

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

In re:	§	
	§	
AMPLE, INC., <i>et al.</i> , ¹	§	Case No. 25-90817 (CML)
	§	Chapter 11
Debtors.	§	(Jointly Administered)
	§	

AMPLE, INC, ET AL. - BIDDING PROCEDURES

Below are the bidding procedures (the “Bidding Procedures”) to be employed in connection with the proposed sale of the Assets (the “Purchased Assets”) of the Debtors (in such capacity, the “Sellers”), in connection with the Debtors’ jointly administered chapter 11 cases of Ample, Inc. *et al.* (each a “Debtor” and collectively, the “Debtors”) pending in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Texas (the “Bankruptcy Court”), Case No. 25-90817 (CML).

On January 12, 2026, the Bankruptcy Court entered an Order (the “Bidding Procedures Order”) [ECF No. 92], which, among other things, authorized the Debtors to solicit bids and approved these Bidding Procedures, which are to be employed by the Debtors in connection with the proposed sale of, or acquisition transactions of the Debtors’ Assets, free and clear of all liens, claims, encumbrances and other interests (collectively, the “Encumbrances”), other than those Encumbrances permitted by a Stalking Horse Agreement or Asset Purchase Agreement (as defined below) (any and each such transaction, a “Sale”), on an AS-IS, WHERE-IS WITH ALL FAULTS BASIS.

KEY DATES

<u>Date and Time</u>	<u>Applicable Deadline</u>
February 13, 2026 at 5:00 p.m.	Stalking Horse Designation Deadline
Ten (10) days after service of a Stalking Horse Selection Notice	Stalking Horse Objection Deadline
February 20, 2026 at 5:00 p.m.	Sale Objection Deadline
March 2, 2026 at 5:00 p.m.	Bid Deadline

¹ The Debtors in these chapter 11 cases (the “Chapter 11 Cases”) and the last four digits of each Debtor’s taxpayer identification number are: Ample Inc. (4015) and Ample Texas EV, LLC (6832). A copy of this notice is available on (a) the Court’s website, at www.txs.uscourts.gov and (b) the website maintained by the Debtors’ claims and noticing agent, Verita Global at <https://veritaglobal.net/ample>.

<u>Date and Time</u>	<u>Applicable Deadline</u>
March 4, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.	Auction Date
March 6, 2026 at 5:00 p.m.	Supplemental Sale Objection Deadline
March 9, 2026 at 11:00 a.m. (CST)	Sale Hearing

STALKING HORSE PURCHASER AND STALKING HORSE PROTECTIONS

1. The Debtors have been authorized, but are not obligated, in an exercise of their business judgment and in consultation with the DIP Lender² to: (i) designate one or more bidders to act as stalking horse bidder in connection with the Sale (each, a “Stalking Horse Purchaser,” and the bid of a Stalking Horse Purchaser a “Stalking Horse Bid”), with the consent of the DIP Lender, and enter into purchase agreements with respect to a Sale with such Stalking Horse Purchaser(s) (each, a “Stalking Horse Agreement”) and (ii) in connection with any Stalking Horse Agreement with a Stalking Horse Purchaser, (a) provide a breakup fee (the “Breakup Fee”) and (b) agree to reimburse reasonable and documented out-of-pocket fees and expenses (the “Expense Reimbursement”), and/or (c) agree to provide minimum overbid protections, all as reasonably acceptable to the Debtors, after consultation with the DIP Lender, and as otherwise approved by the Bankruptcy Court (together with the Breakup Fee and Expense Reimbursement, the “Stalking Horse Protections”); *provided, however*, that the aggregate amount of Stalking Horse Protections that may be paid to any Stalking Horse Purchaser shall not exceed three percent (3%) percent of the Stalking Horse Purchaser’s proposed purchase price (plus an Expense Reimbursement of no more than \$100,000) and shall be payable only from the cash proceeds from a Sale with another Qualified Bidder which is designated the Successful Bidder. Subject to the below, no later than one (1) business day after the selection of a Stalking Horse Purchaser, the Debtors shall file a Stalking Horse Selection Notice (as defined below).

2. The Debtors will provide notice of such Stalking Horse Purchaser, the Stalking Horse Protections (including the amount and calculation thereof) and the Stalking Horse Agreement as outlined in the Bidding Procedures Order (the “Stalking Horse Selection Notice”). Parties in interest may file an objection (a “Stalking Horse Objection”) to the designation of the Stalking Horse Purchaser or any of the terms of the Stalking Horse Agreement, including to any of the proposed Stalking Horse Protections, within ten (10) days after service of the Stalking Horse Selection Notice (the “Stalking Horse Objection Deadline”). If a timely Stalking Horse Objection is filed and served in accordance with these Bidding Procedures and the Bidding Procedures Order, the proposed designation of the Stalking Horse Purchaser and the Stalking Horse Protections under such Stalking Horse Agreement will not be deemed approved until either the Stalking Horse Objection is resolved by agreement of the objecting party and the Debtors (in consultation with the DIP Lender) or by order of the Bankruptcy Court. If no timely Stalking Horse Objection is filed and served with respect to the designation of the Stalking Horse Purchaser or the proposed Stalking Horse Protections, in accordance with these Bidding Procedures and the Bidding

² “DIP Lender” shall mean Twelve Bridge Capital or any successor in interest.

Procedures Order, the Stalking Horse Protections contemplated by such Stalking Horse Bid shall be deemed approved without further order of the Bankruptcy Court upon the expiration of the Stalking Horse Objection Deadline.

3. The Debtors have agreed that their obligation to pay the Stalking Horse Protections pursuant to the Stalking Horse Agreement shall survive termination of the Stalking Horse Agreement, and, to the extent owed by the Debtors, constitute an administrative expense claim under sections 503(b) and 507 of the Bankruptcy Code against the Debtors, and payable in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Stalking Horse Agreement and the Bidding Procedures Order. The Stalking Horse Protections are not payable in the event the Stalking Horse Purchaser breaches the Stalking Horse Agreement or otherwise fails to consummate the Stalking Horse Agreement and/or related Sale. The Debtors expressly reserve all rights, claims, defenses and offsets they may otherwise have in this regard.

ASSETS TO BE SOLD AND ASSET PURCHASE AGREEMENT

4. The Debtors seek to consummate one or more Sales of the Purchased Assets. The Debtors will consider bids to acquire substantially all the Assets. The Debtors may draft a form of asset purchase agreement or such other document (together with all ancillary documents and agreements, the “Asset Purchase Agreement”), for parties interested in acquiring the Purchased Assets. The Debtors intend to provide copies of the form of Asset Purchase Agreement to all parties who express interest in submitting a Bid and will also make such form of Asset Purchase Agreement available in the electronic data room established by the Debtors in connection with their Sale process.

5. The Sale of the Purchased Assets is on an “as is, where is” basis and without representations or warranties of any kind, nature, or description by the Sellers, their agents or estates, except to the extent set forth in the Asset Purchase Agreement of the Successful Bidder (as defined herein) as approved by the Bankruptcy Court (or in the Stalking Horse Agreement, as applicable). Pursuant to the form of Asset Purchase Agreement, the Successful Bidder shall acquire the Purchased Assets free and clear of any and all Encumbrances, subject to certain other conditions and except as otherwise provided in an Asset Purchase Agreement (or Stalking Horse Agreement, as applicable), with such Encumbrances to attach solely to the net proceeds of the Sale with the same validity and priority as such Encumbrances applied against the Purchased Assets prior to the Sale.

THE BIDDING PROCEDURES

A. Provisions Governing Potential Bidders

6. Unless otherwise ordered by the Bankruptcy Court, in order to participate in the bidding process, prior to the Bid Deadline (defined below), each person, other than a Stalking Horse Purchaser or the DIP Lender, who wishes to participate in the bidding process (each, a “Potential Bidder”) must deliver the following to the Bid Notice Parties (as defined below):

- (i) a written disclosure of the identity of each entity that will be bidding for the Purchased Assets or otherwise participating in connection with such Bid; and

- (ii) an executed confidentiality agreement (to be delivered prior to the distribution of any confidential information by the Sellers to a Potential Bidder) in form and substance satisfactory to the Debtors.

B. Due Diligence

7. The Debtors, with the assistance of their investment banker and other advisors, will provide any Potential Bidder such due diligence access or additional information as the Debtors, in their reasonable discretion, deem appropriate, which may include contractual obligations to limit access to certain proprietary information. The due diligence period will extend through and include the Auction. Unless otherwise deemed reasonably appropriate by the Debtors after consultation with the DIP Lender, the Debtors and their representatives and advisors shall not be obligated to furnish any due diligence information after the Auction. Diligence inquiries should be made to the Debtors' investment banker using the contact information below:

Gordian Group LLC
126 East 56th Street, 14th Floor,
New York, NY 10022,
Attn: Liam Ahearn (lda@gordiangroup.com)
Kevin McGee (kpm@gordiangroup.com)
Ava Caravela (AC@gordiangroup.com)

C. Bid Deadline

8. A Qualified Bidder that desires to make a Bid will deliver written copies of its Bid via email to the following parties (collectively, the "Bid Notice Parties"): (i) the Debtors, by and through their Chief Restructuring Officers, Attn: John D. Baumgartner (JBaumgartner@getzlerhenrich.com) and Ann Huynh (ahuynh@getzlerhenrich.com); (ii) proposed investment banker to the Debtors, Gordian Group LLC, (Attn: Liam Ahearn (lda@gordiangroup.com), Kevin McGee (kpm@gordiangroup.com), and Ava Caravela (AC@gordiangroup.com)); and (iii) proposed counsel for the Debtors, Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP, 609 Main Street Suite 2000, Houston, TX 77002 (Attn: Hugh M. Ray, III (hugh.ray@pillsburylaw.com), Andrew V. Alfano (andrew.alfano@pillsburylaw.com), and Joshua T. Stenhjem (joshua.stenhjem@pillsburylaw.com)).

9. Bids must be actually received by the Bid Notice Parties by a date no later than **5:00 p.m. (prevailing Central Time) on March 2, 2026** (the "Bid Deadline"). The Bid Deadline may be extended by the Debtors in consultation with the DIP Lender.

D. Credit Bid Notification

10. To the extent that the DIP Lender desires to submit a competing credit bid for the Purchased Assets, the DIP Lender shall notify the Debtors in writing of its intention to potentially credit bid no later than the Bid Deadline (the "Credit Bid Notification"). If the DIP Lender indicates in a Credit Bid Notification that it intends to credit bid at the Auction, the DIP Lender shall not receive the consent/consultation rights with respect to determination of Qualified Bids,

Qualified Bidders, the Auction(s), or the selection of the Successful Bidder or Back-Up Bidder, each as defined and more fully set forth below; *provided, however*, that the DIP Lender shall retain the consent rights and consultation rights set forth in subparagraph (l) of paragraph 12 below. In the event the DIP Lender subsequently revokes the Credit Bid Notification in writing and notifies the Debtors that it no longer intends to credit bid, then it shall again be afforded the consent rights and consultation rights described in these Bidding Procedures.

11. Notwithstanding the foregoing or anything herein to the contrary, unless otherwise ordered by the Bankruptcy Court for cause, the DIP Lender may submit credit bid(s) of all or a portion of its secured claims any time after the Bid Deadline or during the Auction, so long as (i) such credit bid shall only serve as a “back-up” bid to the Stalking Horse Bid or such other Successful Bid, if applicable; (ii) the DIP Lender shall provide an Asset Purchase Agreement to the Debtors no later than one (1) business day after the Bid Deadline; and (iii) such credit bid shall remain irrevocable until the closing of the Sale to the Stalking Horse Purchaser or such other Successful Bidder, if applicable (any such credit bid, a “Credit Bid Back-up Bid” and such submitting lender, the “Credit Bid Back-up Bidder”). Other than with respect to the Asset Purchase Agreement, the Credit Bid Back-up Bid shall not be subject to the requirements herein for a Qualified Bid or a Back-up Bid. For the avoidance of doubt, the Credit Bid Back-up Bidder cannot be designated as the Back-up Bidder unless such party consents to such designation.

E. Provisions Governing Qualified Bids

12. A Bid will be considered a “Qualified Bid” and a Potential Bidder will be considered a “Qualified Bidder” only if the Bid is submitted complies with all of the following:

- a. it states that the applicable Qualified Bidder offers to purchase, in cash or through a credit bid, some or all of the Purchased Assets upon the terms and conditions that the Debtors reasonably determine are no less favorable to the Debtors than those set forth in the Asset Purchase Agreement or the Stalking Horse Agreement (if any);
- b. it specifies the assets that are included in the Bid and, to the extent a Stalking Horse Purchaser is designated, states that such Qualified Bidder offers to purchase those assets included in the applicable Stalking Horse Agreement upon substantially the same terms as, or terms more favorable to the Debtors and their estates than, the terms set forth in the applicable Stalking Horse Agreement;
- c. it includes a signed writing stating that the Qualified Bidder’s offer is binding on such Qualified Bidder and irrevocable until the selection of the Successful Bidder, *provided, however*, that if such Qualified Bidder is selected as the Successful Bidder or the Back-Up Bidder (each, as defined below) its offer shall remain irrevocable until the later of (i) the closing of the Sale to the Successful Bidder or the Back-Up Bidder, and (ii) the date that is thirty (30) days after the Sale Hearing;

- d. it includes written confirmation that there are no conditions precedent to the Qualified Bidder's ability to enter into a definitive agreement, including due diligence or financing contingencies, and that all necessary internal and shareholder approvals have been obtained prior to the submission of the Bid;
- e. it includes a duly authorized and executed copy of a purchase agreement, based on the Asset Purchase Agreement or the Stalking Horse Agreement (if one exists), including the purchase price for the Purchased Assets expressed in U.S. Dollars (the "Purchase Price"), together with all exhibits and schedules thereto, together with copies marked to show any amendments and modifications to the Asset Purchase Agreement or the Stalking Horse Agreement (if one exists) and the proposed order for approval of the Sale by the Bankruptcy Court, and includes a copy of a redline reflecting all of the changes to the Asset Purchase Agreement or the Stalking Horse Agreement (if any);
- f. it includes confirmation that the Bid is not contingent upon such Qualified Bidder obtaining financing and includes financial statements or other written evidence, including (if applicable) a firm, irrevocable commitment for financing, establishing the ability of the Qualified Bidder to consummate the proposed Sale and pay the Purchase Price in cash, such as will allow the Debtors, in consultation with the DIP Lender, to make a reasonable determination as to the Qualified Bidder's financials and other capabilities to consummate the transaction contemplated by the Asset Purchase Agreement;
- g. it provides for the repayment of all other costs payable by such Qualified Bidder, simultaneously with the closing of the Sale, including the Stalking Horse Protections;
- h. in the event that there is a Stalking Horse Purchaser, and the Qualified Bidder wishes to bid on the same assets that are included in the Stalking Horse Agreement, it has a value to the Debtors, determined in the Debtors' reasonable business judgment that is greater than or equal to the sum of the value offered under the Stalking Horse Agreement, plus (i) the aggregate amount of the Stalking Horse Protections (if there is a Stalking Horse Bid), plus (ii) a minimum overbid of at least \$100,000 or such other greater amount as may be determined by the Debtors in consultation with the DIP Lender (the "Minimum Initial Overbid Amount");³
- i. it includes an acknowledgement and representation that the Qualified Bidder: (i) has had an opportunity to conduct any and all required due diligence regarding the Purchased Assets prior to making its Bid; (ii) has relied solely upon its own independent review, investigation and/or inspection of any documents and/or the Purchased Assets in making its Bid; (iii) did not rely upon any written or oral statements, representations, promises, warranties or

³ The Debtors, after consulting with the DIP Lender, will provide advanced notice to Qualified Bidders of the Minimum Initial Overbid Amount, which shall be no less than \$100,000.

guaranties whatsoever, whether express or implied (by operation of law or otherwise), regarding the Purchased Assets or the completeness of any information provided in connection therewith or with the Auction, except as expressly stated in the Asset Purchase Agreement; and (iv) with the exception of any Stalking Horse Purchaser, is not entitled to any expense reimbursement, break-up fee, or similar type of payment in connection with its Bid;

- j. it includes evidence, in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to the Debtors of authorization and approval from the Qualified Bidder's board of directors (or comparable governing body) with respect to the submission, execution, delivery and closing of the Asset Purchase Agreement;
- k. it is accompanied by a good faith deposit (a "Good Faith Deposit") in the form of a wire transfer (to a bank account specified by the Debtors), certified check or such other form acceptable to the Debtors, payable to the order of the Debtors (or such other party as the Debtors may determine) in an amount equal to ten percent (10%) of the Purchase Price, plus, in the event that a Stalking Horse Bid has been submitted, (i) the aggregate amount of the Stalking Horse Protections and (ii) \$100,000; *provided that* (i) any Qualified Bidder submitting a Bid with a credit bid component pursuant to section 363(k) of the Bankruptcy Code shall not be required to submit a Good Faith Deposit and (ii) the Debtors, in consultation with the DIP Lender, may alter the Good Faith Deposit requirement for any party selected as a Stalking Horse Purchaser without leave of the Bankruptcy Court; *provided further*, that no Good Faith Deposit shall be required in connection with any credit bid submitted by the DIP Lender;
- l. it contains full disclosure of the identity of each entity that will be bidding for the Purchased Assets or otherwise participating in connection with such Bid, and the complete terms of any such participation, as well as disclose the organizational form and business conducted by each entity;
- m. it contains a commitment to close the Sale of the Purchased Assets upon entry of the Sale Order;
- n. it contains such other information as may be reasonably requested by the Debtors, in consultation with the Debtors' investment banker; and
- o. it is received prior to the Bid Deadline.

13. The Debtors shall have the discretion to determine whether a Bid meets the above requirements and is therefore a Qualified Bid. Promptly upon determining that a Bid (other than a Stalking Horse Bid) constitutes a Qualified Bid, the Debtors shall notify the Stalking Horse Purchaser, if any, and the DIP Lender, in writing of such determination and will notify each Qualified Bidder that has submitted a Bid (other than the Stalking Horse Purchaser), whether such Qualified Bidder's Bid constitutes a Qualified Bid promptly after such determination has been made; *provided, however*, that such notification shall not be given later than one (1) calendar day following the expiration of the Bid Deadline. Only those Qualified Bidders who have submitted

Qualified Bids, as determined by the Debtors, in consultation with the DIP Lender, shall be deemed “Qualified Bidders” for purposes of these Bidding Procedures and the Auction.

14. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any Stalking Horse Purchaser shall be deemed a Qualified Bidder, and the Stalking Horse Agreement will be deemed a Qualified Bid, for all purposes in connection with the bidding process, the Auction, and the Sale without compliance with the above enumerated requirements. If there is one or more Stalking Horse Purchaser, any such designated Stalking Horse Purchaser(s) shall be considered a Qualified Bidder and any Stalking Horse Agreement shall be a Qualified Bid.

F. Evaluation of Competing Bids

15. A Qualified Bid will be valued based upon several factors including, without limitation, (1) the amount of the Purchase Price provided by such Qualified Bid, (2) the risks and timing associated with consummating such Qualified Bid, (3) any proposed revisions to the Asset Purchase Agreement and/or the Stalking Horse Agreement and/or the proposed Sale Order, (4) the ability of the Qualified Bidder to obtain appropriate regulatory approvals, if any, and (5) any other factors deemed relevant by the Debtors, in consultation with their investment banker and the DIP Lender, as necessary; provided, however, if each Qualified Bid exceeds the DIP obligations owed to the DIP Lender, then the Debtors may consult with the DIP Lender in the Debtors’ sole discretion. For purposes of such valuation, the full face amount of a credit bid shall be deemed to have the same value as the equivalent amount of cash. The Debtors shall treat comparable credit bids, cash bids, and bids contemplating the assumption of liabilities as equivalent and no credit bid shall be considered inferior to a comparable cash bid or bid contemplating the assumption of liabilities because it is a credit bid.

G. No Qualified Bids

16. If the Debtors do not receive any Qualified Bids, other than the Stalking Horse Agreement (if any), the Debtors will not hold an auction and the Stalking Horse Purchaser will be named the Successful Bidder upon the expiration of the Bid Deadline.

H. Auction Process

17. If the Debtors receive one or more Qualified Bids in addition to a Stalking Horse Bid, or if there is no Stalking Horse Bid, the Debtors will conduct an auction of the Assets (the “Auction”), which shall be on **March 4, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. (prevailing Central Time)** [telephonically pursuant to instructions to be provided by the Debtors to parties entitled to attend the Auction at a later date], or such other location or time as shall be timely communicated. At the start of the Auction, the Debtors shall describe the material terms of the Starting Bid (as defined below) for the Purchased Assets on the record. The Debtors shall maintain a written transcript of the Auction and all bids made and announced at the Auction, if any, including the Starting Bid, any and all Subsequent Bids, and the Successful Bid. The Auction, which shall be recorded or transcribed, shall be held in accordance with the following procedures:

- a. only the Stalking Horse Purchaser, if any, and any other Qualified Bidders who have timely submitted Qualified Bids (and their counsel) will be entitled to

attend and submit competing Bids (*i.e.*, bids other than Credit Bid Back-up Bids) at the Auction;

- b. the Stalking Horse Purchaser will, notwithstanding the elements of the Purchase Price set forth in the Stalking Horse Agreement, be entitled to make subsequent Bids for all or substantially all or any combination of the Purchased Assets comprised of further credit bids, cash, additional or different consideration of any type, or any combination of the foregoing;
- c. each Qualified Bidder participating in the Auction shall be required to confirm on the record at the Auction (a) it has not engaged in any collusion with respect to the bidding and the Auction, (b) its Qualified Bid is a good faith *bona fide* offer that it intends to consummate if selected as the Successful Bidder or Back-up Bidder, and (c) the Qualified Bidder (other than the Credit Bid Back-up Bidder) agrees to serve as the Back-up Bidder if its Qualified Bid is the next highest or otherwise best bid after the Successful Bid;
- d. at least one (1) business day prior to the Auction, each Qualified Bidder who has timely submitted a Qualified Bid must inform the Debtors whether it intends to attend the Auction and all Qualified Bidders wishing to attend the Auction must have at least one individual representative with authority to bind such Qualified Bidder in attendance at the Auction in person; *provided* that in the event a Qualified Bidder elects not to attend the Auction, such Qualified Bidder's Qualified Bid shall nevertheless remain fully enforceable against such Qualified Bidder until the selection of the Successful Bidder and Back-Up Bidder at the conclusion of the Auction. At least one (1) business day prior to the Auction, the Debtors will provide copies of the Qualified Bid, or combination of Qualified Bids, which the Debtors believe, after consultation with the DIP Lender (which may be present at the Auction), is the highest or otherwise best offer for the Purchased Assets (the "Starting Bid") to the Stalking Horse Purchaser, if any, and counsel to the DIP Lender.
- e. the actual identity of each Qualified Bidder will be disclosed on the record at the Auction;
- f. bidding at the Auction will begin with the Starting Bid and continue in bidding increments (each, a "Subsequent Bid") providing a net value to the Debtors' estates of at least \$100,000 above the prior Bid. After the first round of bidding and between each subsequent round of bidding, the Debtors, after consultation with the DIP Lender, shall announce the Bid (and the value of such Bid) that they believe to be the highest or otherwise best Bid (each, the "Leading Bid").
- g. A round of bidding will conclude after each participating Qualified Bidder has had the opportunity to submit a Subsequent Bid with full knowledge of the Leading Bid.

- h. Except as specifically set forth herein, for the purpose of evaluating the value of the Purchase Price provided by each Subsequent Bid (including any Subsequent Bid by the Stalking Horse Purchaser), the Debtors shall give effect to the Stalking Horse Protections as well as any additional liabilities to be assumed by a Qualified Bidder, and any additional costs which may be imposed on the Debtors.
- i. The Debtors may accept Bids for all or substantially all of the Purchased Assets.
- j. The Debtors explicitly reserve the right, in their business judgment and after consultation with the DIP Lender, to exercise their discretion in conducting the Auction (in a manner that is not inconsistent with the Bidding Procedures, the Bankruptcy Code, or any Order of the Bankruptcy Court entered in connection herewith), including (x) modifying bidding increments as necessary to achieve the highest and best Bids for the Purchased Assets, (y) determining whether to adjourn the Auction to facilitate separate discussions between any Qualified Bidders, the Debtors, and/or the DIP Lender, as applicable, or (z) changing the format of the Auction to a closed bid auction in lieu of a public Auction with incremental bidding.

I. Selection of Successful Bid

18. Prior to the conclusion of the Auction, the Debtors, in consultation with the DIP Lender, will review and evaluate each Qualified Bid submitted at the Auction (including by the Stalking Horse Purchaser) in accordance with the procedures set forth herein and determine which offer is the highest or otherwise best offer (one or more such bids, collectively the “Successful Bid” and the bidder(s) making such bid(s), collectively, the “Successful Bidder”), and communicate to the Stalking Horse Purchaser and the other Auction participants the identity of the Successful Bidder and the details of the Successful Bid; *provided, however*, if each Qualified Bid exceeds the DIP obligations owed to the DIP Lender, then the Debtors may consult with the DIP Lender in the Debtors’ sole discretion. The determination of the Successful Bid by the Debtors at the conclusion of the Auction shall be final, subject only to approval by the Bankruptcy Court.

19. Other than the Stalking Horse Purchaser, the Qualified Bidder(s) with the next highest or otherwise best Qualified Bid, as determined by the Debtors, in consultation with the DIP Lender, will be required to serve as a back-up bidder (the “Back-Up Bidder”) and keep its bid open and irrevocable until the later to occur of thirty (30) days after the Sale Hearing and closing on the Successful Bid with the Successful Bidder. If the Successful Bidder fails to consummate the Sale, the Back-Up Bidder will be deemed to be the new Successful Bidder, and the Debtors will be authorized and directed to consummate the Sale with the Back-Up Bidder without further order of the Bankruptcy Court. In no event shall the Stalking Horse Purchaser be the Back-Up Bidder.

20. Within two (2) business days after conclusion of the Auction, the Successful Bidder shall complete and execute all agreements, contracts, instruments and other documents necessary to consummate the Successful Bid. Within one (1) business day after conclusion of the Auction,

the Debtors shall file a notice with the Bankruptcy Court identifying the Successful Bidder and the Back-Up Bidder.

21. The Debtors will sell the Purchased Assets to the Successful Bidder(s) pursuant to the terms of the Successful Bid(s) upon the approval of such Successful Bid(s) by the Bankruptcy Court at the Sale Hearing.

J. Return of Deposits

22. All Good Faith Deposits shall be returned to each bidder not selected by the Debtors as the Successful Bidder or the Back-Up Bidder (as defined below) no later than five (5) business days following the conclusion of the Auction.

23. The Stalking Horse Protections payable to any Stalking Horse Purchaser shall be paid not later than three (3) business days after the closing of the Sale with the Successful Bidder for the Purchased Assets bid upon by the Stalking Horse Purchaser from the proceeds of such transaction.

SALE HEARING

24. The Debtors will seek entry of a Sale Order from the Bankruptcy Court at a hearing (the "Sale Hearing") to begin on **March 9, 2026 at 11:00 a.m. (prevailing Central Time)**, subject to the availability of the Bankruptcy Court, to approve and authorize the Sale to the Successful Bidder and/or Stalking Horse Purchaser on the terms and conditions memorialized in the applicable Asset Purchase Agreement or Stalking Horse Agreement.

RESERVATION OF RIGHTS

25. The Debtors reserve the right, in their reasonable business judgment and after consultation with the DIP Lender, to adjourn the Auction, if any, one or more times to, among other things: (i) facilitate discussions between and amongst the Debtors, the Qualified Bidders and the DIP Lender, as appropriate; (ii) allow Qualified Bidders to consider how they wish to proceed; and (iii) provide Qualified Bidders the opportunity to provide the Debtors and the DIP Lender with such additional evidence as the Debtors, in their reasonable business judgment, after consultation with the DIP Lender, may require that the Qualified Bidder has sufficient internal resources or has received sufficient non-contingent debt and/or equity funding commitments to consummate the proposed transaction at the prevailing Subsequent Bid amount.