# IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ALABAMA NORTHERN DIVISION

In the Matter of:	)	
	)	
JAMES DEWAYNE MANNING	)	
SSN: XXX-XX-9474	)	CASE NO. 16-81059-CRJ-11
	)	CHAPTER 11
KELLY A. MANNING	)	
SSN: XXX-XX-1222	)	
	)	
Debtors.	)	

# DISCLOSURE STATEMENT FOR CHAPTER 11 PLAN OF JAMES DEWAYNE AND KELLY A. MANNING DEBTORS AND DEBTORS-IN-POSSESSION

October 31, 2016

Stuart M. Maples
Maples Law Firm, PC
200 Clinton Ave. West, Suite 1000
Huntsville, AL 35801
T - (256) 489-9779
F - (256) 489-9720
smaples@mapleslawfirmpc.com

Attorney for Debtors in Possession

## Solicitation of Votes with Respect to the Chapter 11 Plan

of

#### DEWAYNE JAMES AND KELLY A. MANNING

DEWAYNE JAMES AND KELLY A. MANNING, DEBTORS AND DEBTORS-IN-POSSESSION (THE "DEBTORS"), BELIEVE THAT THE DEBTORS' CHAPTER 11 PLAN DATED \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (THE "PLAN"), IS IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THEIR CREDITORS. ALL CREDITORS ARE PROVIDED FOR IN THIS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT. TO BE COUNTED, YOUR BALLOT MUST BE DULY COMPLETED, EXECUTED, AND RECEIVED BY COUNSEL FOR THE DEBTORS, STUART M. MAPLES, MAPLES LAW FIRM, PC, 200 CLINTON AVENUE WEST, SUITE 1000, HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA, 35801, BEFORE 5:00 P.M. ON \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (THE "VOTING DEADLINE").

ALL CREDITORS ARE ENCOURAGED TO READ AND CONSIDER CAREFULLY THIS ENTIRE DISCLOSURE STATEMENT, INCLUDING THE PLAN ATTACHED AS EXHIBIT A, PRIOR TO SUBMITTING BALLOTS PURSUANT TO THIS SOLICITATION. THIS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT CONTAINS ONLY A SUMMARY OF THE PLAN, AND IS NOT INTENDED TO REPLACE CAREFUL AND DETAILED REVIEW AND ANALYSIS OF THE PLAN.

ALL CAPITALIZED TERMS IN THIS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT NOT OTHERWISE DEFINED HEREIN HAVE THE MEANINGS GIVEN TO THEM IN THE PLAN. THE SUMMARIES OF THE PLAN AND THE OTHER DOCUMENTS CONTAINED IN THIS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT ARE QUALIFIED BY REFERENCE TO THE PLAN AND SUCH OTHER DOCUMENTS THEMSELVES.

## I. INTRODUCTION.

## A. Preliminary Statement.

On April 16, 2016, Dewayne James and Kelly A. Manning, debtors and debtors-in-possession (the "Debtors") filed a voluntary petition under Chapter 13 of the Bankruptcy Code before the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Alabama. The Chapter 13 case was converted to a Chapter 11 case on September 23, 2016. The Debtors are managing their assets, business and financial affairs as debtors-in-possession, subject to the supervision of the Bankruptcy Court and the provisions of the Bankruptcy Code.

As set forth in more detail below, the Plan provides that the Debtors shall be allowed to retain their assets, which are subject to certain liens and interest, of which the Debtors have agreed to pay as provided for in the Plan.

Accompanying this Disclosure Statement are copies of the following:

1.	The Order of the Bankruptcy Court dated
2	The Plan

3. A ballot for accepting or rejecting the Plan. Ballots are provided to holders of Allowed Claims in Classes 1, 2 and 3 so that they may vote to accept or reject the Plan under the provisions of the Bankruptcy Code. *See* Section I.B.2 ("Voting on the Plan") for additional information regarding ballots and voting procedures.

## **B.** Plan Confirmation Process.

1. Approval of Disclosure Statement.

After notice and a hearing held on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, by order dated \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2016, pursuant to Section 1125 of the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Court approved this Disclosure Statement as containing information of a kind, and in sufficient detail, that would enable a hypothetical reasonable investor typical of the holders of claims or interests in Classes 1, 2, and 3, to make an informed judgment whether to accept or reject the Plan. The Bankruptcy Court's approval of this Disclosure Statement, however, does not constitute a determination by the Bankruptcy Court as to the fairness or merits of the Plan.

# 2. Voting on the Plan.

(a) Who May Vote. Pursuant to Section 1126 of the Bankruptcy Code, holders of Allowed Claims or Interests may vote to accept or reject the Plan, provided, however, that (i) the holders of Claims or Interests in classes that are not conclusively impaired under the Plan are presumed to have accepted the Plan and solicitation of acceptances with respect to such classes is not required, and (ii) a class is deemed not to have accepted the Plan if the Plan provides that the Claims or Interests of such class do not entitle the holders of such Claims or Interests to receive or retain any property under the Plan on account of such Claims or Interests. Accordingly, the Debtors are soliciting acceptance of the Plan only from holders of Claims or Interests in the following classes, which are "impaired" under the Plan and are entitled to accept or reject the Plan:

Unclassified: Administrative Expense Claims
Tax Claims

Class 1 – Allowed Secured Claims

Class 2 – Claim of US Department of Education

Class 3 – Allowed Unsecured Claims

Only Persons who hold Claims or Interests in the foregoing impaired classes are entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan.

THE DEBTORS BELIEVE THAT ACCEPTANCE OF THE PLAN IS IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF HOLDERS OF CLAIMS AND INTERESTS IN ALL IMPAIRED CLASSES. THE DEBTORS RECOMMEND THAT ALL PERSONS ENTITLED TO VOTE CAST A BALLOT TO ACCEPT THE PLAN.

	(b)	<u>Deadline for Voting</u> .	The Bankruptcy	Court has	fixed 5:0	)0 p.m.
(Central Time) on	, as	the deadline for voting.	To be counted, al	l ballots mi	ıst be con	npleted
and received, as set for	orth bel	ow, before the Voting D	Deadline.			

(c) <u>Voting Procedures</u>. Holders of Claims in Classes 2 and 3 should complete and sign the enclosed Ballot and deliver it by mail, hand or overnight delivery to:

Stuart M. Maples Maples Law Firm, PC 200 Clinton Ave. W., Suite 200 Huntsville, Alabama 35801

TO BE COUNTED, YOUR BALLOT MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE VOTING DEADLINE OF 5:00 P.M. CENTRAL TIME ON \_\_\_\_\_\_. You must ensure the receipt of the ballot before the Voting Deadline. Ballots received after the Voting Deadline will not be counted.

(d) <u>Significance of Voting</u>. The vote for each holder of a claim in an impaired class is important. Acceptance by each impaired class of claims is a condition to confirmation of the Plan on a consensual basis. The Bankruptcy Code defines "acceptance" of a plan by a class of creditors as acceptance by holders of two-thirds in dollar amount and more than one-half in number of the claims of that class that actually cast ballots for acceptance or rejection of the Plan. If a class or classes of impaired Claims does not accept the Plan, the Debtors have required confirmation of the Plan under the "cram down" provisions of Section 1129(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, which permits confirmation, notwithstanding non-acceptance by one or more impaired classes, if the Plan does not discriminate unfairly and is "fair and equitable" with respect to each non-accepting class. THESE CALCULATIONS ARE BASED ONLY ON THE CLAIM AMOUNTS AND NUMBER OF CREDITORS WHO ACTUALLY VOTE. THE VOTE OF EACH CREDITOR IS IMPORTANT.

The Debtors will prepare and file with the Court a certification of the results of the balloting with respect to the Plan. ANY BALLOTS RECEIVED AFTER THE VOTING DEADLINE WILL NOT BE COUNTED, NOR WILL ANY BALLOTS RECEIVED BY FACSIMILE BE ACCEPTED.

# 3. Confirmation Hearing.

Pursuant to section 1128 of the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Court shall schedule a confirmation hearing to consider confirmation of the plan.

At the Confirmation Hearing, the Court will (i) determine whether the requisite vote has been obtained for each Class, (ii) hear and determine objections, if any, to the Plan and to confirmation of the Plan that have not been previously disposed of, (iii) determine whether the Plan meets the confirmation requirements of the Bankruptcy Code, and (iv) determine whether to confirm the Plan.

Any objection to confirmation of the Plan must be in writing and filed and served as required by the Court pursuant to the Order Approving Disclosure Statement. Specifically, all objections to the confirmation of the Plan must be served in a manner so as to be received on or before \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2016, at 5:00 p.m. (Central Time) by:

- (i) Clerk of the Court, United States Bankruptcy Court, 400 Wells Street, P.O. Box 3045, Decatur, Alabama, 35602.
- (ii) Counsel to the Debtors, Stuart M. Maples, Maples Law Firm, PC, 200 Clinton Ave. West, Suite 1000, Huntsville, Alabama, 35801; and
- (iii) Richard Blythe, Office of the Bankruptcy Administrator, 400 Wells Street, P.O. Box 3045, Decatur, Alabama, 35602.

## II. BUSINESS AND HISTORY OF DEBTOR.

#### A. Overview of Debtors.

The Debtors are a married couple, with Dewayne James Manning employed by Stryker as a salesman for medical equipment. Kelly A. Manning does not currently work outside the home.

# B. History.

Mr. Manning had been employed by Stryker for eight months prior to the filing of the Voluntary Petition. Prior to Stryker, he was a distributor for K&M, which was acquired by Stryker. His compensation is now based on commissions. The commission structure was changed beginning in 2016. This resulted in a decrease in the Debtors' household income which lead to a significant decrease in net income. As a result of this decrease in income, the Debtors became delinquent in the payment of their debts. Attempts to work out a resolution with the taxing authorities failed. As a result, the Debtors filed for Chapter 13 bankruptcy protection. The Chapter

13 Trustee objected to the Plan submitted based, in part, on the fact that the Debtors' unsecured debt exceeds the jurisdictional debt threshold set out in Section 109(e) of the Bankruptcy Code. In response the Debtors filed a motion to convert the Chapter 13 case to a Chapter 11 case. Further, the Debtor's filed a motion to appoint a Trustee or an Examiner with expanded powers. Upon the conversion to a Chapter 11, Kevin Heard was appointed as an Examiner with limited powers to manage the Debtors' estate.

## C. Assets.

The current assets of the Debtors are their residence, household furnishings, clothes, and vehicles.

# D. Debt Structure.

# 1. Administrative Expense Claims.

At Confirmation, the Debtors anticipate administrative expense claims allowable under the Plan by Maples Law Firm, P.C. in the approximate amount of \$14,000.00 and administrative expense claims allowable under the Plan of Kevin Heard as Examiner in the approximate amount of \$350 per month.

All Administrative Claims are Unclassified.

- 2. <u>Tax Claims</u>. The Debtors currently owe the <u>priority</u> tax claims as follows:
  - (a) Internal Revenue Service for personal income taxes in the amount of \$89,243.59.
  - (b) The Alabama Department of Revenue for personal income taxes in the amount of \$11,223.19.
  - (c) The Madison County Tax Collector in the amount of \$3,199.62.

Additional taxes may also be other to other governmental entities. All Tax Claims are Unclassified.

## 3. Allowed Secured Claims.

The Debtors currently has five secured lenders:

- (a) Wells Fargo for the mortgage on their residence in the amount of \$511,541.03 and an arrearage claim in the amount of \$4,992.74;
- (b) Title Max for the lien on the Ford Edge vehicle amount of \$11,400.81;
- (c) Alabama Title Loans for the 2000 Yukon amount of \$900.00;
- (d) Ally Financial for the lien on the 2007 Yukon amount of \$1,772.51; and

(e) The Internal Revenue Service for taxes secured by the Debtors' residence and vehicles amount of \$52,289.49.

The Alabama Department of Revenue alleges a <u>secured claim</u> in the cumulative amount of \$26,427.65. The Debtors assert there is no value in any of its assets for this lien to attach. The Debtors seek to strip off this lien in implementation of the plan.

Allowed Secured Claims are placed in Classes 1(a) through (f). Allowed Secured Claims in Classes 1(a) through 1(d) same be paid direct by the Debtors, and Secured Claims 1(e)-1(f) shall be paid by the Distribution Agent.

- 4. <u>Tax Claims.</u> The Debtors have three (3) tax Claims totaling approximately \$95,000.00.
- 5. <u>Claim of the US Department of Education</u>. Although this claim is unsecured, pursuant to Section 1122 of the Bankruptcy Code, this is non-dischargeable and is to be treated as a separate class as dissimilar to other Allowed Unsecured Claims. The US Department of Education Allowed Claim shall be placed in Class 2.

# 6. Summary of Unsecured Debt.

The Plan places all Allowed Unsecured Claims in Class 3. The total amount of these claims is in excess of \$450,000.00. The Debtors reserve all rights, claims and defenses with respect to the allowance, amount and classification of all unsecured claims. Moreover, some of the claims are disputed or unliquidated. Additional claims may be unknown to the Debtors. The Debtors reserve all rights and make no representation or warranty as to the amount of Allowed Claims.

#### E. Potential Claims of Debtors

The Debtors are currently unaware of any potential claims they may have against any entity.

## III. EVENTS LEADING TO CHAPTER 11.

The Debtors had accrued significant tax debt over the last several years. Attempts to negotiate with the Alabama Department of Revenue failed, and a levy on Mr. Manning's commissions was issued. Further, Mr. Manning's position with Stryker is the sale of medical equipment. His compensation formula was changed in 2016, which lead to a decrease in the amount of commission he received on the sale of equipment. In addition to the reduction in his commission amount, Mr. Manning is also required, as part of his position, to pay for any travel and entertainment of any potential customers, for which he is not reimbursed. A Chapter 13 petition was filed to stay the levy.

## IV. CHAPTER 11 PROCEEDINGS.

**Post-Filing Operations.** After the Debtors filed this Chapter 11 case, they have managed their assets and affairs as debtors-in-possession pursuant to Section 1107 and 1108 of the Bankruptcy Code. The Debtors will file monthly reports with the Bankruptcy Court summarizing their post-conversion operating results.

**Conversion from Chapter 13 to Chapter 11.** As discussed earlier, on July 11, 2016, the Debtors file a Motion to convert the Chapter 13 case to one under Chapter 11. This Motion was granted on September 23, 2016.

Appointment of Examiner with Expanded Powers. In order the provide continuity of the payroll deduction order established by the Chapter 13 Trustee and to impose discipline in the funding of the Chapter 11 case pending confirmation, the Debtors sought to appoint a Trustee with limited powers or an Examiner with expanded power. The Debtors filed this motion on July 22, 2016, and the Court granted the appointment of an examiner with expanded powers on September 25, 2016. After appropriate vetting and recommendation by the Bankruptcy Administrator, Kevin Heard was appointed to fill the role of examiner in this case. Mr. Heard will receive the funds collected by the Chapter 13 Trustee; continue to receive payroll deduction from Mr. Manning's check; and make disbursements and take such other actions as directed by the Court. The Plan seeks to retain Mr. Heard's services as Distribution Agent under the Confirmed plan.

## V. SUMMARY OF PLAN.

NOTE: The following is a summary of the Plan. Read the Plan itself for a full disclosure of its contents. The following summary is provided for convenience only and is not intended as a complete statement of the terms of the Plan. If the summary conflicts in any way with the Plan, the terms of the Plan shall control. **REFERENCE TO THE PLAN IS NECESSARY FOR A FULL UNDERSTANDING OF ITS TERMS.** 

- **A. Overview.** The Plan provides for the payment of secured unsecured priority and unsecured debt.
  - 1. Classification of Claims and Interests. The Plan recognizes certain unclassified Claims and places other Claims against the Debtors and Interests in the Debtor in the impaired classes.

2.

- a. Unclassified Claims.
  - i. **Administrative Expense Claims.** Administrative expense claims shall consist of all administrative expense claims of the Debtors' Chapter 11 case as allowed pursuant to §503(b) of the code and given priority in accordance with §507(a)(1) of the Code. This class is divided into the following sub-classes:

- 1. Maples Law Firm, P.C.: Debtors have incurred legal fees with the law firm of Maples Law Firm, P.C. relating to the firm's representation of the Debtors in Bankruptcy. These legal fees, if approved by the Court, shall constitute an Administrative Expense Claim which is unimpaired and shall be paid in full as of the Effective Date of the Plan.
- 2. **Examiner**: Debtors will incur examiner fees of Kevin Heard for the duties and expenses attributed to Kevin Heard acting as Examiner in this case. These legal fees, if approved by the Court, shall constitute an Administrative Expense Claim which is unimpaired and shall be paid in full as of the Effective Date of the Plan.

#### ii. Tax Claims Tax Claims shall consist of:

- 1. The Allowed Tax Claim of the IRS.
- 2. The Allowed Tax Claim of the Alabama Department of Revenue.
- 3. The Allowed Tax Claim of the Madison County Tax Collector
- 4. The Allow Tax Claim of any other taxing authorities.

# b. Classified Claims.

#### Class 1 – Secured Claims.

Class 1(a) shall consist of the Allowed Secured Claim of Wells Fargo. A proof of claim has been filed for \$511,541.03, accruing interest at 1% per annum.

Class 1(b) shall consist of the Allowed Secured Claim of Title Max. A proof of claim has been filed for \$11,400.81, accruing interest at 5.25% per annum pursuant to Order dated June 7, 2016.

Class 1(c) shall consist of the Allowed Secured Claim of Ally Financial. A proof of claim has been filed for \$1,772.51, accruing interest at 5.25% per annum.

Class 1(d) shall consist of the Allowed Secured Claim of Alabama Title Loans in the amount of \$900.00, accruing interest at 5.25% per annum pursuant to Order dated June 7, 2016.

Class 1(e) shall consist of the Allowed Secured Claim of the IRS in the amount of \$52,289.49.

Class 1(f) shall consist of the Allowed Secured arrearage claim of Wells Fargo. A proof of claim has been filed for \$4,992.74, accruing interest at 1% per annum.

## Class 2 – Allowed Claim of the US Department of Education.

Class 2 shall consist of the Allowed Claim of the US Department of Education.

#### Class 3 – Allowed Unsecured Claims.

Class 3 shall consist of the Allowed Unsecured Claims of all other unsecured creditors.

**C. Treatment of Impaired Classes.** The treatment of all claims and interests shall be in accordance with the Plan.

## **Unclassified Claims:**

Administrative Expense Claims. This class shall consist of all administrative expense claims of the Debtors' Chapter 11 case as allowed pursuant to § 503(b) of the Code and given priority in accordance with § 507(a)(1) of the Code. This class is divided into the following subclasses:

Maples Law Firm, P.C.: Debtors have incurred legal fees with the law firm of Maples Law Firm, P.C. relating to the firm's representation of the Debtors in Bankruptcy. These legal fees, if approved by the Court, shall constitute an Administrative Expense Claim which is unimpaired and shall be paid in full as of the Effective Date of the Plan.

<u>Kevin Heard as Examiner</u>: Debtors will incur examiner's fees relating to that firm's representation of the Debtors as Examiner. These legal fees, if approved by the Court, shall constitute an Administrative Expense Claim which is unimpaired and shall be paid in full as of the Effective Date of the Plan.

## Tax Claims.

- (a) IRS. The IRS asserts a Priority Claim of \$89,243.59. The Allowed Priority Claim of the IRS shall be paid in sixty (60) equal monthly installments, commencing sixty (60) days after the Effective Date of the Plan. Payment on the IRS Tax claim, at 4% interest, shall be \$1,643.55 per month.
- (b) The Alabama Department of Revenue. The Alabama Department of Revenue asserts a Priority Claim of \$3,429.38. The Allowed Priority Claim of the ADOR shall be paid in sixty (60) equal monthly installments, commencing sixty (60) days after the Effective Date of the Plan. Payment on the ADOR Tax Claim, at 4% interest, shall be \$63.14 per month.

(c) – Madison County Tax Collector. The Allowed Tax Claim of the Madison County Tax Collector in the amount of \$3,199.62 shall be paid, in sixty (60) equal monthly installments commencing sixty (60) days after the Effective Date of the Plan. Payment on the Madison County Tax Claim, at 12% interest, shall be \$71.16 per month.

#### **Classified Claims:**

#### Class 1 – Secured Claims.

Class 1(a) shall consist of the Allowed Secured Claim of Wells Fargo in the amount of \$511,541.03. Class 1(a) shall be paid per month, as provided in the mortgage documents until paid as agreed. This payment will be paid direct by the Debtors.

Class 1(b) shall consist of the Allowed Secured Claim of Title Max in the amount of \$11,400.81. The Allowed Secured Claim of Title Max shall accrue interest at 5.25%, as provided in Order dated June 7, 2014 [Doc. 47] Class 1(b) shall be paid, in sixty (60) equal monthly installments commencing sixty (60) days after the Effective Date of the Plan. Such payments shall be \$216.45 per month until paid. This payment will be paid direct by the Debtors.

Class 1(c) shall consist of the Allowed Secured Claim of Ally Financial in the amount of \$1,722.51 The Allowed Secured Claim of Ally shall accrue interest at 5.25%, as provided in Order dated May 27th, 2016 [Doc. 45] Class1(c) shall be paid, in sixty (60) equal monthly installments commencing sixty (60) days after the Effective Date of the Plan. Such payments shall be \$33.64 per month until paid. This payment will be paid direct by the Debtors.

Class 1(d) shall consist of the Allowed Secured Claim of Alabama Title Loans in the amount of \$900.00. The Debtors seek to reduce the interest rate on this claim from 104% to 5.25% per annum. Class 3(d) shall accrue interest at 5.25%. Class1(d) shall be paid, in sixty (60) equal monthly installments commencing sixty (60) days after the Effective Date of the Plan. Such payments shall be \$17.07 per month until paid. This payment will be paid direct by the Debtors.

Class 1(e) IRS. The IRS asserts a Secured Claim of \$52,289.49. The Allowed Secured Claim of the IRS shall be paid in one hundred twenty (120) equal monthly installments commencing sixty (60) days after the Effective Date of the Plan. As the claim is not over-secured, the Allowed Secured Claim of the IRS shall not bear interest. Payment on the IRS Allowed Secured Claim, at 0% interest, shall be \$435.75 per month. This payment will be paid by the Disbursing Agent.

Class 1(f) shall consist of the Allowed Secured Claim for arrearage of Wells Fargo. The Allowed Secured Claim of the Wells Fargo arrearage shall be paid in sixty (60) equal monthly installments commencing sixty (60) days after the Effective Date of

the Plan. Payment on the Wells Fargo Arrearage Allowed Secured claim shall be \$85.33 per month. This payment will be made by the Disbursing Agent.

# **Class 2 – US Department of Education.**

Class 2 consists of the Allowed Claim of the US Department of Education in the amount of \$85,054.38. This debt shall be paid as agreed direct by the Debtors.

#### Class 3 – Unsecured Claims.

Class 3 consists of the Allowed Unsecured Claims of all other unsecured creditors. The Allowed Unsecured Claims of the unsecured creditors shall be paid the greater of: the remainder of the disposable income of the Debtors after the payment of all administrative, tax and secured claims; or, \$2,500.00 paid by the Debtors at the completion of the Plan to the Disbursing Agent to be distributed *pro rata* to Allowed Unsecured Claims. This payment will be made by the Disbursing Agent.

# D. Implementation of the Plan.

have one Executory contract with Graham and Limbaugh for ongoing orthodontic treatment, which is being assumed by confirmation of the Plan. Pursuant to Section 1123(b)(2) of the Bankruptcy Code, except for those executory contracts and unexpired leases, if any, assumed pursuant to the Plan or as to which the Debtors have filed prior to the Confirmation Date a motion to assume and assign or a motion to reject, all executory contracts and unexpired leases to which the Debtor are or were a party and not previously rejected or assumed and assigned pursuant to prior order of the Bankruptcy Court, including, without limitation, all executive and employee severance, vacation, benefit and retirement plans, contracts and agreements (including, but not limited to all stay or retention programs, incentive plans, accelerated vesting plans, accelerated benefit plans, and any other plan, agreement, contract or document relating to or providing for payments to executives or employees not part of recurring salaries and wages), are deemed rejected pursuant to Section 364(a) of the Bankruptcy Code as of the Effective Date.

Each party to an executory contract or unexpired lease rejected pursuant to the Plan (and only such entities) asserting a claim for damages arising from such rejection shall file, not later than thirty (30) days following the Confirmation Date, a proof of such Claim; *provided, however*, that (1) the Bar Date established for rejection damages claims in this Section IV of the Plan shall not apply to Persons that may assert a Claim on account of an executory contract or unexpired lease that was rejected by the Debtors before Confirmation for which a prior Bar Date was established; and (2) any Person asserting a claim for rejection damages that does not timely file a proof of claim in accordance with the Plan shall be forever enjoined and barred from asserting such Claim against the Debtors, the Estate or any property of the Estate.

2. Strip Down of Alabama Department of Revenue Secured Claim. The Alabama Department of Revenue alleges a secured claim in the amount of \$26,427.65. The Debtors assert there is no value in any of their assets for this lien to attach. The Debtors seek to

strip off modify and void these liens through implementation of the plan. Pursuant to Sections 1123(b)(5) and 506 of the Bankruptcy Code, these liens, as they attach to the Debtors' residence, their vehicles and other personal property, are due to be voided, and such claims shall be Allowed Unsecured Claims in this case.

- **3. Term of Plan.** The Distribution Agent shall make distributions as provided for by Orders of this Court and pursuant to this confirmed Plan of Reorganization for Sixty (60) months from the commencement of this case.
- **4. Plan Payments.** The Debtors' have made \$1,500.00, per month, payroll deductions totaling \$6,155.00 to date. On the Effective Date, such Plan payments will change to \$3,148.93. The new payment shall be the level payment of the Debtors' from the date of confirmation until completion of the Plan.
- **5. Discharge of Examiner.** Upon the termination of the Plan and the completion of duties as prescribed by the Plan or assigned by Court, and upon notice and hearing, the Examiner shall be discharged and his bond released.
- **6. Determination of Disposable Income.** At confirmation, the Debtors propose to offer evidence and prove the amount of their disposable income which shall be used to implement the Plan.
- **7. Management.** The Debtors shall continue to manage their affairs but will seek to continue payroll deductions through the Plan to a Disbursing Agent.
- **8.** Creditor's Committee. No creditor's committee was formed in this matter. Operating reports will continue and shall be available to the creditors until the Plan is substantially consummated and the case is closed.
- **9. Disbursing Agent.** Kevin Heard, who has served as Examiner during the case, shall be the Disbursing Agent for all funds received through the payroll deductions of Mr. Manning.
- 10. *De Minimis* Distributions. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in the Plan, the Debtors shall not be required to transmit Cash to the holder of an Allowed Claim in an impaired class of claims if the amount of Cash otherwise due is less than \$10.00. All Cash not so distributed shall be deposited into the Unpaid Claims Reserve, and such Cash shall become the sole and exclusive property of the Debtors.
- 11. Retention of liens by Allowed Secured Claims; Payment of Allowed Secured Claims Direct by Debtors. Allowed Secured Claims shall retain the lien securing such claim until discharge is granted and shall be paid in full with interest (except as otherwise provided for herein) in deferred cash payments. Allowed Secured Claims in Classes 1(a)-(d) shall be paid direct by the Debtors. Allowed Secured Claims in Class 1(e) (IRS) and 1(f) (Wells Fargo arrearage) will be paid by the Disbursing Agent.

## **E.** Provisions Governing Distributions.

## 1. Procedure for Determination of Claims.

- a. Objections to Claims. Notwithstanding the occurrence of the Confirmation Date, and except as to any Claim that has been Allowed prior to such date or pursuant to this Plan, the Debtors, or any other Person authorized under Section 502(a) of the Bankruptcy Code, may object to the allowance of any Claim against the Debtors or seek estimation thereof on any grounds permitted by the Bankruptcy Code; provided, however, that after the Effective Date the Bankruptcy Court shall have exclusive authority and responsibility to prosecute objections to Claims.
- b. Disputed Claims. Payments or Distributions under the Plan on account of disputed claims shall be held in reserve pending the allowance or disallowance of the Claim. To the extent any property is distributed to an entity on account of a Claim that is not an Allowed Claim, such property shall promptly be returned to the Disbursing Agent for deposit in the Unpaid Claims Reserve. To the extent that a disputed claim ultimately becomes an Allowed Claim, payments and distributions on account of such Allowed Claim shall be made in accordance with the provisions of the Plan. As soon as practicable after the date that the order or judgment of the Bankruptcy Code allowing such Claim becomes a Final Order, any property held in reserve as pursuant to the Plan that would have been distributed prior to the date on which a disputed claim becomes an Allowed Claim shall be distributed, together with any dividends, payments or other distributions made on account of such property from the date such distributions would have been due had such Claim then been an Allowed Claim to the date such distributions are made.

# F. Distributions.

1. **Undeliverable Distributions.** Except as otherwise provided herein, distributions to holders of Allowed Claims shall be made: (a) at the addresses set forth on the respective proofs of Claim filed by such holders; (b) at the addresses set forth in any written notice of address change delivered to the Debtors after the date of the filing of any related proof of Claim; or (c) at the address reflected in the Schedules or the Debtors' records if no proof of Claim has been filed and if the Debtors have not received written notice of a change of address, as set forth herein. If a distribution is returned as undeliverable, the maker of such distribution shall hold such distribution and shall not be required to take any further action with respect to the delivery of the distribution unless and until the earlier of (1) the date on which Debtors are notified in writing of the then current address of the holder entitled to receive the distribution or (2) within six (6) months from the first payment due on the Unsecured Claims, except as the Bankruptcy Court may otherwise order. If the Disbursing Agent is notified in writing of the then current address of the holder before the expiration of the six (6) month period, the Disbursing Agent shall promptly make the distribution required by the Plan to the holder at the then current address. If the Disbursing Agent is not so notified by the end of the six (6) month period, and the holder of the Claim does not by such date assert a right to such undeliverable distribution, the holder shall be forever barred from asserting a Claim to such undeliverable distribution, which shall become available for distribution to holders of other Allowed Claims as provided in the Plan.

- **2. Manner of Payment.** Distributions by the Disbursing Agent may be made, at the option of the Disbursing Agent, in cash, by wire transfer or by check drawn on such accounts established by the Disbursing Agent as necessary to effectuate the Plan.
- **4. Interest.** Unless otherwise required by Final Order of the Bankruptcy Court or applicable bankruptcy law, interest shall not accrue or be paid after the Filing Date on any Claims, and no holder of a Claim shall be entitled to interest accruing on or after the Filing Date on any Claim.

# 5. Fractional Dollars; De Minimis Distributions.

- **a.** Whenever any payment of a fraction of a cent would otherwise be called for, the actual payment shall reflect a rounding of such fraction to the nearest whole cent.
- **b.** No interim distribution will be made on account of any Allowed Class 5 Claim to the holder of any such Allowed Class 54 Claim if the amount of such distribution for the Allowed Claim is less than \$25.00. Immediately before the last distribution date on Unsecured Claims, the Disbursing Agent shall (i) aggregate the amount of all distributions that would have been made on account of an Allowed Claim but for this de minimis provision and (ii) on the last distribution date, make a distribution on account of such Allowed Claim in accordance with the Plan.
- **6. Distributions on Claims Allowed Pursuant to Section 502(h) of the Bankruptcy Code.** Except as otherwise provided in the Plan, no distributions shall be made on account of a Claim arising as a result of a Final Order entered in an avoidance action until such Claim becomes an Allowed Claim. Any Claim that is allowed pursuant to Section 502(h) of the Bankruptcy Code prior to the first distribution date as a result of the entry of a Final Order in any avoidance action will be treated in accordance with the provisions of the Plan. All holders of such Claims that become Allowed Claims after the first distribution date will receive an initial distribution on the distribution date next following the date on which their Claim becomes an Allowed Claim and shall receive subsequent distributions, if any, in accordance with the provisions of the Plan. Distributions under the Plan on account of anticipated Claims that may arise or become allowable as a result of the entry of a Final Order in any avoidance action that are not Allowed Claims as of the first distribution date may be held in reserve, at the discretion of the Disbursing Agent, pending the allowance of disallowance of such Claims.
- 7. Disbursing Agent's Compliance with Tax Requirements. In compliance with Section 346 of the Bankruptcy Code, to the extent applicable, the Disbursing Agent shall comply with all withholding and reporting requirements imposed by federal, state or local taxing authorities in connection with making distributions pursuant to the Plan. The Disbursing Agent shall be authorized to take any and all action necessary and appropriate to comply with such requirements. As a condition to making any distribution under the Plan, the Disbursing Agent may require the holder of an Allowed Claim to provide such holder's taxpayer identification number, and such other information, certification or forms as necessary to comply with applicable tax reporting and withholding laws. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Plan, each entity receiving a distribution of dash pursuant to this Plan shall have sole and exclusive responsibility

for the satisfaction and payment of tax obligations imposed by any governmental unit, including income, withholding and other tax obligations, on account of any such distribution.

- **8.** Reserve for Disputed Claims. Except as otherwise provided in the Plan, no distributions shall be made on account of a disputed claim until such claim becomes an Allowed Claim. In making any distribution on Allowed Claims, the Disbursing Agent shall calculate the amount of such distribution (for purposes of making a Pro Rata calculation) as if each disputed claim were an Allowed Claim, unless the Bankruptcy Court enters an order specifying that the disputed claim should be treated as being a different amount for purposes of such calculation. The Disbursing Agent shall reserve from distributions a sufficient amount to make a distribution on a disputed claim in the event it becomes an Allowed Claim (unless the Bankruptcy Court orders otherwise). To the extent a disputed claim is allowed pursuant to a Final Order, any reserves attributable to the disallowed portion of the disputed claim shall be distributed on account of Allowed Claims pursuant to the terms of the Plan.
- **9. Setoffs.** Subject to Section 553 of the Bankruptcy Code, in the event the Debtors have a claim of any nature whatsoever against a holder of a Claim, the Disbursing Agent may, but is not required to, set off the Debtors' claim against such Claim (and any distributions or other rights to receive property arising out of such Claim under the Plan) unless any such claim of the Debtors is or will be released under the Plan. Neither the failure to set off nor the allowance of any Claim under the Plan shall constitute a waiver or release of any claim of the Debtors.
- 10. Reliance on Claims Register. In making distributions under the Plan, the Disbursing Agent may rely upon the accuracy of the claims register maintained by the Bankruptcy Court or its designee as claims agent in the case, as modified by any Final Order of the Bankruptcy Court disallowing Claims in whole or in part.

# G. Reservation of the Rights of the Estate.

All claims, rights to payment, causes of action, cross-claims and counterclaims of the Debtors of any kind or nature whatsoever including, without limitation, causes of action and avoidance actions, against third parties arising before the Confirmation Date that have not been disposed of prior to the Effective Date shall be preserved and treated in accordance with the Plan. Without limitation of the foregoing, pursuant to section 1123(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, the Debtors shall enforce for the benefit of the holders of Allowed Class 5 Claims (a) the causes of action and avoidance actions; (b) all Claims, causes of action, and related recoveries against any person; and (c) all other claims, rights to payment and causes of action, cross claims and counterclaims of any nature or type whatsoever, at law or in equity, against any person.

# VI. TAX CONSEQUENCES OF PLAN.

The following summary discusses the material federal income tax consequences expected to result from the consummation of the Plan. This discussion is based on current provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Tax Code"), applicable Treasury Regulations, judicial authority and current administrative rulings and pronouncements of the Internal Revenue Service (the "IRS"). There can be no assurance that the IRS will not take a contrary view, and no

ruling from the IRS has been or will be sought by the Debtors or their advisors. Legislative, judicial or administrative changes or interpretations may be forthcoming that could alter or modify the statements and conclusions set forth herein. Any such changes or interpretations may or may not be retroactive and could affect the tax consequences to, among others, the Debtors and the holders of Claims.

The following summary is for general information only. The federal income tax consequences of the Plan are complex and subject to significant uncertainties. This summary does not address foreign, state or local tax consequences of the Plan, nor does it purport to address all of the federal income tax consequences of the Plan. This summary does not purport to address the federal income tax consequences of the Plan to taxpayers subject to special treatment under the federal income tax laws, such as broker-dealers, tax-exempt entities, financial institutions, insurance companies, S corporations, small business investment companies, mutual funds, regulated investment companies, foreign corporations, and non-resident alien individuals. EACH HOLDER OF A CLAIM IS STRONGLY URGED TO CONSULT ITS OWN TAX ADVISOR REGARDING THE POTENTIAL FEDERAL, STATE, LOCAL OR FOREIGN TAX CONSEQUENCES OF THE PLAN.

## A. Federal Income Tax Consequences to the Debtors.

NOTHING STATED IN THE DISCUSSION WHICH FOLLOWS IS OR SHOULD BE CONSTRUED AS TAX ADVICE TO ANY CREDITOR OF THE DEBTORS. CREDITORS SHOULD CONSULT WITH THEIR OWN TAX ADVISORS REGARDING THE TAX CONSEQUENCES OF THE PLAN.

The statements contained in this portion of the Disclosure Statement are based on existing provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended ("Code"), Treasury Regulations promulgated thereunder, existing court decisions, published Revenue Rulings, Revenue Procedures and Technical Information Releases of the Internal Revenue Service ("IRS":), and legislative history. Any changes in existing law may be retroactive, may affect transactions commenced or completed prior to the effective date of the changes, and may significantly modify this discussion.

Legislation may be introduced in future sessions of Congress which could eliminate or alter some of the anticipated tax results of the Plan. No attempt has been made to evaluate in any detail the impact, which may be substantial, of any proposed legislation on the Plan.

The following is intended to be only a summary of certain tax considerations under current law which may be relevant to the Creditors of the Debtors. It is impractical to set forth in this Disclosure Statement all aspects of federal, state, and local tax law which may have tax consequences to the Debtors and their creditors.

Some of the tax aspects discussed herein are complex and uncertain. Moreover, the discussion below is necessarily general, and the full tax impact of the Plan upon the creditors will vary depending upon each creditor's individual circumstances. Therefore, all the creditors should

satisfy themselves as to the federal, state and local tax consequences of the Plan by obtaining advice solely from their own advisors.

THE CREDITORS SHOULD NOT CONSIDER THE DISCUSSION WHICH FOLLOWS TO BE A SUBSTITUTE FOR CAREFUL, INDIVIDUAL TAX PLANNING AND ARE EXPRESSLY CAUTIONED THAT THE INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES TO THE CREDITORS ARE COMPLEX AND VARY CONSIDERABLY DEPENDING UPON EACH PARTY'S CIRCUMSTANCES. ACCORDINGLY, CREDITORS ARE STRONGLY URGED TO CONSULT THEIR OWN TAX ADVISORS WITH REGARD TO THEIR PARTICULAR TAX SITUATIONS.

#### 1. The Plan.

The terms of the Plan provide for payment provisions which should be analyzed individually for each creditor with its tax advisor.

#### 2. Creditors.

- a. To the extent that creditors receive payments under the Plan as interest, such creditors will recognize interest income under § 51(a)(4) of the Code.
- b. To the extent that, pursuant to the Plan, creditors receive cash payments from the Debtors in satisfaction of their claims, such creditors may recognize gain or loss, as the case may be, equal to the difference between the amount of the cash so received and their adjusted basis in such claim.
- c. The gain or loss to be recognized by such creditors will be either ordinary income or capital gain depending on, among other factors, the status of the creditor and the nature of claim in the hands of the creditor. While capital gains and ordinary income are presently taxed at the same rates, §§ 1211 and 1212 of the Code limit the ability to offset net capital losses against ordinary income.

#### 3. Bad Debt Deduction.

Section 166 of the Code permits the deduction of debts which have become totally or partially worthless. Therefore, to the extent that certain creditors will receive less than full payment from the Debtors with respect to the debt owed such creditors, such creditors may be able to deduct such bad debts for federal income tax purposes. The nature of the deduction for a bad debt depends on its classification as either a business or non-business debt. For non-corporate taxpayers non-business bad debts are deductible as short-term capital losses, and so are subject to the limitations on deductibility of capital losses under §§ 1211 and 1212 of the Code. Business bad debts and bad debts held by corporate taxpayers are deductible as ordinary losses. A bad debt is deductible to a creditor at the time it becomes wholly or partially worthless determined under the particular facts and circumstances.

# 4. Income from the Discharge of Indebtedness.

As a general rule, § 61(a)(12) of the Code requires that gross income for federal income tax purposes include income from the discharge of indebtedness. However, § 108(a)(1) of the Code specifically excludes discharge of indebtedness income from gross income if the discharge occurs in a Title 11 (bankruptcy) case. Therefore, the Debtors will not recognize income on the discharge of indebtedness pursuant to the Plan.

Section 108(b) of the Code does, however, provide that the amount excluded from gross income under § 108(a)(1) must be applied to reduce, in order, the following tax attributes of the Debtors: (a) net operating losses and net operating loss carryovers; (b) general business credits; (c) capital loss carryovers; (d) the basis of the property of the taxpayer (but not below the aggregate liabilities of the taxpayer after the discharge, pursuant to § 1017(b)(2) of the Code); and (e) foreign tax credit carryovers.

Alternatively, the Debtors may elect under § 108(b)(5) of the Code to apply any portion of the reduction referred to above to a reduction of the taxpayer's basis in depreciable property and real estate held for sale in the ordinary course of business.

The effect of the reduction of tax attributes is to defer the recognition of income on the discharge of indebtedness income until such time as the reduced tax attribute would have otherwise been available to the Debtors to decrease taxable income.

#### 5. State and Local Taxes.

In addition to the federal income tax consequences described above, creditors should consider potential state and local tax consequences which are not discussed herein. In general, the State of Alabama imposes a tax against income of residents and non-residents of Alabama who have income from sources within the state of Alabama. The Alabama income tax is imposed on taxable income at a graduated rate of up to five percent (5%).

THE FOREGOING ANALYSIS IS NOT INTENDED TO BE A SUBSTITUTE FOR CAREFUL TAX PLANNING, PARTICULARLY SINCE CERTAIN OF THE INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES OF THE PLAN WILL NOT BE THE SAME FOR ALL CREDITORS, DUE TO THEIR RESPECTIVE DIFFERING SOURCES AND TYPES OF INCOME AND DEDUCTIONS, AND OTHER FACTORS. ACCORDINGLY, CREDITORS ARE URGED TO CONSULT WITH THEIR OWN TAX ADVISORS WITH REFERENCE TO THEIR OWN TAX SITUATION.

# VII. PLAN CONFIRMATION PROCESS.

#### A. Confirmation.

At the Confirmation Hearing, the Bankruptcy Court shall confirm the Plan if the Plan satisfies all requirements of Section 1129(a) include the following: (1) the Plan must be accepted by all impaired classes, (2) the Plan must be feasible, and (3) with respect to each holder of a Claim

or Interest that does not vote to accept the Plan (even if such holder is a member of a class that as a whole votes to accept the Plan), the Plan must be in the "best interest" of such holder in that the Plan provides for a distribution to the holder that is not less than the amount such holder would receive in a hypothetical Chapter 7 liquidation of the Debtors. With respect to the requirement that each impaired class votes to accept the Plan, Section 1129(b) provides that if all other requirements of Section 1129(a) are satisfied, the Plan still may be confirmed if the Plan, with respect to each impaired class that does not accept the Plan, "does not discriminate unfairly" and is "fair and equitable" with respect to such class. The acceptance, feasibility, unfair discrimination and fair and equitable concepts are discussed in more detail below.

# B. Acceptance of Plan by Voting.

For the Plan to be accepted by an impaired class of claims, it must be accepted by holders of Claims in such Class that hold at least two-thirds in dollar amount and one-half in number of the Claims in such Class held by creditors that actually vote. A Class is impaired if the legal, equitable, or contractual rights of the members of such class are modified or altered by the Plan (with an exception, not applicable to the Plan, for curing defaults, reinstating maturity and compensating certain damages). Classes 1,2 and 3 in this Plan are impaired and entitled to vote.

If any impaired Class does not accept the Plan, and at least one impaired Class accepts the Plan, the Debtors may seek confirmation of the Plan under the "cram down" provisions of Section 1129(b) of the Bankruptcy Code. To obtain confirmation despite non-acceptance by one or more impaired Classes, the Debtors must show to the Bankruptcy Court that the Plan does not discriminate unfairly and is fair and equitable with respect to each such Class. Each of these requirements is discussed further, as follows:

#### 1. Unfair Discrimination.

A plan does not discriminate unfairly with respect to a non-accepting Class if it protects the rights of such Class in a manner consistent with the treatment of other Classes with similar rights. The unfair discrimination test does not require that similarly situated Classes be treated in exactly the same way. The test requires that such Classes be treated substantially similarly or if not treated substantially similarly, that differences in treatment be fair.

# 2. Fair and Equitable.

A plan does not discriminate unfairly if either (a) each holder of a Claim or Interest in the non-accepting Class receives or retains under the Plan property of a value equal to the Allowed amount of such Claim or Interest; or (b) the holders of Claims or Interests that are junior to such Class receive or retain nothing under the Plan on account of such Claims or Interests (the "Absolute Priority Rule").

# C. Feasibility.

As a condition to confirmation of the Plan, Section 1129(a) of the Bankruptcy Code requires that Confirmation is not likely to be followed by the liquidation of the Debtors (except as

provided in the Plan) or the need for further financial reorganization. The Plan provides for reorganization of the Debtors' assets. The Debtors are not likely to need further financial reorganization. Accordingly, the Plan is feasible and the Debtors are able to demonstrate that the Plan is not likely to be followed by the liquidation of the Debtors (except as provided in the Plan) or the need for further financial reorganization of the Debtors.

A five-year disposable income projection for Mr. Manning derived from the net income listed on Schedule I will be \$685,951.20.

## D. Best Interest of Creditors Test.

#### 1. Overview.

Confirmation requires that each holder of an Allowed Claim and Interest that is included in an Impaired Class (a) accept the Plan or (b) receive or retain under the Plan, property of a value, as of the Effective Date of the Plan, that is not less than the value such holder would receive or retain if the Debtors were liquidated under chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code. This requirement applies to all dissenting or non-voting members of impaired Classes, even with respect to a Class that has accepted the Plan.

To determine what holders of Claims and Interests would receive in a hypothetical Chapter 7 liquidation, the Bankruptcy Court will consider the dollar amount that would be generated in a straight liquidation of the Debtors' assets and properties. Such amount would be reduced by the costs and expenses of liquidation by additional administrative expense claims that would accrue in Chapter 7. Chapter 7 costs and expenses would include, without limitation, (a) statutory fees payable to the Chapter 7 trustee pursuant to Section 326 of the Bankruptcy Code; (b) fees payable to attorneys, accountants, auctioneers, liquidators and other professional advisors that the Chapter 7 Trustee would engage to assist in discharging his duties under the Bankruptcy Code; and (c) any unpaid expenses incurred by the Debtors during the case, such as unpaid vendor invoices and fees and reimbursement of expenses of attorneys, accountants and other professional advisors retained by the Debtors or statutory committees or any party asserting a substantial contribution claim under Section 503(b)(3) of the Bankruptcy Code.

Based on the foregoing, holders of Allowed Claims and interests in Class 2, would not receive full distribution in Chapter 7, and Classes 3, 4 and 5 would likely receive no distributions. The Plan also provides for payment of priority and administrative claims that would be payable from the proceeds of causes of action before any distribution to Unsecured Claims. The Plan, therefore, provides for distributions not less than the value that such holders would receive in Chapter 7.

Accordingly, the Plan meets the best interests of creditors test with respect to all holders of Claims and interests. The Debtors believe the Plan will maximize the potential return to all parties in interest.

There are no known avoidance actions.

Based on the foregoing, the Debtors have concluded that reorganization under the Plan will result in a greater distribution to holders of all classes than liquidation through Chapter 7.

## VIII. ALTERNATIVES TO PLAN.

As an alternative to confirming the Plan, the Bankruptcy Court could convert the Case to a case under Chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code, dismiss the Case, or consider another Chapter 11 plan.

# A. Liquidation under Chapter 7.

If the Plan is not confirmed, and no other alternative plan is proposed, the Bankruptcy Court could find cause to convert the Case to a case under Chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code. In Chapter 7, a trustee would be elected or appointed to liquidate the assets of the Debtors for distribution to the Debtors' creditors in accordance with the priorities established by the Bankruptcy Code.

The Debtors believe that conversion of the Case to a case under Chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code would result in lower distributions to all creditors. Substantially all assets of the Debtors, with the exception of the avoidance actions, are subject to liens of the holders of Secured Claims (the "Secured Parties"). In a chapter 7 case, the Secured Parties likely would be able to obtain relief from automatic stay under Section 362(d) to foreclose on its liens. In this event, essentially no assets, other than avoidance actions, would remain to satisfy the claims of creditors other than the Secured Parties.

As disclosed on the Debtor's Summary of Assets and Liabilities, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "B", total assets of the Debtors total \$577,962.00, and total liabilities are \$1,108,474.03. There is no unencumbered equity in any asset.

Conversion to Chapter 7 would result in a No Asset Case.

Based on the foregoing, the Debtors believe that holders of Claims and Interests would receive a lower distribution on account of such Claims and Interests if the Case were converted to Chapter 7.

## B. Comparison of Plan.

The Debtors are of the opinion that the proposed Plan provides more for each class of creditors and represents the statutorily mandated payment of priority claims.

#### C. Dismissal of Case.

Dismissal of the Case likely would have a disastrous result on the value of the Debtors' assets and the return to holders of Claims and Interests. Without limitation, dismissal of the Case would terminate the automatic stay and allow the IRS and the State of Alabama to immediately foreclose its liens on substantially all of the Debtors' assets. Moreover, dismissal of the Case

would leave the Debtors without sufficient funding to preserve assets pending their liquidation. Dismissal also would terminate all means for the repayment of Unsecured Creditors under the Plan. Accordingly, dismissal of the case would drastically reduce the value of the Debtors' assets, would lower the return to the Secured Creditors and essentially would eliminate any return to holders of other Claims and Interests. The Debtors believe that dismissal of the case is not a viable alternative to the Plan.

# D. Alternative Chapter 11 Plan.

If the Plan is not confirmed, the Debtors and other parties in interest, including, without limitation, holders of Claims and Interests and any official statutory committee, could propose an alternative plan. The Debtors believe, however, that the Plan will provide the greatest and most expeditious return to holders of Claims and Interests. Because the Claims of the Secured Parties exceed the expected liquidation value of the Debtors' assets, an alternative plan would not likely provide for any distributions to parties other than the Secured Parties. The formulation, negotiation and confirmation of an alternative plan also would delay significantly the administration of the Debtors' case and would have a negative impact on the Debtors' ability to reorganize. Under the circumstances, the Debtors submit that confirmation of an alternative plan is unlikely on terms and conditions as favorable to holders of Claims and Interests as those in the Plan.

#### IX. CONCLUSION/RECOMMENDATION.

Based on the foregoing, the Debtors believe that the Plan is the best alternative to maximize the value of the Debtors' assets and to maximize the return to creditors and equity security holders. The Debtors believe confirmation of the Plan is in the best interests of all parties in interest in the Case.

The Debtors recommends that all parties entitled to cast ballots vote to ACCEPT the Plan.

Dated: October 31, 2016.

Debtors and Debtors-in-Possession

/s/ Dewayne James Manning

Dewayne James Manning

/s/ Kelly A. Manning

Kelly A. Manning

/s/ Stuart M. Maples

STUART M. MAPLES

STUART M. MAPLES
MAPLES LAW FIRM, PC
200 CLINTON AVE. W, SUITE 1000
HUNTSVILLE, AL 35801
(256) 489-9779 - TELEPHONE
(256) 489-9720 - FACSIMILE
smaples@mapleslawfirmpc.com

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that I have served a copy of the foregoing properly addressed, postage prepaid, via the method indicated below on October 31, 2016:

Richard Blythe

Bankruptcy Administrator

Via email: richard\_blythe@alnba.uscourts.gov

Kevin Heard, Esq.

Via email: kheard@heardlaw.com

All Parties Requesting Notice

Via electronic service

/s/ Stuart M. Maples

OF COUNSEL