UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF KENTUCKY

IN RE:

SUNSETTING OF ORDERS ISSUED DURING THE NATIONAL AND STATE EMERGENCIES DECLARED DURING THE COVID-19 OUTBREAK AND REITERATION OF THIS COURT'S REQUIREMENTS REGARDING SIGNATURES ON VERIFIED PAPERS AND HEARING PROCEDURES

GENERAL ORDER 2024-1

In response to the outbreak of the Coronavirus/COVID-19 virus and the subsequent declaration of both national and state emergencies related to the outbreak, this Court issued previous General Orders 2020-3, 2020-6, 2020-9 and 2021-2, addressing the requirement for original signatures on Verified Papers, and hearing processes implemented by the Court during the times of declared emergencies and restricted access to the Court's public facilities and courthouses.

These states of emergencies having now lapsed and this Court having returned to standard protocols for courthouse access, hearing procedures and filing processes,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED as follows:

- 1. General Orders 2020-3 and 2020-9, regarding the temporary modifications of requirements of debtors' counsel to obtain "wet-ink" signatures prior to filing verified papers with this Court, are SUPERSEDED by this General Order (GO 2024-1). When filing a Verified Paper, including the Voluntary Petition, with the Court, counsel is required to comply with all Federal and Local Rules, this Court's procedures, and applicable Kentucky Bar Association guidelines, and to obtain "wet-ink" signatures in advance of the filing of said document;
- 2. As regarding hearing protocol and procedures, any perceived assurances of availability of telephonic or video appearances at Court hearings and other proceedings allowed or set forth by General Orders 2020-6 and 2021-2, are SUPERSEDED by this General Order (GO 2024-1). Hearing processes and details, including the dates, times, locations and manner of holding hearings, shall be determined solely by the Judges of this Court and are subject to the Presiding Judge's discretion. For the most accurate information concerning any hearing or case, parties should review the official record for the related case or the calendar reports available via PACER. Questions regarding any scheduled hearing should be directed to the Bankruptcy Clerk's Office or to the Courtroom Deputy assigned to the Presiding Judge.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Jan C. Ston

Chief Judge, United States Bankruptcy Court Western District of Kentucky January 8, 2024