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10 Attorneys for Receiver
11 Thomas A. Seaman

12 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
13 **CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**
14 **WESTERN DIVISION**

15 SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE
COMMISSION,

16 Plaintiff,

17 v.

18 STEVE CHEN, USFIA, INC.,
19 ALLIANCE FINANCIAL
GROUP, INC., AMAUCTION, INC.,
20 ABORELL MGMT I, LLC, ABORELL
21 ADVISORS I, LLC, ABORELL
REIT II, LLC, AHOME REAL
22 ESTATE, LLC, ALLIANCE
23 NGN, INC., APOLLO REIT I, INC.,
APOLLO REIT II, LLC, AMKEY, INC.,
24 US CHINA CONSULTATION
ASSOCIATION, and QUAIL RANCH
25 GOLF COURSE, LLC,

26 Defendants.

Case No. 2:15-cv-07425 RGK PLA

**TWENTY-SIXTH INTERIM
APPLICATION OF ALLEN
MATKINS LECK GAMBLE
MALLORY & NATSIS, LLP,
GENERAL COUNSEL TO THE
RECEIVER FOR PAYMENT OF
FEES AND REIMBURSEMENT OF
EXPENSES**

Date: August 7, 2023
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Ctrm.: 850
Judge: Hon. R. Gary Klausner

1 Allen Matkins Leck Gamble Mallory & Natsis LLP ("Allen Matkins"), general
2 counsel to Thomas A. Seaman ("Receiver"), the Court-appointed permanent receiver
3 for Defendants USFIA, Inc., Alliance Financial Group, Inc., Amauction, Inc.,
4 Aborell Mgmt. I, LLC, Aborell Advisors I, LLC, Aborell REIT II, LLC, Ahome Real
5 Estate, LLC, Alliance NGN, Inc., Apollo REIT I, Inc., Apollo REIT II, LLC,
6 Amkey, Inc., US China Consultation Association, Quail Ranch Golf Course, LLC,
7 and their subsidiaries and affiliates (collectively, "Receivership Entities"), hereby
8 submits this Twenty-Sixth interim application for approval and payment of fees and
9 reimbursement of expenses ("Application"). This Application covers the period from
10 October 1, 2022, through March 31, 2023 ("Twenty-Sixth Application Period"), and
11 seeks interim approval of \$35,438.40 in fees and \$16.70 in expenses, and an order
12 authorizing the Receiver to pay, on an interim basis, 80% of fees incurred,
13 \$28,350.72 and 100% of the costs \$16.70.

14 I. INTRODUCTION

15 This receivership involves a complex and wide ranging group of enterprises
16 and assets funded with the fruits of the fundraising scheme at the heart of the action
17 filed by the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission"). The Receiver
18 was appointed on a temporary basis on September 29, 2015, and on a permanent
19 basis on October 6, 2015.

20 The appointment orders confer broad duties, responsibilities, and powers on
21 the Receiver that are designed to allow him to secure, preserve, and protect the assets
22 of the Receivership Entities, investigate and recover sums transferred to third parties,
23 conduct a forensic accounting and analysis of the Receivership Entities' financial
24 transactions, review and analyze investor claims, and maximize the amount
25 ultimately available for distribution to investors. The appointment orders authorized
26 the Receiver to engage counsel to assist him in the performance of his duties. The
27 Receiver determined that experienced, qualified counsel was critical due to the size
28

1 and complexity of the receivership estate. Accordingly, the Receiver engaged Allen
2 Matkins to assist with ongoing legal issues facing the receivership estate.

3 This fee application should be read in conjunction with the Receiver's
4 Response, Report and Recommendations For Concluding Receivership [Doc. No.
5 503], which describes in detail the Receiver's and Allen Matkins' activities during the
6 Twenty-Sixth Application Period. This Application seeks interim approval of
7 \$35,438.40 in fees for a total of 41.40 hours worked, and payment on an interim
8 basis of 80% of that amount, or \$28,350.72. The work performed is described task-
9 by-task in **Exhibit A** and is broken down into the following categories:

Matter	Hours	Amount
General Receivership	13.4	\$11,999.70
Reporting	6.0	\$4,896.90
Pending Litigation	7.2	\$5,454.00
Distribution	14.8	\$13,087.80
TOTAL	41.40	\$35,438.40

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17 Allen Matkins has worked diligently and efficiently to assist the Receiver with
18 the remaining legal issues and tasks facing the receivership estate. The firm's work
19 has been primarily directed toward helping the Receiver to recover, preserve and
20 protect the substantial value of receivership estate assets, and to monetize the
21 recovered non-cash assets. This work has, in part, resulted in the Receiver
22 recovering gross receipts of \$79,256,373.09, and assist in making distributions to the
23 claimants. To date, the Receiver has distributed over \$56 million to the investors
24 located in 50 different countries.

25 Accordingly, Allen Matkins requests to be compensated on an interim basis
26 for its work.

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1 **II. SUMMARY OF TASKS PERFORMED AND COSTS INCURRED**

2 **A. Categories and Descriptions of Work**

3 **1. General Receivership**

4 Allen Matkins' work in this category concerned providing ongoing support to
5 the Receiver in connection with requests by the SEC and the United States
6 Attorney's office with regard to their respective civil and criminal investigations and
7 litigation. We provided support in locating records supporting the Receiver's
8 accounting and information regarding recoveries, distributions and damage
9 calculations.

10 As part of the Receiver's efforts to control costs and move toward concluding
11 the case, Allen Matkins prepared a motion to destroy the physical and electronic
12 records. Before doing so, Allen Matkins met and conferred with the SEC and the
13 office of the United States Attorney to provide them with an opportunity to preserve
14 data and records. The Motion to destroy the records was granted and the records
15 have been destroyed. The reasonable and necessary cost of the work in this category
16 is \$11,999.70.

17 **2. Reporting**

18 Allen Matkins' work in this category consisted of providing legal support and
19 assistance to the Receiver with regard to the Receiver's interim reports and
20 recommendations. This work included drafting and editing portions of the Receiver's
21 report. In addition, we met and conferred with the SEC and the AUSA. The
22 reasonable and necessary fees for work in this category is \$4,896.90.

23 **3. Pending Litigation**

24 During this Application Period, Receiver and receivership entities were still a
25 party to state court lawsuit filed prior to the commencement of the receivership
26 (Geng v. Chen et. al.). During this period, Allen Matkins prepared case management
27 reports and attended court the state court hearings. This action is still pending,
28 however, the Court has agreed that no further action is required by the Receiver and

1 no further appearances will be required. The reasonable and necessary fees for work
2 in this category is \$5,454.00.

3 **4. Distribution**

4 Allen Matkins' work in this category has focused upon supporting the
5 Receiver's distribution to investor claimants. Allen Matkins has responded to
6 numerous inquiries from claimants seeking payment or disputing their treatment
7 under the approved distribution plan. In addition, issues arose with the many
8 overseas claimants including but not limited to their inability to cash checks or
9 otherwise receive payment of their distribution. In addition, the Receiver was faced
10 with issues concerning false claims, need to send out payments via PayPal or wire
11 transfers, and verification of claimants. Allen Matkins provides legal support and
12 guidance as to a variety of the forgoing matters.

13 Allen Matkins worked with the Receiver to explore options to address the
14 significant sums that were returned to the Receiver as a result of uncashed or
15 undeliverable distributions. As part of this work Allen Matkins explored the
16 possibility of a second distribution and advised the Receiver concerning the
17 procedures to making a second distribution. The reasonable and necessary fees for
18 work in this category is \$13,087.80.

19 **B. Summary of Expenses Requested for Reimbursement**

20 Allen Matkins requests the Court approve reimbursement of \$16.70 for out-of-
21 pocket costs. These costs reflect the filing fees for the 6 month period.

22 **III. THE FEES AND COSTS ARE REASONABLE**
23 **AND SHOULD BE ALLOWED**

24 "As a general rule, the expenses and fees of a receivership are a charge upon
25 the property administered." *Gaskill v. Gordon*, 27 F.3d 248, 251 (7th Cir. 1994).
26 These expenses include the fees and expenses of the Receiver and his professionals,
27 including Allen Matkins. Decisions regarding the timing and amount of an award of
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1 fees and costs to the Receiver and his Professionals are committed to the sound
2 discretion of the Court. *See SEC v. Elliot*, 953 F.2d 1560, 1577 (11th Cir. 1992)
3 (rev'd in part on other grounds, 998 F.2d 922 (11th Cir. 1993)).

4 In allowing fees, a court should consider "the time, labor and skill required,
5 but not necessarily that actually expended, in the proper performance of the duties
6 imposed by the court upon the receiver[], the fair value of such time, labor and skill
7 measured by conservative business standards, the degree of activity, integrity and
8 dispatch with which the work is conducted and the result obtained." *United States v.*
9 *Code Prods. Corp.*, 362 F. 2d 669, 673 (3d Cir. 1966) (internal quotation marks
10 omitted). In practical terms, receiver and professional compensation thus ultimately
11 rests upon the result of an equitable, multi-factor balancing test involving the
12 "economy of administration, the burden that the estate may be able to bear, the
13 amount of time required, although not necessarily expended, and the overall value of
14 the services to the estate." *In re Imperial 400 Nat'l, Inc.*, 432 F. 2d 232, 237 (3d Cir.
15 1970). Regardless of how this balancing test is formulated, no single factor is
16 determinative and "a reasonable fee is based [upon] all circumstances surrounding
17 the receivership." *SEC v. W.L. Moody & Co., Bankers (Unincorporated)*, 374 F.
18 Supp. 465, 480 (S.D. Tex. 1974).

19 As a preliminary matter, the PI Order conferred on the Receiver substantial
20 duties and powers, including to conduct such investigation and discovery as is
21 necessary to locate and account for all receivership assets, take such action as is
22 necessary and appropriate to assume control over and preserve receivership assets,
23 and employ attorneys and others to investigate and, where appropriate, institute,
24 pursue, and prosecute all claims and causes of action of whatever kind and nature.
25 *See* TRO, Part XI; PI Order, Part XI.

26 As previously reported, the Receiver determined that experienced, qualified
27 counsel was necessary due to the size and complexity of the receivership estate and
28 engaged Allen Matkins pursuant to the authority granted to him. Allen Matkins has

1 submitted a detailed fee application which describes the nature of the services
2 rendered, and the identity and billing rate of each individual performing each task.
3 See Exhibit A.

4 Allen Matkins has endeavored to staff matters as efficiently as possible while
5 remaining cognizant of the complexity of issues presented. The request for fees is
6 based on Allen Matkins' customary billing rates charged for comparable services
7 provided in other matters, less a 10% discount.

8 The work performed by Allen Matkins over the 6 month Application Period
9 was essential to carrying out the Receiver's Court-ordered duties. Allen Matkins has
10 worked diligently to preserve and protect the assets of the receivership estate,
11 investigate and recover sums transferred to third parties, maximize the funds
12 available for ultimate distribution to investors and facilitate the distributions to the
13 investors with Allowed Claims.

14 Allen Matkins seeks payment of only 80% of fees incurred on an interim basis
15 in recognition of the fact that its work in assisting the Receiver is ongoing. Payment
16 of the proposed 20% holdback will be sought at the conclusion of the receivership.
17 Allen Matkins' fees are fair and reasonable and should be approved and paid on an
18 interim basis.

19 IV. CONCLUSION

20 Allen Matkins, therefore, respectfully requests the Court enter an Order:

- 21 1. Approving Allen Matkins' fees, on an interim basis, of \$35,438.40;
 - 22 2. Authorizing and directing the Receiver to pay Allen Matkins 80% of
23 approved fees, or \$28,350.72, from the assets of the Receivership Entities;
 - 24 3. Approving Allen Matkins' costs in the amount of \$16.70, and
25 authorizing and directing the Receiver to reimburse such costs in full; and
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1 4. For such other and further relief as the Court deems appropriate.
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3 Dated: July 6, 2023

ALLEN MATKINS LECK GAMBLE
MALLORY & NATSIS LLP

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5 By: /s/ David R. Zaro

6 DAVID. R. ZARO
7 Attorneys for Receiver
8 THOMAS A. SEAMAN
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EXHIBIT A

06/26/23 16:23:32 PROFORMA STATEMENT FOR MATTER 375323.00002 (Thomas A. Seaman, Receiver for US Fine I) (General Receivership)

Preliminary Billing Form

Billing Atty: 000313 - Zaro, David
 Date of Last Billing: 10/20/22
 Proforma Number: 1219881

Matter #: 375323.00002

Client Name: Thomas A. Seaman, Receiver for US Fine I
 Matter Name: General Receivership

Client/Matter Joint Group # 375323-1

Client Matter Number:

Fees for Matter 375323.00002.(General Receivership)

Trans Date	Index	Description of Service Rendered	Timekeeper	Hours	Fees	Sum	Circle	Action		
12/08/22	9053980	Emails with the Receiver regarding AUSA email and the investigation of third parties attempted theft of distributions.	Zaro, David	0.40	358.20	358.20	WO	HD	TR	_____
01/06/23	9080951	Email with counsel for SEC related to the IRS/the distribution and overall status of receivership.	Zaro, David	0.40	358.20	716.40	WO	HD	TR	_____
02/22/23	9130126	Research preservation of records requirements and work on the Receiver motion to address the abandonment and/or destruction of records, follow-up.	Zaro, David	1.40	1,253.70	1,970.10	WO	HD	TR	_____
02/23/23	9132188	Research/analysis related to draft of motion, then draft motion, memorandum of points and authorities in support of motion to destroy documents (1.6). Emails/revisions to draft motion/points and authorities (.5).	Zaro, David	2.10	1,880.55	3,850.65	WO	HD	TR	_____
02/24/23	9132218	Revisions to address Receiver comments/distribution narrative and finalize draft of the points and authorities (.8). Draft declaration of Mr. Seaman/Receiver, revise same and transmit to Mr. Seaman (.6). Calls with the Receiver to address revisions	Zaro, David	3.20	2,865.60	6,716.25	WO	HD	TR	_____

06/26/23 16:23:32 PROFORMA STATEMENT FOR MATTER 375323.00002 (Thomas A. Seaman, Receiver for US Fine I) (General Receivership)

Fees for Matter 375323.00002.(General Receivership)

Trans Date	Index	Description of Service Rendered and follow-up with AUSA and SEC (1.8).	Timekeeper	Hours	Fees	Sum	Circle	Action		
02/26/23	9132246	Work on the final drafts of declaration and brief as to records (.6). Prepare for/attend call with Mr. Searles/SEC related to meet/confer as to motion (.3). Email with Receiver concerning the motion (.2).	Zaro, David	1.10	985.05	7,701.30	WO	HD	TR	_____
02/27/23	9132278	Emails with Receiver, call with counsel related to the motion and SEC meet/confer, follow-up (.3). Work on draft form of order, follow-up on the notice, service, email to Receiver (.5).	Zaro, David	0.80	716.40	8,417.70	WO	HD	TR	_____
03/02/23	9141739	Emails to/from AUSA criminal counsel related to the victim/damages and Receiver distributions (.5). Call with Receiver concerning AUSA meeting and follow-up emails with AUSA (.4).	Zaro, David	0.90	805.95	9,223.65	WO	HD	TR	_____
03/03/23	9143431	Prepare for/attend the meeting with the Receiver and AUSA concerning restitution issues, strategy/approach to coordinating Receiver distribution with restitution in criminal matter (.7). Review of the judgment in criminal case and related emails with AUSA and Receiver (.9).	Zaro, David	1.60	1,432.80	10,656.45	WO	HD	TR	_____
03/06/23	9143459	Follow-up on the AUSA investigation, request for Receiver accounting, testimony including review of the criminal restitution judgment.	Zaro, David	0.60	537.30	11,193.75	WO	HD	TR	_____
03/10/23	9148187	Follow-up with Receiver concerning the AUSA's previous inquiries as to damages and records.	Zaro, David	0.30	268.65	11,462.40	WO	HD	TR	_____

06/26/23 16:23:32 PROFORMA STATEMENT FOR MATTER 375323.00002 (Thomas A. Seaman, Receiver for US Fine I) (General Receivership)

Fees for Matter 375323.00002.(General Receivership)

Trans Date	Index	Description of Service Rendered	Timekeeper	Hours	Fees	Sum	Circle	Action		
03/22/23	9159013	Evaluate court ruling related to the pending motion as to destruction of documents, call with Receiver related to records/lease.	Zaro, David	0.30	268.65	11,731.05	WO	HD	TR	_____
03/28/23	9173837	Review docket and address the court's ruling on the order to destroy records.	Zaro, David	0.30	268.65	11,999.70	WO	HD	TR	_____

Disbursements for Matter 375323.00002 (General Receivership)

Trans Date	Index	Type	Quantity	Amt	Circle	Action		
10/12/22	2785580	FILING – One Legal - Filing Fee for Superior Court of California, Los Angeles County, Status Report	0.00	16.70	WO	HD	TR	_____

Proforma Summary

Timekeeper Number	Timekeeper	Hours	Rate	Amounts
000313	Zaro, David	13.40	895.50	11,999.70
		13.40		\$11,999.70
	Subtotal Fees			\$11,999.70
	Discount			0.00
	Total Fees			11,999.70
	Total Disbursements			16.70

Attorney Billing Instructions

- BILL ALL
- BILL FEES ONLY
- BILL COST ONLY
- Hold
- Write Off
- Transfer All

Billing Instructions

expires 6/30/2024: 10% off standard rates (automatic); no text editing; copies @ .15

06/26/23 16:23:32 PROFORMA STATEMENT FOR MATTER 375323.00002 (Thomas A. Seaman, Receiver for US Fine I) (General Receivership)

Account Summary – As Of 06/01/23

	Fiscal YTD			Calendar YTD			LTD		
	Total	Fees	Disb.	Total	Fees	Disb.	Total	Fees	Disbursements
Worked	12,083.30	11,999.70	83.60	11,641.50	11,641.50	0.00	202,789.09	168,626.70	34,162.39
Unbilled Adj	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,318.62	383.22	935.40
Billed	215.32	0.00	215.32	0.00	0.00	0.00	155,540.07	155,540.07	34,145.69
Collected	215.32	0.00	215.32	0.00	0.00	0.00	189,685.76	155,540.07	34,145.69
AR Write Off	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Total	Fees	Costs						
WIP Balance	12,018.20	11,999.70	18.50						
AR Balance	0.00	0.00	0.00						
Unalloc Payment	0.00								
Client Trust Balance	0.00								

Billing Address

Thomas A. Seaman, Receiver for US Fine Investment Arts Inc
 SEAMAN, THOMAS (Receiver)
 1 Park Plaza, Suite 580
 Irvine, CA 92614

06/26/23 16:23:34 PROFORMA STATEMENT FOR MATTER 375323.00004 (Thomas A. Seaman, Receiver for US Fine I) (Reporting)

Preliminary Billing Form

Billing Atty: 000313 - Zaro, David
 Date of Last Billing: 01/31/23
 Proforma Number: 1219881

Matter #: 375323.00004

Client Name: Thomas A. Seaman, Receiver for US Fine I
 Matter Name: Reporting

Client/Matter Joint Group # 375323-1

Client Matter Number:

Fees for Matter 375323.00004.(Reporting)

Trans Date	Index	Description of Service Rendered	Timekeeper	Hours	Fees	Sum	Circle	Action		
10/27/22	9010430	Evaluate the Scandura filing related to third party claims, follow-up as to stay/receiver's report to the superior court.	Zaro, David	0.60	537.30	537.30	WO	HD	TR	_____
11/08/22	9025473	Call with counsel/Receiver related to the report and follow-up.	Zaro, David	0.40	358.20	895.50	WO	HD	TR	_____
11/11/22	9025157	Work on Receiver's 26th interim report	Fates, Edward (Ted)	0.90	619.65	1,515.15	WO	HD	TR	_____
11/11/22	9025379	Assist with preparing Receiver's report.	Fates, Edward (Ted)	0.60	413.10	1,928.25	WO	HD	TR	_____
11/11/22	9030014	Several emails/call with counsel as to the report (.3). Revise draft report, email to Receiver to address the issues, timing and next steps (.9).	Zaro, David	1.20	1,074.60	3,002.85	WO	HD	TR	_____
11/14/22	9030060	Email/call with counsel as to the revisions to the report to reflect the changes to timing based on delays in distributions.	Zaro, David	0.40	358.20	3,361.05	WO	HD	TR	_____
11/15/22	9028704	Communications with Receiver re: interim report (.1) finalize same (.2) meet and confer communications with SEC counsel	Fates, Edward (Ted)	0.50	344.25	3,705.30	WO	HD	TR	_____

06/26/23 16:23:34 PROFORMA STATEMENT FOR MATTER 375323.00004 (Thomas A. Seaman, Receiver for US Fine I) (Reporting)

Fees for Matter 375323.00004.(Reporting)

Trans Date	Index	Description of Service Rendered	Timekeeper	Hours	Fees	Sum	Circle	Action
		re: report (.2)						
11/15/22	9030107	Several emails with counsel and Receiver concerning the final draft of report and SEC.	Zaro, David	0.30	268.65	3,973.95	WO	HD TR
12/05/22	9049798	Revise and finalize Receiver's 26th interim report	Fates, Edward (Ted)	0.30	206.55	4,180.50	WO	HD TR
12/13/22	9058149	Call with counsel concerning the AUSA/distribution issues and follow-up.	Zaro, David	0.30	268.65	4,449.15	WO	HD TR
01/06/23	9080952	Work on the status of the Receiver report, fee application and follow-up.	Zaro, David	0.50	447.75	4,896.90	WO	HD TR

Proforma Summary

Timekeeper

Number	Timekeeper	Hours	Rate	Amounts
000313	Zaro, David	3.70	895.50	3,313.35
001665	Fates, Edward (Ted)	2.30	688.50	1,583.55
		<u>6.00</u>		\$4,896.90
Subtotal Fees				\$4,896.90
Discount				0.00
Total Fees				4,896.90
Total Disbursements				0.00

Attorney Billing Instructions

<input type="checkbox"/> BILL ALL	<input type="checkbox"/> Hold
<input type="checkbox"/> BILL FEES ONLY	<input type="checkbox"/> Write Off
<input type="checkbox"/> BILL COST ONLY	<input type="checkbox"/> Transfer All

Billing Instructions

expires 6/30/2024: 10% off standard rates (automatic); no text editing; copies @ .15

06/26/23 16:23:34 PROFORMA STATEMENT FOR MATTER 375323.00004 (Thomas A. Seaman, Receiver for US Fine I) (Reporting)

Account Summary – As Of 06/01/23

	Fiscal YTD			Calendar YTD			LTD		
	Total	Fees	Disb.	Total	Fees	Disb.	Total	Fees	Disbursements
Worked	19,637.10	19,637.10	0.00	8,829.90	8,829.90	0.00	106,902.45	106,902.45	0.00
Unbilled Adj	133.47	133.47	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,149.95	5,149.95	0.00
Billed	10,426.32	10,426.32	0.00	6,312.42	6,312.42	0.00	87,716.79	87,716.79	0.00
Collected	10,426.32	10,426.32	0.00	6,312.42	6,312.42	0.00	87,716.79	87,716.79	0.00
AR Write Off	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Total	Fees	Costs						
WIP	13,279.05	13,279.05	0.00						
Balance									
AR Balance	0.00	0.00	0.00						
Unalloc	0.00								
Payment									
Client Trust	0.00								
Balance									

Billing Address

Thomas A. Seaman, Receiver for US Fine Investment Arts Inc
 SEAMAN, THOMAS (Receiver)
 1 Park Plaza, Suite 580
 Irvine, CA 92614

06/26/23 16:23:35 PROFORMA STATEMENT FOR MATTER 375323.00007 (Thomas A. Seaman, Receiver for US Fine I) (Pending Litigation)

Preliminary Billing Form

Billing Atty: 000313 - Zaro, David
 Date of Last Billing: 10/20/22
 Proforma Number: 1219881

Matter #: 375323.00007

Client Name: Thomas A. Seaman, Receiver for US Fine I
 Matter Name: Pending Litigation

Client/Matter Joint Group # 375323-1

Client Matter Number:

Fees for Matter 375323.00007.(Pending Litigation)

Trans Date	Index	Description of Service Rendered	Timekeeper	Hours	Fees	Sum	Circle	Action		
10/03/22	8984482	Analyze status of Geng v. Chen and related case in state court, initial work on status report	Fates, Edward (Ted)	0.60	413.10	413.10	WO	HD	TR	_____
10/03/22	8986561	Several emails, evaluate the state court action and email with counsel as to response of Receiver.	Zaro, David	0.70	626.85	1,039.95	WO	HD	TR	_____
10/04/22	8985205	Work on status report for pending investor action (Geng v. Chen et al.) in LA Superior Court (1.3) communications with Receiver re: same (.4) communications with counsel for plaintiffs (.9)	Fates, Edward (Ted)	2.60	1,790.10	2,830.05	WO	HD	TR	_____
10/04/22	8987295	Several emails/calll with counsel related to the pending litigation and Receiver's response.	Zaro, David	0.40	358.20	3,188.25	WO	HD	TR	_____
10/05/22	8986266	Revise and finalize status report in Geng v. Chen case in state court	Fates, Edward (Ted)	0.20	137.70	3,325.95	WO	HD	TR	_____
10/05/22	8988487	Evaluate/revise the draft of the case management conference report by Receiver, advice to counsel as to termination of Receiver's Report.	Zaro, David	0.70	626.85	3,952.80	WO	HD	TR	_____

06/26/23 16:23:35 PROFORMA STATEMENT FOR MATTER 375323.00007 (Thomas A. Seaman, Receiver for US Fine I) (Pending Litigation)

Fees for Matter 375323.00007.(Pending Litigation)

Trans Date	Index	Description of Service Rendered	Timekeeper	Hours	Fees	Sum	Circle	Action		
10/05/22	9258728	Call with Receiver counsel related to court proceedings and hearing.	Zaro, David	0.40	358.20	4,311.00	WO	HD	TR	_____
10/20/22	8999708	Prepare for and attend status conference in pending Geng v. Chen matter in LA Superior Court	Fates, Edward (Ted)	0.80	550.80	4,861.80	WO	HD	TR	_____
10/20/22	9003459	Email/call related to the pending state court action, CMC, the role of Receiver and concluding the case.	Zaro, David	0.20	179.10	5,040.90	WO	HD	TR	_____
11/22/22	9035848	Respond to inquiries from investor parties in pending state court class action matters	Fates, Edward (Ted)	0.40	275.40	5,316.30	WO	HD	TR	_____
01/11/23	9081865	Analyze notice of ruling in pending Geng v. Chen case in LA Superior Court	Fates, Edward (Ted)	0.20	137.70	5,454.00	WO	HD	TR	_____

Proforma Summary

Timekeeper

Number	Timekeeper	Hours	Rate	Amounts
000313	Zaro, David	2.40	895.50	2,149.20
001665	Fates, Edward (Ted)	4.80	688.50	3,304.80
		<u>7.20</u>		<u>\$5,454.00</u>
Subtotal Fees				\$5,454.00
Discount				0.00
Total Fees				5,454.00
Total Disbursements				0.00

Attorney Billing Instructions

- | | | | |
|-----|----------------|-----|---------------------|
| () | BILL ALL | () | Hold |
| () | BILL FEES ONLY | () | Write Off |
| () | BILL COST ONLY | () | <u>Transfer All</u> |

06/26/23 16:23:35 PROFORMA STATEMENT FOR MATTER 375323.00007 (Thomas A. Seaman, Receiver for US Fine I) (Pending Litigation)

Billing Instructions

expires 6/30/2024: 10% off standard rates (automatic); no text editing; copies @ .15

Account Summary – As Of 06/01/23

	Fiscal YTD			Calendar YTD			LTD		
	Total	Fees	Disb.	Total	Fees	Disb.	Total	Fees	Disbursements
Worked	5,633.10	5,633.10	0.00	137.70	137.70	0.00	41,025.98	40,616.10	409.88
Unbilled Adj	17.23	0.00	17.23	0.00	0.00	0.00	967.63	950.40	17.23
Billed	3,203.71	2,809.35	394.36	0.00	0.00	0.00	34,032.60	34,032.60	409.88
Collected	3,203.71	2,809.35	394.36	0.00	0.00	0.00	34,442.48	34,032.60	409.88
AR Write Off	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Total	Fees	Costs						
WIP	5,633.10	5,633.10	0.00						
Balance									
AR Balance	0.00	0.00	0.00						
Unalloc	0.00								
Payment									
Client Trust	0.00								
Balance									

Billing Address

Thomas A. Seaman, Receiver for US Fine Investment Arts Inc
 SEAMAN, THOMAS (Receiver)
 1 Park Plaza, Suite 580
 Irvine, CA 92614

06/26/23 16:23:36 PROFORMA STATEMENT FOR MATTER 375323.00010 (Thomas A. Seaman, Receiver for US Fine I) (Distribution)

Preliminary Billing Form

Billing Atty: 000313 - Zaro, David
 Date of Last Billing: 01/31/23
 Proforma Number: 1219881

Matter #: 375323.00010

Client Name: Thomas A. Seaman, Receiver for US Fine I
 Matter Name: Distribution

Client/Matter Joint Group # 375323-1

Client Matter Number:

Fees for Matter 375323.00010.(Distribution)

Trans Date	Index	Description of Service Rendered	Timekeeper	Hours	Fees	Sum	Circle	Action		
10/07/22	8991415	Emails with claimant and Receiver related to the claim/distributions to overseas claimants (.3). Call with Receiver related to the distributions/plan and timing/uncashed distributions (.3).	Zaro, David	0.60	537.30	537.30	WO	HD	TR	_____
10/19/22	9001525	Several calls with investors related to the distributions, timing and follow-up (.3). conference with counsel related to possible amended plan for second distribution, procedure issues (.3).	Zaro, David	0.60	537.30	1,074.60	WO	HD	TR	_____
10/25/22	9008558	Call with Receiver related to strategy for the possible second distribution, issues related to the overseas investor claimants.	Zaro, David	0.40	358.20	1,432.80	WO	HD	TR	_____
10/26/22	9008575	Follow-up on call and email from investor related to distribution.	Zaro, David	0.10	89.55	1,522.35	WO	HD	TR	_____
10/31/22	9014761	Evaluate emails and follow-up on the claimants call as to status of distribution (.4). Call as to the distribution of returned funds/amended plan, follow-up (.5).	Zaro, David	0.90	805.95	2,328.30	WO	HD	TR	_____

06/26/23 16:23:36 PROFORMA STATEMENT FOR MATTER 375323.00010 (Thomas A. Seaman, Receiver for US Fine I) (Distribution)

Fees for Matter 375323.00010.(Distribution)

Trans Date	Index	Description of Service Rendered	Timekeeper	Hours	Fees	Sum	Circle	Action		
11/08/22	9025467	Evaluate the terms of the distribution plan/order and analysis of prospective plan amendment to distribute the remaining receivership proceeds and confer with counsel.	Zaro, David	1.30	1,164.15	3,492.45	WO	HD	TR	_____
11/10/22	9024628	Respond to inquiry from counsel for investor re: timing of further distributions	Fates, Edward (Ted)	0.20	137.70	3,630.15	WO	HD	TR	_____
11/11/22	9030022	Conference with Receiver's counsel as to prospective amended distribution plan and follow-up.	Zaro, David	0.30	268.65	3,898.80	WO	HD	TR	_____
11/14/22	9027709	Analyze and advise on issues relating to timing of distributions and next steps	Fates, Edward (Ted)	0.30	206.55	4,105.35	WO	HD	TR	_____
11/14/22	9030067	Emails with Receiver related to the delays in the distribution, the issues related to overseas and establishing end date/deadline and follow-up call with Receiver counsel.	Zaro, David	0.50	447.75	4,553.10	WO	HD	TR	_____
11/29/22	9047713	Review of status of distribution and follow-up on prospective amendment to distribution plan with counsel and possible legal issues/timing.	Zaro, David	0.40	358.20	4,911.30	WO	HD	TR	_____
12/09/22	9056963	Follow-up on the issues concerning delivery/verification of check/transfers and FBI inquiries as to the theft of distributions.	Zaro, David	0.40	358.20	5,269.50	WO	HD	TR	_____
01/02/23	9076664	Call with the Receiver to address the status of distributions and evaluate the emails from investor claimants as to distribution, strategy to conclude process.	Zaro, David	0.60	537.30	5,806.80	WO	HD	TR	_____

06/26/23 16:23:36 PROFORMA STATEMENT FOR MATTER 375323.00010 (Thomas A. Seaman, Receiver for US Fine I) (Distribution)

Fees for Matter 375323.00010.(Distribution)

Trans Date	Index	Description of Service Rendered	Timekeeper	Hours	Fees	Sum	Circle	Action		
01/05/23	9080093	Call with Receiver as to the distributions and follow-up.	Zaro, David	0.20	179.10	5,985.90	WO	HD	TR	_____
01/06/23	9080953	Work on distributions/Receiver's strategy for owners as investors/timing.	Zaro, David	0.60	537.30	6,523.20	WO	HD	TR	_____
01/09/23	9080970	Call from investor as to distribution issues and follow-up with counsel/Receiver as to strategy for concluding distribution.	Zaro, David	0.60	537.30	7,060.50	WO	HD	TR	_____
01/26/23	9099436	Calls with counsel and the Receiver related to the ongoing distribution issues, timing and approach to the rejected payments.	Zaro, David	0.40	358.20	7,418.70	WO	HD	TR	_____
02/13/23	9119775	Several calls from investors, review of the distribution plan/orders and review of claims orders to address investor questions.	Zaro, David	0.40	358.20	7,776.90	WO	HD	TR	_____
02/24/23	9132209	Evaluate issues concerning amended plan, the distribution issues as to overseas claimants/timing and close, call with counsel.	Zaro, David	0.60	537.30	8,314.20	WO	HD	TR	_____
02/25/23	9132242	Emails with SEC, meet/confer related to motion and distribution (.7). Call/email with Receiver concerning the SEC comments, follow-up (.4).	Zaro, David	1.10	985.05	9,299.25	WO	HD	TR	_____
02/28/23	9132746	Several emails from claimant's as to distribution, call/email related to claimant's distribution with Receiver and counsel	Zaro, David	0.40	358.20	9,657.45	WO	HD	TR	_____
03/01/23	9138502	Analyze and advise on issues relating to investor distribution process, inquiry from AUSA re: same and criminal restitution order	Fates, Edward (Ted)	0.30	206.55	9,864.00	WO	HD	TR	_____

06/26/23 16:23:36 PROFORMA STATEMENT FOR MATTER 375323.00010 (Thomas A. Seaman, Receiver for US Fine I) (Distribution)

Fees for Matter 375323.00010.(Distribution)

Trans Date	Index	Description of Service Rendered	Timekeeper	Hours	Fees	Sum	Circle	Action		
03/01/23	9139158	Analysis of issues, conference with Receiver counsel as to the distribution issues, alternative approach to distribution of returned and undeliverable distributions.	Zaro, David	0.60	537.30	10,401.30	WO	HD	TR	_____
03/02/23	9141742	Call with Receiver concerning distributions and approach to remaining payments/returns and follow-up.	Zaro, David	0.40	358.20	10,759.50	WO	HD	TR	_____
03/07/23	9145399	Follow-up on investor communication as to distribution, then call with Receiver counsel related to approach to distributions (.3). Address Receiver's response to AUSA as to distribution/victims' restitution (.3).	Zaro, David	0.60	537.30	11,296.80	WO	HD	TR	_____
03/09/23	9146788	Several conferences with claimant, Ms. June and follow-up as to distribution issue.	Zaro, David	0.40	358.20	11,655.00	WO	HD	TR	_____
03/22/23	9159000	Review court order as to distribution, call related to the claims and distribution issues with the Receiver (.3). Follow-up on the tax claim for sales taxes by State of California and confer with tax counsel (.4). Email/call as to sale tax issues with Receiver (.4).	Zaro, David	1.10	985.05	12,640.05	WO	HD	TR	_____
03/24/23	9173491	Several calls with claimant related to the Receiver's distribution, status and timing of distribution and possible approaches to the remaining proceeds, and closing issues and follow-up thereon (.3)	Zaro, David	0.30	268.65	12,908.70	WO	HD	TR	_____
03/30/23	9174022	Call with Mr. Seaman concerning the distribution issues and second distribution alternatives approaches/follow-up on the conference.	Zaro, David	0.20	179.10	13,087.80	WO	HD	TR	_____

06/26/23 16:23:36 PROFORMA STATEMENT FOR MATTER 375323.00010 (Thomas A. Seaman, Receiver for US Fine I) (Distribution)

Fees for Matter 375323.00010.(Distribution)

Trans Date	Index	Description of Service Rendered	Timekeeper	Hours	Fees	Sum	Circle Action
Proforma Summary							
Timekeeper							
Number		Timekeeper		Hours	Rate	Amounts	
000313		Zaro, David		14.00	895.50	12,537.00	
001665		Fates, Edward (Ted)		0.80	688.50	550.80	
				<u>14.80</u>		<u>\$13,087.80</u>	
Subtotal Fees						\$13,087.80	
Discount						0.00	
Total Fees						13,087.80	
Total Disbursements						0.00	

Attorney Billing Instructions

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> BILL ALL | <input type="checkbox"/> Hold |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BILL FEES ONLY | <input type="checkbox"/> Write Off |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BILL COST ONLY | <input type="checkbox"/> Transfer All |

Billing Instructions

expires 6/30/2024: 10% off standard rates (automatic); no text editing; copies @ .15

Account Summary – As Of 06/01/23

	Fiscal YTD			Calendar YTD			LTD		
	Total	Fees	Disb.	Total	Fees	Disb.	Total	Fees	Disbursements
Worked	54,645.30	54,645.30	0.00	42,928.20	42,928.20	0.00	106,771.90	106,765.20	6.70
Unbilled Adj	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	161.10	161.10	0.00
Billed	36,502.15	36,495.45	6.70	6,454.30	6,447.60	6.70	58,406.40	58,406.40	6.70
Collected	36,502.15	36,495.45	6.70	6,454.30	6,447.60	6.70	58,413.10	58,406.40	6.70
AR Write Off	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
WIP	48,197.70	48,197.70	0.00						

06/26/23 16:23:36 PROFORMA STATEMENT FOR MATTER 375323.00010 (Thomas A. Seaman, Receiver for US Fine I) (Distribution)

Balance			
AR Balance	0.00	0.00	0.00
Unalloc	0.00		
Payment			
Client Trust	0.00		
Balance			

Billing Address

Thomas A. Seaman, Receiver for US Fine Investment Arts Inc
SEAMAN, THOMAS (Receiver)
1 Park Plaza, Suite 580
Irvine, CA 92614
