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UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT

CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

LOS ANGELES DIVISION

In re BLUE BEE, INC., Debtor.	Case No. 2:16-bk-23836-SK Chapter 11 **NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION FOR ENTRY OF ORDER AUTHORIZING DEBTOR TO USE CASH COLLATERAL THROUGH AND INCLUDING JANUARY 26, 2019; MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES; DECLARATION OF JEFF SUNGHAK KIM IN SUPPORT THEREOF** Date: October 11, 2018 Time: 8:30 a.m. Courtroom: 1575 Location: 255 E. Temple Street Los Angeles, California

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PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a hearing will be held on October 11, 2018 at 8:30 a.m., before the Honorable Sandra R. Klein, United States Bankruptcy Judge for the Central District of California, Los Angeles Division, in Courtroom "1575" located at 255 East Temple Street, Los Angeles, California, for the Court to consider the motion (the "Motion") filed by Blue Bee, Inc., a California corporation d/b/a Angl and the debtor and debtor-in-possession in the above-captioned Chapter 11 bankruptcy case (the "Debtor"), for the entry of an order, pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 363, authorizing the Debtor to use cash collateral in accordance with the Debtor's operating budget for the 14-week period from October 21, 2018 through and including January 26, 2019 (the "Budget"), a copy of which is attached as **Exhibit "1"** to the Declaration of Jeff Sunghak Kim annexed hereto (the "Kim Declaration"). The full basis for the Motion is described in the Memorandum of Points and Authorities and the Kim Declaration attached hereto.

The Motion is based upon 11 U.S.C. § 363, Rules 4001 and 9014 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure, and Local Bankruptcy Rules 4001-2 and 9013-1, the supporting Memorandum of Points and Authorities and the Kim Declaration attached hereto, the statements, arguments and representations of counsel to be made at the hearing on the Motion, and any other evidence properly presented to the Court at or prior to the hearing on the Motion.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that, pursuant to Local Bankruptcy Rule 9013-1(f), any opposition to the Motion must be in writing, filed with the Court and served upon the United States Trustee as well as counsel for the Debtor at the address set forth in the upper left-hand corner of the first page of this Notice and Motion by no later than fourteen (14) days before the date of the hearing on the Motion.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that, pursuant to Local Bankruptcy Rule 9013-1(h), the failure to file and serve a timely opposition to the Motion may be deemed by the Court to constitute consent to the granting of the relief requested in the Motion.

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WHEREFORE, the Debtor respectfully requests that this Court enter an order in substantially the form attached as **Exhibit "2"** to the Kim Declaration annexed hereto:

(1) granting the Motion in its entirety;

(2) authorizing the Debtor to use cash collateral to (i) pay all of the expenses set forth in the Budget, with authority to deviate from the line items contained in the Budget by up to 20%, on both a line item and aggregate basis, with any unused portions to be carried over into the following week(s); and (ii) pay all quarterly fees owing to the Office of the United States Trustee and all expenses owing to the Clerk of the Bankruptcy Court; and

(3) granting such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

Dated: September 20, 2018

BLUE BEE, INC.

By: Juliet Oh

TIMOTHY J. YOO
JULIET Y. OH
LEVENE, NEALE, BENDER, YOO & BRILL L.L.P.
Attorneys for Debtor and Debtor in Possession

MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

I. STATEMENT OF FACTS

A. Background.

1. On October 19, 2016 (the "Petition Date"), Blue Bee, Inc., a California corporation d/b/a Angl and the debtor and debtor-in-possession herein (the "Debtor"), filed a voluntary petition for relief under Chapter 11 of 11 U.S.C. §§ 101 *et seq.* (the "Bankruptcy Code"). The Debtor is continuing to operate its business, manage its financial affairs and operate its bankruptcy estate as a debtor in possession pursuant to Sections 1107 and 1108 of the Bankruptcy Code.

2. The Debtor is a retailer doing business under the "ANGL" brand offering stylish and contemporary women's clothing at reasonable prices to its fashion-savvy customers. As of the Petition Date, the Debtor owned and operated twenty-one (21) retail stores located primarily in shopping malls throughout the state of California (collectively, the "Retail Stores," and individually, a "Retail Store").

3. The Debtor is headquartered near downtown Los Angeles, California in Vernon, California and, as of the Petition Date, employed a workforce of approximately 110 employees. In 2015, the Debtor generated annual gross revenues of more than $24 million.

4. After opening its first retail store approximately 24 years ago in 1992, the Debtor's predecessor, Angl, Inc., substantially expanded its business operations to encompass a total of fifty-two (52) retail stores throughout the states of California, Nevada and Arizona by 2015. The vast majority of these new retail stores (approximately 43 stores) were opened within the seven-year period prior to the Petition Date. This large expansion effort, which was conducted within a relatively compressed period of time, took a heavy financial toll on the business operations of the Debtor's predecessor as a whole as it incurred construction and other "start up" costs with the opening of each new store as well as a significant increase in operating expenses typically associated with a retail store chain operation.

5. The high cost of expansion combined with decreasing store sales as a result of a general industry-wide shift in consumer shopping preferences from in-store to online shopping,

and the increased competition arising therefrom, left the Debtor with insufficient liquidity to meet all of its financial obligations, ultimately resulting in defaults in payments to the Debtor's landlords and vendors. As a result of the Debtor's defaults, numerous landlords began commencing actions to evict the Debtor and/or terminate the Debtor's lease agreements for certain of the Retail Stores. While the Debtor had already closed a number of its less profitable retail store locations, leaving open 21 Retail Stores as of the Petition Date, the Debtor required time to evaluate the viability of the remaining Retail Stores and identify other ways to decrease operational costs and increase profitability. In order to preserve the Debtor's rights under its lease agreements and to have an opportunity to restructure its business and financial affairs and ultimately reorganize, the Debtor filed this Chapter 11 bankruptcy case.

6. Through its bankruptcy case, the Debtor intended to identify the core Retail Stores around which the Debtor could successfully reorganize and expeditiously close those Retail Stores which are not likely to be profitable and/or for which the Debtor is unable to obtain meaningful rent concessions from the landlords (a process which has now been completed), and thereafter formulate and seek confirmation of a plan of reorganization which restructures the Debtor's existing debt in a cohesive and efficient manner while facilitating the continued operation of the Debtor's longstanding business.

B. <u>Postpetition Cash Collateral Use, Business Operations And Reorganization Efforts</u>.

7. Since the Petition Date, the Debtor has continued operating its business in the normal course.

8. Shortly after the Petition Date, on October 24, 2016, the Debtor filed an emergency motion (the "<u>First CC Motion</u>") seeking an order, among other things, authorizing the Debtor to use cash collateral in accordance with the Debtor's initial 13-week operating budget submitted therewith (the "<u>Initial Budget</u>").

9. On November 1, 2016, the Court entered an interim order granting the First CC Motion on an interim basis, pending a final hearing (the "<u>Interim Order</u>"). On December 14, 2016, the Court entered a final order granting the First CC Motion on a final basis and authorizing the Debtor to use cash collateral in accordance with a revised form of the Initial

Budget (the "Revised Initial Budget"), subject to the terms and conditions set forth on the record of the Court at the final hearing on the First CC Motion held on November 30, 2016.

10. On January 24, 2017, the Court entered a second order authorizing the Debtor to continue using cash collateral in accordance with the operating budget submitted by the Debtor for the 13-week period from January 22, 2017 through and including April 22, 2017.

11. On April 28, 2017, the Court entered a third order authorizing the Debtor to continue using cash collateral in accordance with the operating budget submitted by the Debtor for the 13-week period from April 22, 2017 through and including July 22, 2017.

12. On July 19, 2017, the Court entered a fourth order authorizing the Debtor to continue using cash collateral in accordance with the operating budget submitted by the Debtor for the 13-week period from July 23, 2017 through and including October 21, 2017.

13. On October 25, 2017, the Court entered a fifth order authorizing the Debtor to continue using cash collateral in accordance with the operating budget submitted by the Debtor for the 13-week period from October 22, 2017 through and including January 20, 2018.

14. On January 11, 2018, the Court entered a sixth order authorizing the Debtor to continue using cash collateral in accordance with the operating budget submitted by the Debtor for the 13-week period from January 21, 2018 through and including April 21, 2018.

15. On April 12, 2018, the Court entered a seventh order authorizing the Debtor to continue using cash collateral in accordance with the operating budget submitted by the Debtor for the 13-week period from April 22, 2018 through and including July 21, 2018.

16. On July 23, 2018, the Court entered an eighth order authorizing the Debtor (the "Eighth CC Order") to continue using cash collateral in accordance with the operating budget submitted by the Debtor for the 13-week period from July 22, 2018 through and including October 20, 2018 (the "Eighth Budget").

17. The Debtor is continuing to use its cash collateral to operate its business in the ordinary course of business, in accordance with the Eighth Budget and pursuant to the terms of the Eighth CC Order.

18. The Debtor's authority to use cash collateral pursuant to the Eighth CC Order will expire on October 20, 2018. The Debtor has therefore filed this Motion to seek an order of the Court authorizing the Debtor to continue using cash collateral in accordance with the Debtor's operating budget for the 14-week period from October 21, 2018 through and including January 26, 2019 (the "Budget"), a copy of which is attached as **Exhibit "1"** to the Declaration of Jeff Sunghak Kim annexed hereto (the "Kim Declaration").

19. As noted above, the Debtor believed it was critical that it first identify the core Retail Stores around which it might ultimately be able to reorganize before the Debtor could begin exploring and formulating the terms of a feasible Plan in this case. Accordingly, shortly after the Petition Date, the Debtor undertook the process of analyzing the financial performance of each of its twenty-one (21) Retail Stores (on a store-by-store basis) to determine which of the Retail Stores were currently profitable or potentially profitable if rent concessions could be successfully negotiated with the landlords, and which of the Retail Stores were not profitable and therefore needed to be closed on an expeditious basis.

20. As a result of such analysis, the Debtor sought and obtained Court approval to close eight (8) of its Retail Stores and to reject the real property leases associated therewith. With the approval of the Court, the Debtor successfully assumed the real property leases for its remaining thirteen (13) Retail Stores, except for the lease for the Debtor's Retail Store located in Manhattan Beach, California, which lease is with the Debtor's principals, Jeff Sunghak Kim and Young Ae Kim, rather than the Debtor (and therefore could not be assumed by the Debtor).

21. Thereafter, in February 2018, the Debtor vacated its retail store located in the Northridge Fashion Center after receiving a notice of termination from the landlord. Subsequently, however, the Debtor engaged in negotiations with the landlord to reopen at a new location within the Northridge Fashion Center. On May 24, 2018, the Debtor filed a motion seeking Court approval of its lease agreement for the new location within the Northridge Fashion Center, which motion was granted pursuant to an order entered by the Court on June 13, 2018.

22. On June 13, 2018, the Debtor and The Irvine Company LLC, the landlord of the Debtor's Retail Store at the Fashion Island center located in Newport Beach, California (the "Newport Beach Store"), entered into a stipulation providing for the termination of the Debtor's lease/license with such landlord effective as of June 30, 2018. The Court entered an order approving the foregoing stipulation on June 13, 2018. The Debtor surrendered possession of the Newport Beach Store premises on or before June 30, 2018.

23. Based on the foregoing, the Debtor is currently operating a total of twelve (12) Retail Stores (the "Operating Retail Stores"), which comprise the core group of retail stores around which the Debtor intends to reorganize.

24. The Debtor has begun evaluating and formulating the potential terms of a plan of reorganization ("Plan"), but requires additional time to (i) evaluate the Debtor's business operations and to prepare accurate cash flow forecasts in support of a Plan, (ii) complete its analysis of the claims that have been filed by creditors in the Debtor's case, including, without limitation, a number of large administrative rent claims asserted by several of the Debtor's landlords (which the Debtor believes have already been fully satisfied), (iii) determine how much cash the Debtor will have available on the anticipated effective date of the Plan to help fund the Plan so that management may determine how much additional cash will be required (either from the Debtor's principals or outside sources) to fund such Plan, and (iv) complete the preparation of the combined form plan and disclosure statement (and other documents related thereto) required by the Court.

25. The Debtor also requires additional time to evaluate, and negotiate the Plan treatment for, claims asserted by various creditors, including, without limitation, an alleged class of employee-claimants which has asserted a claim in excess of $35,000,000, which claim purports to include a priority claim exceeding $200,000. Specifically, on February 14, 2018, the law firm of Matern Law Group, PC (the "Matern Firm") filed the following proofs of claim in the Debtor's bankruptcy case:

a. a proof of claim on behalf of Benix Morante ("Morante"), Jennifer Dominguez, and April Bojorquez, individually and as purported class representatives (together, the "Alleged Class"), pursuant to which the Alleged Class asserts a claim in excess of $30,000,000 against the Debtor, including a priority claim of $214,643.84, based upon certain "wage and hour" claims alleged against the Debtor in a pre-petition action initiated before the Los Angeles Superior Court, which action bears the case number BC542008. The proof of claim filed by the Alleged Class is designated as Claim Number 77 in the claims register for the Debtor's bankruptcy case (the "Alleged Class POC"); and

b. a proof of claim on behalf of Morante individually, pursuant to which Morante asserts a claim in the sum of $1,500,000 against the Debtor based upon certain claims of discrimination, harassment, sexual battery, retaliation and wrongful termination alleged against the Debtor in a pre-petition action initiated before the Los Angeles Superior Court, which action bears the case number BC567121. The proof of claim filed by Morante is designated as Claim Number 78 in the claims register for the Debtor's bankruptcy case (the "Morante POC").

26. The Alleged Class POC and Morante POC, if allowed, will negatively impact and potentially jeopardize the Debtor's ability to propose a feasible plan in this case. The Debtor has therefore retained special labor litigation counsel, Ernest Martz, Esq., to assist in investigating the bases for, and objecting to, such claims. The Court entered an order on September 7, 2018 approving the Debtor's application to employ Mr. Martz for such purposes.

27. The Debtor, with the assistance of Mr. Martz, is in the process of evaluating the Alleged Class POC and Morante POC, and anticipate filing motions to disallow the claims asserted therein.

28. Although the Debtor has begun evaluating potential terms for a plan of reorganization, given the magnitude of the claims asserted in the Alleged Class POC and the Morante POC, and the potential impact of such claims on the Debtor's ability to propose and confirm a feasible plan of reorganization, the Debtor believes it must obtain an adjudication of such claims (even if on a preliminary basis) before the Debtor can prepare and file a plan of reorganization in this case.

C. The Debtor's Primary Assets And Secured Debts.

29. The Debtor's primary assets are as follows:

a. Cash. As of the Petition Date, the Debtor had cash on hand of approximately $93,000. The Debtor anticipates that the amount of cash it will have on hand as of October 21, 2018 will be approximately $124,339.

b. Security Deposits. As of the Petition Date, the Debtor had security deposits with landlords and other parties in the total sum of approximately $87,013. The Debtor believes that the amount of the Security Deposits remaining (for the twelve Operating Retail Stores) is approximately $53,215.

c. Inventory. As of the Petition Date, the Debtor had inventory with an estimated cost value of approximately $3,500,000. In light of the reduction of the number of operating Retail Stores from twenty one (21) Retail Stores as of the Petition Date to the current twelve (12) Operating Retail Stores, the Debtor believes that the estimated cost value of its current inventory is approximately sixty-five percent (65%) of the estimated cost value of the inventory that the Debtor had as of the Petition Date, or approximately $2,275,000. The Debtor is generally maintaining this level of inventory in its Operating Retail Stores as the Debtor continues to purchase new merchandise to replenish merchandise sold at the Operating Retail Stores.

d. Other Assets. As of the Petition Date, the Debtor had furniture, fixtures and equipment ("FF&E") with a net book value of $6,299,306. While the Debtor initially estimated that the FF&E had an estimated aggregate fair value of approximately $1,000,000, based upon discussions that the Debtor has had with a number of liquidation companies, the Debtor believes that the only FF&E that has any actual value are the FF&E contained at the Operating Retail Stores (consisting of racks, shelving, and other personal property). The Debtor estimates that the FF&E at the Operating Retail Stores has an estimated aggregate fair market value of approximately $600,000 (or approximately $50,000 per store). Subsequent to the Petition Date, the Debtor "downsized" from its former warehouse facility in Vernon, California to a substantially smaller office space in Vernon, California. In connection with the move to the smaller office space, and with the consent of the Debtor's primary secured creditor, Pacific City Bank (the "Bank"), the Debtor disposed of the non-store FF&E that was being maintained at its former warehouse facility, which FF&E the Debtor was not using and the Debtor determined had nominal market value (if any).

30. The Debtor's senior secured lender is the Bank. As of the Petition Date, the Debtor was a borrower under three (3) separate loans with the Bank, two of which have since been fully repaid and satisfied, leaving just one (1) outstanding loan. Specifically, the Debtor is the borrower under a U.S. Small Business Administration loan with the Bank (the "SBA Loan"), pursuant to a Loan Agreement dated July 24, 2014 between the Debtor and the Bank. The Debtor is currently indebted to the Bank in the amount of approximately $1,180,000 under the SBA Loan. The Bank filed UCC-1 financing statements against the Debtor and its predecessor, Angl, Inc. asserting a lien against substantially all of the assets of the Debtor and Angl, Inc.[1]

31. Prior to the Petition Date, the Debtor obtained a secured loan in the amount of $6,000 from Fashblvd., Inc. ("Fashblvd"). Flashblvd filed a UCC-1 financing statement (Document No. 57738600002) asserting a lien against substantially all of the assets of the Debtor prior to the commencement of the Debtor's bankruptcy case on October 19, 2016.[2]

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[1] In accordance with Rule 201 of the Federal Rules of Evidence, the Debtor requests that the Court take judicial notice of the *Omnibus Declaration Of Jeff Sunghak Kim In Support Of Debtor's Emergency "First Day" Motions* filed by the Debtor on October 24, 2016 [Doc. No. 12], specifically Exhibit "B" thereto, which includes copies of the pre-petition loan and collateral documents with the Bank.

The Debtor also requests that the Court take judicial notice of the *Declaration Of Juliet Y. Oh In Support Of Debtor's Emergency Motion For An Interim Order Authorizing The Debtor To Use Cash Collateral On An Interim Basis Pending A Final Hearing* [Doc. No. 11], which includes copies of the UCC-1 financing statements filed by the Debtor's alleged secured creditors.

[2] In accordance with Rule 201 of the Federal Rules of Evidence, the Debtor requests that the Court take judicial notice of the *Declaration Of Juliet Y. Oh In Support Of Debtor's Emergency Motion For An Interim Order Authorizing The Debtor To Use Cash Collateral On An Interim Basis Pending A Final Hearing* [Doc. No. 11], specifically Exhibit "2" thereto, which includes evidence of the filing of the UCC-1 financing statement by Fashblvd against the Debtor.

32. In addition to the financing statements filed by the Bank and Fashblvd against the Debtor and/or its predecessor, Angl, Inc., there are financing statements that have been filed against the Debtor and Angl, Inc. by the following parties[3]:

a. U.S. Bank Equipment Finance. U.S. Bank Equipment Finance has one active financing statement (filing number 13-7390160767), filed on December 10, 2013, which purports to cover certain specified equipment leased or financed from U.S. Bank Equipment Finance. U.S. Bank Equipment Finance does not purport to assert a security interest in the Debtor's cash.

b. California State Board Of Equalization ("SBOE"). SBOE has one active state tax lien (filing number 15-7447815850) which was recorded against the Debtor on January 29, 2015. The Debtor believes that the amount owed to SBOE which is secured by the foregoing tax lien is $24,160.38.

c. Line & Dot, LLC d/b/a Lumiere Collections ("L&E"). L&E has one active judgment lien (filing number 16-7546469513) which was recorded against the Debtor on September 15, 2016. The parties entered into a stipulation to avoid the foregoing judgment lien, which stipulation was approved by the Court pursuant to an order entered on December 22, 2016.

d. Tyler Mall Limited Partnership ("Tyler Mall"). Tyler Mall has one active judgment lien (filing number 16-7542925708) which was recorded against Angl, Inc. on August 22, 2016. The Debtor submits that the foregoing judgment lien, which was recorded within the 90-day period preceding the Petition Date, is avoidable as a preferential transfer and is therefore disputed.

e. GGP-Otay Ranch, L.P. ("GGP"). GGP has one active judgment lien (filing number 16-7542926072) which was recorded against Angl, Inc. on August 22, 2016. The Debtor submits that the foregoing judgment lien, which was recorded within

[3] In accordance with Rule 201 of the Federal Rules of Evidence, the Debtor requests that the Court take judicial notice of the *Declaration Of Juliet Y. Oh In Support Of Debtor's Emergency Motion For An Interim Order Authorizing The Debtor To Use Cash Collateral On An Interim Basis Pending A Final Hearing* [Doc. No. 11], specifically Exhibit "2" thereto, which includes copies of the UCC-1 financing statements filed against the Debtor.

the 90-day period preceding the Petition Date, is avoidable as a preferential transfer and is therefore disputed.

f. Valley Plaza Mall, LP ("Valley Plaza"). Valley Plaza has one active judgment lien (filing number 16-7545824507) which was recorded against Angl, Inc. on September 12, 2016. The Debtor submits that the foregoing judgment lien, which was recorded within the 90-day period preceding the Petition Date, is avoidable as a preferential transfer and is therefore disputed.

33. Based on the foregoing, the Debtor believes that the Bank, Fashblvd and the SBOE are the only parties that may potentially have a perfected security interest in the Debtor's cash.[4]

D. The Need For Use Of Cash Collateral And Proposed New Operating Budget.

34. By this Motion, the Debtor seeks an order of the Court authorizing the Debtor to use its cash, during the period from October 21, 2018 through and including January 26, 2019, to pay the expenses set forth in the Budget which is attached as **Exhibit "1"** to the Kim Declaration annexed hereto, as well as all quarterly fees owing to the Office of the United States Trustee and all expenses owing to the Clerk of the Bankruptcy Court. In addition, the Debtor seeks authority to deviate from the expense line items contained in the Budget, without the need for any further Court order, by up to 20%, on both a line item and aggregate basis, with any unused portions to be carried over into the following week(s). The Debtor will not deviate from the Budget beyond the foregoing parameters without further order of the Court.

35. The Debtor requires an order of this Court authorizing the Debtor to use cash collateral in accordance with the Budget to enable the Debtor to pay all of its normal and ordinary operating expenses (such as payroll, rent, utilities, insurance, and payments to vendors) as they come due in the ordinary course of its business and to purchase new inventory to replenish merchandise that is sold to customers at the Debtor's Operating Retail Stores, which in turn will facilitate the continued operation of the Debtor's business (without any disruption) and

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[4] The Debtor does not concede that such creditors have valid and properly perfected security interests and liens in the Debtor's cash and other assets.

the preservation and maximization of the going-concern value of the Debtor's business and assets. If the Debtor does not obtain authority to use its cash collateral, the Debtor's estate will suffer immediate and irreparable harm, including, without limitation, a cessation of the Debtor's business operations and a corresponding (and likely substantial) decline in the value of the Debtor's business and assets.

II. DISCUSSION

A. The Debtor Must Be Authorized To Use Cash Collateral To Operate Its Business And To Maintain And Preserve The Value Of Its Assets.

The Debtor's use of property of the estate is governed by Section 363 of the Bankruptcy Code, which provides, in pertinent part:

> If the business of the debtor is authorized to be operated under section. . .1108. . . of this title and unless the court orders otherwise, the trustee may enter into transactions, including the sale or lease of property of the estate, in the ordinary course of business, without notice or a hearing, and may use property of the estate in the ordinary course of business without notice or a hearing.

11 U.S.C. § 363(c)(1).

A debtor in possession has all of the rights and powers of a trustee with respect to property of the estate, including the right to use property of the estate in compliance with section 363. 11 U.S.C. § 1107(a).

"Cash collateral" is defined as "cash, negotiable instruments, documents of title, securities, deposit accounts or other cash equivalents in which the estate and an entity other than the estate have an interest [.]" 11 U.S.C. § 363(a). Section 363(c)(2) establishes a special requirement with respect to "cash collateral," providing that the trustee or debtor in possession may use "cash collateral" under subsection (c)(1) if:

> (A) each entity that has an interest in such cash collateral consents; or
> (B) the court, after notice and a hearing, authorizes such use, sale or lease in accordance with the provisions of this section.

11 U. S.C. §363(c)(2)(A) and (B).

It is well settled that it is appropriate for a Chapter 11 debtor to use cash collateral for the purpose of maintaining and operating its property. 11 U.S.C. § 363(c)(2)(B); *In re Oak Glen R-Vee*, 8 B.R. 213, 216 (Bankr. C.D. Cal. 1981); *In re Tucson Industrial Partners*, 129 B.R. 614 (9th Cir. BAP 1991). In addition, where the debtor is operating a business, it is extremely important that the access to cash collateral be allowed in order to facilitate the goal of reorganization: "the purpose of Chapter 11 is to rehabilitate debtors and generally access to cash collateral is necessary to operate a business." *In re Dynaco Corporation*, 162 B.R. 389 (Bankr. D.N.H. 1993), *quoting In re Stein*, 19 B.R. 458, 459. (Bankr. E.D. Pa. 1982).

For all of the reasons discussed herein, the Debtor has no ability to continue to maintain its business operations or to preserve and maximize the value of its assets unless the Debtor is authorized to use its cash collateral to pay its projected expenses in accordance with the Budget. The Debtor's inability to pay such expenses would cause immediate and irreparable harm to the Debtor's bankruptcy estate. Indeed, the Debtor's inability to pay its projected expenses, including payroll, rent, utilities and other operating expenses would result in the immediate shutdown of the Debtor's business and the decimation of the value (going-concern or otherwise) of the Debtor's business and assets. The maintenance of the Debtor's business and preservation and maximization of the Debtor's inventory and other assets are of the utmost significance and importance to a successful reorganization of the Debtor through this Chapter 11 case.

B. The Debtor's Prepetition Secured Creditors Are Adequately Protected By A Substantial Equity Cushion, The Continued Operation Of The Debtor's Business And Other Forms Of Adequate Protection.

Pursuant to section 363(c)(2) of the Bankruptcy Code, the Court may authorize a debtor in possession to use a secured creditor's cash collateral if the secured creditor consents to the use of cash collateral or is adequately protected. *In re Mellor*, 734 F.2d 1396, 1400 (9th Cir. 1984). *See also In re O'Connor*, 808 F.2d 1393, 1398 (10th Cir. 1987); *In re McCombs Properties VI, Ltd.*, 88 B.R. 261, 265 (Bankr. C.D. Cal. l988) ("McCombs").

The Debtor believes that the Bank, Fashblvd, SBOE and any other creditors who assert that they have perfected security interests in the Debtor's cash (collectively, the "Secured

Creditors") will ultimately consent to the Debtor's use of cash collateral to pay the expenses set forth in the Budget in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in this Motion. Accordingly, the Debtor submits that it should be authorized to use cash collateral pursuant to section 363(c)(2)(A) of the Bankruptcy Code.

Even if the Secured Creditors do not consent to the Debtor's use of cash collateral, the Debtor submits that the value of such Secured Creditors' interests in the Debtor's cash collateral will be adequately protected by a substantial equity cushion. As discussed above, the Debtor believes that the Bank, Fashblvd and the SBOE are the only parties that may have perfected security interests in the Debtor's cash.

Pursuant to the Supreme Court case of *United Savings Association v. Timbers of Inwood Forest Associates*, 108 S.Ct. 626, 629 (1988) ("Timbers") and subsequent case law, the property interest that a debtor must adequately protect pursuant to Sections 361(1) and (2) of the Bankruptcy Code is only the value of the lien that secures the creditor's claim. 108 S.Ct. at 630. *See also McCombs*, at 266. Section 506(a) "limit[s] the secured status of a creditor (i.e., the secured creditor's claim) to the lesser of the [allowed amount of the] claim or the value of the collateral." *McCombs*, at 266.

The Ninth Circuit made clear in *Mellor*, *Id.* at 1401, that an equity cushion of 20% is considered clear adequate protection of a secured creditor's interest in cash collateral. *See also In re McGowan,* 6 B.R. 241, 243 (Bankr. E.D. Pa. 1980) (holding a 10% cushion is sufficient to be adequate protection); *In re Rogers Development Corp.*, 2 B.R. 679, 685 (Bankr. E.D. Vir. 1980) (court decided that an equity cushion of approximately 15% to 20% was sufficient adequate protection to the creditor, even though the debtors had no equity in the property.)

Furthermore, in determining whether a secured creditor has equity in property, the Court should consider the "entire security package" not just a portion thereof. *In re Opelika Manufacturing Corporation*, 66 B.R. 444, 447-48 (Bankr. N.D. Ill. 1986).

As of October 21, 2018 (the beginning date of the proposed new Budget), the Debtor anticipates that it will be holding cash on hand of approximately $124,339, security deposits totaling approximately $53,215, inventory valued at approximately $2,275,000 (at cost), and

FF&E with an estimated fair market value of approximately $600,000. Based on the foregoing, the aggregate value of the Debtor's assets as of October 21, 2018 is estimated to be $3,052,554.

As noted above, the Debtor believes that the total amount currently owed to the Secured Creditors is approximately $1,210,160, calculated as follows: (i) approximately $1,180,000 to the Bank, based upon the SBA Loan only, since both the First Term Loan and Second Term Loan have now been paid off, (ii) $6,000 to Fashblvd, and (iii) approximately $24,160 to the SBOE. Given the aggregate value of the Debtor's assets (*i.e.*, approximately $3,052,554), and the total estimated amount currently owed to the Debtor's Secured Creditors (*i.e.*, approximately $1,210,160), the Secured Creditors are adequately protected by an equity cushion of more than 150%, which is far in excess of the 20% equity cushion that the Ninth Circuit has indicated constitutes clear adequate protection of a secured creditor's interest in cash collateral.

Furthermore, the Debtor submits that the value of the Secured Creditors' interest in the Debtor's cash collateral will be adequately protected by, among other things, the maintenance and continued operation of the Debtor's business.

The law is clear that the preservation of the value of a secured creditor's lien is sufficient to provide adequate protection to a secured creditor when a debtor seeks to use cash collateral. *In re Triplett*, 87 B.R. 25 (Bankr. W.D.Tex. 1988). *See also In re Stein*, 19 B.R. 458 (Bankr. E.D.Pa. 1982). In *Stein*, the Court found that, as a general rule, a debtor may use cash collateral where such use would enhance or preserve the value of the collateral, and allowed the debtor therein to use cash collateral even though the secured party had no equity cushion for protection. The *Stein* Court determined that the use of cash collateral was necessary to the continued operations of the debtor, and that the creditor's secured position could only be enhanced by the continued operation of the debtor's business. *See also In re McCombs, supra*, where the court determined that the debtor's use of cash collateral for needed repairs, renovations and operating expenses eliminated the risk of diminution in the creditor's interest in the cash collateral and such use would more likely increase cash collateral.

As reflected in the Budget, the payment of the expenses necessary for the Debtor to maintain and continue operating its business will adequately protect the Secured Creditors because, by doing so, the Debtor will be able to, among other things, maximize the value of its inventory and generate as much revenue as possible from the sale of such inventory. Other courts have determined that a debtor's continued business operations can constitute the adequate protection of a secured creditor. *See Matter of Pursuit Athletic Footwear, Inc.,* 193 B.R. 713 (Bankr. D. Del. 1996); *In re Newark Airport/Hotel Ltd. Partnership*, 156 B.R. 444, 450 (Bankr. D.N.J. 1993); *In re Dynaco*, 162 B.R. 389, 394-5 (Bankr. D.N.H. 1993); *In re Immenhausen Corp.*, 164 B.R. 347, 352 (Bankr. M.D. Fla. 1994).

Additionally, in determining adequate protection, courts have stressed the importance of promoting a debtor's reorganization. In *In re O'Connor*, *supra*, the Tenth Circuit stated:

> "In this case, Debtors, in the midst of a Chapter 11 proceeding, have proposed to deal with cash collateral for the purpose of enhancing the prospects of reorganization. This quest is the ultimate goal of Chapter 11. Hence, the Debtor's efforts are not only to be encouraged, but also their efforts during the administration of the proceeding are to be measured in light of that quest. Because the ultimate benefit to be achieved by a successful reorganization inures to all the creditors of the estate, a fair opportunity must be given to the Debtors to achieve that end. Thus, while interests of the secured creditor whose property rights are of concern to the court, the interests of all other creditors also have bearing upon the question of whether use of cash collateral shall be permitted during the early stages of administration."

808 F.2d at 1937.

The use of cash collateral is critical to the Debtor's ability to implement an effective reorganization strategy for the benefit of all creditors. As discussed above, the Debtor anticipates filing a Plan and disclosure statement in this case, and pursuing Court approval of such disclosure statement and confirmation of such Plan, promptly after the Debtor obtains an adjudication of the Alleged Class POC and Morante POC (even if on a preliminary basis). The Debtor hopes to obtain an adjudication of the Alleged Class POC and Morante POC within the next few months. Therefore, the period covered by the Budget (*i.e.*, October 21, 2018 – January 126, 2019) represents a critical period in the Debtor's case. If the Debtor is not permitted to use cash collateral during this period so that the Debtor can focus on litigating the Alleged Class

POC and Morante POC and formulating and pursuing its ultimate reorganization strategy in this case, while continuing to operate the Debtor's business (without any disruption) and preserving and maximizing the going-concern value of the Debtor's business and assets, the Debtor will be forced to immediately halt all business operations, which will significantly and negatively impact the value of the Debtor's business and assets and the Debtor's ability to successfully reorganize. The use of cash collateral will therefore only enhance the prospect of the Debtor's successful reorganization.

In addition to the forms of adequate protection discussed above, the Debtor also proposes to provide its Secured Creditors with replacement liens and security interests against the Debtor's post-petition assets, with such replacement liens to have the same extent, validity, and priority as the pre-petition liens held by such Secured Creditors against the Debtor's assets. Such replacement liens will provide the Secured Creditors with further adequate protection.

Given the foregoing forms of adequate protection being provided to the Debtor's pre-petition Secured Creditors for the Debtor's use of cash collateral, the Debtor submits that the requirements of Bankruptcy Code Section 363(c)(2) have been satisfied and that the Debtor should be authorized to use cash collateral in accordance with the terms set forth in this Motion.

III.

PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS REGARDING APPROVAL OF THE MOTION HAVE BEEN SATISFIED

Rule 4001(b) of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure ("Bankruptcy Rules") sets forth the procedural requirements for obtaining authority to use cash collateral. The Debtor submits that it has complied with these procedural requirements. First, the Motion must contain a copy of the proposed form of order granting the Motion, which has been done by attaching the proposed order as **Exhibit "2"** to the Kim Declaration annexed hereto. Second, the Motion provides a concise statement of the relief requested, which was done above. Third, the Motion is required to be served on any entity with an interest in the Debtor's cash collateral, any committee appointed or the twenty largest unsecured creditors if there is no committee, and on such other parties as the Court directs. Here, the Debtor has served the Motion and all supportive papers upon the Office of the United States Trustee, all alleged secured creditors and their counsel (if known), the twenty largest unsecured creditors of the Debtor (as no committee yet exists), and all parties who have requested special notice. Accordingly, the Motion complies with the procedural requirements of Bankruptcy Rule 4001(b)-(d).

In addition, in compliance with Bankruptcy Rule 4001(b)(1)(B) and Local Bankruptcy Rule 4001-2, the Debtor has filed concurrently herewith the mandatory Court-approved Form F4001-2 (Statement Regarding Cash Collateral Or Debtor In Possession Financing) which discloses whether the proposed order granting the Motion and authorizing the Debtor's use of cash collateral contains certain provisions of findings of fact. Accordingly, the Motion complies with the procedural requirements of Local Bankruptcy Rule 4001-2.

IV.

CONCLUSION

WHEREFORE, the Debtor respectfully requests that this Court enter an order in substantially the form attached as **Exhibit "2"** to the Kim Declaration annexed hereto:

(1) granting the Motion in its entirety;

(2) authorizing the Debtor to use cash collateral to (i) pay all of the expenses set forth in the Budget, with authority to deviate from the line items contained in the Budget by up to 20%, on both a line item and aggregate basis, with any unused portions to be carried over into the following week(s); and (ii) pay all quarterly fees owing to the Office of the United States Trustee and all expenses owing to the Clerk of the Bankruptcy Court; and

(3) granting such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

Dated: September 20, 2018

BLUE BEE, INC.

By:______________________________

TIMOTHY J. YOO
JULIET Y. OH
LEVENE, NEALE, BENDER, YOO & BRILL L.L.P.
Attorneys for Debtor and Debtor in Possession

DECLARATION OF JEFF SUNGHAK KIM

I, Jeff Sunghak Kim, hereby declare as follows:

1. I am over 18 years of age. I am the co-founder and President of Blue Bee, Inc., a California corporation d/b/a ANGL and the debtor and debtor-in-possession herein (the "Debtor"), and am therefore familiar with the business operations and financial books and records of the Debtor. I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth below and, if called to testify as a witness, I could and would competently testify thereto.

2. I have access to the Debtor's books and records. As the co-founder and President of the Debtor, I am familiar with the history, organization, operations and financial condition of the Debtor. The records and documents referred to in this Declaration constitute writings taken, made, or maintained in the regular or ordinary course of the Debtor's business at or near the time of act, condition or event to which they relate by persons employed by the Debtor who had a business duty to the Debtor to accurately and completely take, make, and maintain such records and documents. The statements set forth in this declaration are based upon my own personal knowledge and my review of the Debtor's books and records.

3. I make this declaration in support of the Debtor's motion to which this declaration is attached (the "Motion") which seeks the entry of an order authorizing the Debtor to use cash collateral in accordance with the Debtor's operating budget for the 14-week period from October 21, 2018 through and including January 26, 2019 (the "Budget"), a copy of which is attached as **Exhibit "1"** hereto. All capitalized terms not specifically defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Motion.

4. On October 19, 2016 (the "Petition Date"), the Debtor filed a voluntary petition for relief under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. The Debtor is continuing to operate its business, manage its financial affairs and operate its bankruptcy estate as a debtor in possession.

5. The Debtor is a retailer doing business under the "ANGL" brand offering stylish and contemporary women's clothing at reasonable prices to its fashion-savvy customers. As of the Petition Date, the Debtor owned and operated twenty-one (21) retail stores located primarily in shopping malls throughout the state of California (collectively, the "Retail Stores," and

individually, a "Retail Store").

6. The Debtor is headquartered near downtown Los Angeles, California in Vernon, California and, as of the Petition Date, employed a workforce of approximately 110 employees. In 2015, the Debtor generated annual gross revenues of more than $24 million.

7. After opening its first retail store approximately 24 years ago in 1992, the Debtor's predecessor, Angl, Inc., substantially expanded its business operations to encompass a total of fifty-two (52) retail stores throughout the states of California, Nevada and Arizona by 2015. The vast majority of these new retail stores (approximately 43 stores) were opened within the seven-year period prior to the Petition Date. I believe that this large expansion effort, which was conducted within a relatively compressed period of time, took a heavy financial toll on the business operations of the Debtor's predecessor as a whole as it incurred construction and other "start up" costs with the opening of each new store as well as a significant increase in operating expenses typically associated with a retail store chain operation.

8. I believe that the high cost of expansion combined with decreasing store sales as a result of a general industry-wide shift in consumer shopping preferences from in-store to online shopping, and the increased competition arising therefrom, left the Debtor with insufficient liquidity to meet all of its financial obligations, ultimately resulting in defaults in payments to the Debtor's landlords and vendors. As a result of the Debtor's defaults, numerous landlords began commencing actions to evict the Debtor and/or terminate the Debtor's lease agreements for certain of the Retail Stores. While the Debtor had already closed a number of its less profitable retail store locations, leaving open 21 Retail Stores as of the Petition Date, the Debtor required time to evaluate the viability of the remaining Retail Stores and identify other ways to decrease operational costs and increase profitability. In order to preserve the Debtor's rights under its lease agreements and to have an opportunity to restructure its business and financial affairs and ultimately reorganize, the Debtor filed this Chapter 11 bankruptcy case.

9. Through its bankruptcy case, the Debtor intended to identify the core Retail Stores around which the Debtor could successfully reorganize and expeditiously close those Retail Stores which are not likely to be profitable and/or for which the Debtor is unable to

obtain meaningful rent concessions from the landlords (a process which has now been completed), and thereafter formulate and seek confirmation of a plan of reorganization which restructures the Debtor's existing debt in a cohesive and efficient manner while facilitating the continued operation of the Debtor's longstanding business.

Postpetition Cash Collateral Use, Business Operations And Reorganization Efforts.

10. Since the Petition Date, the Debtor has continued operating its business in the normal course.

11. Shortly after the Petition Date, on October 24, 2016, the Debtor filed an emergency motion (the "First CC Motion") seeking an order, among other things, authorizing the Debtor to use cash collateral in accordance with the Debtor's initial 13-week operating budget submitted therewith (the "Initial Budget").

12. I am advised and believe that, on November 1, 2016, the Court entered an interim order granting the First CC Motion on an interim basis, pending a final hearing (the "Interim Order"). I am further advised and believe that, on December 14, 2016, the Court entered a final order granting the First CC Motion on a final basis and authorizing the Debtor to use cash collateral in accordance with a revised form of the Initial Budget (the "Revised Initial Budget"), subject to the terms and conditions set forth on the record of the Court at the final hearing on the First CC Motion held on November 30, 2016.

13. I am advised and believe that, on January 24, 2017, the Court entered a second order authorizing the Debtor to continue using cash collateral in accordance with the operating budget submitted by the Debtor for the 13-week period from January 22, 2017 through and including April 22, 2017.

14. I am advised and believe that, on April 28, 2017, the Court entered a third order authorizing the Debtor to continue using cash collateral in accordance with the operating budget submitted by the Debtor for the 13-week period from April 22, 2017 through and including July 22, 2017.

15. I am advised and believe that, on July 19, 2017, the Court entered a fourth order authorizing the Debtor to continue using cash collateral in accordance with the operating budget

submitted by the Debtor for the 13-week period from July 23, 2017 through and including October 21, 2017.

16. I am advised and believe that, on October 25, 2017, the Court entered a fifth order authorizing the Debtor to continue using cash collateral in accordance with the operating budget submitted by the Debtor for the 13-week period from October 22, 2017 through and including January 20, 2018.

17. I am advised and believe that, on January 11, 2018, the Court entered a sixth order authorizing the Debtor to continue using cash collateral in accordance with the operating budget submitted by the Debtor for the 13-week period from January 20, 2018 through and including April 21, 2018.

18. I am advised and believe that, on April 12, 2018, the Court entered a seventh order authorizing the Debtor to continue using cash collateral in accordance with the operating budget submitted by the Debtor for the 13-week period from April 22, 2018 through and including July 21, 2018.

19. I am advised and believe that, on July 23, 2018, the Court entered an eighth order authorizing the Debtor (the "Eighth CC Order") to continue using cash collateral in accordance with the operating budget submitted by the Debtor for the 13-week period from July 22, 2018 through and including October 20, 2018 (the "Eighth Budget").

20. The Debtor is continuing to use its cash collateral to operate its business in the ordinary course of business, in accordance with the Eighth Budget and pursuant to the terms of the Eighth CC Order.

21. The Debtor's authority to use cash collateral pursuant to the Seventh CC Order will expire on July 21, 2018. The Debtor has therefore filed the Motion to seek an order of the Court authorizing the Debtor to continue using cash collateral in accordance with the Debtor's Budget, a copy of which is attached as **Exhibit "1"** hereto.

22. I believe it was critical that the Debtor first identify the core Retail Stores around which it might ultimately be able to reorganize before the Debtor could begin exploring and formulating the terms of a feasible Plan in this case. Accordingly, shortly after the Petition

Date, the Debtor undertook the process of analyzing the financial performance of each of its twenty-one (21) Retail Stores (on a store-by-store basis) to determine which of the Retail Stores were currently profitable or potentially profitable if rent concessions could be successfully negotiated with the landlords, and which of the Retail Stores were not profitable and therefore needed to be closed on an expeditious basis.

23. As a result of such analysis, the Debtor sought and obtained Court approval to close eight (8) of its Retail Stores and to reject the real property leases associated therewith. With the approval of the Court, the Debtor successfully assumed the real property leases for its remaining thirteen (13) Retail Stores, except for the lease for the Debtor's Retail Store located in Manhattan Beach, California, which lease is with my wife and me, rather than the Debtor.

24. Thereafter, in February 2018, the Debtor vacated its retail store located in the Northridge Fashion Center after receiving a notice of termination from the landlord. Subsequently, however, the Debtor engaged in negotiations with the landlord to reopen at a new location within the Northridge Fashion Center. On May 24, 2018, the Debtor filed a motion seeking Court approval of its lease agreement for the new location within the Northridge Fashion Center, which motion was granted pursuant to an order which I am advised was entered by the Court on June 13, 2018.

25. On June 13, 2018, the Debtor and The Irvine Company LLC, the landlord of the Debtor's Retail Store at the Fashion Island center located in Newport Beach, California (the "Newport Beach Store"), entered into a stipulation providing for the termination of the Debtor's lease/license with such landlord effective as of June 30, 2018. I am advised and believe that the Court entered an order approving the foregoing stipulation on June 13, 2018. The Debtor surrendered possession of the Newport Beach Store premises on or before June 30, 2018.

26. Based on the foregoing, the Debtor is currently operating a total of twelve (12) Retail Stores (the "Operating Retail Stores"), which comprise the core group of retail stores around which the Debtor intends to reorganize.

27. The Debtor has begun evaluating and formulating the potential terms of a plan of reorganization ("Plan"), but requires additional time to (i) evaluate the Debtor's business

operations and to prepare accurate cash flow forecasts in support of a Plan, (ii) complete its analysis of the claims that have been filed by creditors in the Debtor's case, including, without limitation, a number of large administrative rent claims asserted by several of the Debtor's landlords (which I believe have already been fully satisfied), (iii) determine how much cash the Debtor will have available on the anticipated effective date of the Plan to help fund the Plan so that management may determine how much additional cash will be required (either from the Debtor's principals or outside sources) to fund such Plan, and (iv) complete the preparation of the combined form plan and disclosure statement (and other documents related thereto) required by the Court.

28. I believe the Debtor also requires additional time to evaluate, and negotiate the Plan treatment for, claims asserted by various creditors, including, without limitation, an alleged class of employee-claimants which has asserted a claim in excess of $35,000,000, which claim purports to include a priority claim exceeding $200,000. Specifically, on February 14, 2018, the law firm of Matern Law Group, PC (the "Matern Firm") filed the following proofs of claim in the Debtor's bankruptcy case:

a. a proof of claim on behalf of Benix Morante ("Morante"), Jennifer Dominguez, and April Bojorquez, individually and as purported class representatives (together, the "Alleged Class"), pursuant to which the Alleged Class asserts a claim in excess of $30,000,000 against the Debtor, including a priority claim of $214,643.84, based upon certain "wage and hour" claims alleged against the Debtor in a pre-petition action initiated before the Los Angeles Superior Court, which action bears the case number BC542008. The proof of claim filed by the Alleged Class is designated as Claim Number 77 in the claims register for the Debtor's bankruptcy case (the "Alleged Class POC"); and

b. a proof of claim on behalf of Morante individually, pursuant to which Morante asserts a claim in the sum of $1,500,000 against the Debtor based upon certain claims of discrimination, harassment, sexual battery, retaliation and wrongful termination alleged against the Debtor in a pre-petition action initiated before the Los Angeles Superior Court, which action bears the case number BC567121. The proof of claim filed by Morante is designated as Claim Number 78 in the claims register for the Debtor's bankruptcy case (the "Morante POC").

29. I believe that the Alleged Class POC and Morante POC, if allowed, will negatively impact and potentially jeopardize the Debtor's ability to propose a feasible plan in this case. The Debtor has therefore retained special labor litigation counsel, Ernest Martz, Esq., to assist in investigating the bases for, and objecting to, such claims. I am advised and believe that the Court entered an order on September 7, 2018 approving the Debtor's application to employ Mr. Martz for such purposes.

30. The Debtor, with the assistance of Mr. Martz, is in the process of evaluating the Alleged Class POC and Morante POC, and anticipate filing motions to disallow the claims asserted therein.

31. Although the Debtor has begun evaluating potential terms for a plan of reorganization, given the magnitude of the claims asserted in the Alleged Class POC and the Morante POC, and the potential impact of such claims on the Debtor's ability to propose and confirm a feasible plan of reorganization, I believe that the Debtor must obtain an adjudication of such claims (even if on a preliminary basis) before the Debtor can prepare and file a plan of reorganization in this case.

The Debtor's Primary Assets And Secured Debts

32. The Debtor's primary assets are as follows:

a. Cash. As of the Petition Date, the Debtor had cash on hand of approximately $93,000. I anticipate that the amount of cash that the Debtor will have on hand as of October 21, 2018 will be approximately $124,339.

b. Security Deposits. As of the Petition Date, the Debtor had security deposits with landlords and other parties in the total sum of approximately $87,013. I believe that the amount of the Security Deposits remaining (for the twelve Operating Retail Stores) is approximately $53,215.

c. Inventory. As of the Petition Date, the Debtor had inventory with an estimated cost value of approximately $3,500,000. In light of the reduction of the number of operating Retail Stores from twenty one (21) Retail Stores as of the Petition Date to the current twelve (12) Operating Retail Stores, I believe that the estimated cost value of the Debtor's current inventory is approximately sixty-five percent (65%) of the estimated cost value of the inventory that the Debtor had as of the Petition Date, or approximately $2,275,000. The Debtor is generally maintaining this level of inventory in its Operating Retail Stores as the Debtor continues to purchase new merchandise to replenish merchandise sold at the Operating Retail Stores.

d. Other Assets. As of the Petition Date, the Debtor had furniture, fixtures and equipment ("FF&E") with a net book value of $6,299,306. While the Debtor initially estimated that the FF&E had an estimated aggregate fair value of approximately $1,000,000, based upon discussions that the Debtor's management has had with a number of liquidation companies, I believe that the only FF&E that has any actual value are the FF&E contained at the Operating Retail Stores (consisting of racks, shelving, and other personal property). I estimate that the FF&E at the Operating Retail Stores has an estimated aggregate fair market value of approximately $600,000 (or approximately $50,000 per store). Subsequent to the Petition Date, the Debtor "downsized" from its former warehouse facility in Vernon, California to a substantially smaller office space in Vernon, California. In connection with the move to the smaller office space, and with the consent of the Debtor's primary secured creditor, Pacific City Bank (the "Bank"), the Debtor disposed of the non-store FF&E that was being maintained at its former warehouse facility, which FF&E the Debtor was not using and the Debtor determined had nominal market value (if any).

33. Based on the foregoing, the aggregate value of the Debtor's assets as of October 21, 2018 is estimated to total $3,052,554.

34. The Debtor's senior secured lender is the Bank. As of the Petition Date, the Debtor was a borrower under three (3) separate loans with the Bank, two of which have since been fully repaid and satisfied, leaving just one (1) outstanding loan. Specifically, the Debtor is the borrower under a U.S. Small Business Administration loan with the Bank (the "<u>SBA Loan</u>"), pursuant to a Loan Agreement dated July 24, 2014 between the Debtor and the Bank. The Debtor is currently indebted to the Bank in the amount of approximately $1,180,000 under the SBA Loan. I am advised and believe that the Bank filed UCC-1 financing statements against the Debtor and its predecessor, Angl, Inc. asserting a lien against substantially all of the assets of the Debtor and Angl, Inc.

35. Prior to the Petition Date, the Debtor obtained a secured loan in the amount of $6,000 from Fashblvd, Inc. ("<u>Fashblvd</u>"). I am advised and believe that Flashblvd filed a UCC-1 financing statement (Document No. 57738600002) asserting a lien against substantially all of the assets of the Debtor prior to the commencement of the Debtor's bankruptcy case on October 19, 2016.

36. I am advised and believe that, in addition to the financing statements filed by the Bank and Fashblvd against the Debtor and/or its predecessor, Angl, Inc., there are financing statements that have been filed against the Debtor and Angl, Inc. by the following parties:

a. <u>U.S. Bank Equipment Finance</u>. I am advised and believe that U.S. Bank Equipment Finance has one active financing statement (filing number 13-7390160767), filed on December 10, 2013, which purports to cover certain specified equipment leased or financed from U.S. Bank Equipment Finance. U.S. Bank Equipment Finance does not purport to assert a security interest in the Debtor's cash.

g. <u>California State Board Of Equalization ("SBOE")</u>. I am advised and believe that SBOE has one active state tax lien (filing number 15-7447815850) which was recorded against the Debtor on January 29, 2015. Based upon the Debtor's books and records, I believe that the amount owed to SBOE which is secured by the foregoing tax lien is $24,160.38.

b. Line & Dot, LLC d/b/a Lumiere Collections ("L&E"). I am advised and believe that L&E recorded a judgment lien against the Debtor (filing number 16-7546469513) on September 15, 2016. The Debtor and L&E entered into a stipulation to avoid the foregoing judgment lien, which stipulation I am advised and believe was approved by the Court pursuant to an order entered on December 22, 2016.

c. Tyler Mall Limited Partnership ("Tyler Mall"). I am advised and believe that Tyler Mall has one active judgment lien (filing number 16-7542925708) which was recorded against Angl, Inc. on August 22, 2016. The Debtor submits that the foregoing judgment lien, which was recorded within the 90-day period preceding the Petition Date, is avoidable as a preferential transfer and is therefore disputed.

d. GGP-Otay Ranch, L.P. ("GGP"). I am advised and believe that GGP has one active judgment lien (filing number 16-7542926072) which was recorded against Angl, Inc. on August 22, 2016. The Debtor submits that the foregoing judgment lien, which was recorded within the 90-day period preceding the Petition Date, is avoidable as a preferential transfer and is therefore disputed.

e. Valley Plaza Mall, LP ("Valley Plaza"). I am advised and believe that Valley Plaza has one active judgment lien (filing number 16-7545824507) which was recorded against Angl, Inc. on September 12, 2016. The Debtor submits that the foregoing judgment lien, which was recorded within the 90-day period preceding the Petition Date, is avoidable as a preferential transfer and is therefore disputed.

37. Based on the foregoing, I believe that the Bank, Fashblvd and the SBOE are the only parties that may potentially have a perfected security interest in the Debtor's cash. However, the Debtor does not concede that such creditors have valid and properly perfected security interests and liens in the Debtor's cash and other assets.

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The Need For Use Of Cash Collateral And Proposed New Operating Budget

38. The Debtor seeks authority to use its cash, during the period from October 21, 2018 through and including January 26, 2019, to pay the expenses set forth in the Budget which is attached as **Exhibit "1"** hereto, as well as all quarterly fees owing to the Office of the United States Trustee and all expenses owing to the Clerk of the Bankruptcy Court. The Debtor also seeks authority to deviate from the expense line items contained in the Budget, without the need for any further Court order, by up to 20%, on both a line item and aggregate basis, with any unused portions to be carried over into the following week(s). The Debtor will not deviate from the Budget beyond the foregoing parameters without further order of the Court.

36. The Debtor requires authority to use cash collateral in accordance with the Budget to enable the Debtor to pay all of its normal and ordinary operating expenses (such as payroll, rent, utilities, insurance, and payments to vendors) as they come due in the ordinary course of its business and to purchase new inventory to replenish merchandise that is sold to customers at the Debtor's Operating Retail Stores. I do not believe the Debtor has the ability to maintain its business operations or to preserve and maximize the value of its assets unless the Debtor is authorized to use its cash to pay its projected expenses in accordance with the Budget. I believe the Debtor's inability to pay such expenses would cause immediate and irreparable harm to the Debtor's bankruptcy estate. Indeed, the Debtor's inability to pay its projected expenses, including payroll, rent, utilities and other operating expenses would result in the immediate shutdown of the Debtor's business and the decimation of the value (going-concern or otherwise) of the Debtor's business and assets.

39. The proposed order granting the Motion is attached as **Exhibit "2"** hereto.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Executed on this 20th day of September, 2018, at Vernon, California.

JEFF SUNGHAK KIM

<u>EXHIBIT "1"</u>

[Budget]

BLUE BEE, INC.

14 Week Cash Flow Projection

From 10/21/2018 to 1/26/2019

Week No	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Week Beginning	21-Oct	28-Oct	4-Nov	11-Nov	18-Nov	25-Nov	2-Dec	9-Dec	16-Dec	23-Dec	30-Dec	6-Jan	13-Jan	20-Jan
Week Ending	27-Oct	3-Nov	10-Nov	17-Nov	24-Nov	1-Dec	8-Dec	15-Dec	22-Dec	29-Dec	5-Jan	12-Jan	19-Jan	26-Jan
Beginning Balance	124,339	181,130	197,800	97,470	99,140	155,931	215,601	83,871	138,641	167,911	239,302	84,272	135,242	128,242
Sales	110,000	110,000	110,000	110,000	110,000	110,000	135,000	135,000	135,000	135,000	95,000	95,000	95,000	95,000
Merchandise Payments	44,000	46,000	44,000	44,000	44,000	44,000	54,000	54,000	54,000	54,000	38,000	38,000	38,000	38,000
Gross Profit	66,000	69,000	66,000	66,000	66,000	66,000	81,000	81,000	81,000	81,000	57,000	57,000	57,000	57,000
Rent & Related			160,000				160,000				160,000			
Payroll & Payroll Taxes		45,000		45,000			45,000		45,000		45,000		45,000	
General & Adminstrave	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Bank & Card Processing	2,300	2,300	2,300	2,300	2,300	2,300	2,700	2,700	2,700	2,700	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Equipment Payment	2,879				2,879					2,879				
Insurance				13,000				13,000					13,000	
Repair & Maintenance		1,000					1,000				1,000			
Postage & Delivery	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30		30
Miscellaneous	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Total Disbursements	9,209	52,330	166,330	64,330	9,209	6,330	212,730	19,730	51,730	9,609	212,030	6,030	64,000	6,030
Operating Cash Flow	56,791	16,670	(100,330)	1,670	56,791	59,670	(131,730)	61,270	29,270	71,391	(155,030)	50,970	(7,000)	50,970
UST Fees								6,500						
Net Cash Flow	56,791	16,670	(100,330)	1,670	56,791	59,670	(131,730)	54,770	29,270	71,391	(155,030)	50,970	(7,000)	50,970
Ending Balance	181,130	197,800	97,470	99,140	155,931	215,601	83,871	138,641	167,911	239,302	84,272	135,242	128,242	179,212

EXHIBIT "2"

[Proposed Order]

TIMOTHY J. YOO (SBN 155531)
JULIET Y. OH (SBN 211414)
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Debtor in Possession

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT

CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

LOS ANGELES DIVISION

In re BLUE BEE, INC., Debtor.	Case No. 2:16-bk-23836-SK Chapter 11 **ORDER GRANTING DEBTOR'S MOTION FOR ENTRY OF ORDER AUTHORIZING DEBTOR TO USE CASH COLLATERAL THROUGH AND INCLUDING JANUARY 26, 2019** <u>Hearing:</u> Date: October 11, 2018 Time: 8:30 a.m. Courtroom: 1575 Location: 255 E. Temple Street Los Angeles, California

A hearing was held on October 11, 2018 at 8:30 a.m., before the Honorable Sandra R. Klein, United States Bankruptcy Judge for the Central District of California, Los Angeles Division, in Courtroom "1575" located at 255 E. Temple Street, Los Angeles, California, to consider the motion [Doc. No. ____] (the "Motion") filed by Blue Bee, Inc., a California corporation d/b/a ANGL and the debtor and debtor-in-possession in the above-captioned Chapter 11 bankruptcy case (the "Debtor"), for the entry of an order authorizing the Debtor to use its cash collateral in accordance with the Debtor's operating budget for the 14-week period from October 21, 2018 through and including January 26, 2019 (the "Budget"), a copy of which is attached as Exhibit "1" to the Declaration of Jeff Sunghak Kim annexed to the Motion, and granting related relief. Appearances at the hearing on the Motion were made as set forth on the record of the Court.

The Court, having considered the Motion and all papers filed by the Debtor in support of the Motion, proper and adequate notice of the Motion and the hearing on the Motion having been provided, and for good cause appearing therefor,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AS FOLLOWS:

A. The Motion is granted in its entirety.

B. The Debtor is authorized to use cash collateral to (i) pay all of the expenses set forth in the Budget, with authority to deviate from the line items contained in the Budget by not more than 20%, on both a line item and aggregate basis, with any unused portions to be carried over into the following week(s) and (ii) pay all quarterly fees owing to the Office of the United States Trustee and all expenses owing to the Clerk of the Bankruptcy Court.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

###

PROOF OF SERVICE OF DOCUMENT

I am over the age of 18 and not a party to this bankruptcy case or adversary proceeding. My business address is 10250 Constellation Boulevard, Suite 1700, Los Angeles, CA 90067

A true and correct copy of the foregoing document entitled **NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION FOR ENTRY OF ORDER AUTHORIZING DEBTOR TO USE CASH COLLATERAL THROUGH AND INCLUDING JANUARY 26, 2019; MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES; DECLARATION OF JEFF SUNGHAK KIM IN SUPPORT THEREOF** will be served or was served (a) on the judge in chambers in the form and manner required by LBR 5005-2(d); and (b) in the manner stated below:

1. <u>**TO BE SERVED BY THE COURT VIA NOTICE OF ELECTRONIC FILING (NEF)**</u>: Pursuant to controlling General Orders and LBR, the foregoing document will be served by the court via NEF and hyperlink to the document. On **September 20, 2018**, I checked the CM/ECF docket for this bankruptcy case or adversary proceeding and determined that the following persons are on the Electronic Mail Notice List to receive NEF transmission at the email addresses stated below:

- **Franklin C Adams franklin.adams@bbklaw.com, arthur.johnston@bbklaw.com;lisa.spencer@bbklaw.com**
- **Marc Andrews bankruptcycls@wellsfargo.com**
- **Dustin P Branch branchd@ballardspahr.com, carolod@ballardspahr.com;hubenb@ballardspahr.com;Pollack@ballardspahr.com**
- **Lynn Brown notices@becket-lee.com**
- **Brian W Byun bbyun@ci.vernon.ca.us**
- **John H Choi johnchoi@kpcylaw.com, christinewong@kpcylaw.com;aleeshim@kpcylaw.com**
- **Caroline Djang caroline.djang@bbklaw.com, arthur.johnston@bbklaw.com;lisa.spencer@bbklaw.com**
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- **United States Trustee (LA) ustpregion16.la.ecf@usdoj.gov**
- **Michael A Wallin mwallin@wallinrussell.com**
- **Larry D Webb Webblaw@gmail.com, larry@webblaw.onmicrosoft.com;r51666@notify.bestcase.com**

2. <u>**SERVED BY UNITED STATES MAIL**</u>: On **September 20, 2018**, I served the following persons and/or entities at the last known addresses in this bankruptcy case or adversary proceeding by placing a true and correct copy thereof in a sealed envelope in the United States mail, first class, postage prepaid, and addressed as follows. Listing the judge here constitutes a declaration that mailing to the judge <u>will be completed</u> no later than 24 hours after the document is filed.

☒ Service information continued on attached page

3. <u>SERVED BY PERSONAL DELIVERY, OVERNIGHT MAIL, FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION OR EMAIL</u> <u>(state method for each person or entity served)</u>: Pursuant to F.R.Civ.P. 5 and/or controlling LBR, on **September 20, 2018**, I served the following persons and/or entities by personal delivery, overnight mail service, or (for those who consented in writing to such service method), by facsimile transmission and/or email as follows. Listing the judge here constitutes a declaration that personal delivery on, or overnight mail to, the judge <u>will be completed</u> no later than 24 hours after the document is filed.

<u>Served via Attorney Service</u>
The Honorable Sandra R. Klein
United States Bankruptcy Court
Edward R. Roybal Federal Building and Courthouse
255 E. Temple Street, Suite 1582 / Courtroom 1575
Los Angeles, CA 90012

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct.

September 20, 2018	Stephanie Reichert	*/s/ Stephanie Reichert*
Date	*Type Name*	*Signature*

Blue Bee, Inc.
Top 20, Secured Creditors, OUST, RSN

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DELAWARE LIMITED
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Shops at Mission Viejo LLC
7415 Solution Center
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