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IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

In re:

STAGE STORES, INC., et al.,1

Debtors.

Chapter 11

Case No. 20-32564 (DRJ)

(Jointly Administered)

NOTICE OF REJECTION OF CERTAIN EXECUTORY CONTRACTS AND UNEXPIRED LEASES

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on May 15, 2020, the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Texas (the "<u>Court</u>") entered an order [Docket No. 204] (the "<u>Procedures Order</u>") in the above-referenced chapter 11 cases of above-captioned debtors and debtors in possession (collectively, the "<u>Debtors</u>"), establishing, among other things, procedures (the "<u>Rejection Procedures</u>") for the rejection of executory contracts and unexpired leases.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that, pursuant to the Procedures Order and by this written notice (this "<u>Rejection Notice</u>"), the Debtors hereby provide notice that they have determined, in the exercise of their business judgment, that each Contract set forth on <u>Exhibit I</u> attached hereto is hereby rejected effective as of the date (the "<u>Rejection Date</u>") set forth in <u>Exhibit I</u>, or such other date as the Debtors and the counterparty or counterparties to such Contract(s) agree in accordance with the Procedures Order.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that, parties seeking to object to the proposed rejection of any of the Contracts must file and serve a written objection so that such objection is

¹ The Debtors in these chapter 11 cases, along with the last four digits of each Debtor's federal tax identification number, are: Stage Stores, Inc. (6900) and Specialty Retailers, Inc. (1900). The Debtors' service address is: 2425 West Loop South, Houston, Texas 77027.



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filed with the Court and is actually received no later than fourteen days after the date that the Debtors served this Rejection Notice by the following parties: (i) the Debtors, 2425 West Loop South, Houston, Texas 77027, Attn: Office of the General Counsel (legalnotices@stage.com); (ii) counsel to the Debtors, (A) Kirkland & Ellis LLP, 300 North LaSalle, Chicago, Illinois 60654, Attn: Joshua M. Altman (joshua.altman@kirkland.com) and Kevin S. McClelland (kevin.mcclelland@kirkland.com), and (B) Jackson Walker L.L.P., 1401 McKinney Street, Suite 1900, Houston, Texas 77010, Attn: Matthew D. Cavenaugh (mcavenaugh@jw.com), Kristhy M. Peguero (kpeguero@jw.com), and Veronica A. Polnick (vpolnick@jw.com); (iii) The United States Trustee for the Southern District of Texas, 515 Rusk Street, Suite 3516, Houston, Texas 77002, Attn: Hector Duran and Stephen Statham; (iv) counsel to Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., (A) Riemer & Braunstein LLP, Times Square Tower, Suite 2506, Seven Times Square, New York, New York 10036, Attn: Steven E. Fox, and (B) Choate Hall & Stewart LLP, 2 International Pl, Boston, MA 02110, Attn: Kevin J. Simard; and (v) counsel to the official committee of unsecured creditors appointed in these chapter 11 cases.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that, absent an objection being timely filed, the rejection of each Contract shall become effective on the Rejection Date set forth in **Exhibit I**, or such other date as the Debtors and the counterparty or counterparties to such Contract(s) agree.²

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that, if an objection to the rejection of any Contract is timely filed and not withdrawn or resolved, the Debtors shall file a notice for a hearing to consider the objection for the Contract(s) to which such objection relates. If such objection is

² An objection to the rejection of any particular Contract listed in this Rejection Notice shall not constitute an objection to the rejection of any other contract or lease listed in this Rejection Notice. Any objection to the rejection of any particular Contract listed in this Rejection Notice must state with specificity the Contract to which it is directed. For each particular Contract whose rejection is not timely or properly objected to, such rejection will be effective in accordance with this Rejection Notice and the Procedures Order.

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overruled or withdrawn, such Contract(s) shall be rejected as of the Rejection Date set forth in **Exhibit I** or such other date as the Debtors and the counterparty or counterparties to such Contract(s) agree in accordance with the Procedures Order.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that, pursuant to the terms of the Procedures Order, if the Debtors have deposited monies with a Contract counterparty as a security deposit or other arrangement, the Contract counterparty may not set off or recoup or otherwise use such monies without further order of the Court, unless the Debtors and the counterparty or counterparties to such Contracts otherwise agree in accordance with the Procedures Order.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that, absent timely objection, any personal property of the Debtors that is listed and described in **Exhibit I** shall be deemed abandoned as of the Rejection Date.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that, to the extent you wish to assert a claim(s) with respect to rejection of your Contract(s), you must do so by the later of: (a) the claims bar date established in these chapter 11 cases, if any; (b) 30 days after the Rejection Date; and (c) any date established by further order of the Court. FAILURE TO ASSERT SUCH CLAIMS ON TIME WILL RESULT IN SUCH CLAIMS BEING FOREVER BARRED.

Houston, Texas October 29, 2020

/s/ Matthew D. Cavenaugh

JACKSON WALKER L.L.P. Matthew D. Cavenaugh (TX Bar No. 24062656) Jennifer F. Wertz (TX Bar No. 24072822) Kristhy M. Peguero (TX Bar No. 24102776) Veronica A. Polnick (TX Bar No. 24079148) 1401 McKinney Street, Suite 1900 Houston, Texas 77010 Telephone: (713) 752-4200 Facsimile: (713) 752-4221 Email: mcavenaugh@jw.com jwertz@jw.com kpeguero@jw.com vpolnick@jw.com

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Co-Counsel to the Debtors and Debtors in Possession Case 20-32564 Document 890 Filed in TXSB on 10/29/20 Page 5 of 6

<u>Exhibit I</u>

Rejected Contracts

Stage Rejected Contract

	Counterparty	Debtor Counterparty	Description of Contract	Counterparty Address	Rejection Date
	TALX Corporation, provider of Equifax Workforce Solutions	Specialty Retailers, Inc.	Universal service agreement authorizing TALX to provide employment or payroll related services	11432 Lackland Road St. Louis, MO 63146	1/31/2021
2.)	TALX Corporation, provider of Equifax Workforce Solutions	Specialty Retailers, Inc.		11432 Lackland Road St. Louis, MO 63146	1/31/2021