claim, which Lien, charge or other encumbrance is not subject to avoidance or otherwise invalid under the Bankruptcy Code or applicable non-bankruptcy law.
- 23. **Committee** means the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors appointed in the Chapter 11 Cases by the Office of the United States Trustee, as the same may be reconstituted from time to time.

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- 24. *Confirmation Date* means the date on which the clerk of the Bankruptcy Court enters the Confirmation Order on the docket.
- 25. **Confirmation Hearing** means the hearing conducted by the Bankruptcy Court pursuant to sections 1128(a) and 1129 of the Bankruptcy Code to consider confirmation of the Plan, as such hearing may be adjourned or continued from time to time.
- 26. *Confirmation Order* means the order of the Bankruptcy Court confirming the Plan pursuant to section 1129 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 27. **Consenting Creditors** means collectively the following, in each case in its capacity as such with each being a "Consenting Creditor": (a) all holders of Claims or Equity Interests that vote to accept or are deemed to accept the Plan and who do not check the box on the applicable Ballot to affirmatively opt out of the Third-Party Releases; and (b) all holders of Claims or Equity Interests that abstain from voting on the Plan, vote to reject the Plan, or are deemed to reject the Plan and who do not (i) check the box on the applicable Ballot to affirmatively opt out of the Third-Party Releases or (ii) object to the Plan in respect of the Third-Party Releases; provided, however, that the Borisch Parties shall not be "Consenting Creditors."
- 28. **Contributed Cash Collateral** means the portion of the Prepetition Lender's cash collateral that the Prepetition Lender has consented to allocate to the applicable Plan Reserves.
- 29. **Contribution Claim** means any Claim for contribution or reimbursement by a Person that is liable with a Debtor on a Claim held by another creditor (including, for the avoidance of doubt, indemnification claims against a Debtor) of any kind or nature whatsoever, whether arising under or pursuant to any type of bylaws, organizational, formation or governance documents or agreements, board resolutions, management or indemnification agreements, guaranty agreement, employment or other services contracts, at law, in equity or otherwise.
- 30. **Customer Constructive Trust Claims** means Claims determined by the Trustee to be asserted by customers based the Debtors' prepetition failure to remit proceeds from the sale of the customer's boat, whether such boat was traded into the Debtors for a new boat, maintained by the Debtors under a consignment arrangement, or otherwise sold to the Debtors before the Petition Date.
- 31. Customer Constructive Claims Objection Deadline means the first Business Day that is 45 days after the Effective Date.
- 32. **Customer Constructive Trust Claims Reserve** means the Plan Reserve established on or before the Effective Date by the Trustee from the Contributed Cash Collateral for the sole purpose of making settlement payments to Consenting Creditor holders of Customer Constructive Trust Claims pursuant to section IV.D hereof in the initial amount of \$360,000, unless a different amount has been fixed by stipulation of the Committee, the Trustee and the Prepetition Lender; or, if the Committee, the Trustee, and the Prepetition Lender cannot agree, by the Bankruptcy Court.
- 33. *Creditor Trust* means that certain trust that will come into existence on the Effective Date of the Plan, which shall be formed pursuant to, and governed by, the provisions of the Plan and the Creditor Trust Agreement.
- 34. *Creditor Trust Reserve* means the Plan Reserve established on or before the Effective Date by the Trustee in the amount of \$350,000 from the Contributed Cash Collateral for purposes of (i) satisfying, in whole or in part, the obligations of the Creditor Trust, including the Creditor Trust Expenses and (ii) making distributions to holders of Creditor Trust Interests in accordance with the Creditor Trust Agreement and section IV.E of the Plan.

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- 35. *Creditor Trust Agreement* means the agreement governing the Creditor Trust dated as of the Effective Date, which shall be in form and substance acceptable to the Committee and substantially in the form included in the Plan Supplement.
- 36. *Creditor Trust Assets* means (i) all Other Retained Causes of Action, except as the same may be dismissed, settled or released prior to the Effective Date or otherwise pursuant to the Plan; (ii) the Creditor Trust Reserve and any residual portions of the Plan Reserves, consistent with the terms of the Plan; (iii) all insurance policies of the Debtors and the applicable Policy Proceeds, but specifically excluding any refunds from any insurance policies cancelled or otherwise terminated before the end of the policy term; (iv) all tax assets and tax attributes of the Debtors; (v) any other property of the Estates not otherwise distributed pursuant to the terms of this Plan, including all rights, interests, and privileges of the Debtors; and (vi) all proceeds of the foregoing.
- 37. **Creditor Trust Expenses** means the reasonable and necessary costs and expenses of the Creditor Trust, including, without limitation, the compensation to and reimbursement of expenses to the Creditor Trustee and the reasonable and necessary fees, costs, and expenses of all professionals retained by the Creditor Trustee in connection with the performance of the Creditor Trustee's duties under this Plan and the Creditor Trust Agreement.
- 38. *Creditor Trust Indemnified Parties* means the Creditor Trustee and its consultants, agents, attorneys, accountants, financial advisors, estates, employees, officers, directors, principals, professionals, and other representatives, each in their respective capacity as such, and any of such Person's successors and assigns.
  - 39. *Creditor Trust Interest* means a non-transferable beneficial interest in the Creditor Trust.
- 40. *Creditor Trustee* means the trustee of the Creditor Trust, who shall be Mark E. Andrews, or such other individual to be designated by the Trustee and approved by the Committee, who shall not unreasonably withhold such approval, and who shall be identified in the Plan Supplement.
  - 41. **Debtor** means any one of the Debtors, as the context may require.
- 42. **Debtors** means, collectively, Tommy's Fort Worth, LLC; Tommy's Holding Company, LLC; Tommy's Grand Rapids, LLC; Tommy's Castaic, LLC; Tommy's Lewisville, LLC; High Country Watersports, LLC; Walloon Lake Village Marina, LLC; MKB Florida Holdings, LLC; Tommy's Detroit, LLC; Tommy's California Fresno, LLC; Tommy's Phoenix, LLC; Tommy's Las Vegas, LLC; Tommy's Chattanooga, LLC; Tommy's California Ventura, LLC; Tommy's Rancho Cordova, LLC; Tommy's Stockton, LLC; and Tommy's Knoxville, LLC.
- 43. **Disallowed** means any Claim, or portion thereof, that is not an Allowed Claim or a Disputed Claim.
- 44. **Disclosure Statement** means that certain disclosure statement relating to the Plan, including all exhibits and schedules thereto, as the same may be amended, supplemented, or otherwise modified from time to time, as approved by the Bankruptcy Court pursuant to sections 1125 and 1126 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 45. **Disputed** means, when used with respect to a Claim, such Claim, as the case may be (a) to the extent neither Allowed nor Disallowed under the Plan or a Final Order nor deemed Allowed under section 502, 503, or 1111 of the Bankruptcy Code, or (b) with respect to which the Creditor Trust or any party in interest have made a timely objection (as a contested matter, adversary proceeding, or otherwise) or request for estimation prior to the Objection Deadline in accordance with the Plan or the Bankruptcy Rules, which objection or request for estimation has not been withdrawn or determined by a Final Order as of the Effective Date.
  - 46. **Disputed Claims Reserve** has the meaning ascribed in section VI.B.14(ii)(C) hereof.

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- 47. **Distribution Date** means the date, occurring on or as soon as practicable after the Effective Date, on which the Trustee or the Creditor Trust, as applicable, first makes distributions to holders of Allowed Claims as provided in the Plan.
- 48. **Distribution Record Date** means the record date for purposes of receiving distributions under the Plan on account of Allowed Claims, which shall be the Confirmation Date.
- 49. *Effective Date* means the first Business Day on which all the conditions precedent to the effectiveness of the Plan specified in <u>section IX.B</u> hereof shall have been satisfied or waived as provided in <u>section IX.C</u> hereof; *provided*, *however*, that if a stay, injunction or similar prohibition of the Confirmation Order is in effect, the Effective Date shall be the first Business Day after such stay, injunction, or similar prohibition is no longer in effect.
- 50. *Equity Interest* means any "equity security" of the Debtors, as that term is defined in section 101(16) of the Bankruptcy Code.
  - 51. *Estates* means the estates of the Debtors as created under section 541 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 52. **Exculpated Parties** means, in each case solely in their capacity as such: the Trustee and the members of the Committee. For the avoidance of doubt, the Exculpated Parties do not include the Debtors or any current or former officer, director, or employee of the Debtors.
  - 53. *Final Decree* means the decree contemplated by Bankruptcy Rule 3022.
- 54. *Final Order* means an order or judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction that has been entered on the docket maintained by the clerk of such court and has not been reversed, vacated, or stayed and as to which (a) the time to appeal, petition for *certiorari*, or move for a stay, new trial, reargument, or rehearing has expired and as to which no appeal, petition for *certiorari* or other proceedings for a stay, new trial, reargument or rehearing shall then be pending or (b) if an appeal, writ of *certiorari*, stay, new trial, reargument or rehearing thereof has been sought, (i) such order or judgment shall have been affirmed by the highest court to which such order was appealed, *certiorari* shall have been denied or a stay, new trial, reargument or rehearing shall have been denied or resulted in no modification of such order and (ii) the time to take any further appeal, petition for *certiorari*, or move for a stay, new trial, reargument or rehearing shall have expired; *provided*, *however*, that no order or judgment shall fail to be a "Final Order" solely because of the possibility that a motion pursuant to section 502(j) or 1144 of the Bankruptcy Code or under Rule 60 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, or Bankruptcy Rule 9024 has been or may be filed with respect to such order or judgment.
- 55. *General Unsecured Claim* means any Claim against a Debtor that is not an Administrative Claim, a Priority Tax Claim, a Priority Non-Tax Claim, a Customer Constructive Trust Claim, the Prepetition Lender's Secured Claim, a Professional Fee Claim, an Other Secured Claim, an Intercompany Claim, or an Equity Interest.
- 56. Governmental Unit has the meaning ascribed to such term in section 101(27) of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 57. *Insider* means any Person who is an "insider" as such term is defined in section 101(31) of the Bankruptcy Code, or who may otherwise be determined to be an "insider" under section 101(31) of the Bankruptcy Code by a court of competent jurisdiction.
  - 58. *Intercompany Claim* means a claim held by one Debtor against another Debtor.
- 59. **Local Rules** means the Local Bankruptcy Rules of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Texas, as the same may be amended or modified from time to time.
  - 60. *Lien* has the meaning set forth in section 101(37) of the Bankruptcy Code.

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- 61. *Malibu Boats* means, collectively, Malibu Boats, Inc. and Malibu Boats, LLC.
- 62. *Malibu Settlement Agreement* means that Settlement Agreement dated October 7, 2024, as may be amended from time to time, and approved by the Bankruptcy Court pursuant to the *Order Approving Motion for Entry of an Order (I) Authorizing and Approving the Settlement Agreement Between the Trustee and Malibu Boats and (II) Granting Related Relief [Docket No. 602] entered on November 20, 2024.*
- 63. *Malibu Settlement Payment* means the \$3,500,000.00 payable by Malibu Boats to the Trustee pursuant to the Malibu Settlement Agreement. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Plan, Disclosure Statement or elsewhere, the Malibu Settlement Payment shall be deemed the Collateral of the Prepetition Lender.
- 64. *Objection Deadline* means the later of (a) one hundred eighty (180) days after the Effective Date or (b) such later date as may be ordered by the Bankruptcy Court upon motion filed prior to the expiration of such one hundred eighty (180) day period.
- 65. *Other Retained Causes of Action* means all Retained Causes of Action owned by the Debtors or their respective Estates on the Effective Date, other than the Assigned Causes of Action.
  - 66. Other Secured Claim means a Secured Claim that is not a Prepetition Lender's Secured Claim.
  - 67. *Petition Date* means May 20, 2024.
- 68. **Person** means an individual, partnership, corporation, limited liability company, cooperative, trust, unincorporated organization, association, joint venture, government or agency or political subdivision thereof, or any other form of legal entity.
- 69. *Plan* means this Joint Chapter 11 Plan, as the same may be amended, supplemented, or otherwise modified from time to time, including any exhibits and schedules hereto.
- 70. **Plan Reserves** means the separately accounted funds to be utilized in accordance with the provisions of the Plan, including: (a) the Administrative Claims Reserve; (b) the Priority Claims Reserve; (c) the Customer Constructive Trust Claims Reserve; (d) the Creditor Trust Reserve; and (e) any such other reserves that the Creditor Trustee determines is reasonable and necessary to aid the administration of the Plan.
- 71. **Plan Supplement** means the compilation of documents and forms of documents, schedules and exhibits, to be filed in one or more parts or volumes, no later than seven (7) days prior to the Confirmation Hearing, as amended, supplemented or otherwise modified from time to time, containing, without limitation any documents necessary for the execution and implementation of the Plan.
- 72. *Policy Proceeds* means the proceeds of the Debtors' insurance policies that constitute property of the Debtors' Estates.
  - 73. *Prepetition Lender* means M&T Bank.
  - 74. **Prepetition Lender's Secured Claims** means the Secured Claims held by the Prepetition Lender.
- 75. **Priority Claims Reserve** means the Plan Reserve established on or before the Effective Date by the Trustee from the Contributed Cash Collateral for the sole purpose of paying Allowed Priority Non-Tax Claims and Allowed Priority Tax Claims pursuant to <u>section II.D</u> and <u>section IV.A</u> hereof respectively, in the amount of \$1,750,000 unless a different amount has been fixed by stipulation of the Committee, the Trustee and the Prepetition Lender; or, if the Committee, the Trustee, and the Prepetition Lender cannot agree, by the Bankruptcy Court.
- 76. **Priority Non-Tax Claim** means any Claim that is entitled to priority in payment pursuant to sections 507(a)(4) or (5) of the Bankruptcy Code and that is not an Administrative Claim or a Priority Tax Claim.

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- 77. **Priority Tax Claim** means any Claim of a Governmental Unit of the kind entitled to priority in payment as specified in section 507(a)(8) of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 78. **Pro Rata** means the proportion that the amount of an Allowed Claim or Allowed Equity Interest in a particular Class bears to the aggregate amount of all Allowed Claims or Allowed Equity Interests in such Class.
- 79. **Professional Fee Claim** means any Claim by a Professional Person under sections 330, 331 or 503 of the Bankruptcy Code for allowance of compensation and/or reimbursement of expenses in the Chapter 11 Cases.
- 80. **Professional Fee Reserve** means the funds budgeted for Professional Persons under the budgets approved pursuant to the Cash Collateral Order and shall include the funds maintained in the Funded Reserve Account, as that term is defined in the Cash Collateral Order, which funds shall be used for the sole purpose of paying Allowed Professional Fee Claims pursuant to section II.B hereof.
- 81. **Professional Person** means any Person retained in the Chapter 11 Cases or to be compensated by the Debtors pursuant to sections 327, 328, 330, 331, 503(b), or 1103 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 82. *Rejection Damages Bar Date* means the first Business Day that is thirty (30) days after the Effective Date.
- 83. **Released Parties** means collectively the following, in each case in its capacity as such with each being a "Released Party": (a) the Trustee; (b) each Debtor; (c) the Committee and its members; (d) the Creditor Trustee; and (e) M&T Bank and its current and former officers, directors, managers, attorneys and other professional advisors; *provided, however*, that the Borisch Parties shall not be "Released Parties."
- 84. **Releasing Parties** means collectively the following, in each case in its capacity as such with each being a "Releasing Party": (a) the Debtor; (b) the Trustee; (c) the Committee; (d) the Creditor Trustee; and (e) Consenting Creditors; *provided, however*, that the Borisch Parties shall not be "Releasing Parties."
- 85. **Retained Causes of Action** means Causes of Action scheduled in the Plan Supplement as "retained" including (but not limited to) all of the Debtors' Causes of Action as more specifically enumerated in a Plan Supplement, including, but not limited to, Avoidance Actions, which, as of the Effective Date have not been sold, transferred, settled, waived, or released pursuant to the Plan, upon order of the Bankruptcy Court or otherwise, all of which shall be reserved, retained, assigned, and transferred to the Creditor Trust. Upon payment of the Malibu Settlement Payment, no Claims or Causes of Action against Malibu Boats shall be Retained Causes of Action. For the avoidance of doubt, the Debtors' Causes of Action against the Borisch Parties and, to the extent applicable, any subsequent transferees thereof, shall be Retained Causes of Action.
- 86. **Schedules** means, collectively, Schedules A through J and the Statement of Financial Affairs, as filed by each Debtor in the Chapter 11 Cases, as the same may be amended from time to time.
- 87. **Secured Claim** means a Claim secured by a Lien that is valid, perfected and enforceable, and not avoidable, upon property in which a Debtor has an interest, to the extent of the value, as of the Effective Date, of such interest or Lien as determined by a Final Order of the Bankruptcy Court pursuant to section 506 of the Bankruptcy Code, or as otherwise agreed to in writing by the Debtor in question and the holder of such Claim. To the extent a Claim exceeds the value of the Collateral securing such Claim, such deficiency shall constitute a General Unsecured Claim.
- 88. Solicitation Procedures Order means the Bankruptcy Court's Order (I) Approving the Disclosure Statement, (II) Scheduling a Confirmation Hearing to Consider Confirmation of the Trustee's Plan, (III) Approving the Solicitation Procedures and Dates, Deadlines, and Notices Related Thereto, and (IV) Granting Related Relief.
  - 89. *Third-Party Releases* means those releases provided under <u>section X.D</u> hereof.

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- 90. *Underlying Claim* has the meaning ascribed in section IV.F hereof.
- 91. *U.S. Trustee* means the Office of the United States Trustee.
- 92. *U.S. Trustee Fees* means all fees payable under section 1930 of title 28 of the United States Code.

#### B. Rules of Interpretation and Construction.

#### 1. Interpretation.

Unless otherwise specified herein, all section, article, and exhibit references in the Plan are to the respective section in, article of, and exhibit to, the Plan, as the same may be amended, waived, or modified from time to time. All headings in this Plan are for convenience of reference only and shall not limit or otherwise affect the provisions of the Plan.

#### 2. <u>Construction and Application of Bankruptcy Code Definitions.</u>

Unless otherwise defined herein, words and terms defined in section 101 of the Bankruptcy Code shall have the same meanings when used in the Plan. Words or terms used but not defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to such terms or words, if any, in the Bankruptcy Code. The rules of construction contained in section 102 of the Bankruptcy Code shall apply to the construction of the Plan.

#### 3. Other Terms.

The words "herein," "hereof," "hereto," "hereunder," and other words of similar import refer to the Plan as a whole and not to any particular article, section, subsection, or clause contained in the Plan.

#### 4. Time.

In computing any period of time prescribed or allowed by the Plan, the provisions of Bankruptcy Rule 9006(a) shall apply.

# ARTICLE II TREATMENT OF UNCLASSIFIED CLAIMS

In accordance with section 1123(a)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code, the following claims have not been classified and, thus, are excluded from the Classes of Claims and Equity Interests set forth in Article III hereof.

#### A. Administrative Claims.

All Administrative Claims against the Debtors, other than Professional Fee Claims, shall be treated as follows:

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### 1. <u>Time for Filing</u>.

All holders of Administrative Claims shall file with the Bankruptcy Court a request for payment of such Claims on or before the Administrative Claim Bar Date. Any such request must be served on the Trustee, his counsel, the Committee, its counsel, and the Creditor Trust and its counsel, and must, at a minimum, set forth (i) the name of the holder of the Administrative Claim; (ii) the amount of the Administrative Claim; and (iii) the legal and factual bases for the Administrative Claim. A failure to file any such request in a timely fashion will result in the Administrative Claim in question being discharged and its holder forever barred from asserting such Administrative Claim against the Debtors or any other Person.

#### 2. Objection and Allowance.

An Administrative Claim, other than a Professional Fee Claim, for which a request for payment has been properly and timely filed, if necessary, shall become an Allowed Administrative Claim unless an objection is filed by the first Business Day that is thirty (30) days after the Administrative Claim Bar Date, or such later date as may be ordered by the Bankruptcy Court upon motion. If an objection is timely filed, the Administrative Claim in question shall become an Allowed Administrative Claim only to the extent so Allowed by Final Order of the Bankruptcy Court.

#### 3. Payment.

Except to the extent that a holder of an Allowed Administrative Claim, other than a Professional Fee Claim, agrees to a different treatment of such Claim, each holder of an Allowed Administrative Claim shall receive, on account of and in full satisfaction of such Claim, Cash from the Administrative Claims Reserve in an amount equal to the amount of such Allowed Administrative Claim on (or as soon as reasonably practicable after) the later of (A) the Effective Date or (B) the date that entry of an order by the Bankruptcy Court allowing such Administrative Claim becomes a Final Order. Any surplus of funds in the Administrative Claims Reserve after payment of all Allowed Administrative Claims shall be allocated to the Customer Constructive Trust Claims Reserve for distribution pursuant to section IV.D.3 of this Plan.

#### B. Professional Fee Claims.

#### 1. <u>Time for Filing</u>.

Every Professional Person holding a Professional Fee Claim that has not previously been the subject of a final fee application and accompanying Bankruptcy Court order approving the same shall file a final application for payment of fees and reimbursement of expenses no later than the first Business Day that is thirty (30) days after the Effective Date. Any such final fee application shall conform to and comply with all applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, and the Local Rules.

#### 2. Objections and Allowance.

The last date to object to any Professional Fee Claim shall be the first Business Day that is twenty-four (24) days after such Professional Fee Claim has been filed with the Bankruptcy Court. All Professional Fee Claims shall be set for hearing on the same day, as the Bankruptcy Court's calendar permits, after consultation with counsel to the Trustee, Creditor Trustee (as applicable) and the Committee (as applicable).

#### 3. Payment.

Professional Fee Claims shall be paid from the Professional Fee Reserve. To the extent there are insufficient funds on hand in the Professional Fee Reserve to pay all Professional Fee Claims in full, the Trustee or Creditor Trustee (as applicable) shall supplement the Professional Fee Reserve from the Administrative Claims Reserve as necessary to pay all Allowed Professional Fee Claims in full. Any surplus of funds in the Professional

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Fee Reserve after payment of all Allowed Professional Fee Claims shall be remitted by the Creditor Trustee to the Prepetition Lender on account of its Secured Claim.

#### C. U.S. Trustee Fees.

All U.S. Trustee Fees that arise before the Effective Date shall be paid from the Debtors' available Cash on or before the Effective Date or when such amounts are due in the ordinary course. All such fees that arise after the Effective Date but before the closing of the Chapter 11 Cases shall be paid by the Creditor Trust. U.S. Trustee Fees will not be assessed against the initial transfer or transfers from the Trustee to the Creditor Trustee. U.S. Trustee Fees will be assessed upon any disbursement of Creditor Trust Assets, until the case is closed, dismissed or converted.

#### D. Priority Tax Claims.

#### 1. Time for Filing

Holders of Priority Tax Claims shall file such Priority Tax Claims on or before the applicable Bar Date. Nothing in this Plan shall alter or extend such Bar Date.

#### 2. Objection and Allowance.

A Priority Tax Claim shall become an Allowed Priority Tax unless an objection is filed by the Objection Deadline. If an objection is timely filed, the Priority Tax Claim in question shall become an Allowed Priority Tax Claim only to the extent so Allowed by Final Order of the Bankruptcy Court.

#### 3. Payment

Except to the extent that a holder of an Allowed Priority Tax Claim has agreed or agrees to a different treatment of such Claim, each holder of an Allowed Priority Tax Claim shall receive: (i) on (or as soon as reasonably practicable after) the Effective Date, Pro Rata Cash payments to the extent of available funds in the Priority Claims Reserve, and (ii) to the extent such payments described in (i) above are insufficient to satisfy the Allowed Priority Tax Claim in full, regular installment payments of Cash from the Creditor Trust, having a total value, as of the Effective Date, equal to the Allowed amount of the Claim, and paid over a period ending not later than five (5) years after the Petition Date, in a manner not less favorable than the treatment provided to Class 5 General Unsecured Claims under this Plan. To the extent interest is required to be paid on any Priority Tax Claim, the rate of such interest shall be the rate determined under applicable nonbankruptcy law, as set forth in section 511 of the Bankruptcy Code. To the extent there are insufficient funds on hand in the Priority Claims Reserve to pay all Allowed Priority Tax Claims in full, the Trustee or Creditor Trustee (as applicable) shall distribute Cash from the Creditor Trust from the proceeds of Other Retained Causes of Action, as necessary, to pay any remaining Allowed Priority Tax Claims in full; provided, however, the Creditor Trust Reserve shall be distributed in accordance with the Plan and the Creditor Trust Agreement.

### 4. Retention of Liens and Setoff

To the extent the holder of an Allowed Priority Tax Claim has a Lien on a Debtor's property, such Lien shall remain in place until such Allowed Priority Tax Claim has been paid in full.

## ARTICLE III CLASSIFICATION OF CLAIMS AND EQUITY INTERESTS

All Claims against, and Equity Interests in, the Debtors are classified for all purposes, including voting, confirmation, and distribution, as follows:

Class	Designation	Impairment	Entitled to Vote
1	Priority Non-Tax Claims	Impaired	Yes
2	Prepetition Lender's Secured Claims	Impaired	Yes
3	Other Secured Claims	Unimpaired	No (deemed to accept)
4	Customer Constructive Trust Claims	Impaired	Yes
5	General Unsecured Claims	Impaired	Yes
6	Contribution Claims	Impaired	Yes
7	Intercompany Claims	Impaired	No (deemed to reject)
8	Equity Interests	Impaired	No (deemed to reject)

Administrative Claims, Professional Fee Claims, and Priority Tax Claims are not classified for purposes of voting or receiving distributions under the Plan, pursuant to section 1123(a)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code. Instead, all such Claims shall be treated separately as unclassified claims on the terms previously set forth in <u>Article II</u> of this Plan.

### ARTICLE IV TREATMENT OF CLAIMS AND EQUITY INTERESTS

#### A. Class 1 – Priority Non-Tax Claims.

The Trustee or the Creditor Trustee, as applicable, may object to any Priority Non-Tax Claims on or before the Objection Deadline, unless such deadline is extended by an order of the Bankruptcy Court or agreement with the holder of the applicable Priority Non-Tax Claim. Except to the extent that a holder of an Allowed Priority Non-Tax Claim against a Debtor agrees to a less favorable treatment, each such holder shall receive, in full satisfaction of such Claim, payment in full in Cash from the Priority Claim Reserve on (or as soon as reasonably practicable after) the later of (A) the Effective Date or (B) the date that entry of an order by the Bankruptcy Court allowing such Priority Non-Tax Claim becomes a Final Order. To the extent there are insufficient funds on hand in the Priority Claims Reserve to pay all Allowed Priority Non-Tax Claims in full, the Trustee or Creditor Trustee (as applicable) shall supplement the Priority Claims Reserve with proceeds of Other Retained Causes of Action, as necessary to pay any remaining Allowed Priority Tax Claims in full.

#### B. Class 2 – Prepetition Lender's Secured Claims.

On the Effective Date, the Trustee or Creditor Trustee (as applicable) shall pay to the Prepetition Lender, in partial satisfaction of the Allowed Prepetition Lender's Secured Claims, all Cash held by the Debtors or the Trustee (including, without limitation, the Malibu Settlement Payment), except as necessary to fund the Plan Reserves. In the event that the Malibu Settlement Payment is received after the Effective Date, the Creditor Trustee shall promptly remit such funds to the Prepetition Lender. After the Effective Date, the Creditor Trustee shall promptly remit to the Prepetition Lender, in partial satisfaction of its Allowed Prepetition Lender's Secured Claim, any additional Cash receipts obtained after the Effective Date from consummated sales of inventory, refunds of unearned insurance premiums resulting from cancelled or terminated insurance policies, merchant card receipts remitted from WorldPay, LLC or other merchant card vendors, or any other sources that are not Creditor Trust Assets. In addition,

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on the Effective Date, the Trustee or Creditor Trustee (as applicable) shall assign to the Prepetition Lender the Assigned Causes of Action. Any remaining balances of the Prepetition Lender's Secured Claims, after such payments, shall be treated as a deficiency General Unsecured Claim in Class 5 and section IV.E hereof.

#### C. Class 3 – Other Secured Claims.

Except to the extent a holder of an Allowed Other Secured Claim agrees to a different treatment, each holder of an Allowed Other Secured Claim shall at the option of the Trustee or Creditor Trustee (as applicable), upon consultation with the Committee, receive either of the following treatments on the Effective Date or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter: (i) payment in full, in Cash; (ii) the collateral securing such Allowed Other Secured Claim; or (iii) such other treatment that renders such Allowed Other Secured Claim unimpaired in accordance with section 1124 of the Bankruptcy Code.

#### D. Class 4 – Customer Constructive Trust Claims.

#### 1. Consenting Creditors / Right to Opt Out

All holders of Customer Constructive Trust Claims that do <u>not</u> opt out of the Third-Party Releases will be Consenting Creditors entitled to receive expedited settlement payments from the Customer Constructive Trust Claims Reserve. Any holder of a Customer Constructive Trust Claim that opts out of the Third-Party Releases will (i) retain all rights and defenses to pursue all remedies against third parties and (ii) be treated as a Class 5 General Unsecured Creditor.

#### 2. Expedited Claim Review

The Trustee or Creditor Trustee (as applicable) shall conduct an expedited review of all Customer Constructive Trust Claims held by Consenting Creditors and must file objections, if any, to Disputed Customer Constructive Trust Claims no later than the Customer Constructive Claims Objection Deadline. The Creditor Trustee shall use good faith best efforts to resolve any Disputed Customer Constructive Trust Claims prior to making distributions to the Allowed Customer Constructive Trust Claims pursuant to the following subsection.

#### 3. Settlement Payment

On or before the first Business Day that is 45 days after the Customer Constructive Trust Claims Objection Deadline, each holder of an Allowed Customer Constructive Trust Claim that is a Consenting Creditor shall receive from the Customer Constructive Trust Claims Reserve, in full satisfaction of such Claim against the Estates and in exchange for the Third-Party Releases, in the Creditor Trustee's discretion, payment from the Creditor Trustee (i) to the holder of the Customer Constructive Trust Claim in Cash in the amount of between 45% and up to 60% of the Allowed Customer Constructive Trust Claim or (ii) in the actual payoff amount owed, to a third party lender asserting a lien against a boat (y) purchased by the holder of a Customer Constructive Trust Claim, and/or (z) previously owned by the holder of a Customer Constructive Trust Claim.

The Creditor Trustee shall supplement the Customer Constructive Trust Claims Reserve with proceeds of Other Retained Causes of Action as necessary to the extent there are insufficient funds on hand in the Customer Constructive Trust Claims Reserve to pay the Allowed Customer Constructive Trust Claims in accordance with the preceding paragraph.

#### E. Class 5 – General Unsecured Claims.

Except to the extent that a holder of an Allowed General Unsecured Claim against a Debtor agrees to less favorable treatment, each holder of an Allowed General Unsecured Claim shall receive a Creditor Trust Interest. Distributions to holders of Allowed General Unsecured Claims who receive a Creditor Trust Interest shall be on a Pro Rata basis with all other Allowed General Unsecured Claims, as set forth in the Creditor Trust Agreement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, solely for purposes of any distribution made from the portion of the Contributed

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Cash Collateral funded into the Creditor Trust Reserve, the Prepetition Lender's Allowed General Unsecured Claim shall be subordinated to the holders of all other Allowed General Unsecured Claims.

#### F. Class 6 – Contribution Claims

Except to the extent that a holder of a Contribution Claim against a Debtor agrees to less favorable treatment, each holder of a Contribution Claim that is liable with a Debtor on any other Allowed Claim shall be treated in accordance with section 509 of the Bankruptcy Code, including the subordination of any distributions on account of such Contribution Claim in accordance therewith. A holder of a Contribution Claim that is liable with a Debtor on any Allowed Claim (each, an "<u>Underlying Claim</u>") and that pays such Underlying Claim in full, shall, to the extent provided by section 509 of the Bankruptcy Code, be subrogated to the rights of the holder of such Underlying Claim under and for purposes of the Plan, and such subrogated Claim shall be treated under the applicable Class of such Underlying Claim, in accordance with the Plan. Any payment of an Underlying Claim by a holder of a Contribution Claim shall be presumed to be solely on account of such holder's own liability on account of such Underlying Claim and shall not be deemed to be a payment of the Underlying Claim in full within the meaning of section 509(c) of the Bankruptcy Code until so agreed by the Creditor Trustee or otherwise determined by the Bankruptcy Court.

#### G. Class 7 – Intercompany Claims

On the Effective Date, all Intercompany Claims by and against the Debtors shall be settled, cancelled, released, and discharged without payment or distribution of any Cash or other property. Holders of Intercompany Claims are conclusively deemed to have rejected the Plan and are not entitled to vote.

#### H. Class 8 – Equity Interests

On the Effective Date, all Equity Interests in each Debtor shall be cancelled, extinguished, and of no further force or effect. Holders of Equity Interests shall neither retain nor receive any property under the Plan on account of such Equity Interests. Holders of Equity Interests are conclusively deemed to have rejected the Plan and are not entitled to vote.

# ARTICLE V IMPAIRMENT; ACCEPTANCE OR REJECTION OF THE PLAN; EFFECT OF REJECTION BY ONE OR MORE CLASSES

#### A. Classes Entitled to Vote.

The holders of Claims in Class 3 are unimpaired and are conclusively deemed to have accepted the Plan and are not entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan. The holders of Claims in Classes 1, 2, 4, 5, and 6 are impaired and are entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan. The holders of Claims in Classes 7 and 8 are impaired and are conclusively deemed to reject the Plan and are therefore not entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan.

#### B. Class Acceptance Requirement.

A Class of impaired Claims entitled to vote on the Plan shall have accepted the Plan if the holders of at least two-thirds (2/3) in amount and more than one-half (1/2) in number of Claims in such Class who have voted on the Plan have voted to accept the Plan.

#### C. Cramdown.

To the extent that any Class is impaired under the Plan and such Class fails to accept the Plan in accordance with section 1126(c) or (d) of the Bankruptcy Code, the Debtors hereby request that the Bankruptcy Court confirm the Plan in accordance with section 1129(b) of the Bankruptcy Code.

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#### D. Elimination of Classes.

Any Class that does not contain any Allowed Claims or any Claims temporarily Allowed for voting purposes under Bankruptcy Rule 3018, as of the date of the commencement of the Confirmation Hearing, shall be deemed eliminated from this Plan for purposes of (i) voting to accept or reject this Plan and (ii) determining whether such Class has accepted or rejected this Plan under section 1129(a)(8) of the Bankruptcy Code.

#### ARTICLE VI MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION

#### A. Limited Substantive Consolidation.

The Plan provides for potential recoveries on account of Allowed Claims in Classes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 regardless of the Debtor entity against which such Allowed Claims are asserted. The Debtors shall not be consolidated for any other purpose. To the extent necessary, the Plan shall serve as a motion seeking, and entry of the Confirmation Order shall constitute, the approval, pursuant to section 105(a) of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rule 9019, effective as of the Effective Date, of the limited consolidation for voting and distribution on account of Allowed Claims in Classes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6.

For the avoidance of doubt, the limited consolidation described in this section shall not affect the legal and corporate structures of the Debtors. In addition, such consolidation shall not constitute a waiver of the mutuality requirement for setoff under section 553 of the Bankruptcy Code.

#### B. The Creditor Trust.

#### 1. Establishment of the Creditor Trust.

The Creditor Trust shall be established for the benefit of the holders of Allowed General Unsecured Claims. This section sets forth the general terms of the Creditor Trust and certain of the rights, duties, and obligations of the Creditor Trustee. In the event of any conflict between the terms of this section and the terms of the Creditor Trust Agreement, the terms of the Creditor Trust Agreement shall govern.

#### The Creditor Trustee.

The Creditor Trustee shall be selected by the Trustee with the approval of the Committee, with such approval not to be unreasonably withheld, subject only to Bankruptcy Court approval at the Confirmation Hearing. The Creditor Trust, acting by and through the Creditor Trustee, shall be a representative of the estates pursuant to section 1123(b)(3)(B) of the Bankruptcy Code. The Creditor Trustee may prosecute, settle, liquidate, and otherwise administer the Creditor Trust Assets on behalf of the Creditor Trust, without the need for Bankruptcy Court approval or any other notice or approval, except as set forth in the Creditor Trust Agreement, and shall also be responsible for objecting to Claims. The Creditor Trust and the Creditor Trustee shall be exempt from giving any bond or other security in any jurisdiction.

#### 3. Execution of Creditor Trust Agreement.

On the Effective Date, the Creditor Trust Agreement shall be executed, and all other necessary steps shall be taken to establish the Creditor Trust and the beneficial interests therein. The form of the Creditor Trust Agreement and related ancillary documents shall be mutually acceptable to the Trustee and the Committee, subject only to Bankruptcy Court approval at the Confirmation Hearing.

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### 4. <u>Purpose of the Creditor Trust.</u>

The Creditor Trust shall be established for the purpose of administering the terms of this Plan, including the liquidation and distribution of the Creditor Trust Assets and all proceeds thereof pursuant to the terms of this Plan and the Confirmation Order. The Creditor Trust, through the Creditor Trustee, shall not continue or engage in the conduct of a trade or business. The Creditor Trust, through the Creditor Trustee, shall (i) collect and reduce the Creditor Trust Assets to Cash, (ii) prosecute, settle and otherwise administer the Other Retained Causes of Action, (iii) make distributions in accordance with the Plan and Creditor Trust Agreement, and (iv) take all such actions as are reasonably necessary to accomplish the purpose hereof, as more fully provided in the Creditor Trust Agreement.

#### 5. Creditor Trust Assets.

The Creditor Trust shall consist of the Creditor Trust Assets. On the Effective Date, the Trustee, on behalf of the Debtors, shall, and shall be deemed to, irrevocably grant, assign, transfer, and convey to the Creditor Trust all rights, title, and interests in and to all of the Creditor Trust Assets, and in accordance with section 1141 of the Bankruptcy Code, the Creditor Trust Assets shall automatically vest in the Creditor Trust, free and clear of all Liens, Claims, and encumbrances. The Creditor Trust, acting by and through the Creditor Trustee, may abandon or otherwise not accept any Creditor Trust Assets that the Creditor Trust believes, in good faith, to have no value to, or will be unduly burdensome to, the Creditor Trust. Any Creditor Trust Assets that the Creditor Trust so abandons or otherwise does not accept shall not be property of the Creditor Trust.

#### 6. Governance and Powers and Duties of the Creditor Trust.

The Creditor Trust shall be governed by the Creditor Trustee in accordance with the Creditor Trust Agreement and consistent with the Plan. The Creditor Trustee shall have the power and authority to perform the acts described in the Creditor Trust Agreement. The powers, rights, and responsibilities of the Creditor Trustee shall be specified in the Creditor Trust Agreement and shall include, among other things, the authority, power, and responsibility to cause the Creditor Trust to: (a) receive, manage, invest, supervise, and protect Creditor Trust Assets; (b) pay taxes or other obligations incurred by the Creditor Trust and issue to employees or other Persons, and/or file with the appropriate Governmental Units, applicable tax and wage returns and forms; (c) retain and compensate, without further order of the Bankruptcy Court, the services of employees, independent contractors, professionals, and consultants to advise and assist in the administration, prosecution and distribution of Creditor Trust Assets; (d) calculate and implement Distributions of Creditor Trust Assets; (e) investigate, prosecute, compromise, and settle, in accordance with the specific terms of the Creditor Trust Agreement and without further order of the Bankruptcy Court, except as otherwise provided therein, Other Retained Causes of Action; (f) resolve issues involving Claims in accordance with the Plan, including the power to object to, or settle, resolve, or compromise objections or disputes with respect to, Claims, and to subordinate and recharacterize Claims by objection, motion, or adversary proceeding; (g) undertake all administrative functions of the Chapter 11 Cases, including the payment of statutory fees and the ultimate closing of the Chapter 11 Cases; and (h) take action pursuant to such other powers as may be vested in or assumed by the Creditor Trustee pursuant to this Plan, the Creditor Trust Agreement, Bankruptcy Court order, or as may be necessary and proper to carry out the provisions of this Plan.

#### 7. Books and Records.

The Creditor Trust shall: (a) take possession of all copies of books, records, and files of the Debtors and the Estates that were not sold and transferred in connection with a sale; and (b) provide for the retention and storage of such books, records, and files until such time as the Creditor Trust determines, in accordance with the Creditor Trust Agreement, that retention of same is no longer necessary or beneficial to the Creditor Trust.

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#### 8. Cash.

The Creditor Trustee may invest Creditor Trust Assets only in Cash, money market funds, and Government securities (as defined in section 2(a)(16) of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended); *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 Internal Revenue Service guidelines, rulings, or other controlling authorities.

#### 9. Costs and Expenses of the Creditor Trustee.

The costs and expenses of the Creditor Trust and/or the Creditor Trustee, including the fees and expenses of retained professionals, shall be paid only out of the Creditor Trust Assets. All such costs and expenses must be satisfied or reserved for in full before distributions may be made to holders of Allowed Claims.

#### 10. Compensation of the Trustee.

The Creditor Trustee shall be entitled to reasonable compensation paid exclusively from the Creditor Trust Assets as more fully set forth in the Creditor Trust Agreement.

#### 11. Retention of Professionals by the Creditor Trust.

The Creditor Trust, acting by and through the Creditor Trustee, may retain and reasonably compensate counsel and other professionals out of the Creditor Trust Assets to assist in its duties on such terms as the Creditor Trust deems appropriate without Bankruptcy Court approval. The Creditor Trust may retain any professional who represented parties in interest (including the Trustee or the Committee) in the Chapter 11 Cases.

#### 12. Distribution of Creditor Trust Assets.

The Creditor Trust shall distribute Cash in accordance with the Plan and the Creditor Trust Agreement.

The Creditor Trust shall not make any distributions to holders of Disputed Claims unless and until such Claims are Allowed. The Creditor Trust shall ensure that sufficient funds are reserved, as determined by the Creditor Trustee in his sole discretion, to pay Disputed Claims upon Allowance. The Creditor Trust shall be permitted to reserve and satisfy amounts that (i) are reasonably necessary to meet contingent liabilities and to maintain the value of the Creditor Trust Assets, (ii) are necessary to pay reasonable expenses (including, but not limited to, any taxes imposed on the Creditor Trust or in respect of the Creditor Trust Assets), and (iii) are required to satisfy other liabilities incurred by the Creditor Trust in accordance with this Plan or the Creditor Trust Agreement.

#### 13. Creditor Trust Certificates.

Beneficial interests in the Creditor Trust shall not be represented by certificates, receipts, or in any other form or manner, except as maintained on the books and records of the Creditor Trust by the Creditor Trustee, as set forth in the Creditor Trust Agreement.

#### 14. Federal Income Tax Treatment of the Creditor Trust.

i. Creditor Trust Assets Treated as Owned by General Unsecured Creditors. For all federal income tax purposes, all parties (including, without limitation, the Debtors, the Creditor Trustee, and the holders of beneficial interests in the Creditor Trust) shall treat the transfer of the Creditor Trust Assets to the Creditor Trust for the benefit of the beneficiaries thereof, whether Allowed on or after the Effective Date, as (A) a transfer of the Creditor Trust Assets directly to the holders in satisfaction of General Unsecured Claims, followed by (B) the transfer by such holders to the Creditor Trust of the Creditor Trust Assets in exchange for, beneficial interests in the Creditor Trust. Accordingly, the holders of such General

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Unsecured Claims shall be treated for federal income tax purposes as the grantors and owners of their respective shares of the Creditor Trust Assets.

#### ii. Tax Reporting.

- A) The Creditor Trust, acting by and through the Creditor Trustee shall file income tax returns for the Creditor Trust as a grantor trust pursuant to Treasury Regulation section 1.671-4(a) and in accordance with this section. To the extent required, or if desired by the Creditor Trust, the Creditor Trust shall annually send to each record holder of a beneficial interest a separate statement setting forth the holder's share of items of income, gain, loss, deduction, or credit and will instruct all such holders to report such items on their federal income tax returns or to forward the appropriate information to the beneficial holders with instructions to report such items on their federal income tax returns. The Creditor Trust's taxable income, gain, loss, deduction, or credit will be allocated among the beneficial holders of Creditor Trust Interests in accordance with each holder's relative beneficial Creditor Trust Interest.
- B) The Creditor Trust, acting by and through the Creditor Trustee, may, in its sole discretion, determine the best way to report for United States tax purposes with respect to any Creditor Trust Assets allocable to, or retained on account of, Disputed Claims (the "<u>Disputed Claims Reserve</u>"), including, but not limited to, filing a tax election to treat the Disputed Claims Reserve as a disputed ownership fund ("<u>DOF</u>") or other separate entity within the meaning of Treasury Regulation section 1.468B-9 for federal income tax purposes rather than to tax such reserve as a part of the Creditor Trust (and, to the extent permitted by applicable law, report consistently with the foregoing for United States federal, state, and local income tax purposes) (the "<u>DOF Election</u>"). If a DOF Election is made, the Creditor Trust shall comply with all federal and state tax reporting and tax compliance requirements of the DOF or other separate entity, including, but not limited to, the filing of a separate federal tax return for the DOF or other separate entity and the payment of federal and/or state income tax due.
- C) The Creditor Trust shall be responsible for payments, out of the Creditor Trust Assets, of any taxes imposed on the Creditor Trust or the Creditor Trust Assets, including the Disputed Claims Reserve. In the event, and to the extent, any Cash retained on account of Disputed Claims in the Disputed Claims Reserve is insufficient to pay the portion of any such taxes attributable to the taxable income arising from the assets allocable to, or retained on account of, Disputed Claims, such taxes shall be (i) reimbursed from any subsequent Cash amounts retained on account of Disputed Claims, or (ii) to the extent such Disputed Claims have subsequently been resolved, deducted from any amounts distributable by the Trustee as a result of the resolutions of such Disputed Claims.
- D) The Creditor Trust may request an expedited determination of taxes of the Creditor Trust, including the Disputed Claims Reserve, under section 505(b) of the Bankruptcy Code for all returns filed for, or on behalf of, the Creditor Trust for all taxable periods through the dissolution of the Creditor Trust.

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#### 15. Dissolution.

The Creditor Trust shall be dissolved and the Creditor Trustee shall be discharged no later than the fifth (5th) anniversary of the Effective Date; provided, however, that, the Bankruptcy Court, upon motion by a party in interest, including the Creditor Trust, may extend the term of the Creditor Trust if it is necessary to the liquidation and/or distribution of the Creditor Trust Assets, without prejudice to further extensions, so long as Bankruptcy Court approval of such extension is obtained in conformity with IRS Revenue Procedure 94-45, 1994-2 C.B. 684; provided, however, that in no event shall the term of the Creditor Trust extend past the tenth (10th) anniversary of the Effective Date; provided further that neither the Creditor Trust Agreement nor the continued existence of the Creditor Trust shall prevent the Trustee from closing the Chapter 11 Cases pursuant to section 350 of the Bankruptcy Code and obtaining a Final Decree pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 3022. The Creditor Trust may be terminated earlier than its scheduled termination if (i) the Bankruptcy Court has entered a Final Order closing all of or the last of the Chapter 11 Cases pursuant to section 350(a) of the Bankruptcy Code and (ii) the Creditor Trustee has administered all Creditor Trust Assets and performed all other duties required by the Plan, the Confirmation Order, the Creditor Trust Agreement and the Creditor Trust. The Creditor Trustee shall not unduly prolong the duration of the Creditor Trust and shall at all times endeavor to resolve, settle or otherwise dispose of all claims that constitute Creditor Trust Assets and to effect the Distribution of the Creditor Trust Assets in accordance with the terms hereof and terminate the Creditor Trust as soon as practicable. Prior to and upon termination of the Creditor Trust, the Creditor Trust Assets will be distributed to the beneficiaries of Creditor Trust, pursuant to the provisions set forth in the Trust Agreement.

If at any time the Creditor Trustee determines that the expense of administering the Creditor Trust is likely to exceed the value of the Creditor Trust Assets, the Creditor Trustee shall have the authority to (i) distribute to the beneficiaries of the Creditor Trust any Cash balance remaining in excess of necessary costs to pay outstanding expenses of the Creditor Trust, including any fees and expenses of the Creditor Trustee and his/her professionals, (ii) donate any Creditor Trust Assets remaining in the Creditor Trust to a non-religious charitable organization exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Tax Code that is unrelated to the Debtors and any Insider of the Debtors and (iii) dissolve the Creditor Trust.

#### 16. Preservation of Privileges

The actions taken by the Debtors, the Trustee, or the Committee shall not be (or be deemed to be) a waiver of any privilege, including any attorney-client privilege or work-product privilege attaching to any document or communications (whether written or oral). Notwithstanding the Trustee or the Committee providing any privileged information to the Creditor Trust, Creditor Trustee, or any party or person associated with the Creditor Trust, such privileged information shall be without waiver of any privilege of the Trustee or the Committee, including any attorney-client privilege or work-product privilege. The transfer to and vesting in the Creditor Trust of the Creditor Trust Assets on the Effective Date shall not effect a waiver of any privilege of the Debtors, the Trustee, or the Committee, and upon such transfer, the Creditor Trust, acting by and through the Creditor Trustee, shall hold all rights with respect to such privileges, including the right to waive such privileges in its discretion.

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#### 17. <u>Indemnification of Creditor Trustee.</u>

The Creditor Trust shall indemnify the Creditor Trust Indemnified Parties for, and shall hold them harmless against, any loss, liability, damage, judgment, fine, penalty, claim, demand, settlement, cost, or expense (including the reasonable fees and expenses of their respective professionals) incurred without fraud, gross negligence or willful misconduct on the part of the Creditor Trust Indemnified Parties (which fraud, gross negligence or willful misconduct, if any, must be determined by a Final Order of a court of competent jurisdiction) for any action taken, suffered, or omitted to be taken by the Creditor Trust Indemnified Parties in connection with the acceptance, administration, exercise, and performance of their duties under the Plan, Confirmation Order, or the Creditor Trust Agreement, as applicable. An act or omission taken with the approval of the Bankruptcy Court, and not inconsistent therewith, will be conclusively deemed not to constitute fraud, gross negligence or willful misconduct. In addition, the Creditor Trust shall, to the fullest extent permitted by law, indemnify and hold harmless the Creditor Trust Indemnified Parties, from and against and with respect to any and all liabilities, losses, damages, claims, costs, and expenses, including attorneys' fees arising out of or due to their actions or omissions, or consequences of such actions or omissions, with respect to the Creditor Trust or the implementation or administration of the Plan, if the Creditor Trust Indemnified Party acted in good faith and in a manner reasonably believed to be in, or not opposed to, the best interest of the Creditor Trust. To the extent the Creditor Trust indemnifies and holds harmless any Creditor Trust Indemnified Parties as provided above, the legal fees and related costs incurred by counsel to the Creditor Trust in monitoring or participating in the defense of such claims giving rise to the right of indemnification shall be paid as costs and expenses of the Creditor Trust. The costs and expenses incurred in enforcing the right of indemnification in this section shall be paid by the Creditor Trust. This provision shall survive the termination of the Creditor Trust or Creditor Trust Agreement, and the death, dissolution, liquidation, resignation, replacement, or removal of the Creditor Trustee.

### C. Discharge of the Chapter 11 Trustee and Cessation of Fee and Expense Payments.

On the Effective Date, the Trustee and the Trustee's Professional Persons (solely in their capacity as such) shall be discharged and released from all their duties relating to the Chapter 11 Cases, except with respect to (a) any applications for Professional Fee Claims or expense reimbursements for the Trustee and his Professional Persons, including preparing same, objecting to same, defending same and attending any hearing with respect to same; and (b) any motions or other actions seeking enforcement or implementation of (i) the Plan or (ii) the Confirmation Order. Neither the Debtors nor the Creditor Trust shall be responsible for paying any fees or expenses incurred by the Trustee after the Effective Date *except* if incurred in furtherance of the functions of the Trustee set forth in (a) or (b) of this paragraph, subject to the rights of parties in interest to object thereto.

#### D. Dissolution of Committee and Cessation of Fee and Expense Payments.

The Committee shall be dissolved on the Effective Date and the members of the Committee (solely in their capacities as such) and the Committee's Professional Persons (solely in their capacity as such) shall be released from all their duties relating to the Chapter 11 Cases, except with respect to (a) any applications for Professional Fee Claims or expense reimbursements for members of the Committee, including preparing same, objecting to same, defending same and attending any hearing with respect to same; and (b) any motions or other actions seeking enforcement or implementation of (i) the Plan or (ii) the Confirmation Order. Neither the Debtors nor the Creditor Trust shall be responsible for paying any fees or expenses incurred by the Committee (or any other committee that may be appointed in these Chapter 11 Cases) after the Effective Date *except* if incurred in furtherance of the functions of the Committee set forth in (a) or (b) of this paragraph, subject to the rights of parties in interest to object thereto.

#### E. Issuance of Creditor Trust Interests.

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All of the Creditor Trust Interests issued pursuant to the Plan shall be duly authorized, validly issued, fully paid, and non-assessable. On the Distribution Date, the Creditor Trust shall issue the Creditor Trust Interests for distribution pursuant to the provisions hereof and the Creditor Trust Agreement. All Creditor Trust Interests to be issued shall be deemed issued as of the Effective Date regardless of the date on which they are actually distributed. For the avoidance of doubt, ownership of a Creditor Trust Interest will not be evidenced by any certificate, security, or receipt or in any other form or manner whatsoever, except the book entry system.

The Creditor Trust Interests shall be non-transferable and non-assignable during the term of the Creditor Trust Agreement except by operation of law. An assignment by operation of law shall not be effective until appropriate notification and proof thereof is submitted to the Creditor Trust, and the Creditor Trust may continue to pay all amounts to or for the benefit of the assigning Creditor Trust beneficiaries until receipt of proper notification and proof of assignment by operation of law. The Creditor Trust may rely upon such proof without the requirement of any further investigation.

#### F. Section 1145 Exemption.

Section 1145 of the Bankruptcy Code shall be applicable to the issuance of the Creditor Trust Interests, if any. To the maximum extent permitted by section 1145 of the Bankruptcy Code and applicable non-bankruptcy law, if appropriate, the Creditor Trust Interests, issued pursuant to the Plan and their transfer will be exempt from registration under the Securities Act and all rules and regulations promulgated thereunder, and any and all applicable state and local laws, rules, and regulations.

#### G. Cancellation of Existing Securities.

On the Effective Date, except as otherwise provided for herein or any other document incorporated in the Plan, all Equity Interests and any other certificate, security, share, note, bond, indenture, purchase right, option, warrant, certificates of designation or other instrument or document directly or indirectly evidencing or creating any indebtedness or obligation of or ownership interest in the Debtors giving rise to any Claim or Equity Interest, to the extent not already cancelled, shall be deemed cancelled and of no further force or effect, without the requirement for any further action on the part of the Bankruptcy Court or any other Person.

#### H. Corporate Action.

Upon the Effective Date, all actions contemplated under the Plan shall be deemed authorized and approved in all respects. All matters provided for in the Plan involving the corporate structure of the Debtors, and any corporate action required by or in connection with the Plan, shall be deemed to have occurred and shall be in effect, without any requirement of further action by the Trustee, any Equity Interest holders, or directors or officers of the Debtors. The authorizations and approvals contemplated by this section shall be effective notwithstanding any requirements under non-bankruptcy law.

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#### I. Directors, and Executive Officers.

On the Effective Date, the term of each member of each Debtor's current board of directors or board of managers shall automatically expire. From and after the Effective Date, the Creditor Trustee may exercise all power and authority that may be exercised by any officer, director or manager of, or holder of an Equity Interest in, the Debtors, with like effect as if authorized, exercised and taken by unanimous consent of such officers, directors, managers or holders of Equity Interests, *provided*, that the Creditor Trustee shall have no duties other than as expressly set forth in the Confirmation Order, the Plan, and the Creditor Trust Agreement.

#### J. Retained Causes of Action.

Except as otherwise provided in this Plan, an agreement or document entered into in connection with the Plan, or in a Final Order of the Bankruptcy Court, pursuant to sections 363(b) and 1123(b)(3) of the Bankruptcy Code, the Trustee reserves and, as of the Effective Date, grant, release, assign, transfer, and convey to: (i) the Prepetition Lender the Assigned Causes of Action, and (ii) to the Creditor Trust the Other Retained Causes of Action.

The Prepetition Lender shall be the exclusive representative of the estates pursuant to section 1123(b)(3) of the Bankruptcy Code on account of such Assigned Causes of Action. On and after the Effective Date, the Prepetition Lender, for itself in partial satisfaction of its Allowed Prepetition Lender's Secured Claim, may pursue Assigned Causes of Action. Any and all recoveries and proceeds from any Assigned Causes of Action shall be the sole property of Prepetition Lender, in partial satisfaction of its Allowed Prepetition Lender's Secured Claim and in consideration for the value provided by the Prepetition Lender under this Plan.

The Creditor Trust, acting by and through the Creditor Trustee, shall be the exclusive representative of the estates pursuant to section 1123(b)(3) of the Bankruptcy Code on account of the Other Retained Causes of Action. On and after the Effective Date, the Creditor Trustee, on behalf of the Creditor Trust, may pursue Other Retained Causes of Action for the benefit of the holders of Creditor Trust Interests.

No Entity may rely on the absence of a specific reference in the Plan, the Plan Supplement, or the Disclosure Statement to any Retained Cause of Action against it as any indication that the Prepetition Lender or the Creditor Trustee, as applicable, will not pursue any and all available Retained Causes of Action. Unless any Retained Cause of Action against an Entity is expressly waived, relinquished, exculpated, released, compromised, or settled in the Plan or a Final Order of the Bankruptcy Court, the Trustee expressly reserves all Retained Causes of Action for later adjudication by the Prepetition Lender or the Creditor Trust, as applicable, and, therefore no preclusion doctrine, including the doctrines of res judicata, collateral estoppel, issue preclusion, claim preclusion (judicial, equitable, or otherwise), or laches, shall apply to such Retained Causes of Action upon, after, or as a consequence of Plan confirmation or occurrence of the Effective Date; provided, however, that upon payment of the Malibu Settlement Payment, no Claims or Causes of Action against Malibu Boats shall be reserved for the later adjudication by the Prepetition Lender or the Creditor Trust, as applicable.

#### K. Effectuating Documents; Further Transactions.

On and after the Effective Date, the Creditor Trust, acting by and through the Creditor Trustee, is authorized to and may issue, execute, deliver, file, or record such contracts, securities, instruments, releases, and other agreements or documents and take such actions as may be necessary or appropriate to effectuate, implement, and further evidence the terms and conditions of the Plan without the need for any approvals, authorization, or consents except for those expressly required pursuant to the Plan.

#### L. Exemption from Certain Transfer Taxes.

Pursuant to section 1146(a) of the Bankruptcy Code, the following will not be subject to any document recording tax, stamp tax, conveyance fee, intangibles or similar tax, sales or use tax, mortgage tax, real estate transfer tax, mortgage recording tax, or other similar tax or governmental assessment, and upon entry of the Confirmation Order, the appropriate state or local governmental officials or agents shall forego the collection of any

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such tax or governmental assessment and accept for filing and recordation any of the foregoing instruments or other documents without the payment of any such tax or governmental assessment: (a) the creation of any mortgage, deed of trust, lien or other security interest under or pursuant to this Plan; (b) the release or assignment of liens; (c) the transfer of any assets of the Debtors' Estates to the Creditor Trust; or (d) the making or delivery of any deed or other instrument of transfer under, in furtherance of, in connection with or pursuant to this Plan, including any restructuring, disposition, liquidation or dissolution, deeds, bills of sale or assignments executed in connection with any of the foregoing.

# ARTICLE VII DISTRIBUTIONS

#### A. Date of Distributions.

Distributions under the Plan shall be made as set forth herein. In the event that any payment or act under this Plan is required to be made or performed on a date that is not a Business Day, then the making of such payment or the performance of such act shall be completed on the next succeeding Business Day but shall be deemed to have been completed as of the required date.

#### B. Sources of Cash for Plan Distributions.

Except as otherwise provided herein or in the Confirmation Order, all Cash required for the payments to be made under this Plan shall come from the Creditor Trust Assets.

#### C. Distributions.

All distributions under the Plan shall be made by the Trustee, his designee, or by the Creditor Trustee. Neither the Trustee, his designee, the Creditor Trust, nor the Creditor Trustee shall be required to post any bond, surety or other security for the performance of its duties hereunder unless otherwise ordered by the Bankruptcy Court.

#### D. Record Date for Distributions.

At the close of business on the Distribution Record Date, the transfer ledgers or registers for Claims against the Debtors shall be closed, and there shall be no further changes in the record holders of such Claims. Neither the Trustee nor the Creditor Trust shall have any obligation to recognize any transfer of any of the foregoing occurring after the Distribution Record Date and shall be entitled instead to recognize for all purposes hereunder, including to effect distributions hereunder, only those record holders stated on the transfer ledgers or registers maintained by the Trustee as of the close of business on the Distribution Record Date. All distributions to holders of Allowed Claims under the Plan shall be made to the holder of the Allowed Claim as of the Distribution Record Date.

#### E. Delivery of Distributions; Unclaimed Property.

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Subject to Bankruptcy Rule 9010, all distributions under the Plan shall be made at the address of each holder of an Allowed Claim (1) at the address set forth in the underlying proof of claim, if filed, (2) at the address set forth on the Debtors' Schedules, if no proof of claim is filed, or (3) pursuant to a written change of address filed with the Bankruptcy Court and delivered to the Creditor Trust. If any distribution to the holder of an Allowed Claim is returned as undeliverable, no further distributions to such holder shall be made unless and until the Trustee or the Creditor Trust, as applicable, are notified of such holder's then-current address, at which time all missed distributions shall be made to such holder without interest. All such distributions, as well as any distributions by check or other means that have not been negotiated shall be deemed unclaimed property under section 347(b) of the Bankruptcy Code at the expiration of sixty (60) days after the date of the distribution in question. After such 60th day, and notwithstanding any applicable federal or state escheat, abandoned, or unclaimed property laws to the contrary (i) all unclaimed property or interest in property in respect of the distribution in question shall revert to the Creditor Trust, and (ii) the Claim of any holder with respect to such unclaimed property or interest in property shall be discharged and forever barred.

#### F. Means of Payment.

All distributions made pursuant to the Plan shall be in Cash.

#### G. Distributions After Effective Date.

Distributions made after the Effective Date to holders of Disputed Claims that are not Allowed as of the Effective Date, shall be deemed to have been made on the Effective Date. After the initial distribution, the Creditor Trust, by and through the Creditor Trustee shall make additional interim distributions to holders of Allowed Claims at such time as the Creditor Trust may deem appropriate, in accordance with the terms of this Plan.

#### H. Withholding and Reporting Requirements.

Any party issuing any instrument or making any distribution under the Plan shall comply with all applicable withholding and reporting requirements imposed by any federal, state, or local taxing authority, and all distributions under the Plan shall be subject to any such withholding or reporting requirements. Notwithstanding the above, each holder of an Allowed Claim that is entitled to receive a distribution under the Plan shall have the sole and exclusive responsibility for the satisfaction and payment of any applicable tax obligations, including income, withholding and other tax obligations, on account of such distribution. Any party issuing any instrument or making any distribution under the Plan to any holder of any Allowed Claim has the right, but not the obligation, to not issue such instrument or make a distribution until such holder has made arrangements satisfactory to such issuing or disbursing party for payment of any such tax obligations.

The Creditor Trust shall be authorized to require each holder of a Claim to provide it with an executed Form W-9, Form W-8, or any other tax form, documentation or certification as may be requested by the Creditor Trust as a condition precedent to being sent a distribution under the Plan. If a holder of a Claim does not provide the Trust with an executed Form W-9, Form W-8 or other requested tax form within ninety (90) days after the date of the initial request, the Creditor Trust may, in its sole discretion: (1) make such distribution under the Plan net of applicable withholding; (2) reserve such distribution under the Plan, in which case (i) such holder shall be deemed to have forfeited the right to receive any current, reserved or future distribution under the Plan, (ii) any such distribution under the Plan shall revert to the Creditor Trust for all purposes, including but not limited to, for distribution to other Allowed Claims, and (iii) the Claim of the holder originally entitled to such distribution under the Plan shall be irrevocably waived and forever barred without further order of the Bankruptcy Court, all notwithstanding any federal, state or provincial escheat, unclaimed or abandoned property law to the contrary; or (3) establish any other mechanisms it believes are reasonable and appropriate. The Creditor Trust reserves the right to allocate and distribute all distributions under the Plan in compliance with all applicable wage garnishments, alimony, child support and other spousal awards, Liens and similar encumbrances.

### I. No Postpetition Interest.

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Unless otherwise specifically provided for in the Plan or in the Confirmation Order, or required by applicable bankruptcy law, postpetition interest shall not accrue or be paid on any Claim, and no holder of a Claim shall be entitled to interest accruing on or after the Petition Date.

#### J. Time Bar to Payments.

Checks issued under the Plan shall be null and void if not negotiated within sixty (60) days after the date of issuance. Requests for reissuance of any check shall be made in writing directly to the Creditor Trust by the Person to whom such check was originally issued. Any request for re-issuance of a voided check must be made on or before the end of the 60-day period referenced in this section. After such 60-day period, if no request for re-issuance of a voided check was timely made, such amounts shall constitute unclaimed property and be treated in accordance with section VII.E of this Plan, and all Claims in respect of such void checks shall be discharged and forever barred.

#### K. De Minimis Distributions.

Neither the Trustee nor the Creditor Trust shall have any obligation to make a distribution that is less than Fifty Dollars (\$50) in Cash. If an interim distribution to the holder of an Allowed Claim is less than \$50, such distribution shall be held for future distributions. If the final distribution to any holder of an Allowed Claim is less than \$50, such amount shall become and constitute unclaimed property and be treated in accordance with section VII.E of the Plan.

## ARTICLE VIII PROCEDURES FOR RESOLVING AND TREATING DISPUTED CLAIMS

#### A. Objections to Claims.

Except insofar as a Claim is Allowed under the Plan or pursuant to Final Order of the Bankruptcy Court, the Trustee, the Creditor Trust, and any other party in interest with standing, shall be entitled to object to Claims. Any objections to Claims shall be served and filed by the Objection Deadline. Any Claim to which an objection is timely filed shall be a Disputed Claim.

#### B. Estimation of Claims.

Before or after the Effective Date, the Trustee or the Creditor Trustee, as applicable, may at any time request that the Bankruptcy Court estimate any Disputed Claim that is contingent or unliquidated pursuant to section 502(c) of the Bankruptcy Code for any reason, regardless of whether any party previously has objected to such Claim or Interest or whether the Bankruptcy Court has ruled on any such objection, and the Bankruptcy Court shall retain jurisdiction to estimate any such Claim, including during the litigation of any objection to any such Claim or during the appeal relating to such objection. Notwithstanding any provision otherwise in the Plan, a Claim that has been expunged from the claims register maintained in these Chapter 11 Cases, but that either is subject to appeal or has not been the subject of a Final Order, shall be deemed to be estimated at zero dollars, unless otherwise ordered by the Bankruptcy Court. If the Bankruptcy Court estimates any contingent or unliquidated Claim, that estimated amount shall constitute a maximum limitation on such Claim for all purposes under the Plan (including for purposes of distributions), and the Creditor Trustee may elect to pursue any supplemental proceedings to object to any ultimate distribution on such Claim.

#### C. No Distributions Pending Allowance.

If a timely objection is made with respect to any Claim, no payment or distribution under the Plan shall be made on account of such Claim unless and until such Disputed Claim becomes Allowed.

#### D. Distributions After Allowance.

To the extent that a Disputed Claim ultimately becomes an Allowed Claim, distributions (if any) shall be made to the holder of such Allowed Claim in accordance with the provisions of the Plan. As soon as reasonably

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practicable after the date that the order or judgment of the Bankruptcy Court allowing any Disputed Claim becomes a Final Order, the Trustee or the Creditor Trustee, as applicable, shall provide to the holder of such Claim the distribution (if any) to which such holder is entitled under this Plan as of the Effective Date, without any interest.

#### E. Disallowance of Late Filed Claims.

Unless otherwise provided in a Final Order of the Bankruptcy Court, any Claim for which a proof of claim is filed after the applicable Bar Date shall be deemed Disallowed. The holder of a Claim that is Disallowed pursuant to this section shall not receive any distribution on account of such Claim, and neither the Trustee nor the Creditor Trust shall need to take any affirmative action for such Claim to be deemed Disallowed.

# ARTICLE IX CONDITIONS PRECEDENT TO CONFIRMATION AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PLAN

#### A. Conditions to Confirmation of Plan.

Confirmation of the Plan shall not occur, and the Confirmation Order shall not be entered, until each of the following conditions precedent have been satisfied or waived:

- (i) An order, finding that the Disclosure Statement contains adequate information pursuant to section 1125 of the Bankruptcy Code shall have been entered; and
- (ii) The Confirmation Order shall be in a form and substance reasonably satisfactory to the Trustee, the Committee, and the Prepetition Lender.

#### B. Conditions to Effective Date of Plan.

The Effective Date of the Plan shall not occur until each of the following conditions precedent have been satisfied or waived:

- (i) The clerk of the Bankruptcy Court shall have entered the Confirmation Order in the Chapter 11 Cases and there shall not be a stay or injunction (or similar prohibition) in effect with respect thereto;
- (ii) The Confirmation Order shall have become a Final Order;
- (iii) The Creditor Trust Agreement has been fully executed, the Creditor Trust shall have been formed, and the Creditor Trust Assets have been transferred to the Creditor Trust;
- (iv) Substantially all Administrative Claims have been Allowed and the Administrative Claims Reserve has been funded in accordance with the terms hereof;
- (v) All conditions precedent to the effectiveness of the Malibu Settlement Agreement, as set forth therein, shall have been satisfied or waived by Malibu Boats or the Trustee, as applicable, and the Trustee shall have received the Malibu Settlement Payment; and
- (vi) All other actions and all agreements, instruments or other documents necessary to implement the terms and provisions of the Plan shall have been executed and delivered by the parties thereto, and, in each case, all conditions to their effectiveness shall have been satisfied or waived as provided therein.

Within two (2) Business Days of the Effective Date, the Trustee shall file a notice of the occurrence of the Effective Date and serve the same on all creditors and parties in interest.

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### C. Waiver of Conditions Precedent.

Any of the foregoing conditions (with the exception of the conditions set forth in sections IX.A(i), IX.B(i), and IX.B(iii) hereof) may be waived by agreement of the Trustee, the Prepetition Lender, and the Committee without notice to or order of the Bankruptcy Court. The failure to satisfy or waive any condition may be asserted by the Trustee, the Prepetition Lender, and the Committee regardless of the circumstances giving rise to the failure of such condition to be satisfied (including any action or inaction by the Trustee, the Prepetition Lender, or the Committee). The failure of the Trustee, the Prepetition Lender, and the Committee to exercise any of the foregoing rights shall not be deemed a waiver of any other rights and each such right will be deemed an on-going right that may be asserted at any time.

#### D. Effect of Failure of Conditions.

If the foregoing conditions have not been satisfied or waived in the manner provided in sections IX.A, IX.B, or IX.C hereof, then (i) the Confirmation Order shall be of no further force or effect; (ii) no distributions under the Plan or Creditor Trust shall be made; (iii) the Trustee and all holders of Claims against and Equity Interests in the Debtors shall be restored to the *status quo ante* as of the day immediately preceding the Confirmation Date as though the Confirmation Date had never occurred; (iv) all of the Debtors' obligations with respect to Claims and Equity Interests shall remain unaffected by the Plan; (v) nothing contained in this Plan shall be deemed to constitute a waiver or release of any Claims by or against the Debtors or any other Person or to prejudice in any manner the rights of the Trustee or any Person in any further proceedings involving the Debtors; and (vi) this Plan shall be deemed withdrawn. Upon such occurrence, the Trustee shall file a written notification with the Bankruptcy Court and serve it on the parties appearing on the master service list maintained in the Chapter 11 Cases.

#### E. Reservation of Rights.

The Plan shall have no force or effect unless and until the Effective Date occurs. Prior to the Effective Date, none of the filing of the Plan, any statement or provision contained in the Plan, or action taken by the Trustee with respect to the Plan shall be, or shall be deemed to be, an admission or waiver of any rights of the Trustee, the Creditor Trustee, or any other party with respect to any Claims or Equity Interests or any other matter.

# ARTICLE X EFFECT OF CONSUMMATION

#### A. Vesting of Assets.

Upon the Confirmation Date, pursuant to sections 1141(b) and (c) of the Bankruptcy Code, the Creditor Trust Assets shall vest in the Creditor Trust, free and clear of all Claims, Liens, encumbrances, charges, and other interests, except as otherwise provided in this Plan.

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#### B. Exculpation.

Upon the Effective Date, to the fullest extent permissible under applicable law, no Exculpated Party shall have or incur, and each Exculpated Party is released and exculpated from, any liability to any holder of a Claim or Equity Interest, or any other party in interest, for any claim or cause of action arising from, relating to, or connected with the administration of the Chapter 11 Cases, the Disclosure Statement, the preparation of the Plan, the solicitation of acceptances of the Plan, the pursuit of confirmation of the Plan, the occurrence of the Effective Date, or the administration of the Plan or property to be distributed under the Plan, except for claims related to any act or omission that is determined in a Final Order of a court of competent jurisdiction to have constituted actual fraud, willful misconduct, or gross negligence. The Exculpated Parties shall be deemed to have participated in good faith in connection with the above and entitled to the protection of section 1125(e) of the Bankruptcy Code. Each Exculpated Party shall be entitled to reasonably rely upon the advice of counsel with respect to their duties and responsibilities pursuant to the Plan.

#### C. Releases by the Trustee.

On the Effective Date, unless expressly preserved by the Plan, the Trustee, on behalf of each and all Debtors, shall fully and forever release, acquit, discharge, and dismiss any and all claims, obligations, suits, judgments, damages, rights, remedies, Causes of Action, and liabilities of any nature, whether known or unknown, foreseen or unforeseen, liquidated or unliquidated, matured or unmatured, contingent or non-contingent, existing or hereafter arising, in law, equity, or otherwise, including any Avoidance Actions or other applicable law which they have or may have against any of the Released Parties. Notwithstanding anything contained herein to the contrary, the foregoing release does not release any obligations of any Released Party under the Plan or any document, instrument, or agreement executed to implement the Plan.

#### D. Third-Party Releases.

Except as otherwise expressly set forth in the Plan or the Confirmation Order, and in exchange for other good and valuable consideration, the adequacy of which is hereby confirmed, each of the Releasing Parties shall be deemed to have expressly, conclusively, absolutely, unconditionally, irrevocably, and forever released and discharged each Released Party, to the fullest extent permissible under applicable law, from any and all claims, causes of action, interests, damages, remedies, demands, rights, actions (including Avoidance Actions), suits, debts, sums of money, obligations, judgments, liabilities, accounts, defenses, offsets, counterclaims, crossclaims, powers, privileges, licenses, liens, indemnities, guaranties, and franchises of any kind or character whatsoever, whether known or unknown, foreseen or unforeseen, now existing or hereafter arising, contingent or non-contingent, liquidated or unliquidated, choate or inchoate, secured or unsecured, assertable, directly or derivatively (including any Causes of Action asserted or assertable on behalf of the Debtors, the Trustee, the Creditor Trust, or the Estates, as applicable), matured or unmatured, suspected or unsuspected, in contract, tort, law, equity, or otherwise, arising from, relating to, or connected with the Debtors (or any predecessor entity) or the Chapter 11 Cases or affecting property of the Debtors' Estates, the Plan or the administration and implementation of the Plan, or based upon any other related act or omission, transaction, agreement, event, or other occurrence taking place on or before the Effective Date.

The Released Parties shall be deemed to have expressly, conclusively, absolutely, unconditionally, irrevocably, and forever released and discharged each Consenting Creditor to the fullest extent permissible under applicable law, from any and all claims, causes of action, interests, damages, remedies, demands, rights, actions (including Avoidance Actions), suits, debts, sums of money, obligations, judgments, liabilities, accounts, defenses, offsets, counterclaims, crossclaims, powers, privileges, licenses, liens, indemnities, guaranties, and franchises of any kind or character whatsoever, whether known or unknown, foreseen or unforeseen, now existing or hereafter arising, contingent or non-contingent, liquidated or unliquidated, choate or inchoate, secured or unsecured, assertable, directly or derivatively, matured or unmatured, suspected or unsuspected, in contract, tort, law, equity, or otherwise, arising from, relating to, or connected with, the Debtors (or any predecessor entity) or the Chapter 11 Cases or affecting property of the Debtors'

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Estates, the Plan or the administration and implementation of the Plan, or based upon any other related act or omission, transaction, agreement, event, or other occurrence taking place on or before the Effective Date.

Notwithstanding anything contained herein to the contrary, the foregoing releases do not release (i) any obligations of any party under the Plan or any document, instrument, or agreement executed to implement the Plan, or (ii) the rights of holders of Allowed Claims to receive Distributions under the Plan. Furthermore, notwithstanding anything contained herein to the contrary, nothing in this section X.D shall apply to any of the Borisch Parties. For the avoidance of doubt, the Borisch Parties are expressly excluded from the definitions of Consenting Creditors, Released Parties, and Releasing Parties, the intent of the Trustee being that the Borisch Parties are neither giving nor receiving any releases under this Plan.

Each of the Releasing Parties knowingly grants the Third-Party Releases notwithstanding that each Releasing Party may hereafter discover facts in addition to, or different from, those which either such Releasing Party now knows or believes to be true, and without regard to the subsequent discovery or existence of such different or additional facts, and each Releasing Party expressly waives any and all rights that such Releasing Party may have under any statute or common law principle which would limit the effect of the Third-Party Release to those claims actually known or suspected to exist as of the Effective Date. In connection with their agreement to the foregoing Third-Party Releases, the Releasing Parties knowingly and voluntarily waive and relinquish any and all provisions, rights, and benefits conferred by any law of the United States or any state or territory of the United States, or principle of common law, which governs or limits a person's release of unknown claims, comparable or equivalent to California Civil Code § 1542, which provides: "A GENERAL RELEASE DOES NOT EXTEND TO CLAIMS WHICH THE CREDITOR DOES NOT KNOW OR SUSPECT TO EXIST IN HIS OR HER FAVOR AT THE TIME OF EXECUTING THE RELEASE, WHICH IF KNOWN BY HIM OR HER MUST HAVE MATERIALLY AFFECTED HIS SETTLEMENT WITH THE DEBTOR."

#### E. Injunction and Stay.

Upon the Effective Date, and except as otherwise expressly provided in this Plan, all Persons who have held, hold, or may hold Claims against or Equity Interests in any Debtor are permanently enjoined, from (i) commencing or continuing in any manner any action or other proceeding of any kind on any such Claim or Equity Interest against the Estates, (ii) the enforcement, attachment, collection, or recovery by any manner or means of any judgment, award, decree, or order against any of the Debtors' Estates with respect to any such Claim or Equity Interest, (iii) creating, perfecting, or enforcing any encumbrance of any kind against any of the Debtors, or against the property or interests in property of any of the Debtors, as applicable with respect to any such Claim or Equity Interest, (iv) asserting any right of setoff, subrogation, or recoupment of any kind against any obligation due from any of the Debtors' Estates, or against the property or interests in property of any of the Debtors' Estates with respect to any such Claim or Equity Interest, or (v) with respect to any Releasing Party, pursuing any claim released or exculpated under the Plan.

Each holder of a Claim or Equity Interest shall be bound by the injunction provisions set forth in this section. The Trustee, the Released Parties, or the Exculpated Parties shall be entitled to seek sanctions by motion for contempt or other appropriate proceeding for any violations of the Confirmation Order or this Plan, including the Exculpation, Injunction and Stay, and Gate Keeping provisions set forth in this Plan.

Unless otherwise provided, all injunctions or stays arising under or entered during the Chapter 11 Cases under sections 105 or 362 of the Bankruptcy Code, or otherwise, and in existence on the Confirmation Date, shall remain in full force and effect at least until the Effective Date.

### F. Gate Keeping.

No Person or Entity may commence or pursue a claim or cause of action of any kind against any Exculpated Party that relates to or is reasonably likely to relate to any act or omission in connection with, relating to, or arising out of a claim or cause of action subject to <u>sections X.B, X.C, X.D, and X.E</u> hereof, including any claim or cause of action that was asserted or assertable on behalf of the Debtors, including any

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derivative, alter ego, successor liability, or similar claims and Causes of Action based on general harm to the Debtors, holders of Claims and Equity Interests, or any other party in interest, or a theory of lack of separation between the Debtors and an Exculpated Party, without the Bankruptcy Court (i) first determining, upon motion that attaches a copy of the proposed complaint or petition, and after notice and a hearing, that such claim or cause of action represents a direct (as opposed to derivative) and colorable claim of any kind and (ii) specifically authorizing such Person to bring such claim or cause of action against the any Exculpated Party. At the hearing on such motion, the Bankruptcy Court shall have sole and exclusive jurisdiction to assess whether the proposed complaint or petition satisfies the applicable Federal Rules of Civil Procedure (or other applicable rules of procedure) and to determine whether such claim or cause of action represents a colorable claim of any kind. For the avoidance of doubt, any party that obtains such determination and authorization and subsequently wishes to amend the authorized complaint or petition to add any claims or Causes of Action not explicitly included in the authorized complaint or petition must obtain authorization from the Bankruptcy Court before filing any such amendment in the court where such complaint or petition is pending. The Bankruptcy Court reserves jurisdiction to adjudicate any such claims to the maximum extent provided by applicable law.

#### G. Setoffs and Recoupment.

The Trustee or the Creditor Trust, as appropriate, may, but shall not be required to, setoff against or recoup from any Claim any rights to payment that any of the Debtors may have against the holder of such Claim. Neither the failure of the Trustee or the Creditor Trust to setoff or recoup, nor the Allowance of any Claim, shall constitute a waiver or release by the Trustee or the Creditor Trust, as appropriate, of any right to payment, or right of setoff or recoupment.

### H. Rejection of Contracts and Leases.

Except as otherwise provided herein, or in any contract, instrument, release, indenture, or other agreement or document entered into in connection with the Plan, as of the Effective Date, each Debtor shall be deemed to have rejected each executory contract and unexpired lease to which it is a party, unless such contract or lease (i) was previously assumed, assumed and assigned, or rejected by the Debtors or the Trustee, (ii) previously expired or terminated pursuant to its own terms, or (iii) is the subject of a motion to assume, assume and assign, or reject filed by the Trustee on or before the Effective Date. The Confirmation Order shall constitute an order of the Bankruptcy Court pursuant to sections 365 and 1123(b) of the Bankruptcy Code approving the contract and lease rejections described above, as of the Effective Date. The rejections set forth in this section shall include rejecting any obligations of the Debtors pursuant to their corporate charters, by-laws, limited liability company agreements, or other organizational documents and agreements to indemnify any officers or directors of the Debtors for any prepetition actions or failures to act.

A holder of a Claim arising from the rejection of an executory contract or unexpired lease that was not previously rejected pursuant to prior order of the Bankruptcy Code shall have until the Rejection Damages Bar Date to file a Claim. The Trustee or the Creditor Trustee, as applicable, must file objections, if any, to any such Claims on or before the later of: (A) the first Business Day that is thirty (30) days after the Rejection Damages Bar Date, or (B) the Objection Deadline. A holder of an Allowed Claim arising from the rejection of an executory contract or unexpired lease shall have a Class 5 General Unsecured Claim. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, neither this Plan nor entry of the Confirmation Order shall reject, discharge, impair or otherwise modify (a) any insurance policies maintained by the Debtors as of the Confirmation Date or (b) any obligations owed to the Debtors or any other parties, including any additional insureds, by non-Debtor parties to any insurance policies maintained by the Debtors or the Trustee as of the Confirmation Date. For the avoidance of doubt, the Trustee reserves all rights, claims, offsets, setoffs, defenses, counterclaims and all other interests relating to any and all of their insurance policies.

Unless otherwise specified, each executory contract and unexpired lease shall include any and all modifications, amendments, supplements, restatements, or other agreements made directly or indirectly by any agreement, instrument, or other document that in any manner affects such executory contract or unexpired lease.

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### I. Compromise of Controversies.

In consideration for the distributions and other benefits provided under the Plan, the provisions of the Plan constitute a good faith compromise and settlement of all Claims and controversies resolved under the Plan, and the entry of the Confirmation Order shall constitute the Bankruptcy Court's approval of such compromise and settlement under Bankruptcy Rule 9019.

#### <u>ARTICLE XI</u> RETENTION OF JURISDICTION

The Bankruptcy Court shall have exclusive jurisdiction of all matters arising out of, or related to, the Debtors' Chapter 11 Cases and the Plan pursuant to, and for the purposes of, sections 105(a) and 1142 of the Bankruptcy Code and for, among other things, the following purposes:

- (i) To hear and determine pending applications for the assumption, assignment, or rejection of executory contracts or unexpired leases and the allowance of Claims resulting therefrom;
- (ii) To determine any and all adversary proceedings, applications, and contested matters in the Chapter 11 Cases and grant or deny any application involving the Debtors that may be pending on the Effective Date or that are retained and preserved herein;
- (iii) To ensure that distributions to holders of Allowed Claims are effected as provided in the Plan;
- (iv) To hear and determine any timely objections to Administrative Claims or to proofs of Claim, including any objections to the classification of any Claim, and to allow or disallow any Disputed Claim, in whole or in part;
- To enter and implement such orders as may be appropriate in the event the Confirmation Order is for any reason stayed, revoked, modified, or vacated;
- (vi) To take any action and issue such orders, after the occurrence of the Effective Date, as may be necessary to construe, enforce, implement, execute, and consummate the Plan or any prior order of the Bankruptcy, or to maintain the integrity of the Plan, the Malibu Settlement Agreement, or any prior order entered by the Bankruptcy Court during these Chapter 11 Cases;
- (vii) To consider any amendments to or modifications of the Plan, or to cure any defect or omission, or to reconcile any inconsistency in any order of the Bankruptcy Court, including the Confirmation Order;
- (viii) To hear and determine all requests for payment of Professional Fee Claims;
- (ix) To hear and determine disputes arising in connection with the interpretation, implementation, or enforcement of the Plan, the Confirmation Order, the Creditor Trust Agreement, the documents that are ancillary to and aid in effectuating the Plan or any agreement, instrument, or other document governing or relating to any of the foregoing;
- (x) To hear and determine matters concerning state, local, and federal taxes in accordance with sections 346, 505, and 1146 of the Bankruptcy Code (including the expedited determination of taxes under section 505(b) of the Bankruptcy Code);
- (xi) To adjudicate, decide, or resolve any and all
- (xii) To hear any other matter not inconsistent with the Bankruptcy Code;

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- (xiii) To hear and determine all disputes involving the existence, scope, and nature of the exculpations and releases granted hereunder, including the matters set forth in section X.E hereof;
- (xiv) To issue injunctions and effect any other actions that may be necessary or desirable to restrain interference by any entity with the consummation or implementation of the Plan;
- (xv) To hear and determine all requests to extend the Objection Deadline, the term of the Creditor Trust, or any other deadlines established by the Plan; and
- (xvi) To enter a Final Decree(s) closing the Chapter 11 Cases.

The Bankruptcy Court's jurisdiction to adjudicate, decide, or resolve any and all matters related to the Retained Causes of Action shall be non-exclusive.

# ARTICLE XII MISCELLANEOUS

#### A. Filing of Additional Documents.

The Trustee or the Creditor Trust may file such agreements and other documents as may be necessary or appropriate to effectuate and further evidence the terms and conditions of the Plan.

#### B. Schedules, Exhibits, and Plan Supplement Incorporated.

All exhibits and schedules to the Plan, if any, and the documents contained in the Plan Supplement, if any, are incorporated into and are a part of the Plan as if fully set forth herein.

#### C. Amendment or Modification of the Plan.

Subject to section 1127 of the Bankruptcy Code and, to the extent applicable, sections 1122, 1123, and 1125 of the Bankruptcy Code, alterations, amendments or modifications of the Plan may be proposed in writing by the Trustee at any time prior to or after the entry of the Confirmation Order. Holders of Claims and Equity Interests that have accepted the Plan shall be deemed to have accepted the Plan, as altered, amended, or modified; *provided*, *however*, that any holders of Claims and Equity Interests who were deemed to accept the Plan because such Claims and Equity Interests were unimpaired shall continue to be deemed to accept the Plan only if, after giving effect to such amendment or modification, such Claims and Equity Interests continue to be unimpaired.

#### D. Inconsistency.

In the event of any inconsistency among the Plan, the Disclosure Statement, and any exhibit or schedule to the Disclosure Statement or the Plan, the provisions of the Plan shall govern. In the event of any inconsistency between the Plan and the Confirmation Order, the Confirmation Order shall govern.

#### E. Expedited Tax Determination.

The Trustee or the Creditor Trust may request an expedited determination of taxes under section 505(b) of the Bankruptcy Code for all returns filed for, or on behalf of, the Debtors for any and all taxable periods ending after the Petition Date through, and including, the Effective Date.

#### F. Binding Effect.

Except as otherwise provided in section 1141(d)(3) of the Bankruptcy Code and subject to the occurrence of the Effective Date, on and after the Confirmation Date, the provisions of the Plan shall bind any holder of a Claim against, or Equity Interest in, the Debtors and such holder's respective successors and assigns, whether or not the

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Claim or Equity Interest of such holder is impaired under the Plan and whether or not such holder has accepted the Plan.

#### G. Severability.

If the Bankruptcy Court determines that any provision of this Plan is unenforceable either on its face or as applied to any Claim or Equity Interest, the Trustee may modify this Plan in accordance with section XII.C hereof so that such provision shall not be applicable to the holder of any Claim or Equity Interest. Any determination of unenforceability shall not (i) limit or affect the enforceability and operative effect of any other provisions of this Plan; or (ii) require the resolicitation of any acceptance or rejection of this Plan unless otherwise ordered by the Bankruptcy Court.

#### Н. No Payment of Attorneys' Fees.

Except for Professional Fee Claims, no attorneys' fees shall be paid by the Debtors with respect to any Claim or Equity Interest unless otherwise specified in this Plan or a Final Order of the Bankruptcy Court.

#### I. Notices.

All notices, requests, and demands to or upon the Trustee to be effective shall be in writing (including by facsimile transmission) and, unless otherwise expressly provided herein, shall be deemed to have been duly given or made when actually delivered or, in the case of notice by facsimile transmission, when received and telephonically confirmed, addressed as follows:

#### **GRAY REED**

1601 Elm Street, Suite 4600 Dallas, TX 75201

Attn: Aaron M. Kaufman and Lydia R. Webb

Telephone: (214) 954-4135 Facsimile: (214) 953-1332 Email: akaufman@grayreed.com

lwebb@grayreed.com

With a copy to the Committee:

#### **REED SMITH**

2800 N. Harwood St., Suite 1500

Dallas, TX 75201

Attn: Keith M. Aurzada, Michael P. Cooley, and Dylan T.F. Ross

Telephone: (469) 680-4200 Facsimile: (469) 680-4299 Email: kaurzada@reedsmith.com mpcooley@reedsmith.com dylan.ross@reedsmith.com

#### J. Governing Law.

Except to the extent that the Bankruptcy Code or other federal law is applicable, or to the extent an exhibit to the Plan provides otherwise (in which case the governing law specified therein shall be applicable to such exhibit), the rights, duties and obligations arising under the Plan shall be governed by, and construed and enforced in accordance with, the laws of the State of Texas, without giving effect to the principles of conflict of laws that would require application of the laws of another jurisdiction.

Dated: June 6, 2025

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Fort Worth, Texas

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### Mark E. Andrews, Chapter 11 Trustee

By: /s/ Mark E. Andrews

Mark E. Andrews,

Chapter 11 Trustee for the Debtors

#### **GRAY REED**

Jason S. Brookner (TX Bar No. 24033684) Aaron M. Kaufman (Texas Bar No. 24060067) Lydia R. Webb (Texas Bar No. 24083758) Emily F. Shanks (Texas Bar No. 24110350) 1601 Elm Street, Suite 4600 Dallas, TX 75201

Telephone: (214) 954-4135 Facsimile: (214) 953-1332

Email: jbrookner@grayreed.com

akaufman@grayreed.com lwebb@grayreed.com eshanks@grayreed.com

Counsel to Mark E. Andrews, Chapter 11 Trustee

### Exhibit B

Transcript of Oral Ruling from July 18, 2025 [Docket No. 1033]

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1	IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS FORT WORTH DIVISION		
2	In Re: ) Case No. 24-90000-elm-11		
3	) (Jointly Administered) TOMMY'S FORT WORTH, LLC, )		
4	et al., ) Fort Worth, Texas ) July 18, 2025		
5	Debtors. ) 10:30 a.m. Docket		
6	) RULING RE: CONFIRMATION OF ) CHAPTER 11 PLAN FILED BY		
7	) TRUSTEE MARK E. ANDREWS [879]		
8	MDANGCRIDE OF DROCEEDINGS		
9	TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS BEFORE THE HONORABLE EDWARD L. MORRIS,		
10	UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE.		
11	APPEARANCES:		
12	For Trustee Mark Andrews: Aaron Michael Kaufman GRAY REED, LLP		
13	1601 Elm Street, Suite 4600 Dallas, TX 75201 (469) 320-6050		
14	For M&T Bank: Toby L. Gerber		
15 16	NORTON ROSE FULBRIGHT US, LLP 2200 Ross Avenue, Suite 3600 Dallas, TX 75201-7932		
17	(214) 855-7171		
18	For Matthew Borisch: Floyd E. Gates, Jr. BODMAN, PLC		
19	99 Monroe Avenue NW, Suite 300 Grand Rapids, MI 49503		
20	(616) 205-1860		
21	For Matthew Borisch: Marc Bakst BODMAN, PLC		
22	1901 St. Antoine Street 6th Floor at Ford Field		
23	Detroit, MI 48226 (313) 393-7530		
24			
25			

1	APPEARANCES, cont'd.:		
2	For Matthew Borisch and Borisch Parties:	H. Dustin Fillmore, IV MCDONALD SANDERS, P.C.	
4		777 Main Street, Suite 2700 Fort Worth, TX 76102 (817) 336-8651	
5	For Malibu Boats, Inc.:	Daniel S. Shamah COOLEY, LLP 55 Hudson Yards New York, NY 10001 (212) 479-6000	
6 7			
8	For Joshua Magill:	Judith W. Ross	
9		ROSS, SMITH & BINFORD, P.C. 700 N. Pearl Street, Suite 1610	
10		Dallas, TX 75201 (214) 377-7879	
11	For the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors:	Dylan Tanner Franklin Ross REED SMITH, LLP	
12		2850 N. Harwood Street, Suite 1500 Dallas, TX 75201	
14		(469) 680-4262	
15	For the U.S. Trustee:	Meredyth Kippes OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRUSTEE	
16		1100 Commerce Street, Room 976 Dallas, TX 75242-1496 (214) 767-1075	
17	Recorded by:	Karyn Rueter	
18	Recorded by.	UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT 501 W. 10th Street	
19		Fort Worth, TX 76102 (817) 333-6036	
20	Transcribed by:	Kathy Rehling	
21   22		311 Paradise Cove Shady Shores, TX 76208 (972) 786-3063	
23		(3,2) 100 3003	
24			
25	1	by electronic sound recording; d by transcription service.	
I	II		

## FORT WORTH, TEXAS - JULY 18, 2025 - 11:33 A.M.

THE COURT: All right. Good morning, everybody.

We're on the July 18, 2025 10:30 a.m. docket. Let me first say I apologize to folks for the tardiness in coming out, but I appreciate everybody's patience.

We have on the docket today Tommy's Fort Worth, LLC and their affiliated debtors' cases, jointly administered under Case 24-90000.

Let me just confirm that I have relevant people in attendance. So let's ensure that we have somebody on behalf of the Chapter 11 Trustee.

MR. KAUFMAN: Good morning, Your Honor. Aaron Kaufman from Gray Reed for the Trustee.

THE COURT: All right. Do we have anybody on behalf of the Borisch Parties?

MR. BAKST: Yes, Your Honor. This is Marc Bakst.

And also on the WebEx is Floyd Gates and Dustin Fillmore, our local Texas counsel.

THE COURT: Okay. Great. Anybody for M&T Bank?

MR. GERBER: Yes, Your Honor. Toby Gerber on behalf of M&T Bank.

THE COURT: All right. How about for the Committee?

MR. ROSS: Good morning, Your Honor. Dylan Ross
with Reed Smith on behalf of the Committee.

THE COURT: All right. And the U.S. Trustee?

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MS. KIPPES: Yes, Your Honor. Meredyth Kippes on behalf of the United States Trustee.

> Okay, Ms. Kippes. THE COURT:

All right. Do we have anybody else wishing to make a formal appearance for today's hearing, understanding that it's just for the purpose of rendering a ruling?

MS. ROSS: Yes, Your Honor. Judith Ross on behalf of Joshua Magill.

> THE COURT: Okay, Ms. Ross.

MR. SHAMAH: Daniel Shamah. Daniel Shamah; Cooley; on behalf of Malibu.

THE COURT: All right. Very good. Good morning to you all.

All right. Let me go ahead and just dive straight in. This jointly-administered bankruptcy case involves the Chapter 11 cases of Tommy's Fort Worth, LLC; Tommy's Holding Company, LLC; Tommy's Grand Rapids, LLC; Tommy's Castaic, LLC; Tommy's Lewisville, LLC; High Country Watersports, LLC; Walloon Lake Village Marina, LLC; MKB Florida Holdings, LLC; Tommy's Detroit, LLC; Tommy's California Fresno, LLC; Tommy's Phoenix, LLC; Tommy's Las Vegas, LLC; Tommy's Chattanooga, LLC; Tommy's California Ventura, LLC; Tommy's Rancho Cordova, LLC; Tommy's Stockton, LLC; and Tommy's Knoxville, LLC, which I will collectively refer to as the "Debtors."

The Debtors filed their respective Chapter 11 bankruptcy

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cases between May 20th and 21st, 2024. The Court approved joint administration of the cases under Case No. 24-90000, which I will refer to as the "Bankruptcy Case."

Initially, the Debtors maintained control of their operations and assets of the bankruptcy estates as debtorsin-possession. During this time frame, on June 24, 2024, the United States Trustee appointed a four-member Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors, or just the "Committee" for short, comprised of sophisticated business organizations holding substantial unsecured claims against the Debtors to represent the interests of unsecured creditors in the Bankruptcy Case. See Docket No. 197.

With the approval of the Court, the Committee employed well-known, sophisticated legal counsel, Reed Smith, to represent it in connection with the Bankruptcy Case. See Docket No. 384.

On June 14, 2024, at the request of M&T Bank, who I will sometimes refer to as the "Prepetition Lender," consistent with the terminology of the Plan, and with the consent of the Debtors and no opposition from any other party in interest, the Court entered an order directing the appointment of a Chapter 11 trustee in the Bankruptcy Case. See Docket No. 173.

Shortly thereafter, the United States Trustee appointed Mark E. Andrews, who I will hereafter refer to as the

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"Trustee," to serve as the disinterested independent Chapter 11 Trustee, which appointment was approved by the Court on June 18, 2024. See Docket Nos. 174 and 178.

With the approval of the Court, the Trustee employed well-known, sophisticated counsel, Gray Reed, to represent him in connection with the Bankruptcy Case and employed Trinity River Advisors to serve as his financial advisor. See Docket Nos. 302 and 365.

Now before the Court for determination in the Bankruptcy Case is confirmation of the Trustee's First Amended Joint Chapter 11 Plan, as Modified and Supplemented. More specifically, on May 1, 2025, the Trustee filed the Trustee's First Amended Joint Chapter 11 Plan at Docket No. 879, which I will refer to as the "Original Plan." See Trustee's Exhibit 1.

On June 6, 2025, the Trustee filed a Notice of Modification to Trustee's First Amended Joint Chapter 11 Plan at Docket No. 935, which I will refer to as the "Plan Modification." See Trustee's Exhibit 14.

As contemplated by the Original Plan, the Original Plan was supplemented by the Notice of Plan Supplement filed at Docket No. 917, which was thereafter amended by the Notice of Amended Plan Supplement filed at Docket No. 1002. I will collectively refer to these supplemental plan documents as the "Plan Supplement." See Trustee Exhibit 7 and M&T Exhibit

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I will hereafter refer to the Original Plan as modified by the Plan Modification and as supplemented by the Plan Supplement as just the "Plan."

Objections to confirmation of the Plan were timely filed by the following parties. First, the Tennessee Attorney General Bankruptcy Division on behalf of the Tennessee Department of Revenue, or just the "Tennessee Department of Revenue," at Docket No. 923, which I will refer to as the "TDOR Objection."

Second, the United States Trustee at Docket No. 934, which I will refer to as the "UST Objection."

And third, Matthew A. Borisch, or just "Borisch" for short, and certain of his affiliates, who I will name momentarily, at Docket No. 994, which I will refer to as the "Borisch Objection."

The affiliated Borisch Parties who have joined with Borisch in the Borisch Objection are Kara A. Borisch; Jonathan L. Borisch; MKB Holdings, LLC a/k/a Simplified Investments; the Matthew Allen Borisch Trust; the Kara Ann Borisch Trust; Walloon Lake Facilities, LLC; Walloon Lake Holdings; JLB Restaurant Holdings, LLC; MKB Restaurant Holdings, LLC; Hotel Walloon; Gen3 Defense and Aerospace, LLC; Expedited Travel, LLC; JLB Property Holdings, LLC; Legacy Water Sports and Marina; Steadfast Marine; the Michael

Allen Borisch Trust; and Matthew Allen Borisch Trust UAD September 19, 2005, who collectively, along with Borisch, I will refer to as the "Borisch Parties."

I will also note that the Borisch Parties as I have just defined the term is the same as the definition of Borisch Parties used in the Plan.

In response to the objections, the following responses or replies, as applicable, have been filed, which I will collectively refer to as the "Replies." First, the omnibus reply filed by the Trustee at Docket No. 937 in response to the TDOR Objection and UST Objection. Second, the response filed by the Prepetition Lender at Docket No. 1009 in response to the Borisch Objection. And third, the Supplemental Reply filed by the Trustee at Docket No. 1015 in response to the Borisch Objection.

On July 8, 2025, the Court conducted an evidentiary hearing with respect to confirmation of the Plan.

Participating in the hearing, individually and/or by and through counsel, were, among other parties, the Trustee, the Committee, the Prepetition Lender, the Borisch Parties, and the United States Trustee.

At the commencement of the hearing, Trustee's counsel announced that certain stipulations with respect to claim classification and treatment, as well as certain additional modifications to the Plan, had been agreed upon to address

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certain informal comments or objections to the Plan/ Confirmation and to resolve the TDOR Objection. The stipulations, all of which have previously been approved by the Court, have been filed at Docket Nos. 930, 931, 932, 933, and 1004. See also Trustee Exhibits 10 through 13.

The other modifications have been incorporated into the form of the Proposed Confirmation Order filed by the Trustee at Docket No. 1017, which I will refer to as the "Proposed Confirmation Order." See Proposed Confirmation Order Paragraphs 20, 21, and 23.

I will collectively refer to the stipulations and modifications as the "Additional Plan Modifications," and will collectively refer to the earlier-referenced Plan Modification and the Additional Plan Modifications as just the "Plan Modifications."

At the hearing, declaration and live testimony of the Trustee was presented; declaration and live testimony of a representative of Omni Agent Solutions, Inc., or just "Omni" for short, the Court-Approved Claims, Noticing, and Soliciting Agent in the Bankruptcy Case, was presented; and live testimony of Borisch was presented.

At the conclusion of the hearing, the Court set a followup hearing for July 17, 2025 for the purpose of rendering a decision on confirmation, which was thereafter reset to today, July 18, 2025.

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Having now considered the Original Plan, the Plan Modification, the Plan Supplement, the TDOR Objection, the UST Objection, the Borisch Objection, the Replies, the Additional Plan Modifications, the additional filings and orders that I hereafter reference, of which the Court takes judicial notice, the evidence introduced at the hearing, the representations and arguments of counsel, and the entirety of the record in the Bankruptcy Court, the Court now issues the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Ruling on Confirmation of the Plan, as Modified by the Additional Plan Modifications.

For purposes of the ruling and for ease of reference, unless I have separately defined or hereafter separately define a term, I will utilize the same defined terms as set forth in Section I.A. of the Plan.

Starting with Jurisdiction.

The Court has jurisdiction of the proceeding involving confirmation of the Plan pursuant to 28 U.S.C. Sections 1334 and 157 and Miscellaneous Order No. 33 of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas.

Venue of the Bankruptcy Case and this proceeding in this district is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. Sections 1408 and 1409.

This proceeding constitutes a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. Section 157(b)(2)(A), (L), and (O).

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Turning to the Factual Background.

Background information with respect to the Debtors, including their corporate history and structure, prepetition capital structure, and the circumstances leading to the Chapter 11 filings is set out in the "Background and Events Leading up to Chapter 11" section of the Disclosure Statement. See Disclosure Statement Section II.

The Court also makes reference to the Court's recentlyentered Memorandum Opinion at Docket No. 897, which I will refer to as the "May 2025 Opinion."

As explained in the Disclosure Statement and May 2025 Opinion, the Debtors operated a business under the brand name Tommy's which originated in Colorado in 2012. Each of the Debtors is directly or indirectly owned by Borisch or the Matthew Allen Borisch Trust. At all relevant times up to the date of the Trustee's appointment as Chapter 11 Trustee, Borisch served as the president of each of the Debtors. As of the time of the bankruptcy filings, the Debtors claimed to be the world's largest dealer of ski and wake boats, offering a wide range of services, with fourteen dealerships and five on-water rental programs across Texas, Colorado, Michigan, Arizona, California, Florida, Nevada, and Tennessee.

Prepetition, Tommy's principal dealership relationship was with Malibu Boats.

In May 2023, Tommy's transitioned its lending

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relationship to the Prepetition Lender, whereupon its floorplan facility was increased to \$110 million, with an additional revolving line of credit of up to \$5 million. The debt was secured by substantially all of the assets of the Debtors.

As additional credit support, the Prepetition Lender obtained a personal guaranty from Borisch, and possibly certain other Borisch affiliates.

As of the petition date, the Debtors owed approximately \$105.7 million to the Prepetition Lender.

The Souring of the Malibu Boats and M&T Bank Α. Relationships.

For reasons more thoroughly discussed within the Disclosure Statement and May 2025 Opinion, the Debtors' relationships with Malibu Boats and the Prepetition Lender began to disintegrate in late 2023 and early 2024. And it is an understatement to say that friction existed and continues to exist between Borisch on the one hand and Malibu Boats and the Prepetition Lender on the other hand.

Among other things, prior to the Bankruptcy Case, Borisch caused the Debtors to initiate litigation against Malibu Boats, and postpetition, following the Trustee's appointment, Borisch individually sued Malibu Boats.

Separately, in response to the Prepetition Lender's actions to collect on the personal quaranty provided by

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Borisch, Borisch has aggressively taken steps to not only ensure that his defenses to the quaranty litigation are preserved, but to also pursue affirmative litigation claims against the Prepetition Lender.

Specifically, in relation to the latter case, after the Trustee was appointed Borisch filed a motion for leave in the state court guaranty litigation to pursue a variety of counterclaims against the Prepetition Lender. Thus, as indicated, there is no love lost between Borisch on the one hand and Malibu Boats and the Prepetition Lender on the other.

Of note, the pursuit of litigation by Borisch in his individual capacity against both Malibu Boats and the Prepetition Lender presented complications to the Trustee in his efforts to negotiate with Malibu Boats and the Prepetition Lender, given Borisch's improper assertion of estate-owned causes of action in addition to individuallyowned claims. The May 2025 Opinion provides details with respect to the improper actions taken by Borisch.

В. The Trustee's Efforts to Administer the Estates.

In any event, rewinding to the time of the Trustee's appointment, when the Trustee joined the fray in June 2024 a viable cash collateral order was not in place. In fact, the Trustee's appointment was brought about as a result of the Prepetition Lender's withholding of consent to the continuing

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use of cash collateral and the Debtors' inability to override such lack of consent because of a failure to establish that the Prepetition Lender's interest in cash collateral was being adequately protected.

Hence, the first order of business for the Trustee was to pursue a workable agreement with the Prepetition Lender for use of cash collateral. The Trustee was successful in negotiating such an agreement and obtaining the Court's approval of the agreement, even over the objection of Borisch. See Docket Nos. 272 and 353.

The second order of business was for the Trustee to then figure out what to do with the Debtors' continuing, albeit substantially scaled-back, business operations and boat inventory in the face of terminated Malibu Boats dealership agreements, unresolved Malibu Boats disputes, and outstanding customer obligations.

In relation to the business overall and existing boat inventory, in early August 2024 the Court approved certain liquidation procedures and the Trustee's engagement of Gordon Brothers Retail Partners, LLC as a liquidation consultant for the Trustee. See Docket No. 364.

As explained in the Disclosure Statement, implementation of the liquidation process resulted in excess of \$50 million in value for the Debtors' estates.

Additionally, the Trustee obtained court approval for the

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sale of certain dealership assets. See Docket Nos. 421, 446, and 608.

In relation to customer obligations, in mid-September 2024 the Court approved a set of complex procedures proposed by the Trustee to address a variety of thorny customer matters, including customer deposit issues, title and registration fee issues, sales tax issues, and warranty issues. See Docket No. 468.

The Trustee's implementation of such procedures resulted in the resolution of many outstanding obligations. Among the issues that were not resolved, however, were certain claims associated with unremitted proceeds from the sale of customer boats and trade-in and consignment matters related thereto. Remaining customer claims involving these types of matters have been classified as Customer Constructive Trust Claims within Class 4 of the Plan.

Finally, in relation to Malibu Boats dealership issues, in October 2024, with the assistance of retired Judge Nancy Atlas, the Trustee and Malibu Boats reached agreement on the terms of a comprehensive resolution of all estate claims against Malibu Boats and all Malibu Boats claims against the Debtors' estates. Both the Prepetition Lender and the Committee attended and participated in the mediation. Borisch was not involved, but the Court notes that he was in the midst of his improper pursuit of estate-owned causes of

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action against Malibu Boats, and thus likely would have only created unnecessary distraction to the negotiations.

While Borisch objected to the Trustee's settlement with Malibu Boats, the Malibu Boats Settlement was approved by the Court in late November 2024. See Docket No. 602.

With that matter taken care of, the Trustee was then in a position to finally assess whether a viable Chapter 11 plan could be formulated to wind up the Bankruptcy Case. Ultimately, given the outstanding unpaid amount of the Prepetition Lender debt and the Prepetition Lender's liens in cash collateral, the limited amount, if any, of unencumbered cash in the estates, and the amount of unpaid priority unsecured debt, the viability of any Chapter 11 plan would necessarily be dependent upon reaching an agreement with the Prepetition Lender for its contribution of a substantial amount of the remaining cash collateral for plan purposes.

Consequently, the Trustee focused his initial plan development negotiations on the Prepetition Lender, because without a deal with the Prepetition Lender, there would be no viable Chapter 11 Plan.

In engaging in early discussions with the Prepetition Lender, the Prepetition Lender was obviously interested in how, if at all, the guaranty provided by Borisch to the Prepetition Lender would be addressed and how any causes of action against Borisch would be administered. Given the

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recent success in negotiating a Malibu Boats settlement with the assistance of Judge Atlas, thought was given by the parties to the possibility of an additional mediation session with Judge Atlas in relation to these Borisch issues.

Desiring to facilitate a truly global resolution of all issues, the Trustee attempted to work with the parties to obtain an agreement for such a mediation. In this regard, in late November 2024, Trustee's counsel reported to Prepetition Lender's counsel and Committee's counsel that the Trustee team had connected with Borisch and his father, and that Borisch and his father had indicated a willingness to commit to a formal mediation with Judge Atlas to address the quaranty and estate claims issues. See Borisch Exhibit 56.

Importantly, from the Prepetition Lender's perspective, given the magnitude of the loan deficiency that it was facing -- i.e., roughly \$50 million -- a mediation with Borisch would only make sense if Borisch were willing to (a) come to the mediation with a substantial opening offer to the Prepetition Lender on the quaranty claim, and (b) provide financial disclosures to back up any asserted inability to provide more. These conditions were reported back to the Borisch camp.

While awaiting word from the Borisch camp, the Trustee marched forward with his effort to negotiate a plan construct with the Prepetition Lender that would commit sufficient cash

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collateral to make a plan viable. In this regard, in late December 2024, Trustee's counsel circulated a draft plan term sheet to Prepetition Lender's counsel. See Borisch Exhibit 31.

About a week later, on January 7th, 2025, Trustee's counsel checked in with Prepetition Lender's counsel to again urge the parties to advance the ball on plan construct concepts while awaiting word from Borisch. Prepetition Lender's counsel reported, however, that they wanted to first know whether a Borisch mediation and potential settlement would materialize before moving forward. See Borisch Exhibit 32.

Thereafter, while Borisch remained supportive of a mediation, he made it clear that he would meet neither of the Prepetition Lender's preconditions to a mediation. Thus, as a result of the stalemate between Borisch and the Prepetition Lender, the mediation effort fell apart.

At that point, the Trustee again focused his efforts on the negotiation of a deal with the Prepetition Lender. Eventually, the parameters of a potential deal began to crystallize, whereby the Prepetition Lender would agree to the use of cash collateral to fund certain specified plan reserves, and among other things, the plan would include certain third-party release provisions in favor of the Prepetition Lender.

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Once the beginnings of a plan construct started to be hammered out, the Trustee brought the Committee into the negotiation fold and drafts of a plan began to be shared with the Prepetition Lender and Committee. While the Trustee continued his efforts to bring the Prepetition Lender and Borisch together for a group mediation -- see, for example, Borisch Exhibit 54 -- it never happened.

Even so, Trustee's counsel noted to the parties in March 2025, in connection with circulating draft plan documents, that should Borisch, following the filing of the plan, decide to engage and take steps to meet, in one form or another, one or both of the Prepetition Lender's preconditions for mediation, a mediation could be scheduled prior to the Confirmation Hearing to facilitate the potential for a truly global settlement. See Borisch Exhibit 27. It never happened.

С. The Plan Settlement.

Thus, in the end, a comprehensive settlement was negotiated by and among the Trustee, Prepetition Lender, and Committee to be implemented under the Plan. I will hereafter refer to the comprehensive settlement as the "Plan Settlement."

The Plan Settlement is comprised of the following summarized material elements or aspects. First, from the Prepetition Lender's perspective, the Plan Settlement

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provides for the following three categories of relief to the Prepetition Lender:

(1) On account of and in partial satisfaction of the allowed Prepetition Lender's Secured Claims, the Plan provides for (a) payment to the Prepetition Lender on the Effective Date of all cash held by the Debtors or the Trustee as of such date, including the Malibu Settlement Payment if received by then, except as necessary to fund the Plan Reserves; plus (b) payment to the Prepetition Lender of the Malibu Settlement Payment if received after the Effective Date; plus (c) payment to the Prepetition Lender of any additional cash receipts obtained after the Effective Date from consummated sales of inventory, refunds of unearned insurance premiums, merchant card receipts, or any other assets that are not Creditor Trust Assets; plus (d) an assignment to the Prepetition Lender of the Assigned Causes of Action, being Retained Causes of Action against the Borisch Parties, including Avoidance Actions against the Borisch Parties.

The Plan provides for the remaining unpaid balance of the Prepetition Lender's Secured Claims to be treated as a deficiency General Unsecured Claim in Class 5 of the Plan.

(2) The Plan provides for a broad-based release in favor of the Prepetition Lender and its current and former officers, directors, managers, attorneys, and other

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professional advisors from the Trustee on behalf of each of the Debtors, in accordance with the terms of the release set out in Section X.C. of the Plan, which I will hereafter refer to as the "Trustee Release."

(3) The Plan provides for a tailored release in favor of the Prepetition Lender and its current and former officers, directors, managers, attorneys, and other professional advisors from each of the "Releasing Parties," as defined in the Plan, in accordance with the terms of the releases set out in Section X.D. of the Plan, which I will hereafter refer to as the "Third-Party Releases."

For purposes of the Third-Party Releases, the term "Releasing Parties" is defined in the Plan as the Debtors, the Trustee, the Committee and its members, the Creditor Trustee, and the Consenting Creditors. See Plan Section I.A.84.

As made clear by the Plan Modification, the term "Releasing Parties" expressly excludes the Borisch Parties.

For purposes of the Third-Party Releases, the term "Consenting Creditors" is defined in the Plan as collectively the following holders of claims or equity interests:

(1) All holders of claims or equity interests who vote to accept the Plan and who do not check the box on the Third-Party Release Opt-Out Form, which I will hereafter define, to affirmatively opt out of the Third-Party Releases;

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- (2) All holders of claims who are deemed to have accepted the Plan and who do not check the box on the Third-Party Release Opt-Out Form to affirmatively opt out of the Third-Party Releases;
- (3) All holders of claims or equity interests who vote to reject the Plan and who do not check the box on the Third-Party Release Opt-Out Form to affirmatively opt out of the Third-Party Releases or object to the Plan in respect of the Third-Party Releases;
- (4) All holders of claims or equity interests who are deemed to have rejected the Plan and who do not check the box on the Third-Party Release Opt-Out Form to affirmatively opt out of the Third-Party Releases or object to the Plan in respect of the Third-Party Releases; and
- (5) All holders of claims or equity interests who have a right to vote but abstain from voting on the Plan and who do not check the box on the Third-Party Release Opt-Out Form to affirmatively opt out of the Third-Party Releases or object to the Plan in respect of the Third-Party Releases. See Plan Section I.A.27.

The Plan Modification, again, makes clear that the term "Consenting Creditors" expressly excludes the Borisch Parties.

Second, from the Committee's perspective, the Plan Settlement provides the following six categories of relief to

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unsecured creditors and the Committee:

- (1) Noting the prospect for no recovery at all to unsecured creditors, I should say nonpriority unsecured creditors, in the absence of a settlement -- see, for example, Paragraphs 61 through 62 of Trustee Exhibit 19 -the Plan provides for the establishment of a Creditor Trust on the Effective Date, for the benefit of holders of Allowed General Unsecured Claims in Class 5 of the Plan, to be administered by a Creditor Trustee, into which will be transferred the Creditor Trust Assets, which will include all Other Retained Causes of Action as of the Effective Date, the Creditor Trust Reserve, any residual portions of the other Plan Reserves, all insurance policies of the Debtors and applicable policy proceeds, excluding refunds of unearned insurance premiums, all tax assets of the Debtors, and any other property of the Estates not otherwise distributed pursuant to the Plan;
- (2) The Prepetition Lender's contribution of \$350,000 in Contributed Cash Collateral to fund the Creditor Trust Reserve under the Plan;
- (3) The Prepetition Lender's agreement to the subordination of its deficiency Class 5 General Unsecured Claim to all other Class 5 General Unsecured Claims;
- (4) The Plan provides for a broad-based release in favor of the Committee and its members from the Trustee on behalf

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of each and all of the Debtors, in accordance with the terms of the Trustee Release;

- (5) The Plan provides for a tailored release in favor of the Committee and its members from each of the other Releasing Parties, in accordance with the terms of the Third-Party Releases;
- (6) The Plan provides for a tailored release in favor of each of the Consenting Creditors from each of the "Released Parties," as defined in the Plan, in accordance with the terms of the Third-Party Releases.

For purposes of the Third-Party Releases, the term "Released Parties" is defined in the Plan as the Trustee, each Debtor, the Committee and its members, the Creditor Trustee, and M&T Bank and its current and former officers, directors, managers, attorneys, and other professional advisors. See Plan Section I.A.83.

The Plan makes clear that the term "Released Parties" expressly excludes the Borisch Parties.

Finally, from the Trustee's and Bankruptcy Estates' perspective, the Plan Settlement provides the following three categories of relief to the Bankruptcy Estates, creditors generally, and the Trustee:

(1) The Prepetition Lender's contribution of in excess of \$3.7 million in Contributed Cash Collateral to fund Plan Reserves necessary for the satisfaction of claims under the

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Plan, as follows:

\$500,000 for the Administrative Claims Reserve. And of note, the Administrative Claims Reserve is separate from the Professional Fee Reserve provided for under the Cash Collateral Order, including funds maintained in the "Funded Reserve Account" as defined in the Cash Collateral Order, which reserve provides for a source of funds for budgeted fees and expenses of professional persons in the Bankruptcy Case that become allowed professional fees, and those funds also being cash collateral;

\$2.4 million for the Priority Claims Reserve, taking into account the joint stipulation and agreed order entered at Docket No. 1004, which I will hereafter refer to as the "Plan Reserve Stipulation Order," which increased the \$1.75 million amount referenced in the Plan to \$2.4 million. See Trustee Exhibit 20; and

\$825,000 for the Customer Constructive Trust Claims Reserve, taking into account the Plan Reserve Stipulated Order, which increased the \$360,000 amount referenced in the Plan to \$825,000, to be used to satisfy Customer Constructive Trust Claims of holders who elect to be Consenting Creditors in relation to the Third-Party Releases by not opting out of the Third-Party Releases.

(2) The Prepetition Lender's contribution of \$350,000 in Contributed Cash Collateral to fund the Creditor Trust

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Reserve under the Plan, thereby enabling the Creditor Trust/ Creditor Trustee to administer the remaining assets of the Estates that will be transferred to the Creditor Trust as Creditor Trust Assets.

(3) The Plan provides for a tailored release in favor of the Trustee and each of the Debtors from each of the other Releasing Parties, in accordance with the terms of the Third-Party Releases. See also Trustee Exhibit 19, Paragraph 5.

With respect to the scope of the Third-Party Releases, in summary, and subject to the specific terms of Section X.D. of the Plan, the Third-Party Releases provide for two different sets of releases.

First, the release of the Released Parties by the Releasing Parties, to the fullest extent permissible under applicable law, from any and all claims and causes of action (and other similar descriptives), assertable directly or derivatively, including any causes of action asserted or assertable on behalf of the Debtors, the Trustee, the Creditor Trust, or the Estates, as applicable, arising from, relating to, or connected with the Debtors (or any predecessor entity) or the Chapter 11 Cases or affecting property of the Debtors' Estates, the Plan, or the administration and implementation of the Plan, or based upon any other related act or omission, transaction, agreement, event, or other occurrence taking place on or before the

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Effective Date.

Second, the release of each Consenting Creditor by the Released Parties, to the fullest extent permissible under applicable law, from any and all claims and causes of action (and other similar descriptives), including Avoidance Actions, assertable directly or derivatively, arising from, relating to, or connected with the Debtors (or any predecessor entity) or the Chapter 11 Cases or affecting property of the Debtors' Estates, the Plan, or the administration and implementation of the Plan, or based upon any other related act or omission, transaction, agreement, event, or other occurrence taking place on or before the Effective Date.

For the avoidance of doubt, the Plan further provides that such releases do not release (1) any obligations of any party under the Plan or any document, instrument, or agreement executed to implement the Plan; or (2) the rights of holders of allowed claims to receive distributions under the Plan.

The Trustee's reasons for agreeing to the Trustee Release and why it is fair and equitable and in the best interests of the Debtors' estates are set out in Paragraphs 29 through 35 of Trustee Exhibit 19. The Trustee's reasons for agreeing to, and agreeing to promote, the Third-Party Releases and why the releases are necessary, appropriate, and justified under

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the facts and circumstances of the Bankruptcy Case, why the notice provided to holders of claims and equity interests of the releases and of the opt-out procedure was reasonable and sufficient to satisfy due process considerations, and why each particular holder's failure to return a completed Third-Party Release Opt-Out Form is a sufficient indication of consent to the Third-Party Releases under the facts and circumstances of the Bankruptcy Case are set out in Paragraphs 36 through 41 of Trustee Exhibit 19.

The Plan's Claim Classification Structure, Plan D. Noticing and Voting, and Additional Plan-Related Filings.

To help further frame the issues in this case, it is also helpful to outline the Plan classification structure and approved noticing and voting procedures utilized by the Trustee and to highlight certain additional confirmationrelated filings.

First, with respect to Plan structure, eight different classes of claims and equity interests are established under the Plan, seven for various types of claims and one for equity interests.

Class 1 is for Priority Nontax Claims.

Class 2 is for the Prepetition Lender's Secured Claims.

Class 3 is for Other Secured Claims.

Class 4 is for Customer Constructive Trust Claims.

Class 5 is for General Unsecured Claims.

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Class 6 is for Contribution Claims.

Class 7 is for Intercompany Claims.

And Class 8 is for Equity Interests. See Plan Article III.

Classes 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 are all identified within the Plan as impaired classes. Class 7, the class established for Intercompany Claims held by the Debtors against each other, and Class 8, the sole class of Equity Interests held in the Debtors, are both designated as classes that are deemed to have rejected the Plan because the holders of such claims and equity interests, respectively, will not receive or retain anything on account of such claims or equity interests under the Plan.

That said, in relation to Class 7, the class of Intercompany Claims, the Plan is functionally an empty class if the Plan's terms for the Plan Settlement and limited substantive consolidation are taken into account.

The remaining classes, Classes 1, 2, 4, 5, and 6, are designated as impaired classes of claims entitled to vote. Importantly, this same structure was utilized under the Original Plan. In other words, the Plan Modification did not change anything in relation to the Original Plan's classification scheme.

With that in mind, the process and deadlines applicable to the solicitation of votes on and the establishment of a

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confirmation objection deadline with respect to the Plan were in relation to the Original Plan because the Plan Modification was not filed until after the initial deadlines had passed.

With respect to the Original Plan, on May 1, 2025, the Trustee filed his Proposed Disclosure Statement Regarding Trustee's First Amended Joint Chapter 11 Plan at Docket No. 880, which I will refer to as the "Disclosure Statement." See Trustee Exhibit 2.

On May 2nd, 2025, the Court entered an order at Docket No. 882, which I will refer to as the "Solicitation Order," that approved the Disclosure Statement as containing adequate information with respect to the Original Plan pursuant to 11 U.S.C. Section 1125 and approved certain solicitation and noticing procedures, approved the forms of ballots and notices to be used and sent, and established relevant confirmation deadlines. See Trustee Exhibit 4.

More specifically, pursuant to the Solicitation Order, the Court approved, among other things:

- (1) solicitation and voting procedures in relation to the Original Plan. See Attachment 1 to Solicitation Order.
- (2) the form of ballots to be sent to the holders of claims within Classes 1, 2, 5, and 6 of the Original Plan. See Schedule 2A to Solicitation Order.
  - (3) the form of ballot to be sent to the holders of

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claims within Class 4 of the Original Plan. See Schedule 2B to the Solicitation Order.

- (4) the form of Notice of Non-Voting Status to be sent to the holders of claims within Classes 3, 7, and 8 of the Original Plan. See Schedule 3 to Solicitation Order.
- (5) the form of Notice of Non-Voting Status with Respect to Disputed Claims to be sent to the holders of claims within voting classes to which an objection to the allowance of the claim has been lodged. See Schedule 4 to Solicitation Order.
- (6) the form of the Third-Party Release Opt-Out Form to be used to opt out of the Third-Party Releases included as part of the Plan Settlement proposed within the Original Plan, or just the "Third-Party Release Opt-Out Form" for short, to be sent to all holders of claims and equity interests. See Schedule 5 to Solicitation Order.
- (7) the form of cover letter from the Trustee to be sent to all holders of claims entitled to vote. See Schedule 6 to Solicitation Order.
- And (8) the form of Confirmation Hearing Notice to be sent to all holders of claims and equity interests. See Schedule 7 to Solicitation Order.

In accordance with the Solicitation Order, on May 2nd, 2025, the Trustee filed a Notice of Hearing to Consider Confirmation of the Trustee's First Amended Joint Chapter 11 Plan at Docket No. 884, which I will refer to as the

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"Confirmation Hearing Notice." See Trustee Exhibit 5.

In compliance with the Solicitation Order, the Confirmation Hearing Notice includes, among other things, a QR code that can be used to access all Plan-related documents and instructions on how to alternatively or additionally request a paper copy of such documents.

With the foregoing in mind, on June 3, 2025, an Affidavit of Service of Omni was filed at Docket No. 929 to evidence Omni's service of Plan-related documents in compliance with the Solicitation Order. See Trustee Exhibit 9.

As evidenced by the Affidavit of Service, Omni served the following items on the holders of claims and equity interests on May 6, 2025:

First, all holders of claims and equity interests, including holders of claims that are not classified -- for example, Administrative Claims and Priority Tax Claims -were served with a copy of the Confirmation Hearing Notice and a Third-Party Release Opt-Out Form.

Second, in addition, with respect to each voting class:

- (a) in relation to those claims as to which no claim objection had been lodged, the holders thereof were served with the Trustee's cover letter and an approved form of ballot for such class;
- (b) in relation to those claims as to which a claim objection had been lodged but not to the full amount of the

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claim, the holders thereof were served with the Trustee's cover letter, a Notice of Disputed Claim, and an approved form of ballot for such class in relation to the unobjected portion of the claim; and

(c) in relation to those claims as to which a claim objection had been lodged to the full amount of the claim, the holders thereof were served with a Notice of Disputed Claim.

Third, with respect to Class 4, the holders of claims therein were also served with a hard copy of the Original Plan, Disclosure Statement, and Solicitation Order.

Fourth, with respect to each nonvoting class, the holders of claims or equity interests therein were also served with a copy of the Non-Voting Notice. See Trustee Exhibits 21 through 26 (finalized forms of the Class 1 Ballot, Class 2 Ballot, Class 4 Ballot, Class 5 Ballot, Class 6 Ballot, and Third-Party Release Opt-Out Form served on holders of claims and equity interests, as applicable).

The Ballot Results in Relation to the Original Plan are Reported, a Plan Drafting Error is Discovered and Fixed, and the Confirmation Hearing is Continued to Provide the Borisch Parties with the Opportunity for Additional Discovery and to Change Their Votes in Relation to the Plan and to Object to Confirmation of the Plan.

Pursuant to the Solicitation Order, the voting deadline

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on the Original Plan was fixed at June 5, 2025 at midnight. During the evening of June 5, 2025, technically prior to expiration of the deadline, Omni provided a preliminary provisional ballot tally to Trustee's counsel. See Borisch Exhibit 22.

In reviewing the ballot tally, Trustee's counsel was surprised by the voting results of Class 6, the class of Contribution Claims, each of which is held by Borisch or another Borisch Party. See Trustee Exhibit 9, Exhibit H thereto.

In particular, given the Plan's provision for all Retained Causes of Action against the Borisch Parties to be assigned to the Prepetition Lender, in partial satisfaction of the Prepetition Lender's Secured Claims, Trustee's counsel was surprised to see that all holders of Class 6 claims had voted to accept the Original Plan.

Consequently, Trustee's counsel shared the preliminary results with Committee counsel and the Prepetition Lender's counsel, with the intent that everyone check to ensure that there was not a glitch in the Plan's drafting. See Borisch Exhibits 22 and 24.

In fact, it turned out that there was a glitch with respect to the definitions used in relation to the Third-Party Release provisions. Pursuant to the Original Plan, claims and causes of action against the Borisch Parties were

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to be retained as Retained Causes of Action and then transferred as Assigned Causes of Action to the Prepetition Lender, in partial satisfaction of the Prepetition Lender's Secured Claims in Class 2. See Original Plan, Section III.B.

Additionally, the Plan Supplement identified the Assigned Causes of Action to be assigned to the Prepetition Lender. See Trustee Exhibit 7.

On top of that, the Original Plan attempted to make clear that no releases would be provided to the Borisch Parties by specifying that the term "Released Parties" expressly excluded the Borisch Parties. See Original Plan, Section I.A.83.

Finally, the Disclosure Statement expressly stated the following: "To be clear, claims and causes of action against insiders and affiliates, such as Matthew A. Borisch and his related companies, are not released under the Plan. Rather, such claims and causes of action are expressly reserved as Retained Causes of Action under the Plan and will be Assigned Causes of Action assigned to the Prepetition Lender, M&T Bank. The proceeds of such litigation, if any, shall be the sole property of the Prepetition Lender." See Disclosure Statement Section I.A. at Pages 1 through 2.

When considering all of these provisions, it was clear that the Trustee's intent, consistent with the terms of the Plan Settlement negotiated with the Prepetition Lender, was

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for the Borisch Parties to be excluded from the release provisions and for the Retained Causes of Action constituting Assigned Causes of Action against the Borisch Parties to be assigned to the Prepetition Lender.

Notwithstanding same, because the Original Plan failed to expressly exclude the Borisch Parties from the definition of "Consenting Creditors" -- see Original Plan, Section I.A.27. -- by returning an acceptance ballot and not returning a Third-Party Release Opt-Out Form, a Borisch Party holder of a Class 6 claim, such as Borisch, could definitionally fit within the category of a Consenting Creditor and thereby, definitionally, make an argument upon the Effective Date of the confirmed Original Plan that it had received a release by the Released Parties under the Third-Party Releases, which would include both the Debtors and M&T Bank.

To the credit of counsel for the Borisch Parties, they caught the mistake, and the Borisch Party holders of Class 6 claims, including Borisch, understandably attempted to benefit from the mistake by returning acceptance ballots without an executed Third-Party Release Opt-Out Form.

Thereafter, however, the Trustee filed the Plan Modification to "clarify" the provisions of the Third-Party Release or to remedy the "ambiguity" within the Original Plan.

Immediately after the filing, the Borisch Parties

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requested an emergency status conference to address the implications of the Plan Modification, which the Court granted. Finding the Plan Modification to be a material modification to the rights of the Borisch Parties under the Original Plan, on June 11, 2025 the Court entered an order at Docket No. 945 continuing the Confirmation Hearing for several weeks, providing an opportunity for additional discovery by the Borisch Parties, and setting a revised deadline for the Borisch Parties to be able to change their votes in relation to the Plan and file objections to confirmation of the Plan, the Plan obviously being the Original Plan, as modified by the Plan Modification. See Trustee Exhibit 16.

Utilizing this opportunity, the Borisch Parties did in fact engage in additional discovery, did in fact return amended Class 6 ballots rejecting the Plan -- see Borisch Exhibit 13 -- and did in fact file an objection to confirmation of the Plan, being the previously-referenced Borisch Objection.

F. The Finalized Ballot Tabulation.

On July 1, 2025, a Second Amended Declaration of Mr. Paul of Omni was filed at Docket No. 1001, which I will refer to as the "Ballot Tabulation," to evidence the finalized results of the Plan solicitation process. See Trustee Exhibit 15.

The Ballot Tabulation reflects the following voting

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results:

Class 1, no ballots received.

Class 2, acceptance by 100 percent in number and amount.

Class 4, acceptance by 100 percent in number and amount, with the amount voting in favor greater than \$734,000.

Class 5, acceptance by 90.48 percent in number and 89.75 percent in amount, with the amount voting in favor greater than \$28.5 million.

Class 6, rejection by 100 percent in number and amount, being the class of Contribution Claims held by the Borisch Parties. See Ballot Tabulation, Paragraphs 13 and 14.

With respect to the Third-Party Releases under the Plan, it is important to note that each of the Confirmation Hearing Notice, the ballots sent to those entitled to vote, and the Non-Voting Notice sent to those not entitled to vote contained conspicuous language with respect to the terms of the Third-Party Releases, the necessity to submit a completed Third-Party Release Opt-Out Form if the holder did not consent to the Third-Party Releases, instructions on how to submit the Third-Party Release Opt-Out Form, and the deadline for the submission of the Third-Party Release Opt-Out Form. See Trustee Exhibits 5 and 21 through 26. See also Ballot Tabulation, Paragraphs 15 through 17.

Three Third-Party Release Opt-Out Forms were returned, each by the holder of a claim who also was served with a Non-

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Voting Notice. See Ballot Tabulation, Paragraphs 15 through 17.

Turning finally to the Discussion.

Confirmation of the Plan in this case is governed by the provisions of 11 U.S.C. Section 1129. To obtain confirmation of the Plan, the Trustee has the burden of proving by a preponderance of the evidence that each of the applicable requirements of Section 1129(a) has been satisfied.

If all of such requirements -- with the sole exception of the requirements of Section 1129(a)(8), requiring that each class of claims or interests under the Plan is either unimpaired or has accepted the Plan -- has been satisfied, then, on the request of the Trustee, which has been made, the Court must confirm the Plan under Section 1129(b) if the Plan does not discriminate unfairly and is fair and equitable with respect to each class of claims or equity interests that is impaired under and has not accepted the Plan. See 11 U.S.C. Section 1129(a) through (b).

A. Consideration of the Initial Question of Whether the Original Plan has Permissively Been Modified by the Plan Modifications.

Pursuant to Section 1127(a) of the Bankruptcy Code, a plan proponent may modify a proposed plan at any time before confirmation, but may not modify such plan so that such plan as modified fails to meet the requirements of Sections 1122

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and 1123 of the Bankruptcy Code. Provided there is no such failure, the plan as modified becomes the plan under consideration. See 11 U.S.C. Section 1127(a).

In relation to the provisions of Section 1127(a), pursuant to the Borisch Objection, the Borisch Parties assert that the Plan Modification proposed a change to the Original Plan which causes the Plan, being the Original Plan, as modified by the Plan Modification, to fail to comply with the provisions of Section 1123(a)(4) of the Bankruptcy Code. Therefore, the Borisch Parties argue that the Original Plan was never modified and that the Original Plan is the Chapter 11 Plan that should be confirmed by the Court.

Section 1123(a)(4) of the Bankruptcy Code provides that a plan shall provide the same treatment for each claim or interest of a particular class unless the holder of a particular claim or interest agrees to a less-favorable treatment of such particular claim or interest.

The Borisch Parties' argument in relation to Section 1123(a)(4) is convoluted. Initially, the Borisch Parties acknowledge that they hold claims against the Debtors based upon guaranties that they have provided to other nondebtor parties. See Borisch Objection, Paragraph 18.

As a result, under the terms of the Plan, whether the Original Plan or the Original Plan as modified by the Plan Modification, the Borisch Parties hold Contribution Claims

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within Class 6. In summary, the treatment provided to each Contribution Claim of Class 6 is that, in accordance with Section 509 of the Bankruptcy Code, in the event that the holder of such Class 6 claim that is on account of a contribution/reimbursement right tied to the holder's coliability with one of the Debtors on any allowed claim, referred to as an "Underlying Claim," pays such Underlying Claim in full, then to the extent provided by Section 509 of the Bankruptcy Code, such holder shall be subrogated to the rights of the holder of the Underlying Claim under and for purposes of the Plan, and such subrogated claim shall be treated under the applicable class of the Underlying Claim in accordance with the Plan. See Plan Section IV.F.

Thus, the argument goes that if any of the Borisch Parties hereafter ends up paying in full any such Underlying Claim, thereby entitling the Borisch Party to be subrogated to the rights of the holder of the Underlying Claim in relation to the subrogated claim, and if the holder of the Underlying Claim had the right to become a Consenting Creditor, thereby obtaining the benefit of a release from the Released Parties under the Third-Party Releases, then by not giving the Borisch Parties, as the holders of Class 6 claims, the upfront right to also become Consenting Creditors, upon such subrogation pursuant to Section 509, the treatment afforded to the Borisch Party holding the subrogated claim

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will be different than the treatment afforded to the holders of other claims within the applicable class of the Underlying Claim.

Separately, the Borisch Parties also assert that Matthew Borisch holds an Other Secured Claim in Class 3 on account of a scheduled claim in the Tommy's Holding Company, LLC case. See Borisch Objection, Paragraph 19. See also Borisch Exhibit 18, Copy of Page of Schedules.

In a cleaner manner, the Borisch Parties argue that because the other holders of Class 3 claims are given the opportunity to become Consenting Creditors, whereas Borisch cannot become a Consenting Creditor, the treatment of Borisch's Class 3 claim is not the same as the treatment afforded to other Class 3 claims.

The Trustee's response to such arguments is twofold. First, that the Borisch Parties are improperly conflating the Plan's bankruptcy claims treatment provisions with the Third-Party Release provisions to be implemented under the Plan as part of the Plan Settlement. And second, that vis-à-vis the Plan's treatment of each bankruptcy claim included within Class 6 of the Plan and the Plan's treatment of each bankruptcy claim included within Class 3 of the Plan, the treatment afforded to each claim within such class is identical.

The Court agrees. In relation to the Borisch Parties'

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Class 6 argument, there is only one class of the Plan that links the treatment to be afforded to bankruptcy claims included within such class to the Third-Party Release provisions: Class 4, the class of Customer Constructive Trust Claims.

With respect to Class 4 claims, only if the holder of the Customer Constructive Trust Claim does not opt out of the Third-Party Releases will the claim receive the treatment afforded within Class 4 of the Plan. Otherwise, the claim will be treated as a Class 5 claim and receive the treatment provided by Class 5 of the Plan.

But absolutely no evidence was introduced to suggest that any of the Borisch Parties could be subrogated to the rights of the holder of a Customer Constructive Trust Claim pursuant to Section 509 of the Bankruptcy Code in relation to its Class 6 Contribution Claim.

In relation to the Borisch Parties' Class 3 argument, and also the Class 6 argument, for that matter, the Plan -- i.e., the Original Plan, as modified by the Plan Modification -clearly provides for the same treatment of each Other Secured Claim in Class 3 and for the same treatment of each Contribution Claim in Class 6, thereby satisfying the requirements of Section 1123(a)(4) of the Bankruptcy Code. The fact that the Borisch Parties were unsuccessful in engaging in settlement negotiations with the Prepetition

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Lender so as to be folded into the Plan Settlement instead of excluded from the Plan Settlement Third-Party Release provisions has no bearing upon the treatment of the Borisch Parties' bankruptcy claims and whether the Plan violates Section 1123(a)(4) of the Bankruptcy Code. See, also, In re Adelphia Communications Corp., 368 B.R. 140, 251 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 2007) and In re Mallinckrodt PLC, 639 B.R. 837, 862 (Bankr. D. Del. 2022).

Secondarily, the Borisch Parties also argue that the Plan Modification violates the requirements of Bankruptcy Rule 3019(a). Initially, because this objection was not lodged as part of the Borisch Objection, the Court finds that the objection is waived.

But even if it had been timely asserted, it lacks merit. Bankruptcy Rule 3019(a) starts with the premise that, after a plan has been accepted and before confirmation, the plan proponent may file a plan modification. This portion of Bankruptcy Rule 3019(a) conforms with the provisions of Section 1127(a) of the Bankruptcy Code.

Bankruptcy Rule 3019 then goes on to state that the modification is also considered accepted by any creditor or equity security holder who also accepted the modification in writing. But for all other creditors and equity security holders who did not accept the modification itself in writing but who previously accepted the pre-modified plan, the

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modification will also be considered accepted if, after notice and a hearing, the Court finds that the modification does not adversely change the treatment of their claims or interests. See Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 3019(a).

This portion of Bankruptcy Rule 3019(a) effectively marries up with the provisions of Section 1127(d) of the Bankruptcy Code.

Pursuant to Section 1127(d), any holder of a claim or interest that has accepted or rejected a plan is deemed to have accepted or rejected, as the case may be, such plan as modified, unless, within the time fixed by the court, such holder changes such holder's previous acceptance or rejection.

With this in mind, in the case of a plan modification that the Court, after notice and a hearing, determines does not adversely change the treatment of a claim or interest held by a creditor or equity security holder, it is unnecessary to provide an opportunity for such holder to change the prior acceptance or rejection.

As explained in the latter portion of Bankruptcy Rule 3019(a), if the holder accepted the pre-modified plan, then the plan modification will also be considered accepted in such instance.

Implicitly, the latter part of Bankruptcy Rule 3019(a) recognizes that if the court determines that the plan

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modification does adversely change the treatment of the holder's claim or interest, then the prior acceptance of the pre-modified plan will not apply to the plan as modified. And pursuant to Section 1127(c), if there is going to be a new opportunity to vote on the plan as modified, then the proponent of the plan modification must comply with the adequate information requirements of Section 1125 of the Bankruptcy Code with respect to the modification.

With all of the foregoing in mind, the Court finds that none of the Plan Modifications proposed by the Trustee adversely changed the treatment of any claims held by any creditors other than the Borisch Parties. Thus, all of the votes cast by the holders of claims other than the Borisch Parties apply with equal force to the Plan, which includes the Plan Modification, as further modified by the Additional Plan Modifications.

In fact, as a technical matter, none of the Plan Modifications adversely changed the treatment of any claims or equity interests held by the Borisch Parties, either. However, given the materiality to the Borisch Parties of the exclusionary language added regarding the Borisch Parties in relation to the Third-Party Release provisions, the Court deemed it proper to provide an opportunity for additional discovery, a change of votes, and the filing of a confirmation objection by the Borisch Parties, which the

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Borisch Parties availed themselves of.

And the Court additionally finds that the Trustee complied with Section 1125 of the Bankruptcy Code in connection with the Court's reopening of the voting opportunity to the Borisch Parties in that the Plan Modification itself reflected the modifications and was selfexplanatory with respect to the nature of the changes.

While unnecessary to dwell on, the Court also notes that the Prepetition Lender has emphasized in its reply that the Plan Settlement agreed upon by the Prepetition Lender obviously did not contemplate the release of any of the Borisch Parties, and that the Plan Settlement is not properly memorialized under the terms of the Original Plan.

In any event, for the reasons previously discussed, the Court finds that the Original Plan was permissibly modified by the Plan Modification pursuant to Section 1127(a) of the Bankruptcy Code; that the Plan has also been permissibly modified by the Additional Plan Modifications pursuant to Section 1127(a) of the Bankruptcy Code; that all of the votes cast by holders of claims other than the Borisch Parties apply with equal force to the Plan as modified by the Additional Plan Modifications; and that in the case of the Borisch Parties, the subsequently-cast amended ballots for rejection of the Plan apply to the Plan as modified by the Additional Plan Modifications.

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For all purposes hereafter, the Court's reference to the Plan will mean and refer to the Plan as modified by the Additional Plan Modifications.

- В. The Borisch Parties' Confirmation Objections.
- (1) Compliance with 11 U.S.C. Section 1129(a)(3), The Plan's Proposal in Good Faith.

Section 1129(a)(3) of the Bankruptcy Code requires that the Plan has been proposed in good faith and not by any means forbidden by law. See 11 U.S.C. Section 1129(a)(3).

"The generally-applicable test for good faith under Section 1129(a)(3) is that the plan has been 'proposed with the legitimate and honest purpose to reorganize and has a reasonable hope of success.'" In re Village at Camp Bowie I, LP, 454 B.R. 702, 709 (Bankr. N.D. Tex. 2011), affirmed 710 F.3d 239 (5th Cir. 2013), quoting B.M. Brite v. Sun Country Development, Inc. (In re Sun Country Development, Inc.), 764 F.2d 406, 408 (5th Cir. 1985).

Pursuant to the Borisch Objection, the Borisch Parties arque that the filing of the Plan Modification to exclude the Borisch Parties from the Third-Party Releases was improperly motivated, underhanded, and intentionally exclusionary. The Borisch Parties suggest that the Trustee had a duty as an appointed independent fiduciary to plow forward with confirmation of the Original Plan instead of changing the Original Plan to exclude the Borisch Parties.

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In response, the Trustee simply notes that the Plan as currently formulated properly memorialized the actual Plan Settlement; was the result of extensive negotiations with the Prepetition Lender and the Committee, with input from, among others, several Class 4 claimants; that the Trustee attempted on several occasions to bring Borisch into the negotiation fold, without any success; and that the Plan as currently formulated, as indicated, embodies the actual agreement reached with the Prepetition Lender under the Plan Settlement.

Moreover, the Trustee has proposed the Plan with the legitimate belief that it presents a viable resolution to the Bankruptcy Case and has a reasonable hope of being successfully confirmed, or did as of the time of its filing.

As both parties agree, the good faith test of Section 1129(a)(3) is to be determined in light of the totality of the circumstances surrounding the formulation and proposal of the Plan. Here, the Court easily finds that the Trustee proposed the Plan in good faith. At multiple stages, the Trustee re-introduced the potential for a joint mediation with Judge Atlas of issues concerning Borisch. Ultimately, the Prepetition Lender found no utility in doing so unless Borisch was prepared to demonstrate his seriousness about a potential settlement by both (a) putting a substantial opening offer on the table, and (b) offering up reliable

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financial information with respect to his wherewithal. Borisch did not engage on any front.

Ultimately, the Trustee cannot force either Borisch or the Prepetition Lender to settle. The Trustee was forced to live under the well-known proverbial saying that you can lead a horse, or in this case, horses, to water, but you can't force them to drink.

First, the Plan properly embodies the actual Plan Settlement negotiated with the Prepetition Lender.

Second, there was nothing improper with the Trustee electing to proceed with a Plan that embodies a settlement with less than all of the key parties in interest in the case. The Trustee's focus needed to be on developing a Plan that presented a viable means for concluding the case and that had a reasonable hope of success. He succeeded in doing that.

There is no credible evidence in the record to suggest that anything about the Plan process was designed to punish or in any way bring disadvantage to any of the Borisch Indeed, there is nothing now to prevent the Borisch Parties. Parties and the Prepetition Lender from leaving this hearing today and immediately entering into a settlement with each other alone that includes the very types of releases desired by the Borisch Parties.

Irrespective, the Court finds that the Trustee has

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carried his burden of proving that the Plan was filed in good faith and not by any means forbidden by law, as required by Section 1129(a)(3) of the Bankruptcy Code.

(2) Satisfaction of the Cramdown Requirement of No Unfair Discrimination.

Based upon the recast votes of the Borisch Parties in relation to Class 6, Class 6 has not accepted the Plan. Consequently, the Trustee requested that the Court approve the Plan over the Class 6 rejection, pursuant to Section 1129(b) of the Bankruptcy Code. Such provision requires, among other things, that the Plan not discriminate unfairly against rejecting classes.

According to the Borisch Parties, the Plan here does discriminate unfairly by providing unequal treatment and opportunity through the exclusion of the Borisch Parties from the Third-Party Release provisions.

Without reiterating everything that I have already said, I adopt the Trustee's simply-put response that the Borisch Parties do not have a "right" to be released under the Plan and there is no authority for the proposition that insiders, like the Borisch Parties, have a fundamental right to a third-party release from settlement creditors, like the Prepetition Lender.

Perhaps if the evidence were such that the Trustee had actively taken steps to prevent or obstruct the Borisch

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Parties from interfacing with the Prepetition Lender on Planrelated matters or negotiations and/or purposefully concealed important information from the Prepetition Lender that might have had a bearing on whether to include the Borisch Parties in the Third-Party Release provisions, there might be something to talk about. But here, there is no such evidence.

Instead, the evidence demonstrates that, if anything, the Trustee attempted on multiple occasions to open doors and facilitate mediation, all the while, however, understanding that the viability of any plan would necessarily have to start with an agreement with the Prepetition Lender.

As previously noted, there is nothing within the Plan that prevents the Borisch Parties from immediately hereafter engaging in negotiations with the Prepetition Lender on a deal that may lead to the inclusion of the release of all claims and causes of action against them that the Prepetition Lender may obtain under the terms of the Plan.

In relation to Plan treatment matters, however, the treatment afforded to Class 6 is entirely consistent with Section 509 of the Bankruptcy Code, and there is nothing discriminatory about it, much less unfairly so.

Moreover, the Plan's treatment of Class 6 is also fair and equitable inasmuch as no junior class of claims or interests will receive or retain anything under the Plan.

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Accordingly, the Court finds that the Plan satisfies the cramdown requirements of Section 1129(b) in relation to Class 6, and thus the Borisch Parties' objection to the contrary is overruled.

С. The United States Trustee's Confirmation Objections.

The United States Trustee raises three high-level objections to confirmation of the Plan. First, that the Third-Party Release provisions of Section X.D. of the Plan violate the Bankruptcy Code by imposing nonconsensual thirdparty releases.

Second, that the Third-Party Releases improperly purport to release a Creditor Trustee who will not be appointed until the applicable release period of the Third-Party Releases has expired.

And third, that the injunction provisions of Section X.E. of the Plan violate the Bankruptcy Code by imposing a sweeping injunction to enforce the Third-Party Releases.

Whether the Third-Party Releases are Consensual.

In Harrington v. Purdue Pharma, LP, 144 U.S. 2071 (2024), obviously, as you all know, the Supreme Court held in a 5-4 opinion that the Bankruptcy Code does not bestow upon a bankruptcy court the power to extinguish claims held by nondebtors against other nondebtors without their consent. In doing so, at every stage of the analysis, the Supreme Court was careful to consistently include the buzzwords

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"without their consent," "without consent," "without the consent," et cetera.

And to hammer the point home, the majority concluded with the statement, "Nothing in what we have said should be construed to call into question consensual third-party releases offered in connection with a bankruptcy reorganization plan. Those sorts of releases pose different questions and may rest on different legal grounds than the nonconsensual release at issue here. Nor do we have occasion today to express a view on what qualifies as a consensual release or pass upon a plan that provides for the full satisfaction of claims against a third-party nondebtor." Id. at 2087-88, citation omitted.

This stance has been the stance expressed by the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals for decades. Yet the U.S. Trustee, in the face of opposition by the Trustee, an independent fiduciary appointed by the U.S. Trustee herself to act for the benefit of all creditors in the Bankruptcy Case, and by the Committee, comprised of individuals selected by the U.S. Trustee herself to represent the interests of unsecured creditors in the Bankruptcy Case, apparently deems the Purdue Pharma case to be a watershed moment necessitating a complete reevaluation of the means by which consensual third-party releases have been pursued and implemented within this circuit for years.

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The U.S. Trustee starts with the argument that the test to apply with respect to whether a third-party release is consensual is of a contractual nature under applicable state contract law. In other words, the U.S. Trustee asserts that a plan proponent must establish that, in relation to each individual nondebtor party to be bound by the third-party release, an agreement was reached in accordance with state law contract principles that apply to the parties' interactions.

The Trustee disagrees, arguing that consent is a question of federal law.

While the state law contract approach has been adopted by one of my colleagues to the east of this division, and also by at least one other judge of a court outside of this district, I respectfully disagree with such view of the world. As recognized by both the majority and the dissent in the Purdue Pharma case, the bankruptcy process is inherently a form of collective action proceeding. It brings together in a single forum all creditors of a debtor for the purpose of sorting out debts against the debtor and other debtorcreditor relations.

As explained by the majority in Purdue Pharma, "bankruptcy courts may have many powers, including the power to address certain collective action problems when they implicate the debtor's rights and responsibilities." Id. at

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Such a collective action problem implicating the debtor's rights and responsibilities may include the settlement of certain claims by and against the estate that are dependent upon the simultaneous consensual resolution of correlated nondebtor claims that are integrally intertwined with the claims by and/or against the estate to be settled.

Pursuant to Section 1123(b)(3) of the Bankruptcy Code, for example, a plan may provide for the settlement of any claim belonging to the debtor or to the estate. If the effectuation of such a settlement is dependent upon the simultaneous resolution of a correlated nondebtor claim that is integrally intertwined with the claim being settled, then Section 1123(b)(6) of the Bankruptcy Code would appear to provide the means to simultaneously pursue such resolution as part of a plan, provided the buy-in is consensual. See 11 U.S.C. Sections 1123(b)(3) and (b)(6).

What the Supreme Court did not find convincing in Purdue Pharma was the concept of attempting to involuntarily bind nondebtor parties, including future claimants who had not even asserted a claim in the bankruptcy case, to a release in favor of another nondebtor. Because such a release is tantamount to the imposition of a nonconsensual bankruptcy discharge without requiring the nondebtor to comply with the Bankruptcy Code's requirements for obtaining such a

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discharge, the Supreme Court invalidated the attempt. doing so, it did not in any way suggest that the evaluation of consensual third-party releases should be relegated to a contract law analysis under applicable state law following a potentially tortured evaluation of conflicts of law principles.

Instead, provided the third-party release sought to be implemented is in fact a necessary component of a settlement of claims by or against the estate, and the settlement is necessary to the successful resolution of the case by way of a Chapter 11 plan, thereby satisfying the "appropriate" standard of Section 1123(b)(6), then the question of consent is a question of federal law to be determined under recognized principles of collective action proceedings in the nature of bankruptcy proceedings. See also In re GOL Linhas Aereas Inteligentes, S.A., 2025 WL 1466055 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. May 22, 2025) and In re Spirit Airlines, Inc., 668 B.R. 689 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 2025).

Here, the scope of the Third-Party Releases sought to be implemented are tied exclusively and directly to the Debtors, the Debtors' estates, and the Bankruptcy Case. They seek to affect only claims and causes of action (and other similar descriptives) arising from, relating to, or connected with the Debtors (or any predecessor entity) or the Chapter 11 Cases or affecting property of the Debtors' Estates, the

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Plan, or the administration and implementation of the Plan, or based upon any other related act or omission, transaction, agreement, event, or other occurrence taking place on or before the Effective Date. And the evidence presented establishes that the Third-Party Releases are a central component of the Plan Settlement and that there is no Chapter 11 resolution to this Bankruptcy Case in the absence of the Plan Settlement.

Thus, the Court finds that because the Third-Party Release provisions fall within the realm of what may be permissible under Section 1123(b)(6), in conjunction with Section 1123(b)(3), there calling for the evaluation of consent in the context of plan proceedings to be controlled and determined in reference to federal law, not state law.

Under federal law collective action principles, the determination of consent is largely a question of due process, taking into account such questions as whether the party to be bound has actively engaged in the proceeding; if not, whether the party to be bound was represented by a person or entity designated to serve as a representative for those in the same shoes as the party; whether notice of the proposed disposition of the party's claim was adequately provided; whether the party was provided an opportunity to opt out and was clearly instructed on how to do so; and whether the party will receive anything in exchange. See,

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for example, Phillips Petroleum Company v. Shutts, 472 U.S. 797 (1985). See also the GOL Linhas Aereas Inteligentes, S.A. and Spirit Airlines cases, as well as recent opinions of my colleagues within the district who have approved opt-out election mechanics for third-party releases.

This then takes the Court to the question of whether consent to the Third-Party Releases was provided by the holders of claims and equity interests in this case. Here, obviously, the Trustee relied upon an opt-out feature as opposed to an opt-in feature. Considered in isolation, it presents a thorny question. However, context matters.

Initially, it is important to note certain holders of claims and equity interests that are unnecessary to consider. First, with respect to Classes 6 and 8. Because each of the holders of Class 6 claims and Class 8 equity interests are Borisch Parties -- and I'll come back to Class 8 -- and the Borisch Parties are not part of the Third-Party Release offering, there is no issue to determine.

I should note that, in relation to Class 8, there may be certain direct-line equity holders that are Debtors themselves. However, the Debtors themselves are part of the Plan Settlement and have expressly consented to the provisions.

Second, Class 7. Because Class 7 involves intercompany claims of the Debtors, and the Debtors are effectively party

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to the settlement, and the intercompany claims are effectively wiped out in connection with the limited substantive consolidation as well, there is no issue to determine.

As an additional threshold matter, the Court finds that by and through the Confirmation Hearing Notice and the ballots, the Disputed Claim Notice, or the Non-Voting Notice, as applicable, information with respect to the Third-Party Releases and the means to opt out of the releases was properly and sufficiently provided to all holders of claims and was reasonably calculated to alert each holder, consistent with federal due process principles, to the fact that consent to the Third-Party Releases would be deemed given in the absence of the return of a completed Third-Party Release Opt-Out Form.

Finally, as to all holders of claims other than the Borisch Parties and the Debtors, the Court starts with the easiest of categories of consent: those holders who have actively participated in the Bankruptcy Case.

For those holders, the Court finds that the absence of the return of a Third-Party Release Opt-Out Notice constitutes consent to the Third-Party Releases. And the reason is because all of those holders have actively participated, and given the nature of the clear and unequivocal notice provided to such parties, their lack of

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action to return a Third-Party Opt-Out Notice is clear indication of consent.

Those holders include those who returned a ballot, whether acceptance or rejection, except in the case of rejection if there was an objection to the Plan in relation to the Third-Party Releases, which I don't think occurred here as to any of those parties, that would not constitute consent. But otherwise, consent. Those who filed any sort of pleading in relation to confirmation. Again, unless it was an objection in specific reference to the Third-Party Releases, which I don't think applied here, and they didn't otherwise accept the Plan or be deemed to accept the Plan. Those who filed a proof of claim against any of the Debtors, thereby engaging explicitly in the bankruptcy process. who have filed a notice of appearance, either pro se or by and through counsel, again, evidencing their clear participation in the case.

With respect to each of those categories of parties, it is not reasonable to conclude that, while actively participating in the case, and in the face of a clear and conspicuous notice of the implications of not returning a Third-Party Release Opt-Out Notice, that they would suddenly play ostrich and put their head in the ground and not know what's going on and thereby not express consent.

So, for all of those parties, it's an easy call that

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consent has been provided unless they returned an executed Third-Party Release Opt-Out Form.

The harder case involves those who have not actively participated, which, generally speaking, is probably comprised of just creditors who were scheduled with a claim in the case in a liquidated amount that was not disputed and noncontingent, and like I said, has not separately filed a proof of claim or otherwise filed a notice of appearance or otherwise appeared in the case in conjunction with confirmation proceedings.

With respect to those parties, it is important to consider the factors that I previously went through that have been identified by the Supreme Court in the context of consent in a class action context.

First, the question of whether or not there was representation. In this regard, all of the parties at issue here that are focused on are effectively holders of unsecured claims in one form or another. And in relation to those holders, again, we have the U.S. Trustee's appointed Committee in the case that was appointed for the express purpose of representing the interests of unsecured creditors in the case. And we have evidence that the Committee itself was actively engaged in the Plan Settlement negotiations that ultimately included, for the benefit of unsecured creditors, the Third-Party Release provisions, which include reciprocal

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release benefits.

While it may be, as candidly disclosed by the Trustee in testimony, that there isn't really a lot of avoidance action exposure, getting released from avoidance action exposure means something. And I'll come back to that in a minute. But the point is that there was somebody there to look out for the interests of unsecured creditors and who was actively engaged in the actual negotiations that led to the Third-Party Release construct.

Second, the question of notice. I've already gone through this. There were multiple forms of notice provided to the holders of claims to make it crystal clear of the existence of the Third-Party Releases, the implication of not returning a Third-Party Release Opt-Out Form, and the binding effect of that.

Finally, the question of receipt of value. For all of the unsecured claims, excluding Class 5 for the moment, substantial recoveries will be obtained in the case which would not otherwise be available if the Prepetition Lender were to exercise remedies with respect to cash collateral.

In the case of Class 4 in particular, those are very complex claims relating to sales proceeds, and the Plan provides for a meaningful settlement opportunity with respect to that class.

Even in the case of Class 5, however, while it is true

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that there's an estimated recovery of one percent of the allowed amount of the claims in that class, we have active approval of the Plan by holders of claims in the amount of at least \$28 million [Court correction], meaning something. also have the recovery of something to that class, whereas there would be a recovery of nothing to that class in the absence of the Plan Settlement [Court correction]. again, we have reciprocal release exchanges for the benefit of Consenting Creditors in that class, as opposed to being nothing more than the attempt to secure a gratuitous Third-Party Release solely given by the Consenting Creditor with the consent of the creditor.

So, because there was representation, there was sufficient notice, and there is the receipt of value, all of that indicia suggests that, in the context of considering collective action proceedings similar to class action proceedings, that those parties had a reasoned belief, either expressly acknowledged their consent in affirmatively deciding to not return the form or sort of implicitly expressed such consent by knowing that there was somebody looking out for them in the form of the Committee and not worrying about having to take action to prevent the consent from being given.

So, for all of those reasons, I will find that, as a general proposition, the consent provisions of the Third-

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Party Release mechanics will be approved.

(2) With Respect to the Creditor Trustee as a Releasing Party or Released Party.

I do agree with the U.S. Trustee's objection in this regard. Neither the Creditor Trust nor the Creditor Trustee will exist until the Effective Date, yet the Third-Party Release provisions cover a period of time that is up until the Effective Date. Therefore, it is sort of nonsensical to consider that a release is either being given by or being received by an individual that hasn't even been appointed prior to the Effective Date.

Therefore, the Third-Party Release provisions with respect to the Creditor Trustee will be disapproved to the extent that the Creditor Trustee is identified as a Releasing Party or Released Party.

(3) Finally, With Respect to the Objection to Plan Injunctions.

The Plan injunctions have been specifically tailored to provide for the implementation of both the -- well, all of the release provisions that are included in the Plan. It is an appropriate corollary basis for relief to provide for the Plan injunctions to effectuate the releases that are granted, and that's within the power of the Court under Section 105(a) of the Bankruptcy Code, in furtherance of a confirmed plan.

Therefore, for reasons that have been more thoroughly

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briefed in the Trustee's Reply, the Court finds that the Plan injunction provisions are appropriate and permissive, and they will be approved.

Thus, in conclusion -- I should also note that, in all other respects, and for brevity, the Court adopts the proposed findings and conclusions that are set forth in the Proposed Confirmation Order.

And with that said, for all of the foregoing reasons, and taking into account the adoption, the Court overrules all objections to confirmation of the Plan and will confirm the Plan, again, as modified pursuant to all of the Plan Modifications, pursuant to 11 U.S.C. Section 1129.

I will also note, however, that in reference to the Proposed Confirmation Order, that I am not going to approve the waiver of any stays that would be applicable to the enforceability of the order. So whatever the applicable automatic stay provisions are under the Bankruptcy Rules in relation thereto will apply. But that will be the one modification to make.

All right. Again, thank you for your patience and attention. That concludes the Court's ruling.

Mr. Kaufman, I will look to you to clean up anything that needs to be cleaned up and make sure that everybody is in the loop with respect to --

MR. BAKST: Your Honor?

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THE COURT: -- the final confirmation order and have it submitted.

Okay. Yes? Who's trying to speak?

MR. BAKST: Your Honor? Marc Bakst, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Okay.

MR. BAKST: Thank you for hearing me. I apologize for the background noise. I'm in an airport, so it's a little bit awkward.

We were in an awkward position. You had said today was a decision on the ruling, and I see nothing in your Local Rules, and perhaps I missed it, but our local counsel did not either, about a process for signing off on the order. We can -- we were hopeful that you would rule in favor of our objections and didn't know, so we couldn't -- and it was difficult to -- we wouldn't submit our comments on the record in the filing about our comments to the Trustee's proposed order.

Nonetheless, yesterday I did provide him with substantial redlines. We have not heard any responses to those. And I'm wondering if there's a process that we could have in place for addressing those changes, or we could submit them to you as a redline and file that with the Court so the Court could consider our comments to the order.

There are some things in the order that are beyond what is in a -- that is necessary for confirmation. For example,

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you could just say, "For the reasons stated on the record, the Plan is confirmed," but we don't do that generally in cases. I understand that, but it could be done.

There's 32 pages to this order, and there are a handful, more than a handful of things that are slightly beyond the scope or beyond the scope of what you've ruled upon, in my judgment. And I don't know how we get that in front of you for you to consider our views on that, Your Honor. that's why I -- I thought today was just a ruling and we'd have some opportunity in the future to deal with that. Again, I'm happy to have my local counsel file a redline as something that would give you that guidepost.

THE COURT: All right. Well, I'm not going to try to go back and unwind my ruling in any respect, although I think I touched upon this a little bit at the conclusion of my ruling. But in any respect, the point of the exercise here is for parties to be able to have an opportunity to look at form with respect to the finalized confirmation order, which I understand and it's common practice here in the Northern District of Texas to include findings and conclusions. And, again, rather than spend the rest of the day going through each individual finding and conclusion, I simply tried to reference that I was adopting findings and conclusions set forth within the Proposed Confirmation Order.

But nevertheless, I do think it's appropriate to give

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people an opportunity to take a look at the finalized confirmation order to address any concerns with respect to form. And then, God forbid, if there are issues, what I would suggest is -- because I don't want this to linger -- is that I don't want to have a hearing on it unless I want a hearing or need a hearing. But what I would suggest is if the parties aren't on the same page I would say by sometime the morning of next Tuesday, that the parties just simply submit competing drafts of the order.

And what I would ask is that anyone who is taking issue with the Trustee's form of order provide with -- well, let me What I would want is I would want those orders in back up. Word format, and what I would want is, from any party who's taking issue with the Trustee's proposed form of order, to include a redline so that I know what differences are being sought in relation to the Trustee's draft. And then, like I said, I'll just figure out if a hearing is necessary or not and plow forward.

I should note, you did raise one point, though, that I do want to make sure, Mr. Kaufman, that you address, and that is if you will just make sure that the order does incorporate by reference the oral ruling in addition to the additional findings and conclusions within the order, just so that the oral ruling is included. Okay? Any other questions?

MR. KAUFMAN: Will do, Your Honor. Yes.

1 MR. BAKST: Your Honor, you broke up on that last 2 request of Mr. Kaufman. I apologize. It's hard to hear. 3 Could you repeat that? I apologize. 4 THE COURT: I just asked him to make sure that he 5 includes language in the proposed order that also incorporates by reference the oral ruling that I've just 6 7 given. Thank you. And thank you for 8 MR. BAKST: I see. 9 your courtesy on providing time for our commentary. 10 THE COURT: Okay. All right. Well, very good. 11 Anything else from anybody? 12 All right. Well, again, thank you for your patience. 13 Thank you for also bearing with me to push this a day. 14 Obviously, this is an important matter, so I wanted to give 15 it as much attention as I could. So that will conclude the 16 hearing for today in the Tommy's case, and the Court will be 17 in recess. 18 (Conclusion of proceedings at 1:12 p.m.) 19 --000--20 CERTIFICATE 21 I certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript from the electronic sound recording of the proceedings in the 22 above-entitled matter. 23 07/19/2025 /s/ Kathy Rehling 24 Kathy Rehling, CETD-444 Date 25 Certified Electronic Court Transcriber

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