

Entered: December 2nd, 2025

Signed: December 2nd, 2025

**SO ORDERED**

*Michelle M. Harner*  
MICHELLE M. HARNER  
U.S. BANKRUPTCY JUDGE

**IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MARYLAND  
at Baltimore**

In re:

Roman Catholic Archbishop of Baltimore, \* Case No. 23-16969-MMH  
\* Chapter 11

Debtor. \*

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

**ORDER EXTENDING DEADLINE TO RESPOND TO CLAIM OBJECTIONS AND  
ESTABLISHING INTERIM PROCEDURES GOVERNING PENDING OBJECTIONS**

The matter before the Court is the Motion to Extend the Deadline to Respond to Debtor's Claim Objections (the "Motion"), filed by the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors (the "Committee") in this case. ECF 1716. The Roman Catholic Archbishop of Baltimore, the above-captioned debtor and debtor in possession (the "Debtor"), filed a response to the Motion. ECF 1762. The Court held a hearing on the Motion and all related papers on December 1, 2025.

The claims administration process in a chapter 11 case helps a debtor and the Court identify, and provide proper plan treatment for, prepetition claims asserted against the debtor's bankruptcy estate. It is a process intended to protect claimants and the bankruptcy estate. As a result, meaningful notice and an opportunity to participate are important components of that process.

The Debtor has filed objections to various proofs of claim filed in this case pursuant to sections 501 and 502 of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rule 3007 (collectively, the "Claim

Objections").<sup>1</sup> The Court notes that there is nothing necessarily inappropriate with the filing of single or omnibus claim objections at this point in the chapter 11 case. The Court finds, however, that the facts and circumstances of this case require additional notice and certain procedural steps to ensure that all parties' respective rights and remedies are respected and preserved.<sup>2</sup>

Accordingly, it is, by the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Maryland,

**ORDERED**, that the deadline to respond to the Claim Objections is extended in accordance with Bankruptcy Rules 3007 and 9006 on the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in this Order; and it is further

**ORDERED**, that, on or before December 12, 2025, the Debtor shall serve a Notice on all parties who filed a proof of claim included in any of the Claim Objections (each a "claimant") and their counsel (if any) that provides the following information and procedures; the Notice shall be personalized to the particular claimant<sup>3</sup> and shall:

- Identify (or include an attachment that identifies) the specific proof(s) of claim filed by the claimant that is/are subject to an objection, the factual and/or legal bases of the objection, and a copy of the relevant Claim Objection;<sup>4</sup> and
- Provide that the claimant (or the claimant's counsel) may ask questions regarding, or request information concerning, the Claim Objection by contacting Blake Roth (Holland & Knight LLP) by email at [blake.roth@hklaw.com](mailto:blake.roth@hklaw.com) or by telephone at

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<sup>1</sup> ECF Nos. 1493–1532, 1534, 1535, 1541–1584, 1587–1591, 1593–1611, 1613–1675, 1677–1686, 1690–1701, 1704–1715.

<sup>2</sup> The parties shall follow appropriate redaction procedures in accordance with the confidentiality provisions previously entered in this case.

<sup>3</sup> The Court acknowledges that most of the Claim Objections are single and not omnibus objections. Nevertheless, to ensure proper notice and to avoid confusion and provide more clarity, the Court intends the Notice procedures set forth herein to apply to all pending Claim Objections.

<sup>4</sup> If the claimant is represented by counsel, the Debtor may provide an electronic link to the relevant Claim Objection in lieu of a paper copy.

615-244-6380; Mr. Roth shall use his best efforts to acknowledge and, if possible, respond to any such requests or questions *within three business days*; and

- Provide that the claimant must file a Line (redacted as appropriate) with the Court, **on or before January 31, 2026**, indicating at a minimum whether (i) the claimant opposes the Debtor's position; (ii) the claimant agrees with the Debtor's position; or (iii) the claimant needs additional time to consider the Debtor's position; to the extent claimants are represented by the same counsel and subject to the same Claim Objection, counsel may file a single Line that sets forth the response of each represented claimant in a chart format; and
- Explaining that, *if the claimant chooses not to file a Line on or before January 31, 2026, the Court may grant the relief requested by the Debtor with respect to the claimant's proof(s) of claim*; and
- Explaining that the Debtor will review each claimant's Line and, **on or before February 17, 2026**, file with the Court (and serve on the claimants and any counsel) a Claims Status Report (i) listing each claim subject to an objection (including the docket numbers of the objection and any response/Line filed by the claimant); and (ii) summarizing the status of each of those Claim Objections (including whether the parties have exchanged information and whether the objection has been withdrawn, otherwise resolved, or requires an evidentiary hearing, or if the claimant has requested additional time to respond); and
- Noting that, after reviewing the Claims Status Report and the docket in this case, the Court (i) will enter an appropriate scheduling order on unresolved claim

objections and (ii) may enter orders granting the relief requested by the Debtor on uncontested claim objections; and it is further

**ORDERED**, that the Debtor, the Committee, or any other party in interest may file a Line with the Court requesting a status conference on the Claim Objections; and it is further  
**ORDERED**, that the Motion is resolved on the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in this Order.

cc: Debtor  
Debtor's Counsel  
Committee's Counsel  
All Creditors and Interested Parties  
U.S. Trustee

**END OF ORDER**