Case 14-12524-abl Doc 8 Entered 04/13/14 23:47:55 Page 1 of 9

Docket #0008 Date Filed: 4/13/2014

- 1				
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 Proposed Counsel for the Debtors and Debtors in Possession	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		
9	IINITED STATES R	ANKRUPTCV COURT		
10	UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEVADA			
11	In re:	Case No.: BK-S-14-12524-abl		
12	TELEXFREE, LLC,	Chapter 11		
13 14	Affects this Debtor	[PROPOSED] Jointly Administered with:		
15	Affects all Debtors	14-12525 TelexFree, Inc. 14-12526 TelexFree Financial, Inc		
16	Affects TELEXFREE, INC.			
17	Affects TELEXFREE FINANCIAL, INC	Date: Time:		
18	MOTION OF THE DEBTOR	S FOR ENTRY OF AN ORDER		
1920	AUTHORIZING THE DEBTORS TO REJECT CERTAIN EXECUTORY CONTRACTS NUNC PRO TUNC AS OF THE PETITION DATE			
21	The above-captioned debtors and debtors-in-possession (collectively, the "Debtors") ¹			
22	hereby move the Court (the "Motion") pursuant to section 365(a) of title 11 of the United States			
23	Code, 11 U.S.C. §§ 101-1532 (the "Bankruptcy Code") and Rule 6006 of the Federal Rules of			
24	Bankruptcy Procedure (the "Bankruptcy Rule	es") for entry of an order authorizing the Debtors		
25				
26	1			
27	¹ The Debtors in these Chapter 11 Cases, along with the last four (4) digits of each Debtor's federal tax 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, Massachusett.			
28	(7555). The Debtors' business address is 225 Ced 01752.	lar Hill Street, Suite 200, Mariborough, Massachusetts		

Gordon Silver Attorneys At Law Ninth Floor 3960 Howard Hughes Pkwy Las Vegas, Nevada 89169 (702) 796-5555

	ı
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	İ
20	1
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	

to reject certain executory contracts *nunc pro tunc* as of the Petition Date (as defined herein). In support of this Motion, the Debtors respectfully state as follows:

Status of the Case

- 1. On the date hereof (the "Petition Date"), the Debtors commenced these cases by filing voluntary petitions for relief under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code (the "Chapter 11 Cases").
- 2. The Debtors have continued in possession of their properties and are operating and managing their business as debtors-in-possession pursuant to sections 1107(a) and 1108 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 3. No request has been made for the appointment of a trustee or examiner, and a creditors' committee has not yet been appointed in these cases.

Jurisdiction, Venue, and Statutory Predicates

- 4. 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. This matter is core within the meaning of 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2).
- 5. The statutory predicates for the relief sought herein are section 365(a) of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rule 6006.
- 6. Pursuant to LR 9014.2, 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

7. 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,

26

27

6

16

17

26

27

28

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.

- 8. 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 Petition Date.
- 9. 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 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.

- 10. As a result, the Company filed these 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 Debtors believe 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.
- 11. 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

- 12. By this Motion, the Debtors respectfully request entry of an order, substantially in the form attached hereto, authorizing and approving the Debtors' rejection of all of agreements between the Debtors and the Promoters under both the Original Comp Plan and the Revised Comp Plan (collectively, the "**Rejected Contracts**").
- 13. As of the Petition Date, the Debtors and the Promoters each had material unperformed obligations pursuant to the Rejected Contracts. The Rejected Contracts require the Promoters to comply with certain provisions to act in accordance with the agreement, including, among other things: (i) strictly adhering to the rules and schedules established by the Debtors' system, (ii) indemnifying the Company for actions arising from the Promoters use of the Debtors' systems, (iii) agreeing to receive messages in their inbox maintained on the Debtors' electronic messaging systems, (iv) respecting and complying with all local, municipal, state, federal, and international laws and regulations, (v) refraining from soliciting other Promoters to participate in other multilevel marketing businesses, (vi) providing true, accurate and complete information and ensuring that information is current and accurate, (vii) refraining from engaging in other multilevel marketing activities similar to the services provided by the Debtors, and (viii) protecting the intellectual property of the Debtors. In addition, the Debtors have material on-

going obligations pursuant to the Rejected Contracts, including, among other things, (i) maintaining the virtual environment utilized by the Promoters and (ii) paying certain compensation, bonuses and incentives to the Promoters for certain actions taken by the Promoters which are authorized by the Agreements.

14. In the exercise of their business judgment, the Debtors have determined that the Rejected Contracts and the obligations thereunder are burdensome to their estates and as such the agreements should be rejected. To the extent notice of intention to reject has not been previously provided, the filing and service of this Motion shall serve as notice to each non-Debtor party to the Rejected Contracts of the Debtors' intention to reject the Rejected Contracts.

Basis for Relief Requested

- A. Rejection of the Rejected Contracts is an Exercise of the Debtors' Sound Business Judgment
 - 15. Section 365(a) of the Bankruptcy Code provides in pertinent part:
 - (a) Except as provided in section 765 and 766 of this title and in subsections (b), (c) and (d) of this section, the trustee, subject to the court's approval, may assume or reject any executory contract or unexpired lease of the debtor.

11 U.S.C. § 365(a).

16. Rejection of an executory contract is appropriate where, in the exercise of the debtor's sound business judgment, the debtor determines that rejection of the contract would benefit the estate. See Sharon Steel Corp. v. Nat'l Fuel Gas Distribution Corp. (In re Sharon Steel Corp.), 872 F.2d 36, 40 (3d Cir. 1989). The decision to assume or reject an executory contract is a matter within the business judgment of the debtor. See, e.g., Nat'l Labor Relations Bd. v. Bildisco (In re Bildisco), 682 F.2d 72, 79 (3d Cir. 1982); see also Jr. Food Mart of Arkansas, Inc. v. Attebury (In re Jr. Food Mart of Arkansas, Inc.), 131 B.R. 116, 120 (Bankr. E.D. Ark. 1991) (approving the debtor's decision in its business judgment to reject an employment contract). The business judgment standard mandates that a court approve a trustee's business decision unless the decision is the product of bad faith, whim or caprice. See In re Trans World Airlines, Inc., 261 B.R. 103, 121 (Bankr. D. Del. 2001); see also Summit Land Co.

v. Allen (In re Summit Land Co.), 13 B.R. 310, 315 (Bankr. D. Utah 1981) (absent extraordinary circumstances, court approval of a debtor's decision to assume or reject an executory contract "should be granted as a matter of course").

- 17. Rejection of an executory contract is appropriate where rejection of the contract would benefit the estate. See Sharon Steel Corp. v. Nat'l Fuel Gas Distribution Corp. (In re Sharon Steel Corp.), 872 F.2d 36, 40 (3d Cir. 1989). The standard for rejection is satisfied when a trustee or debtor has made a business determination that rejection will benefit the estate. See Commercial Fin. Ltd v. Hawaii Dimensions, Inc. (In re Hawaii Dimensions, Inc.), 47 B.R. 425, 427 (D. Haw. 1985) ("under the business judgment test, a court should approve a debtor's proposed rejection if such rejection with benefit the estate."). If the trustee's or debtor's business judgment has been reasonably exercised, a court should approve the assumption or rejection of an unexpired lease or executory contract. See, e.g., NLRB v. Bildisco & Bildisco, 462 U.S. at 523 (1984); In re Federal Mogul Global, Inc., 293 B.R. 124, 126 (D. Del. 2003).
- 18. In applying the business judgment standard, courts show great deference to the trustee's or debtor's decisions to reject. See e.g. RLRB v. Bildisco, 262 U.S. at 524 (1984); In re Federal Mogul Global, Inc., 293 B.R. at 126 (D. Del. 2003) (court should approve a debtor's decision to reject a contract unless that decision is the product of bad faith or a gross abuse of discretion); Summit Land Co. v. Allen (In re Summit Land Co.), 13 B.R. 310, 315 (Bankr. D. Utah 1981) (absent extraordinary circumstances, court approval of a debtor's decision to assume or reject an executory contract "should be granted as a matter of course").
- 19. The rejection of the Rejected Contracts constitutes a valid exercise of the Debtors' business judgment as the Rejected Contracts represent a significant burden to the Debtors' estates. Under the Original Comp Plan, Promoters have and are continuing to assert substantial claims against the Debtors. While the Debtors believe that many of those claims are invalid, the Debtors continue to be burdened by the demands made under the Original Comp Plan. In addition, questions were raised as to whether the Original Comp Plan is compliant with law, which jeopardized the Debtors' business. Although the financial demands are less under the

3

8

14

15

13

16 17

18

19 20

21

22 23

24

25

26 27

28

Debtors to continue operating their business. 20. Because neither of the Pre-Petition Comp Plans meets the needs of the Debtors'

Revised Comp Plan, the Revised Comp Plan does not generate sufficient revenues for the

businesses, the Debtors intend to discontinue and reject the Pre-Petition Comp Plans and quantify the legitimate claims under those Plans. Once the legitimate claims have been quantified and the Company has developed a new compensation program, the Debtors hope to reorganize and satisfy the claims against them.

В. Rejection of the Rejected Contracts as of the Petition Date is Warranted

- 21. Pursuant to section 365(a) of the Bankruptcy Code, the Debtors seek to reject the Rejected Contracts effective as of the filing date of this Motion, in order to avoid the possibility of incurring any additional expenses and costs related to the Rejected Contracts. See NLRB v. Bildisco, 465 U.S. 530 (1984) (stating that rejection relates back to the petition date). Furthermore, a court may permit retrospective rejection to avoid unduly exposing a debtor's estate to unwarranted postpetition administrative or other expenses. See In re Amber's Stores, Inc., 193 B.R. 819, 827 (N.D. Tex. 1996). See also In re Thinking Mach. Corp., 67 F.3d 1021, 1028 (1st Cir. 1995) ("bankruptcy courts may enter retroactive orders of approval, and should do so when the balance of equalities preponderates in favor of such remediation."); In re Jamesway Corp., 179 B.R. 33, 37-38 (S.D.N.Y. 1995) (affirming bankruptcy court's retroactive approval of lease rejection). See also In re CCI Wireless, LLC, 297 B.R. 133, 140 (D. Col. 2003) (holding that a bankruptcy court "has authority under section 365(d)(3) to set the effective date of rejection at least as early as the filing date of the motion to reject").
- As a result of the circumstances that led to the filing of these Chapter 11 Cases, as 22. set forth in the First Day Declaration, the Debtors have determined that it is imperative that they reject the Rejected Contracts as of the Petition Date so as to quantify claims thereunder and work on putting a new program in place. The Debtors believe that continuing to accrue claims under the Rejected Contracts will not offer additional value to their estates but would instead result in the further degradation of the Debtors' cash reserves. Therefore, the Rejected Contracts are appropriate for immediate rejection.

C. Deadline to File Rejection Damages Claims

23. The Debtors anticipate that certain creditors may assert claims in connection with the Debtors' rejection of the Rejected Contracts pursuant to section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code. The Debtors propose that a counterparty to the Rejected Contract must file a proof of claim with respect to any claim relating to the Rejected Contracts on or before the later of (a) any bar date established by this Court or (b) thirty (30) days after the entry of an order by the Court authorizing the rejection of the Rejected Contracts

Request for Waiver of Stay

- 24. The Debtors seek a waiver of any stay of the effectiveness of the order approving this Motion. Pursuant to FED. R. BANKR. P. 6004(h), "[an] order authorizing the use, sale, or lease of property other than cash collateral is stayed until the expiration of ten (10) days after entry of the order, unless the court orders otherwise." As set forth above, the relief requested herein is essential to prevent irreparable damage to the Debtors' operations, going-concern value, and their efforts to pursue a sale or restructuring of their assets and liabilities.
- 25. Accordingly, the relief requested herein is appropriate under the circumstances and under FED. R. BANKR. P. 6004(h).

Notice

26. Notice of this Motion will be provided in accordance with the notice procedures established pursuant to the Emergency Motion of the Debtors for Entry of an Order Designating and Approving the Form and Manner of Notice of the Motion of the Debtors for Entry of an Order Authorizing the Debtors to Reject Certain Executory Contracts Nunc Pro Tunc as of the Petition Date. Notice will also 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 Securities and Exchange Commission; (h) the Nevada Department of Employment, Training & Rehab, Employment

(702) 796-5555

1	3
2	،
3	
4	
5	
6	،
7	
8	
9	،
10	
11	
12	؛
13	1
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	
26	
27	

Security Division; (i) the Nevada Department of Taxation, Bankruptcy Section; and (j) the counterparty to each Rejected Contract in accordance with the procedures requested by the *Motion of the Debtors Pursuant to Section 105(a) of the Bankruptcy Code, Bankruptcy Rules 1007, 2002(I), 2002(I), 2002(m) and 9007, Local Rule 2002 for Entry of an Order Approving Notice Procedures.* The Debtors submit that, in light of the nature of the relief requested, no other or further notice need be given.

No Prior Request

27. No previous application for the relief sought herein has been made to this or any other court.

Conclusion

WHEREFORE, the Debtors respectfully request that this 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 100 day of April, 2014.

GORDON SILVER

By: GREGORY E. GARMAN, ESQ.

THOMAS H. FELL, ESQ.

TERESA M. PILATOWICZ, ESQ.

3960 Howard Hughes Pkwy., 9th Floor

Las Vegas, Nevada 89169

AND

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

Proposed Counsel for the Debtors and Debtors in Possession

Vegas, Nevada 89169 (702) 796-5555 Case 14-12524-abl Doc 8-1 Entered 04/13/14 23:47:55 Page 1 of 3

16

18 19

20

21 22

23 24

25 26

27

28

possession (collectively, the "Debtors") pursuant to section 365(a) of title 11 of the United States Code, 11 U.S.C. §§ 101-1532 (the "Bankruptcy Code") and Rule 6006 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the "Bankruptcy Rules") for entry of an order: authorizing the Debtors to reject certain executory contracts and unexpired leases, nunc pro tunc as of the Petition Date (as defined herein), and upon the Declaration of William H. Runge III in Support of the Debtors' Chapter 11 Petitions and Requests for First Day Relief (the "First Day **Declaration**"); and it appearing that this Court has jurisdiction to consider the Motion pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334; and it appearing that venue of these cases and the Motion in this district is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409; and it appearing that this matter is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b); and this Court having determined that the relief requested in the Motion is in the best interests of the Debtors, their estates, their creditors and other parties in interest; and it appearing that proper and adequate notice of the Motion has been given and that no other or further notice is necessary; and after due deliberation thereon; and good and sufficient cause appearing therefor,

Upon the motion (the "Motion")¹, filed by the above-captioned debtors and debtors-in-

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- 1. For the reasons set forth on the record, the Motion is GRANTED.
- 2. The Rejected Contracts are hereby rejected, effective nunc pro tunc as of the Petition Date.
- 3. Any counterparty to the Rejected Contracts must file a proof of claim with respect to any claim relating to the Rejected Contracts on or before the later of (a) the date that is ninety (90) days after the Petition Date or (b) thirty (30) days after the entry of this Order.
- 4. Notwithstanding any applicability of Bankruptcy Rule 6004(h), the terms and conditions of this Order shall be immediately effective and enforceable upon its entry.

(702) 796-5555

Capitalized terms not defined herein have meanings ascribed to them in the Motion.

Case 14-12524-abl Doc 8-1 Entered 04/13/14 23:47:55 Page 3 of 3

1	5. This Court shall, and hereby does, retain jurisdiction with respect to all matters
2	arising from or related to the implementation and interpretation of this Order.
3	Submitted by:
4	GORDON SILVER
5	
6	By: GREGORY E. GARMAN, ESQ.
7	THOMAS H. FELL, ESQ.
8	TERESA M. PILATOWICZ, ESQ. 3960 Howard Hughes Pkwy., 9th Floor
9	Las Vegas, Nevada 89169
10	AND
11	NANCY A. MITCHELL (pro hac vice pending)
12	MARIA J. DICONZA (pro hac vice pending) GREENBERG TRAURIG, LLP
13	The MetLife Building 200 Park Avenue
14	New York, New York 10166
15	Proposed Counsel for the Debtors
16	and Debtors in Possession
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	
26	
27	
28	

Gordon Silver Attorneys At Law Ninth Floor 3960 Howard Hughes Pkwy Las Vegas, Nevada 89169 (702) 796-5555