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November 27, 2024

Via CM/ECF

The Honorable J. Kate Stickles, U.S.B.J. United States Bankruptcy Court For the District of Delaware 824 N Market St. # 500 Wilmington, DE 19801

Re: In re IJKG Opco LLC d/b/a CarePoint Health-Bayonne Medical Center Docket No.: 24-12551(JKS)

Dear Judge Stickles:

I represent the plaintiff, the Estate of Nicola Calamita, by administrator Elia Calamita, in a medical malpractice case being heard in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Law Division, Bergen County, Docket No. BER-L-5191-21, against, among other defendants, the subject debtor, IJKG Opco LLC d/b/a CarePoint Health-Bayonne Medical Center and its employ. As this state-court action has been stayed given the proceedings before Your Honor, I have enclosed a certification requesting that the state-court action be approved to proceed, as so limited to the liability insurance policies held by debtor as to not affect any recovery by creditor(s) herein.

Thank you for Your Honor's time and kind courtesies.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Michael B. Zerres

Michael B. Zerres, Esq.

CC: All Counsel

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UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

Blume, Forte, Fried, Zerres & Molinari Michael B. Zerres, Esq. - ID #010351988 Richard T. Madurski, Esq. - ID # 319962021 One Main Street Chatham, New Jersey 07928 (973) 635-5400 Attorneys for Plaintiff, M.C.

In re:

IJKG Opco LLC d/b/a CarePoint Health-Bayonne Medical Center,

Debtor.

Tax I.D. No. 26-1442063

Bankruptcy Action No.: 24-12551 (JKS)

Underlying State Civil Action No.: BER-L-5191-21

CERTIFICATION OF STATE-CIVIL-ACTION PLAINTIFF'S COUNSEL IN SUPPORT OF A REQUEST TO PROCEED WITH CLAIM TO THE EXTENT OF INSURANCE COVERAGE

- I, MICHAEL B. ZERRES, of full age, hereby certify that:
- 1. I am a partner at the law firm of Blume Forte, Fried, Zerres & Molinari, P.C., attorneys for the plaintiff in the within cause of action. As such, I am fully familiar with the facts and circumstances set forth herein.
- 2. I submit this certification in support of plaintiff's, the Estate of Nicola Calamita, by administrator Elia Calamita, request herein to this Honorable Court to proceed in a New Jersey Superior Court medical malpractice and wrongful death case against the subject debtor, IJKG Opco LLC d/b/a CarePoint Health-Bayonne Medical Center (hereinafter "Carepoint") and its employee, Kyra Santiago, being heard in the Superior Court of

Case 24-12534-JKS Doc 216 Filed 12/02/24 Page 4 of 14

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

New Jersey, Law Division, Bergen County, Docket No. BER-L-5191-21 (hereinafter "the New Jersey action").

- 3. The New Jersey action is a medical malpractice and wrongful death claim arising out of medical care that resulted in Mr. Calamita's demise from a pulmonary embolism ("PE") on August 17, 2019.
- 4. The Complaint in the New Jersey action was filed on August 4, 2021, a copy of which is annexed hereto as **Exhibit A**, and has been assigned a trial date of December 16, 2024.
- 5. Among the medical professionals and entities who were named as defendants in the New Jersey action are Carepoint and one of its employees at the time of the subject death, Kyra Santiago.
- 6. Carepoint has been named as a defendant who may be vicariously liable for the acts or omissions of its employ as it relates to the passing of the New Jersey action's decedent, Mr. Nicola Calamita.
- 7. Until the time of Carepoint's filing of involuntary bankruptcy in this Court, litigation in the New Jersey action has proceeded in the expected fashion of a medical malpractice lawsuit in the Superior Court of New Jersey.
- 8. It is understood that this Court must proceed through the Chapter 11 process, and that various creditors are seeking satisfaction of, or a solution to, Carepoint's various debts.

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UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

- 9. As such, plaintiff seeks this Court's approval to proceed in the New Jersey action, which this Counsel certifies will be limited to the amount of insurance coverage available to Carepoint and Ms. Santiago.
- 10. At the inception of the New Jersey action, Carepoint provided declaration sheets for the liability insurance policy that is expected to apply the claims in the New Jersey action.
- 11. Given the provision of insurance coverage information,
 Plaintiff is aware of the liability coverages available to
 Carepoint and Ms. Santiago and voluntarily agrees, should this
 Court approve same, to proceed against Carepoint and Ms.
 Santiago only to the extent that there is insurance coverage
 available to said defendants.
- 12. As Carepoint's insurer, Princeton Insurance Company, is not the subject of the pending bankruptcy proceedings herein, any potential recovery by plaintiffs, as so limited to liability insurance coverages, would not be expected to impact the present creditor(s) recover(ies) as to Carepoint.
- 13. Plaintiffs therefore respectfully request that this Court allow plaintiffs to proceed in the New Jersey action, as so limited to the applicable liability insurance coverages to Carepoint and its employ.

I certify that the foregoing statements made by me are true. I am aware that if any are willfully false, I am subject to punishment.

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UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

BLUME, FORTE, FRIED, ZERRES & MOLINARI

/s/ Michael B. Zerres
MICHAEL B. ZERRES, Esq.
Bar ID # 010351988

DATED: November 27, 2024

EXHIBIT A

Appendix XII-B1



CIVIL CASE INFORMATION STATEMENT (CIS)

Use for initial Law Division
Civil Part pleadings (not motions) under Rule 4:5-1
Pleading will be rejected for filing, under Rule 1:5-6(c),
if information above the black bar is not completed
or attorney's signature is not affixed

FOR USE BY CLERK'S OFFICE ONLY						
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RELATED CASES P	ENDING'	?		S, LIST DOCK						
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CIVIL CASE INFORMATION STATEMENT

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If you in the	believe this case requires a track other than that prov space under "Case Characteristics.	ided above, please indicate the reason	
P	Please check off each applicable category	Putative Class Action	☐ Title 59

page 2 of 2

BLUME FORTE FRIED ZERRES & MOLINARI, P.C.

Michael B. Zerres, Esq. - NJ Bar ID# 010351988 One Main Street Chatham, New Jersey 07928-0924 (973) 635-5400 Attorneys for Plaintiffs

ESTATE OF NICOLA CALAMITA, deceased, by administrator ELIA CALAMITA and ELIA CALAMITA, individually,

Plaintiffs,

VS.

MD, **ZBIGNIEW** CHOUDHRY HAMMAD MOSZCZYNSKI MD, VEIN AND SKIN STUDIO, NEIL RASWANT, DO, CAREPOINT HEALTH BAYONNE MEDICAL CENTER, CAREPOINT HEALTH SYSTEM and JOHN DOES, M.D., 1-5 (a class of fictitiously named defendants), JANE DOE, R.N., 1-5 (a class of fictitiously named defendants) and DOE PHYSICIAN GROUP, PA or DOE PHYSICIAN GROUP, PC or DOE MANAGED CARE COMPANY, (a fictitious designation representing the class of as yet unknown corporate entities affiliated or connected in any manner with the individual defendants in this matter or with plaintiff's care and vicariously, directly or administratively responsible for the other medical providers actions or failures or plaintiff's injury),

Defendants.

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY LAW DIVISION: BERGEN COUNTY DOCKET NO. BER-L-

Civil Action

COMPLAINT, JURY DEMAND, DESIGNATION OF TRIAL COUNSEL AND CERTIFICATION

Plaintiffs, ESTATE OF NICOLA CALAMITA, by His Administratrix and Administratrix Ad Prosequendum, ELIA CALAMITA and ELIA CALAMITA Individually, residing at 318 Avenue A, Bayonne, NJ, by way of Complaint say:

FIRST COUNT

1.NICOLA CALAMITA died on or about August 17, 2019. An application for Letters of Administration is pending or has been granted by the Probate Division of the Superior Court of New

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Jersey, Surrogate's Office to plaintiff, ELIA CALAMITA, for the purpose of prosecuting a claim on behalf of the ESTATE OF NICOLA CALAMITA.

- 2. The said NICOLA CALAMITA, deceased, leaves surviving his next of kin, dependents and beneficiaries, all of whom were dependent upon the decedent and all of whom have sustained pecuniary injuries resulting from his death.
 - 3. This suit is commenced within two years of the death of NICOLA CALAMITA.
- 4. On or about August 17, 2019, and at times prior thereto, plaintiff's decedent NICOLA CALAMITA was a patient at defendant, VEIN AND SKIN STUDIO, CAREPOINT HEALTH BAYONNE MEDICAL CENTER and CAREPOINT HEALTH SYSTEM, where he was treated by defendants, HAMMAD CHOUDHRY MD, ZBIGNIEW MOSZCZYNSKI MD., NEIL RASWANT, DO, JOHN DOES, M.D. 1-5 (a class of fictitiously named defendants), and JANE DOE, R.N./ CRNA/N.P. 1-5 (a class of fictitiously named defendants), who were physicians, nurses or other health care providers employed by or on the staff of defendants, VEIN AND SKIN STUDIO, CAREPOINT HEALTH BAYONNE MEDICAL CENTER and CAREPOINT HEALTH SYSTEM which defendants were negligent and careless in their diagnosis of decedent's condition and in the treatment rendered, and did thereby deviate from accepted medical standards, as a result of which decedent sustained painful, disabling and permanent injuries ultimately resulting in his death, and whereby decedent's next of kin suffered pecuniary losses such as loss of future income, guidance, counseling, advice, services and companionship, and, funeral and burial expenses.
- 5. Said defendants, their agents, servants and employees were negligent and careless in the diagnosis of decedent's condition and the medical treatment that was rendered to him, did deviate from accepted standards in failure to use the care and skill ordinarily used by physicians engaged in medical practice and in rendering said medical care, as a result of which NICOLA CALAMITA sustained, serious, painful and permanent injuries, ultimately resulting in his death, and, his next of kin was caused to lose sums of income, and was caused to incur medical expenses.

6. Further the defendant, VEIN AND SKIN STUDIO, CAREPOINT HEALTH BAYONNE MEDICAL CENTER and CAREPOINT HEALTH SYSTEM, are vicariously liable for the negligence of its agents, servants and employees, as set forth herein, pursuant to the doctrines of Apparent Authority and Respondent Superior.

WHEREFORE, plaintiff, ELIA CALAMITA, Administratrix of the ESTATE of NICOLA CALAMITA, deceased, demands judgment against the defendants, together with interest and costs of suit.

SECOND COUNT

- 1. Plaintiffs repeat each and every allegation of the prior Count as if set forth herein at length.
- 2. At the time plaintiff's decedent, NICOLA CALAMITA, was a patient of defendants, VEIN AND SKIN STUDIO, CAREPOINT HEALTH BAYONNE MEDICAL CENTER and CAREPOINT HEALTH SYSTEM, he was treated by defendants, HAMMAD CHOUDHRY MD, ZBIGNIEW MOSZCZYNSKI MD., NEIL RASWANT, DO, JOHN DOES, M.D. 1-5 (a class of fictitiously named defendants), and JANE DOE, R.N./ CRNA/N.P. 1-5 (a class of fictitiously named defendants, who were nurses, nurse practitioners or certified registered nurse anesthetists) who were involved in treatment and care to plaintiff's decedent during the period referred to herein, which care and treatment was rendered in a careless, negligent and reckless manner as a result of which plaintiff's sustained the aforesaid injuries, damages and losses set forth herein.

WHEREFORE, plaintiff, ELIA CALAMITA, Administratrix of the ESTATE of NICOLA CALAMITA, deceased, demands judgment against the defendants, together with interest and costs of suit.

THIRD COUNT

- 1. Plaintiffs repeat each and every allegation of the previous Counts as though set forth at length herein.
- 2. The defendants aforesaid failed to advise the plaintiff's decedent of all the risks and benefits that a reasonably prudent person would want to have under the circumstances then existing, and, thus, failed to obtain him informed consent and deprived him of the opportunity to choose from among reasonable options for his medical care.

3. As a result of this negligence, plaintiffs sustained the injuries, damages and losses referred to herein.

WHEREFORE, plaintiff, ELIA CALAMITA, Administratrix of the ESTATE of NICOLA CALAMITA, deceased, demands judgment against the defendants, together with interest and costs of suit.

FOURTH COUNT

- 1. Plaintiffs repeat each and every allegation of the prior Count as if set forth herein at length.
- 2. The defendants, JOHN DOE, M.D., 1-5 (a class of fictitiously named defendants), JANE DOE, R.N., 1-5 (a class of fictitiously named defendants) and DOE PHYSICIAN GROUP, PA OR DOE PHYSICIAN GROUP, PC OR DOE MANAGED CARE COMPANY (a fictitious designation representing the class of as yet unknown corporate entities affiliated or connected in any manner with the individual defendants in this matter or with plaintiff's care and vicariously, directly or administratively responsible for the other medical providers actions or failures or plaintiff's injury) and JANE DOE, R.N./ CRNA/N.P. 1-5 (a class of fictitiously named defendants, who were nurses, nurse practitioners or certified registered nurse anesthetists) were also involved in the care and treatment of the plaintiff's decedent, NICOLA CALAMITA, and also deviated from accepted standards of practice and were negligent so as to cause the same injuries, damages and losses to the plaintiff's and decedent as set forth herein.

WHEREFORE, plaintiff, ELIA CALAMITA, Administratrix of the ESTATE of NICOLA CALAMITA, deceased, demands judgment against the defendants, together with interest and costs of suit.

DEMAND FOR TRIAL BY JURY

Plaintiff hereby demands a trial by jury as to all issues involved herein.

DESIGNATION OF TRIAL COUNSEL

Pursuant to <u>Rule</u> 4:24-4, Michael B. Zerres, Esq. has been designated as trial counsel in the above matter.

AFFIDAVIT OF MERIT

See Affidavits of Merit attached hereto, or, to be provided upon defendants filing of an Answer.

DEMAND FOR INSURANCE COVERAGE

In accordance with <u>Rule</u> 4:10-2, defendants are demands to provide a complete copy of their applicable liability insurance policies including any excess or umbrella policies with declaration sheets within thirty (30) days of the service of this Complaint.

DEMAND FOR INTERROGATORIES

Plaintiff demands that defendants answer Form C, and C3 interrogatories.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that this matter is not the subject of any other action pending in any Court or a pending Arbitration proceeding, nor is any other action or Arbitration proceeding contemplated.

BLUME, FORTE, FRIED, ZERRES & MOLINARI, P.C. Attorneys for Plaintiffs

By:

MICHAEL B. ZERRES Bar # 010351988

Dated: July 29, 2021