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10	Attorneys for the Chapter 11 Debtors	
11	and Debtors In Possession UNITED STATE	S BANKRUPTCY COURT
12	EASTERN DIST	TRICT OF WASHINGTON
13	IN RE:	Chapter 11 Lead Case No. 19-01189-11
14	ASTRIA HEALTH, et al.	(Jointly Administered)
15	Debtors and Debtors in Possession. ¹	DEBTORS' NOTICE OF RENEWED MOTION AND RENEWED MOTION FOR ENTRY OF AN ORDER ENLARGING THE TIME WITHIN
16		WHICH THE DEBTORS MAY REMOVE ACTIONS; DECLARATION OF CARY ROWAN
17	The Debtors, along with their case nun	nbers, are as follows: Astria Health (19-01189-11),
18	Glacier Canyon, LLC (19-01193-11), Kitc	hen and Bath Furnishings, LLC (19-01194-11), Oxbow b, LLC (19-01196-11), SHC Medical Center-Toppenish
19	Association (19-01191-11), Sunnyside Co	kima (19-01192-11), Sunnyside Community Hospital community Hospital Home Medical Supply, LLC (19-
20		1198-11), Sunnyside Professional Services, LLC (19-LLC (19-01201-11), and Yakima HMA Home Health,
21	NOTICE AND RENEWED MOTION TO EXTEND	DENTONS US LLP BUSH KORNFELD LL1 601 South Figueroa Street, Suite 2500 LAW OFFICES 601 Union St., Suite 5000
	REMOVAL DEADLINE	
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19-01189-WLH11 Doc 795 Filed 12/03/19 Entered 12/03/19 16:04:31 Pg 1 of 19

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TO: LIMITED MAILING LIST

TO: OFFICE OF UNITED STATES TRUSTEE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Astria Health ("Astria") and the above-referenced affiliated debtors (collectively, the "Debtors"), the debtors and debtors in possession in the above-captioned chapter 11 bankruptcy cases (collectively, the "Chapter 11 Cases"), hereby move (the "Motion") the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Washington (the "Court") for entry of an order pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1452 and Rules 9006 and 9027 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the "Bankruptcy Rules") further enlarging the period within which the Debtors may remove actions by an additional 120 days, up to and including March 31, 2020, without prejudice to the Debtors' right to seek additional extensions. This is the Debtors' second request to extend the removal deadline.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Motion is based on this Notice and Motion, the attached Memorandum of Points and Authorities and the Declaration of Cary Rowan (the "Rowan Declaration"), the *Debtors' Notice of Motion and Motion for Entry of an Order Enlarging the Time Within Which the Debtors May Remove Actions; Declaration Of Cary Rowan* [Docket No. 431], the Declaration of John M. Gallagher [Docket No. 21] (the "Gallagher Declaration") and the Declaration of Michael Lane [Docket No. 16] (the "Lane Declaration," and together with the Gallagher Declaration, the "First Day Declarations"), both filed in conjunction with the "First Day Motions", the arguments of counsel, and other admissible evidence properly brought before the Court at or before the hearing on this Motion, if any. In addition, the Debtors request that the Court take judicial notice of all documents filed with the Court in this case.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that if you object to the entry of an order granting the relief requested in this Motion, please do so by filing a written

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NOTICE AND RENEWED MOTION TO EXTEND REMOVAL DEADLINE DENTONS US LLP

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1	objection with the Court and serve a copy upon the undersigned within twenty-one	
2	(21) days of the date of this Notice. Should you fail to timely and properly object	
3	to this Motion, the Court may enter an Order granting the relief requested herein	
3	without a hearing and without further notice to you.	
4	PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that failure to timely file and serve	
5	any opposition may be considered consent to the granting of the Motion.	
6	Dated: December 3, 2019	
7	/s/ Sam J. Alberts	
8	JAMES L. DAY (WSBA #20474) THOMAS A. BUFORD (WSBA #52969)	
9	BUSH KORNFELD LLP	
10	SAMUEL R. MAIZEL (Admitted <i>Pro Hac Vice</i>) SAM J. ALBERTS (WSBA #22255)	
11	DENTONS US LLP	
12	Attorneys for the Chapter 11 Debtors and Debtors In Possession	
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21	NOTICE AND RENEWED MOTION TO EXTEND REMOVAL DEADLINE DENTONS US LLP 601 South Figueroa Street, Suite 2500 LAW OFFICES 601 Union St., Suite 5000 Seattle, Washington 98101-2 Phone: (213) 623-9300 Fax: (213) 623-9924 Pacsimile (206) 292-21104) 373)

Filed 12/03/19 Entered 12/03/19 16:04:31 Pg 3 of 19

MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

I.

RELIEF REQUESTED

Astria Health ("Astria") and the above-referenced affiliated debtors (collectively, the "Debtors"), the debtors and debtors in possession in the abovecaptioned chapter 11 bankruptcy cases (collectively, the "Chapter 11 Cases"), respectfully request the entry of an order enlarging the period of time set forth in Rule 9027(a)(2)(A) of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the "Bankruptcy Rules") during which the Debtors may seek removal of claims or causes of action in civil actions (the "Actions") pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1452 and Bankruptcy Rules 9006 and 9027 (the "Removal Period") by an additional 120 days, up to and including March 31, 2020, without prejudice to the Debtors' right to seek further extensions.² This is the Debtors' second request to extend the removal deadline. The Debtors submit the attached Declaration of Cary Rowan (the "Rowan Declaration") in support of this motion (the "Motion").

II.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

The Court has subject matter jurisdiction to consider and determine this Motion pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334. This is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2). The Debtors consent to entry of final orders and judgments by the bankruptcy judge. Venue is proper before this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409.

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All references to "§" or "section" herein are to sections of the Bankruptcy Code, unless

20 otherwise noted.

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The statutory bases for the relief requested herein are 28 U.S.C. § 1452 and Bankruptcy Rules 9006 and 9027.

III.

BACKGROUND FACTS

General Background.

- On May 6, 2019 (the "Petition Date"), each of the Debtors filed a voluntary petition for relief under the Bankruptcy Code. These Chapter 11 Cases are being jointly administered before this Court. [Docket No. 10]. The Debtors are operating their businesses as debtors in possession pursuant to §§ 1107 and 1108.
- 2. Debtor Astria, a Washington nonprofit corporation, is the direct or indirect corporate member of several entities that make it the largest non-profit healthcare system based in Eastern Washington. The Astria system is headquartered in the heart of Yakima Valley, Washington, with operating hospitals in Yakima, Sunnyside, and Toppenish, Washington.
- The Astria system includes three hospitals: Astria Regional Medical 3. Center, a 214-bed hospital in Yakima, Washington ("Yakima"); Astria Sunnyside Hospital, a 38-bed critical access hospital in Sunnyside, Washington ("Sunnyside"); and Astria Toppenish Hospital, a 63-bed hospital in Toppenish, Washington ("Toppenish," and referred to collectively with Sunnyside and Yakima as the "Hospitals"). In addition to collectively having 315 licensed beds, the Hospitals have three active emergency rooms and a host of medical specialties. The Astria

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REMOVAL DEADLINE

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system also has outpatient Astria Health Centers (14 medical clinics and 24 specialty clinics), the Ambulatory Surgical Center, Astria Hearing and Speech, and

- The Astria system provides medical treatments to approximately 346,400 patients annually, including approximately 7,344 who spend at least one night in its Hospitals during the year. Astria's necessity to the health and welfare of the people of the Yakima Valley is evidenced by several facts, including having the only open-heart surgery, neurosurgery, and elective cardiac catheterization programs in Yakima County; the only hospitals in Sunnyside and Toppenish, Washington; and the only obstetric services in the Lower Valley (both at Sunnyside
- The system employs approximately 1,547 employees (making it one of the largest employers in the Yakima Valley), plus an additional 172 contract personnel, and approximately 600 doctors have privileges at the Hospitals.
- 6. On May 24, 2019, the Office of the United States Trustee (the "U.S. Trustee") appointed an Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors in these Chapter 11 Cases.
- 7. Additional background facts on the Debtors, including an overview of the Debtors' business, information on the Debtors' capital structure, and events leading up to these Chapter 11 Cases, are contained in the First Day Declarations.

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B. Relevant Background to Motion.

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- 8. The Debtors have requested only one previous extension, and now ask for a second extension of the Removal Period by an additional 120 days, up to and including March 31, 2020, without prejudice to the Debtors' right to seek further extensions. Rowan Declaration at ¶ 5.
- 9. The Debtors are involved in at least ten (10) Actions involving claims. Rowan Declaration at ¶ 6. On June 19-20, 2019, the Debtors filed their Schedules of Assets and Liabilities (the "Schedules") and their Statements of Financial Affairs (the "SOFAs"). Rowan Declaration at ¶ 6. As part of the Schedules and SOFAs, the Debtors identified two (2) Actions. See Case No. 19-01192, Docket No. 9, SOFAs, Part 3, 7; see also Rowan Declaration at ¶ 6. The Debtors are also aware of another eight (8) Actions, and will update their SOFAs accordingly. Rowan Declaration at ¶ 6. These Actions include:
 - a. CHG Healthcare Services, Inc., d/b/a Comphealth and Comphealth Medical Staffing, Inc. v. Astria Health d/b/a Astria Regional Medical Center, Third Judicial District Court of Salt Lake County, Utah, Case No. 19-0903546, filed May 2, 2019 (pending);
 - b. Delta Locum Tenens, LLC and Delta Flex Partners, LLC v. Astria Health d/b/a Yakima Medical and Cardia Center, Texas District Court, Dallas County, Case No. DC-19-05294, filed April 12, 2019 (pending);

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9-01189-WLH11^{8615W-1}Doc 795 Filed 12/03/19 Entered 12/03/19 16:04:31 Pg 7 of 19

1	c. Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery, Inc. (Sharma) v. SHC Medical
2	Center - Yakima, Superior Court of Yakima County, Washington, Case No.
3	19-20066939, filed February 22, 2019 (pending);
4	d. Bertha Maribel Fernandez v. SHC Medical Center d/b/a Yakima
5	Regional Medical and Cardiac Center, Superior Court of Yakima County,
6	Washington, Case No. 18-20459239, filed December 21, 2018 (pending);
7	e. 8gency Limited d/b/a The Field Group v. Astria Health, Superior
8	Court of Yakima County, Washington, Case No 18-20403539, filed
9	November 15, 2018 (settled but still pending);
10	f. Orthopedics Northwest, PLLC v. SHC Medical Center – Yakima,
11	Superior Court of Yakima County, Washington, Case No. 18-20399339, filed
12	November 7, 2018 (pending);
13	g. PPC Solutions, Inc. v. Astria Health and Astria Health Management,
14	Inc., Superior Court of Yakima County, Washington, Case No. 18-20381039,
15	filed October 26, 2018 (pending);
16	h. Florenda LeClair vs. Valentin Antoci, M.D., and Sunnyside
17	Community Hospital Association, Superior Court of Yakima County,
18	Washington, Case No. 18-20284239, filed August 20, 2018 (pending -
19	automatic stay lifted);
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21	NOTICE AND RENEWED DENTONS US LLP BUSH KORNFELI 601 South Figures Street Suite 2500 LAW OFFICES

i. Maria Ricardo v. Miguel A. Brizuela, M.D., Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic, and Sunnyside Community Hospital & Clinics, d/b/a Sunnyside Community Hospital Association, Superior Court of Yakima County, Washington, Case No. 17-20210339, filed June 20, 2017 (pending - automatic stay lifted); and

j. Derek Weaver, D.O., and Brittany Weaver v. John Gallagher, Jane Doe Gallagher, and Sunnyside Community Hospital, Superior Court of Yakima County, Washington, Case No. 16-20219139, filed August 8, 2016 (pending).

Rowan Declaration at ¶ 6.

10. At present, it is premature for the Debtors in these Chapter 11 Cases to make a determination as to the benefits and burdens relating to the removal and litigation of any Actions against the Debtors. Rowan Declaration at ¶ 8. The Debtors need more time to analyze the Actions to determine whether the Debtors will seek to remove any of the Actions. Rowan Declaration at ¶ 8. In addition, it is premature to determine if litigation is the prudent means to resolve these potential claims, pending greater clarity on the details surrounding the Debtors' exit strategy. Rowan Declaration at ¶ 8. The Debtors are not yet prepared to decide which, if any, Actions they will seek to remove. Rowan Declaration at ¶ 8.

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1 IV. **LEGAL ARGUMENT** 2 The Debtors seek an extension of the Removal Period under 28 U.S.C. 3 § 1452 and Bankruptcy Rule 9027, which govern the removal of pending civil 4 actions related to chapter 11 cases. Specifically, 28 U.S.C. § 1452(a) provides: 5 A party may remove any claim or cause of action in a 6 civil action other than a proceeding before the United States Tax Court or a civil action by a governmental unit 7 to enforce such governmental unit's police or regulatory power, to the district court for the district where such civil 8 action is pending, if such district court has jurisdiction of such claim or cause of action under section 1334 of this 9 title. 10 28 U.S.C. § 1452(a). 11 Bankruptcy Rule 9027 sets forth the time periods for filing notices to remove 12 claims or causes of action. Specifically, Bankruptcy Rule 9027(a)(2) provides, in 13 pertinent part: 14 If the claim or cause of action in a civil action is pending when a case under the [Bankruptcy] Code is commenced, 15 a notice of removal may be filed only within the longest of (A) 90 days after the order for relief in the case under 16 the [Bankruptcy] Code, (B) 30 days after entry of an order terminating a stay, if the claim or cause of action in a civil 17 action has been stayed under § 362 of the [Bankruptcy]

Code, or (C) 30 days after a trustee qualifies in a chapter 11 reorganization case but not later than 180 days after the order for relief.

Fed. R. Bankr. P. 9027(a)(2).

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Fed. R. Bankr. P. 9006(b)(1).

order

actions provided by Bankruptcy Rule 9027.

9006(b)(1) provides, in pertinent part:

It is well-settled that the Court is authorized to enlarge the Removal Period. See Pacor, Inc. v. Higgins, 743 F.2d 984, n.17 (3d Cir. 1984), overruled on other grounds by Things Remembered, Inc. v. Petrarca, 516 U.S. 124, 134–35 (1995) (holding the bankruptcy court's power to grant an extension of the removal period pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 9006(b) is "clear"); Caperton v. A.T. Massey Coal Co., 251 B.R. 322, 325 (S.D. W. Va. 2000) (Bankruptcy Rule 9006 provides authority to enlarge time periods for removing actions under Bankruptcy Rule 9027); In re Jandous Elec. Constr. Corp., 106 B.R. 48, 50 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 1989) (period in which to file motion to remove may be expanded pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 9006); In re World Fin. Servs. Ctr., Inc., 81 B.R. 33, 39 (Bankr. S.D. Cal. 1987) (United States Supreme Court intended to give bankruptcy judges the power

Bankruptcy Rule 9006 permits the Court to extend the period to remove

[W]hen an act is required or allowed to be done at or within a specified period by these rules or by a notice

given thereunder or by order of court, the court for cause shown may at any time in its discretion . . . with or

without motion or notice order the period enlarged if the request therefor is made before the expiration of the

period originally prescribed or as extended by a previous

Specifically, Bankruptcy Rule

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Pg 11 of 19

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to enlarge the filing periods under Bankruptcy Rule 9027(a) pursuant to Bankruptcy

Rule 9006(b)); Raff v. Gordon, 58 B.R. 988, 990 (E.D. Pa. 1986) (an expansion of

Action depends on a number of factors, including: (a) the importance of the Action

to the expeditious resolution of these Chapter 11 Cases; (b) the time required to

complete the Action in its current venue; (c) the presence of federal subject matter

jurisdiction in the proceeding that may allow for one or more aspects thereof to be

heard by a federal court; (d) the relationship between the Action and matters to be

considered in connection with the Debtors' Chapter 11 Cases, the claims allowance

process, and the assumption or rejection of executory contracts and unexpired

leases; and (e) the progress made to date in the Action. To make the appropriate

determine which Actions they will seek to remove. Since the commencement of

these Chapter 11 Cases, the Debtors' Boards of Trustees, officers, staff, and

advisors have been focused on, among other things, preparing and revising the

Schedules and SOFAs; negotiating the terms of critical postpetition financing;

preparing monthly operating reports; interviewing potential investment bankers and

seeking the retention of Piper Jaffrey & Co. as investment banker; preparing and

To date, the Debtors have not yet had an opportunity to conclusively

determination, the Debtors must analyze each Action in light of such factors.

The Debtors' decision regarding whether to seek removal of any particular

time to file notices of removal is authorized under the Bankruptcy Rules).

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Declaration at ¶ 7.

Chapter 11 Cases.

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Pg 13 of 19

Rowan

Filed 12/03/19 Entered 12/03/19 16:04:31

producing information Piper Jaffrey & Co. requires to perform its services to

market the Debtors' assets for a possible sale and moving for authorization from

this Court regarding the same; retaining Gaffey as the new accounts receivable

collector; searching for special counsel to assert claims against former accounts

receivable vendor; providing continuous reporting to major creditors and the

Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors; and addressing an unusual number of

creditors threatening to violate the automatic stay through attempts to change

The Debtors thus have been focused on addressing these time critical matters

and have been unable to fully analyze each of the Actions and make the appropriate

determinations concerning their removal. In addition, the Debtors may become

aware of further Actions in connection with proofs of claim that are filed in these

with sufficient time to make well informed decisions concerning the removal of the

Actions, and will ensure that the Debtors' rights provided by 28 U.S.C. § 1452 can

be exercised in an appropriate manner. Moreover, the rights of parties to the

Actions will not be unduly prejudiced by the Debtors' requested extension of the

Removal Period. If the Debtors ultimately seek to remove Actions pursuant to

The Debtors believe the extension requested herein will provide the Debtors

contract terms or to terminate services contrary to contract terms.

		l
1	Bankruptcy Rule 9027, parties will retain their rights to seek to have such Actions	
2	remanded pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1452(b). Accordingly, the Debtors submit that	
3	cause exists for the relief requested herein.	
4	V.	
5	<u>CONCLUSION</u>	
6	For the foregoing reasons, the Debtors respectfully request that this Court	
7	grant the Motion and enter an order further enlarging the period of time set forth in	
8	Bankruptcy Rule 9027(a)(2)(A) during which the Debtors may seek removal of	
	Actions pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1452 and Bankruptcy Rule 9027 by an additional	
9	120 days, up to and including March 31, 2020, and grant such further relief as the	
10	Court deems appropriate.	
11	Dated: December 3, 2019	
12	<u>/s/ Sam J. Alberts</u> JAMES L. DAY (WSBA #20474)	
13	THOMAS A. BUFORD (WSBA #52969) BUSH KORNFELD LLP	
14		
15	SAMUEL R. MAIZEL (Admitted <i>Pro Hac Vice</i>)	
16	SAM J. ALBERTS (WSBA #22255) DENTONS US LLP	
17	Attorneys for the Chapter 11 Debtors and	
18	Debtors In Possession	
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NOTICE AND RENEWED MOTION TO EXTEND REMOVAL DEADLINE

DECLARATION OF CARY ROWAN

I, Cary Rowan, submit this Declaration in support of the *Debtors' Notice Of Renewed Motion And Renewed Motion For Entry Of An Order Enlarging The Time Within Which The Debtors May Remove Actions* (the "Motion") and hereby state and declare as follows:

- 1. I am the Chief Financial Officer ("CFO") of Astria Health ("Astria"). I am employed by AHM, Inc. ("AHM"), a nondebtor entity that provides management services to Astria and its affiliated debtors and debtors in possession (collectively, the "Debtors") under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code, 11 U.S.C. §§ 101, et seq. (the "Bankruptcy Code"), in these chapter 11 cases (the "Chapter 11 Cases").
- 2. I have served as CFO of Astria Health since it was incorporated in 2016. Prior to the incorporation of Astria Health, I served as the CFO to Sunnyside Community Hospital Association since 2012.
- 3. The statements herein are based upon my personal knowledge of the facts and information gathered by me in my capacity as CFO for Astria Health.
- 4. On May 6, 2019 (the "<u>Petition Date</u>"), each of the Debtors filed a voluntary petition for relief under the Bankruptcy Code. These Chapter 11 Cases are being jointly administered before this Court. [Docket No. 10]. The Debtors are

³ All references to "§" or "section" herein are to sections of the Bankruptcy Code, unless otherwise noted.

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NOTICE AND RENEWED

MOTION TO EXTEND REMOVAL DEADLINE

Sunnyside Community Hospital Association, Superior Court of Yakima County, Washington, Case No. 17-20210339, filed June 20, 2017 (pending - automatic stay lifted); and

- j. Derek Weaver, D.O., and Brittany Weaver v. John Gallagher, Jane Doe Gallagher, and Sunnyside Community Hospital, Superior Court of Yakima County, Washington, Case No. 16-20219139, filed August 8, 2016 (pending).
- 7. To date, the Debtors have not yet had an opportunity to conclusively determine which Actions they will seek to remove. Since the commencement of these Chapter 11 Cases, the Debtors' Boards of Trustees, officers, staff, and advisors have been focused on, among other things, preparing and revising the Schedules and SOFAs; negotiating the terms of critical postpetition financing; preparing monthly operating reports; interviewing potential investment bankers and seeking the retention of Piper Jaffrey & Co. as investment banker; preparing and producing information Piper Jaffrey & Co. requires to perform its services to market the Debtors' assets for a possible sale and moving for authorization from this Court regarding the same; retaining Gaffey as the new accounts receivable collector; searching for special counsel to assert claims against former accounts receivable vendor; providing continuous reporting to major creditors and the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors; and addressing an unusual number of creditors

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NOTICE AND RENEWED MOTION TO EXTEND REMOVAL DEADLINE

1	threatening to violate the automatic stay through attempts to change contract terms
2	or to terminate services contrary to contract terms.
3	8. At present, it is premature for the Debtors in these Chapter 11 Cases to
4	make a determination as to the benefits and burdens relating to the removal and
5	litigation of any Actions against the Debtors. The Debtors need more time to analyze
6	the Actions to determine whether the Debtors will seek to remove any of the Actions.
7	In addition, it is premature to determine if litigation is the prudent means to resolve
8	these potential claims, pending greater clarity on the details surrounding the Debtors'
9	exit strategy. The Debtors are not yet prepared to decide which, if any, Actions they
10	will seek to remove.
11	I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of
12	America that the foregoing is true and correct.
13	Executed this 3 rd day of December, 2019, in Yakima, Washington.
14	Cay Iron
15	Cary Rowan
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	NOTICE AND RENEWED MOTION TO EXTEND REMOVAL DEADLINE