

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY**

**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE
COMMISSION,**

Plaintiff,

v.

**BRENDA SMITH, BROAD REACH
CAPITAL, LP, BROAD REACH
PARTNERS, LLC, and BRISTOL
ADVISORS, LLC,**

Defendants.

C. A. No. 2:19-cv-17213 (MCA)

Motion Day: June 15, 2026

**NOTICE OF MOTION OF RECEIVER, KEVIN DOOLEY KENT, FOR
APPROVAL OF TWENTY-THIRD INTERIM FEE APPLICATION FOR
THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2026 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2026**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the undersigned, on behalf of the Receiver, Kevin Dooley Kent, will move before the Honorable Madeline Cox Arleo, U.S.D.J., United States District Court for the District of New Jersey, Martin Luther King Jr. Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse, 50 Walnut Street, Newark, New Jersey 07101, on June 15, 2026, or as soon thereafter as the Court permits, at a date and time to be determined by the Court, for Approval of the Receiver's Twenty-Third Interim Fee Application for the Period January 1, 2026 through March 31, 2026.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT, in support of this Motion, the undersigned will rely upon the accompanying Interim Fee Application with exhibits attached thereto, which incorporates and is in lieu of a more formal brief, and which is incorporated herein by reference.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the undersigned requests that the proposed form of Order submitted herewith be entered by the Court.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 5/11/2026

s/ Robin S. Weiss
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**RECEIVER, KEVIN DOOLEY KENT'S TWENTY-THIRD INTERIM FEE
APPLICATION, FOR THE PERIOD
JANUARY 1, 2026 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2026**

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Dated: 5/11/2026

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Pursuant to the Court's Order Appointing Receiver dated June 29, 2020, Kevin Dooley Kent, Receiver, hereby submits this Twenty-Third Interim Fee Application for the Period January 1, 2026 through March 31, 2026, and moves for approval of payment of fees and expenses invoiced by the Receiver, the Receiver's Counsel (Clark Hill PLC) and the Court-appointed accountant to the Receiver, Alvarez & Marsal Disputes and Investigations, LLC ("the Application").

The total balance in the Receivership Accounts as of the close of the twenty-third quarter was \$4,915,372.08.¹

The Receiver and his Counsel continue to focus their efforts on preserving and maximizing Receivership Assets, pursuing claims informally and through litigation, and evaluating, negotiating and managing claims asserted against the Receivership Estate. The Receiver's Accountants continue to provide forensic support as needed, including serving as the Receiver's expert witness when appropriate, assisting with quantifying and evaluating claims asserted against the Estate, calculating distributions, managing the document repository, and performing tax-related services for the Receivership. The Receiver continues to collect settlement funds pursuant to various settlements with extended pay-out schedules. With one exception, the Receiver has

¹ Additionally, as of March 31, 2026, the balance of the Reserve Account opened to hold Reserved Funds pursuant to the Order Approving the Receiver's First Proposed Plan of Interim Distribution (ECF No. 371) was \$32,062.54.

largely completed the process of distributing funds to Investor Creditors pursuant to the Court's approval of his First Interim Distribution Plan.²

This interim fee application focuses on developments during the twenty-third quarter of the Receivership. The Receiver incorporates by reference his prior interim fee applications with respect to events that took place in prior quarters.

I. BACKGROUND

This action involves an investment advisory fraud in connection with which Defendants, Brenda A. Smith ("Brenda Smith" or "Smith"), Broad Reach Capital, LP, Broad Reach Partners, LLC and Bristol Advisors, LLC, are alleged to have raised in excess of \$100 million from at least forty (40) investors, based upon false representations regarding trading strategies to be implemented when, in reality, the vast majority of these investments were funneled into unrelated companies, used to pay back other investors, or utilized for personal use. (ECF No. 1). It is estimated that investors are still owed approximately \$60 million in principal. Brenda Smith pled guilty to committing securities fraud in connection with Broad Reach Capital on September 9, 2021, in *USA v. Smith*, No. 2:20-cr-00475-MCA (D.N.J.). Smith was sentenced to 109 months in prison on May 4, 2022.

² The distribution to Investor No. 17 remains pending, as the Receiver is awaiting necessary documentation from this investor.

On June 29, 2020, this Court appointed Mr. Kent as Receiver to assume control of, marshal, pursue and preserve assets of Defendant, Brenda Smith, and Receivership Parties Broad Reach Capital, LP (“Broad Reach Capital”), Broad Reach Partners, LLC, Bristol Advisors, LLC, BA Smith & Associates LLC, Bristol Advisors LP, CV Brokerage, Inc., Clearview Distribution Services LLC, CV International Investments Limited, CV International Investments PLC, CV Investments LLC (“CV Investments”), CV Lending LLC, CV Minerals LLC, BD of Louisiana, LLC, TA1, LLC (“TA1”), FFCC Ventures LLC, Prico Market LLC, GovAdv Funding LLC, Elm Street Investments, LLC (ECF No. 96), Investment Consulting LLC (“Investment Consulting”), and Tempo Resources LLC (hereinafter “Receivership Assets” or “Receivership Estate”). Receivership Order, Whereas ¶ 3; ¶¶ 1–3, 5 (ECF No. 22).

The Receivership Order provides that, subject to the Court’s approval, the Receiver and his Retained Personnel are entitled to reasonable compensation and expense reimbursement from the Receivership Estate. Receivership Order, ¶ 72.

On January 22, 2025, the Receiver filed a Motion to Modify Rates for the Receiver and his Retained Personnel. (ECF No. 352). The Court entered an order granting the Motion on March 11, 2025, effective as of January 1, 2025. (ECF No. 362). Accordingly, the Court-approved fee schedules are as follows:

<u>Receiver</u>	
Name	Rate
Kevin Dooley Kent	\$700.00

<u>The Law Firm</u>	
Name/Position	Rate
Robin S. Weiss, Lead Counsel	\$500.00
Other Members	\$500.00
Senior Attorneys	\$420.00
Associates	\$390.00
Paraprofessional	\$270.00

<u>The Accountant</u>	
Name/Position	Rate
Mike Shanahan, Managing Director	\$775.00
Others Managing Directors	\$875.00
Senior Directors	\$660.00
Directors	\$600.00
Managers	\$515.00
Senior Associates	\$475.00
Associates	\$370.00

These rates still provide substantial discounts from the standard rates of the Law Firm and the Accountant. More specifically, they represent an average discount of 29% from the Receiver and the Law Firm's 2026 Standard Attorney and Paraprofessional Rates, and an approximately 34% discount on the Accountant's 2026 Standard Rates.

Pursuant to the Receivership Order and the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission's Billing Instructions for Receivers ("Billing Instructions"), the Receiver, Counsel and the Accountant are to be paid their reasonable fees and expenses out of the Receivership Estate. Upon Order of this Court approving such

Application, the Receiver may pay up to eighty percent (80%) of the compensation/professional fees and expenses of the applicants.³ *Id.*, ¶¶ 75, 81, 84.

The Receiver previously submitted this Application to the SEC, in accordance with the Billing Instructions and the Receivership Order.⁴ The SEC has advised the Receiver that it does not have any objection to the Application.

This is the twenty-third interim application for approval of fees and expenses of the Receiver and his Retained Professionals. A summary of the prior interim fee applications is as follows:

³ At the close of the Receivership, the Receiver will file a final fee application for reasonable compensation and expense reimbursement, describing in detail the costs and benefits associated with all litigation and other actions pursued by the Receiver during the Receivership. Although Interim Fee Applications are subject to a twenty percent (20%) holdback, “[t]he total amounts held back during the course of the receivership will be paid out at the discretion of the Court as part of the final fee application submitted at the close of the receivership.” *Id.*, ¶¶ 74-75.

⁴ While the Receivership Order provides that the Receiver shall serve the proposed fee application, with exhibits upon counsel for the SEC at least thirty (30) days prior to filing, counsel for the SEC has already reviewed these materials and advised of their lack of objection to this filing.

	Total Fees	Fees Requested ⁵	Total Expenses	Expenses Requested ⁶	Status
First Interim Fee Application for the Period June 29, 2020 through September 30, 2020 (ECF No. 43), Filed November 13, 2020					
COB ⁷	\$171,760.80	\$137,408.64	\$12,434.25	\$9,947.40	Approved 4/5/21 (ECF No. 70)
Accountant	\$43,577.50	\$34,862.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Second Interim Fee Application for the Period October 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 (ECF No. 50), Filed February 12, 2021					
COB	\$101,076.50	\$80,861.20	\$441.58	\$353.26	Approved 7/6/21 (ECF No. 103)
Accountant	\$155,977.50	\$124,782.00	\$170.00	\$136.00	
Third Interim Fee Application for the Period January 1, 2021 through March 31, 2021 (ECF No. 88), Filed May 28, 2021					
COB	\$210,921.00	\$168,736.80	\$510.87	\$408.70	Approved 7/6/21 (ECF No. 104)
Accountant	\$454,867.50	\$363,894.00	\$3,280.70	\$2,624.56	
Fourth Interim Fee Application for the Period April 1, 2021 through June 30, 2021 (ECF No. 112), Filed August 16, 2021					
COB	\$230,164.50	\$184,131.60	\$7,431.85	\$5,945.48	Approved 9/10/21 (ECF No. 121)
Accountant	\$396,202.50	\$316,962.00	\$4,574.34	\$3,659.47	
Fifth Interim Fee Application for the Period July 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021 (ECF No. 137), Filed November 24, 2021					
COB	\$170,406.50	\$136,325.20	\$551.38	\$441.10	Approved 2/22/22 (ECF No. 166)
Accountant	\$184,725.00	\$147,780.00	\$5,126.90	\$4,101.52	
Sixth Interim Fee Application for the Period October 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 (ECF No. 174), Filed March 17, 2022					
COB	\$174,076.00	\$139,260.80	\$716.30	\$573.04	Approved 5/5/22 (ECF No. 193)
Accountant	\$239,300.00	\$191,440.00	\$3,236.60	\$2,589.28	
Seventh Interim Fee Application for the Period January 1, 2022 through March 31, 2022 (ECF No. 197), Filed June 2, 2022					
COB	\$152,256.00	\$121,804.80	\$1,401.86	\$1,121.49	Approved 6/15/22 (ECF No. 199)
Accountant	\$142,877.50	\$114,302.00	\$3,415.70	\$2,732.56	
Eighth Interim Fee Application for the Period April 1, 2022 through June 30, 2022 (ECF No. 209), Filed October 17, 2022					
COB	\$115,067.50	\$92,054.00	\$867.81	\$694.25	

⁵ This represents eighty percent (80%) of the total fees.

⁶ This represents eighty percent (80%) of the total expenses.

⁷ The abbreviation “COB” refers to Conrad O’Brien.

Advertising Expenses On Behalf of Estate⁸			\$6,119.78	\$6,119.78	Approved 1/5/23 (ECF No. 217)
Accountant	\$73,652.50	\$58,922.00	\$2,135.40	\$1,708.32	
Ninth Interim Fee Application for the Period July 1, 2022 through September 30, 2022 (ECF No. 119), Filed February 8, 2023					
COB	\$53,462.00	\$42,769.60	\$408.15	\$326.52	Approved 4/27/23 (ECF No. 243)
Accountant	\$47,600.00	\$38,080.00	\$2,947.60	\$2,358.08	
Tenth Interim Fee Application for the Period October 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 (ECF No. 247), Filed May 16, 2023					
Receiver	\$16,371.00	\$13,096.80	\$25.71	\$20.57	Approved 6/15/23 (ECF No. 250)
COB	\$44,164.00	\$35,331.20	\$177.21	\$141.77	
Accountant	\$76,845.00	\$61,476.00	\$1,955.50	\$1,564.40	
Eleventh Interim Fee Application for the Period January 1, 2023 through March 31, 2023 (ECF No. 251), Filed July 6, 2023					
Receiver	\$11,373.00	\$9,098.40	\$0.00	\$0.00	Approved 11/2/23 (ECF No. 277)
COB	\$21,399.00	\$17,119.20	\$64.00	\$51.20	
CH⁹	\$21,797.00	\$17,437.60	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Accountant	\$72,020.00	\$57,616.00	\$1,735.20	\$1,388.16	
Twelfth Interim Fee Application for the Period April 1, 2023 through June 30, 2023 (ECF No. 268), Filed September 19, 2023					
Receiver	\$8,568.00	\$6,854.40	\$0.00	\$0.00	Approved 11/2/23 (ECF No. 278)
CH	\$51,197.50	\$40,958.00	\$374.01	\$299.21	
Accountant	\$59,865.00	\$47,892.00	\$2,294.90	\$1,835.92	
Thirteenth Interim Fee Application for the Period July 1, 2023 through September 30, 2023 (ECF No. 285), Filed January 23, 2024					
Receiver	\$13,821.00	\$11,056.80	\$0.00	\$0.00	Approved 2/29/24 (ECF No. 301).
CH	\$69,213.00	\$55,370.40	\$86.50	\$69.20	
Accountant	\$184,987.50	\$147,990.00	\$2,853.90	\$2,283.12	
Fourteenth Interim Fee Application for the Period October 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023 (ECF No. 308), Filed April 26, 2024					
Receiver	\$8,109.00	\$6,487.20	\$0.00	\$0.00	Approved 7/25/24 (ECF No. 329).
CH	\$52,889.00	\$42,311.20	\$5,935.13	\$4,748.10	
Accountant	\$294,275.00	\$235,420.00	\$3,155.50	\$2,524.40	

⁸ These represent reimbursement to Conrad O’Brien at a rate of 100% for Estate-related advertising expenses relating to publication of the Notice of Claims Procedure Bar Date in various states.

⁹ The abbreviation “CH” refers to Clark Hill PLC.

Fifteenth Interim Fee Application for the Period January 1, 2024 through March 30, 2024 (ECF No. 316), Filed May 23, 2024					
Receiver	\$19,686.00	\$15,748.80	\$0.00	\$0.00	Approved 9/3/24 (ECF No. 336).
CH	\$110,076.50	\$88,061.20	\$4,362.47	\$3,489.98	
Accountant	\$161,181.50	\$128,945.20	\$2,443.80	\$1,955.04	
Sixteenth Interim Fee Application for the Period April 1, 2024 through June 30, 2024 (ECF No. 331), Filed July 29, 2024					
Receiver	\$13,719.00	\$10,975.20	\$0.00	\$0.00	Approved 9/23/24 (ECF No. 337).
CH	\$43,474.00	\$34,779.20	\$21.00	\$16.80	
Accountant	\$68,482.50	\$54,786.00	\$1,807.90	\$1,446.32	
Seventeenth Interim Fee Application for the Period July 1, 2024 through September 30, 2024 (ECF No. 341), Filed November 15, 2024					
Receiver	\$21,165.00	\$16,932.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Approved 11/22/24 (ECF No. 345).
CH	\$104,670.50	\$83,736.40	\$22.71	\$18.17	
Accountant	\$29,330.00	\$23,464.00	\$1,919.20	\$1,535.36	
Eighteenth Interim Fee Application for the Period October 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024 (ECF No. 355), Filed February 4, 2025					
Receiver	\$6,477.00	\$5,181.60	\$0.00	\$0.00	Approved 5/20/25 (ECF No. 369).
CH	\$26,720.50	\$21,376.40	\$26.00	\$20.80	
Accountant	\$98,800.00	\$79,040.00	\$1,908.00	\$1,526.40	
Nineteenth Interim Fee Application for the Period January 1, 2025 through March 31, 2025 (ECF No. 366), Filed May 16, 2025					
Receiver	\$8,050.00	\$6,440.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Approved 6/4/25 (ECF No. 370).
CH	\$45,368.00	\$36,294.40	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Accountant	\$220,398.00	\$176,318.40	\$2,791.49	\$2,233.19	
Twentieth Interim Fee Application for the Period April 1, 2025 through June 30, 2025 (ECF No. 376), Filed August 15, 2025					
Receiver	\$3,640.00	\$2,912.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Approved 10/23/25 (ECF No. 382).
CH	\$37,520.00	\$30,016.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Accountant	\$162,917.00	\$130,333.60	\$2,380.10	\$1,904.08	
Twenty-First Interim Fee Application for the Period July 1, 2025 through September 30, 2025 (ECF No. 384), Filed October 30, 2025					
Receiver	\$13,720.00	\$10,976.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Approved 12/4/25 (ECF No. 386).
CH	\$65,302.00	\$52,241.60	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Accountant	\$195,745.50	\$156,596.40	\$1,530.00	\$1,224.00	
Twenty-Second Interim Fee Application for the Period October 1, 2026 through December 30, 2025 (ECF No. 388), Filed February 6, 2026					
Receiver	\$6,930.00	\$5,544.00	\$575.46	\$460.37	Approved 4/1/26 (ECF No. 396).
CH	\$19,402.00	\$15,521.60	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Accountant	\$12,300.00	\$9,840.00	\$1,062.00	\$849.60	

II. CASE STATUS

A. Cash on Hand, Administrative Expenses, and Unencumbered Funds

As of March 31, 2026, total cash on hand was \$4,915,372.08.¹⁰ During the twenty-third quarter, the Receivership Estate received (a) \$218,329.42 in settlement proceeds and (b) \$14,262.16 in interest earnings on the WSFS savings account.¹¹

The Receiver anticipates that his ongoing pursuit of claims and litigation will result in financial benefit for the Receivership Estate through settlements or judgments. Additionally, there is \$479,994.57 in funds being held with ICBC USA pursuant to the Second Stipulation Regarding Funds Held with ICBCFS (ECF No. 380), which are the subject of a disputed creditor claim asserted by ICBCFS. These funds continue to accrue interest on a monthly basis.

Administrative expenses paid during this quarter total \$83,485.70 and include (a) \$424.50 in WSFS bank maintenance fees; (b) \$16.00 in WSFS wire-in fees; and (c) \$83,045.20 in professional fees to the Receiver's counsel arising from settlement payments received in December 2025 in connection with ancillary litigation subject to the contingency fee arrangement approved by the Court through its Orders Approving the Receiver's Second and Third Motions for Permission to Initiate Litigation on Behalf of the Receivership Estate (ECF Nos. 161, 167), which

¹⁰ This figure excludes the \$32,062.54 balance in the Reserve Account.

¹¹ Additionally, the Reserve Account earned \$7.90 in interest during the twenty-third quarter.

attorneys’ fees and expenses were deducted pursuant to Orders approving the Receiver’s settlements in those cases.¹²

For further detail, the Receiver has attached the Standardized Fund Accounting Report (“SFAR”) for the twenty-third quarter as Exhibit “A” to this Application.

B. Administration of Case to Date

1. Litigation-Related Activities

a. Motions

On March 19, 2026, the Receiver filed a Motion to Approve a Settlement Resolving the Receiver’s Claims Against The Nottingham Company and Frank Pleasants Meadows III. (ECF No. 390).

b. Lawsuits Filed on Behalf of the Receivership Estate

Caption	Status
<i>Kent v. Medical Consultants Instructional Training Center, et al.</i> , No. 2:21-cv-13104 (D.N.J.)	Settled; the Chapter 13 Bankruptcy Trustee has resumed payments in connection with the proceedings captioned <i>In Re: Carol Ford Johnston Olive</i> , No. 23-15398 (Bankr. D.N.J.).
<i>Kent v. Hooper, et al.</i> , No 2:22-cv-01876 (D.N.J.)	Settled; paid in full.
<i>Kent v. Bydalek, et al.</i> , No 2:22-cv-01811 (D.N.J.)	Settled; paid in full.
<i>Kent v. Ellis, et al.</i> , No. 2:21-cv-20754 (D.N.J.)	Settled; paid in full.

¹² The Receiver’s counsel did not take fees on settlement payments received in December 2025 until after the close of the twenty-second quarter. Additionally, the Receiver’s counsel has not taken attorney’s fees from the payments received from the bankruptcy proceedings in connection with the Kent v. MCITC settlement.

<i>Kent v. Galvin, et al.</i> , No. 2:21-cv-13105 (D.N.J.)	Settled. However, the defendants defaulted on their payment obligations.
<i>Kent v. Galvin, et al.</i> , No. 2:25-cv-13732 (D.N.J.).	On July 25, 2025, the Receiver filed a Breach of Contract and Confession of Judgment action against Galvin and his entities (“Galvin Defendants”), arising from their breach of the settlement agreement. (ECF No. 1). The Galvin Defendants have failed to response or otherwise defend the action. On March 12, 2026, the Receiver filed a Request for Entry of Default (ECF No. 12), which the Clerk entered on March 13, 2026. On April 3, 2026, the Receiver filed a Request for the Clerk’s Entry of a Default Judgment against the Galvin Defendants. (ECF No. 13). On April 13, 2026, the Clerk entered a default judgment against the Galvin Defendants in the amount of \$166,727.96 as of April 1, 2026, with interest continuing to accrue at a rate of 6% per annum. (ECF No. 14).
<i>Kent v. Calcada</i> , No. 2:21-cv-18396 (D.N.J.)	Settled; settlement payments ongoing.
<i>Kent v. Emperor Global Enterprises LLP, et al.</i> , No. 2:21-cv-13099 (D.N.J.)	Settled; paid in full.
<i>Kent v. Britton, et al.</i> , No. 2:22-cv-02845 (D.N.J.)	Closed. Default judgment of \$1,739,863.50 obtained. The Receiver continues to explore options for executing and/or selling the judgment.
<i>Kent v. Iregui, et al.</i> , No. 2:21-cv-20691 (D.N.J.)	Settled with Ulmer; paid in full. On 7/18/25, the Court granted the Receiver’s Motion for Default Judgment against the entity defendants. (ECF No. 92). On 7/29/25, the Court granted the Receiver’s Motion for Summary Judgment against Iregui in the amount of \$2,302,649. (ECF No. 93). On 8/15/25, the Receiver filed a Motion for Pre- and Post-Judgment Interest (ECF No. 94). On 8/29/25, Iregui filed a response in opposition to the Motion. (ECF No. 97). The Receiver filed a Reply on 9/10/25. (ECF No. 98). On March 17, 2026, the Court granted the Motion for Pre- and Post-Judgment interest and directed the Receiver to submit his pre- and post-judgment interest calculations to Magistrate Judge Adams. (ECF No. 101). The Receiver submitted his calculations as directed on April 3, 2026. (ECF No. 102).
<i>Kent v. Iregui, et al.</i> , No. 25-2663 (3d Cir.)	Iregui appealed to the Third Circuit on 8/27/25. The Receiver sought to dismiss the appeal for lack

<i>Kent v. Iregui, et al.</i>, No. 26-1878 (3d Cir.)	of jurisdiction because the Receiver’s Motion for Imposition of Pre- and Post-Judgment Interest remains pending. (App. Doc. 6). The Third Circuit dismissed the appeal for lack of appellate jurisdiction on 11/18/25. (App. Doc. 12). Iregui initiated another appeal to the Third Circuit on or about 4/15/26. (App. Doc. 1). On 4/20/26, the Clerk issued a letter to Mr. Iregui advising that the appeal has been submitted to a panel of the Third Circuit for possible dismissal due to a jurisdictional defect. (App. Doc. 3).
<i>Kent v. Denise, et al.</i>, No. 2:22-cv-00388 (D.N.J.)	On 7/31/25, the Receiver filed a Motion for Summary Judgment against Jordan Denise (ECF No. 106) and a Motion for Default Judgment against the entity defendants. (ECF No. 108). Defendants did not respond to the motions. On March 26, 2026, the Court granted the Receiver’s Motion for Default Judgment against the entity defendants (ECF No. 111) and Motion for Summary Judgment against Jordan Denise (ECF No. 112). On 4/24/26, the Receiver filed a Motion for Imposition of Pre- and Post-Judgment Interest. (ECF No. 113).
<i>Surefire Dividend Capture, LP and Kevin Dooley Kent, Esq., as Receiver v. The Nottingham Company, et al.</i>, No. 19-CV-04088 (E.D. Pa.)	After conducting lengthy negotiations, the parties entered in a settlement agreement which is the subject of the Receiver’s currently pending Motion to Approve. (ECF No. 390).
<i>Kent v. Hightower, et al.</i>, No. 2:22-cv-01195 (D.N.J.)	On 9/26/25, the Receiver filed a Motion for Default Judgment against all defendants. (ECF No. 113). Defendants did not respond to the Motion. On 4/22/26, the Court granted the Motion for Default Judgment. (ECF No. 114).
<i>Kent v. Valdes, et al.</i> No. 2:23-cv-20475 (D.N.J.)	The Receiver produced the expert report of Michael R. Shanahan on 8/29/25. Additionally, due to various ongoing discovery disputes, the Receiver filed motions to compel and for sanctions against Defendants on 9/25/25. (ECF Nos. 56, 57). On 1/12/26, the Court administratively terminated those motions without prejudice pending resolution of defense counsel’s motion to withdraw. (ECF No. 61). On 1/19/26, the Court granted the motion to withdraw. (ECF No. 63). The Court thereafter gave defendants an opportunity to secure replacement counsel, which they failed to do by

	the deadlines imposed. Following a video status conference which took place on March 27, 2026, the Court entered an order (1) striking the answer of the entity defendants, (2) entering a default against the entity defendants, (3) granting the Receiver leave to move for the entry of a default judgment against the entity defendants, (4) deeming Mr. Valdes to be proceeding <i>pro se</i> on behalf of himself, (5) directing Mr. Valdes to respond to the Receiver's outstanding discovery requests by April 17, 2026, (6) extending Mr. Valdes' deadline to obtain a rebuttal expert report until May 15, 2026, and (7) providing that all expert discovery shall be completed by June 12, 2026. (ECF No. 68). The next status conference is scheduled for June 18, 2026.
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2. Private Investments and Ownership Interests

The Receiver anticipates seeking the Court's assistance in the near future in connection with a settlement in principle relating to Smith's potential interest in a gold mine.

3. Investigation, Development, Pursuit and Settlement of Claims

The Receiver has filed a total of fourteen (14) lawsuits on behalf of the Receivership Estate and continues to negotiate with others.

In total, ten (10) pre-litigation settlements and nine (9) litigation settlements have been formally reached as of March 31, 2025, valued at roughly \$6.5 million. The Receivership Estate received \$218,329.42 in settlement funds during the twenty-third quarter. Based on existing settlements with extended payout schedules,

the Receivership Estate is entitled to receive an additional \$1,160,000.00¹³ in settlement funds through August 2028. Additionally, the Receiver is attempting to formalize the terms of one additional settlement and anticipates seeking the Court's assistance in connection therewith in the near future.

4. Financial Account Reconstruction and Accounting Support

The Receiver's Accountants at Alvarez and Marsal continue to support the Receiver's efforts. The Accountants' financial account reconstruction allowed them to make determinations regarding investor capital account activity, and they prepared supporting documentation distributed to investors in connection with the claims process. They also assisted the Receiver by preparing financial models in connection with the Receiver's Motion to Approve First Proposed Plan of Interim Distribution (ECF No. 346) and the Receiver's Reply in Support (ECF No. 357). The Accountants have also continued to assist the Receiver with his first interim distribution and issues that have arisen in connection with those distributions.

¹³ This figure includes the minimum amount the Receiver expects to recover in connection with his settlement of the Kent v. Nottingham matter. This figure also includes the settlement reached in the Kent v. Galvin matter, in which the Receiver recently obtained a default judgment after the Galvin Defendants failed to make the agreed-upon settlement payments. This figure excludes amounts still owed in connection with the Kent v. MCITC matter, because the Receiver does not have any present expectation or approximation of additional fund to be paid in connection with the Chapter 13 bankruptcy proceedings.

The Accountants have continued to support the Receivers' demands issued to, and negotiations with, third-party recipients of investor funds, and their work has allowed the Receiver to initiate and pursue litigation against various individuals and entities on behalf of the Receivership Estate. The Accountants are available to the Receiver to provide assistance with specific issues that may arise in connection with certain claims and/or lawsuits the Receiver is pursuing, and to provide necessary litigation and/or expert support. The Accountants have now issued seven (7) expert reports in connection with the Receiver's ancillary litigation—in the Calcada, Iregui, Denise, Emperor Global, Nottingham, Hightower, and Valdes matters. Michael Shanahan will likely testify as an expert if any of those cases proceed to trial.

5. Unclaimed Property

The Receiver is still awaiting a response regarding unclaimed property claims he submitted on behalf of BA Smith & Associates LLC with the Pennsylvania Department of Treasury and CV Brokerage, Inc. with the New Jersey Unclaimed Property Administration. The Receiver already deposited \$20,200.13 he received from the Pennsylvania Department of Treasury for CV Brokerage, Inc. during the twenty-first quarter.

6. Receivership Taxes

The Receiver reached an agreement with the IRS regarding the claim it has asserted against the Receivership Estate. (ECF No. 322). The Court approved that agreement on November 22, 2024. (ECF No. 343).

Meanwhile, Alvarez and Marsal continues to provide tax-related services to the Receivership Estate. They are working on preparing the Receivership Estate's 2025 tax filings. They will also be preparing a plan for the ultimate dissolution of most, if not all, of the Receivership Parties.

7. Business Entity Filings

Effective January 1, 2025, Pennsylvania introduced new filing requirements providing that all business entities must submit annual reports to the Pennsylvania Department of State. The deadline for limited liability companies was September 30, 2025. In accordance with these requirements, the Receiver submitted annual reports for Pennsylvania-based Receivership Entities Clearview Distribution Services LLC, CV Investments LLC, Investment Consulting LLC, and TA1 LLC. Additionally, the Receiver paid corporate registration renewal fees for the Delaware-based Receivership Entities Bristol Advisors, LLC, CV Minerals LLC, CV Lending LLC, and Prico Market LLC in 2025. After the close of the twenty-third quarter, the Receiver paid corporate registration renewal fees for Bristol Advisors, LLC for 2026.

8. Anticipated Closure of Case

Given the Receiver's continued pursuit of litigation, the extended payout schedules associated with certain settlement agreements, the Receiver's ongoing negotiations, and that the Receiver anticipates making additional distributions in the future, the Receiver does not have a specific projected date by which he expects the Receivership to close. However, the Receiver is in the process of analyzing actions to consider taking in order to facilitate a winddown once several outstanding lawsuits and any future proposed distributions are resolved.

C. Summary of Creditor Claims Proceedings

On July 1, 2025, the Court approved the Receiver's First Proposed Plan of Interim Distribution. (ECF No. 371). After confirming that no appeals were filed, the Receiver reached out to all investors receiving a distribution to confirm the method and location of payment and recipient information.

Distribution payments made pursuant to the Receiver's Motion to Approve First Proposed Plan of Interim Distribution (ECF No. 346) and the Order Approving the Receiver's First Interim Distribution Plan (ECF No. 371) during the twenty-first and twenty-second quarter total \$3,956,676.56.¹⁴ The Receiver did not issue any

¹⁴ This figure includes (a) \$3,154,520.41 in investor distributions which cleared during the twenty-first quarter, consisting of distributions to Investor Nos. 7, 7a, 7b, 26, 29, and 38; (b) \$543,379.16 in investor distributions which cleared during the twenty-second quarter, consisting of distributions to Investor Nos. 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, 14, 15, 16, 18, 21, 23, 24, 25, 34, 35, 37, and 39; and (c) a previous distribution of

additional distribution checks during the twenty-third quarter. The only distribution remaining in connection with the Receiver's first interim distribution is \$11,282.06 owed to Investor No. 17. In consultation with his accountants, the Receiver continues to work with Investor No. 17, who was invested through IRA account. The Receiver is awaiting documentation from the investor's counsel regarding the status of that account so he can ensure payment is issued to the appropriate recipient and that proper documentation is obtained.

The Receiver advised all distribution recipients to discuss the proper handling and tax treatment of their distribution checks with their financial advisor(s) and/or tax professional(s) immediately upon receipt.

D. Receivership Assets

1. Receivership Bank Accounts

As of the close of twenty-third quarter, the balance in the WSFS Receivership Accounts was \$4,915,372.08, broken down as follows: \$4,726,124.66 in the

\$258,776.99 that Investor No. 38 received in conjunction with the Receiver's settlement resolving ownership of the Taylor Trading, LLC account, as noted in Exhibit E to the Receiver's Motion to Approve First Proposed Plan of Interim Distribution (ECF No. 346-6). Pursuant to the Court's Order, the Receiver transferred the \$32,041.38 distribution to conditionally approved Investor No. 19 into the segregated Reserve Account and will continue to hold those Reserved Funds in the Reserve Account, subject to further order from the Court.

Trust/Savings Account and \$189,247.42 in the Checking Account. Additionally, the balance of the WSFS Reserve Account was \$32,062.54.

2. Settlements

The Receiver received settlement funds totaling \$218,329.42 during the twenty-third quarter, broken down as follows: (a) a final payment of \$218,241.14 in connection with his settlement in the Kent v. Ellis matter and (b) \$88.28 from the bankruptcy trustee in connection with his settlement in the Kent v. MCITC matter. The Court previously approved these settlements.

Based on settlements with extended payout schedules in connection with the Kent v. Galvin, Kent v. Calcada, and Kent v. Nottingham Matters, an additional \$1,160,000.00¹⁵ in settlement funds is owed to the Receiver through August 2028. The Receiver is negotiating potential settlements with a few other individuals and entities. Many of these potential claims are either already in suit or are subject to tolling agreements.

¹⁵ This figure includes the minimum amount the Receiver expects to recover in connection with his settlement of the Kent v. Nottingham matter. This figure also includes the settlement reached in the Kent v. Galvin matter, which is presently the subject of a breach of contract and confession of judgment action in which the Receiver has sought a Clerk's Entry of Judgment by Default. This figure excludes amounts still owed in connection with the Kent v. MCITC matter, because the Receiver does not have any present expectation or approximation of additional funds to be paid in connection with the Chapter 13 bankruptcy proceedings.

3. Judgments

The Receiver obtained a default judgment against Edward C. Britton and Natural Impact Health and Fitness LP in the amount of \$1,739,863.50, inclusive of pre-judgment interest and partial post-judgment interest. Meanwhile, post-judgment interest continues to accrue pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1961. The Receiver is continuing to explore options for the collection and/or sale of this judgment.

On July 18, 2025, the Receiver obtained a default judgment against the Entity Defendants in the Kent v. Iregui matter in the following amounts: (1) Iregui LLC - \$1,109,745; (2) Orbit Global Media S.L. - \$400,000; and (3) Swiss Allied Trust & Estate Services, Inc. - \$200,000. (ECF No. 92). On July 29, 2025, the Receiver obtained summary judgment against Iregui personally, for a total judgment amount of \$2,302,649. (ECF No. 93). Of that amount, Iregui is jointly and severally liable with Iregui LLC for \$1,109,700 and with Orbit Global Media S.L. for \$400,000, and is solely liable for the remainder. (*Id.*). Iregui initiated an appeal of the judgment against him, which the Third Circuit dismissed for lack of jurisdiction. The Court has granted the Receiver's request for pre- and post-judgment interest (ECF No. 101), and the Receiver has submitted calculations for post-judgment interest to allow the Court to enter the final judgment amounts.

On March 26, 2026, the Receiver obtained a default judgment against Entercore, Inc. and summary judgment against Jordan Denise, jointly and severally,

in the amount of \$1,040,000.00. (ECF Nos. 111, 112). The Receiver filed a Motion for Imposition of Pre- and Post-Judgment Interest on April 24, 2026. (ECF No. 113).

On April 22, 2026, the Receiver obtained a default judgment against Ronald Hightower, Janet Hightower, Blackburn International Limited, and Vestimenta Investments, LLC in the amount of \$4,941,466.24. (ECF No. 114).

4. Cryptocurrency

The Receiver has learned that at least some cryptocurrency was distributed to an investor, purportedly as a partial in-kind redemption. The Receiver will report on any further developments involving the cryptocurrency in future reports.

5. Private Investments

The Receiver anticipates seeking the Court's assistance concerning his efforts to finalize a settlement relating to Smith's interest in the Calais Gold Mine in the near future. Smith continues to hold one (1) share in CMCC Development Corp.

6. Additional Bank Accounts and Funds

ICBCFS is holding \$479,757.92 in funds at ICBC USA pursuant to the Second Stipulation Regarding Funds Held with ICBCFS (ECF No. 380), which are the subject of a disputed creditor claim asserted by ICBCFS. The Receiver addressed ICBCFS' claimed security and priority interest in these funds in his First Omnibus Claims Motion (ECF Nos. 254, 256, 258) and anticipates that this will be the subject of future motion practice.

E. Liquidated and Unliquidated Claims

The Receiver has filed fourteen (14) lawsuits over the course of the Receivership. One of those lawsuits has been closed following the entry of a default judgment – *Kent v. Britton, et al.*, 2:22-cv-02845 (D.N.J.). Seven of those lawsuits settled– *Kent v. MCITC, et al.*, 2:21-cv-13104 (D.N.J.), *Kent v. Hooper, et al.*, No. 2:22-cv-01876 (D.N.J.), *Kent v. Bydalek, et al.*, 2:22-cv-01811 (D.N.J.), and *Kent v. Ellis, et al.*, 2:21-cv-20754 (D.N.J.), *Kent v. Galvin, et al.*, 2:21-cv-13105 (D.N.J.), and *Kent v. Calcada*, 2:21-cv-18396 (D.N.J.), and *Kent v. Emperor Global Enterprises, LLP, et al.*, 2:21-cv-13099 (D.N.J.).

However, two of the defendants in the MCITC case with whom the Receiver settled his claims filed for bankruptcy after making their first settlement payment, and the Receiver has only recovered a total of \$2,907.30 (on a \$100,000.00+ claim for breach of the settlement agreement) so far in connection with the individual defendant's bankruptcy proceedings.

Additionally, Galvin and his entities defaulted on their payment obligations pursuant to his settlement with the Receiver. The Receiver accelerated the balance of their payment obligations and initiated a lawsuit against them for Confession of Judgment and Breach of Contract. The Receiver obtained a default judgment against them on April 13, 2026.

III. CURRENT AND PREVIOUS BILLINGS

The total fees and expenses incurred by the Receiver, Law Firm and Accountant for the period covered by this Application, which are subject to a twenty percent (20%) holdback pending completion of the case, are as follows:

	Receiver	Law Firm	Accountant
Total Fees	\$5,950.00	\$26,309.00	\$15,721.00
Fees Requested¹⁶	\$4,760.00	\$21,047.20	\$12,576.80
Total Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$764.00
Total Expenses Requested¹⁷	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$611.20

The Receiver's prior fee applications setting forth the history of fees and expenses charged to the Receivership Estate, the amounts requested, and the status of the Court's approval of those applications, are set forth in the table appearing at pages 6-8 of this fee application.

As evidence of the continued substantial time and effort the Receivership has required, and in support of the fee compensation and expense reimbursement sought herein, the Receiver will submit the following exhibits under seal for the Court's review and consideration:

- Exhibit "B" – Summary of the Receiver's time from January 1, 2026 through March 31, 2026;

¹⁶ This amount applies a twenty percent (20%) holdback.

¹⁷ This amount applies a twenty percent (20%) holdback.

- Exhibit “C” – Summary of Law Firm Professional & Paraprofessional Time from January 1, 2026 through March 31, 2026; and
- Exhibit “D” – Summary of Accounting Professional & Paraprofessional Time and Expenses from January 1, 2026 through March 31, 2026.

These exhibits,¹⁸ as well as the narrative descriptions in this Application, evidence the time and labor employed in this matter.

The following includes a breakdown of the Receiver’s hours and fees during this quarter, as defined by the SEC’s billing guidelines:

Activity Category	Hours	Fee Amount
Case Administration	8.5	\$5,950.00
Totals	8.5	\$5,950.00

The following includes a breakdown of the Law Firm’s hours and fees during this quarter, as defined by the SEC’s billing guidelines:

Activity Category	Hours	Fee Amount
Asset Analysis and Recovery	50.6	\$21,793.00
Asset Disposition	4.3	\$1,053.00
Case Administration	7.7	\$3,363.00
Claims Administration and Objections	0.2	\$100.00
Totals	62.8	\$26,309.00

¹⁸ These exhibits are being filed under seal pursuant to Paragraph 73 of the Receivership Order.

The following includes a breakdown of the Accountant's hours and fees during this quarter, as defined by the SEC's billing guidelines:

Activity Category	Hours	Fee Amount
Status Reports	6.6	\$3,345.00
Litigation Consulting – Iregui	8.0	\$4,074.50
Tax Issues	15.5	\$8,301.50
Totals	30.1	\$15,721.00

The following is a breakdown of the Receiver's hours and fees for this quarter:

Name/Position	Hourly Rate	Hours	Fee Amount
Kevin Dooley Kent, Receiver	\$700.00	8.5	\$5,950.00

The following is a breakdown of the Law Firm's hours and fees, broken down by biller for this quarter:

Name/Position	Hourly Rate	Hours	Fee Amount
Robin S. Weiss, Lead Counsel; Member	\$500.00	32 (.4 billed at \$0)	\$15,800.00
Jessica Reilly, Senior Attorney	\$420.00	5.7	\$2,394.00
Vanessa L. Huber, Associate	\$390.00	13.9 (.5 billed at \$0)	\$5,226.00
Justin Russell, Paralegal	\$270.00	10.5 (.5 billed at \$0)	\$2,700.00
Ching Chew, Paraprofessional	\$270.00	0.7	\$189.00
TOTALS		62.8	\$26,309.00

The following includes a breakdown of the Accountant's hours and fees, broken down by biller for this quarter:

Name/Position	Hourly Rate	Hours	Fee Amount
Forensic Analysis Team			
Michael Shanahan (Managing Director)	\$775.00	4.9	\$3,797.50
Ameeta Mehta (Senior Associate)	\$475.00	21.6	\$10,260.00
Evan Pakela (Associate)	\$370.00	1.1	\$407.00
Forensic Analysis Team Sub-Total		27.6	\$14,464.50
Tax Services Team			
Jennifer Palacios (Senior Director)	\$660.00	0.6	\$396.00
Adalys Alvarez (Senior Associate)	\$475.00	1.5	\$712.50
Christopher Exarhos (Associate)	\$370.00	0.4	\$148.00
Tax Services Team Sub-Total		2.5	\$1,256.50
OVERALL TOTALS		30.1	\$15,721.00

The fees and expenses included herein were incurred in the best interests of the Receivership Estate. With the exception of the Billing Instructions and the proposed Contingency Fee Agreement for the pursuit of litigation which was submitted under seal in support of the Receiver's Second, Third and Fourth Motions for Permission to Initiate Litigation, (ECF Nos. 98, 99, 147, 148, 220, 242), the Receiver has not entered into any other agreements concerning the amount of compensation paid or to be paid from the Receivership Estate, or any sharing thereof.

Significantly, in accordance with the Contingency Fee Agreement, the significant amount of work the Receiver and his Counsel have performed in

connection with the lawsuits the Receiver sought permission to file in his Second, Third and Fourth Motions to Initiate Litigation have not been, and will not be, billed to the Receivership on an hourly basis.¹⁹ Rather, the Receiver and his Counsel only receive payment in connection with those lawsuits if and when a settlement or judgment is obtained, pursuant to the terms set forth in the Contingency Fee Agreements.

IV. REQUEST FOR COMPENSATION FOR FEES AND EXPENSES

This Court has the power to appoint a receiver and to award the receiver fees for his services and for expenses incurred by the Receiver in the performance of his duties. *See Donovan v. Robbins*, 588 F. Supp. 1268, 1272 (N.D. Ill. 1984) (“[T]he receiver diligently and successfully discharged the responsibilities placed upon him by the Court and is entitled to reasonable compensation for his efforts.”); *see also Securities & Exch. Comm’n v. Elliot*, 953 F.2d 1560 (11th Cir. 1992) (noting that the receiver is entitled to compensation for faithful performance of his duties).

The case law on equity receiverships sets forth the standards for approving receiver compensation and the fees and expenses for the receiver’s counsel. The district court has discretion to determine compensation to be awarded to a court-

¹⁹ This does not include the lawsuit filed against Nottingham and Kip Meadows as well as against Jordan Denise and her entities, as these lawsuits were the subject of the Receiver’s First Motion for Permission to Initiate Litigation and are not subject to a contingency fee agreement (ECF No. 49).

appointed equity receiver and his counsel and “may consider all of the factors involved in a particular receivership in determining the appropriate fee.” *Gaskill v. Gordon*, 27 F.3d 248, 253 (7th Cir. 1994). Many authorities provide “convenient guidelines,” but in the final analysis, “the unique fact situation renders direct reliance on precedent impossible.” *Securities & Exch. Comm’n v. W.L. Moody & Co.*, 374 F. Supp. 465, 480 (S.D. Tex. 1974), *aff’d*, 519 F. 2d 1087 (5th Cir. 1975).

In allowing counsel fees in Securities Act receiverships, “[t]he court will consider . . . the complexity of problems faced, the benefit to the receivership estate, the quality of work performed, and the time records presented.” *Securities & Exch. Comm’n v. Fifth Ave. Coach Lines, Inc.*, 364 F. Supp. 1220, 1222 (S.D.N.Y. 1973); *see also United States v. Code Prods.*, 362 F.2d 669, 673 (3d Cir. 1966) (noting that court should consider the time, labor and skill required—but not necessarily expended—the fair value of such time, labor and skill, the degree of activity, the dispatch with which the work is conducted and the result obtained). “[R]esults are always relevant.” *Elliot*, 953 F.2d at 1577. However, a good result may take a form other than a bare increase in monetary value. *See id.* (“Even though a receiver may not have increased, or prevented a decrease in, the value of the collateral, if a receiver reasonably and diligently discharges his duties, he is entitled to compensation.”).

Another “basic consideration is the nature and complexity of the legal problems confronted and the skill necessary to resolve them.” *Moody*, 374 F. Supp.

at 485. Moreover, “[t]ime spent cannot be ignored.” *Id.* at 483. The Receiver and his Counsel have continued to expend time finalizing the Nottingham settlement and addressing remaining issues relating to the creditor claims process, and his Accountants have continued to assist the Receiver with tax-related issues and ancillary litigation, including with the calculation of interest owed.

The Receiver is also pursuing numerous affirmative lawsuits against recipients of many millions of dollars in Receivership Assets, with the assistance of his Accountants, who are providing expert support when/as needed. Many of these cases involve fraudulent/voidable transfer claims where the recipients claim to have provided “services” or other things of purported value in exchange for the transfers—in other words, the majority of defendants are asserting that reasonably equivalent value was provided in exchange. The issues involved are complex and involve bizarre business ventures (including *inter alia* purported investments in mineral mining and extraction and efforts to trade and/or monetize potentially/likely fraudulent and/or falsified bonds and other financial instruments through highly suspect means and methods). These cases have required the expenditure of significant time and efforts on the part of the Receiver and his Counsel (which is not being billed to the Receivership Estate on an hourly basis due to the contingency fee arrangement applicable to most of these claims, with the exception of the Nottingham and Jordan Denise litigation), along with the Accountants as they

provide necessary forensic and expert support to enable the Receiver to support and pursue his claims. While the Receiver continues his efforts to resolve lawsuits for reasonable sums when the opportunity arises, the Receiver anticipates that these lawsuits may result in increased fees over the coming quarters as cases proceed through discovery, dispositive motion practice, and trial. During the twenty-third quarter in particular, the Receiver continued to engage in complicated settlement negotiations in connection with the Nottingham litigation.

The pursuit of claims is important to the Receiver's efforts to recover Receivership Assets on behalf of the Estate. Following numerous bizarre transactions involving restaurants, property development projects, mineral mining, extraction and transport endeavors, and overseas companies—most of which caused material losses to the Receivership Parties—as well as what appear to be substantial “gifts” to friends and/or colleagues of Smith without any known benefit to the Receivership Parties, the Estate was left with few assets still in the Receivership Parties' possession. The Receiver remains optimistic that additional material funds can be recovered on behalf of the Receivership Estate through litigation or settlement.

Under the above standards, the Receiver has adequately demonstrated that the amount of fees requested is appropriate. The Receiver, his Counsel and Accountants acted quickly to take control of the Receivership Entities and to prevent the further

dissipation of assets. The liquid cash on hand has increased significantly since the inception of the Receivership, when the existence of any material valuable assets was in serious question. The amounts at issue in this case are substantial, where the investment scheme involved approximately \$100 million during its operation, at least \$1.5 billion of financial transactions occurred in accounts controlled by Smith over its last several years, and it is currently estimated that investors are still owed approximately \$60 million in principal.

This Court has already found that the rates charged by the Receiver and his Counsel and Accountants are reasonable given the experience of the individuals performing the work and the complexity of the work performed, and are consistent with the rates charged for similarly complex work done by other, similarly experienced professionals in this geographic region. (ECF No. 362). The Receiver and his Law Firm are currently performing this work at an average discount rate of approximately twenty-nine percent (29%), while the Accountants are performing their work at an average discount rate of thirty-four percent (34%).

The Receiver has attempted to maximize cost savings and administer the Estate as efficiently as possible, by, for example, assigning professionals and paraprofessionals with the lowest billable rate appropriate for the task at issue, which the Accountant has likewise done. The Receiver and his Counsel have extensively utilized non-billing administrative personnel where appropriate. Most significantly,

the Receiver and his Law Firm's willingness to pursue litigation under a contingency fee arrangement as set forth in his Second, Third, and Fourth Motions for Permission to Initiate Litigation on Behalf of the Receivership Estate is resulting in significant cost savings for the Estate.

The Receiver and his Retained Professionals' compensation in this matter is subject to the final approval of this Court, with a twenty-percent (20%) holdback which the Receiver and his Retained Personnel will not receive until the close of the Receivership, subject to this Court's discretion and approval. The Court should consider that the Receiver as well as his attorneys and accountants have assumed the risk of non-payment and/or substantial delay in payment in accepting the Court appointment, particularly with so little initially known regarding the amount and availability of Receivership Assets. The risk is even greater with regard to the pursuit of litigation on behalf of the Receivership Estate on a contingency fee basis, in connection with which the Receiver and his Law Firm risk non-payment entirely if the claims are unsuccessful and/or the prospective defendants are judgment-proof.

Based on the foregoing, the Receiver respectfully submits that the compensation sought by the Receiver and his team is wholly warranted.

WHEREFORE, the Receiver respectfully requests that the Court grant the Receiver's Motion for Approval of the Twenty-Third Interim Fee Application for

the Period January 1, 2026 through March 31, 2026, and thereby authorize the following:

1. Payment to Clark Hill PLC in the amount of \$4,760.00 as compensation for the Receiver's services performed from January 1, 2026 through March 31, 2026, such payment representing eighty percent (80%) of the Receiver's fees for this quarter;

2. Payment to Clark Hill PLC in the amount of \$21,047.20 as compensation for services performed by the Receiver's Counsel from January 1, 2026 through March 31, 2026, such payment representing eighty percent (80%) of its fees for this quarter;

3. Payment to Alvarez & Marsal Disputes and Investigations, LLC in the amount of \$12,576.80 as compensation for services performed from January 1, 2026 through March 31, 2026, such payment representing eighty percent (80%) of its fees for this quarter;

4. Payment to Alvarez & Marsal Disputes and Investigations, LLC, in the amount of \$611.20 for expenses incurred from January 1, 2026 through March 31, 2026, representing eighty percent (80%) of its expenses for this quarter.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 5/11/2026

s/ Robin S. Weiss

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EXHIBIT “A”

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STANDARDIZED FUND ACCOUNTING REPORT

CIVIL – RECEIVERSHIP FUND

Brenda Smith, Broad Reach Capital, LP, Broad Reach Partners,
LLC, and Bristol Advisors, LLC
Civil Action No.: 2:19-cv-17213-MCA-SDA

REPORTING PERIOD 01/01/2026 TO 03/31/2026

STANDARDIZED FUND ACCOUNTING REPORT for Consolidated Broad Reach Capital Receivership Entities - Cash Basis
Receivership; Civil Court Docket No. 2:19-CV-17213-MCA-SDA
REPORTING PERIOD 1/01/2026 TO 3/31/2026

FUND ACCOUNTING (See Instructions):		Current Reporting Period - 1/01/26 to 3/31/26			06/29/2020 - 3/31/2026
		Detail	Subtotal	Period Total	Case to Date
Line 1	Beginning Balance (As of 1/01/26):			\$ 4,798,320.84	\$ -
	Increases in Fund Balance:				
Line 2	Business Income			-	-
Line 3	Cash and Securities			-	8,333,775.12
Line 4	Interest/Dividend Income			14,270.06	520,325.35
Line 5	Business Asset Liquidation			-	700.00
Line 6	Personal Asset Liquidation			-	566,581.41
Line 7	Third-Party Litigation Income			218,329.42	5,011,364.61
Line 8	Miscellaneous - Other			-	20,335.13
	Total Funds Available (Lines 1 – 8):			\$ 5,030,920.32	\$ 14,453,081.62
	Decreases in Fund Balance:				
Line 9	Disbursements to Investors/Claimants			-	3,956,676.56
Line 10	Disbursements for Receivership Operations			83,485.70	5,530,150.66
Line 10a	Disbursements to Receiver or Other Professionals			83,045.20	
Line 10b	Business Asset Expenses			-	
Line 10c	Personal Asset Expenses			-	
Line 10d	Investment Expenses			440.50	
Line 10e	Third-Party Litigation Expenses				
	1. Attorney Fees			-	
	2. Litigation Expenses			-	
	Total Third-Party Litigation Expenses			-	
Line 10f	Tax Administrator Fees and Bonds			-	
Line 10g	Federal and State Tax Payments			-	
	Total Disbursements for Receivership Operations			\$ 83,485.70	\$ 9,486,827.22
Line 11	Disbursements for Distribution Expenses Paid by the Fund:			-	18,819.78
Line 11a	Distribution Plan Development Expenses:				
	1. Fees:				
	Fund Administrator			-	
	Independent Distribution Consultant (IDC)			-	
	Distribution Agent			-	
	Consultants			-	
	Legal Advisers			-	
	Tax Advisers			-	
	2. Administrative Expenses			-	
	3. Miscellaneous			-	
	Total Plan Development Expenses			-	
Line 11b	Distribution Plan Implementation Expenses:				
	1. Fees:				
	Fund Administrator			-	
	IDC			-	
	Distribution Agent			-	
	Consultants			-	
	Legal Advisers			-	
	Tax Advisers			-	
	2. Administrative Expenses			-	
	3. Investor Identification:				
	Notice/Publishing Approved Plan			-	
	Claimant Identification			-	
	Claims Processing			-	
	Web Site Maintenance/Call Center			-	
	4. Fund Administrator Bond			-	
	5. Miscellaneous			-	
	6. Federal Account for Investor Restitution (FAIR)			-	
	Reporting Expenses			-	
	Total Plan Implementation Expenses			-	
	Total Disbursements for Distribution Expenses Paid by the Fund			\$ -	\$ 18,819.78
Line 12	Disbursements to Court/Other:			-	-
Line 12a	Investment Expenses/Court Registry Investment System (CRIS) Fees			-	
Line 12b	Federal Tax Payments			-	
	Total Disbursements to Court/Other			\$ -	\$ -
	Total Funds Disbursed (Lines 9 – 11):			\$ 83,485.70	\$ 9,505,647.00
Line 13	Ending Balance (As of 3/31/26):			\$ 4,947,434.62	\$ 4,947,434.62
Line 14	Ending Balance of Fund – Net Assets:				
Line 14a	Cash & Cash Equivalents			4,947,434.62	4,947,434.62
Line 14b	Investments			-	-
Line 14c	Other Assets or Uncleared Funds			-	-
	Total Ending Balance of Fund – Net Assets			\$ 4,947,434.62	\$ 4,947,434.62

[1]

[2]

STANDARDIZED FUND ACCOUNTING REPORT for Consolidated Broad Reach Capital Receivship Entities - Cash Basis
Receivship; Civil Court Docket No. 2:19-CV-17213-MCA-SDA
REPORTING PERIOD 1/01/2026 TO 3/31/2026

OTHER SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION:		Current Reporting Period - 1/01/26 to 3/31/26		06/29/2020 - 3/31/2026
		Detail	Subtotal	Period Total
Line 15	Report of Items NOT To Be Paid by the Fund:			
Line 15a	Disbursements for Plan Administration Expenses Not Paid by the Fund:			\$ -
	Plan Development Expenses Not Paid by the Fund:			
	1. Fees:			
	Fund Administrator			-
	IDC			-
	Distribution Agent			-
	Consultants			-
	Legal Advisers			-
	Tax Advisers			-
	2. Administrative Expenses			-
	3. Miscellaneous			-
	Total Plan Development Expenses Not Paid by the Fund			\$ -
Line 15b	Plan Implementation Expenses Not Paid by the Fund:			
	1. Fees:			
	Fund Administrator			-
	IDC			-
	Distribution Agent			-
	Consultants			-
	Legal Advisers			-
	Tax Advisers			-
	2. Administrative Expenses			-
	3. Investor Identification:			
	Notice/Publishing Approved Plan			-
	Claimant Identification			-
	Claims Processing			-
	Web Site Maintenance/Call Center			-
	4. Fund Administrator Bond			-
	5. Miscellaneous			-
	6. FAIR Reporting Expenses			-
	Total Plan Implementation Expenses Not Paid by the Fund			\$ -
Line 15c	Tax Administrator Fees & Bonds Not Paid by the Fund			-
	Total Disbursements for Plan Administration Expenses Not Paid by the Fund			-
Line 16	Disbursements to Court/Other Not Paid by the Fund:			-
Line 16a	Investment Expenses/CRIS Fees			-
Line 16b	Federal Tax Payments			-
	Total Disbursements to Court/Other Not Paid by the Fund:			-
Line 17	DC & State Tax Payments			\$ -
Line 18	No. of Claims:			
Line 18a	# of Claims Received This Reporting Period			-
Line 18b	# of Claims Received Since Inception of Fund			-
Line 19	No. of Claimants/Investors:			52
Line 19a	# of Claimants/Investors Paid This Reporting Period			-
Line 19b	# of Claimants/Investors Paid Since Inception of Fund			23

Notes

- [1] The Order Approving the Receiver's First Proposed Plan of Interim Distribution in the amount of \$4 million was granted on July 1, 2025 (ECF No. 371). The Receiver is in the process of making the approved distributions.
- [2] Includes amounts held in reserve in accordance with the First Proposed Plan of the Interim Distribution Notice of Motion filed December 2, 2024 (ECF No. 346). See Order Approving the Receiver's First Proposed Plan of Interim Distribution which directs the funds to be held back in a separate, segregated account subject to further order from the Court (ECF No. 371 at p. 8). See Table 1 of the Notes to the Standardized Fund Accounting Report for detail.

Receiver:

By: Kevin Dooley Kent
(signature)
Kevin Dooley Kent
(printed name)
Receiver
(title)
Date: 4/17/26

NOTES TO THE STANDARDIZED FUND ACCOUNTING REPORT

Receivership Cash Accounts

As of March 31, 2026, the Receiver's cash balance of \$4,947,434.62 was maintained in checking, savings, and business money market accounts at WSFS Bank with the following balances:

Table 1: Receivership Cash Account Balances - March 31, 2026

Financial Institution	Account Type	Balance
Receivership Cash Accounts:		
WSFS Bank	Checking	\$ 189,247.42
WSFS Bank	Savings	4,726,124.66
Subtotal - Receivership Cash Balance		4,915,372.08
Funds Held in Reserve:		
WSFS Bank	Business Money Market	\$ 32,062.54
Total Receivership Cash Balance and Funds Held in Reserve		\$ 4,947,434.62

In accordance with the First Proposed Plan of the Interim Distribution Notice of Motion filed December 2, 2024 (*See* Dkt. 346), the WSFS Business Money Market account was opened to hold funds in reserve for distributions.

This Standardized Fund Accounting Report should be reviewed in conjunction with the Receiver's Twenty Third Quarterly Status Report.

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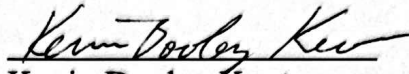
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- (c) All fees contained in the Application are based on the rates listed in the Applicant's fee schedule attached hereto and such fees are reasonable, necessary and commensurate with the skill and experience for the activity performed;
- (d) I have not included in the amount for which reimbursement is sought the amortization of the cost of any investment, equipment, or capital outlay (except to the extent that any such amortization is included within the permitted allowable amounts set forth herein for photocopies and facsimile transmission); and
- (e) In seeking reimbursement for a service which the Applicant justifiably purchased or contracted for from a third party (such as copying, imaging, bulk mail, messenger service, overnight courier, computerized research, or title and lien searches), the Applicant requests reimbursement only for the amount billed to the Applicant by the third party vendor and paid by the Applicant to such vendor. With regard to such services performed by the Receiver or his staff, the Receiver certifies that he is not making a profit on such reimbursable service.

2. I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on this 11th day of May, 2026.


Kevin Dooley Kent

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY**

**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE
COMMISSION,**

Plaintiff,

v.

**BRENDA SMITH, BROAD REACH
CAPITAL, LP, BROAD REACH
PARTNERS, LLC, and BRISTOL
ADVISORS, LLC,**

Defendants.

C. A. No. 2:19-cv-17213 (MCA)

STATEMENT IN LIEU OF BRIEF PURSUANT TO L.CIV.R. 7.1(d)(4)

Pursuant to Local Civil Rule 7.1(d)(4), the undersigned, on behalf of the Receiver, Kevin Dooley Kent, hereby submits this Statement in lieu of the submission of a formal brief in support of the Motion for Approval of Twenty-Third Interim Fee Application for the Period January 1, 2026 through March 31, 2026. Inasmuch as the attached Interim Fee Application complies with the Billing Instructions for Receivers in Civil Actions Commenced by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission and otherwise satisfies the requirements for Interim Fee Applications as set forth in this Court's June 29, 2020 Order Appointing Receiver, and contains all information and documentation required by the SEC as well as legal argument in support of the Interim Fee Application, and until any opposition to the Motion is filed, it is respectfully

suggested that any additional, formal brief in support of the Motion and attached Application would be duplicative and unnecessary at this time.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 5/11/2026

s/ Robin S. Weiss
Robin S. Weiss, Esquire
Clark Hill PLC
Two Commerce Square
2001 Market Street, Suite 2620
Philadelphia, PA 19102
Phone: 215-864-8086
Fax: 215-640-8501
rsweiss@clarkhill.com
*Attorneys for Receiver, Kevin Dooley
Kent*

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY**

**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE
COMMISSION,**

Plaintiff,

v.

**BRENDA SMITH, BROAD REACH
CAPITAL, LP, BROAD REACH
PARTNERS, LLC, and BRISTOL
ADVISORS, LLC,**

Defendants.

C. A. No. 2:19-cv-17213 (MCA)

**ORDER APPROVING THE RECEIVER, KEVIN DOOLEY KENT'S
TWENTY-THIRD INTERIM FEE APPLICATION FOR THE PERIOD
JANUARY 1, 2026 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2026**

THIS MATTER having come before this Court upon the Motion of Receiver, Kevin Dooley Kent for Approval of Twenty-Third Interim Fee Application for the Period January 1, 2026 through March 31, 2026;

It is on this _____ day of _____, 2026,

ORDERED that the Receiver's Twenty-Third Interim Fee Application is APPROVED; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED that Payment to Clark Hill PLC ("Clark Hill") in the amount of \$4,760.00 for the Receiver's services from January 1, 2026 through March

31, 2026, representing eighty percent (80%) of the Receiver's total fee of \$5,950.00 for this quarter, is APPROVED and may be paid by the Receiver at this time; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED that Payment to Clark Hill ("Law Firm") in the amount of \$21,047.20 for the Law Firm's legal services provided from January 1, 2026 through March 31, 2026, representing eighty percent (80%) of the Law Firm's total counsel fees of \$26,309.00 this quarter, is APPROVED and may be paid by the Receiver at this time; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED that payment to Alvarez & Marsal Disputes and Investigations, LLC ("Accountant") in the amount of \$12,576.80 for services performed from January 1, 2026 through March 31, 2026, representing eighty percent (80%) of the Accountant's total fees of \$15,721.00 for this quarter, is APPROVED and may be paid by the Receiver at this time; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED that payment to Alvarez & Marsal Disputes and Investigations, LLC in the amount of \$611.20 for expenses incurred from January 1, 2026 through March 31, 2026, representing eighty percent (80%) of the Accountant's total expenses of \$764.00 for this quarter, is hereby APPROVED and may be paid by the Receiver at this time.

BY THE COURT:

HONORABLE MADELINE COX ARLEO
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY**

**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE
COMMISSION,**

Plaintiff,

v.

**BRENDA SMITH, BROAD REACH
CAPITAL, LP, BROAD REACH
PARTNERS, LLC, and BRISTOL
ADVISORS, LLC,**

Defendants.

C. A. No. 2:19-cv-17213 (MCA)

**CERTIFICATE OF
SERVICE**

I hereby certify, this 11th day of May, 2026, that I caused to be served a true and correct copy of the Notice of Motion of Receiver, Kevin Dooley Kent for Approval of Twenty-Third Interim Fee Application for the Period January 1, 2026 through March 31, 2026 upon Plaintiff, Securities and Exchange Commission, through counsel of record, and upon counsel of record for all other parties, by electronic filing pursuant to Fed.R.Civ.P. 5 (b), and upon Defendant, Brenda A. Smith, on behalf of all defendants, via first-class mail, postage prepaid, at her last known mailing address.

s/ Robin S. Weiss

Robin S. Weiss, Esq.

Attorney for Receiver, Kevin Dooley Kent