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METINER G. KIMEL - State Bar No. 21280 KIMEL LAW OFFICES 205 N 40th Ave., Suite 205 Yakima, WA 98902

Objections due by: October 22, 2019 Preliminary hearing date: 10/23/19

Hearing Time: 1:30 p.m.

Location: Telephonic (888)273-3658

Access Code: 5423885

Telephone: (509) 452-1115 Facsimile: (509) 965-5860 Counsel for Dr. Jan Hemstad

> UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

In re: ASTRIA HEALTH,

Debtor.

Case No. 19-01189 (Administratively Consolidated)

MOTION FOR ANNULMENT AND RELIEF FROM THE AUTOMATIC STAY AND NOTICE THEREON

TO THE HONORABLE FRANK L. KURTZ, THE OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRUSTEE, , THE DEBTORS, AND COUNSEL TO THE DEBTORS:

In accordance with Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 4001 and Local Bankruptcy Rules 4001-1 and 4001-3, Jan Hemstad, moves the Court for an order annulling the automatic stay effective as of August 5, 2019, thereby giving effect to the exercise of his contractual right to terminate his employment contract with the Debtor without cause on providing 90 days notice to the Debtor, and to otherwise grant him immediate relief so that he may terminate his employment with the Debtor and to give notice in the event of any current or future defaults under the terms of the Dr. Hempstad's employment agreement.

This Motion is made pursuant to Bankruptcy Code (the "Code") § 362(d)(2) that the Debtor has no equity in the contractual rights that is the subject of stay and those contractual rights are not necessary to an effective reorganization of the Debtor and 2) for cause, as a matter of public policy that continued enforcement of the employment contract does nothing more than

In re Astria Health, Case No. 19-01189 MOTION FOR ORDER ANNULLING OR TERMINATING THE AUTOMATIC STAY



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delay Dr. Hemstad's departure from the Debtor's employment to the detriment of the public interest. The Motion is based upon the following grounds:

- 1. On or about May 24, 2017 Dr. Hemstad that certain Physician Employment Agreement dated May 8, 2017 (the "Agreement".
- 2. The Agreement is for a term of thirty-six months and provides that the agreed compensation is to be adjusted commencing after the first year of the Agreement.
- 3. Section 4.2 of the Agreement is captioned "Termination without Cause", and provides:

The Agreement may be terminated by <u>either party</u> for no cause upon ninety (90) days written notice to the other party . . .(*emphasis added*)

- 4. The Employer's consolidated bankruptcy case was filed on May 6, 2019.
- 5. On August 5, 2019, Dr. Hemstad delivered his resignation letter to the Debtor (the "Resignation Notice"). A true and correct copy of that letter is attached as Exhibit "5" to the Declaration of Dr. Jan Hemstad in Support of Motion Annulment or Relief of the Automatic Stay (the "Hemstad Declaration") and is incorporated herein by reference.
- 6. Absent the imposition of the automatic stay the effect of the Resignation Notice would be to terminate the Agreement as of approximately November 4, 2019.
- 7. On September 4, 2019, the Debtor finally advised Dr. Hempsted that Astria intended to enforce the Agreement through provisions of the bankruptcy law.

WHEREFORE, based upon the foregoing, Dr Hempsted respectfully requests that this Court enter an order:

- A. Anulling the automatic stay effective as of August 5, 2019;
- B. In the alternative, granting immediate relief from the automatic say to exercise his ato will termination rights and to give notice of any current or future breaches under the Agreement; and
- C. Granting such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and appropriate under the facts and circumstances of these cases.

THE STAY WILL BE TERMINATED WITH RESPECT TO THE PARTY SEEKING RELIEF UNLESS THE DEBTOR FILES AND SERVES A WRITEEN OBJECTION. IF YOU OBJECT TO THE RELIEF REQUESTED, YOU MUST FILE WITH THE CLERK OF THE BANKRUPTCY COURT AT P.O. BOX 2164, SPOKANE, WA, 99210 AND SERVE ON THE MOVING PARTY A WRITTEN OBJECTION WITHIN SEVENTEEN (17) DAYS OF THE DATE OF SERVICE OF THIS MOTION. A STATEMENT OF THE GROUNDS FOR THE OBJECTION MUST BE INCLUDED. FAILURE TO FILE AN OBJECTION WITHIN THE SPECIFIED TIME MAY RESULT IN THE COURT ENTERING AN ORDER GRANTING THE MOTION WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE OR HEARING.

DATED this 4Tth day of October, 2019.

KIMEL LAW OFFICES By /s/ Metiner G Kimel WSBA No. 21280

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In re Astria, Case No. 19-02168 MOTION FOR ORDER ANNULLING OR TERMINATING THE AUTOMATIC STAY