## Case 14-12524-abl Doc 4 Entered 04/13/14 23:15:07 Page 1 of 8

Docket #0004 Date Filed: 4/13/2014

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	NANCY A. MITCHELL (pro hac vice pending MARIA J. DICONZA (pro hac vice pending) GREENBERG TRAURIG, LLP The MetLife Building 200 Park Avenue New York, New York 10166 Telephone: 212-801-9200 Facsimile: 212-801-6400 Email: mitchelln@gtlaw.com diconzam@gtlaw.com  Counsel will comply with LR IA 10-2 within 14 days  Proposed Counsel for the Debtors	GREGORY E. GARMAN, NV Bar # 6654 THOMAS H. FELL, NV Bar # 3717 TERESA M. PILATOWICZ, NV Bar # 9605 GORDON SILVER 3960 Howard Hughes Parkway, 9th flr. Las Vegas, Nevada 89169 Telephone: 702-796-5555 Facsimile: 702-369-2666 Email: ggarman@gordonsilver.com tfell@gordonsilver.com tpilatowicz@gordonsilver.com	
10	and Debtors in Possession		
11			
12	UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT		
13	FOR THE DISTI	RICT OF NEVADA	
14	In re:	Case No.: BK-S-14-12524-abl Chapter 11	
15	TELEXFREE, LLC,		
16	Affects this Debtor	[PROPOSED] Jointly Administered with:	
17	Affects all Debtors	14-12525-abl TelexFree, Inc.	
18	Affects TELEXFREE, INC.	14-12526-abl TelexFree Financial, Inc	
19 20	Affects TELEXFREE FINANCIAL, INC	Date: OST REQUESTED Time: OST REQUESTED	
21	EMERGENCY MOTION OF THE D	EBTORS FOR ENTRY OF AN ORDER	
22		RATION OF CHAPTER 11 CASES	
23	The above-captioned debtors and debtors-in-possession (collectively, the "Debtors") <sup>1</sup>		
24	hereby move the Court (the "Motion") for entry of an order substantially in the form of the		
25	proposed order attached hereto as <b>Exhibit 1</b> : (i) authorizing and directing the joint administration		
26	The Debtors in these Chapter 11 Cases, along wi	th the last four (4) digits of each Debtor's federal tax	
27	identification number, are: TelexFree, LLC (0853), TelexFree, Inc. (1309) and TelexFree Financial, Inc (7555). The Debtors' business address is 225 Cedar Hill Street, Suite 200, Marlborough, Massachusetts		
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of the Debtors' related chapter 11 cases (the "Chapter 11 Cases") for procedural purposes only pursuant to Section 105(a) of Title 11 of the Bankruptcy Code (the "Bankruptcy Code"), Rules 1015(b) and 2002(n) of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the "Bankruptcy Rules"), and Rule 1015 of the Local Rules of Practice of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Nevada (the "Local Rules"), and (ii) providing any additional relief required in order to effectuate the foregoing. In support of this Motion, the Debtors respectfully state as follows:

### Status of the Case and Jurisdiction

- 1. On April 13, 2014 (the "**Petition Date**"), each of the Debtors filed a voluntary petition for relief under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 2. The Debtors have continued in possession of their properties and are operating and managing their businesses as debtors-in-possession pursuant to sections 1107(a) and 1108 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 3. The Court has jurisdiction over this Motion pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334. Venue is proper in this district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409. This matter is core within the meaning of 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2).
- 4. The statutory predicates for the relief sought herein are section 105(a) of the Bankruptcy Code, Bankruptcy Rules 1015(b) and 2002(n) and Local Rule 1015.
- 5. Pursuant to Local Rule 9014.2, the Debtors consent to entry of final order(s) or judgment(s) by the bankruptcy judge if it is determined that the bankruptcy judge, absent consent of the parties, cannot enter final orders or judgments consistent with Article III of the United States Constitution.

### **Background**

6. TelexFree, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company ("TelexFree Nevada"), TelexFree, Inc., a Massachusetts corporation ("TelexFree Massachusetts") and TelexFree Financial, Inc, a Florida corporation ("TelexFree Florida" and together with TelexFree Massachusetts and TelexFree Nevada, "TelexFree," the "Debtors" or the "Company") are a telecommunications business that uses multi-level marketing to assist in the distribution of voice over internet protocol ("VoIP") telephone services. TelexFree's retail VoIP product,

99TelexFree, allows for unlimited international calling to approximately seventy countries for a flat monthly rate of \$49.90. Customers of the Debtors' VoIP product ("Customers") used approximately 11 million minutes of the 99TelexFree VoIP service in February 2014. Since 99TelexFree was introduced in 2012, Customer usage increased on a monthly basis until March 2014.

- 7. TelexFree is operated as a multi-level marketing company, and currently has over 700,000 associates or promoters (the "Promoters") worldwide. Prior to the filing of these Chapter 11 Cases, TelexFree compensated Promoters for the sales of the VoIP product, the placing of advertisements and the recruitment of other Promoters down line. Because questions were raised about its compensation plan, the Company on March 9, 2014, discontinued its original compensation plan (the "Original Comp Plan") and replaced the Original Comp Plan with a revised compensation plan (the "Revised Comp Plan" and together with the Original Comp Plan, the "Pre-Petition Comp Plans"). At the time of the roll-out of the Revised Comp Plan, the Company decided to honor certain discretionary payments to Promoters under the Original Comp Plan. These discretionary payments quickly became a substantial drain on the Company's liquidity. The Company discontinued the Pre-Petition Comp Plans and ceased making discretionary payments under the Original Comp Plan prior to the Petition Date.
- 8. The Company believes the sales of the 99TelexFree product, the TelexFree "app," and other new products will ultimately prove successful and profitable. The Company is struggling, however, with several factors that required it to seek chapter 11 protection by filing these Chapter 11 Cases. First, the Company experienced exponential growth in revenue between 2012 and 2013 (from de minimus amounts to over \$1 billion), which put tremendous pressure on the Company's financial, operational and management systems. Second, although the Company revised its Original Comp Plan in order to address certain questions that were raised regarding such plan, the Company believes that the Pre-Petition Comp Plans need to be further revised. Finally, the trailing liabilities arising from the Original Comp Plan are difficult to quantify and have resulted in substantial asserted liabilities against the Company, a number of which may not be valid.

- 9. As a result, the Company filed these Chapter 11 Cases to obtain the breathing room to address its operational and regulatory issues, revise the Pre-Petition Comp Plans, and quantify and address the claims against it. The Company believes that a restructuring of its debt, adoption of a post-petition revised compensation plan, unveiling of new products (including the TelexFree app), and return to growing its Customer base will allow the Company to realize its full potential and generate significant value for its constituents.
- 10. A detailed factual background of the Debtors' businesses and operations, as well as the events precipitating the commencement of these Chapter 11 Cases, is more fully set forth in the *Omnibus Declaration of William H. Runge III in Support of the Debtors' Chapter 11 Petitions and Requests for First Day Relief* (the "First Day Declaration"), filed contemporaneously herewith and incorporated herein by reference.

#### **Relief Requested**

- 11. By this Motion, the Debtors seek entry of an order directing the joint administration of the Chapter 11 Cases and the consolidation thereof for procedural purposes only.
- 12. The Debtors also request that the caption of their Chapter 11 Cases be modified to reflect the joint administration of the Chapter 11 Cases substantially as follows:

In re:	Case No.: BK-S-14-12524-abi Chapter 11
TELEXFREE, LLC,	[PROPOSED]
Affects this Debtor	Jointly Administered with:
Affects all Debtors	14-12525 TelexFree, Inc. 14-12526 TelexFree Financial, I
Affects TELEXFREE, INC.	
Affects TELEXFREE FINANCIAL, INC	

13. In addition, the Debtors request that the Court authorize and direct that a notation substantially similar to the following notation be entered on the docket for each of the Debtors' Chapter 11 Cases to reflect the joint administration of these Chapter 11 Cases:

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An Order has been entered in this case directing the joint administration of the Chapter 11 Cases listed below under Case No. 14-12524-abl. The docket in Case No. 14-12524-abl should be consulted for all matters affecting this case. The following Chapter 11 Cases are jointly administered pursuant to such Order: Case No. 14-12524-abl; Case No. 14-12525-abl; and Case No. 14-12526-abl.

14. Finally, the Debtors request that the Court authorize that a combined service list be used for the jointly administered Chapter 11 Cases and that combined notices be sent to creditors of the Debtors' estates.

#### **Basis for Relief Requested**

- 15. Bankruptcy Rule 1015(b) provides that, if two or more petitions are pending in the same court by or against a debtor and an affiliate, the court may order the joint administration of the estates of a debtor and its affiliates. Fed. R. Bankr. P. 1015(b); LR 1015. Each entity has the same ownership, such that all of the Debtors constitute "affiliates" of one another within the meaning of 11 U.S.C. § 101(2).<sup>2</sup> Accordingly, the Court is authorized to grant the requested relief.
- 16. The First Day Declaration, filed simultaneously herewith, establishes that joint administration of these Chapter 11 Cases (a) is warranted because the Debtors' financial affairs and business operations are closely related, and (b) will ease the administrative burden on the Court and parties-in-interest in these Chapter 11 Cases. The Debtors anticipate that numerous notices, applications, motions, pleadings, hearings, orders, and other documents in these Chapter 11 Cases will affect all of the Debtors. With three (3) affiliated Debtors, each with its own case docket, the failure to administer these Chapter 11 Cases jointly would result in numerous duplicative pleadings being filed and served upon parties identified in separate service lists. Such duplication of substantially identical documents would be extremely wasteful and would

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Section 101(2) of the Bankruptcy Code defines "affiliate" to include, in relevant part, an "entity that directly or indirectly owns, controls, or holds with power to vote, 20 percent or more of the outstanding voting securities of the debtor" and a "corporation 20 percent or more of whose outstanding voting securities are directly or indirectly owned, controlled, or held with power to vote, by the debtor, or by an entity that directly or indirectly owns, controls, or holds with power to vote, 20 percent or more of the outstanding voting securities of the debtor..." 11 U.S.C. § 101(2).

unnecessarily overburden the Debtors, the Clerk of the Court (the "Clerk"), creditors, and other parties-in-interest in these Chapter 11 Cases.

- 17. Joint administration will permit the Clerk to use a single general docket for the Debtors' Chapter 11 Cases and to combine notices to creditors and other parties-in-interest of the Debtors' respective estates. Joint administration also will protect parties-in-interest by ensuring that such parties-in-interest in each of the Debtors' respective cases will be apprised of the various matters before the Court in all of these Chapter 11 Cases.
- 18. The Debtors request that the official caption to be used by all parties in all pleadings in the jointly-administered Chapter 11 Cases be in the form as set forth in this Motion. The Debtors submit that use of this simplified caption, without reference to each Debtor's respective address and other detail specified by Section 342(c) of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rule 2002(n), will eliminate cumbersome and confusing procedures and ensure a uniformity of pleading identification. Such case-specific information is publicly available in the petitions, and the Debtors therefore submit that the policies behind Section 342(c) of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rule 2002(n) have been satisfied. Additionally, the proposed caption complies with LR 1015(i).
- 19. The rights of the respective creditors of each of the Debtors will not be adversely affected by joint administration of these Chapter 11 Cases because the relief sought is purely procedural and is in no way intended to affect substantive rights. Each creditor and party-in-interest will maintain claims or rights it has against the particular estate in which it allegedly has a claim or right. Indeed, the rights of all creditors will be enhanced by the efficiencies and reductions in costs resulting from joint administration. The Court also will be relieved of the burden of entering duplicative orders and keeping duplicative files. Supervision of the administrative aspects of these Chapter 11 Cases by the Office of the United States Trustee also will be simplified.
- 20. The relief requested herein is commonly granted in this District. See In re Jerry's Nugget, Inc., Case No. 12-19387-mkn, ECF No. 48 (Bankr. D. Nev. August 17, 2012); In re 155 East Tropicana, LLC, 11-22216-bam, ECF No. 56 (Bankr. D. Nev. August 8, 2011); In re Black

Gaming, LLC, Case No. 10-13301-bam, ECF No. 70 (Bankr. D. Nev. March 5, 2010); In re Zante, Inc., Case No. 09-50746-gwz, ECF No. 34 (Bankr. D. Nev. March 23, 2009).

Notice

21. Notice of this Motion has been given to the following parties or, in lieu thereof, to their counsel, if known: (a) the Office of the United States Trustee for the District of Nevada; (b)

creditors holding the thirty (30) largest unsecured claims as set forth in the consolidated list filed with the Debtors' petitions; (c) those parties requesting notice pursuant to Rule 2002; (d) the Office of the United States Attorney General for the District of Nevada; (e) the Massachusetts

Securities Division; (f) the Internal Revenue Service; (g) the Nevada Department of

Employment, Training & Rehab, Employment Security Division; (h) the Nevada Department of

Taxation, Bankruptcy Section; and (i) the Securities and Exchange Commission. The Debtors

submit that, in light of the nature of the relief requested, no other or further notice need be given.

## No Prior Request

22. No prior request for the relief sought in this Motion has been made to this or any other court.

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#### Conclusion .

WHEREFORE, the Debtors respectfully request that the Court enter an order substantially in the form of the proposed order attached hereto as **Exhibit 1** granting the relief requested herein and that it grant the Debtors such other and further relief as is just and proper.

DATED this \_\_\_\_\_\_ day of April, 2014.

**GORDON SILVER** 

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THOMAS H. FELL, ESQ.
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**AND** 

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the joint administration of the Debtors' affiliated chapter 11 cases for procedural purposes only pursuant to Section 342(c) of Title 11 of the Bankruptcy Code (the "Bankruptcy Code"), Rules 1015(b) and 2002(n) of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the "Bankruptcy Rules"), and Rule 1015 of the Local Rules of Bankruptcy Practice of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Nevada (the "Local Rules"), and (ii) providing any additional relief required in order to effectuate the foregoing; the Court, having reviewed the Motion and having heard the statements of counsel in support of the relief requested in the Motion at the hearing before the Court (the "Hearing"), finds that the Court has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334, this is a core matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2), venue is proper in this district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409, notice of the Motion and the Hearing were sufficient under the circumstances and that no further notice need be given, and the legal and factual bases set forth in the Motion and at the Hearing establish just cause for the relief granted herein,

#### THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- 1. For the reasons set forth on the record, the Motion is GRANTED.
- 2. Pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 1015(b) and Local Rule 1015, the above-captioned Chapter 11 Cases are hereby consolidated for procedural purposes only and shall be jointly administered by this Court.
- 3. Nothing contained in this Order shall be deemed or construed as directing or otherwise effecting a substantive consolidation of the above-captioned cases, and this Order shall be without prejudice to the rights of the Debtors to seek entry of an order substantively consolidating their respective cases.

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### Case 14-12524-abl Doc 4-1 Entered 04/13/14 23:15:07 Page 3 of 4 4. The caption of the Debtors' jointly administered cases shall read as follows: 1 2 In re: Case No.: BK-S-14-12524-abl Chapter 11 3 TELEXFREE, LLC, [PROPOSED] 4 Affects this Debtor Jointly Administered with: 5 Affects all Debtors 14-12525 TelexFree, Inc. 6 14-12526 TelexFree Financial, Inc Affects TELEXFREE, INC. 7 Affects TELEXFREE FINANCIAL, INC 8 9 5. A docket entry shall be made in each of the Debtors' Chapter 11 Cases 10 substantially as follows: 11 An Order has been entered in this case directing the joint 12 administration of the Chapter 11 Cases listed below under Case No. 14-12524-abl. The docket in Case No. 14-12524-abl should 13 be consulted for all matters affecting this case. The following Chapter 11 Cases are jointly administered pursuant to such Order: 14 Case No. 14-12524-abl; Case No. 14-12525-abl; and Case No. 14-12526-abl. 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

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	d .
1	6. The Court shall retain jurisdiction to hear and determine all matters arising from
2	or relating to the interpretation or implementation of this Order.
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4	Submitted by:
5	GORDON SILVER
6	
7	By: GREGORY E. GARMAN, ESQ.
8	THOMAS H. FELL, ESQ.
9	TERESA M. PILATOWICZ, ESQ. 3960 Howard Hughes Pkwy., 9th Floor
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11	AND
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