

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK**

----- X
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION, :
: Plaintiff, :
: -v- :
PLATINUM MANAGEMENT (NY) LLC; :
PLATINUM CREDIT MANAGEMENT, L.P.; :
MARK NORDLICHT; :
DAVID LEVY; :
DANIEL SMALL; :
URI LANDESMAN; :
JOSEPH MANN; :
JOSEPH SANFILIPPO; and :
JEFFREY SHULSE, :
: Defendants. :
----- X

No. 16-CV-6848 (BMC)

**DECLARATION OF MELANIE L. CYGANOWSKI, AS RECEIVER,
IN SUPPORT OF HER MOTION FOR ENTRY OF AN ORDER TO ESTABLISH
CLAIMS AND INTERESTS RECONCILIATION AND VERIFICATION PROCEDURES**

I, Melanie L. Cyganowski, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, hereby declare that the following is true to the best of my knowledge, information and belief:

1. I make this declaration in my capacity as the duly appointed Receiver (the “*Receiver*”) of Platinum Credit Management, L.P., Platinum Partners Credit Opportunities Master Fund LP, Platinum Partners Credit Opportunities Fund (TE) LLC, Platinum Partners Credit Opportunities Fund LLC, Platinum Partners Credit Opportunity Fund (BL) LLC, Platinum Liquid Opportunity Management (NY) LLC, Platinum Partners Liquid Opportunity Fund (USA) L.P., Platinum Partners Liquid Opportunity Master Fund L.P., Platinum Partners Credit Opportunities Fund International Ltd. and Platinum Partners Credit Opportunities Fund International (A) Ltd. (collectively, the “*Receivership Entities*,” the “*Platinum Entities*” or “*Platinum*” and each a “*Receivership Entity*” or “*Platinum Entity*”).

2. I submit this declaration in support of my motion for entry of an order approving claims and interests reconciliation and verification procedures (the “*Claims Procedures*”) in connection with claims against, and interests in, any one or more of the Receivership Entities (the “*Motion*”).¹

I.

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

3. The October 16, 2017 *Second Amended Order Appointing Receiver* (the “*Receivership Order*”) directed me to marshal and preserve assets of the Receivership Entities and to develop a plan for the fair, reasonable, and efficient disposition of property of the Receivership Entities. See Receivership Order, ¶¶ 6, 45. In furtherance of my obligations, I believe it is in the best interests of the Receivership Entities and their respective investors and creditors to establish procedures by which I may finalize the reconciliation and verification of Claims² against, and Interests³ in, any one or more of the Receivership Entities, for purposes of recommending a plan

¹ Capitalized terms used, but not defined, herein shall have the meaning ascribed in the Memorandum of Law in Support of the Motion, filed contemporaneously with this declaration.

² For purposes of the Motion, “*Claim*” is defined as: (1) a claim to a right to payment, whether or not such right is reduced to judgment, liquidated, unliquidated, fixed, contingent, matured, unmatured, disputed, undisputed, legal, equitable, secured, or unsecured, against one or more of the Receivership Entities; or (2) a claim to a right to an equitable remedy for breach of performance if such breach gives rise to a right to payment, whether or not such right to an equitable remedy is reduced to judgment, fixed, contingent, matured, unmatured, disputed, undisputed, secured, or unsecured, against one or more of the Receivership Entities.

³ For purposes of the Motion, “*Interest*” is defined as an equity interest in any of the Receivership Entities, which interest is based exclusively upon the ownership of membership interests or partnership interests in any of the Receivership Entities.

of distribution and ultimately making a distribution to Claimants⁴ and Investors⁵ entitled to payment from the Receivership Entities. The Claims Procedures described herein, and for which approval is sought by the Motion, will provide Claimants and Investors with notice and an opportunity to be heard regarding the validity and amount of their Claims and Interests. By the Motion, I seek entry of an order authorizing me to (i) determine the validity of Claims, including the allowed amount, if any, of Claims and whether a Claim is secured by property of a Receivership Entity; (ii) notify Claimants of my determinations regarding the validity, amount (if any), and secured nature, of their Claims; (iii) notify Investors of the amounts they invested in and received from the Receivership Entities, as recorded in the Receivership Entities' books and records; (iv) provide Claimants with an opportunity to dispute my determinations regarding their Claims, and Investors with an opportunity to dispute the Receivership Entities' records regarding their Interests; (v) negotiate and settle disputes in connection with Claims and Interests; and (vi) in the event disputes are not resolved by agreement, implement procedures to seek relief from the Court through summary proceedings that will be efficient and not a burden on the Court, while still affording a sufficient opportunity for Investors and Claimants to be heard.

4. By the Motion, I am seeking only the Court's approval of the proposed procedures for finalizing the reconciliation and verification of Claims and Interests and am not at this time

⁴ For purposes of the Motion, "**Claimant**" is defined as and includes any person or entity (including, without limitation, individuals, partnerships, corporations, estates, trusts, and governmental units) that holds a Claim. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the definition of Claimant includes, but is not limited to, any person or entity holding a Claim based on the provision of goods or services to any Receivership Entity that has not been paid in whole; money loaned to any Receivership Entity that has not been paid in whole; unpaid wages, compensation, or other employment benefits; tax liabilities, including those held by federal and state governments; primary, secondary, direct, indirect, secured, unsecured, or contingent liability; or contract, tort, indemnity, reimbursement, subrogation theories, or other legal or equitable theory. The term "Claimant" does not include any person or entity that holds an Interest.

⁵ For purposes of the Motion, "**Investor**" is defined as and includes any person or entity (including, without limitation, individuals, partnerships, corporations, estates, trusts, and governmental units) that holds an Interest.

seeking approval of the validity, amount, classification, or distribution methodology on account of any Claims against, or Interests in, any of the Receivership Entities. Rather, I will be filing a separate motion with the Court to approve a plan for making distributions to Claimants and Investors, including, but not limited to, the classification of Claims and Interests, and the distribution methodology I will seek to employ. I reserve the right in the plan of distribution to have one or more classes of secured or unsecured Claims.

5. I determined it appropriate to proceed with the Claims and Interests reconciliation and verification process in advance of the consideration of the proposed plan of distribution because in my business judgment I believe that beginning the process of finalizing the register of Claims and Interests will help ensure that my decisions concerning the plan of distribution are grounded in verified information regarding the Claims and Interests. The approval of the Claims Procedures is a critical and necessary step to provide me with a fair and reasonable process to finalize my decisions regarding Claims and Interests, to propose a plan of distribution, and to expeditiously begin making distributions on account of approved Claims and Interests following the approval of a plan of distribution.

II.

PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND

A. Commencement of this Receivership

6. On December 19, 2016, (the “*Receivership Commencement Date*”) the District Court for the Eastern District of New York (the “*Receivership Court*” or the “*Court*”) entered an Order Appointing Receiver, [Dkt. Nos. 6 and 16], which appointed Bart Schwartz as receiver (the “*Prior Receiver*”). At the time of his appointment, the Prior Receiver was serving as a monitor for the Platinum Entities.

7. On June 23, 2017, six months after his appointment, the Prior Receiver resigned. Upon the recommendation of the SEC, by Order dated July 6, 2017, I was appointed as Receiver, effective immediately (*i.e.*, July 6, 2017), and ordered to assume all authority held by the Prior Receiver. [Dkt. No. 216].

8. On October 16, 2017, the Receivership Court entered the Receivership Order. [Dkt. No. 276]. The Receivership Order vests this Court with exclusive jurisdiction over each of the Receivership Entities and their respective property. *See* Receivership Order, ¶ 1. Among other powers relevant to the Motion, the Receivership Order:

authorized, empowered and directed [the Receiver] to develop a plan ... for the fair, reasonable, and efficient recovery and disposition of all remaining, recovered, and recoverable Receivership Property (the “Disposition Plan”), which may be a plan of liquidation.

Receivership Order, ¶ 45. Additionally, the Receivership Order directed me to determine the extent of liabilities believed to be the legal obligations of the Receivership Entities. *See* Receivership Order, ¶ 47.

B. Bar Date Motion and Bar Date Order

9. On December 10, 2018, I filed a Motion for Entry of an Order (I) Establishing Claims Bar Dates and (II) Approving (A) a Proof of Claim Form, (B) the Form and Manner of Notice to the Claims Bar Dates and (C) Procedures for Submitting Proofs of Claim by Receiver (the “***Bar Date Motion***”). [Dkt. No. 424]. The Bar Date Motion requested that this Court set the general bar date, governmental bar date, and approve the procedures for filing claims.

10. The Court entered two orders on February 11, 2019: The first order granted the Bar Date Motion (the “***Order Granting Bar Date Motion***”) [Dkt. No. 452]; and the second order established a bar date and approved the procedures for filing claims (the “***Bar Date Order***”) [Dkt.

No. 453]. The Bar Date Order set the bar date to file a proof of claim asserting a claim arising before the Receivership Commencement Date as March 29, 2019 (the “**Bar Date**”) and the bar date for governmental units to file a proof of claim as April 12, 2019 (the “**Governmental Bar Date**”).

11. The Bar Date Order specifically established the categories of persons or entities that were required to timely file a Proof of Claim (as that term is defined in the Bar Date Order) and the categories of persons or entities that were relieved of filing a Proof of Claim. The Bar Date Order required the timely filing of a Proof of Claim by persons or entities that are:

- (i) Claimants that believe they are owed any money by, or have a right to distribution from, any of the Receivership Entities, *see* Bar Date Order, ¶ 5(i); and
- (ii) “Indemnification Claimants”⁶ holding claims for indemnification, advancement or reimbursement, but authorized such claimants to file “Supplemental Claims” to amend, supplement, and update any claims, provided the original proofs of claims are timely filed, to take into account costs, losses, damages, liabilities, legal fees or other expenses incurred following the Bar Date.⁷

12. The Bar Date Order did not require the filing of a Proof of Claim by persons or entities that are holders of:

⁶ The Bar Date Order defined an “**Indemnification Claimant**” as a creditor “holding claims for indemnification, advancement or reimbursement . . . based on having suffered or incurred, or who may suffer or incur, any costs, losses, damages or liabilities (including without limitation legal fees or other expenses incurred in investigating or defending against any losses, claims, or liabilities) arising from any investigation, claim, allegation, action, or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative, arbitral or investigative, or any appeal in connection with any of the foregoing, that relates to their service in any office or other capacity of, or otherwise representing or acting for or on behalf of any Receivership Entity, or based on a post-receivership agreement with a Receivership Entity (other than for professional services)[.]” *See* Bar Date Order, ¶ 5(iii).

⁷ Additionally, the Bar Date Order authorized me to set a final Bar Date after which no additional Supplemental Claims may be filed. *See* Bar Date Order, ¶ 5(iii).

- (i) Interests based on an equity interest in any of the Receivership Entities, which interest is based exclusively upon the ownership of membership interests or partnership interests,⁸ *see* Bar Date Order, ¶ 5(i);
- (ii) “Administrative Claims” based on the provision of goods or services to any of the Receivership Entities or to me as Receiver after the Receivership Commencement Date, *see* Bar Date Order, ¶ 5(ii); and
- (iii) “Previously Filed Claims”⁹ that have previously submitted a proof of claim, however at my request, the claimant may be required to submit additional supporting documentation in order for the claim asserted in the previously filed proof of claim to be evaluated. *See* Bar Date Order, ¶ 5(ix).

13. The Bar Date Order authorized me to employ any procedures I deem necessary, in my “sole and absolute discretion, for processing, reconciling, and verifying Proofs of Claim.” *See* Bar Date Order, ¶ (5)(xiii).

14. In compliance with the Bar Date Order, I caused packages containing the Bar Date Notice and Proof of Claim Form (as those terms are defined in the Bar Date Order) to over 237 potential Claimants in multiple states and countries. I also caused publication notice of the Bar Date in the *Wall St. Journal* and on the Receivership Entities’ website (<http://www.platinumreceivership.com/#date>). In total, 328 Proofs of Claim were filed prior to the Bar Date. Some of these Claims may be duplicative, while others may be asserted against non- Receivership Entities. In addition, as of the Receivership Commencement Date, there are currently calculated 286 known Investors in the Platinum Entities. I am close to concluding my evaluation of the Claims asserted against the Receivership Entities, and my review of the Receivership Entities’ books and records, to determine the validity, amount and classification of Claims held

⁸ In the Order Granting Bar Date Motion, the Court recognized that the Receivership Entities’ “books and records ... reflect the claims of unpaid redeemers, so there is no need for them to submit duplicative claims.” *See* Order Granting Bar Date Motion, ¶ 4.

⁹ For the purpose of the Motion, Proofs of Claim that have been filed by Claimants or Indemnification Claimants (including their Supplemental Claims), or that have been filed through Previously Filed Claims, shall be collectively referred to as “*Filed Claims*”.

against, and Interests in, all Receivership Entities. Additionally, I have settled various Claims asserted against, and Interests in, the Receivership Entities, and continue negotiations with parties to settle other Claims and Interests.

III.

THE PROPOSED CLAIMS PROCEDURES

15. Through the Motion, I respectfully request the Court's approval of the proposed Claims Procedures.

A. Determination of Claims

16. I will finalize my analysis and verification of Filed Claims consistent with the following procedures.

i. Approved Claims

17. I will finalize my determination of whether a Filed Claim is an "*Approved Claim*" by taking into account, among other things, whether (i) the Claim is properly asserted through a timely filed Proof of Claim; (ii) the Claim is properly asserted against a Receivership Entity; (iii) the Claim is not duplicative of any other Claim asserted against a Receivership Entity; (iv) the Claim arises out of any Receivership Entity's activities, agreements, or other obligations; (v) any alleged Claim and Claim amount are consistent with the books and records of the Receivership Entity against which the Claim was asserted; (vi) the Claim is adequately supported by documentation; (vii) the Claim is secured by a lien on property of a Receivership Entity; (viii) the Claim is subject to any offsets or defenses that may be asserted, including with respect to any claimed lien purportedly securing the Claim; or (ix) whether other grounds exist for denying the Claim, in whole or in part.

18. I will determine the allowed amount of each Approved Claim. This will serve as the basis for calculating a Claimant's distribution of assets of the Receivership Entities in accordance with a plan of distribution, and is not necessarily indicative of the treatment of the Claim under any plan of distribution or the amount of distribution a Claimant may ultimately receive from the Receivership Entities. I may estimate the amount of a Claim that is contingent, unliquidated, or unmatured for purposes of determining the allowed amount of an Approved Claim.

ii. Claims Analysis Report

19. Subject to the Court approving the relief requested in the Motion, I will file and serve a notice of claims analysis report (the "*Claims Analysis Report*"). The Claims Analysis Report will be served by first-class mail on holders of Filed Claims, at the address listed on the Proof of Claim for notice, or as updated pursuant to a request by the Claimant or by returned mail from the post office with a forwarding address. In addition to notice by mail, where a Claimant has provided an electronic mail address to me, I will serve the Claims Analysis Report on such Claimant via electronic mail. I will post the Claims Analysis Report on the Receiver's website (<http://www.platinumreceivership.com/>).

20. The Claims Analysis Report will include a schedule that will set forth my determinations with respect to each Filed Claim. The Claims Analysis Report will identify each Filed Claim and state whether I deem it to be an Approved Claim and in what amount, and whether I deem the Claim to be secured by a lien on property of a Receivership Entity. Where I do not recognize that a Claimant holds an Approved Claim, in whole or in part, the Claims Analysis Report will state that I do not recognize a Claim for such Claimant and shall indicate the reason(s) for disallowing, in whole or in part, the Claim. For the avoidance of doubt, any party that failed

to submit a Filed Claim pursuant to the Bar Date Orders shall not have an Approved Claim, shall not be entitled to receive a distribution under a plan of distribution, and will not have a claim included in the Claims Analysis Report. I may periodically modify the Claims Analysis Report as necessary.

iii. Disputed Claims

21. Any Claimant who disagrees with my determination of their Claim as set forth in the Claims Analysis Report may serve me with any objection they may have to the analysis of their Claim in the Claims Analysis Report (each an “*Objection*”), including any objection to my determination of whether the Claim is an Approved Claim, the allowed amount of the Approved Claim, and/or my determination of whether the Claim is secured by property of a Receivership Entity. A Claimant may file an Objection on its own behalf or through its counsel of determinations reached with respect to its Claim(s). No other party may file an Objection to the Claims Analysis Report, and Claimants may not object to my determinations of other Claimants’ Claims. Objections to the Claims Analysis Report shall (i) be in writing, (ii) state the name and address of the objecting party, the name and address of their counsel, if any, the assigned claim number, and the nature of the Claim of such party, (iii) state with particularity the basis and nature of all objections, and (iv) be electronically mailed to me, at my email address, platinumreceiver@otterbourg.com, so as to be *actually received* not later than 45 days after my mailing of the Claims Analysis Report. Upon the timely service of an Objection, a Claim shall become a “*Disputed Claim*”.

22. Objections should not be filed with the Court. A Claimant’s failure to timely submit to me an Objection that complies, in all respects, with the above instructions shall permanently preclude the Claimant’s right to object to or contest the Claims Analysis Report as it relates to

their Claim(s). If a Claimant fails to object to my determinations as to their Claim(s) as set forth in the Claims Analysis Report, then my determinations set forth in the Claims Analysis Report shall be final and binding. The list of Approved Claims and allowed amounts for such Claims will be used to calculate the distribution that the Claimant may receive pursuant to any approved plan of distribution. The plan of distribution will be subject to separate review by the Court.

B. Verification of Interests

23. I will finalize my verification of Interests consistent with the following procedures.

i. Verification of Interests

24. I will provide notice of the amounts that each Investor invested in the Receivership Entities on account of their Interest, and the amounts received by each Investor from the Receivership Entities on account of their Interest, based upon the books and records of the Receivership Entities. Each Investor, respectively, will be sent an individual statement (an “*Investor Statement*”) containing the amounts invested in, and amounts received from, the Receivership Entities for the respective Investor on account of their Interest, as set forth in the Receivership Entities’ books and records.

25. To protect the privacy of Investors, the Investor Statement will assign each Investor an individual investor number unique to that Investor. I will use the respective investor number to identify individual investors in public filings with the Court. The Investor Statement will also contain detailed information about how to dispute the information contained in the Investor Statement, and the deadline by which the Investor must do so.

26. The Investor Statement is intended solely to advise Investors of the information contained in the Receivership Entities’ books and records and to provide Investors with an opportunity to dispute the information contained in the books and records, if necessary. The

Investor Statement will not state the priority, if any, of an Interest or the amount an Investor ultimately may receive from the Receivership Entities. I will be filing a motion for approval of a plan of distribution in this case, and will, in that motion, seek this Court's approval of the distribution methodology to apply in calculating the allowed amount on account of each Interest and the treatment of Interests under the plan of distribution. Following the approval of the plan of distribution and approval of the distribution methodology, I will provide notice of my determinations of the distribution, if any to be received by each Investor, based upon the distribution methodology employed. Investors and other parties in interest will have the opportunity to object to the plan of distribution and any of its provisions, including the distribution methodology, at the appropriate time.

ii. Disputed Interests

27. Any Investor who disagrees with the information contained in the Investor Statement regarding their own Interest, may serve me with any disputes they may have to the accuracy of the information in the Investor Statement as it relates to their own Interest (each an "***Investor Objection***"). The sole basis for an Investor Objection shall be that the books and records of the Receivership Entities are inaccurate. An Investor may file an Investor Objection on its own behalf or through its counsel. No other party may file an Investor Objection to an Investor Statement, and Investors may not file an Investor Objection with respect to other Investors' Interests. Investor Objections shall (i) be in writing, (ii) state the name and address of the objecting party, the name and address of their counsel, if any, and the assigned investor number, (iii) state with particularity all information the Investor believes to be inaccurate in the Investor Statement, (iv) provide documentation evidencing the information that the Investor believes is correct, and (v) be electronically mailed to me, at my email address, platinumreceiver@otterbourg.com, so as

to be *actually received* not later than 45 days after my mailing of the respective Investor Statement. Upon the timely service of an Investor Objection, an Interest shall become a “*Disputed Interest*”.

28. Investor Objections should not be filed with the Court. An Investor’s failure to timely submit an Investor Objection to me that complies with the above instructions shall permanently preclude the Investor’s right to object to or contest its respective Investor Statement. If an Investor fails to object to the information set forth in its respective Investor Statement, then the information set forth in the Investor Statement shall be final and binding and shall form the basis for calculating the allowed amount on account of each Interest, based upon the distribution methodology employed in accordance with a plan of distribution.

C. Voluntary Resolution of Disputed Claims and Disputed Interests

29. I will make a good-faith attempt to resolve a Disputed Claim or a Disputed Interest with the respective Claimant or Investor. I may, in my discretion and subject to agreement with the applicable Claimant or Investor, utilize a disinterested mediator to seek to resolve a Disputed Claim or Disputed Interest, without further order of the Court. The reasonable fees and expenses of a mediator shall be shared equally among the Receivership Entities and the Claimant or Investor whose Disputed Claim or Disputed Interest is the subject of the mediation. I may, in my sole discretion, settle and compromise any Disputed Claim or Disputed Interest on terms and for reasons that I deem, in my business judgment, to be appropriate, and the allowed Claim or Interest, and the respective allowed amount and classification, shall form the basis upon which distributions will be calculated in the Receivership, in accordance with a plan of distribution, without further Order of this Court.¹⁰

¹⁰ The Motion is not intended to modify any prior agreements I have entered into as Receiver or orders entered by this Court unless specifically stated.

D. Resolution of Disputed Claims and Disputed Interests by the Court

30. Any Disputed Claim or Disputed Interest that cannot be resolved by agreement between me and a Claimant or Investor will be adjudicated by the Court in a summary proceeding as follows:

- (i) With respect to each Disputed Claim or Disputed Interest that is not resolved by agreement, I will commence a summary proceeding by filing with the Court a “*Motion for Claim Resolution*”, which shall include the following: the respective Claims Analysis Report or Investor Statement¹¹, the relevant objection, and declarations or other evidence that I deem relevant to the Court’s determination of the Disputed Claim or Disputed Interest, including any legal or factual basis for my determination, if appropriate. A Motion for Claim Resolution and supporting brief shall be served on the applicable Claimant or Investor at the time of its filing.
- (ii) I may, in my discretion, file one or more omnibus Motions for Claim Resolution to avoid any burden associated with filing individual motions.
- (iii) In accordance with the Order Adopting Protocols for Parties in Interest to be Heard on Receiver Motions (the “*Protocols Order*”) [Dkt. No. 271], on or before fourteen (14) days after I file a Motion for Claim Resolution (the “*Response Deadline*”), any Claimant or Investor wishing to be heard with respect to a Motion for Claim Resolution (other than parties named in the caption), shall electronically deliver to my email address (platinumreceiver@otterbourg.com), that Claimant or Investor’s response to the Motion for Claim Resolution (collectively, the “*Responses*”);

¹¹ I will identify the applicable Investor by investor number and will redact the applicable Investor’s personal information from public filings with the Court.

Claimants and Investors (other than parties named in the caption) shall not file Responses on the ECF docket in this action. On or before two (2) days after the Response Deadline, I will compile all of the Responses I have received, and shall file the Responses under one docket entry on the ECF docket in this action. I will have no more than fourteen (14) days following the Response Deadline to file any reply in further support of a Motion for Claim Resolution.

IV.

RESERVATION OF RIGHTS

31. Nothing herein will prejudice my rights to dispute, or assert offsets or defenses as to the nature, amount, liability, classification, or otherwise against, any amounts of an Interest or Claim asserted by a Claimant against the Receivership Entities. Nothing contained herein is intended to preclude me from objecting to any Claim or Interest on any grounds.

V.

CONCLUSION

32. For the reasons set forth in the Memorandum of Law in Support of the Motion, I respectfully request entry of an order, in substantially the form annexed hereto as **Exhibit A**, approving the proposed Claims Procedures.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated: New York, New York
November 13, 2020

/s/ Melanie L. Cyganowski
Melanie L. Cyganowski

EXHIBIT A
PROPOSED ORDER

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK**

----- X
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION, :
: Plaintiff, :
: -v- :
PLATINUM MANAGEMENT (NY) LLC; :
PLATINUM CREDIT MANAGEMENT, L.P.; :
MARK NORDLICHT; :
DAVID LEVY; :
DANIEL SMALL; :
URI LANDESMAN; :
JOSEPH MANN; :
JOSEPH SANFILIPPO; and :
JEFFREY SHULSE, :
: Defendants. :
----- X

No. 16-CV-6848 (BMC)

**[PROPOSED]
ORDER ESTABLISHING CLAIMS AND
INTERESTS RECONCILIATION AND VERIFICATION PROCEDURES**

Upon consideration of the motion by Melanie L. Cyganowski, as Receiver (the “*Receiver*”) for Platinum Credit Management, L.P., Platinum Partners Credit Opportunities Master Fund LP, Platinum Partners Credit Opportunities Fund (TE) LLC, Platinum Partners Credit Opportunities Fund LLC, Platinum Partners Credit Opportunity Fund (BL) LLC, Platinum Liquid Opportunity Management (NY) LLC, Platinum Partners Liquid Opportunity Fund (USA) L.P., Platinum Partners Liquid Opportunity Master Fund L.P., Platinum Partners Credit Opportunities Fund International Ltd. and Platinum Partners Credit Opportunities Fund International (A) Ltd. (collectively, the “*Receivership Entities*,” the “*Platinum Entities*” or “*Platinum*” and each a “*Receivership Entity*” or “*Platinum Entity*”), for entry of an order approving claims and interests reconciliation and verification procedures (the “*Claims Procedures*”) in connection with claims against, and interests in, any one or more of the Receivership Entities (the “*Motion*”), the

Declaration of the Receiver and the Memorandum of Law in Support of the Motion¹, any responses or objections to the Motion, and any replies in support of the Motion, this Court finds that (i) the relief requested in the Motion is in the best interests of the Receivership Entities, Claimants, Investors and all other parties; (ii) notice of the Motion was good and sufficient under the particular circumstances and that no other or further notice need be given; and (iii) based upon the record herein and after due deliberation and for good cause shown it is hereby

ORDERED THAT:

1. The Motion is granted in all respects.
2. All objections not withdrawn or resolved by this Order are overruled in all respects.
3. Claims Procedures. The following Claims Procedures, are approved:

I. The Receiver's Determination of Claims

A. Approved Claims

i. The Receiver may finalize her determination of whether a Filed Claim is an “*Approved Claim*” by taking into account, among other things, whether (i) the Claim is properly asserted through a timely filed Proof of Claim; (ii) the Claim is properly asserted against a Receivership Entity; (iii) the Claim is not duplicative of any other Claim asserted against a Receivership Entity; (iv) the Claim arises out of any Receivership Entity’s activities, agreements, or other obligations; (v) any alleged Claim and Claim amount are consistent with the books and records of the Receivership Entity against which the Claim was asserted; (vi) the Claim is adequately supported by documentation; (vii) the Claim is secured by a lien on property of a Receivership Entity; (viii) the Claim is subject to any offsets or defenses that may be asserted,

¹ Capitalized terms used, but not defined, herein shall have the meaning ascribed in the Memorandum of Law in Support of the Motion.

including with respect to any claimed lien purportedly securing the Claim; or (ix) whether other grounds exist for denying the Claim, in whole or in part.

ii. The Receiver's determination of the allowed amount of each Approved Claim will serve as the basis for calculating a Claimant's distribution of assets of the Receivership Entities in accordance with a plan of distribution, and is not necessarily indicative of the treatment of the Claim under any plan of distribution or the amount of distribution a Claimant may ultimately receive from the Receivership Entities. The Receiver may estimate the amount of a Claim that is contingent, unliquidated, or unmatured for purposes of determining the allowed amount of an Approved Claim.

B. Claims Analysis Report

i. The Receiver will file and serve a notice of claims analysis report (the "*Claims Analysis Report*"). The Claims Analysis Report will be served by first-class mail on holders of Filed Claims, at the address listed on the Proof of Claim for notice, or as updated pursuant to a request by the Claimant or by returned mail from the post office with a forwarding address. In addition to notice by mail, where a Claimant has provided an electronic mail address to the Receiver, the Receiver will serve the Claims Analysis Report on such Claimant via electronic mail. The Receiver will post the Claims Analysis Report on the Receiver's website (<http://www.platinumreceivership.com/>).

ii. The Claims Analysis Report will include a schedule that will set forth the Receiver's determinations with respect to each Filed Claim. The Claims Analysis Report will identify each Filed Claim and state whether the Receiver deems it to be an Approved Claim and in what amount, and whether the Receiver deems the Claim to be secured by a lien on property of a Receivership Entity. Where the Receiver does not recognize that a Claimant holds an Approved

Claim, in whole or in part, the Claims Analysis Report will state that the Receiver does not recognize a Claim for such Claimant and shall indicate the reason(s) for disallowing, in whole or in part, the Claim. For the avoidance of doubt, any party that failed to submit a Filed Claim pursuant to the Bar Date Orders shall not have an Approved Claim, shall not be entitled to receive a distribution under a plan of distribution, and will not have a claim included in the Claims Analysis Report. The Receiver may periodically modify the Claims Analysis Report as necessary.

C. Disputed Claims

i. Any Claimant who disagrees with the Receiver's determination of their Claim as set forth in the Claims Analysis Report may serve on the Receiver any objection they may have to the analysis of their Claim in the Claims Analysis Report (each an "***Objection***"), including any objection to the Receiver's determination of whether the Claim is an Approved Claim, the allowed amount of the Approved Claim, and/or the Receiver's determination of whether the Claim is secured by property of a Receivership Entity. A Claimant may file an Objection on its own behalf or through its counsel of determinations reached with respect to its Claim(s). No other party may file an Objection to the Claims Analysis Report, and Claimants may not object to the Receiver's determinations of other Claimants' Claims. Objections to the Claims Analysis Report shall (i) be in writing, (ii) state the name and address of the objecting party, the name and address of their counsel, if any, the assigned claim number, and the nature of the Claim of such party, (iii) state with particularity the basis and nature of all objections, and (iv) be electronically mailed to the Receiver, at her email address, platinumreceiver@otterbourg.com, so as to be *actually received* not later than 45 days after the Receiver's mailing of the Claims Analysis Report. Upon the timely service of an Objection, a Claim shall become a "***Disputed Claim***".

ii. Objections should not be filed with the Court. A Claimant's failure to timely submit to the Receiver an Objection that complies, in all respects, with the above instructions shall permanently preclude the Claimant's right to object to or contest the Receiver's Claims Analysis Report as it relates to their Claim(s). If a Claimant fails to object to the Receiver's determinations as to their Claim(s) as set forth in the Claims Analysis Report, then the Receiver's determinations set forth in the Claims Analysis Report shall be final and binding. The list of Approved Claims and allowed amounts for such Claims will be used to calculate the distribution that the Claimant may receive pursuant to any approved plan of distribution. The plan of distribution will be subject to separate review by the Court.

II. The Receiver's Verification of Interests

A. Verification of Interests

i. The Receiver will provide notice of the amounts that each Investor invested in the Receivership Entities on account of their Interest, and the amounts received by each Investor from the Receivership Entities on account of their Interest, based upon the books and records of the Receivership Entities. Each Investor, respectively, will be sent an individual statement (an "*Investor Statement*") containing the amounts invested in, and amounts received from, the Receivership Entities for the respective Investor on account of their Interest, as set forth in the Receivership Entities' books and records.

ii. To protect the privacy of Investors, the Investor Statement will assign each Investor an individual investor number unique to that Investor. The respective investor number will be used by the Receiver to identify individual investors in public filings with the Court. The Investor Statement will also contain detailed information about how to dispute the information contained in the Investor Statement, and the deadline by which the Investor must do so.

iii. The Investor Statement will solely advise Investors of the information contained in the Receivership Entities' books and records and to provide Investors with an opportunity to dispute the information contained in the books and records, if necessary. The information reflected in an Investor Statement will not state the priority, if any, of an Interest or the amount an Investor ultimately may receive from the Receivership Entities.

B. Disputed Interests

i. Any Investor who disagrees with the information contained in the Investor Statement regarding their own Interest, may serve on the Receiver any disputes they may have to the accuracy of the information in the Investor Statement as it relates to their own Interest (each an "***Investor Objection***"). The sole basis for an Investor Objection shall be that the books and records of the Receivership Entities are inaccurate. An Investor may file an Investor Objection on its own behalf or through its counsel. No other party may file an Investor Objection to an Investor Statement, and Investors may not file an Investor Objection with respect to other Investors' Interests. Investor Objections shall (i) be in writing, (ii) state the name and address of the objecting party, the name and address of their counsel, if any, and the assigned investor number, (iii) state with particularity all information the Investor believes to be inaccurate in the Investor Statement, (iv) provide documentation evidencing the information that the Investor believes is correct, and (v) be electronically mailed to the Receiver, at her email address, platinumreceiver@otterbourg.com, so as to be *actually received* not later than 45 days after the Receiver's mailing of the respective Investor Statement. Upon the timely service of an Investor Objection, an Interest shall become a "***Disputed Interest***".

ii. Investor Objections should not be filed with the Court. An Investor's failure to timely submit an Investor Objection to the Receiver that complies with the above instructions shall

permanently preclude the Investor's right to object to or contest its respective Investor Statement. If an Investor fails to object to the information set forth in its respective Investor Statement, then the information set forth in the Investor Statement shall be final and binding and shall form the basis for calculating the allowed amount on account of each Interest, based upon the distribution methodology employed in accordance with a plan of distribution.

III. Voluntary Resolution of Disputed Claims and Disputed Interests

A. The Receiver shall make a good-faith attempt to resolve a Disputed Claim or a Disputed Interest with the respective Claimant or Investor. The Receiver may, in her discretion and subject to agreement with the applicable Claimant or Investor, utilize a disinterested mediator to seek to resolve a Disputed Claim or Disputed Interest, without further order of the Court. The reasonable fees and expenses of a mediator shall be shared equally among the Receivership Entities and the Claimant or Investor whose Disputed Claim or Disputed Interest is the subject of the mediation. Without modify any prior agreements entered into by the Receiver or orders entered by this Court unless specifically stated, the Receiver may, in her sole discretion, settle and compromise any Disputed Claim or Disputed Interest on terms and for reasons that she deems, in her business judgment, to be appropriate, and the allowed Claim or Interest, and the respective allowed amount and classification, shall form the basis upon which distributions will be calculated in the Receivership, in accordance with a plan of distribution, without further Order of this Court.

IV. Resolution of Disputed Claims and Disputed Interests by the Court

A. Any Disputed Claim or Disputed Interest that cannot be resolved by agreement between the Receiver and the Claimant or Investor will be adjudicated by the Court in a summary proceeding as follows:

i. With respect to each Disputed Claim or Disputed Interest that is not resolved by agreement, the Receiver may commence a summary proceeding by filing with the Court a “**Motion for Claim Resolution**”, which shall include the following: the respective Claims Analysis Report or Investor Statement², the relevant objection, and declarations or other evidence that the Receiver deems relevant to the Court’s determination of the Disputed Claim or Disputed Interest, including any legal or factual basis for the Receiver’s determination, if appropriate. The Receiver’s Motion for Claim Resolution and supporting brief shall be served on the applicable Claimant or Investor at the time of its filing.

ii. The Receiver may, in her discretion, file one or more omnibus Motions for Claim Resolution to avoid any burden associated with filing individual motions.

iii. In accordance with the Order Adopting Protocols for Parties in Interest to be Heard on Receiver Motions (the “**Protocols Order**”) [Dkt. No. 271], on or before fourteen (14) days after the filing of a Motion for Claim Resolution by the Receiver (the “**Response Deadline**”), any Claimant or Investor wishing to be heard with respect to a Motion for Claim Resolution (other than parties named in the caption), shall electronically deliver to the Receiver’s email address (platinumreceiver@otterbourg.com), that Claimant or Investor’s response to the Motion for Claim Resolution (collectively, the “**Responses**”); Claimants and Investors (other than parties named in the caption) shall not file Responses on the ECF docket in this action. On or before two (2) days after the Response Deadline, the Receiver shall compile all of the Responses she has received, and shall file the Responses under one docket entry on the ECF docket in this action. The Receiver

² The Receiver will identify the applicable Investor by investor number and will redact the applicable Investor’s personal information from public filings with the Court.

shall have no more than fourteen (14) days following the Response Deadline to file any reply in further support of a Motion for Claim Resolution.

Dated: _____, 2020
Brooklyn, New York

THE HON. BRIAN M. COGAN
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE
EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK