UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK Case No. 09-50026 In the Matter of: MOTORS LIQUIDATION COMPANY, et al., f/k/a General Motors Corp., et al., Debtors. U.S. Bankruptcy Court One Bowling Green New York, New York November 20, 2009 9:50 AM

B E F O R E:

HON. ROBERT E. GERBER

U.S. BANKRUPTCY JUDGE

Hearing re: Motion of Certain Noteholders for an Order

Modifying the Bar Date Order to Provide that no Proofs of Claim

Need be Filed Related to Certain Guarantee Claims against

Motors Liquidation Company or, in the Alternative, Deeming this

Motion a Proof of Claim as to Such Claims, and for Related

Relief

Transcribed By: Hana Copperman

212-267-6868

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THE COURT: Have seats, please. All right. We have GM and the motion of the seven entities for an order modifying the bar date order. Somebody communicated to my chambers that there was some kind of settlement.

MR. KAROTKIN: Yes, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Whether or not I approve the settlement is going to depend on the extent to which it gives the creditors' committee substantially everything the creditors' committee was looking for in its objection. So I'll hear what you propose, but I may need to hear this motion on the merits anyway. Who's here on behalf of the creditors' committee?

MS. MACKSOUD: Good morning, Your Honor. Lauren

Macksoud from Kramer Levin on --

THE COURT: Your name again, please?

MS. MACKSOUD: Lauren Macksoud

17 THE COURT: Matsou?

MS. MACKSOUD: Macksoud. That's M-A-C-K-S-O-U-D.

THE COURT: Forgive me. Could you slow down and come to a microphone. I'm having trouble hearing you.

MS. MACKSOUD: Good morning, Your Honor. Lauren Macksoud, M-A-C-K-S-O-U-D.

THE COURT: I am sorry, Ms. Macksoud.

MS. MACKSOUD: That's all right.

25 THE COURT: Thank you. All right. I have a bunch of

questions, both about the motion, this settlement, and the 2019 that your firm filed, Mr. Zirinsky. But why don't one of you tell me what you want me to approve?

MR. ZIRINSKY: Thank you, Your Honor. Bruce Zirinsky,
Greenberg --

THE COURT: Main lectern, please.

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MR. ZIRINSKY: Good morning, Your Honor. Bruce
Zirinsky, Greenberg Traurig, on behalf of a number of
noteholders, including Aurelius Capital Management, L.P.,
Drawbridge Special Opportunities Advisors, LLC,
Fortress Credit Opportunities Advisors LLC, Appaloosa
Management L.P., Elliot Associates, LP, Perry Partners, L.P.,
and Perry Partners International, Inc.

Your Honor, I represent this group of holders of two series of bonds issued by a subsidiary of General Motors, a Nova Scotia subsidiary. The notes are guaranteed by General Motors Corporation, and we are here asking the Court, and, I believe, we resolved the matter, but we are here asking the Court to authorize a global proof of claim to be filed on behalf of all noteholders on these two series of notes, based upon the guarantees. The reason for that is that unlike most public notes there is no indenture trustee for these notes and so there is no party or fiduciary who is authorized under the indenture or required by law to file a global or a blanket proof of claim on behalf of all holders. The clients I

represent hold approximately two-thirds, perhaps more, in amount.

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THE COURT: I counted three-quarters, Mr. Zirinsky. Seventy-three and seventy-four percent, respectively.

MR. ZIRINSKY: Okay. In excess of two-thirds, Your Honor. The numbers Your Honor is reciting are correct.

Obviously we can file individual proofs of claim and that's not why we're here. Why we're here is that when we contacted the paying agent for the bonds and requested that a claim, a proof of claim, or proofs of claim be filed, the response was that they were not authorized to do so. They would not file a proof of claim.

Obviously that creates an issue in that these notes trade. There is a market for these notes. If some noteholders file proofs of claim and others don't file proofs of claim it creates an anomaly in the marketplace, because people won't necessarily know which notes have actually attendant proofs of claim that have been filed.

We also believe that based on the tenor, as we read the Court's bar date order, the bar date order certainly does provide room for situations of this type to be addressed through a global proof of claim. There is language in the bar date order that does make reference to claims being filed by indenture trustees, fiduciaries, or other parties on behalf of holders of a series of debt similar to this. We are also aware

that the Court has approved certain stipulations authorizing one or more entities to file a global proof of claim on behalf of numerous other creditors who may or may not have received notice of the bar date.

Another reason we believe it's important for this type of relief to be granted is that there is, or there may be, confusion in the marketplace as to whether or not individual noteholders need to file claims. It is somewhat unusual where noteholders do actually have to file individual proofs of claim in order for those claims to be deemed timely filed. In this particular case there was an agreement, known as the lock-up agreement, which was signed at the time GM was filing for bankruptcy which provided for certain treatment of these claims, both in terms of payments from the Canadian issuer settlement of claims and to company claims as between the Canadian issuer and GM Canada. And there was a consent solicitation conducted by public notice in London, I believe, on June 21st or June 25th of this year in which notice was given that the claims against GM would be deemed allowed claims pursuant to the terms of that lock-up agreement.

THE COURT: How did the notice go to the bondholders other than those who are represented by your firm?

MR. ZIRINSKY: It was sent out by the paying agent.

THE COURT: Paying agent knew who the bondholders

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MR. ZIRINSKY: Yes, they did.

THE COURT: Do they still?

MR. ZIRINSKY: I don't know.

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MR. ZIRINSKY: In any event, the only relief that we're requesting, and I read the committee's objections, and there are a number of issues that they raise which may or may not be issues that are, at some point in time, going to have to be heard by the Court. But the only relief that we're requesting in this motion is to have a proof of claim filed, or deemed filed, for purposes of filing the claim and satisfying the requirements of bar date. We're not asking the Court to rule on the allowance or the merits of the claims. Indeed, we've had discussions with counsel for the debtors and have worked out an agreement whereby the moving parties would be authorized, subject to the Court's approval, of course, whereby the moving parties would be authorized to file global proofs of claim for each of the two issues. All parties, I understand that the creditors' committee is satisfied and that's acceptable to the creditors' committee, that the proofs of claim would be filed. Everybody would reserve all of their rights as to any objections or claims with respect to those claims filed on behalf of the noteholders. But at least we would satisfy the requirements that a proof of claim or proofs of claim on behalf of noteholders actually be filed on a timely

basis in accordance with the Court's bar date order.

THE COURT: Mr. Zirinsky, what's the standing that you have to represent people who aren't your clients?

MR. ZIRINSKY: I only represent my clients. I don't have standing to represent other clients. I do believe, however, that it is appropriate, as parties in interest, for my clients to bring to the Court's attention the fact that there are public noteholders who may not be aware of the need that they have to file individual proofs of claim.

THE COURT: If I heard you correctly, a notice was given to them on or about the 25th of June providing them with an opportunity to be heard. I don't know the details as well as you do vis-à-vis whatever had happened before. I assume, if I heard you right, that the bondholders were known at that point in time.

MR. ZIRINSKY: The bondholders are known, either directly or by record holder named. The individual bondholders may or may not be known.

THE COURT: Right.

MR. ZIRINSKY: And we do not know to what extent notice of the bar date has been disseminated to the noteholder body at large. We have no way of knowing that.

THE COURT: How long would it have taken you to do a proof of claim for each of the seven entities that you

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MR. ZIRINSKY: For us to do a proof of claim for the seven entities, we can timely file proofs of claim for the seven entities. That's not the issue.

THE COURT: So you're here on behalf of people you don't represent?

MR. ZIRINSKY: I'm here on behalf of a class of notes that I don't represent. That's correct. But I'm also here to bring to the Court's attention that there is a potential inequitable result here where parties who may believe that they have no need to file a proof of claim may be in a position where their claims would be prejudiced as a result of the bar date order, because there has not been clarity, as far as we can tell, to the marketplace, that noteholders have to file proofs of claim.

THE COURT: You filed your motion on November 10th, if I read the date correctly. How long did it take you to prepare the motion?

MR. ZIRINSKY: Not very long.

19 THE COURT: Day?

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MR. ZIRINSKY: A matter of --

21 THE COURT: I'm not looking for the number --

22 MR. ZIRINSKY: A matter of hours.

THE COURT: A number of hours?

24 MR. ZIRINSKY: A matter of hours.

There's another issue here, Judge, and that is that

the lock-up agreement, which was disseminated as part of the materials for the June meeting in London, did provide, among other things, that General Motors acknowledged the validity and enforceability of the claims against GM on the guarantees of these notes.

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We had assumed, ourselves, that when GM filed schedules that they would schedule the guarantee claims against GM as undisputed. In fact, the claims were scheduled as contingent claims. Not disputed, but contingent. And, as a consequence, that would require individual claims to be filed. That would not be a deemed filing of the claims. And it's another reason why we're concerned about confusion. There could very well be individual holders who are just simply not aware that they need to file individual proofs of claim, who may be relying upon previous public statements by GM that these claims are deemed allowed claims and valid claims in the Chapter 11 case. And so there is room for doubt in terms of whether or not there has been sufficient clarity given to those noteholders to file a claim, of the need to file a claim.

THE COURT: And, Mr. Zirinsky, you were acting for your clients in connection with that lock-up agreement. Am I correct?

MR. ZIRINSKY: Yes, sir.

THE COURT: Why does your 2019 then say that as of the date of this statement, statement being dated November 9, your

firm was retained by each of the entities set forth on your 1 list? 3 (Pause) 4 MR. ZIRINSKY: I'm sorry, Your Honor. Which paragraph are you referring to? 5 THE COURT: One. 6 MR. ZIRINSKY: I don't think it's intended to state 7 that we were retained as of that date. It means that we were, 8 as of the date of the statement, we are retained. It was not 9 intended to mean that that was the first time we were retained. 10 11 And if Your Honor were to read on --THE COURT: Mr. Zirinsky, it says "As of this date of 12 this statement GT was retained by each of the entities set 13 forth on Exhibits A and B". 14 MR. ZIRINSKY: Correct. 15 THE COURT: Doesn't it? 16 MR. ZIRINSKY: Hum? 17 THE COURT: And you're saying --18 MR. ZIRINSKY: Well, as of the date --19 2.0 THE COURT: You're saying that a reader, such as the 21 Court, of that statement should read that as saying that as of the time you felt like filing the statement you were then a 22 23 counsel for your clients? MR. ZIRINSKY: No, I think, Your Honor, what it was 24

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intended to state was that since this is the first time we've

appeared in this case on behalf of these clients, that's why 1 it's phrased the way it was. We have been representing a number of these clients since before the filing of the bankruptcy. Certain additional clients we were not retained 4 for until subsequent to the bankruptcy. But we have been 5 representing certain of these clients since May of 2009.

THE COURT: Leading to my next question. Why wasn't your 2019 filed on June 1st or June 2nd?

MR. ZIRINSKY: We did not make an appearance in the case at that time.

THE COURT: Is that the way you read 2019, that when you're acting for parties but you're not making a motion before the Court or making an appearance that you're excused from the requirements of 2019?

MR. ZIRINSKY: My recollection of 2019, Your Honor, is that it requires that any attorney appearing in a matter of behalf of more than one client is required to file a 2019.

THE COURT: Um-hum.

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MR. ZIRINSKY: This is our first appearance in this 19 2.0 case.

THE COURT: Paragraph 4 of your 2019 says "The specific nature and amounts of the claims held by the entities will be determined and set forth and proofs of claim filed against the debtors' estates". Are you now asking to be relieved from what you said in paragraph 4?

MR. ZIRINSKY: No.

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client.

THE COURT: And your 2019 doesn't disclose the holdings of each of the entities in Exhibits A and B nor, of course, the dates that they purchased their investments and the prices at which they paid. Were you monitoring the case when I issued a ruling on exactly this subject vis-à-vis Mr. Richman's clients?

MR. ZIRINSKY: No, I was not, Your Honor.

THE COURT: You and your firm were not monitoring this case between the date you entered the lock-up and the date that I held the 363 hearing?

MR. ZIRINSKY: We have monitored certain aspects of the case, Your Honor, but I'm not aware of the matter involving Mr. Richman's clients.

THE COURT: You're not aware of the fact that I required Mr. Richman to comply with 2019 the way it was written and that he ultimately did comply?

MR. ZIRINSKY: Your Honor, we will certainly amend our 2019 to comply with whatever requirements the Court requires. There's no intention here to hide any information from the Court. I think the holdings of each of our clients can readily be set forth. I think they're set forth in the motion, at least in the aggregate, and we can certainly provide an amendment to the 2019 to break down those amounts separately by

THE COURT: Do any of your clients have derivatives or have short positions?

MR. ZIRINSKY: Not to my knowledge.

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THE COURT: What's the deal you want me to approve?

MR. ZIRINSKY: I would like Your Honor to enter an order authorizing one or more of the movants to file a global proof of claim in support of, or on behalf of, all holders of the notes for both series of claims, just so that there is a proof of claim on file with the Court, or two proofs of claim. There are two series of notes. That there are two proofs of claim on file with the Court in the total amount of the debt outstanding under the indenture.

THE COURT: What knowledge do you have vis-à-vis the approximately twenty-five percent of each issue that's not represented by your firm?

MR. ZIRINSKY: I have episodic knowledge that since we filed this motion we've had telephone calls from two or three other holders, from people who have purported to be other holders, asking us about the motion and whether or not they need to file proofs of claim individually. We have told them that we're not representing them but that depending on the outcome of the hearing before the Court today and the Court's ultimate determination on the motion they either will or will not have to file individual proofs of claim in order to protect themselves vis-à-vis the bar date order.

THE COURT: I'll hear from other parties, starting with the creditors' committee.

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MS. MACKSOUD: Good morning, Your Honor. Lauren Macksoud from Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel on behalf of the creditors' committee. Your Honor, we have originally put our objection on file because we felt the noteholders' motion was ambiguous with respect to whether they were seeking an allowed proof of claim through the form of order. The committee outlined in the objection certain issues that had arisen related to the lock-up agreement, and it simply stated the committee was looking for additional time to investigate. The committee asked that the movants be required to file a proof of claim in the ordinary course and that the committee be given time during the claim process to object to any claim ultimately Subject to reviewing the form of order that will be entered between the debtors and the movants the committee has no objection to entering into a stipulation allowing a global proof of claim as described.

THE COURT: Anything else?

MS. MACKSOUD: That's all, Your Honor.

THE COURT: All right. Mr. Karotkin, I would like to hear from you, but in addition to what you want to tell me I've got a couple of questions for you.

MR. KAROTKIN: Good morning, Your Honor. Stephen Karotkin, Weil, Gotshal & Manges, for the debtors.

THE COURT: Mr. Karotkin, you know that I've got a case management order in this case, don't you?

MR. KAROTKIN: Yes, sir.

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THE COURT: Is there a reason why five and a half months into the case I can't get compliance by your firm with the case management order on matters as fundamental as putting the return date on tops of motions, not starting a pleading with five paragraphs of the history of the case, the case management order having been drafted for the express purpose of telling people that pleadings presented to me are not to be done the Weil way, and they still seem to be done the Weil way.

MR. KAROTKIN: Your Honor, I apologize for that, and there is no excuse for that. And I will see that it doesn't happen again.

THE COURT: Thank you. Now speak to the merits.

MR. KAROTKIN: Yes, Your Honor. When we saw the motion filed by Mr. Zirinsky's office we had some communication with him as well as with the committee, and we told them, Mr. Zirinsky, that we were not prepared to consent to all of the relief requested, but we had no objection to allowing an appropriate entity to file a global proof of claim on behalf of all the noteholders because the fiscal agent, different from an indenture trustee, as I'm sure you know, in the United States the fiscal paying agent is an agent of the issuer of the notes not an agent of the holder of the notes. So rather than trying

to really, almost, result in tricking someone into not filing a claim we had no objection to a claim being filed. We know those claims exist. They were scheduled, as Mr. Zirinsky said, as contingent, and we thought it was fair and appropriate to allow the claim to be filed as long as all rights were reserved on behalf of all parties in interest, including the creditors' committee, to object to those claims. And we did speak with the creditors' committee at length about this after the motion had been filed, and we were, of course, well aware of the fact that they wanted to conduct an investigation, and, of course, any proposed order that would be agreed to by the debtors would also have to be agreed to by the creditors' committee. And, of course, a proposed order was circulated so that all parties were happy with what would be presented to Your Honor for your consideration.

So as far as we are concerned this is purely administrative. There really is no substantive right, and all rights of the creditors' committee, as well as the debtors, are reserved to file and prosecute any objections to these claims.

THE COURT: All right. Anybody who hasn't had a chance to be heard the first time who wants to weigh in on this?

MR. KAROTKIN: Oh, may I say one other thing just to --

THE COURT: Yes.

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MR. KAROTKIN: I'm sorry, Your Honor. There is a statement in the pleading filed by the creditors' committee that monies were transferred by General Motors, the debtors, post-petition, in connection with these notes. That is not the case. Any monies that were transferred up to Canada in connection with these notes were transferred prior to the filing date.

THE COURT: So if there is a complaint it's a preference or fraudulent conveyance of a pre-petition nature, as contrasted to a 549 issue?

MR. KAROTKIN: Well, there's certainly not a 549 issue. Whatever else may exist may exist.

THE COURT: An issue which will be determined with full opportunity for people to be heard.

MR. KAROTKIN: Absolutely, sir.

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THE COURT: All right. Any reply? Mr. Zirinsky?

MR. ZIRINSKY: Your Honor, just for the record, I just wanted to make it clear that it was never our intention on this type of a motion to seek anything other than permission to have a binded or global proof of claim filed.

As to issues that may be raised by the committee or other parties with respect to the claims, I just want to make it clear for the record that we obviously preserve all of our rights. We don't believe that there were any preferential transfers or fraudulent transfers made by the GM estate. Just

so Your Honor is aware, and, obviously, this is not an evidentiary hearing, but the monies that were paid were paid from GM Canada through the Nova Scotia entity and were done with the full knowledge of the debtors, were actually observed by the representatives of the Canadian government, and that those transactions, at least in part, were responsible for enabling General Motors Canada to avoid the necessity for filing CCAA proceedings in Canada.

THE COURT: All right. Everybody had a chance to be heard? We're going to take a recess. I want everybody back in the courtroom at 10:30.

(Recess from 10:17 a.m. to 10:35 a.m.)

THE COURT: Ladies and gentlemen, the motion is granted in part and denied in part, to the extent and in the manner described below.

It is granted, as set forth more below, for the bondholders who are not represented by Greenberg Traurig, and is denied as to the seven entities represented by Greenberg Traurig and those entities who identified themselves to Greenberg Traurig and who, thus, now can be identified.

I don't know the extent, if any, to which there are any substantive issues here, and I'm going to say more than once that I express no views as to those now, and I would be the first to acknowledge that I don't know the relevant facts with respect to the matters that were the expression of concern

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But the requirement that a proof of claim be filed, except where liability on the claim is acknowledged in both concept and amount, is fundamental. And because of the potential 502(d) issues here and the possibility, and it may be nothing more than a possibility, of other issues that I'm unaware of, I think we need to do this by the book. And that includes, among other things, each claimant, to the extent the claimant is known, providing all of the information that a proof of claim form, Official Form 10, requires and satisfying the requirements of Rule 9011 and other applicable law.

Mr. Zirinsky told me today that his clients certainly can file proofs of claim, and in his 2019, at paragraph 4, he told me the same thing, and, in fact, said that his clients would lay out that information in proofs of claim. I'm paraphrasing it. The exact language is in there, but I'm confident that that's close enough. So he can, and will, do what he said.

There has not been any discussion orally, though I read the papers, on the contention that their motion be regarded as an informal proof of claim. I have reviewed the papers, and I consider contentions of that character groundless. As the creditors' committee observed in its objection, an informal proof of claim can't be premeditated or used as a knowing substitute for a proper one. And it's

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inconceivable to me that I, or any other bankruptcy judge, would recognize an informal proof of claim knowing that the claimant had chosen not to file a proper proof of claim.

So the seven entities represented by Greenberg Traurig will file proofs of claim, and so will whatever entities communicated with Greenberg Traurig and who, obviously, became aware of the issue. Greenberg Traurig will, however, be authorized to file a group proof of claim, in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to the creditors' committee, for the unknown bondholders, which group proof of claim may be on information and belief and with blanks where necessary with due account for the fact that some information as to the absent bondholders may be unknown.

The bar date will be extended for a period of twenty days, subject to extension for another twenty days for cause, to allow the supplemental mechanics to be implemented for the absent bondholders. The existing proof of claim deadline will remain for those who are already known, including, most obviously, the seven entities represented by Greenberg Traurig. For the avoidance of doubt, when I say already known, because you have to know for each person which we're talking about, I'm talking about the seven entities listed on the 2019 and on the motion, I think they're the same, plus the, I think the expression I heard was one or two called us. Whatever the number who called were, they'll have to meet the existing

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deadline as well.

2 MR. ZIRINSKY: They do not have to.

THE COURT: I beg your pardon?

MR. ZIRINSKY: They will have an extension?

THE COURT: No. They can meet your extension, your

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MR. ZIRINSKY: Your Honor, if I just may? I don't want to interrupt, Your Honor. I don't represent those entities. I haven't taken on any representation of them, so I have to reach out to them, and I would ask the Court to include them in the extension.

THE COURT: Fair enough, Mr. Zirinsky. Give them the extended period as well.

MR. ZIRINSKY: Thank you.

THE COURT: All right. Lastly, Greenberg Traurig is ordered to file a new 2019 within five business days, providing all of the information for itself and each of the seven entities it represents, individually by entity. It's to be modeled on the 2019 that was submitted by Mr. Richman or his firm before the 363 hearing, when we dealt with this exact issue before. And the same rules that were held against Mr. Richman or applied to Mr. Richman, I guess I should say, will be applied here.

The revised 2019 is to include any information necessary to make statements made therein not misleading. I'm

going to look to the 2019 to be subject to the same types of standards that we apply 10(b)(5) to, and I don't want ambiguous language in there or language that suggests, by way of example, that as of November 9, 2009 Greenberg Traurig was retained by each of the entities set forth on those exhibits.

I will say once more that this is not an expression in any way of any views on the merits of the underlying claims allowance process.

I am so ordering the record because it may take a few days to paper this ruling. The creditors' committee is authorized and directed to settle an order in accordance with the foregone. Two business days notice. Am I correct that we have no further business today in GM?

MR. KAROTKIN: Yes, sir.

THE COURT: All right. We're adjourned.

(Proceedings concluded at 10:44 AM)

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