		Electronically Filed 11/12/2024 4:56 PM Steven D. Grierson CLERK OF THE COURT		
1	SR MARK E EERRARIO Der No. 1625	Alina S. Frum		
2	in introl menors, but no. 7715			
3	GREENBERG TRAURIG, LLP 10845 Griffith Peak Drive, Suite 600			
4	Las Vegas, NV 89135 Telephone: (702) 792-3773			
5	Facsimile: (702) 792-9002			
6	Email: ferrariom@gtlaw.com hendricksk@gtlaw.com			
7	Attorneys for the Plaintiff			
8				
9	IN THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA			
10	CLARK COUNTY	, NEVADA		
11	STATE OF NEVADA, EX REL. COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE, IN HER OFFICIAL CAPACITY	Case No. A-19-787325-B		
12	AS STATUTORY RECEIVER FOR DELINQUENT DOMESTIC INSURER,	Dept. No. 15		
13	Plaintiff,			
14		TWENTY-FOURTH STATUS REPORT		
15	VS.			
16	SPIRIT COMMERCIAL AUTO RISK RETENTION GROUP, INC., a Nevada Domiciled Association			
17	Captive Insurance Company,			
18	Defendant.			
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21	COMES NOW, the Commissioner of Insurance ¹ and CANTILO & BENNETT, L.L.P., Special			
22	Deputy Receiver ("SDR"), and files this Twenty-Fourth Status Report in the above-captioned			
23	receivership. In accordance with the orders of this Court and the Nevada Revised Statutes ("NRS")			
24	Chapter 696B, the Receiver makes this "true report[s] in summary form of the insurer's affairs under the			
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27 28	¹ Barbara D. Richardson resigned from her position as Commissioner of Insurance effective December 30, 2022. Scott Kipper was named as the new Insurance Commissioner. Pursuant to NRCP 25(d), when a public officer stops holding office while an action is pending, "[t]he officer's successor is automatically substituted as a party."			
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	Case Number: A-19-787325-B			

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receivership and of progress being made in accomplishing the objectives of the receivership." NRS 696B.290(7).

I.

INTRODUCTION

Spirit Commercial Auto Risk Retention Group, Inc. ("Spirit" or the "Company") is an association captive insurance company organized under the insurance laws of Nevada and the Liability Risk Retention Act of 1986. Spirit received its Certificate of Authority on February 24, 2012, and operates under the authority of NRS Chapter 694C. Spirit transacted commercial auto liability insurance business. Within that line, Spirit specialized in serving commercial truck owners.

Pursuant to NRS 679A.160, Spirit is subject to Nevada laws in Chapters 694C and 695E that pertain to captive insurers (as "captive insurer" is defined in NRS 694C.060) and risk retention groups (as "risk retention group" is defined in NRS 695E.110) that have a Certificate of Authority from the Division. Spirit is considered an association captive insurer (as "association captive insurer" is defined in NRS 694C.050). As a risk retention group ("RRG"), Spirit is subject to the Federal Liability Risk Retention Act of 1986. RRGs domiciled in Nevada do not participate in the Nevada Guaranty Association. Pursuant to NRS 695E.140(1)(a), Spirit is also subject to all laws that pertain to traditional liability insurers (with exceptions given in Bulletin 14-008).

18 As discussed in the Receiver's First Status Report, Spirit is part of an Insurance Holding 19 Company System and in large part it only did business with other members of that system. CTC 20 Transportation Insurance Services of Missouri, LLC ("CTC"), with offices in Missouri, New Jersey, and 21 California, served as the program administrator and managing general agent for Spirit. Criterion Claims 22 Solutions of Omaha, Inc. ("Criterion") was the third-party claims administrator for Spirit. Lexicon 23 Insurance Management LLC was the captive manager for the company (after Risk Services initially 24 served in that role through circa July 2018). Chelsea Financial Group, Inc. provided premium financing 25 services for the majority of Spirit's policies. The company 10-4 Risk Management provided risk 26 management and loss run services. The owner or ultimate controlling person for each of these entities

is or was Thomas Mulligan.² All of these companies were taking a portion of the premium dollars from
 Spirit-issued policies.

The Commissioner initially filed a petition to put the Company into receivership on January 11, 2019, and efforts to protect the policyholders and other creditors of the estate were contested vigorously by the Company. On February 27, 2019, this Court entered its Permanent Receivership Order. Barbara D. Richardson, Commissioner of Insurance, in her capacity as Receiver for Spirit appointed the firm of CANTILO & BENNETT, L.L.P. as the Special Deputy Receiver of the Companies. The "Receiver" and "Special Deputy Receiver" are referred to collectively herein as the "Receiver."

9 In brief, the Permanent Receivership Order established the following key points for the Spirit
 10 receivership:

 that the Company's in-force insurance policies are to be canceled effective on the earlier of April 15, 2019, or the date when the insured ceased making premium payments to Spirit;

- that the Receiver may impose a full suspension on all disbursements owed by Spirit, including insurance policy disbursements, and costs related to the defense or adjudication of insurance policy claims;
- 3) that the receivership court has exclusive jurisdiction over all matters pertaining to Spirit and all persons are enjoined from commencing, bringing, maintaining, or further prosecuting any action at law, suit in equity, arbitration, or special or other proceeding against the Company, Receiver, or Special Deputy Receiver;

4) that the Receiver is vested with exclusive title both legal and equitable to all of Spirit's property wherever located, to administer under the general supervisions of the Court;

5) that the Receiver may change to her own name, the name of any of Spirit's accounts, funds, or other property or assets, held with any bank, savings and loan association, other financial institution, or any other person, wherever located, and may withdraw such

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 ² See Schedule Y: Part 1A, to the Company's 2018 Annual Statement, the "Detail of Insurance Holding Company
 28 System" (the Receiver's <u>First Status Report</u>, Ex. B).

funds, accounts and other assets from such institutions or take any lesser action necessary for the proper conduct of the receivership; and

6) that the Receiver is authorized to establish a receivership claims and appeal procedure, for all receivership claims. The receivership claims and appeals procedures shall be used to facilitate the orderly disposition or resolution of claims or controversies involving the receivership or the receivership estate.

On September 16, 2019, the Receiver filed a consolidated motion for a Final Order Placing Spirit Commercial Auto Risk Retention Group into Liquidation, and for an Order Setting a Claims Filing Deadline, and Granting Related Relief (the "Consolidated Motion"). The Consolidated Motion was heard and granted on October 24, 2019. On November 6, 2019, the Court entered its Final Order Placing Spirit into Liquidation (the "Liquidation Order") and its Final Order Setting Claims Filing Deadline for Spirit and Related Relief (the "Claims Order"). The Claims Order established a Claims Filing Deadline, and procedures for filing claims against Spirit. The Liquidation Order also granted the Receiver's request to formally place Spirit into liquidation effective on November 6, 2019. On September 30, 2020, the Court entered an Order Extending the Claims Filing Deadline for Spirit Commercial Auto Risk *Retention Group, Inc.* The Claims Filing Deadline was extended to May 31, 2021, and has now expired.

II.

RECEIVERSHIP ADMINISTRATION

Notice of Developments in Receivership

On August 19, 2019, the Court entered its Order Regarding Motion for Instructions Including 20 Notice Requirements (the "Notice Order"). Future notices about Spirit's receivership will be provided to interested parties in accordance with the Court's Notice Order. Interested parties may also monitor 22 the Spirit receivership web site (www.spiritinsure.com) to keep up to date about developments in the 23 receivership. 24

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Claims Administration and Third-Party Support Services

TRISTAR Risk Management ("TRISTAR") is assisting the Receiver in evaluating the Proofs of Claim ("POCs") that have been received. TRISTAR's initial work for the estate included an evaluation

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of the outstanding policy claims liabilities of the estate. TRISTAR's work in this regard is detailed in the Sixth Status Report and exhibits thereto. TRISTAR has since assisted the Receiver in evaluating and 2 determining the POCs filed in the Spirit estate. Through the appeals phase of the claims process for the 3 estate (*i.e.*, as claimants submit appeals of the Receiver's claim determinations), TRISTAR will evaluate 4 the appeal submissions from claimants and make recommendations to the Receiver regarding proposed 5 resolutions of such appeals. The Receiver anticipates that it will continue to utilize TRISTAR's 6 assistance for claims matters, until all claims and appeals of the estate are resolved. The Receiver will 7 continue to evaluate the need for TRISTAR's assistance and will continue to report TRISTAR's ongoing 8 work for the estate. 9

The Claims Filing Deadline expired on May 31, 2021. There were one thousand four hundred five (1,405) timely POC submissions received. Of these timely-filed POCs, at least twenty-four (24) will not require a written Notice of Claim Determination to be sent by the SDR.³

The Receiver is evaluating the claims against the estate and mailing written Notices of Claim Determination to claimants — and these notices advise claimants of whether their claims are approved (in full or in part) or denied. Approximately one thousand three hundred forty (1,340) Notices of Claim Determination have been completed and mailed to the claimants to date. The Receiver has posted a status update (*i.e.*, advising that POCs are in the process of being evaluated) to the home page of the Spirit receivership web site. Approximately eighty-five (85) objections to the Receiver's claim determinations have been received to date. We are enclosing a report on the determination of the Receiver on each claim approved in whole or in part through November 1, 2024, as well as a report of each claim determination to which an objection has been filed⁴ pursuant to NRS 696B.330(6-8). A copy of the claims report, without the names of the claimants, is being submitted as **Exhibit 1** to this report.⁵

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³ Ten POCs (10) were withdrawn by the claimants, three (3) were rejected in writing by the SDR (*i.e.*, due to being

related to a different insurance company), and eleven (11) were duplicate submissions, and have been consolidated under the POC number assigned to the claimant's original submission.

⁴ The report on these objections will be updated to reflect the Court's determination of each objection once hearings 26 have been held, pursuant to NRS 696B.330, and final orders are entered by the Court thereon.

²⁷ ⁵ Individual claimant names have been removed from the public document out of concern for privacy. Exhibit 1 submitted to the Court for in camera review includes claimants' names.

3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 Greenberg Traurig, LLP 10845 Griffith Peak Drive, Suite 600 12 Jas Vegas, Nevada 89135 13 Documents" tab). 14 15

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The Order Granting Motion to Establish Claims Appeal Process and Procedure and for the Appointment of a Special Master to Assist with the Same was entered on March 3, 2023. The Order appoints two Special Masters to preside over appeal hearings, and sets out the procedures for such appeals, as well as the procedure for certain other appeals which are to be reviewed by the receivership court. Counsel for the Receiver is working with the Special Masters to schedule appeal hearings and briefing schedules. As claims are scheduled for hearing, counsel for the Receiver is notifying claimants of the time and place for the hearing of their objections, as well as the briefing schedule. Additional hearings will continue to be scheduled on a rolling basis as needed. As appeals are resolved through the hearing process, the Receiver will update the claim and appeal report exhibits to the status report to reflect the appeal resolution and the final determination of the claims. The Court's final orders concerning the claim objections are final orders appealable to the Nevada Supreme Court. To date, there are two such appeals pending before the Nevada Supreme Court. The above-referenced motions and orders have been posted to the receivership web site, www.spiritinsure.com ("Receivership

The United States has filed a POC in the receivership, asserting the priority of its claims—if any (they are unknown at this time according to the POC)—over and above any other claims against the estate pursuant to 31 U.S. Code § 3713, also known as the government "superpriority" statute. The Receiver sent letters to the United States to provide a reminder that its claim must be complete, noncontingent, and liquidated in amount on or before the May 31, 2021, deadline. No amendment or supplement from the United States has been received as of the date of this report. The Receiver has also written to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services ("CMS"), seeking policy guidance regarding the applicability of certain claim reporting requirements for the Spirit receivership. CMS has yet to respond, but the Receiver will continue to seek direct input from the agency to clarify the regulatory requirements for the Spirit estate.

The policy data of Spirit is held in the Aspire Information System ("Aspire"), which was created by Maple Technologies. The Aspire system has value to the receivership during the pendency of the

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POC process and certain litigation matters. At the outset of the receivership, the Receiver worked with Maple Technologies to continue Spirit's pre-receivership arrangement.

Actuarial firm Oliver Wyman Actuarial Consulting, Inc. ("Oliver Wyman") has been engaged to prepare actuarial estimates for Spirit's claims and future losses and continues as a consultant.

Calhoun, Thompson & Matza, L.L.P. is a CPA firm that has been hired by the Receiver to prepare Spirit's federal and state tax returns.

PALOMAR FINANCIAL, LC ("Palomar") is an affiliated company of the Special Deputy Receiver and performs financial and technical administrative support services for Spirit in receivership—and those services are now being performed by Palomar. Palomar is being used to facilitate the receivership's administration of financial matters. The Receiver, with assistance from Palomar, has finalized all outstanding premium tax matters for the Company, including tax matters that remained outstanding and overdue by former Spirit leadership at the outset of the receivership, and routine reporting continues as required for certain state jurisdictions.

As the Court is aware, the Receiver has engaged the law firm of Greenberg Traurig LLP ("Greenberg Traurig") as counsel in this receivership matter. Additionally, as reported in the previous status reports, the Receiver has engaged the services of Lewis Roca to handle certain limited matters and to act as outside conflicts counsel to address other matters that may arise in which Greenberg Traurig is not representing the receivership estate.

The Receiver has received notice from time to time of lawsuits filed against Spirit in violation of the Court's Permanent Receivership Order. The Receiver will continue its established procedure of writing to the parties involved to inform them of the injunctions of the Permanent Receivership Order and request a voluntary dismissal of Spirit from the matter. Thus far, the majority of counsel have been amenable to such requests. In limited cases and only when absolutely necessary, the Receiver will engage outside counsel to address ongoing or repeated violations of this Court's orders.

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C. Records

The Receiver has made efforts to secure Spirit's electronic records from third parties. The Receiver will continue with the evaluation of the Company and will continue gathering the Company's records and data. This process will remain ongoing.

Asset Recovery Litigation and Arbitration

D.

On February 6, 2020, the Receiver filed an asset recovery lawsuit against a number of parties, including Thomas Mulligan, CTC, Criterion, Spirit's former directors and officers, various other former vendors of Spirit, and various other related persons and entities ("Asset Recovery Lawsuit").⁶ The Asset Recovery Lawsuit was filed in the Eighth Judicial District Court of Clark County, Nevada, and assigned Case No. A-20-809963-B. Although the majority of Defendants filed answers to the Asset Recovery Lawsuit, CTC⁷ and Criterion Claim Solutions of Omaha, Inc. each filed Motions to Compel Arbitration of the claims asserted by the Receiver in her asset recovery lawsuit. The Motions to Compel Arbitration were granted by Judge Denton and thereafter nine of the defendants⁸ filed a Motion to Stay Pending Arbitration, and joinders were filed by nineteen additional defendants. The Court granted the Motion to

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¹⁶ ⁶ The Defendants in the Asset Recovery Lawsuit are: Thomas Mulligan, an Individual; CTC Transportation Insurance Services of Missouri, LLC, a Missouri Limited Liability Company; CTC Transportation Insurance Services LLC, 17 a California Limited Liability Company; CTC Transportation Insurance Services of Hawaii LLC, a Hawaii Limited Liability Company; Criterion Claims Solutions of Omaha, Inc., a Nebraska Corporation; Pavel Kapelnikov, an Individual; Chelsea Financial Group, Inc., a California Corporation; Chelsea Financial Group, Inc., a Missouri Corporation; Chelsea Financial 18 Group, Inc., a New Jersey Corporation D/B/A Chelsea Premium Finance Corporation; Chelsea Financial Group, Inc., a Delaware Corporation; Chelsea Holding Company, LLC, a Nevada Limited Liability Company; Chelsea Holdings, LLC, a 19 Nevada Limited Liability Company; Fourgorean Capital, LLC, a New Jersey Limited Liability Company; Kapa Management Consulting, Inc., a New Jersey Corporation; Kapa Ventures, Inc., a New Jersey Corporation; Global Forwarding Enterprises 20 Limited Liability Company, a New Jersey Limited Liability Company; Global Capital Group, LLC, a New Jersey Limited Liability Company; Global Consulting; New Tech Capital, LLC, a Delaware Limited Liability Company; Lexicon Insurance 21 Management LLC, a North Carolina Limited Liability Company; Icap Management Solutions, LLC, a Vermont Limited Liability Company; Six Eleven LLC, a Missouri Limited Liability Company; 10-4 Preferred Risk Managers Inc., a Missouri 22 Corporation; Ironjab LLC, a New Jersey Limited Liability Company; Yanina G. Kapelnikov, an Individual; Igor Kapelnikov, an Individual; Quote My Rig LLC, a New Jersey Limited Liability Company; Matthew Simon, an Individual; Daniel George, 23 an Individual; John Maloney, an Individual; James Marx, an Individual; Carlos Torres, an Individual; Virginia Torres, an Individual; Scott McCrae, an Individual; Brenda Guffey, an Individual; 195 Gluten Free LLC, a New Jersey Limited Liability 24 Company, Doe Individuals I-X; and Roe Corporate Entities I-X. The Receiver's previous Twelfth Status Report provides the dates that answers to the suit were filed by the defendants. 25

 ⁷ Here, "CTC" refers to Defendants CTC Transportation Insurance Services of Missouri LLC; CTC Transportation
 Insurance Services, LLC; and CTC Transportation Insurance Services of Hawaii LLC.

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⁸ Six Eleven LLC, Quote My Rig, LLC, New Tech Capital, LLC, 195 Gluten Free LLC, 10-4 Preferred Risk Managers, Inc., Ironjab LLC, Fourgorean Capital LLC, Chelsea Holdings Company, LLC ("Chelsea Holdings"), and Chelsea Financial Group, Inc. (MO) ("Chelsea Financial MO") (collectively, "Six Eleven Defendants").

Stay Pending Arbitration and the Joinders thereto and the formal Notice of Entry of Order was entered
 on November 17, 2020.

On April 1, 2021, the Receiver filed a Petition for Writ of Mandamus in the Nevada Supreme Court regarding, *inter alia* (1) the Court's July 17, 2020, Order Granting CTC Defendants' Motion to Compel Arbitration; (2) the Court's July 22, 2020, Order Granting Criterion Claim Solution's Motion to Compel Arbitration; and (3) the Court's November 17, 2020, Order Granting the Motion to Stay Pending Arbitration and all Joinders Thereto. On February 18, 2022, the Nevada Supreme Court denied the Receiver's petition for writ of mandamus — thereby requiring the Receiver to pursue two separate arbitration proceedings to recover Spirit's assets (*i.e.*, while litigation against the remaining defendants is stayed pending the outcome of the separate arbitration proceedings). The status of the arbitration proceedings is detailed below.

On July 18, 2023, the Receiver filed a Motion to Lift Stay in the Asset Recovery Lawsuit based on concerns regarding ongoing prejudice to the claimants of Spirit. The Motion to Lift Stay was opposed by the defendants named in that matter and on September 14, 2023, the Order was entered denying the Receiver's request. Based on Judge Denton's order, the Asset Recovery Lawsuit will, for now, remain stayed as to the other defendants while the Receiver attempts to resolve the remaining arbitration proceeding against CTC as expeditiously as possible. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Parties in the Asset Recovery Lawsuit reached an agreement to allow for the depositions of Brenda Guffey and Larry Shores to go forward due to health issues being experienced by the deponents.

The Receiver initiated arbitration against CTC on August 2, 2022 ("CTC Arbitration"). Pursuant to the terms of the Program Administrator Agreement ("PSA"), the arbitration is proceeding with a three-person arbitration panel.⁹ Despite the arbitration starting on August 2, 2022, there were numerous delays in document production by CTC. Notably, CTC failed to produce any electronic stored information ("ESI") until late September 2023 when they proceeded to roll out what can only be described as a document dump of over 1.5 million pages of documents. However, the document dump

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<sup>P The arbitrators for this matter are Robert Hall, Ret. Judge Elizabeth Gonzalez, and Susan Claflin will serve as the umpire. The Receiver is responsible to pay Mr. Hall's fees and half of Ms. Claflin's fees associated with the arbitration.
CTC will pay Judge Gonzalez's fees and half the fees of Ms. Claflin.</sup>

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which was repeatedly described by CTC's counsel as the "universe of documents," did not contain 1 requested e-mails including e-mails from key executives and decision makers at CTC. Miraculously, 2 after the filing of a motion to compel production of documents and request for sanctions, CTC located 3 over one million e-mails. 4

The Receiver got a favorable order after filing a Motion to Compel Production of Documents and Request for Sanctions (the "Sanctions Order"). The Sanctions Order strikes CTC's affirmative defenses, and orders that at the hearing CTC shall be precluded from presenting an affirmative case on the merits. The Sanctions Order also granted the Receiver's request for attorney fees, consultant and/or expert expenses, and costs incurred in connection with the Motion.¹⁰ The Sanctions Order re-set the arbitration hearing for September 23-27, 2024, and by stipulation of the parties discovery was slated to close on July 23, 2024. However, due to a personal matter experienced by CTC's lead counsel, the discovery schedule and hearing deadlines were reset. The close of discovery is set for December 3, 2024, and the arbitration hearing will now take place February 3-7, 2025. The Receiver filed expert disclosures on July 22, 2024, and is proceeding with limited depositions. The CTC entities did not file expert reports by the deadline. Although counsel originally stated that they did not anticipate taking any expert witness depositions, CTC recently retained new counsel that has noticed the depositions of all of Spirit's experts along with the depositions of representatives of FTI.¹¹ The Receiver has also noticed the deposition of the person(s) most knowledgeable at CTC regarding a number of topics. All such depositions are scheduled to be complete prior to the December 3, 2024, discovery deadline.

On October 10, 2024, the Receiver filed a Motion for Partial Summary Judgment and requested 20 that the panel set a December date for oral argument on the Motion. CTC requested additional time and on October 25, 2024, CTC filed a Motion to Amend Discovery Plan and Scheduling Order, to which the 22 Receiver submitted its Response in Opposition on October 29, 2024. The arbitration panel heard 23 arguments from counsel for both sides during a video conference held on October 30, 2024. On 24

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¹⁰ On January 30, 2024, the Receiver submitted its Memorandum of Fees and Costs Pursuant to Arbitration Panel's January 17, 2024, Order, and the arbitration panel awarded a total of \$73,620.59. CTC has remitted this amount to counsel for the Receiver.

¹¹ Counsel for CTC has also indicated a desire to depose Dan George and is in the process of attempting to 28 scheduling the same.

November 4, 2024, the panel ordered that the discovery deadline and arbitration hearing date will remain
as previously scheduled (*i.e.*, December 3, 2024, and February 3, 2025, respectively). The panel further
ordered that CTC's Opposition to the Motion for Partial Summary Judgment is due to the panel by
December 17, 2024, and the Receiver's Reply in Support of its Motion for Partial Summary Judgment
will be due December 31, 2024. The panel reserved January 9, 2025, for oral argument on the Motion
for Partial Summary Judgment, if a hearing is deemed necessary.

The Receiver has learned that County Hall Risk Retention Group of North Carolina ("CHRRG"), a sister company to Spirit, obtained an approximate \$5 million judgment against CTC Hawaii in December of 2023. A limited receiver has been appointed for CTC Hawaii in North Carolina, to assist with collection of assets from the CTC entities.

As discussed in prior status reports, the Receiver and Criterion agreed to a Stipulated Dismissal of the Receiver's arbitration demand/complaint against Criterion. A copy of the Stipulated Dismissal was included as an Exhibit to the previous Eighteenth Status Report. Please refer to the Receiver's prior status reports for additional information about the Receiver's arbitration claims against Criterion.

E. Receivership Assets and Liabilities

The Receiver has been gathering information and evaluating the assets and liabilities of Spirit. The Receiver's liability analysis will continue to evolve as the claims of the estate are determined and asset recoveries are made. Below is an overview of some key assets and liability matters thus far identified by the Receiver.

> CTC owes a large balance to Spirit that is at least more than \$40 million and may be much greater after further discovery. The Receiver filed the Asset Recovery Lawsuit seeking the return of this money *inter alia* as detailed above, and is also pursuing claims in arbitration as also detailed above.

2. The cash and invested assets of the Company were approximately \$32,201,696 as of September 30, 2024.

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10 11 Greenberg Traurig, LLP 10845 Griffith Peak Drive, Suite 600 12 Las Vegas, Nevada 89135 13 14 15 16 3. Other Assets: There is no known tangible personal property or real property owned by the Company.

We are enclosing the consultants and SDR bills paid or approved for payment since the last status report filed with the Court, and the detailed billings are submitted *in-camera*, with summaries of such bills being submitted as **Exhibit 2** to this report.¹² The Receiver is including, as **Exhibit 3** attached hereto, a cash flow report for September 30, 2024, reflecting recoveries, disbursements, and cash flow since the receivership began.

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In this regard, courts have held that the bills of legal counsel and experts may be withheld from legal discovery and are not subject to legal disclosure, as this information may provide indications or context concerning potential litigation strategy and the nature of the expert services being provided. See, e.g., Avnet, Inc. v. Avana Technologies Inc., No. 2:13cv-00929-GMN-PAL, 2014 WL 6882345, at *1 (D. Nev. Dec. 4, 2014) (finding that billing entries were privileged because they reveal a party's strategy and the nature of services provided); Fed. Sav. & Loan Ins. Corp. v. Ferm, 909 F.2d 372, 374-75 (9th Cir. 1990) (considering whether or not fee information revealed counsel's mental impressions concerning litigation strategy). Other courts that have addressed this issue have recognized that the "attorney-client privilege embraces attorney time, records and statements to the extent that they reveal litigation strategy and the nature of the services provided." Real v. Cont'l Grp., Inc., 116 F.R.D. 211, 213 (N.D. Cal. 1986).

¹² The *in-camera* materials are being submitted in a separate envelope that reflect paid invoices. Certain billings 17 submitted to the Court are appropriate for *in-camera* review (as opposed to being made part of a public filing). More particularly, and as discussed in further detail below, certain consultants in this matter will provide expert witness related 18 services. As such, the billing entries relating thereto should be considered confidential and/or otherwise not subject to discovery. 19

The *in-camera* review should apply not only to documentation concerning attorney fees, but it also extends to 25 "details of work revealed in [an] expert's work description [which] would relate to tasks for which she [or he] was compensated[,]" a situation which is "analogous to protecting attorney-client privileged information contained in counsel's 26 bills describing work performed." See DaVita Healthcare Partners, Inc. v. United States, 128 Fed. Cl. 584, 592-93 (2016); see also Chaudhry v. Gallerizzo, 174 F.3d 394, 402 (4th Cir. 1999) (recognizing that "correspondence, bills, ledgers, 27 statements, and time records which also reveal the motive of the client in seeking representation, litigation strategy, or the specific nature of the services provided, such as researching particular areas of law," are protected from disclosure) (quoting Clarke v. Am. Commerce Nat'l Bank, 974 F.2d 127, 129 (9th Cir. 1992)). 28

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	2	CONCLUSION	
	3	In compliance with this Court's instructions for a status report regarding the affairs of the	
	4	Company, the Receiver has submitted the aforementioned status report and requests that the Court	
	5	approve this Twenty-Fourth Status Report and the actions taken by the Receiver.	
	6	DATED this 12 th day of November 2024.	
	7	Respectfully submitted:	
	8		
	9	By: <u>/s/ CANTILO & BENNETT, L.L.P.</u>	
	10	Special Deputy Receiver By Its Authorized Representative	
d , 00	11	Mark F. Bennett	
g, LI Suite 6 9135	12	Mark E. Ferrario, Esq. (SB# 1625) Kara Hendricks, Esq. (SB# 7743)	
rauri c Drive, vada 8	13	GREENBERG TRAURIG, LLP 10845 Griffith Peak Drive, Suite 600	
IT TI th Peak gas, Ne	14	Las Vegas, Nevada 89135	
Greenberg Traurig, LLP 10845 Griffith Peak Drive, Suite 600 Las Vegas, Nevada 89135	15	Counsel for Plaintiff	
Gr6 1084	16 17		
	18	Exhibits may be requested by contacting the Special Deputy Reseiver at 512,478,6000	
	19	Exhibits may be requested by contacting the Special Deputy Receiver at 512-478-6000	
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