

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

In re:	x :	Chapter 11
SUPERIOR ENERGY SERVICES, INC., et al., <sup>1</sup>	• :	Case No. 20-35812 (DRJ)
Debtors.	• : :	(Jointly Administered)
	v	

## **ORDER (I) AUTHORIZING EMPLOYMENT AND RETENTION OF** KURTZMAN CARSON CONSULTANTS LLC AS CLAIMS, NOTICING, AND SOLICITATION AGENT EFFECTIVE AS OF THE PETITION DATE [Relates to Motion at Docket No. 14]

Upon the emergency application (the "<u>Application</u>")<sup>2</sup> of the above-captioned debtors and debtors in possession (collectively, the "Debtors") for entry of an order (this "Retention Order") authorizing the employment and retention of Kurtzman Carson Consultants LLC ("KCC") as claims, noticing, and solicitation agent effective as of the Petition Date, to, among other things, (i) distribute required notices to parties in interest, (ii) receive, maintain, docket, and otherwise administer the proofs of claim filed in the Chapter 11 Cases, and (iii) provide such other administrative services, as required by the Debtors, that would fall within the purview of services to be provided by the Clerk's Office, all as more fully set forth in the Application; and upon the First Day Declaration; and upon the Jordan Declaration submitted in support of the Application;

<sup>2</sup> Capitalized terms used but not defined herein have the meanings ascribed to such terms in the Application.



<sup>1</sup> The Debtors in these cases, along with the last four digits of each Debtor's federal tax identification number, are: Superior Energy Services, Inc. (9388), SESI, L.L.C. (4124), Superior Energy Services-North America Services, Inc. (5131), Complete Energy Services, Inc. (9295), Warrior Energy Services Corporation (9424), SPN Well Services, Inc. (2682), Pumpco Energy Services, Inc. (7310), 1105 Peters Road, L.L.C. (4198), Connection Technology, L.L.C. (4128), CSI Technologies, LLC (6936), H.B. Rentals, L.C. (7291), International Snubbing Services, L.L.C. (4134), Stabil Drill Specialties, L.L.C. (4138), Superior Energy Services, L.L.C. (4196), Superior Inspection Services, L.L.C. (4991), Wild Well Control, Inc. (3477), and Workstrings International, L.L.C. (0390). The Debtors' address is 1001 Louisiana Street, Suite 2900, Houston, Texas 77002.

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and the Debtors having estimated that there are thousands of creditors in the Chapter 11 Cases; and it appearing that the receiving, docketing, and maintaining of any proofs of claim filed would be unduly time consuming and burdensome for the Clerk; and the Court being authorized under section 156(c) of title 28 of the United States Code to utilize, at the Debtors' expense, outside agents and facilities to provide notices to parties in these Chapter 11 Cases and to receive, docket, maintain, photocopy, and transmit any proofs of claim; and the Court being satisfied that KCC has the capability and experience to provide such services and that KCC does not hold an interest adverse to the Debtors or their estates respecting the matters upon which it is to be engaged; and it appearing that the employment of KCC is in the best interests of the Debtors, their estates, and their creditors; and this Court having jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1334; and this Court having found that this is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2); and this Court having found that it may enter a final order consistent with Article III of the United States Constitution; and this Court having found that venue of this proceeding and the Application in this district is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409; and it appearing that proper and adequate notice of the Application has been given under the circumstances and that no other or further notice is necessary; and all objections, if any, to entry of this Retention Order having been withdrawn, resolved, or overruled; and upon the record herein; and after due deliberation thereon; and the Court having determined that there is good and sufficient cause for the relief granted in the Retention Order, it is hereby

### **ORDERED THAT:**

1. Notwithstanding the terms of the Services Agreement attached to the Application, the Application is approved solely as set forth in this Retention Order.

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2. The Debtors are authorized to retain KCC effective as of the Petition Date under the terms of the Services Agreement, and KCC is authorized and directed to perform noticing services and to receive, maintain, record, and otherwise administer the proofs of claim filed in the Chapter 11 Cases, and all related tasks, all as described in the Application as the KCC Services.

3. KCC shall serve as the custodian of court records and shall be designated as the authorized repository for all proofs of claim filed in the Chapter 11 Cases and is authorized and directed to maintain official claims registers for each of the Debtors and to provide the Clerk with a certified duplicate thereof upon the request of the Clerk.

4. KCC is authorized and directed to provide an electronic interface for filing of proofs of claim and to obtain a post office box or address for the receipt of proofs of claim. KCC shall provide access to the claims register, including complete proofs of claim with attachments, if any, without charge.

5. KCC is authorized to take such other action to comply with all duties set forth in the Application.

6. The Debtors are authorized to compensate KCC in accordance with the terms of the Services Agreement, upon the receipt of reasonably detailed invoices setting forth the services provided by KCC and the rates charged for each, and to reimburse KCC for all reasonable and necessary expenses it may incur, upon the presentation of appropriate documentation, without the need for KCC to file fee applications or otherwise seek Court approval for the compensation of its services and reimbursement of its expenses.

7. KCC shall maintain records of all services performed, showing dates, categories of services, fees charged and expenses incurred, and shall serve monthly invoices on the Debtors, the U.S. Trustee, counsel for the Debtors, counsel to the Ad Hoc Noteholder Group, and counsel for

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any official committee monitoring the expenses of the Debtors and any party in interest who specifically requests service of the monthly invoices.

8. The parties shall meet and confer in an attempt to resolve any dispute that may arise relating to the Services Agreement or monthly invoices, and the parties may seek resolution of the matter from the Court if resolution is not achieved.

9. Pursuant to section 503(b)(1)(A) of the Bankruptcy Code, the fees and expenses of KCC under this Retention Order shall be an administrative expense of the Debtors' estates.

10. KCC may apply its retainer to all prepetition invoices, which retainer shall be replenished to the original retainer amount, and thereafter, KCC may hold its retainer under the Services Agreement during the Chapter 11 Cases as security for the payment of fees and expenses incurred under the Services Agreement.

11. The Debtors shall indemnify the Indemnified Parties (as defined in the Services Agreement) under the terms of the Services Agreement as modified by this Retention Order.

12. The Indemnified Parties shall not be entitled to indemnification, contribution, or reimbursement pursuant to the Services Agreement for services other than the services provided under the Services Agreement, unless such services and the indemnification, contribution, or reimbursement therefor are approved by the Court.

13. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Services Agreement, the Debtors shall have no obligation to indemnify an Indemnified Party, or provide contribution or reimbursement to an Indemnified Party for any claim or expense that is: (a) judicially determined (the determination having become final) to have arisen from the Indemnified Party's gross negligence, willful misconduct, breach of fiduciary duty (if any), self-dealing or fraud; (b) for a contractual dispute in which the Debtors allege the breach of an Indemnified Party's contractual

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obligations if this Court determines that indemnification, contribution, or reimbursement would not be permissible under applicable law; (c) of any type for which the Court determines that indemnification, contribution or reimbursement would not be permissible pursuant to *In re Thermadyne Holding Corp.*, 283 B.R. 749, 756 (B.A.P. 8th Cir. 2002); or (d) settled prior to a judicial determination under (a) or (b) but determined by the Court, after notice and a hearing, to be a claim or expense for which an Indemnified Party should not receive indemnity, contribution, or reimbursement under the terms of the Services Agreement as modified by this Retention Order. KCC shall not be entitled to indemnification, contribution, or reimbursement pursuant to the Services Agreement for services other than the services provided under the Services Agreement, unless such services and the indemnification, contribution, or reimbursement therefor are approved by this Court.

14. If, before the earlier of (a) the entry of an order confirming a chapter 11 plan in the Chapter 11 Cases (that order having become a final order no longer subject to appeal) and (b) the entry of an order closing the Chapter 11 Cases, an Indemnified Party believes that it is entitled to the payment of any amounts by the Debtors on account of the Debtors' indemnification, contribution, and/or reimbursement obligations under the Services Agreement (as modified by this Retention Order), including, without limitation, the advancement of defense costs, such Indemnified Party must file an application therefor in the Court, and the Debtors may not pay any such amounts to such Indemnified Party before the entry of an order by the Court approving the payment. This paragraph is intended only to specify the period of time through which the Court shall have jurisdiction over any request for fees and expenses by the Indemnified Parties for indemnification, contribution, or reimbursement and does not limit the duration of the Debtors' obligation to indemnify the Indemnified Parties. All parties in interest shall retain the right to

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object to any demand by the Indemnified Parties for indemnification, contribution, or reimbursement.

15. In the event KCC is unable to provide the services set out in this Retention Order, KCC will immediately notify the Clerk and Debtors' counsel and, upon approval of the Court, cause to have all original proofs of claim and computer information turned over to another claims, noticing, and solicitation agent with the advice and consent of the Clerk and Debtors' counsel.

16. Notwithstanding the Application or the Services Agreement, to the extent the Debtors wish to expand the scope of KCC's services beyond those services set forth in the Application and the Services Agreement, the Debtors shall be required to seek further approval from this Court.

17. Notwithstanding any term in the Services Agreement to the contrary, the Court retains jurisdiction with respect to all matters arising from or related to the implementation of this Retention Order.

18. Notwithstanding any term in the Services Agreement to the contrary, KCC's liability during the Chapter 11 Cases shall not be limited to the amount billed or paid under the Services Agreement.

19. Notwithstanding any term in the Services Agreement to the contrary, KCC shall not cease providing claims processing services during the Chapter 11 Cases for any reason, including nonpayment, without an order of the Court.

20. In the event of any inconsistency between the Services Agreement, the Application and this Retention Order, this Retention Order shall govern.

21. If KCC seeks reimbursement from the Debtors for attorneys' fees and expenses in connection with the payment of an indemnity claim pursuant to the Services Agreement, the

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invoices and supporting time records for the attorneys' fees and expenses shall be included in KCC's own applications to the Court, both interim and final, and determined by this Court after notice and a hearing.

22. In the event the Chapter 11 Cases are converted to cases under chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code and if claims agent representation would be necessary in the converted chapter 7 cases, KCC shall continue to be paid in accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 156(c) under the terms set forth herein.

23. After entry of an order terminating KCC's services, upon the closing of the Chapter 11 Cases or for any other reason, KCC shall be responsible for archiving all proofs of claim with the Federal Archives Record Administration, if applicable, and transmitting to the Clerk's office all claims in an electronic format, if applicable, and shall be compensated by the Debtors in connection therewith.

24. Notwithstanding Bankruptcy Rule 6004(h), to the extent applicable, this Retention Order shall be effective and enforceable immediately upon entry hereof.

25. The Debtors and KCC are hereby authorized to take such reasonable actions and to execute such documents as may be necessary to implement the relief granted by this Retention Order.

26. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, (a) any payment made or authorization contained hereunder shall be subject to the requirements imposed on the Debtors under any orders approving a postpetition financing facility or any order regarding the use of cash collateral approved by this Court in these Chapter 11 Cases (collectively, the "<u>DIP Order</u>"), and (b) to the extent there is any inconsistency between the terms of the DIP Order and any action taken or proposed to be taken hereunder, the terms of the DIP Order shall control. For the

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avoidance of doubt, the Debtors are not authorized to make any payments pursuant to this Retention Order except as permitted by the Budget (as defined in the DIP Order).

27. The Court retains exclusive jurisdiction with respect to all matters arising from or related to the implementation, interpretation, and enforcement of this Retention Order.

Signed: December 08, 2020.

**DAVID R. JONES** 

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE