MOVANTS' EXHIBIT 26



Reply to: Bradley S. Shraiberg Direct: (561)443-0801

Email: bss@slp.law

April 28, 2022

Joanna Sahm, Personal Representative of the Estate of Walter E. Sahm, Jr. and Patricia A. Sahm 645 Sweetgrass Drive Blowing Rock, NC 28605

Re: Retention of Shraiberg Page, P.A. representing interests as a secured creditor in the Bernstein Family Realty, LLC involuntary bankruptcy

Dear Ms. Sahm:

We are very pleased that you have asked us ("Shraiberg Page, P.A." or the "Firm") to represent you as the Personal Representative of the Estate of Walter E. Sahm, Jr., and Patricia A. Sahm (together, the "Client") with regard to the above-referenced matter. The Firm will represent the Client on an hourly fee basis. This letter and the Standard Hourly Fee Addendum ("Addendum") which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference constitutes the entire agreement between the Client and the Firm, describes the terms of our relationship, and sets forth the general terms of our assistance to you in connection with the above-referenced matter. While this letter is primarily intended to deal with the legal services provided by the Firm to the Client in connection with the matter referenced above, these terms and conditions will also apply to any additional legal services that the Client asks the Firm to provide in connection with this or any additional legal matter unless both the Client and the Firm agree in writing to change one or more of those terms or conditions. This letter and the Addendum shall control all obligations set forth herein except as may be subsequently agreed upon in writing.

I will be the primary attorney taking responsibility ("Attorney in Charge") for your legal matter. My current standard hourly rate is \$600.00. With that said, the Firm makes every effort to utilize associates to draft documents and attend hearings whenever possible. Our associates and junior partners bill between \$350.00 and \$450.00 an hour. As you will note in the Addendum, our hourly rates are subject to change from time to time. As agreed, the Client will provide the Firm with a retainer in the amount of \$2,500.00.

It is the policy of this Firm to hold the fee retainer on account to be applied to the last month's billing, with all monthly bills rendered due and payable upon receipt. Once the initial retainer is exhausted, the Client will be required to replenish it and, under all circumstances, is responsible for all costs incurred on behalf of the Client. Throughout the course of the Firm's representation of the Client, the Client will remit such fees and costs on a timely basis as are invoiced from the Firm, based on the Client's understanding that payment within invoice terms is

a material condition of this relationship. To the extent the Firm's final fees are less than the balance of the Client's retainer, after deducting outstanding costs, if any, the balance shall be returned to the Client at the conclusion of the matter.

We will endeavor to serve the Client effectively and strive to represent its interests vigorously and efficiently. Any expressions on our part concerning the cost or outcome of your legal matters are expressions of our best professional judgment, but are not guarantees. Such opinions are necessarily limited by our knowledge of the facts and are based on the state of the law at the time they are expressed. For us to provide these services most effectively, we require you to disclose fully and accurately all pertinent facts and keep us apprised of all developments in the matter. Please cooperate with us and make yourself available to attend meetings, conferences, hearings, and other proceedings as appropriate.

Our Firm will provide legal services to you and bill you for those services in accordance with the attached Addendum. Please review this letter and the Addendum in their entirety. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the foregoing terms and conditions, or the terms of the Addendum, do not hesitate to contact me. Please acknowledge your understanding and approval of all the terms and conditions contained in this letter and the Addendum by signing and returning a copy of this letter to the undersigned together with a check for the retainer amount. We will begin our representation upon receipt of the executed copy of this letter and your check in the amount of \$2,500.00

Thank you for allowing us to be of service. We look forward to a successful relationship with you.

SHRAIBERG PAGE, P.A.

Bradley S. Shraiberg, Esq.

All the terms and conditions contained in this letter and the Addendum have been **REVIEWED**, **ACKNOWLEDGED AND ACCEPTED** by Client this 30 day of April 2022.

Joanna Sahm,

Personal Representative of the Estate of Walter E. Sahm, Jr.

Patricia A. Sahm

SHRAIBERG PAGE, P.A. STANDARD HOURLY FEE ADDENDUM

This Addendum sets forth the standards upon which the Firm will provide legal services to the Client and bill for those services. This Addendum accompanies a fee letter ("Accompanying Letter") addressed to a client or clients (jointly, severally and collectively, the "Client") and is part of the agreement between Shraiberg Page, P.A. (the "Firm") and the Client. This Addendum is incorporated by reference into the Accompanying Letter. To the extent any terms in the Accompanying Letter conflict with this Addendum, the provisions in the Accompanying Letter shall control.

- 1. **PROFESSIONAL UNDERTAKING:** The Attorney in Charge will have primary responsibility for the Client's representation and may, in his or her sole discretion, utilize other attorneys and legal assistants in the Firm who can accomplish the work. If at any time the Client has any questions, concerns or criticisms concerning the utilization of other attorneys or legal assistants, or any other matters, the Client should contact the Attorney in Charge.
- 2. **FEES:** The Firm takes into account many factors in billing for services rendered, and the Attorney in Charge will review all invoices before they are issued to ensure that the amount charged is appropriate. The principle factor is usually the Firm's schedule of hourly rates, and most invoices for services are the product of the hours worked multiplied by the Firm's hourly rates then in effect at the time the work is performed.

It is impossible to determine in advance how much time will be needed, since that depends on many things beyond our control. Any amounts we provide for the cost of all or part of our engagement are merely estimates.

Our schedule of hourly rates for attorneys and other members of our professional staff is based on a combination of years of experience, specialization in training and practice, level of professional attainment, and overhead costs. Currently, our hourly rates range from \$250.00 for legal assistants to \$600.00 for our most senior partners. We review our schedule of hourly rates annually, and may revise them at that time. If we change our rates, the new rates will go into effect immediately without special notice to the Client. Upon request, we will provide a client with the rates of those professional staff working on an engagement prior to issuing our invoice.

There may be circumstances where the work performed produces substantial value or a favorable result for the Client which may be far greater than originally anticipated. In such a situation, if the Firm and the Client then mutually agree, the Firm's fee could be greater than the hourly rates multiplied by the number of hours worked.

3. <u>COSTS</u>: It is usually necessary for us to incur, as agent for our clients, expenses for items such as filing fees, court reporter services, telephone conferencing services, deposition or hearing transcripts, travel, lodging, meals, substantial – out of the ordinary – photocopying volume and courier services. Many engagements also require substantial amounts of costly {4209/000/00538723}

ancillary services, such as outside duplication services, trial graphics, imaging and data basing of documents and fee based computerized legal research. The Client will be responsible for all of these types of costs (i.e., out of the ordinary or third-party costs) incurred on the Client's behalf. However, the Client will not be charged for routine internal costs, such as charges for long distance telephone calls, in-house routine photocopy services, faxes, valet parking, routine postage, etc. In order to allocate these expenses fairly and to keep our hourly rates as low as possible for those matters which do not involve such expenditures, these items are separately itemized on our statements as "costs advanced," "costs incurred," or "disbursements."

Major out-of-pocket expenses, including outside fees and expenses (such as experts, investigators, consultants, court reporters, etc.), will not be advanced by us unless special arrangements are made in advance. Said expenses will be billed directly or forwarded to the Client.

- 4. <u>BILLING</u>: The Firm's invoices generally will be prepared and mailed during the month following the month in which services are rendered and costs advanced. The Firm's invoices are due for payment upon receipt of the invoice. When the Firm represents a client in litigation and a money judgment is obtained, the Firm may, at its option, take the Firm's outstanding fees and disbursements from the money judgment. If the Firm represents the Client on more than one matter, the Firm reserves the right to apply balances from one matter against other matters.
- renders services. The Firm's retainer will be the amount set forth in the Accompanying Letter. As the retainer is used by the Firm for payment of ongoing fees, the Client will replace it upon request. If this is a litigation matter, the Firm's obligation to continue rendering legal services and advancing this matter to trial is dependent upon: (a) the Client being 100% current on all outstanding fee and cost obligations for a period beginning thirty (30) days prior to the first day of trial and continuing through the first day of trial; and (b) the payment by the Client at least thirty (30) days prior to the first day of a retainer equal to the amount estimated by the Attorney in Charge that will be incurred by the Client in fees and costs for the duration of the trial. If either of the foregoing terms is not complied with, the Client agrees that the Firm has the right to immediately withdraw from further representing the Client. The Client hereby agrees to release the Firm from any further obligation to proceed or from any liability that may result should the Firm elect to withdraw, as set forth in this paragraph.
- 6. **SECURITY FOR FEES AND COSTS:** Florida law provides the Firm with the right to impose a lien upon documents, money and other intangibles and materials coming into possession by the Firm to secure the payment of its fees and expenses. Client expressly grants the Firm with a lien on the retainer. This retaining lien, as well as appropriate charging liens, may be asserted by the Firm in appropriate circumstances.
- 7. <u>EMPLOYMENT OF EXPERTS OR ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONALS</u>: In the event the Firm deems it necessary to employ additional experts or professionals with specialized skills (e.g., accounting, surveying, appraisals, environmental audits, etc.), then, after {4209/000/00538723}

consultation with (and the consent of) the Client, additional experts or professionals may be employed by the Firm. The Firm will employ experts or professionals in the name of the Client or, at the discretion of the Firm, in the Firm's name on behalf of the Client. The Client is, in either event, responsible to pay the fees and costs of such experts or professionals in full upon receipt of the expert's or professional's statement. The Firm reserves the right to request and obtain an additional retainer to defray the fees and costs of experts or professionals employed in connection with a client matter. All fees and costs of additional experts or professionals shall be subject to the security, interest and other applicable provisions of this Standard Hourly Fee Addendum.

- 8. **PAYMENT BY OTHERS:** Sometimes another party agrees to pay our client's legal fees and costs, or a court may order our client's adversary to pay all or part of its legal fees and costs. However, in such case, the Client remains primarily liable for payment of all fees and costs. Any amounts received from others will be credited to the Client's account. The Firm has the right to receive the higher of an amount awarded by the court or its hourly fees.
- 9. **LATE PAYMENTS:** Payment of the Firm's billings is due upon receipt of the invoice. A monthly late fee or interest charge will be added for late payments of fees and/or costs. On the first day of each month, the balance of any invoice then unpaid for more than one (1) month will be subject to a charge of one and one-half percent (1-1/2%) per month. In no event will the rate be greater than permitted by applicable law. If invoices are not paid within the terms agreed between the Firm and the Client, the Firm will have the right to immediately withdraw from further representing the Client. The Client hereby agrees to release the Firm from any further obligation to proceed or from any liability that may result should the Firm elect to withdraw as set forth in this paragraph.
- 10. **NON-PAYMENT OF FEES AND COSTS:** In the event of failure to pay any statement rendered when due, you agree that we may cease all legal services on your behalf or immediately withdraw from further representing the Client. The Client hereby agrees to release the Firm from any further obligation to proceed or from any liability that may result should the Firm elect to withdraw as set forth in this paragraph.
- 11. <u>ATTORNEYS' FEES</u>: In the unlikely event that it is necessary to institute legal proceedings to collect the Firm's fees and costs, the Firm will also be entitled to a reasonable attorney's fee, paralegal fees and other costs of collection, even if such services and costs are provided by the Firm, including fees and costs for any arbitration, trial and appeal.
- 12. **TERMINATION:** The Client will have the right to terminate the Firm's representation at any time, but the provisions of the Accompanying Letter and this Standard Fee Addendum related to payment and collection of fees and disbursements shall survive any such termination. The Firm has a reciprocal right to terminate the Firm's representation, subject to its obligation to give the Client reasonable notice to arrange other representation.
- 13. **WAIVER:** A party's failure to insist on compliance or enforcement of any provision of this Agreement shall not affect the validity or enforceability or constitute a waiver of {4209/000/00538723}

future enforcement of that provision or of any other provision of this Agreement by that party or any other party.

- 14. <u>AMENDMENTS</u>: This Agreement may be amended at any time by mutual consent of the parties hereto, with any such amendment to be unenforceable unless in writing, signed by the Firm and the Client.
- 15. **APPLICABLE LAW:** This Agreement shall be governed for all purposes by the internal laws of the State of Florida, without regard to provisions applicable to conflict of laws. If any provision of this Agreement is declared void, such provision shall be deemed severed from this Agreement, and all other provisions shall remain in full force and effect.
- 16. **JURISDICTION AND VENUE:** Any dispute resolution proceeding arising from or relating to this Agreement shall be instituted only in Palm Beach County, Florida, the place where the Client agrees this Agreement shall be deemed to have been executed. Each party hereto submits to the exclusive jurisdiction of the State or Federal courts of the State of Florida.

REVIEWED, ACKNOWLEDGED AND ACCEPTED this ____ day of April 2022

Joanna Sahm,

Personal Representative of

the Estate of Walter E. Sahm, Jr.

Patricia A Sahm