IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

In re:

WOODBRIDGE GROUP OF COMPANIES, LLC, *et al.*,¹

Debtors.

Chapter 11

Case No. 17-12560 (KJC)

(Jointly Administered)

CERTIFICATION OF COUNSEL REGARDING ORDER APPROVING STIPULATION REGARDING CLAIM OF AARON W. SAOUD, <u>SETTLEMENT DISCUSSIONS AND PLAN VOTING</u>

The undersigned hereby certifies as follows:

1. On June 5, 2018, Aaron W. Saoud ("Saoud") filed a Proof of Claim (the

"<u>Claim</u>") for \$1,000.00. The Claim was assigned Claim Number 6685. This is the only proof of claim that Saoud filed in the chapter 11 cases of the above-caption debtors and debtors in possession (collectively, the "<u>Debtors</u>" and, with Saoud, the "<u>Parties</u>").

2. On August 22, 2018, the Debtors filed the *First Amended Joint Chapter 11*

Plan of Liquidation of Woodbridge Group of Companies, LLC and its Affiliated Debtors [Docket No. 2397] (as it may be amended, supplemented, or modified from time to time pursuant to the terms thereof, the "<u>Plan</u>"), and the *Disclosure Statement for the First Amended Joint Chapter 11 Plan of Liquidation of Woodbridge Group of Companies, LLC and its Affiliated Debtors* [Docket No. 2398] (as it may be amended, supplemented, or modified from time to time, the "Disclosure

¹ The last four digits of Woodbridge Group of Companies, LLC's federal tax identification number are 3603. The mailing address for Woodbridge Group of Companies, LLC is 14140 Ventura Blvd #302, Sherman Oaks, California 91423. Due to the large number of debtors in these cases, which are being jointly administered for procedural purposes only, a complete list of the Debtors, the last four digits of their federal tax identification numbers, and their addresses are not provided herein. A complete list of such information may be obtained on the website of the Debtors' noticing and claims agent at <u>www.gardencitygroup.com/cases/WGC</u>, or by contacting the undersigned counsel for the Debtors.

Case 17-12560-KJC Doc 2447 Filed 08/29/18 Page 2 of 3

<u>Statement</u>"). The Disclosure Statement was approved by the Court on August 22, 2018 [Docket No. 2396].

3. The Debtors contend they have valid objections to the Claim and believe they may possess counterclaims against Saoud. Saoud contends the Claim is valid and disputes that the counterclaims are valid. However, the Parties are discussing settlement and wish to maintain the status quo without any prejudice or undue cost to either Party. As such, the Parties have entered into a stipulation (the "<u>Stipulation</u>"), which is annexed as <u>Exhibit A</u> to the proposed order attached hereto as <u>Exhibit I</u> (the "<u>Proposed Order</u>"). Subject to the Court's approval of the Debtors' entry into the Stipulation, the Stipulation maintains the status quo while the parties explore a settlement. In particular, as more fully set forth in the Stipulation, the Stipulation (i) stays the filing of any objection to the Claim by the Debtors prior to a breakdown of settlement discussions without providing requisite notice, (ii) precludes Saoud from amending his claim prior to a breakdown of settlement discussions without providing requisite notice, in part in Saoud's favor.

4. Maintaining the status quo while the Parties explore a consensual settlement, even though formal discovery has not yet commenced as to Saoud and the Claim, is justified as it will eliminate undue cost and promote judicial economy while not prejudicing either Party to the extent settlement negotiations are ultimately unfruitful. As such, the Debtors submit that the entry of the Proposed Order is in the best interests of the Debtors, their estates, and their creditors.

2

Case 17-12560-KJC Doc 2447 Filed 08/29/18 Page 3 of 3

WHEREFORE, the Debtors respectfully request, pursuant to Rule 9013-1(b) of

the Local Rules of Bankruptcy Practice and Procedure of the United States Bankruptcy Court for

the District of Delaware, that the Court enter the Proposed Order at its earliest convenience

without further notice or a hearing.

Dated: August 29, 2018 Wilmington, Delaware /s/ Betsy L. Feldman YOUNG CONAWAY STARGATT & TAYLOR, LLP Sean M. Beach (No. 4070) Edmon L. Morton (No. 3856) Ian J. Bambrick (No. 5455) Betsy L. Feldman (No. 6410) Rodney Square, 1000 North King Street Wilmington, Delaware 19801 Tel: (302) 571-6600 Fax: (302) 571-1253 -and-

KLEE, TUCHIN, BOGDANOFF & STERN LLP Kenneth N. Klee (*pro hac vice*) Michael L. Tuchin (*pro hac vice*) David A. Fidler (*pro hac vice*) Jonathan M. Weiss (*pro hac vice*) 1999 Avenue of the Stars, 39th Floor Los Angeles, California 90067

Counsel to the Debtors and Debtors in Possession

EXHIBIT I

Proposed Order

IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

In re:

WOODBRIDGE GROUP OF COMPANIES, LLC, *et al.*,¹

Debtors.

Chapter 11

Case No. 17-12560 (KJC)

(Jointly Administered)

Docket Ref. No.

ORDER APPROVING STIPULATION REGARDING CLAIM OF AARON W. SAOUD, SETTLEMENT DISCUSSIONS AND PLAN VOTING

Upon consideration of that certain *Stipulation Regarding Claim of Aaron W. Saoud*, *Settlement Discussions and Plan Voting*, a copy of which is annexed hereto as <u>Exhibit A</u> (the "<u>Stipulation</u>"),² and the related certification of counsel (the "<u>Certification of Counsel</u>") submitted by counsel for the above-captioned debtors and debtors in possession (collectively, the "<u>Debtors</u>") pursuant to Rule 9013-1(b) of the Local Rules of Bankruptcy Practice and Procedure of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware; and due and proper notice of the relief provided for herein having been given under the circumstances; and it appearing that no other or further notice of the relief provided for herein is required; and it appearing that this Court has jurisdiction to consider the Stipulation and the Certification of Counsel and enter this Order pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334 and the *Amended Standing Order of Reference* from the United States District Court for the District of Delaware, dated as of February 29, 2012; and it appearing that this is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2); and it appearing

¹ The last four digits of Woodbridge Group of Companies, LLC's federal tax identification number are 3603. The mailing address for Woodbridge Group of Companies, LLC is 14140 Ventura Blvd #302, Sherman Oaks, California 91423. Due to the large number of debtors in these cases, which are being jointly administered for procedural purposes only, a complete list of the Debtors, the last four digits of their federal tax identification numbers, and their addresses are not provided herein. A complete list of such information may be obtained on the website of the Debtors' noticing and claims agent at <u>www.gardencitygroup.com/cases/WGC</u>, or by contacting the undersigned counsel for the Debtors.

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

Case 17-12560-KJC Doc 2447-1 Filed 08/29/18 Page 3 of 8

that venue of this proceeding and the relief provided for herein is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409; and it appearing that the relief provided for herein is in the best interests of the Debtors, their estates, and creditors and an appropriate exercise of the Debtors' business judgment; and good and sufficient cause appearing therefor under the circumstances; it is hereby

ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED THAT:

1. The Stipulation is hereby approved in all respects and incorporated as if fully set forth herein.

2. The Debtors are authorized to enter into the Stipulation.

3. The Parties are authorized to take any action necessary or appropriate to implement the terms of this Order without further order from this Court.

4. The Court shall retain exclusive jurisdiction over any and all matters arising from or related to the implementation or interpretation of the Stipulation or this Order, resolve any dispute arising out of, relating to, or deriving from the Stipulation, and the power to enter a final order thereon.

Dated: _____, 2018

The Honorable Kevin J. Carey United States Bankruptcy Judge

EXHIBIT A

Stipulation

IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

In re:

WOODBRIDGE GROUP OF COMPANIES, LLC, *et al.*,¹

Chapter 11

Case No. 17-12560 (KJC)

(Jointly Administered)

Debtors.

STIPULATION REGARDING CLAIM OF AARON W. SAOUD, <u>SETTLEMENT DISCUSSIONS AND PLAN VOTING</u>

This Stipulation is entered into by and between, on the one hand, Aaron W. Saoud ("Claimant"), and, on the other hand, Woodbridge Group of Companies, LLC et al. (the "Debtors," and with Claimant, the "Parties" and each a "Party"), with respect to the following recitals.

A. On December 4, 2017, the Debtors commenced voluntary cases (the "Cases")

under chapter 11 of the United States Bankruptcy Code in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware (the "Court").

B. Claimant filed a proof of claim, assigned Claim No. 6685 (the "Claim"), in the

Cases. The Claim is the only proof of claim which Claimant filed in the Cases.

C. On August 22, 2018, the Debtors filed the *First Amended Joint Chapter 11 Plan*

of Liquidation of Woodbridge Group of Companies, LLC and its Affiliated Debtors (Docket No.

¹ The last four digits of Woodbridge Group of Companies, LLC's federal tax identification number are 3603. The mailing address for Woodbridge Group of Companies, LLC is 14225 Ventura Boulevard #100, Sherman Oaks, California 91423. Due to the large number of debtors in these cases, which are being jointly administered for procedural purposes only, a complete list of the Debtors, the last four digits of their federal tax identification numbers, and their addresses are not provided herein. A complete list of such information may be obtained on the website of the Debtors' noticing and claims agent at <u>www.gardencitygroup.com/cases/WGC</u>, or by contacting the undersigned counsel for the Debtors.

Case 17-12560-KJC Doc 2447-1 Filed 08/29/18 Page 6 of 8

2397) (as it may be amended, supplemented, or modified from time to time pursuant to the terms thereof, the "Plan"), and the *Disclosure Statement for the First Amended Joint Chapter 11 Plan of Liquidation of Woodbridge Group of Companies, LLC and its Affiliated Debtors* (Docket No. 2398) (as it may be amended, supplemented, or modified from time to time, the "Disclosure Statement"). On August 22, 2018, the Court entered an order approving the Disclosure Statement (Docket No. 2396).

D. The Debtors contend they have valid objections to the Claim and believe they may possess counterclaims against Claimant. Claimant contends the Claim is valid and disputes that the counterclaims are valid.

E. The Parties are discussing settlement and wish to maintain the status quo without any prejudice or undue cost to any Party.

WHEREFORE, in exchange for the promises and stipulations set forth herein, the Parties agree as follows:

1. Recitals A through E, inclusive, are true and correct and are an integral part of this Stipulation.

2. The undersigned are authorized and empowered to enter into this Stipulation and to bind the Parties on whose behalf they are signing, subject to Court approval.

3. The Debtors shall not file any objection to the Claim or any adversary proceeding against Claimant prior to the earlier of a breakdown in settlement discussions and October 31, 2018 without providing at least 14 (fourteen) days' email notice to Claimant at the email address set forth on the signature page of this Stipulation.

4. Claimant shall not amend the Claim or file any additional proofs of claims in the Cases prior to the earlier of a breakdown in settlement discussions and October 31, 2018 without

2

Case 17-12560-KJC Doc 2447-1 Filed 08/29/18 Page 7 of 8

providing at least 14 (fourteen) days email notice to Debtors' counsel at the email address set forth on the signature page of this Stipulation.

5. In recognition of the fact that in the absence of this Stipulation, the Debtors would object to the Claim and/or file an adversary proceeding seeking, among other things, disallowance of the Claim, the Parties hereby deem the Claim (including any amendments thereto or additional claims filed pursuant to paragraph 4) to be subject to a pending, unresolved objection and thus ineligible to vote on the Plan or any other plan, provided that if the Debtors object to the Claim (including any amendments thereto or additional claims filed pursuant to paragraph 4) and the objection(s) is/are resolved in whole or in part in favor of Claimant, Claimant then may vote the Claim (including any amendments thereto or additional claims filed pursuant to paragraph 4) to the extent allowed by an order of the Court.

6. In the event the Parties are unable to settle their pending disputes, this Stipulation shall have no force or effect on the Claim (including any amendments thereto or additional claims filed pursuant to paragraph 4), any defense to the Claim (including any amendments thereto or additional claims filed pursuant to paragraph 4), any counterclaims the Debtors may assert or any defenses to those counterclaims.

7. The Court shall have exclusive jurisdiction to resolve any dispute arising out of, relating to, or deriving from this Stipulation and has the jurisdiction and power to enter a final order thereon.

[Remainder of Page Intentionally Left Blank]

3

Dated: August 29, 2018

/s/ Betsy L. Feldman

YOUNG CONAWAY STARGATT & TAYLOR, LLP Sean M. Beach (No. 4070) Edmon L. Morton (No. 3856) Ian J. Bambrick (No. 5455) Betsy L. Feldman (No. 6410) Rodney Square 1000 North King Street Wilmington, Delaware 19801 Tel: (302) 571-6600 Fax: (302) 571-1253

Counsel for the Debtors and Debtors in Possession

-and-

KLEE, TUCHIN, BOGDANOFF & STERN LLP David M. Stern (pro hac vice) Jonathan M. Weiss (pro hac vice) 1999 Avenue of the Stars 39th Floor Los Angeles, California 90067 Tel: (310) 407-4000 Fax: (310) 407-9090 Email (for notice purposes): dstern@ktbslaw.com and jweiss@ktbslaw.com

Counsel for the Debtors and Debtors in Possession

Aaron W. Saoud

Aaron W. Saoud Email (for notice purposes): asaoud@saoudretirement.com