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On October 1, 2018, Verity Health System of California, Inc. and the above-referenced affiliated debtors, debtors and debtors in possession in the above-captioned administratively consolidated chapter 11 bankruptcy cases (collectively, the "Debtors") filed the *Motion For An Order Authorizing The Debtors To Retain And Compensate Professionals Utilized By The Debtors In The Ordinary Course Of Business;* (the "Motion") [Docket No. 364]. The Court granted the Motion and an order approving the Motion was entered October 29, 2018 [Docket No. 693].

The Debtor hereby files the attached Declaration in support of the retention of: Stephenson, Acquisto & Colman.

Dated: January 15, 2019

DENTONS US LLP SAMUEL R. MAIZEL JOHN A. MOE, II TANIA R. MOYRON

By <u>/s/John A. Moe, II</u> JOHN A. MOE, II

Attorneys for the Debtors

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I, David F. Mastan, hereby declare that the following is true to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

- 1. I am a Partner of Stephenson, Acquisto & Colman (the "Firm"), which maintains offices at 303 North Glenoaks Blvd., Ste. 700, Burbank, CA 91502.
- 2. This Declaration is submitted in connection with an Order of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California, Los Angeles Division dated October 29, 2018 [Docket No. 693], authorizing the above-captioned debtor and debtor in possession (the "Debtor") to retain certain professionals in the ordinary course of business during the pendency of the Debtor's chapter 11 cases, effective as of the Petition Date.
- 3. The Firm, through me, and members of the firm, have represented and advised the Debtors, or entities now owned or controlled by Debtors, as legal counsel with the following aspects of the Debtors' businesses or legal affairs, including health care reimbursement litigation and debt collection, since 1994.
- 4. The Debtors have requested, and the Firm has agreed, to continue to provide services to the Debtors pursuant to section 327(b) of chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code") with respect to such matters. More specifically, the Debtors have requested, and the Firm proposes to render, the following services to the Debtors: The Law Offices of Stephenson, Acquisto & Colman, Inc. ("SAC") specializes in representing medical providers (overwhelmingly hospitals) pursuing unpaid or underpaid claims for medical care payments against large institutional payors such as HMO's and PPO's, governmental entities and ERISA health plans. Aside from certain narrow exceptions not pertinent here, SAC provides its services to hospitals on a sliding-scale, contingency fee basis. SAC does expect its clientele to pay for costs in arrears (except for arbitration fees which must be paid upfront) but does not charge attorney's fees at all unless SAC succeeds in obtaining payments for hospitals. SAC has provided services to Verity prepetition. SAC continues to provide services pursuant to a contingency fee rate agreement. SAC will only be paid as funds are recovered and delivered to the Debtors.
- 5. The Firm's current customary reimbursement rates, subject to change from time to time, are based upon a contingency fee agreement.

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6. To the best of my knowledge, formed after due inquiry, neither I, the Firm, nor an
employee thereof has any connection with the Debtors or currently represents any creditors, other
parties-in-interest, the United States Trustee or any person employed by the Office of the Unite
States Trustee with respect to the matters upon which it is to be engaged, and the Firm does not, b
reason of any direct or indirect relationship to, connection with, or interest in the Debtors, hold of
represent any interest adverse to the Debtors, the estate or any class of creditors or equity interest
holders, other than amounts due the Firm set forth below.

- 7. In addition, although unascertainable at this time after due inquiry, the Firm may have in the past represented, currently represent, and may in the future represent entities that are claimants of the Debtors in matters entirely unrelated to the Debtors and the Estates. The Firm does not and will not represent any such entity in connection with these pending chapter 11 cases and does not have any relationship with any such entity, attorneys or accountants that would be adverse to the Debtors or the Estates.
- 8. The Firm's process of ascertaining what, if any, connection it may have with any interest adverse to the Debtors, the Estates or any class of creditors or equity interest holders, consists of the following: we reviewed of the Debtors' top 50 list of general unsecured creditors and the Debtors' list of creditors asserting secured claims.
- 9. In the past year, the Firm has rendered services that have not yet been billed or that have been billed but with respect to which payment has not yet been received. The Firm is currently owed \$119,089.30 on account of such prepetition services. I understand that payment of such amount is dependent upon the Firm filing a Proof of Claim, and the Claim being determined to be an allowed Claim, and the Debtors paying an amount commensurate with what it is permitted to pay and can pay.
- In light of the foregoing, I believe that the Firm does not hold or represent any 10. interest materially adverse to the Debtors, the estate, creditors, or equity interest holders, as identified to the Firm, with respect to the matters in which the firm will be engaged.
- 11. Except as set forth herein, no promises have been received by the Firm or any partner, associate or other professional thereof as to compensation in connection with these

1 chapter 11 cases other than in accordance with the provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, the Federal 2 Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure ("Bankruptcy Rule"), the Local Rules of the United States 3 Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California ("LBR"), and orders of this Court. The Firm further states that it has not shared, nor agreed to share any compensation 4 12. 5 received in connection with this chapter 11 case with another party or person, other than as 6 permitted by section 504(b) of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rule 2016. 7 13. The foregoing constitutes the statement of the Firm pursuant to sections 329 and 504 8 of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rules 2014 and 2016(b). 9 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America, that the 10 foregoing is true and correct. Executed this 15th day of January, 2019 at Burbank, California. 11 12 13 DAVID F. MASTAN 14 STEPHENSON, ACQUISTO & COLMAN 303 North Glenoaks Blvd., Suite 700 15 BURBANK, CA 91502 TELEPHONE: 818.559.4477 16 FACSIMILE: 818.559.5484 17 E-MAIL: DMASTAN@SACFIRM.COM 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

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