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Proposed Counsel to the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors

Proposed Local Counsel to the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors

IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA ALEXANDRIA DIVISION

)	
In re:)	Chapter 11
)	
ENVIVA INC., et al.,)	Case No. 24-10453 (BFK)
)	
	Debtors. ¹)	(Jointly Administered)
)	,

MOTION FOR AUTHORITY TO FILE UNDER SEAL (I) THE MOTION IN LIMINE; AND (II) EXHIBITS SUBMITTED IN SUPPORT OF THE MOTION IN LIMINE

The Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors (the "Committee") of Enviva Inc., et al. (collectively, the "Debtors") moves (the "Motion to Seal"), pursuant to section 107(b) of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code"), and Rule 9018 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the "Bankruptcy Rules"), for entry of an order, substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A, authorizing the Committee to file under seal (i) Official Committee Of Unsecured Creditors' Motion In Limine To Exclude Debtors' Board Minutes And Materials As Evidence Of Debtors' Business Judgment [Docket No. ___] (the "Sealed Motion In Limine"); and (ii) exhibits appended thereto (the "Sealed Exhibits"), which are being submitted to the Court for in camera review simultaneously herewith (the Sealed Motion In Limine, and the Sealed Exhibits,

¹ Due to the large number of Debtors in these jointly administered chapter 11 cases, a complete list of the Debtor entities and the last four digits of their federal tax identification numbers is not provided herein. A complete list may be obtained on the website of the Debtors' proposed claims and noticing agent at https://kccllc.net/enviva. The location of the Debtors' service address is: 7272 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 1800, Bethesda, MD 20814.



collectively, the "<u>Sealed Material</u>"). In support of the Motion to Seal, the Committee respectfully states as follows:

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 1. The United States Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Virginia (the "Court") has jurisdiction over this Motion to Seal pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1334 and the *Standing Order of Reference from the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia*, dated August 15, 1984. This matter is a core proceeding within the meaning of 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2).
 - 2. Venue in this Court is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409.
- 3. The statutory and rule predicates for the relief requested herein are Bankruptcy Code section 107(c) and Bankruptcy Rule 9018.

BACKGROUND

- 4. On March 12, 2024 (the "<u>Petition Date</u>"), the Debtors filed voluntary petitions for relief under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. The Debtors continue to operate and manage their businesses as debtors in possession pursuant to Bankruptcy Code sections 1107(a) and 1108. No request has been made for the appointment of a trustee or an examiner.
- 5. On March 25, 2024, the Office of the United States Trustee for the Eastern District of Virginia (the "<u>U.S. Trustee</u>") appointed the Committee pursuant to Bankruptcy Code section 1102 [Docket No. 172].

RELIEF REQUESTED

6. The Committee does not believe the information referenced in the Sealed Material warrants sealing. However, the Sealed Material contains information related to or provided by the Debtors and designated by the Debtors as confidential or professional eyes only. Accordingly, the Committee seeks authority to file the Sealed Material under seal.

BASIS FOR RELIEF

- 7. Section 107(b) of the Bankruptcy Code states, "On request of a party in interest, the bankruptcy court shall, and on the bankruptcy court's own motion, the bankruptcy court may—
 (1) protect an entity with respect to a trade secret or confidential research, development, or commercial information. . . ." 11 U.S.C. § 107(b).
- 8. In addition, Rule 9018 of the Bankruptcy Rules provides, in relevant part, "On motion or its own initiative, with or without notice, the court may make any order which justice requires (1) to protect the estate or any entity in respect of a trade secret or other confidential research, development, or commercial information. . . ." Fed. R. Bankr. P. 9018.
- 9. The Sealed Material contains information about the Debtors and designated by the Debtors as confidential. Because the Debtors have deemed these documents to contain confidential research, development, or commercial information within the meaning of section 107(b)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code and Rule 9018(1) of the Bankruptcy Rules, the Committee submits that these documents are properly filed under seal.
- 10. For the avoidance of doubt the Committee takes no position on the merits of the Debtors' confidentiality designations and reserves all rights to challenge them at a later date.

WAIVER OF MEMORANDUM OF LAW

11. This Motion includes citations to the applicable authorities and a discussion of their relevance and application to the facts herein. Accordingly, the Committee respectfully requests that the Court waive the requirement that a memorandum be filed in support of the Motion.

CONCLUSION

WHEREFORE, the Committee requests that the Court (a) enter an order, substantially in the form annexed hereto as **Exhibit A**, authorizing the Committee to file under seal the Sealed

Material, and (b) provide the Committee with such other and further relief as the Court may deem just, proper and equitable.

Dated: April 30, 2024 Tysons, Virginia Respectfully submitted,

By: Kristen E. Burgers

Lawrence A. Katz (VSB No. 47664)

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Proposed Counsel to the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors

IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA ALEXANDRIA DIVISION

)	
In re:)	Chapter 11
)	
ENVIVA INC., et al.,)	Case No. 24-10453 (BFK)
)	
	Debtors.)	(Jointly Administered)
)	·

ORDER AUTHORIZING THE OFFICIAL COMMITTEE OF UNSECURED CREDITORS OF ENVIVA INC., ET AL. TO FILE (I) MOTION IN LIMINE; AND (II) EXHIBITS SUBMITTED IN SUPPORT OF THE MOTION IN LIMINE UNDER SEAL

Upon the Motion for Authority to File Under Seal (I) Motion in Limine; and (II) Exhibits Submitted in Support of the Motion in Limine (the "Motion to Seal") filed by the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors (the "Committee") of Enviva Inc., et al. (collectively, the "Debtors") for entry of an order, pursuant to section 107(b) of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code"), and Rule 9018 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the "Bankruptcy Rules"), authorizing the Committee to file under seal (i) Official Committee Of Unsecured Creditors' Motion In Limine To Exclude Debtors' Board Minutes And Materials As Evidence Of Debtors' Business Judgment, [Docket No. ___] (the "Motion In Limine"), and (ii) exhibits appended thereto (the "Sealed Exhibits"), which are being submitted to the Court for in camera review simultaneously herewith (the sealed Motion In Limine, and the Sealed Exhibits, collectively, the "Sealed Material"); and it appearing that this Court has jurisdiction over this matter by virtue of the provisions of 28 U.S.C. §§ 1334(a) and 157(a) and that venue is proper in this Court under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409; and finding that this Court, pursuant to section 107(c) of the Bankruptcy Code and Rule 9018 of the Bankruptcy Rules, has the authority to grant

the relief requested in the Motion to Seal; and further finding that such relief is appropriate, it is hereby **ORDERED**:

- 1. The Motion to Seal is **GRANTED**.
- 2. The Sealed Material shall be filed under seal, and the same hereby is sealed.
- 3. Any hearing on the Motion to Seal, if such is required, shall be sealed.
- 4. The terms and conditions of this Order shall be immediately effective and enforceable upon its entry.
- 5. This Court shall retain exclusive jurisdiction over any and all matters arising from or related to the implementation or interpretation of this Order

Enter:	/	/	
Brian F. K	Lenney, Judge	e	
United Sta	ites Bankrup	tcy Court for	the Eastern
District of	Virginia		

WE ASK FOR THIS:

/s/ Kristen E. Burgers

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Proposed Lead Counsel to the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors

CERTIFICATION OF ENDORSEMENT UNDER LOCAL RULE 9022-1(C)

Pursuant to Local Rule 9022-1(C), I hereby certify that the foregoing proposed order has been endorsed by or served upon all necessary parties.

/s/ Kristen E. Burgers