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# UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

| In re                         | Chapter 11             |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| BORDERS GROUP, INC., et al.,1 | Case No. 11-10614 (MG) |
| Debtors.                      | (Jointly Administered) |

# **BIDDING PROCEDURES FOR SALE OF DEBTORS' IP ASSETS**

On August \_\_\_, 2011, the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of

New York (the "Bankruptcy Court") entered that certain order (the "Bidding Procedures Order"),

which granted the Debtors' Motion for Orders Pursuant to Sections 332, 363, 365 and 105 of the

Bankruptcy Code and Rules 2002, 6004 and 6006 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy

Procedure: (I) Approving Bidding Procedures With Respect to Sale of Certain IP Assets,

Including Expense Reimbursement for a Stalking Horse Bidder, Setting the Sale Hearing Date,

and Appointing a Consumer Privacy Ombudsman; and (II) Approving and Authorizing the Sale

of IP Assets to the Highest and Best Bidder Free and Clear of All Liens, Interests, Claims and

Encumbrances and the Assumption and Assignment of Certain Related Executory Contracts and

The Debtors in these cases, along with the last four digits of each Debtor's federal tax identification number, are: Borders Group, Inc. (4588); Borders International Services, Inc. (5075); Borders, Inc. (4285); Borders Direct, LLC (0084); Borders Properties, Inc. (7978); Borders Online, Inc. (8425); Borders Online, LLC (8996); and BGP (UK) Limited.

Waiving the Requirements of Bankruptcy Rules 6004(h) and 6006(d) (the "IP Sale Motion") and authorized the Debtors to follow certain procedures governing the sale of certain of the above captioned debtors and debtors-in-possession's (collectively, the "Debtors") intellectual property assets (the "IP Assets") in accordance with the procedures provided herein.

# I. FORMS OF SALES

Pursuant to these Bidding Procedures, the Debtors are soliciting bids for the purchase of substantially all of their IP Assets under the terms and conditions set forth in the IP Sale Motion (the "Sale").

The Debtors will consider offers for a sale, in one or a series of related transactions, of a material portion of the IP Assets.

The Sale shall be pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Purchase Agreement (as may be modified pursuant to the procedures below), the form of which will be subject to approval by the Bankruptcy Court at the Sale Hearing.

# II. BIDDING PROCEDURES

#### A. Notice of Sale.

The Debtors will provide notice of the proposed Sale, the Bidding Procedures, the Sale

Objection Deadline and the date and time of the Sale Hearing to all parties in interest, every

party that has previously expressed any interest in the potential purchase of the Debtors' IP

Assets, and any other party that the Debtors believe might be interested in a possible purchase of
the IP Assets.

# B. Diligence Room.

The Debtors have made and will continue to make available until the conclusion of the Auction information concerning the Debtors' IP Assets to all prospective bidders that execute a confidentiality agreement acceptable to the Debtors in their sole and absolute discretion;

<u>provided</u>, <u>however</u>, that the Debtors reserve the right to deny access to any bidder, with the consent of the Committee.

By submitting a Bid, each bidder shall be deemed to acknowledge and represent that it has had a reasonable opportunity to conduct due diligence on the Debtors' IP Assets before submitting its Bid, that in making its Bid, it has relied solely on its own independent review, investigation, and/or inspection of any documents and/or the IP Assets in making its Bid, and that in making its Bid, it did not rely upon any written or oral statement, representation, promise, warranty or guaranty whatsoever, whether express or implied, by operation of law, or otherwise, regarding the Debtors, or the completeness of any information provided in connection therewith.

# C. Qualified Bidder.

A "Qualified Bidder" is a bidder on the Debtors' IP Assets that provides the following (collectively, the "Bid") on or before the Bid Deadline, together with the items set forth in Section I:

- (i) An executed confidentiality agreement acceptable to the Debtors;
- (ii) Current audited financial statements or such other form of financial disclosure acceptable to the Debtors demonstrating the ability to close the proposed transaction;
- (iii) A bid summary describing the purchase price and structure of the bid and sufficient evidence regarding the bidder's ability to obtain financing for the proposed transaction; and
- (iv) A complete bid fulfilling all the requirements set forth in these Bidding Procedures including the requisite deposit as defined herein.

The Debtors will notify each bidder whether it is a Qualified Bidder promptly upon receipt of the information listed above.

# D. Purchase Price and Consideration of Bids.

All Bids submitted by a bidder (each, a "<u>Bidder</u>") must state the total proposed purchase price (the "<u>Purchase Price</u>") in U.S. dollars for the IP Assets that the Bidder seeks to purchase. Bidders are encouraged, but not required, to break down the Purchase Price by category or type of IP Assets to be purchased in the Bid, if appropriate.

# E. Bidding Deadline for Bids.

The deadline (the "<u>Bid Deadline</u>") for submission of a final and binding written proposal for a purchase of the IP Assets (each, a "<u>Bid</u>") is 5:00 p.m. (prevailing Eastern Time) on September 8, 2011. Bids must be emailed to:

Kasowitz, Benson, Torres & Friedman LLP 1633 Broadway New York, New York 10019 Attn: Andrew K. Glenn, Esq. (aglenn@kasowitz.com) Jeffrey R. Gleit, Esq. (jgleit@kasowitz.com)

with a copy to:

Streambank, LLC 97 Chapel St., 3rd Fl. Needham, MA 02492

Facsimile: (212) 506-1800

Attn: David Peress (dperess@streambankllc.com)

# F. Deposit.

All Bids must include a deposit of ten percent (10%) of the Purchase Price in cash, to be paid directly to the Debtors. Such deposit shall not be subject to the liens or claims of any creditors of the Debtors and shall not be property of the Debtors' estates.

In the event that a Bid is determined by the Debtors not to be a Qualified Bid, the Debtors shall cause the return of such bidder's deposit within five (5) business days after the Bid Deadline. Other than with respect to the Winning Bidder, all other Deposits not already returned

to the respective Qualified Bidder shall be returned no later than five (5) business days after the Auction.

If the Winning Bidder (or the Back-Up Bidder, if necessary) timely closes the transactions contemplated in the Winning Bid (or the Back-Up Bid, if necessary), such bidder's deposit shall be credited towards its cash payment due on Closing. In the event that the Winning Bidder (or the Back-Up Bidder, if necessary) fails to consummate the Sale because of a breach or failure to perform on the part of such Winning Bidder (or the Back-Up Bidder, if necessary), the Debtors will not have any obligation to return such bidder or bidders' deposit. Retention of such deposit(s), shall constitute liquidated damages, shall be one of the Debtors' remedies at law and in equity against the Winning Bidder (or the Back-Up Bidder, if necessary), and, upon failure to close by the Winning Bidder, the Debtors shall be free to consummate the Sale proposed by the Back-Up Bidder (to the extent applicable) without the need for an additional hearing or order of the Bankruptcy Court.

#### G. Content of Bids.

In addition to the purchase price, consideration and deposit, as discussed above, each Bid must contain the following information:

- (a) The identify of the IP Assets that Bidder is seeking to purchase.
- (b) A copy of the Purchase Agreement, marked electronically to show any changes, and a clean, executed version of the Purchase Agreement (the "Modified Purchase Agreement")<sup>2</sup> and a representation that the Qualified Bidder can execute a further modified version of the Modified Purchase Agreement reflecting any changes made during the Auction and/or any other changes that may be agreed upon by such Qualified Bidder and the Debtors promptly upon being notified of its selection as the Winning Bidder without need for further approval(s), if any;

The amount and character of any such changes will be a significant consideration in Debtors' selection of the Winning Bid from amongst the Bids.

- (c) Disclosure of the regulatory, shareholder or other approvals, consents or filings required to consummate and close the Sale;
- (d) Details of any agreements or understandings between the Bidder and any third-party with respect to the Sale, the Bid, the Debtors' business or with respect to any possible or contemplated transaction involving any of the IP Assets;
- (e) The identity of any outside advisors, if any, including financial and legal advisors, engaged or planned to be engaged to assist the Bidder in the Sale, including the names of individuals at such advisors contemplated to be working on the Sale, and their contact information:
- (f) Information sufficient to demonstrate to the Debtors' satisfaction that the Bidder has the necessary financial capacity to consummate the Sale, as proposed in its Bid, and to provide parties to executory contracts with adequate assurance of future performance under the leases and contracts it intends to assume as provided in section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code;
- (g) A statement acknowledging that the Debtors must close the Sale on or before September 30, 2011 (with time being of the essence), with a representation and warranty that the Bidder knows of no reason why it cannot close the Sale on or before that date, as well as either a representation and warranty that it either has obtained Hart Scott Rodino approval or a summary of the reasons why such approval will be obtained or is not required; and
- (h) The identity of the beneficial owners of the Bidder, if the Bidder is not a publicly held company.

# H. Closing Conditions to Bids.

All conditions to closing required by a Qualified Bidder must be set forth in the Modified Purchase Agreement, provided, however, that no Bid may be subject to any financing, due diligence or other material conditions. To the extent a Bid relies on one or more third-party financing sources, the Bid must include a signed, binding and irrevocable commitment letter from such third-party financing source(s) or comparable commitment from any equity source. To the extent a Bid relies on financing sources of affiliates of the Bidder, the Bid must include sufficient evidence of financial capacity to consummate the Sale and satisfy all obligations and potential obligations pursuant to the Modified Purchase Agreement. Other than those conditions set forth in the Modified Purchase Agreement, each Bid shall be irrevocable until and unless the

Debtors select a higher or otherwise better Qualified Bid and such Bidder is not selected as the Back-Up Bidder.

#### I. Joint Bids.

The Debtors will be authorized to approve joint Bids after consultation with the Committee on a case-by-case basis.

#### J. Evaluation of Bids.

Each Bid will be evaluated by the Debtors and their advisors, in consultation with the Committee, to determine if it is a Qualified Bid. The Debtors, in their discretion, may accept a single Qualified Bid or multiple Qualified Bids for non-overlapping material portions of the IP Assets.

If the Debtors determine that a Bid is not a Qualified Bid, the Debtors will inform such bidder as soon as practicable after such determination is made. To the extent a Bid does not satisfy the applicable requirements, the Debtors reserve the right, but have no obligation, to contact a bidder to obtain any necessary further information, documentation, deposit or other modification of such bidder's proposed Bid package that would allow the Bid to be a Qualified Bid. Without the written consent (by letter, email or facsimile) of the Debtors, which consent may be granted or denied in the Debtors' discretion, a bidder that the Debtors determine to be a Qualified Bidder may not modify, amend, or withdraw its Qualified Bid, except as such Bid may be increased or improved at the Auction.

In evaluating the Bids, the Debtors will take into consideration, among other factors, the form and amount of the consideration, the extent to which the Bid involves some or all of the IP Assets, the presence of any closing conditions, the need and availability of financing, the extent of financial wherewithal to meet all commitments under the bid, the required approvals (if any), and the transaction structure and execution risk.

Based on the Bids received, the Debtors, in consultation with the Committee, may designate one or more Qualified Bidders a "stalking horse" (the "<u>Stalking Horse Bidder</u>") setting a floor for subsequent bids. In the event a Qualified Bidder is designated as a Stalking Horse Bidder and is not the ultimate Winning Bidder, the Debtors may reimburse such Stalking Horse Bidder its reasonable out of pocket expenses incurred in connection with the promulgation of its Qualified Bid, subject to a \$250,000 cap.

#### K. Auction.

If, after the examination of all Qualified Bids, the Debtors determine that an auction (the "Auction") is appropriate and will generate an acceptable offer for the purchase of the IP Assets, the Debtors will conduct an auction on September 14, 2011, beginning at 10:00 a.m. (prevailing Eastern Time) at a location of which the Debtors will inform each Qualified Bidder. Each Qualified Bidder will be invited to participate as soon as practicable after the Debtors make the determination to conduct an Auction. Only Qualified Bidders and their legal and financial advisors shall be entitled to attend and/or bid at the Auction; provided, however, that representatives of the Committee may attend the Auction. Each Qualified Bidder, by participating in the Auction, agrees to keep the Auction, the bids at the Auction, and all details concerning Auction confidential (including its location), unless and until the Debtors file the Notice of Results of Sale Process or to the extent such information is otherwise public information. Each Qualified Bidder must have at least one individual representative with authority to bind the Qualified Bidder attend the Auction in person. The Auction shall be conducted in the presence of a certified court reporter who shall transcribe all of the Bidding Procedures conducted at the Auction.

The minimum interval for bidding at the auction (the "<u>Auction Bidding Interval</u>") shall be determined by the Debtors after consultation with the Committee and communicated to the

Qualified Bidders; <u>provided</u>, <u>however</u>, the Debtors may increase or decrease the Bidding Interval at, before or during the Auction after consultation with the Committee, in which case the Debtors will so inform each of the Qualified Bidders.

The Debtors may have one Auction for all Qualified Bidders or may separate the Auction into separate Auctions for specific IP Assets. The Auction shall continue until there is no further bidding in response to the Qualified Bid(s) (as may be increased at the Auction) that the Debtors determine, is/are the highest or otherwise best Qualified Bid(s) (the "Winning Bid"), at which point the Auction will be closed. The Debtors may, after consultation with the Committee, choose one Qualified Bid as the Winning Bid and/or Back-Up Bid or several Qualified Bids, each for different IP Assets, as the Winning Bids and/or Back-Up Bids. Acceptance of the Winning Bid (or the Back-Up Bid, if necessary) by the Debtors is conditioned on approval of the Bankruptcy Court at the Sale Hearing.

If there is an Auction, the Bidder with the Qualified Bid that is next-highest or otherwise second best to the Winning Bid (the "Back-Up Bid"), as determined by the Debtors, subject to Bankruptcy Court approval at the Sale Hearing, shall be required to be the back-up bidder (the "Back-Up Bidder") for the relevant IP Assets. Use of the singular "Back-Up Bid" or "Back-Up Bidder" herein includes the possibility of multiple Back-Up Bids and Back-Up Bidders.

The identity of the Bidder who submits the Winning Bid (the "Winning Bidder") and the Back-Up Bidder and the amount and material terms of the Winning Bid and the Back-Up Bid shall be announced by the Debtors at the conclusion of the Auction. The Winning Bidder and the Back-Up Bidder shall be required to keep their respective Bids open and irrevocable until and including September 30, 2011; provided, however, if the Sale closes with the Winning Bidder, the Back-Up Bidder's Back-Up Bid may be revoked after such closing.

If, at any time prior to or on September 30, 2011, the Winning Bidder cannot consummate the Sale as proposed in the Winning Bid, the Debtors, in consultation with the Committee, may choose to close the Sale with the Back-Up Bidder by accepting the Back-Up Bid. Notwithstanding anything else herein to the contrary, the deposit of the Back-Up Bidder may be held by the Debtors until the earlier of three (3) business days after (a) October 1, 2011 and (b) the closing of the Sale with the Winning Bidder, at which time the deposit must be refunded.

# L. Fiduciary Out.

Upon the determination by the Debtors, and upon advice of counsel, no term or provision of the Modified Purchase Agreement shall prevent, amend, alter, or reduce the Debtors' ability to exercise their fiduciary duties under applicable law.

### M. Reservation of Rights.

Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, the Debtors reserve the right to modify these Bidding Procedures at any time, with notice to the Qualified Bidders and after consultation with the Committee, that is reasonable under the circumstances, to facilitate the submission of value-maximizing Bids, to adjourn the Auction one or more times for any reason, and/or to terminate these Bidding Procedures at any time to pursue an alternative restricting strategy that maximizes value for the Debtors' estates.

# N. Consultation.

The Debtors will consult with the Creditors' Committee on an ongoing basis throughout the sale and auction process.

#### O. Jurisdiction.

Each Bidder, by submitting the Bid, is deemed to have submitted itself to the jurisdiction of the Bankruptcy Court. The Bankruptcy Court shall have exclusive jurisdiction over any

disputes arising out of or related to the Bidding Procedures, and each Bidder, by submitting the Bid, has acknowledged and consented to such jurisdiction and has waived any right to trial by jury in connection with any disputes related to Debtors' qualification of Bids, the Auction and the construction and enforcement of these Bidding Procedures.