IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

In re:

CBL & ASSOCIATES PROPERTIES, INC., et al,

Debtors.

Chapter 11

Case No. 20-35226 (DRJ)

) (Jointly Administered)

DEBTORS' THIRD OMNIBUS OBJECTION TO CERTAIN PROOFS OF CLAIM (EQUITY CLAIMS)

This is an objection to your claim. The objecting party is asking the Court to disallow the claim that you filed in this bankruptcy case. If you do not file a response within 30 days after the objection was served on you your claim may be disallowed without a hearing.

Represented parties should act through their attorney.

If you object to the relief requested, you must respond in writing. Unless otherwise directed by the Court, you must file your response electronically at <u>https://ecf.txsb.uscourts.gov/</u> within thirty days from the date this motion was filed. Otherwise, the Court may treat the Objection as unopposed and sustain the relief requested.

This Objection seeks to modify certain proofs of claim. Claimants receiving this Objection should locate their names and claims on <u>Exhibit A</u> to the Proposed Order attached to this Objection.

The above-captioned debtors (collectively, the "Debtors") represent as follows in support

of this omnibus claims objection (this "Objection"), and submit the Declaration of Mark Renzi in

Support of the Debtors' Second Omnibus Objection to Certain Proofs of Claim (Equity Claims)

attached hereto as **Exhibit 1** (the "Renzi Declaration"):

Relief Requested

1. The Debtors seek entry of the proposed order (the "<u>Order</u>"), substantially in the form of the Order filed with this Objection, pursuant to § 502(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, and

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Rule 3007 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the "<u>Bankruptcy Rules</u>"), disallowing and expunging the claims identified on <u>Exhibit A</u> to the Order (collectively, the "<u>Equity</u> <u>Claims</u>") as such claim is based on an interest in, not a claim against Debtors, and the confirmed Plan provides for treatment for equity ownership in one or more of Debtors.¹

Jurisdiction, Venue, and Procedural Background

2. The United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Texas (the "<u>Court</u>") has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1334. This matter is a core proceeding within the meaning of 28 U.S.C. § 157(b). The Debtors confirm their consent, pursuant to rule 7008 of the Bankruptcy Rules, to the entry of a final order.

3. Venue is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409.

4. The relief requested herein is sought pursuant to §§ 105(a) and 502(b) of title 11 of the United States Code (the "<u>Bankruptcy Code</u>"), Bankruptcy Rule 3007, and Rules 9013-1 and 3007-1 of the Bankruptcy Local Rules for the Southern District of Texas (the "<u>Bankruptcy Local Rules</u>").

5. On November 1, 2020 and continuing on November 2, 2020 (the "<u>Petition Date</u>"), each Debtor filed a voluntary petition for relief under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. A detailed description of the facts and circumstances of these chapter 11 cases is set forth in the *Declaration of Mark Renzi in Support of Debtors' Chapter 11 Petitions and First Day Motions* (the "<u>First Day Declaration</u>") [Docket No. 3].

6. On November 3, 2020, the Court entered orders [Docket Nos. 96, 102–119] authorizing procedural consolidation and joint administration of these chapter 11 cases pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 1015(b). On November 13, 2020, the United States Trustee for the Southern

¹ "<u>Plan</u>" means the *Third Amended Joint Chapter 11 Plan of CBL & Associates Properties, Inc. and Its Affiliated Debtors (with Technical Modifications)* [Docket No. 1396], as supplemented from time to time and together with any exhibits, amendments, or supplements thereto.

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District of Texas (the "<u>U.S. Trustee</u>") appointed an official committee of unsecured creditors pursuant to section 1102 of the Bankruptcy Code (the "<u>Committee</u>") [Docket No. 204].

7. On May 26, 2021, the Court entered an Amended Order (I) Approving Disclosure Statement and Form and Manner of Notice of Disclosure Statement Hearing, (II) Establishing Solicitation and Voting Procedures, (III) Scheduling Confirmation Hearing, (IV) Establishing Notice and Objection Procedures for Confirmation of the Proposed Plan, (V) Approving Notice Procedures for the Assumption and Assignment of Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases, and (VI) Granting Related Relief [Docket No. 1168] approving the disclosure statement for solicitation.

8. On August 9, 2021, the Debtors filed their *Third Amended Joint Chapter 11 Plan* of CBL & Associates Properties, Inc. and Its Affiliated Debtors (with Technical Modifications) [Docket No. 1369] (the "<u>Plan</u>").

9. Debtors are not aware of the identity of many equity ownership claimants as agents and fiduciaries purchased equity ownership in Debtors for the benefit certain of equity ownership claimants.

10. Articles 4.9 - 4.12 of the Plan provides for treatment of equity owners of Debtors as following the Effective Date (collectively, the treatment shall be referred to herein as the "Equity Treatment"):

(a) **Existing LP Preferred Units**²: On the Effective Date, the Existing LP Preferred Units shall be cancelled (or otherwise eliminated) and shall receive no distribution under the Plan. Plan, Art. 4.9.

(b) **Existing LP Common Units**: On the Effective Date, the Existing LP Common Units shall be cancelled (or otherwise eliminated) and each holder of an Existing LP Common Unit shall, at such holder's election, either (i) receive a percentage of New LP Units, issued in accordance with the Restructuring Transactions, equal to the

² Defined terms not otherwise described herein shall have the meaning as attributed thereto in the Plan.

product of (A) 5.5% and (B) the percentage equal to the number of Existing LP Common Units that such holder elects to exchange for New LP Units divided by the number of Existing LP Common Units issued and outstanding immediately prior to the Plan Distributions or (ii)(A) be deemed to have converted or redeemed, as applicable, such holder's Existing LP Common Unit(s), effective the day prior to the Distribution Record Date, in exchange for Existing REIT Common Stock on terms consistent with the applicable prepetition agreements for the Existing LP Common Units and (B) receive a Pro Rata2 share of the Existing Common Equity Recovery Pool, subject to reduction in accordance with section 4.14(a) of the Plan, if applicable; provided that, if the Bankruptcy Court does not approve the recovery to holders of Existing LP Common Units, Existing REIT Preferred Stock, and Existing REIT Common Stock, the New Common Stock set forth in section 4.10(a)(ii) of the Plan shall be added to the Unsecured Claims Recovery Pool and the New LP Units set forth in section 4.10(a)(i) of the Plan shall not be issued; provided, however, that the value otherwise allocable to holders of Existing LP Common Units under section 4.10(a) of the Plan shall be reduced, on a dollar-for-dollar basis utilizing the equity value implied by the mid-point of the Debtors' valuation set forth in connection with confirmation, by any costs incurred by or attributed to the Debtors' Estates in connection with any litigation or objection prosecuted after the Bankruptcy Court's approval of the Disclosure Statement by one or more holders of Existing LP Common Units prior to or in connection with the Confirmation Hearing as such costs are determined by the Bankruptcy Court in connection with confirmation of the Plan; provided, further, that, to the extent that no holder of Existing LP Common Units objects to confirmation of the Plan, the recovery to holders of Interests in Class 10 on account of such Interests shall not be reduced notwithstanding any objection(s) by holders of Claims or Interests in another Class. Further, notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, even if Class 10 votes, as a class, to accept the Plan, the rights of holders of Existing LP Common Units to object to confirmation of the Plan on the grounds that the Plan does not comply with section 1129(b)(2) of the Bankruptcy Code are preserved, and the Debtors reserve all rights to dispute any such objection(s) on any grounds other than on the basis that such party does not have a legal right to prosecute such an objection as a matter of law. Plan, Art. 4.10.

(c) **Existing REIT Preferred Stock**: On the Effective Date, the Existing REIT Preferred Stock shall be cancelled (or otherwise eliminated), and, on the Effective Date, or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter, each holder of Allowed Existing REIT Preferred Stock shall receive, in full and final satisfaction of such Interest, such holder's Pro Rata share of a percentage of the New Common Stock, issued in accordance with the Restructuring Transactions, equal to 5.5% divided by the REIT LP Ownership Percentage, subject to dilution by the Management Incentive Plan and subsequent issuances of common equity (including securities or instruments convertible into common equity) by the REIT from time to time after the Effective Date, as set forth herein, and subject to reduction in accordance with section 4.14(a) of the Plan, if applicable; provided that, if the Bankruptcy Court does not approve the recovery to holders of Existing LP Common Units, Existing REIT Preferred Stock, and Existing REIT Common Stock, the New Common Stock set forth in section 4.11(a) of the Plan shall be added to the Unsecured Claims Recovery Pool; provided, however, that the value

otherwise allocable to holders of Existing REIT Preferred Stock under section 4.11(a) of the Plan shall be reduced, on a dollar-for-dollar basis utilizing the equity value implied by the mid-point of the Debtors' valuation set forth in connection with confirmation, by any costs incurred by or attributed to the Debtors' Estates in connection with any litigation or objection prosecuted after the Bankruptcy Court's approval of the Disclosure Statement by one or more holders of Existing REIT Preferred Stock prior to or in connection with the Confirmation Hearing as such costs are determined by the Bankruptcy Court in connection with confirmation of the Plan; provided, further, that, to the extent that no holder of Existing REIT Preferred Stock objects to confirmation of the Plan, the recovery to holders of Interests in Class 11 on account of such Interests shall not be reduced notwithstanding any objection(s) by holders of Claims or Interests in another Class. Further, notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, even if Class 11 votes, as a class, to accept the Plan, the rights of holders of Existing REIT Preferred Stock to object to confirmation of the Plan on the grounds that the Plan does not comply with section 1129(b)(2) of the Bankruptcy Code are preserved, and the Debtors reserve all rights to dispute any such objection(s) on any grounds other than on the basis that such party does not have a legal right to prosecute such an objection as a matter of law. Plan, Art. 4.11.

Existing REIT Common Stock: On the Effective Date, the Existing (d)REIT Common Stock shall be cancelled (or otherwise eliminated), and, on the Effective Date, or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter, each holder of Allowed Existing REIT Common Stock shall receive, in full and final satisfaction of such Interest, such holder's Pro Rata3 share of the Existing Common Equity Recovery Pool, subject to reduction in accordance with section 4.14(a) of the Plan, if applicable; provided that, if the Bankruptcy Court does not approve the recovery to holders of Existing LP Common Units, Existing REIT Preferred Stock, and Existing REIT Common Stock, the Existing Common Equity Recovery Pool shall be added to the Unsecured Claims Recovery Pool; provided, however, that the value otherwise allocable to holders of Existing REIT Common Stock under section 4.12(a) of the Plan shall be reduced, on a dollar-for-dollar basis utilizing the equity value implied by the mid-point of the Debtors' valuation set forth in connection with confirmation, by any costs incurred by or attributed to the Debtors' Estates in connection with any litigation or objection prosecuted after the Bankruptcy Court's approval of the Disclosure Statement by one or more holders of Existing REIT Common Stock prior to or in connection with the Confirmation Hearing as such costs are determined by the Bankruptcy Court in connection with confirmation of the Plan; provided, further, that, to the extent that no holder of Existing REIT Common Stock objects to confirmation of the Plan, the recovery to holders of Interests in Class 12 on account of such Interests shall not be reduced notwithstanding any objection(s) by holders of Claims or Interests in another Class. Further, notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, even if Class 12 votes, as a class, to accept the Plan, the rights of holders of Existing REIT Common Stock to object to confirmation of the Plan on the grounds that the Plan does not comply with section 1129(b)(2) of the Bankruptcy Code are preserved, and the Debtors reserve all rights to dispute any such objection(s) on any grounds other than on the basis that such party does not have a legal right to prosecute such an objection as a matter of law. Plan, Art. 4.12.

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11. On August 11, 2021, this Court issued its *Proposed Findings of Fact, Conclusions* of Law, and Order (I) Confirming Third Amended Joint Chapter 11 Plan of CBL & Associates Properties, Inc. and Its Affiliated Debtors and (II) Granting Related Relief [Docket No. 1397] (the "<u>Confirmation Order</u>").

12. The Plan Effective Date occurred on November 1, 2021 and Debtors emerged from bankruptcy at such time.

The Claims Reconciliation Process

13. On February 23, 2021, the Court entered the Order (1) Establishing Deadline to File Proofs of Claim and (11) Approving form and Manner of Notice Thereof [Docket No. 902] (the "<u>Bar Date Order</u>"), establishing certain dates and deadlines for filing proofs of claims in these chapter 11 cases (collectively, the "<u>Proofs of Claims</u>"). The Court established: (a) March 21, 2021, at 5:00 p.m., prevailing Central Time, as the deadline for all non-governmental entities holding or wishing to assert a "claim" (as defined in § 101(5) of the Bankruptcy Code) against any of the Debtors that arose before the Petition Date to file a proof of such claim in writing (the "<u>General Bar Date</u>"); and (b) April 30, 2021 at 5:00 p.m., prevailing Central Time, as the deadline for all governmental units holding or wishing to assert a "claim" (as defined in § 101(5) of the Bankruptcy Code) against any of the Debtors that arose before the Petition Date to file a proof of such claim in writing (the "General Bar Date"); and (b) April 30, 2021 at 5:00 p.m., prevailing Central Time, as the deadline for all governmental units holding or wishing to assert a "claim" (as defined in § 101(5) of the Bankruptcy Code) against any of the Debtors that arose before the Petition Date to file a proof of such claim in writing (the "<u>Governmental Bar Date</u>", and collectively with the General Bar Date, the "<u>Bar Dates</u>").³

14. On December 31, 2020, the Debtors filed their respective Schedules D, E, and F of the schedules of assets and liabilities (the "<u>Original Schedules D, E, and F</u>") pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 1007(b). On December 31, 2020, the Debtors filed their respective

³ For clarity, the Bar Date Order further established the deadline by which claims arising from the Debtors' rejection of unexpired leases and executory contracts and claims related to the amendment of the Debtors' Schedules must be filed. Each of such deadlines are incorporated into the defined term "Bar Dates" by this reference.

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Schedules A/B, G, and H, and statements of financial affairs (the "Original Schedules A/B, G, and H, and SOFA").

15. To date, over 1,583 Proofs of Claims have been filed against, or scheduled by, the Debtors, totaling over \$61.2 billion in the aggregate for liquidated amounts. The Debtors and their advisors have been working diligently to review the Equity Claims, including any supporting documentation filed therewith. The Debtors and their advisors believe that the Equity Claims specified in Exhibit A to the Order should disallowed.

Objection

16. The Debtors object to the Equity Claims identified on **Exhibit A** to the Order. Debtors object to the Equity Claims because each such claim is asserted on account of equity interests held by the claimant and is therefore not a "claim" as defined in section 101(5) of the Bankruptcy Code. Further, the confirmed Plan provides for Equity Treatment for equity ownership in one or more of Debtors. *See* Plan, Art. IV, 4.9-4.12. Finally, Debtors are not aware of the identity of many equity ownership claimants as agents and fiduciaries purchased equity ownership in Debtors for the benefit certain of equity ownership claimants. Such persons would not hold a direct legal interest in the Debtors, and any beneficial interest would be satisfied by the distribution under the Plan through to the record holder.

Equity Claims

17. Section 502 of the Bankruptcy Code provides, in pertinent part, as follows: "[a] claim or interest, proof of which is filed under § 501 of [the Bankruptcy Code], is deemed allowed, unless a party in interest . . . objects." 11 U.S.C. § 502. Section 502(b)(1) provides that a court shall not allow a claim if "such claim is not timely filed" *See* 11 U.S C. § 502(b)(9). Moreover, Bankruptcy Rule 3007 provides certain grounds upon which "objections to more than one claim may be joined in an omnibus objection," which includes when "the objections are

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based solely on the grounds that the claims should be disallowed, in whole or in part, because . . . they have been satisfied or released during the case in accordance with the [Bankruptcy] Code, applicable rules, or a court order." Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3007(d).

18. As set forth in Bankruptcy Rule 3001(f), a properly executed and filed proof of claim constitutes *prima facie* evidence of the validity and the amount of the claim under § 502(a) of the Bankruptcy Code.⁴ A proof of claim loses the presumption of prima facie validity under Bankruptcy Rule 3001(f) if an objecting party refutes at least one of the allegations that are essential to the claim's legal sufficiency. Once such an allegation is refuted, the burden reverts to the claimant to prove the validity of its claim by a preponderance of the evidence.⁵ Despite this shifting burden during the claim objection process, "the ultimate burden of proof always lies with the claimant."⁶

19. As set forth in the Renzi Declaration, the Debtors have reviewed the Equity Claims identified on <u>Exhibit A</u> to the Order and do not believe that the Equity Claims are liabilities of the Debtors, the confirmed Plan provides for Equity Treatment for equity ownership in one or more of Debtors, and Debtors are not aware of the identity of many equity ownership claimants as agents and fiduciaries purchased equity ownership in Debtors for the benefit certain of equity ownership claimants. Such persons would not hold a direct legal interest in the Debtors, and any beneficial interest would be satisfied by the distribution under the Plan through to the record holder.

⁴ See, e.g., In re Tran, 351 B.R. 440, 444 (Bankr. S.D. Tex. 2006), *aff'd*, 369 B.R. 312 (S.D. Tex. 2007) (holding that a properly filed proof of claim is *prima facie* evidence of the validity and amount of the claim).

⁵ See In re Fidelity Holding Co., Ltd., 837 F.2d 696, 698 (5th Cir. 1988) ("If, however, evidence rebutting the claim is brought forth, then the claimant must produce additional evidence to "prove the validity of the claim by a preponderance of the evidence" (quoting *In re WHET, Inc.*, 33 B.R. 424, 437 (D. Mass. 1983)).

⁶ Id.

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20. Generally, the Debtors are not liable for the Equity Claims because such claims are asserted on account of interests in the Debtors held by the claimants and are therefore not "claims" as defined in section 101(5) of the Bankruptcy Code. Further, the confirmed Plan provides for Equity Treatment for equity ownership in one or more of Debtors. *See* Plan, Art. IV, 4.10 - 4.12. Finally, Debtors are not aware of the identity of many equity ownership claimants as agents and fiduciaries purchased equity ownership in Debtors for the benefit certain of equity ownership claimants. Such persons would not hold a direct legal interest in the Debtors, and any beneficial interest would be satisfied by the distribution under the Plan through to the record holder.

21. Failure to disallow the Equity Claims could result in the relevant Claimants receiving an unwarranted recovery against the Debtors to the detriment of other similarly situated creditors. Elimination of these Equity Claims will enable the Debtors to maintain a more accurate claims register and will not prejudice the Claimants.

Reservation of Rights

22. This Objection is limited to the grounds stated herein. It is without prejudice to the rights of the Debtors to object to any claim on any ground whatsoever. The Debtors expressly reserve all further substantive or procedural objections. Nothing contained herein or any actions taken pursuant to such relief is intended or should be construed as: (a) an admission as to the validity of any prepetition claim against a Debtor entity; (b) a waiver of the Debtors' right to dispute any prepetition claim on any grounds; (c) a promise or requirement to pay any prepetition claim; (d) an implication or admission that any particular claim is of a type specified or defined in this Objection or any order granting the relief requested by this Objection; (e) a request or authorization to assume any prepetition agreement, contract, or lease pursuant to § 365

of the Bankruptcy Code; or (f) a waiver of the Debtors' rights under the Bankruptcy Code or any other applicable law.

Separate Contested Matter

23. To the extent that a response is filed regarding any Equity Claim and the Debtors are unable to resolve any such response, each such Equity Claim, and the Objection as it pertains to such Equity Claim, will constitute a separate contested matter as contemplated by Bankruptcy Rule 9014. The Debtors request that any order entered by the Court regarding an objection be deemed a separate order with respect to each proof of claim.

<u>Notice</u>

24. Notice of the hearing on the relief requested in this Motion will be provided by the Debtors in accordance and compliance with Bankruptcy Rules 4001 and 9014, as well as the Bankruptcy Local Rules, and is sufficient under the circumstances. The Debtors will provide notice to parties-in-interest, including: (a) the U.S. Trustee for the Southern District of Texas; (b) holders of the Equity Claims, and (c) any party that has requested notice pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 2002. In light of the nature of the relief requested, no other or further notice need be given.

WHEREFORE, the Debtors request that the Court enter an Order granting the relief requested herein, and such other and further relief as is just and equitable.

Respectfully Submitted,

HUSCH BLACKWELL LLP

By: /s/ Buffey E. Klein

Buffey E. Klein Texas State Bar No. 24032515 1900 N. Pearl, Suite 1800 Dallas, TX 75201 (214) 999-6100 (214) 999-6170 (fax) buffey.klein@huschblackwell.com PROPOSED COUNSEL FOR DEBTORS

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on November 23, 2021, a true and correct copy of the foregoing document was served by the Electronic Case Filing System for the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Texas, and will be served as set forth in the Affidavit of Service to be filed by the Debtors' claims, noticing, and solicitation agent.

/s/ Buffey E. Klein Buffey E. Klein Case 20-35226 Document 1602 Filed in TXSB on 11/23/21 Page 12 of 20

EXHIBIT 1

Renzi Declaration

IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

In re:

CBL & ASSOCIATES PROPERTIES, INC., et al,

Debtors.

Chapter 11

Case No. 20-35226 (DRJ)

(Jointly Administered)

DECLARATION OF MARK A. RENZI IN SUPPORT OF THE DEBTORS' SECOND OMNIBUS OBJECTION TO CERTAIN PROOFS OF CLAIM (EQUITY CLAIMS)

I, Mark A. Renza, hereby declare under penalty of perjury:

1. I am a Managing Director of Berkeley Research Group, LLC ("BRG"). BRG has been retained by the above-captioned debtors (collectively, the "<u>Debtors</u>") as financial advisor in connection with these chapter 11 cases. BRG is a global consulting firm that helps leading organizations advance in three key areas: disputes and investigations, corporate finance, and performance improvement and advisory. I have more than 25 years of business experience, with approximately 16 years of financial consulting experience, including liquidity and capital structure assessment, debt and equity restructuring, advice, and identification of reorganization alternatives. I have provided restructuring services on more than 35 engagements in both out-ofcourt workout situations and in-court reorganizations.

2. I am generally familiar with the Debtors' day-to-day operations, financing arrangements, business affairs, and books and records that reflect, among other things, the Debtors' liabilities and the amount thereof owed to their creditors as of the Petition Date, as well as Debtors' restructuring efforts and confirmed Chapter 11 Plan of Reorganization [Dkt. No. 1369] (the "<u>Plan</u>"). I am also familiar with the terms and provisions of the Debtors' Disclosure

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[Dkt No. 1164] and Plan. I participated directly in due diligence, discussions, and analysis related to the Disclosure Statement and Plan. I, along with the employees of BRG who report to me, prepared the Liquidation Analysis (as defined below) based upon information provided to BRG by the Debtors and reviewed by other professionals retained by the Debtors. Members of my team and I have also assisted the Debtors in reviewing the terms, conditions, and potential impact of the transactions contemplated by the Plan. Further, I have read the *Debtors' Second Omnibus Objection to Certain Proofs of Claim (Equity Claims)* (the "Objection"), filed contemporaneously herewith.¹

3. Except as otherwise indicated herein, all facts set forth in this Declaration are based upon my personal knowledge, the knowledge of other BRG professionals working under and alongside me on this matter, my discussions with the Debtors' personnel, the Debtors' various other advisors and counsel, and my review of relevant documents and information prepared by the Debtors. To the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, the assertions made in the Objection are accurate. In evaluating the Equity Claims, the Debtors and their advisors have reviewed the relevant Proofs of Claim, as well as the supporting documentation provided by each claimant, and determined that each Equity Claim should be disallowed. I believe that the disallowance of the Equity Claims on the terms set forth in the Objection is appropriate.

Equity Claims

4. To the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, the Equity Claims identified on <u>Exhibit A</u> to the Order assert an unsecured or priority amount related to ownership of one of more of Debtors. Such claims are based on an interest in, not a claim against Debtors,

¹ Capitalized but undefined terms herein shall have the same meaning ascribed to them in the Objection.

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and the confirmed Plan provides for Equity Treatment for equity ownership in one or more of Debtors.² Further, Debtors are not aware of the identity of many equity ownership claimants as agents and fiduciaries purchased equity ownership in Debtors for the benefit certain of equity ownership claimants. Such persons would not hold a direct legal interest in the Debtors, and any beneficial interest would be satisfied by the distribution under the Plan through to the record holder. As such, I believe that each of the Equity Claims should be disallowed as identified on **Exhibit A** to the Order.

5. If the Equity Claims are not disallowed, the relevant claimants may be improperly paid on account of their interests.

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, I declare under penalty of perjury that the facts set forth in the foregoing declaration are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

Dated: November 23, 2021

<u>/s/ Mark A. Renzi</u> Mark Renzi Berkley Research Group, LLC

² "<u>Plan</u>" means the *Third Amended Joint Chapter 11 Plan of CBL & Associates Properties, Inc. and Its Affiliated Debtors (with Technical Modifications)* [Docket No. 1396], as supplemented from time to time and together with any exhibits, amendments, or supplements thereto.

IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

In re:

CBL & ASSOCIATES PROPERTIES, INC., et al,

Debtors.

Chapter 11

Case No. 20-35226 (DRJ)

(Jointly Administered)

ORDER SUSTAINING DEBTORS' SECOND OMNIBUS OBJECTION TO CERTAIN <u>PROOFS OF CLAIM (EQUITY CLAIMS)</u>

Upon the objection (the "<u>Objection</u>")¹ of the above-captioned Debtors for entry of an order (this "<u>Order</u>") sustaining the Debtors' Second Omnibus Objection to certain Equity Claims, all as more fully set forth in the Objection; and this Court having jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1334; and this Court having found that this is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2); and this Court having found that it may enter a final order consistent with Article III of the United States Constitution; and this Court having found that venue of this proceeding and this Objection in this district is permissible pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409; and this Court having found that the relief requested in the Objection is in the best interests of the Debtors' estates, their creditors, and other parties in interest; and this Court having found that the Debtors' notice of the Objection and opportunity for a hearing on the Objection were appropriate under the circumstances and no other notice need be provided; and this Court having reviewed the Objection and having heard the statements in support of the relief requested therein at a hearing before this Court (the "<u>Hearing</u>"); and this Court having determined that the legal and factual bases set forth in the Objection and at the Hearing establish

¹ Capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined herein have the meanings ascribed to them in the Objection.

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just cause for the relief granted herein; and upon all of the proceedings had before this Court; and after due deliberation and sufficient cause appearing therefore, it is HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. Each Equity Claim identified on <u>Exhibit A</u> attached to this Order is hereby disallowed and expunged,

2. The Debtors' claims, noticing, and solicitation agent, Epiq Corporate Restructuring, LLC, is authorized and directed to update the claims register maintained in these chapter 11 cases to reflect the relief granted in the Order.

3. To the extent a response is filed regarding any Equity Claim, each such Equity Claim, and the Objection as it pertains to such Equity Claim, will constitute a separate contested matter as contemplated by Bankruptcy Rule 9014. This Order will be deemed a separate order with respect to each Equity Claim.

4. Notwithstanding the relief granted in this Order and any actions taken pursuant to such relief, nothing in this Order shall be deemed: (a) an admission as to the validity of any prepetition claim against a Debtor entity; (b) a waiver of the Debtors' right to dispute any prepetition claim on any grounds; (c) a promise or requirement to pay any prepetition claim; (d) an implication or admission that any particular claim is of a type specified or defined in this Objection or any order granting the relief requested by this Objection; (e) a request or authorization to assume any prepetition agreement, contract, or lease pursuant to § 365 of the Bankruptcy Code; or (f) a waiver of the Debtors' rights under the Bankruptcy Code or any other applicable law.

5. Notwithstanding Bankruptcy Rule 6004(h), the terms and conditions of this Order are immediately effective and enforceable upon its entry.

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6. The Debtors are authorized to take all actions necessary to effectuate the relief granted in this Order in accordance with the Objection.

7. This Court retains exclusive jurisdiction with respect to all matters arising from or related to the implementation, interpretation, and enforcement of this Order.

Dated: _____, 2021 Houston, Texas

DAVID R. JONES UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE Case 20-35226 Document 1602 Filed in TXSB on 11/23/21 Page 19 of 20

<u>Exhibit A</u>

Equity Claims

Schedule: Shareholder Claims Filed Timely (Cont.) CBL & Associates Properties (\$)

(\$) Shareholder Claims

	holder Claims								
						A	sserted Claim Amou	nt	
No.	Name of Claimant	Date Claim Filed	Claim Number	Debtor Name	Admin	Secured	Priority	Unsecured	Total
1.	BUSH, CLARENCE	3/15/2021	321	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.	<u>د</u> .	<u>د</u> .	<u>د</u> .	\$ 15.000.00	\$ 15.000.00
2.	HARMON, SHERRY	3/15/2021	322	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
3.	MOREIRA, DOREEN	3/15/2021	323	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.	\$-	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 13,900.00	\$ 13,900.00
4. 5.	JT HUSTLER IRREV TR DAVID L BORCHERDING & SUSAN R PICKENS	3/15/2021 3/16/2021	20355 20358	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc. CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.	\$ -	\$ - \$ -	\$ - \$ -	\$ - \$ 8,168.35	\$ - \$ 8,168.35
	BATEMAN, RANDOLPH	3/16/2021	20358	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.			\$ -	\$ 10,759.88	\$ 10,759.88
7.	HUNT, THIETJE A	3/17/2021	374	DEBTOR NOT INDICATED BY CLAIMANT	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,920.38	\$ 4,920.38
8.	EASTMAN, FREDEIRCK A	3/17/2021	375	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25,275.00	\$ 25,275.00
9. 10.	MENKES, JUDITH A HUGHES, ROBERT A	3/17/2021 3/17/2021	376 20376	DEBTOR NOT INDICATED BY CLAIMANT CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.	\$ -	\$ -	\$ - ¢	\$ 6,702.91 \$ 6,594.59	\$ 6,702.91 \$ 6,594.59
	WESCOTT, LINDA	3/17/2021	20378	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.	ş - Ş -	\$ -	s -	\$ 15,242.83	\$ 15,242.83
12.	BOLIN, JAMES E	3/18/2021	379	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
13.	PAUFLER, MARY D	3/18/2021	380	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.	Ŧ	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,496.93	\$ 9,496.93
14.	PAUFLER, MARY D HALCOMB, LARRY L	3/18/2021 3/18/2021	381 386	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc. CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.	\$ - ¢	\$ -	\$ - ¢	\$ 2,456.51 \$ 14,957.00	\$ 2,456.51 \$ 14,957.00
16.	KITTRELL, ORAN RAY	3/18/2021	387	DEBTOR NOT INDICATED BY CLAIMANT	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,018.78	\$ 2,018.78
	LUNSTRUM, SHIRLEY	3/18/2021	388	DEBTOR NOT INDICATED BY CLAIMANT	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,487.71	\$ 2,487.71
	MORROW FAMILY TURST, THE	3/18/2021	390	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.			\$ -	\$ 6,765.86	\$ 6,765.86
19.	DESPONES, RUTH SUSAN ZOLLER FAMILY TRUST	3/18/2021 3/18/2021	391 392	DEBTOR NOT INDICATED BY CLAIMANT CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.	\$ - \$ -	\$ - \$	\$ - \$ -	\$ 9,339.10 \$ 3,691.53	\$ 9,339.10 \$ 3,691.53
21.	LYON, KATHRYN I	3/18/2021	394	DEBTOR NOT INDICATED BY CLAIMANT	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 28,388.32	\$ 28,388.32
22.	O'NEIL, DANA STRINE	3/18/2021	395	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 22,981.23	\$ 22,981.23
23.	MEYMARIAN FAMILY TRUST	3/18/2021	397	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 49,588.91 \$ 46.113.98	\$ 49,588.91
24. 25.	UNDER DECLARATION OF TR U/A DTD 09/30/04 UNDER DECLARATION OF TR U/A DTD 09/30/04	3/18/2021 3/18/2021	399 400	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc. CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.	s -	s -	s -	\$ 46,113.98 \$ 9,079.88	\$ 46,113.98 \$ 9,079.88
	RUSCITTI, JOSEPH	3/18/2021	400	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,247.00	\$ -	\$ 9,247.00
27.	HERMAN, GERALDINE	3/18/2021	406	DEBTOR NOT INDICATED BY CLAIMANT	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,814.52	\$ 4,814.52
28.	WITT FAMILY TRUST	3/18/2021	20384	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.	\$ -	\$	\$ -	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
	WESCOTT, LINDA PAYEN, GIRAUD	3/18/2021 3/18/2021	20402 20403	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc. CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.	> - S -	\$ - \$ -	\$ - \$ -	\$ 67,812.58 \$ 5,057.57	\$ 67,812.58 \$ 5,057.57
	RUTH B TERRAY IRA RBC	3/18/2021 3/19/2021	442	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.			\$ -	\$ 1,778.03	\$ 1,778.03
32.	RUSCITTI, JOSEPH	3/19/2021	443	DEBTOR NOT INDICATED BY CLAIMANT	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,302.00	\$ 7,302.00
33.	FROST, CONNIE J	3/19/2021	444	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 26,100.00	\$ 26,100.00
34.	L A AMUNDSON REVOCABLE TRUST HOGUE, RICHARD W	3/19/2021 3/19/2021	446 447	DEBTOR NOT INDICATED BY CLAIMANT CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.	> - S -	> - \$	> - S -	\$ 100,780.12 \$ 62,229.67	\$ 100,780.12 \$ 62,229.67
	MITCHELL, CHARLES E	3/19/2021 3/19/2021	447	DEBTOR NOT INDICATED BY CLAIMANT	\$ -	\$ 9,600.00	\$ -	\$ 62,229.67	\$ 9,600.00
37.	LESLIE J DONALDSON TRUST	3/19/2021	452	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.	ş -	ş -	\$-	\$ 5,149.44	\$ 5,149.44
38.	CLARK, PATRICIA	3/19/2021	453	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.	Ŧ	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
39. 40.	CHOY, ALLEN PETERSON. ROBERT A	3/19/2021 3/19/2021	464 465	DEBTOR NOT INDICATED BY CLAIMANT CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.	\$ - ¢	\$ -	\$ - ¢	\$ 52,000.00 \$ 2,171.50	\$ 52,000.00 \$ 2,171.50
40.	SOUTHERN ALASKA CARPENTERS RETMT FUND	3/19/2021	20407	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.	ş - S -	s -	ş - \$ -	\$ 2,171.30 \$ 34.918.40	\$ 34,918.40
42.	HAINS, JOHN W AND NORMA J	3/20/2021	20417	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,741.87	\$ 1,741.87
	JEFFREY SPUNGEN REV TRUST	3/22/2021	474	DEBTOR NOT INDICATED BY CLAIMANT			\$ -	\$ 347.00	\$ 347.00
44.	ILLURI, ARUNDHATI CHAI, SHUN-TIE	3/22/2021 3/22/2021	476	DEBTOR NOT INDICATED BY CLAIMANT	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,209.68 \$ 12,263.83	\$ 3,209.68 \$ 12,263.83
46.	HOLLENDER. HERBERT C	3/22/2021	477	DEBTOR NOT INDICATED BY CLAIMANT DEBTOR NOT INDICATED BY CLAIMANT	ş - S -	s -	ş - \$ -	\$ 4,511.00	\$ 4,511.00
47.	ANDREWS, JUDY R	3/22/2021	482	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
48.	GILBERT ORNSTEIN DESCENDANT TRUST	3/22/2021	484	DEBTOR NOT INDICATED BY CLAIMANT	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,999.46	\$ 1,999.46
49. 50.	SMITH, THOMAS W HULL, MARGARET M	3/22/2021 3/22/2021	485 493	DEBTOR NOT INDICATED BY CLAIMANT CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.	ş - s -	ş -	s -	\$ - \$ 17,954.82	\$ - \$ 17.954.82
51.	ELIOT. STEPHEN STUART	3/22/2021	501	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.	ş -	s -	\$ -	\$ 9,963.41	\$ 9.963.41
52.	PITTAWAY, DONALD E	3/22/2021	511	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 268,112.99	\$-	\$ 268,112.99
53.	FRANZ PUSSEL JR IRA	3/22/2021	519	DEBTOR NOT INDICATED BY CLAIMANT	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
	BRAMLETT, EMANUEL COHEN, NATHAN	3/22/2021 3/22/2021	20421 20431	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc. CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.	\$ - ¢		\$ - \$ -	\$ - \$ -	\$ - ¢
56.	TAVROVSKY, IGOR	3/22/2021	20431	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.			\$ -	\$ 6,840.00	\$ 6,840.00
57.	COHEN, NATHAN	3/22/2021	20433	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
58.	COHEN, NATHAN	3/22/2021	20434	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
59. 60.	TAVROVSKY, LYUDMILA ENZWEILER, KARLA	3/22/2021 3/22/2021	20435 20436	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc. CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.	\$ - ¢ -	\$ - \$	s -	\$ 4,578.00 \$ 5,204.76	\$ 4,578.00 \$ 5.204.76
61.	CHAI, TIFFANIE	3/23/2021	527	DEBTOR NOT INDICATED BY CLAIMANT	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,960.00	\$ 2,960.00
62.	SIMONSON, KERVIN G	3/23/2021	530	DEBTOR NOT INDICATED BY CLAIMANT	ş -	ş -	\$-	\$ 9,173.58	\$ 9,173.58
63.	TAPLEY, ESTELLE R	3/23/2021	535	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.	Ŧ	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,612.11	\$ 9,612.11
64. 65.	ETIENNE, RICHARD E & CONNIE G, JT TEN PLAUTZ. STEVEN C	3/23/2021 3/23/2021	536 537	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc. CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.	\$ -	\$ -	\$ - ¢	\$ 28,660.00 \$ 7.075.67	\$ 28,660.00 \$ 7,075.67
66.	SCHMITT, JOHN	3/23/2021 3/23/2021	539	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.	\$ -	ş -	\$ -	\$ 8,794.71	\$ 8,794.71
67.	DONDERO, DONALD J	3/23/2021	545	DEBTOR NOT INDICATED BY CLAIMANT			\$ -	\$ -	\$-
	BLEVINS, EVAUN	3/23/2021	551	DEBTOR NOT INDICATED BY CLAIMANT			\$ -	\$ 17,291.03	\$ 17,291.03
69. 70.	TSUKADA, LORI KNAPP, OTTO A	3/23/2021 3/23/2021	554 555	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc. DEBTOR NOT INDICATED BY CLAIMANT	\$ - \$ -	\$ - \$	\$ - \$ -	\$ 95,000.00 \$ 370.10	\$ 95,000.00 \$ 370.10
71.	OTTO A KNAPP REVOCABLE TRUST	3/23/2021 3/23/2021	556	DEBTOR NOT INDICATED BY CLAIMANT	\$	\$	\$	\$ 162.61	\$ 162.61
72.	WANG, TONG KIT	3/23/2021	20440	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$-
	WANG, TONG KIT	3/23/2021	20442	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200,000.00	
	AHMED, SHEHRYAR COHEN, MICHAEL	3/23/2021 3/23/2021	20459 20516	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc. CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.	s - s -	s -	\$ 600,000,000.00 \$ -	\$ 9,882.00	\$ 432,175.00 \$ 9,882.00
76.	MICHAEL D COHEN ROTH IRA	3/23/2021	20517	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 56,827.40	\$ 56,827.40
77.	CAO, YI	3/23/2021	20519	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.	Ŧ	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$-
78.	ORENSTEIN, MICHAEL VELTMAN LIVING TRUST	3/23/2021	20520	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.			\$ - \$ -	\$ 1,858.90 \$ 10.000.00	\$ 1,858.90
	HAGEN, DEBORAH A BORLAND	3/24/2021 3/24/2021	558 559	DEBTOR NOT INDICATED BY CLAIMANT CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.	s - s -		\$ - \$ -	\$ 10,000.00 \$ 5,850.69	\$ 10,000.00 \$ 5,850.69
	LITTLE, BRIAN & SHERYL	3/24/2021	560	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.			\$ -	\$ 286.00	\$ 286.00
	SPENCER, ANDREW M	3/24/2021	562	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,310.90	\$ 3,310.90
	SCHUMM, HARALD ADAMS, DONNA M	3/24/2021 3/24/2021	20521 20524	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.		\$ - \$ -	\$ - \$ -	\$ -	Ş -
84. 85.	ADAMS, DONNA M CROFTON CAPITAL	3/24/2021 3/24/2021	20524 20527	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc. CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.	> - S -		ş - \$ -	\$ 9,685.36 \$ -	\$ 9,685.36 \$ -
	RIOS, CARLOS	3/24/2021	20528	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
87.	HARRINGTON, A GORDON	3/24/2021	20529	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
88.	LAGANO, JUDITH E	3/24/2021	20531	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.			\$ -	\$ 7,601.57	\$ 7,601.57
89. 90.	CARLSON, LINDA HARRIS, DONNA MARIE	3/24/2021 3/24/2021	20532 20533	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc. CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.		\$ - \$ -	\$ - \$ -	\$ 12,500.00 \$ 11.660.28	\$ 12,500.00 \$ 11,660.28
91.	HARRIS, DONNA MARIE HARRIS, DONNA MARIE	3/24/2021 3/24/2021	20533	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.	Ŧ	Ŧ	\$ -	\$ 11,660.28	\$ 11,660.28
	ROSS, STEVEN MARK	3/24/2021	20547	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.			\$ -	\$-	\$ -
	PAGE, MATTHEW	3/24/2021	20550	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc.			\$ -	\$ 175,000.00	
	MOSKAL, JOHN P MCDOWELL, JOE E & JANET F	3/25/2021 3/25/2021	570 572	DEBTOR NOT INDICATED BY CLAIMANT DEBTOR NOT INDICATED BY CLAIMANT	\$ -		\$ - \$ -	\$ 11.31 \$ 1,099.00	\$ 11.31 \$ 1,099.00
	GOLD, IRA	3/25/2021	577	DEBTOR NOT INDICATED BY CLAIMANT DEBTOR NOT INDICATED BY CLAIMANT	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,270.19	\$ 4,270.19
97.	SUN, BO	3/25/2021	578	DEBTOR NOT INDICATED BY CLAIMANT	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,833.63	\$ 1,833.63
98.	CHUNG, LI	3/25/2021	579	DEBTOR NOT INDICATED BY CLAIMANT	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 702.58	\$ 702.58
	DAVENPORT, RONALD S GURSKI, ROBERT J & BARBARA F	3/25/2021 3/25/2021	581 586	CBL & Associates Properties, Inc. DEBTOR NOT INDICATED BY CLAIMANT	\$ - \$ -		\$ - \$ -	\$ 6,027.37 \$ 7,366.13	\$ 6,027.37 \$ 7,366.13
±00.	eenen, nobent zie philonini i	5/23/2021	DOC	SESTOR NOT INDICATED ST CEAIWANT	· ·	· ·	7 .	- 1,500.13	+ /,300.13