# UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO EASTERN DIVISION

In re:	) Case Number:		
	) Chapter 13 Proceedings		
Debtor	) Judge		

# AGREED ORDER GRANTING MOTION TO PAY STUDENT LOAN INCOME DRIVEN REPAYMENT THROUGH CHAPTER 13 PLAN

- 1) Student Loan Debt Nondischargeable In accordance with 11 U.S.C. § 523(a)(8), this Chapter 13 plan of reorganization ("Chapter 13 Plan") cannot and does not provide for a discharge, in whole or in part, of the Debtor's federal student loan debt authorized pursuant to Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended ("Federal Student Loan(s)").
- 2) Identification of Federal Student Loan Debt:
- a) Only Federal Student Loans that are currently in an income-driven repayment ("IDR") plan, or which Debtor is eligible to repay under an IDR plan during the pendency of this Chapter 13 case, are listed in subsection (2)(b), below. Debtor could owe other student loan obligations. The special provisions contained in this section 5.3 of the Chapter 13 Plan only apply to the Federal Student Loans listed in subsection (2)(b), below.
- b) As of [Insert date bankruptcy petition was filed], the Debtor's Federal Student Loan debt includes the following Title IV Student Loans:

<u>Title IV Loan Holder Date Loan Obtained Type of Loan (Direct, FFEL, Subsidized, Unsubsidized) Original Loan Amount</u>

c) The Federal Student Loans identified in subsection (2)(b), above, are held by the United States Department of Education ("Education") and / or [insert here other Title IV Student Loan Holders if applicable], pursuant to Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, 20 U.S.C. 1070, et seq. Hereinafter, Education and other Title IV Student Loan Holders are referred to individually and collectively as "Title IV Loan Holder."

#### 3) Federal Student Loans not in Default

As of [Insert date bankruptcy petition was filed], the Debtor is not in default, as defined in 34 CFR 682.200(b) or 685.102, as applicable, on any Federal Student Loans listed in subsection (2)(b) of this Section.

## 4) Proof of Claim

The Debtor affirms that a timely proof of claim has been filed with the Bankruptcy Court for each Federal Student Loan listed in subsection (2)(b) of this Section. If a Title IV Loan Holder has not filed a proof of claim for a Federal Student Loan listed by the Debtor in subsection 2(b), the Debtor will file a proof of claim for that Federal Student Loan within fifteen (15) days in advance of the date scheduled for the §1324 confirmation hearing on this Chapter 13 Plan. Such proof of claim is subject to later amendment by the Title IV Loan Holder

- 5) Continuation of Pre-Petition Federal Student Loan IDR Plan
- a) During the course of this Chapter 13 bankruptcy case until its dismissal or closure, the Debtor may continue participating in the IDR plan in which the Debtor participated prepetition and for which Debtor otherwise continues to be qualified as determined by the Title IV Loan Holder.

i)	The Debtor's mo	onthly IDR plan	payment is, as	s of the date of	Debtor's bankruptcy	petition,
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- ii) The Debtor's monthly IDR plan payment is due to the Title IV Loan Holder on the date the Chapter 13 Trustee makes the monthly disbursement to creditors.
  - b) Debtor's Monthly Payments for Pre-Petition IDR Plan
    - i. Until confirmation of this Chapter 13 Plan, the Debtor will make full and timely IDR plan payments directly to the Title IV Loan Holder identified in subsection (2)(b) of this Section.
    - ii. In order for the Chapter 13 Trustee to transfer timely the Debtor's first post-confirmation payment on the IDR plan, the Debtor must remit that IDR plan payment to the Chapter 13 Trustee in advance of the first post-confirmation payment due date, and in good funds (money order, bank check, TFS payment, or payroll deduction), so as not to delay the Chapter 13 Trustee's transfer of those funds to the Title IV Loan Holder.
    - iii. The Title IV Loan Holder will be paid through the Chapter 13 plan as provided in section 5.3 of the Debtor's Chapter 13 plan.
    - iv. Following confirmation of this Chapter 13 Plan and in addition to the Debtor's

- scheduled Chapter 13 Plan payment to the Chapter 13 Trustee's office, the Debtor will remit to the Chapter 13 Trustee the monthly IDR plan payment. The Chapter 13 Trustee will transfer the IDR plan payment funds to the Title IV Loan Holder.
- v. The Debtor must remit each post-confirmation IDR plan payment to the Chapter 13 Trustee in advance of the IDR payment due date, and in good funds (money order, bank check, TFS payment, or payroll deduction), so as not to delay the Chapter 13 Trustee's transfer of the IDR plan payment to the Title IV Loan Holder.
- vi. If the Debtor does not timely or fully remit sufficient funds to the Chapter 13 Trustee for Debtor's monthly IDR plan payment, the Chapter 13 Trustee is not required or responsible to transfer funds to the Title IV Loan Holder from the Debtor's general bankruptcy estate for that monthly payment. The Chapter 13 Trustee is not responsible for the Debtor's late or missing IDR plan payments caused by Debtor's failure to remit funds to the Chapter 13 Trustee for transfer of the IDR plan payment by the Chapter 13 Trustee's office.
- vii. The Title IV Loan Holder shall modify the Debtor's monthly IDR plan payment duedate to accommodate the Chapter 13 Trustee's disbursement schedule. All payments processed by the Chapter 13 Trustee shall be deemed timely, and the Debtor(s) will be in compliance with the income driven repayment plan.
- viii. The Chapter 13 Trustee may request the Title IV Loan Holder establish an automated clearinghouse (ACH) account with the Chapter 13 Trustee's office for deposit of the Debtor's monthly IDR plan payment directly into the Title IV Loan Holder's account.

## 6) Waivers

- a. Debtor expressly acknowledges and agrees that regarding an application for initial participation and/ or continuing participation in an IDR plan while this Chapter 13 case is open, Debtor waives application of the automatic stay provisions of 11 U.S.C. § 362(a) to all loan servicing, administrative actions, and communications concerning the IDR plan by the Title IV Loan Holder, including but not limited to: determination of qualification for enrollment in an IDR plan; loan servicing; transmittal to the Debtor of monthly loan statements reflecting account balances and payments due; transmittal to the Debtor of other loan and plan documents; transmittal of correspondence (paper and electronic) to the Debtor; requests for documents or information from the Debtor; telephonic and live communications with the Debtor concerning the IDR plan application, payments, or balances due; transmittal to the Debtor of IDR participation documentation; payment information; notices of late payment due and delinquency; default prevention activities; and other administrative communications and actions concerning the Debtor's IDR plan.
- b. Debtor expressly waives any and all causes of action and claims against the Title IV Loan Holder for any alleged violation of the automatic stay under 11 U.S.C. § 362(a) with regard to and in consideration of the benefits of enrollment and participation in an IDR plan.

## 7) Annual Certification of Income and Family Size

Pursuant to 34 CFR 685.209, 34 CFR 685.221, or 34 CFR 682.215, as applicable, the Debtor shall annually certify (or as otherwise required by the Title IV Loan Holder) the

Debtor's income and family size, and shall notify the Chapter 13 Trustee of any adjustment (increase or decrease) to the Debtor's monthly IDR plan payment resulting from annual certification.

- a. Debtor expressly acknowledges and agrees that while this Chapter 13 case is open, Debtor waives application of the automatic stay provisions of 11 U.S.C. § 362(a) to all loan servicing, administrative actions, communications, and determinations concerning the certification of income and family size taken or effected during and for the certification process by the Title IV Loan Holder, including but not limited to: administrative communications and actions from the Title IV Loan Holder for the purpose of initiating certification; requests for documentation from the Debtor; determination of qualification for participation; and any action or communication listed in subsection (6) above, which is incorporated herein by reference.
- b. Debtor expressly waives any and all causes of action and claims against the Title IV Loan Holder for any alleged violation of the automatic stay under 11 U.S.C. § 362(a) associated with the IDR plan certification process, in consideration of the voluntary participation of and benefits to the Debtor of continued participation in an IDR plan.
- c. If Debtor's annual certification of income and family size for an IDR plan results in changes to the Debtor's required monthly IDR plan payment amount, the Debtor will notify the Chapter 13 Trustee within seven (7) days of Debtor's receipt of notice from the Title IV Loan Holder of the revised monthly IDR plan payment amount. Either the Debtor or the Chapter 13 Trustee may file an 11 U.S.C. §1329(a) motion to modify this Chapter 13 plan to reflect the Debtor's revised monthly IDR plan payment.
- d. If the Debtor fails to satisfy the requirements for annual certification for continued participation in the IDR plan, the Title IV Loan Holder will recalculate the monthly repayment amount according to the requirements of the IDR program.
  - (i) Debtor expressly acknowledges and agrees that while this Chapter 13 case is open the Title IV Loan Holder's recalculation of the Debtor's repayment amount does not violate the automatic stay provisions of 11 U.S.C. § 362(a) as set forth in subsections (6) and (8) of this Section.
  - (ii) Debtor expressly waives any and all causes of action and claims against the Title IV Loan Holder for any alleged violation of the automatic stay under 11 U.S.C. § 362(a) with regard to the recalculation of Debtor's Federal Student Loan repayment obligation while this Chapter 13 bankruptcy case is open.

### 8) Discontinuation of Participation in IDR

- a. If during the course of this Chapter 13 case the Debtor no longer desires to participate in the IDR plan and seeks administrative forbearance status on the Federal Student Loans identified in subsection (2)(b) of this Section, the Debtor must contact the Title IV Loan Holder in writing by letter to inform the Title IV Loan Holder of this decision.
- b. If during the course of this Chapter 13 case the Debtor ceases making payments on the Federal Student Loan, Debtor shall contact and inform the Title IV Loan Holder in

writing by letter. Based on the Debtor's information, the Title IV Loan Holder will place the Federal Student Loan into an appropriate status, such as administrative forbearance, and will stay collection action until after this Chapter 13 case is closed.

- c. If during the course of this Chapter 13 case the Debtor ceases making payments on the Federal Student Loan without notice to the Title IV Loan Holder, Debtor will incur a delinquency and may default on the Federal Student Loan as defined in CFR 34 CFR 682.200(b) and 685.102.
  - i. Debtor expressly acknowledges and agrees that while this Chapter 13 case is open the Title IV Loan Holder's administrative communication and actions on the defaulted debt, which are the routine administrative processes that occur upon delinquency and default on Federal Student Loans, do not violate the automatic stay provisions of 11 U.S.C. § 362(a) as set forth in subsections (6) and (8) of this Section.
  - ii. The Title IV Loan Holder's administrative communication and actions do not include any form of active debt collection.
- d. Debtor expressly waives any and all causes of action and claims against the Title IV Loan Holder for any alleged violation of 11 U.S.C. § 362(a) with regard to the default status of Debtor's Federal Student Loan based on Debtor's non-payment while this Chapter 13 case is open, including communications with, correspondence to, or transmittal of statements to the Debtor, and telephonic and email contact with the Debtor, concerning and resulting from Debtor's Federal Student Loan default.
- 9) Opportunity for Title IV Loan Holder to Cure

Debtor first shall give notice to the Title IV Loan Holder in writing by letter of any alleged action by the Title IV Loan Holder concerning the Federal Student Loans and IDR plan that is contrary to the provisions of this Section and or 11 U.S.C. § 362(a). Debtor shall not institute any action in the Bankruptcy Court against the Title IV Loan Holder under 11 U.S.C. § 362(a) and (d) until after the Title IV Loan Holder has been given a reasonable opportunity to review, and, if appropriate, correct such actions. Notices provided to the Title IV Loan Holder under this subsection must include a description or identification of the actions that Debtor alleges to be in violation of this Section of the Chapter 13 Plan and/or 11 U.S.C. § 362(a).

10) Notice Any Notice required to be given to the Title IV Loan Holder under this Section must include the Debtors' name(s), Debtor's bankruptcy case number and Chapter 13 designation, and identification of the Federal Student Loans, and must be made in writing by letter to:

## Approved by:

### /S/ Lauren A. Helbling

LAUREN A. HELBLING (#0038934) Chapter 13 Trustee 200 Public Square, Suite 3860 Cleveland OH 44114-2321 Phone (216) 621-4268 Fax (216) 621-4806 ch13trustee@ch13cleve.com

#### /S/

Debtor(s) Counsel, Ohio Reg. No. Address City, State, Zip Telephone Fax Email

#### /S/

Suzana K. Koch Assistant United States Attorney Office of the United States Attorney Northern District of Ohio United States Court House 801 West Superior Ave., Suite 400 Cleveland, Ohio 44113

#### **SERVICE LIST**

A true and correct copy of the Agreed Order was served:

Via the Court's Electronic Case Filing System on these entities and individuals who are listed on the Court's Electronic Mail Notice List:

Attorney for Debtor (via Electronic Mail)

Suzana K. Koch, Assistant United States Attorney (via ECF at suzana.koch@usdoj.gov)

Office of the US Trustee (served via ECF)

Lauren A. Helbling, Chapter 13 Trustee (served via ECF)

And by regular U.S. mail, postage prepaid, on:

Debtor Name, Address, City, State, ZIP

Creditors: