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Proposed Counsel for the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors

# UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

|                                | · X    |                         |
|--------------------------------|--------|-------------------------|
| In re:                         | :      |                         |
|                                | :      | Chapter 11              |
| THE McCLATCHY COMPANY, et al., | :<br>: | Case No. 20-10418 (MEW) |
| Debtors. <sup>1</sup>          | :<br>: | (Jointly Administered)  |
|                                | :      |                         |
|                                | · X    |                         |

# APPLICATION FOR ORDER AUTHORIZING THE RETENTION OF DUNDON ADVISERS LLC AS CO-FINANCIAL ADVISOR FOR THE OFFICIAL COMMITTEE OF UNSECURED CREDITORS OF THE MCCLATCHY COMPANY, LLC, ET AL., NUNC PRO TUNC TO FEBRUARY 26, 2020

The Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors (the "Committee") of The McClatchy Company, LLC and its affiliated debtors and debtors-in-possession in the above-captioned Chapter 11 cases (collectively, the "Debtors"), respectfully submits this application (the "Application") for entry of an order authorizing the retention of Dundon Advisers LLC ("Dundon Advisers") as co-financial adviser to the Committee, *nunc pro tunc* to February 26,

The last four digits of Debtor The McClatchy Company's tax identification number are 0478. Due to the large number of debtor entities in these Chapter 11 Cases, which are being jointly administered, a complete list of the debtor entities and the last four digits of their federal tax identification numbers is not provided herein. A complete list of such information may be obtained on the website of the Debtors' claims and noticing agent at <a href="http://www.kccllc.net/McClatchy">http://www.kccllc.net/McClatchy</a>. The location of the Debtors' service address for purposes of these Chapter 11 Cases is: 2100 Q Street, Sacramento, California 95816.



2020. This Application is supported by the Declaration of Matthew Dundon (the "<u>Dundon Declaration</u>"), attached hereto as <u>Exhibit A</u>. In further support of this Application, the Committee respectfully states as follows:

#### **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

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

#### **BACKGROUND**

#### A. Chapter 11 Cases

- 1. On February 13, 2020, each of the Debtors filed a voluntary petition for relief under the Bankruptcy Code in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York (the "Court"). Since the Petition Date, the Debtors have continued to operate and manage their businesses as debtors-in-possession pursuant to Bankruptcy Code Sections 1107(a) and 1108. As of the date hereof, no request for the appointment of a trustee or examiner has been made in these chapter 11 cases.
- 2. On February 26, 2020, the Office of the United States Trustee for the Southern District of New York (the "<u>U.S. Trustee</u>") formed the Committee in these chapter 11 cases [D.I. 53].<sup>2</sup> On February 26, 2020, shortly after its formation, the Committee selected Stroock & Stroock & Lavan LLP ("<u>Stroock</u>") to serve as its counsel, subject to this Court's approval. Also on February 26, 2020, the Committee selected Berkeley Research Group, LLC ("<u>BRG</u>") to serve as its primary financial advisor, Dundon Advisers, LLC ("Dundon") to serve as its co-financial

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The Committee is currently comprised of the following entities: (i) Dow Jones & Company, Inc.; (ii) Lorianne E. Sawin; (iii) P. Anthony Ridder; (iv) Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation; (v) The News Guild-CWA; (vi) Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, as Indenture Trustee for the 2027 and 2029 Debentures; and (vii) Wipro Limited.

advisor, and on March 9, 2020, the Committee selected Moelis & Company ("Moelis") to serve as its investment banker, in each case, subject to this Court's approval.

- 2. The Committee's selection of Dundon Advisers as co-financial advisor with the specified limited scope set forth below was based upon, among other things: (a) the Committee's need to retain financial advisors to provide advice relevant to the scope of the Committee's mandate (which includes an investigation into the Debtors' prepetition transactions); (b) Dundon Advisers' senior professionals' extensive experience and excellent reputation in providing financial advisory services in chapter 11 cases such as these cases; and (c) Dundon Advisers' knowledge and experience of the specific capital markets issues within the scope of work set forth below.
- 3. The Committee determined that Dundon Advisers would bring a unique blend of case-specific knowledge, relevant experience, and expertise to the Committee's advisory team. The Committee believes that Dundon Advisers' proposed compensation structure is competitive, appropriate, and reasonable in the context of these chapter 11 cases.

#### B. Dundon Advisers' Background

4. Dundon Advisers is a financial advisory firm whose professionals' experience with distressed assets and the bankruptcy process goes back to the 1990s. Dundon Advisers is presently serving, or within the past year completed service, as financial adviser or co-financial adviser to (a) Official Committees of Unsecured Creditors appointed in the *Aralez Pharmaceuticals* and *Agera Energy* cases in this District, the *Open Road Films*, *Fuse Media*, *LBI Media*, *iPic Theatres*, *Loot Crate*, *SIW Holdings*, *BeavEx*, *Juno USA*, *Celadon* and *Vector Launch* cases in Delaware; the *All American Oil & Gas* and *Remnant Oil Company* cases in the Western District of Texas; the *LaSalle Group* cases in the Northern District of Texas; the

Valmiera Glass case in the Northern District of Georgia; the Frank Theatres cases in the District of New Jersey; the 1 Global Capital cases in the Southern District of Florida; (b) the Official Committee of Tort Claimants in the PG&E Corporation cases in the Northern District of California, (c) the Ad Hoc Noteholder Group in the Woodbridge Group of Companies cases in Delaware, (d) the Ad Hoc Group of Individual Victims in the Purdue Pharma cases in this District, and (e) the Ad Hoc Equity Security Holder Group in the RAIT Financial cases in Delaware, all the foregoing being highly complex Chapter 11 cases. On the same date it was engaged by the Committee, Dundon Advisers was engaged as financial adviser to the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors in the Video Corporation of America cases in the District of New Jersey. Dundon Advisers was financial adviser to the debtors in the *Hilltop Energy* cases in Clients of Dundon Advisers have been appointed to over two dozen official Delaware. committees of unsecured creditors since April 2016, and Dundon Advisers has taken an active role in the activities of many of those committees, among them the 21st Century Oncology, Sears Holdings and Ditech Financial cases in this District and HVI Cat Canyon which was filed and pending in this District when the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors was formed, but subsequently transferred (ultimately) to the Central District of California. Dundon Advisers has advised clients holding obligations of dozens of other financially distressed or potentially financially distressed companies, including cases in this District Avaya, Retrieval-Masters, and Stearns Lending. In addition to advisory services with respect to distressed and potentially distressed obligations, Dundon Advisers offers institutional clients broader investment management and transaction advisory services.

5. Dundon Advisers team members have extensive additional and relevant experience. Matthew Dundon, Alex Mazier, and Jon Feldman each have lengthy experience as

principal investors, traders and analysts in the credit and credit derivative markets, and as leaders or primary professionals in many of Dundon Advisers' creditor committee engagements. Peter Hurwitz has a lengthy record as a senior executive in the media industry and has led Dundon Advisers' numerous media creditor engagements since 2018.

#### RELIEF REQUESTED

6. Pursuant to this Application, Bankruptcy Code Section 1103(a), and Bankruptcy Rule 2014, the Committee requests entry of the proposed order attached hereto as **Exhibit B**, approving the employment and retention of Dundon Advisers as its co-financial advisor, *nunc pro tunc* to February 26, 2020, in connection with the Debtors' Chapter 11 cases.

#### **RETENTION OF DUNDON ADVISERS**

#### A. Services to be Provided

- 7. The Committee requests that this Court approve the employment of Dundon Advisers to perform limited and specific advisory services consistent with the mandate of the Committee to provide for fair and lawful treatment of all unsecured creditors. These services will be carried out so as to avoid any duplication at the estates' expense with the work of BRG, the proposed primary financial advisor to the Committee, and Moelis, the proposed investment banker to the Committee. Dundon and BRG were jointly engaged by the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors in a prior case in this District (*Aralez Pharmaceuticals*), and in that case successfully avoided duplication at the estates' expense to the extent that all fee applications of each firm were approved without objection of the debtors, the U.S. Trustee, or any other creditors or stakeholders.
- 8. Dundon Advisers' scope will necessarily involve sub-tasks and related tasks, including but not limited to the following:

- a. Assist the Committee with its investigation of certain prepetition transactions, with a focus on the credit default swap or other derivative positions of certain parties;
- b. Assist the Committee in identifying, valuing, pursuing estate causes of action relating to the foregoing;
- c. Advise the Committee with respect to negotiations with the Debtors and third parties relating to the foregoing;
- d. Review and analysis of the currently-filed and any succeeding proposed disclosure statement and Chapter 11 plan with respect to the foregoing, and, if appropriate, assist the Committee in developing an alternative plan of reorganization and disclosure statement therefor;
- e. Attending meetings and participating in discussions with the Committee, the Debtors, other creditors, the U.S. Trustee, and other parties in interest and professionals which include discussion of the foregoing matters;
- f. Presenting at meetings of the Committee, as well as meetings with other key stakeholders and parties, regarding the foregoing;
- g. Performing such other advisory services for the Committee as may be necessary or proper in these proceedings, subject to the aforementioned scope; and
- h. Provide testimony, issue expert reports and/or prepare for litigation on behalf of the Committee, as and when the Committee determines appropriate.
- 9. The Committee believes that if this Court approves the employment of BRG, Dundon Advisers and Moelis, these firms will allocate their delivery of services to the Committee so as to avoid any unnecessary duplication of services. The Committee has discussed with BRG, Dundon Advisers and Moelis the appropriate and efficient methods for the allocation of services and responsibilities between the firms and its other professionals. BRG, as primary financial advisor, will focus on advising the Committee with respect to the Debtors' operational performance (including evaluating the Debtors' budgets, forecasts, financial statements, and business plans), analyzing the Debtors' assets and liabilities (including the Debtors' Schedules and Statements of Financial Affairs, when filed), assisting the Committee's professionals with the lien and asset review, and identifying unencumbered assets, including potential avoidance

actions and other claims and causes of action that may belong to the Debtors' estates for the benefit of general unsecured creditors. Dundon Advisers, as co-financial advisor, will have a more narrow focus, primarily analyzing the Debtors' prepetition transactions, including, in particular, the credit default swaps or other derivative positions of principal parties to the proposed or completed transactions, in connection with identifying, valuing and pursuing claims and causes of action, and advising the Committee with respect to the same. Moelis, as investment banker, will focus on advising the Committee with respect to, inter alia, analyzing the Debtors' capital structure, evaluating the Debtors' business plan, providing a valuation analysis of the Debtors' businesses, evaluating proposed or alternative financings, and evaluating proposed or alternative plan proposals and structures. Ultimately, BRG, Dundon Advisers and Moelis recognize the difficulty in predicting how these complex chapter 11 cases will proceed. As such, they will undertake to coordinate their services to the Committee to avoid or minimize unnecessary duplication of services. The Committee firmly believes that considering the size and complexity of these cases and the various interests involved, representation of the Committee by BRG, Dundon Advisers and Moelis is necessary and in the best interests of the Committee.

#### **B.** Compensation

- 10. Bankruptcy Code Section 328(a) provides, in relevant part, that a committee appointed under Bankruptcy Code Section 1102 "with the court's approval, may employ or authorize the employment of a professional person under section 327 or 1103 of this title . . . on any reasonable terms and conditions of employment, including on a retainer, on an hourly basis, on a fixed or percentage fee basis, or on a contingent fee basis." 11 U.S.C. § 328(a).
- 11. Subject to the Court's approval, and in accordance with Bankruptcy Code Section 328(a), Dundon Advisers proposes to render its services on an hourly fee basis according to its

customary hourly rates in effect when the services are rendered. Dundon Advisers professionals will be billed at their respective standard hourly rates as set forth below:

| Professional     | Standard Hourly Rate Structure |
|------------------|--------------------------------|
| Alex Mazier      | \$675                          |
| Demetri Xistris  | \$525                          |
| Eric Reubel      | \$550                          |
| Harry Tucker     | \$475                          |
| John Roussey     | \$550                          |
| Jonathan Feldman | \$675                          |
| Laurence Pelosi  | \$675                          |
| Matthew Dundon   | \$700                          |
| Peter Hurwitz    | \$675                          |
| Phillip Preis    | \$625                          |
| Robert Goch      | \$550                          |

Dundon Advisers' rate schedule is revised each twelve months, with the next such revision scheduled to take effect July 1, 2020.

- 12. The Committee understands that Dundon Advisers will seek reimbursement for its reasonable and necessary out-of-pocket expenses (which shall be charged at cost) incurred in connection with this engagement, such as travel, lodging, duplicating, research, messenger and telephone charges. Dundon Advisers will charge for these expenses at rates consistent with or discounted to charges made to other Dundon Advisers clients, and subject to the guidelines of the United States Trustee.
- 13. Dundon Advisers will maintain detailed records of fees and expenses incurred in connection with the rendering of the legal services described above, in accordance with applicable rules and guidelines.
- 14. In light of the foregoing, the Committee believes that Dundon Advisers' fee structure is reasonable, market-based, and designed to fairly compensate Dundon Advisers for its work in these chapter 11 cases.

#### **DISINTERESTEDNESS; LACK OF ADVERSE INTEREST**

- Dundon Declaration, the Committee submits that Dundon Advisers (i) is a "disinterested person" as that term is defined in Bankruptcy Code Section 101(14), (ii) currently neither holds nor represents any interest adverse to the Debtors' estates or the Committee, except as set forth in the Dundon Declaration, and (iii) has no connection with any Debtor, creditor, other party-in-interest, their respective attorneys and accountants, the U.S. Trustee, or any person employed in the office of the U.S. Trustee, except as set forth in the Dundon Declaration.
- 16. Dundon Advisers will not, while employed by the Committee, represent any other entity having an adverse interest in connection with the Debtors' chapter 11 cases.
- 17. The Committee has been informed that Dundon Advisers is conducting an ongoing review of its files to ensure that no disqualifying circumstances arise. To the extent that Dundon Advisers discovers any connection with any interested party or enters into any new relationship with any interested party, Dundon Advisers will promptly supplement its disclosure to the Court.
- 18. The Committee submits that the employment of Dundon Advisers on the terms and conditions set forth herein is in the best interests of the Committee and its constituency. Nunc pro tunc relief is warranted with respect to Dundon Advisers' retention. The Committee requests that Dundon Advisers' retention be made effective as of February 26, 2020, in order to allow Dundon Advisers to be compensated for the work it performed for the Committee as of and following the date it was retained, subject to the Court's consideration and approval of this Application. Due to the size and complex nature of these chapter 11 cases, as well as the expedited schedule occasioned by the Debtors seeking relief during the early stages of these

chapter 11 cases, there was an immediate need for Dundon Advisers to perform services for the

Committee upon its retention. The Committee submits that under the circumstances, retroactive

approval to February 26, 2020, the date of Dundon Advisers' retention, is warranted.

CONCLUSION

WHEREFORE, the Committee hereby respectfully requests that, for all of the reasons

set forth above and in the Dundon Declaration, it be authorized to retain and employ Dundon

Advisers LLC as Co-Financial Advisor nunc pro tunc to February 26, 2020, that Dundon

Advisers LLC be paid such compensation as may be allowed by this Court in accordance with

Bankruptcy Code Sections 330 and 331, and that the Committee be awarded such other further

relief as is deemed just and proper.

Dated: March 27, 2020

Respectfully submitted,

THE OFFICIAL COMMITTEE OF UNSECURED CREDITORS OF THE McCLATCHY COMPANY,

et al.

Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, solely in its capacity as a Chair of the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors of The

McClatchy Company, et al.

By: /s/ Patrick J. Healy

Name: Patrick J. Healy

Title: Senior Vice President and Director of

Global Bankruptcy, Debt and Agency

Services

## **EXHIBIT A**

**Declaration of Matthew Dundon** 

#### STROOCK & STROOCK & LAVAN LLP

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Frank A. Merola

Erez E. Gilad

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Proposed Counsel for the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors

# UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

|                                | . v    |                         |
|--------------------------------|--------|-------------------------|
| In re:                         | :      |                         |
|                                | :      | Chapter 11              |
| THE McCLATCHY COMPANY, et al., | :<br>: | Case No. 20-10418 (MEW) |
| Debtors. <sup>1</sup>          | :      | (Jointly Administered)  |
|                                | :      |                         |
|                                | · X    |                         |

DECLARATION OF MATTHEW DUNDON PURSUANT TO 28 U.S.C. § 1746 IN SUPPORT OF THE APPLICATION FOR ORDER AUTHORIZING THE RETENTION OF DUNDON ADVISERS LLC AS CO-FINANCIAL ADVISOR FOR THE OFFICIAL COMMITTEE OF UNSECURED CREDITORS OF THE MCCLATCHY COMPANY, LLC, ET AL., NUNC PRO TUNC TO FEBRUARY 26, 2020

I, Matthew Dundon, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, to the best of my knowledge and belief, and after reasonable inquiry, declare that the following is true and correct:

I am a Principal of Dundon Advisers LLC ("<u>Dundon Advisers</u>") and am duly authorized to execute this declaration on behalf of Dundon Advisers. I submit this declaration in support of

The last four digits of Debtor The McClatchy Company's tax identification number are 0478. Due to the large number of debtor entities in these Chapter 11 Cases, which are being jointly administered, a complete list of the debtor entities and the last four digits of their federal tax identification numbers is not provided herein. A complete list of such information may be obtained on the website of the Debtors' claims and noticing agent at <a href="http://www.kccllc.net/McClatchy">http://www.kccllc.net/McClatchy</a>. The location of the Debtors' service address for purposes of these Chapter 11 Cases is: 2100 Q Street, Sacramento, California 95816.

the Committee's application for entry of an order authorizing the employment and retention of Dundon Advisers LLC ("<u>Dundon Advisers</u>") as co-financial advisor for the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors (the "<u>Committee</u>") *nunc pro tunc* to February 26, 2020 (the "<u>Application</u>"). Unless otherwise stated, I have personal knowledge of the facts stated herein. To the extent any information disclosed herein requires amendment or modification upon Dundon Advisers' completion of further review or as additional party-in-interest information becomes available to it, a supplemental declaration will be submitted to the Court reflecting such amended or modified information.

#### A. Dundon Advisers' Qualifications

1. Dundon Advisers is a financial advisory firm whose professionals' experience with distressed assets and the bankruptcy process goes back to the 1990s. Dundon Advisers is presently serving, or within the past year completed service, as financial adviser or co-financial adviser to (a) Official Committees of Unsecured Creditors appointed in the *Aralez Pharmaceuticals* and *Agera Energy* cases in this District, the *Open Road Films, Fuse Media, LBI Media, iPic Theatres, Loot Crate, SIW Holdings, BeavEx, Juno USA, Celadon* and *Vector Launch* cases in Delaware; the *All American Oil & Gas* and *Remnant Oil Company* cases in the Western District of Texas; the *LaSalle Group* cases in the Northern District of Texas; the *Valmiera Glass* case in the Northern District of Georgia; the *Frank Theatres* cases in the District of New Jersey; the *I Global Capital* cases in the Southern District of Florida; (b) the Official Committee of Tort Claimants in the *PG&E Corporation* cases in the Northern District of California, (c) the Ad Hoc Noteholder Group in the *Woodbridge Group of Companies* cases in Delaware, (d) the Ad Hoc Group of Individual Victims in the *Purdue Pharma* cases in this District, and (e) the Ad Hoc Equity Security Holder Group in the *RAIT Financial* cases in

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Delaware, all the foregoing being highly complex Chapter 11 cases. On the same date it was engaged by the Committee, Dundon Advisers was engaged as financial adviser to the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors in the Video Corporation of America cases in the District of New Jersey. Dundon Advisers was financial adviser to the debtors in the *Hilltop Energy* cases in Clients of Dundon Advisers have been appointed to over two dozen official committees of unsecured creditors since April 2016, and Dundon Advisers has taken an active role in the activities of many of those Committees, among them the 21st Century Oncology, Sears Holdings and Ditech Financial cases in this District and HVI Cat Canyon which was filed and pending in this District when the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors was formed, but subsequently transferred (ultimately) to the Central District of California. Dundon Advisers has advised client holding obligations of dozens of other financially distressed or potentially financially distressed companies, including cases in this District Avaya, Retrieval-Masters, and Stearns Lending. In addition to advisory services with respect to distressed and potentially distressed obligations, Dundon Advisers offers institutional clients broader investment management and transaction advisory services.

- 2. Dundon Advisers team members have extensive additional and relevant experience. Matthew Dundon, Alex Mazier, and Jon Feldman each have lengthy experience as principal investors, traders and analysts in the credit and credit derivative markets, and as leaders or primary professionals in many of Dundon Advisers' creditor committee engagements. Peter Hurwitz has a lengthy record as a senior executive in the media industry and has led Dundon Advisers' numerous media creditor engagements since 2018.
- 3. I believe that the Committee's selection of Dundon Advisers as a financial advisor was based upon, among other things: (a) the Committee's need to retain financial

advisors to provide advice relevant to the scope of the Committee's mandate (which includes an investigation into the Debtors' prepetition transactions); (b) Dundon Advisers' senior professionals' extensive experience and excellent reputation in providing financial advisory services in chapter 11 cases such as these cases; and (c) Dundon Advisers' knowledge and experience of the specific capital markets issues within the scope of work set forth below.

4. I further believe that the Committee determined that Dundon Advisers will bring a unique blend of case-specific knowledge, relevant experience, and expertise to the Committee's advisory team.

#### **B.** Professional Compensation

6. Subject to the Court's approval, and in accordance with section 328(a) of the Bankruptcy Code, Dundon Advisers proposes to render its services on an hourly fee basis according to its customary hourly rates in effect when the services are rendered. Dundon Advisers professionals will be billed at their respective non-contingent standard hourly rates, as set forth below:

| Standard Hourly Rate Structure |
|--------------------------------|
| \$675                          |
| \$525                          |
| \$550                          |
| \$475                          |
| \$550                          |
| \$675                          |
| \$675                          |
| \$700                          |
| \$675                          |
| \$625                          |
| \$550                          |
|                                |

Dundon Advisers' rate schedule is revised each twelve months, with the next such revision scheduled to take effect July 1, 2020.

- 7. Dundon Advisers will be reimbursed for its reasonable and necessary out-of-pocket expenses (which shall be charged at cost) incurred in connection with this engagement, such as travel, lodging, duplicating, research, messenger and telephone charges. Dundon Advisers will charge for these expenses at rates consistent with or discounted to charges made to other Dundon Advisers clients, and subject to the guidelines of the United States Trustee.
- 8. Dundon Advisers will maintain detailed records of fees and expenses incurred in connection with the rendering of the professional services described above, in accordance with applicable rules and guidelines.
- 9. I believe that this fee structure is reasonable, market-based, and designed to fairly compensate Dundon Advisers for its work in these chapter 11 cases.

#### C. Disinterestedness

- 10. Neither Dundon Advisers, any director, officer or employee thereof, nor I, insofar as I have been able to ascertain, represents any interest adverse to that of the Debtors' estates in the matters upon which the Committee seeks to engage Dundon Advisers, and I believe the firm to be a "disinterested person" within the meaning of Bankruptcy Code Section 101(14).
- 11. From time to time, Dundon Advisers has provided services, and likely will continue to provide services, to certain creditors of the Debtors and various other parties adverse to the Debtors in matters wholly unrelated to these chapter 11 cases. As described below, however, Dundon Advisers has undertaken a detailed search to determine, and to disclose, whether it is providing or has provided, services to any significant creditor, investors, insider or other party in interest in such unrelated matters.
- 12. Dundon Advisers provides services in connection with numerous cases, proceedings and transactions unrelated to these chapter 11 cases. Those unrelated matters involve numerous

attorneys, financial advisors and creditors, some of whom may be claimants or parties with actual or potential interests in these chapter 11 cases, or may represent such parties.

- 13. Dundon Advisers' personnel may have business associations with certain creditors of the Debtors unrelated to these chapter 11 cases. In addition, in the ordinary course of its business, Dundon Advisers may engage counsel or other professionals in unrelated matters who now represent, or who may in the future represent, creditors or other parties in interest in these chapter 11 cases.
- 14. In connection with the preparation of this Declaration, I reviewed and caused Dundon Advisers otherwise to review Dundon Advisers' (and its affiliates' and employees') contacts with the Debtors, their non-debtor affiliates, and certain entities holding large claims against or interests in the Debtors that were made reasonably known to me by the Debtors. A listing of the parties reviewed is reflected in "Schedule 1" attached to this Declaration.
- 15. Based on the results of its review, Dundon Advisers (including its affiliates and employees) does not have a relationship with any of the parties listed in Schedule 1 in matters related to these proceedings. However, out of an abundance of caution, I disclose connections unrelated to, and in my opinion, immaterial to, these cases with:
- a. Bank of New York Mellon, which is a beneficiary of a single-investment asset management engagement with a third party that is a party-in-interest in the chapter 11 cases.
- b. Emmet, Marvin & Martin LLP, which is a client in a single- investment asset management engagement.
- c. Keller Rohrback LLP, which is client in a single-investment asset management engagement.
  - d. San Luis Obispo Telegram-Tribune LLC, which, or a predecessor of which,

contracted me as a paperboy from 1983 to 1985.

- e. U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. which regulates Dundon Advisers LLC in its capacity as a Registered Investment Adviser.
- f. Wilmington Savings Fund Society, which is a client in a single-investment asset management engagement.
- g. White & Case LLP, which is a counterparty to an appellate litigation investment agreement among itself, one of its litigation clients, Dundon Advisers, and one of Dundon Advisers' investment management clients.
- h. Google Inc., LinkedIn Corporation, Dow Jones, Wells Fargo Bank and Wells Fargo Vendor Financial Services, The Hartford, and Barclays PLC, and/or one or more of their affiliates, from which Dundon Advisers purchases products or services used in the ordinary course of its business.
- 16. Further, as part of its diverse practice, Dundon Advisers is involved in numerous cases, proceedings, and transactions that involve many different professionals, including attorneys, accountants, and financial consultants shown on Exhibit 1, who may represent claimants and parties-in-interest in the chapter 11 cases. Further, Dundon Advisers (including its affiliates and employees) has performed, in the past, and may perform in the future, consulting services for various attorneys and law firms, and has been represented by several attorneys and law firms, some of whom may be involved in these proceedings.
- 17. On a going forward basis, Dundon Advisers shall disclose any and all facts that may have a bearing on whether the firm, its affiliates, and/or any individuals working on the engagement hold or represent any interest adverse to the Debtors, their creditors, or other parties-in-interest.

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18. I do not believe Dundon Advisers (including its affiliates and employees) is or I am a

"creditor" of any of the Debtors within the meaning of section 101(1) of the Bankruptcy Code.

Further, neither I, Dundon Advisers (including its affiliates and employees) nor any member of

the Dundon Advisers engagement team, to the best of my knowledge, is a holder of any of the

Debtors' outstanding debt, equity or preferred stock investments.

19. Neither Dundon Advisers, any manager, member, officer or employee thereof, nor I,

insofar as I have been able to ascertain, is so connected with the Judges of the United States

Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York, the United States Trustee (Region 2) or

the Assistant Trustee or Trial Attorneys for the Office of the United States Trustee, as to render

the employment of Dundon Advisers, as financial advisor for the Committee, inappropriate

under Bankruptcy Rule 5002(b).

20. Neither Dundon Advisers, any director, officer or employee thereof, nor I, insofar as I

have been able to ascertain, is or was a creditor, an equity holder, or insider of the Debtors.

21. Neither Dundon Advisers, any director, officer or employee thereof, nor I, insofar as I

have been able to ascertain, is or was a director, officer or employee of the Debtors as defined in

Bankruptcy Code Sections 101(14)(B) or (C) within two years before the date of filing of the

Debtors' chapter 11 cases.

22. On the basis of the above, I believe Dundon Advisers is a "disinterested person"

within the meaning of Bankruptcy Code Section 101(14).

23. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is

true and correct.

Dated: March 27, 2020

By: /s/ Matthew Dundon

Matthew Dundon

8

### Schedule 1

**List of Identified Parties Included in Connections Review** 

#### **Debtor Entities**

The McClatchy Company

Cypress Media, Inc.

Aboard Publishing, Inc.

Bellingham Herald Publishing, LLC

Belton Publishing Co, Inc.

Biscayne Bay Publishing, Inc.

The Bradenton Herald, Inc.

Cass County Publishing Co.

The Charlotte Observer Publishing Company

Columbus Ledger-Enquirer, Inc.

Cypress Media, LLC

East Coast Newspapers, Inc.

El Dorado Newspapers

Gulf Publishing Company, Inc.

Herald Custom Publishing of Mexico, S.de R.L. de C.V.

HLB Newspapers, Inc.

Idaho Statesman Publishing, LLC

Keltatim Publishing Co., Inc.

Keynoter Publishing Company, Inc.

Lee's Summit Journal, Inc.

Lexington H-L Services, Inc.

Macon Telegraph Publishing Company

Mail Advertising Corp.

McClatchy Big Valley, Inc.

McClatchy Interactive LLC

McClatchy Interactive West

McClatchy International Inc.

McClatchy Investment Company

McClatchy Management Services, Inc.

McClatchy News Services, Inc.

McClatchy Newspapers, Inc.

McClatchy Property, Inc.

McClatchy Resources, Inc.

McClatchy Shared Services, Inc.

McClatchy U.S.A., Inc.

Miami Herald Media Company

N & O Holdings, Inc.

The News and Observer Publishing Co.

Newsprint Ventures, Inc.

Nittany Printing and Publishing Co.

Nor-Tex Publishing, Inc.

Olympian Publishing, LLC

Olympic-Cascade Publishing, Inc.

Pacific Northwest Publishing Company, Inc.

Quad County Publishing, Inc. San Luis Obispo Tribune, LLC

Star-Telegram Inc.

The State Media Company

The Sun Publishing Company, Inc.

Tacoma News, Inc.

Tribune Newsprint Company

Tru Measure, LLC

Wichita Eagle and Beacon Publishing

Company, Inc.

Wingate Paper Company

#### **Non-Debtor Affiliates and Minority-Owned Affiliates**

Camero Parent LLC

The Herald Charities, Inc.

The McClatchy Company Foundation

NextGen, LLC

Oak Street Redevelopment Corporation

The Observer Charities, Inc.

Partnership in Education, Inc.

Ponderay Newsprint Company

Seattle Times Company

Star-Telegram Charities, Inc.

The Sun News Educational Foundation, Inc.

TKG Internet Holdings II, LLC

Topix, LLC

#### **Current Directors and Officers**

Ballantine, Elizabeth

Barnes, Leroy

Berg, Tony

Dowis, Dan

Farr, Peter

Forman, Craig

Glines, Sara

Haimer, Darren

Joshi, Anjali

Lintecum, Elaine

Mahone, Rodney

Maloney Evangelisti, Molly

Manuel, Scott

McClatchy Maloney, Brown

McClatchy, Kevin

McClatchy, William B.

McConkey, Billie

Mitchell, Theodore

Ostler, Clyde

Pergam, Andrew

Roberts, Kristin

Thomas, Maria

Wortel, Gary

#### **Former Directors and Officers**

Borton, Sara Ravindran, Vijay Burke, Sean Santostefano, Janet Caulkins, Ann Segal, Jeanne Friday, Rufus Shepherd, Stephanie Geiger, Terry Villoch, Alexandra Grieve, Tim Wall, Shannon Hendricks, Chris Zeeck, David Leithauser, Debra Zieman, Mark Nussbaum, Kim

#### Restructuring Professionals and Special Counsel to the Debtors

Evercore, Inc.
FTI Consulting, Inc.
Groom Law Group, Chartered
Kurtzman Carson Consultants LLC
Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP
Togut, Segal & Segal LLP

#### **Professionals Used in Last Three Years**

Allied Law Group Armstrong Law Firm ATRS Consulting Inc.

Baker Barwick Ravenel and Bender

Ballard Spahr LLP Barkin Law Group LLP Bower Law Associates, PLLC

Brooks Pierce Brown Rudnick Bruce A. Owdom Bryant Miller Olive P.A. Bussian Law Firm, PLLC

Cannata, Otoole, Fickes & Olson LLP

Carl F. Muller, Attorney at Law

Carlton Fields PA CliftonLarsonAllen LLP

Cobalt LLP

Cotten Schmidt & Abbott, LLP

CPT Group, Inc.

CT Corporation System
Davis & Harman LLP
Davis Wright Tremaine LLP

Delbello Donnellan Weingarten Wise

Deloitte & Touche LLP

Diepenbrock Elkin Gleason LLP

Donald M Craven PC

Dowling Aaron Incorporated Dowling, Aaron & Keeler, Inc. Downey Brand Attorney LLP Emmet, Marvin & Martin LLP

Eric Feig Entertainment & Media Law

Ernst & Young LLP

Essex Richards Attorneys at Law

Exequity LLP

Felderstein Fitzgerald Willoughby Pascuz Fleeson Gooing Coulson & Kitch LLC

Fox Rothschild LLP

Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP

Givens Purlsey LLP

Gladstone Place Partners LLC Gordon Thomas Honeywell Greenberg Traurig LLP Gunderson Dettmer

Hagwood Adelman Tipton, PC

Haynes & Boone LLP Hogan Lovells LLP Holland & Hart LLP Holland & Knight Hopkins & Carley Hull Barrett Pc DLA Piper LLP US

Jay Allen Eisen Law Corporation

Jessica Jones Holcombe

John P Fleck Jones Day

Jones Walker LLP

JP Morgan Chase Bank, N.A.

Katzke & Morgenbesser Keller Rohrback LLP

Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton, LLP

Lathrop Gage Law Offices

Law Offices of Stephen J. Burns Law Offices of William C. Hahesy

LDiscovery TX, LLC Lee Hecht Harrison LLC Lee Litigation Group, PLLC

Levine Sullivan Koch & Schultz LLP Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith LLP

Lewis Rice LLC

Manko, Gold, Katcher & Fox LLP

Maxwell E Kantsch Mayer Brown LLP McGuire Woods LLP Mercer USA Inc

Miller Griffin and Marks Milstein Law Group Morningstar Law Group

Morris Nichols Arsht & Tunnell LLP

Neville Richards & Wuller Noble Financial Capital Markets

O'Melveny & Myers LLP

Jassy Vick Carolan LLP

Orrick Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP

Paul Weiss Rifkind Wharton Garrison LLP

Pendergrass Law Firm, PLLC

Perkins Coie Peterson Bernard Polsinelli PC

Porzio Bromberg & Newman, PC

Ram & Olson LLP Rawle & Henderson LLP

Reed Smith LLP

Rettig Forgette Iller Bower LLP Richards, Layton & Finger, P.A. Rocaton Investment Advisors LLC Ronald B Cox Attorney at Law

RSM US LLP

Shullman-Fugate PLLC Steven Marc Soloman

Stevens Martin Vaughn & Tadych PLLC

Stoll Keenon Ogden PLLC Summit Tax Consulting Inc. The Meyers Law Firm LLC

Thomas & Locicero Towers Watson White & Case LLP

Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati Wise Carter Child & Caraway

Wolf & Sultan Wolfson Law Firm

Wyrick Robbins Yates & Ponton

Young Clement Rivers

#### **Parties to Litigation**

Blythe, Anne

Bowers, Eric

Carroll, Terra

Chastain, Clay

Ferro, Shelly

Guo, Wengui

Nunes, Devin

Rodeiro, Manuel

Sandoval, Hernando

Storm, Robert

Vibe-Ener, Johanna Maria

Williams, Dennis

Yang, Cindy

#### **Parties to Litigation - Counsel**

Biss, Stevin
Callahan & Blaine
Carroll, Terra
Dement Askew, LLP
Everett, Gaskins, Hancock LLP
Georgeson and Belardinelli
Goldenberg Heller & Antognoli, P.C.
Law Office of Eddy O. Marban
Law Offices of Bram Gechtman, PA
McConnell, Wagnor, Sykes & Stacey
Murray, Gilmur R
Palm Beach Law Offices
Ross & Voytas, LLC
Seiler Epstein Ziegler & Applegate, LLP
Silverio & Hall P.A.

#### **Top 30 Creditors**

Adobe Systems, Inc

Adswerve, Inc

Alorica Inc

Andrew Distribution Inc

Bank of New York Mellon

Brightcove Inc

**Bulkley Dunton Publishing Group** 

Dallas Morning News

**Datamatics Technologies** 

Dow Jones And Co Inc

Endava Inc

Facebook Inc

**Gannett Supply Corporation** 

Google Inc

Infosys Bpo

Jobvite Inc

Johnson Controls

Linkedin Corporation

Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

Pruitt, Gary

Ryder Integrated Logistics

Simpli Fi Holdings Inc.

Site Impact LLC

Socialflow Inc.

Solo Printing Inc.

Solutions Through Software Inc.

Times News Tribune Direct Usa Today Wipro Limited

#### **Equity Holders of Greater Than 5%**

Bestinver Gestion SA SGIIC
Bluestone Financial Ltd. / Spanish Broadcasting
Chatham Asset Management LLC
Cobas Asset Management SGIIC SA
Leon Cooperman
McClatchy, Charles K.
McClatchy, James B.
Maloney Stiles, Sue
Maloney Evangelisti, Molly

#### **ABL Lender**

Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.

#### First Lien Noteholders of Greater Than 5%

Bank of New York Mellon Barclays PLC Barclays Capital Inc. Brigade Capital Management, LP Chatham Asset Management, LLC Goldman Sachs & Co, LLC Goldman Sachs Bank USA JPMorgan Chase Bank NA J.P. Morgan Securities LLC US Bank NA

#### Second and Third Lien Noteholders of Greater Than 5%

Chatham Asset Management, LLC

#### **Unsecured Noteholders of Greater Than 5%**

Bank of New York Mellon BofA Securities, Inc. Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. JPMorgan Chase Bank NA J.P. Morgan Securities LLC Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated PNC Bank, NA Wells Fargo Bank, NA Wells Fargo Clearing Services, LLC

#### **Indentured Trustees**

The Bank of New York Mellon Bank of Oklahoma

#### **Underwriters of Securities**

Credit Suisse Group AG J.P. Morgan Securities LLC

#### **Other Major Negotiating and Contract Counterparties**

Choate, Hall & Stewart LLP
Citizens Bank, N.A.
Ducera Partners LLC
Encina Business Credit, LLC
Encina Business Credit SPV, LLC
GLC Advisors & Co., LLC
Jefferies LLC
Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel LLP
Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP
Paul Weiss Rifkind Wharton Garrison LLP
Reed Smith LLP
TD Bank, N.A.

#### **Major Lease Counterparties**

1235 Glenhaven Court LLC
7D Development at Herald Building, LLC
920 Warehouse Complex, Inc.
BCC Puyallup, LLC
Benjamin Evans Law Firm LLC
Berry Avenue, Inc., John Jackson, Jr., John Jackson, Sr., Donald Ekstrom, Joanne Latona, Francine Jackson dba 8200 Berry Associates
Betty Meyers
Bird Wingate, LLC
Blake Real Estate, Inc.
Bloch Keene LLC
BPMP Investments, LLC
C & L Properties

Caltronics Business Systems

Canon Solutions America, Inc.

Cherry Street Properties, LLC

Chiquita Brands L.L.C.

Church of the Resurrection -- United Methodist

City of Fresno

City of Sacramento

Clarke Investments, LP

Cluster Group LP

**COECO Financial Services** 

Collegian, Inc.

D.J. Harrison Holdings, LLC

Dave Deison, CPA

David M. Smith

Digital Office Systems, Inc.

Echo Locum Tenens, Inc.

Edna Valley Office Building, LLC

Escallier-Kaljian, LLC

Everbank Commercial Finance, Inc.

Fiduciary Properties, Inc.

First U.S. Community Credit Union, a

California Chartered Credit Union

FJM Sunrise Associates SPE, LLC

Ford Motor Credit Company, LLC

Gale Force Sports and Entertainment, LLC

Global Aeroleasing

GPA-I, LP

GreatAmerica Financial Services Corporation

GreatAmerica Leasing Corporation

Guess Road Station, Inc.

Haggen Talbot Co Limited Partnership

Highwoods Realty Limited Partnership

Hofmann Holdings, LP

ICC Owner, LLC

Ice-Masters, Inc.

JMVZ Enterprises, LLC

Karbank Holdings LLC

Kessinger/Hunter & Company, LC

La Mirage Kiffmann LLC

Lampton Realty Co.

LEAF Capital Funding, LLC

Legacy Properties

MailFinance, Inc.

Meece Rentals

Melbourne Distribution Center, LLC

Miller Enterprises of Manatee, Inc.

Minnix Ltd.

MPM Properties, LLC

NE Building, L.L.C.

Neopost

Nolabari, Inc.

Olive Drive West

OlivePark Professional Center LLC

Orlin C Munns

Paul & Susan R. Minck

Penske Logistics LLC

Penske Truck Leasing Co., L.P.

Principal Real Estate Investors

Quincey E. Cargile

Ralph L. Stancil and Louise N. Stancil

Randy Mosteller

Republic Services

Richard Gerbi

River Mill, LLC

Robert DiNapoli, Trustee and Karin DiNapoli,

Trustee

Rock Hill City Plaza, LLC

Ronald E. Toomajian and Gloria E. Toomajian

Declaration of Trust dated June 25, 2003

Ryder Truck Rentals, Inc.

**RYLB FW Properties LP** 

SCG Perimeter Woods, LLC

Seagis CPK 1 LLC

Senn Profit Sharing and Agent for Lyon Trust

Shops at Nottingham Plaza, LLC

Sideline Properties II, LLC

South Forest Investors, LLC

Southern Commercial Properties, LLC

Spartina 449, LLC

State of Washington, Department of Enterprise

Services

State Street Leasing, LLC

Sundance Commercial LLC

Sundance Investments, L.L.L.P.

Texas Investments, LP

The Graham Companies

The Miles Foundation, Inc.

Timber Soma 925 L Street LP

TimePayment Corp.

Times Publishing Company

TMB Real Estate Investments, LLC

Trivest Properties, LLC

Ultrex

Urban Olympia 6 LLC

US Bank
W & B Properties
W. Kenan Rand, Jr.
WaterLogic
West Pak Equipment Co.
Westcore Northgate LP
WNS Global Services, Inc.
Xerox

#### **Surety Bond Broker and Providers**

Marsh LLC Hartford Fire Insurance Company Western Surety Company The Ohio Casualty Insurance Company

#### **Lienholders**

Bank of New York Mellon
The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company
Leaf Capital Funding, LLC
Tri-Lift NC, Inc.
U.S. Bank Equipment Finance
Wells Fargo, N.A.

#### **Major Advertising Customers**

Big 5 Sporting Goods Corporation

CVS Health Corporation Dillard's, Inc. **Dollar General Corporation** Hobby Lobby Stores, Inc. J. C. Penney Corporation, Inc. Kohl's Corporation Macy's, Inc. Menard, Inc. Michaels Stores, Inc. News America Marketing Rite Aid Corporation Rooms To Go Staples, Inc. Total Wine & More **Target Corporation** Ulta Beauty, Inc. Valassis Communications, Inc. Walgreen Company

Walmart, Inc.

#### **Major Vendors**

A Marketing Resource, LLC

Ad2Pro Media Solutions Private Limited

Adobe Systems, Inc

AdPerfect Dynamic Advertising Solutions Ltd.

AdSwerve, Inc Aetna Inc

After College Inc. AGFA Corporation

Alorica, Inc.

Andrew Distribution Inc.

Andrews McMeel Syndication

Biscayne Marketing, Inc. Blue Waters Marketing

CCI Europe

CDW Direct, LLC

Herald Tribune Media Group

JTS Direct LLC

Kencorp Ent, LLC

Marsh USA Inc

Masergy Communications Inc.

McBride & Fillner Ent, LLC

Mobile Circulation Group

MPP Global Solutions Inc

**OSG Billing Services** 

Penske Logistics LLC

**Insurers** 

ACE American Insurance Company

Beazley Insurance Company, Inc.

Columbia Casualty Company (CNA)

Continental Insurance Co. (CNA)

Federal Insurance Co.

Fireman's Fund Insurance Co.

FM Global

Great American Insurance Co.

Liberty Mutual

Lloyd's Underwriters

Member Companies of Global Aerospace

Mutual Insurance Company Limited

National Union Fire Insurance Company of Pittsburgh, PA (AIG)

Old Republic Insurance Co

Centro Media, Inc.

Columbian Publishing Co

Courier Journal Inc.

The Dallas Morning News

Doodad Printing, LLC

Dow Jones and Co Inc

Endava Inc.

Facebook Inc.

Flint Group North America Corporation

Fujifilm North America Corp

Gannett Supply Corporation

Gatehouse Media GA Holdings Inc.

Global Ad Distribution LLC

Google Inc.

Handbill Printers LP

Professional Courier & Newspaper

Distribution Inc.

Riley Sales & Marketing

Ryder Integrated Logistics, Inc.

Simpli Fi Holdings Inc.

Solo Printing Inc

Solutions Through Software Inc

Sun Life Assurance Company

South Florida Sun Sentinel

Times News Media Group

Wipro Limited

Principia (Lloyd's) / Argo Re Ltd. (Bermuda)
QBE Insurance Corporation
Safety National Casualty Corporation
The Charter Oak Fire Insurance Co (Travelers)
The Travelers Indemnity Company of America
Travelers Property Casualty Company of America
US Specialty Insurance Co.
Wright National Flood Insurance Co.
XL Specialty Insurance Co.
Zurich American Insurance Co.

#### **Letters of Credit Beneficiaries**

OWS CS V SPV, LLC The Travelers Indemnity Company State of Alaska

#### **Employee Unions**

Graphic Communications Conference, International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Local 493M The Lexington Newspaper Guild, Communications Workers of America Local 33229 Pacific Media Workers Guild Local 39521

#### **Bankruptcy Judges for SDNY**

Chief Justice Cecelia G Morris
Judge Stuart M Bernstein
Judge Shelley C. Chapman
Judge Robert D. Drain
Judge James L. Garrity Jr.
Judge Martin Glenn
Judge Robert E Grossman
Judge Sean H. Lane
Judge Mary Kay Vyskocil
Judge Michael E. Wiles

#### **US Trustees for SDNY**

Allen, Joseph Black, Christine Harrington, William K. Leonhard, Alicia Penpraze, Lisa Riffkin, Linda Schmitt, Kathleen Van Baalen, Guy A

#### **Additional Parties Made Known**

Judge Kevin J. Carey

Benjamin J. Higgins

Brian S. Masumoto

George Riggs

Former Knight Ridder and McClatchy Salaried

**Employees Association** 

Endava, Inc.

**Gannett Supply Corporation** 

Gannett Publishing Services LLC

West Penn Power Company

Florida Power & Light Company

Evergy, Inc.

Frank R.J. Whittaker

Timothy M. Kelly

Joseph M. Visci

TN Dept of Revenue

Wells Fargo Vendor Financial Services, LLC

f/k/a GE Capital Information Technology

Solutions c/o A Ricoh USA Program f/d/b/a

**IKON Financial Service** 

The News Guild-CWA on behalf of itself,

Local 33229 and Local 39521, and CWA Local

3108

The County of Denton, Texas

BOKF, N.A.

Dow Jones & Company, Inc.

Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

Brightcove Inc.

Ken Burton, Jr., Manatee County Tax Collector

Missouri Department of Revenue

Benjamin J. Higgins

Joanna Culley, as Guardian of the Estate of

Dennis Leroy Williams, Disabled

Crowley ISD, Arlington ISD

City of Grapevine, Grapevine-Colleyville ISD

Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB

Albany Road-Corporate Drive LLC

Joanna Culley, as Guardian of the Estate of

Dennis Leroy Williams, Disabled

Crowley ISD, Arlington ISD

City of Grapevine, Grapevine-Colleyville ISD

## **EXHIBIT B**

**Proposed Order** 

| UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT | Γ |
|--------------------------------|---|
| SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK  |   |

In re:

: Chapter 11

THE McCLATCHY COMPANY, et al., Case No. 20-10418 (MEW)

Debtors.1 (Jointly Administered)

#### ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EMPLOYMENT AND RETENTION OF DUNDON ADVISERS LLC AS CO-FINANCIAL ADVISOR FOR THE OFFICIAL COMMITTEE OF UNSECURED CREDITORS OF THE MCCLATCHY COMPANY, LLC, ET AL., NUNC PRO TUNC TO FEBRUARY 26, 2020

Upon the application (the "Application") of the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors (the "Committee") in the above-captioned chapter 11 cases for entry of an order authorizing the Committee to employ and retain Dundon Advisers LLC ("Dundon Advisers") as co-financial advisor nunc pro tunc to February 26, 2020, pursuant to section 1103 of title 11 of the United States Code; and upon the Declaration of Matthew Dundon (the "Dundon Declaration"); and the Court having jurisdiction to consider the Application and the relief requested therein pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1334 and 157; and it appearing that the Application is a core matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2) and that the Court can enter a final order consistent with Article III of the United States Constitution; and venue being proper in this Court pursuant to sections 1408 and 1409 of title 28 of the United States Code; and the Court being satisfied that notice of this Application and the opportunity for a hearing on this application was appropriate under the particular circumstances and no further or other notice need by given; and

The last four digits of Debtor The McClatchy Company's tax identification number are 0478. Due to the large number of debtor entities in these Chapter 11 Cases, which are being jointly administered, a complete list of the debtor entities and the last four digits of their federal tax identification numbers is not provided herein. A complete list of such information may be obtained on the website of the Debtors' claims and noticing agent at http://www.kccllc.net/McClatchy. The location of the Debtors' service address for purposes of these Chapter 11 Cases is: 2100 Q Street, Sacramento, California 95816.

the Court being satisfied, based on the representations made in the Application and the Dundon Declaration, that Dundon Advisers does not hold or represent an adverse interest in connection with the cases, and that Dundon Advisers is a "disinterested person" as such term is defined in section 101(14) of the Bankruptcy Code; and the Court having determined that the relief sought in the Application is in the best interests of the Committee, the Debtors, their creditors, and all parties in interest; and this Court having determined that the legal and factual bases set forth in the Application and the Dundon Declaration and at the hearing establish just cause for the relief granted herein; and after due deliberation and sufficient cause appearing therefor,

#### It is hereby **ORDERED**, that:

- 1. The Application is GRANTED to the extent set forth herein.
- 2. Pursuant to sections 328 and 1103(a) of the Bankruptcy Code, the Committee is authorized to employ and retain Dundon Advisers as financial advisor *nunc pro tunc* to February 26, 2020 on the terms and conditions set forth in the Application, which is hereby approved in all respects.
- 3. Dundon Advisers is authorized to perform the services set forth in the Application.
- 4. Dundon Advisers shall be compensated for professional services rendered and reimbursement of expenses incurred in connection with the chapter 11 cases in compliance with sections 330 and 331 of the Bankruptcy Code and applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Rules, Local Bankruptcy Rules, any case-specific fee protocols approved by the Court and the other applicable procedures and orders of the Court. For the avoidance of doubt, under no circumstances shall any of the compensation or expense reimbursement obligations approved by the Court be an obligation of, or paid by, the Committee or any of its members or professionals.

- 5. The Committee and Dundon Advisers are authorized to take all actions they deem necessary and appropriate to effectuate the relief granted pursuant to this Order in accordance with the Application.
- 6. Dundon Advisers shall use its reasonable efforts to avoid any duplication of services provided by any of the Committee's other retained professionals in these chapter 11 cases.
- 7. The terms and conditions of this Order shall be immediately effective and enforceable upon its entry.
- 8. During the course of these bankruptcy cases, this Court has and shall retain jurisdiction with respect to all matters arising from or relating to the interpretation or implementation of this Order.

| Dated: | , 2020 |                                |  |
|--------|--------|--------------------------------|--|
| -      |        | United States Bankruptcy Judge |  |
|        |        | The Honorable Michael E. Wiles |  |