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UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK	
	X
IN RE:	Chapter 11
ARCAPITA BANK B.S.C.(c), et al.,	: Case No. 12-11076 (SHL)
Debtors.	: Jointly Administered

# DEBTORS' EX PARTE MOTION FOR ORDER AUTHORIZING THE DEBTORS TO FILE CERTAIN VOTING STIPULATIONS WITH EMPLOYEE CLAIMANTS UNDER SEAL

Arcapita Bank B.S.C.(c) ("Arcapita") and certain of its affiliates (each, a "Debtor" and collectively, the "Debtors") in the above-captioned chapter 11 cases (the "Chapter 11 Cases"), submit this motion (the "Motion"), on an ex parte basis, for an order pursuant to section 107(b) of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code")¹ and Rule 9018 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the "Bankruptcy Rules") authorizing the Debtors to (a) file redacted versions of the Stipulations and Agreed Orders (the "Stipulations") by and between the Debtors and certain employee claimants in the Chapter 11 Cases (collectively, the "Employee"

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> All statutory references are to the Bankruptcy Code unless otherwise specified.

*Claimants*"); and (b) file unredacted copies of the Stipulations with the Court under seal. In support of this Motion, the Debtors respectfully represent as follows:

#### **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

1. This Court has jurisdiction to consider this motion pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334. This matter is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b). Venue is proper before this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409.

#### **BACKGROUND**

### A. General Background

- 2. On March 19, 2012 (the "*Petition Date*"), Arcapita and five of its affiliates commenced cases under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. On April 30, 2012, Falcon Gas Storage Co., Inc. commenced a case under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. The Debtors are operating their businesses and managing their properties as debtors in possession pursuant to sections 1107(a) and 1108 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 3. On April 5, 2012, the United States Trustee for Region 2 (the "*U.S. Trustee*") appointed the official committee of unsecured creditors (the "*Committee*") (Dkt. No. 60) pursuant to sections 1102(a) and (b) of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 4. On January 18, 2013, the Court entered its *Order Granting Debtors'*Motion for Entry of an Order pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 105(a) and Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3007

  Approving Claim Objection Procedures (Dkt. No. 785) (the "Claims Procedure Order").
- 5. On April 25, 2013, the Debtors filed the Second Amended Joint Plan of Reorganization of Arcapita Bank B.S.C.(c) and Related Debtors Under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code (Dkt. No. 1036) (as may be further amended or supplemented, the "Amended Plan"). The related disclosure statement (Dkt. No. 1038) was approved by the order entered by

this Court on April 26, 2013 (Dkt. No. 1045). The Debtors subsequently began soliciting votes for the Amended Plan pursuant to the procedures set forth in that order.

6. On April 26, 2013, the Debtors filed the *Debtors' Omnibus Objections to Claims* (Dkt. Nos. 1049-53) (the "*Omnibus Objections*"). Certain proofs of claim filed by the Employee Claimants (the "*Filed Claims*") were subject to the Omnibus Objections.

#### **B.** The Stipulations

- 7. Through the Stipulations, the Debtors seek authority under Rule 3018(a) of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure to enter into agreements with the Employee Claimants whereby the Filed Claims shall be temporarily allowed against the applicable Debtor, solely for purposes of voting on the Amended Plan. The Employee Claimants' temporarily allowed claims are for voting purposes only and the amounts of such temporarily allowed claims (the "Voting Claims") are set forth on Schedule B to each Stipulation.
- 8. The Stipulations, by their terms, do not seek to prejudice either the Debtors' or the Employee Claimants' rights and obligations under and pursuant to the Amended Plan, applicable bankruptcy and non-bankruptcy law and equitable principles as to the allowance or disallowance of the Filed Claims based on their merits.

#### RELIEF REQUESTED

9. By this Motion, the Debtors seek entry of an order pursuant to section 107(b) of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rule 9018, substantially in the form annexed hereto as *Exhibit A*, authorizing the Debtors to: (a) file redacted versions of the Stipulations publicly with the Court; and (b) file unredacted versions of the Stipulations with the Court under seal.

10. This Motion seeks to protect a very limited set of information, namely the identity of the Employee Claimants. Other relevant information in the Stipulations, including the nature and terms of the agreements reached between the Debtors and the Employee Claimants set forth herein, is described in full detail in the Stipulations and will not be redacted.

#### **BASIS FOR RELIEF REQUESTED**

- 11. Section 107(b) of the Bankruptcy Code provides, in relevant part, as follows: "On request of a party in interest, the bankruptcy court shall . . . protect an entity with respect to a trade secret or confidential research, development, or commercial information . . ."

  11 U.S.C. § 107(b).
  - 12. Bankruptcy Rule 9018 provides, in relevant part, as follows:

On motion or on its own initiative, with or without notice, the court may make any order which justice requires (1) to protect the estate or any entity in respect of a trade secret or other confidential research, development, or commercial information . . .

Fed. R. Bankr. P. 9018 (emphasis added).

- 13. The Second Circuit has held that section 107(b) and Bankruptcy Rule 9018 do "not require that commercial information be the equivalent of a trade secret before protecting such information." *Video Software Dealers Assoc. v. Orion Pictures Corp. (In re Orion Pictures Corp.)*, 21 F.3d 24, 28 (2d Cir. 1994). In addition, the Second Circuit has held that a party seeking the sealing of information is only required to show that the information is confidential and commercial. No showing of "good cause" is necessary, although as set forth below, the Debtors here have demonstrated that good cause does exist. *Id*.
- 14. The Debtors have historically kept certain employee claim information confidential in the Chapter 11 Cases because such information reflects company human resource policies and disclosing such confidential information will threaten employee morale and provide

competitors with confidential company information. Disclosing the identities of Employee Claimants to the public would create hardship for the Debtors and the Employee Claimants. Competitors would gain insight into the Arcapita Group's employment policies giving them a competitive advantage should they choose to solicit Arcapita Group employees.

- 15. Lastly, upon information and belief, the Employee Claimants are not likely to enter into the Stipulations if their identities are to be filed unredacted on the public docket. The Stipulations enable a greater number of creditors to vote on the Amended Plan, notably employees who have dedicated time and hard work to the Debtors and have more than a purely monetary interest in the outcome of the Chapter 11 Cases. It is in the best interest of the Debtors, the Debtors' estates, and the Committee to file the Stipulations under seal in order to protect the identities of the Employee Claimants and enable the Stipulations to take effect.
- 16. Notwithstanding the filing of the redacted version of the Stipulations on the public docket, the Debtors will provide, if requested, the unredacted Stipulations to the Committee and the U.S. Trustee.

#### C. Conclusion

17. The Stipulations only affect the rights of the Employee Claimants to vote on the Amended Plan. It does not impact the size or nature of the Debtors' estate, the Filed Claims or ultimate recoveries on the Filed Claims, nor does it implicate the interests of any third parties. Accordingly, public disclosure of the identities of the Employee Claimants is not necessary to protect the interests of the Debtors' creditors or the general public.

#### **NO PRIOR REQUEST**

18. No previous motion for the relief sought herein has been made to this or any other Court.

#### **NOTICE**

19. Advance notice of this Motion has not been given. Pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 9018, the Court may "[o]n motion or on its own initiative, with or without **notice**" make any order which is required to protect trade secrets or confidential commercial information. (Emphasis added). Furthermore, due to the nature of the relief requested in this Motion, cause for ex parte relief has been shown pursuant to Rule 9077-1 of the Local Bankruptcy Rules for the Southern District of New York.

#### CONCLUSION

WHEREFORE, the Debtors respectfully request that the Court grant the relief requested herein and such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper.

Dated: New York, New York

May 22, 2013

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Michael A. Rosenthal

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ATTORNEYS FOR THE DEBTORS AND

**DEBTORS IN POSSESSION** 

## **EXHIBIT A**

### PROPOSED ORDER

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK	
IN RE:	x : : Chapter 11
ARCAPITA BANK B.S.C.(c), et al.,	: Case No. 12-11076 (SHL
Debtors.	: Jointly Administered
	X

# EX PARTE ORDER AUTHORIZING THE DEBTORS TO FILE CERTAIN VOTING STIPULATIONS WITH EMPLOYEE CLAIMANTS UNDER SEAL

Upon consideration of the motion (the "*Motion*")<sup>1</sup> of Arcapita Bank B.S.C.(c)

("*Arcapita*") and certain of its subsidiaries and affiliates, as debtors and debtors in possession in the above-captioned Chapter 11 Cases (collectively, the "*Debtors*" and each, a "*Debtor*"), for entry of an order pursuant to Bankruptcy Code section 107 and Bankruptcy Rule 9018, authorizing them to file the Stipulations under seal; it appearing that the relief requested in the Motion is appropriate in the context of the Chapter 11 Cases and in the best interests of the Debtors and their respective estates; the Court having reviewed the Motion and having considered the statements in support of the relief requested therein; and the Court having determined that the legal and factual bases set forth in the Motion establish just cause for the relief granted herein; and after due deliberation and sufficient cause appearing therefor,

#### IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. The Motion is approved to the extent set forth herein.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Motion.

- 2. Pursuant to section 107(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, the Debtors are authorized to file redacted copies of the Stipulations, and to serve the redacted Stipulations on those parties entitled to notice under the Bankruptcy Code, Bankruptcy Rules or any other applicable order.
- 3. The clerk of the Bankruptcy Court shall accept for filing under seal unredacted copies of the Stipulations.
- 4. The unredacted Stipulations shall be available to the Court, but otherwise shall be kept under seal and may not be unsealed until and unless permitted by further order of the Court.
- 5. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Order, the Debtors shall be authorized to serve the unredacted Stipulations upon the Committee and the U.S. Trustee.
- 6. Any party who receives the unredacted Stipulations in accordance with this Order shall not disclose or otherwise disseminate such unredacted Stipulations, or the identities of the Employee Claimants set forth therein, to any other person or entity and shall keep the identities of the Employee Claimants confidential.
- 7. The unredacted Stipulations shall not be disclosed or further disseminated by the Clerk or any other party except upon further order of this Court.
- 8. Any pleadings filed in these Chapter 11 Cases that disclose the identities of the Employee Claimants shall be filed with such information redacted, and the Clerk of the Bankruptcy Court shall be authorized to accept such filings, provided that unredacted copies of such pleadings shall be filed under seal and served as specifically authorized in this Order and redacted copies of such pleadings shall be served on those parties entitled to notice under the Bankruptcy Code, Bankruptcy Rules or any other applicable order.
  - 9. This Order shall be immediately effective and enforceable upon its entry.

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Dated: New York, New York, 2013	
	THE HONORABLE SEAN H. LANE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE