

**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS
EASTERN DIVISION**

In re:) Chapter 7
)
marchFIRST, INC., <i>et al.</i> ,) Case No. 01-24742
) (Substantively Consolidated)
Debtors.) Honorable A. Benjamin Goldgar
)

COVER SHEET FOR APPLICATION FOR FINAL COMPENSATION

NAME OF APPLICANT:	Gray, Hunter, Stenn, LLP, accountants/consultants
AUTHORIZED TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES TO:	Andrew J. Maxwell, Chapter 7 Trustee
DATE OF ORDER AUTHORIZING APPLICANT'S EMPLOYMENT:	January 13, 2011
PERIOD FOR WHICH COMPENSATION IS SOUGHT:	January 1, 2017 through end of case including retainer/fees for final income tax returns for 2018 and 2019
AMOUNT OF FEES SOUGHT:	\$17,101.80
AMOUNT OF EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT SOUGHT:	\$6.65
AMOUNT OF FEES AND EXPENSES PREVIOUSLY SOUGHT/ALLOWED:	Fees previously allowed: \$68,077.30 Expenses previously allowed: \$606.11
DATE: January 7, 2019	Applicant: Gray, Hunter, Stenn, LLP, Accountant/Consultant to Trustee BY: <u>/s/ Andrew J. Maxwell</u> One of the attorneys for Trustee For: Anthony DePaul Gray Hunter Stenn, LLP 1200 Harger Rd., Suite 521, Oak Brook, IL Phone: (630) 571-4900

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**SEVENTH APPLICATION FOR ALLOWANCE OF FINAL COMPENSATION FOR
GRAY HUNTER STENN, LLP**

Andrew J. Maxwell, trustee (the “Trustee”) of the Chapter 7 estate of marchFIRST, Inc. and certain of its affiliates (the “Debtors”), by the undersigned counsel and pursuant to §§327 and 330 of the Bankruptcy Code, states the following as the Seventh Application for Allowance of Final Compensation for Gray, Hunter, Stenn, LLP, (hereinafter referred to as "GHS") (the “Motion” or “Application”), accountants and consultants. In support, Trustee states as follows:

A. BACKGROUND

1. This Court has jurisdiction over this application pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334, and this matter is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b). Venue is proper before this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409.

2. On or about April 12, 2001 (the “Petition Date”), the Debtors commenced these cases (the "Cases") in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware (the “Delaware Court”) by filing voluntary petitions for relief under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. Subsequently, the Debtors moved to convert the Cases to chapter 7, and on or about April 26, 2001, the Cases were converted pursuant to § 1112 of the Bankruptcy Code.

3. By order dated July 10, 2001, the Delaware Court transferred the Cases to the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Illinois (the “Court”). The Trustee

was appointed successor interim chapter 7 trustee for the Cases on July 16, 2001, and thereafter became the permanent trustee.

B. EMPLOYMENT AND PAYMENT HISTORY

4. On January 5, 2011, the Trustee filed an Application For An Order Authorizing the Employment and Retention of GHS as Accountants for the Trustee ("Employment Application"). The Court authorized Trustee's employment of GHS by order dated January 12, 2011 (the "Employment Order"). No retainer amount was paid to GHS. GHS was employed primarily to prepare tax returns and related accounting work. GHS has filed and been paid for fees from six prior interim applications.¹

¹ On December 14, 2011, this Court entered an Order granting the First Application for Interim Allowance of Compensation for Gray Hunter Stenn, LLP, thereby allowing GHS \$33,408.10 as interim compensation for services rendered to the Trustee, and \$473.70 for reimbursement of actual and necessary expenses incurred for the period of December 8, 2010 through November 15, 2011.

On March 27, 2013, this Court entered an Order granting the Second Application for Interim Allowance of Compensation for Gray Hunter Stenn, LLP, thereby allowing GHS \$13,349.40 as interim compensation for services rendered to the Trustee, and \$49.35 for reimbursement of actual and necessary expenses incurred for the period of November 16, 2011 through November 6, 2012.

On December 18, 2013, this Court entered an Order granting the Third Application for Interim Compensation for Gray Hunter Stenn, LLP, thereby allowing GHS \$5,727.70 as interim compensation for services rendered to the Trustee, and \$44.61 for reimbursement of actual and necessary expenses incurred for the period of November 7, 2012 through July 31, 2013.

On December 17, 2014, this Court entered an Order granting the fourth Application for Interim Compensation for Gray Hunter Stenn, LLP, thereby allowing GHS \$3,589.30 as interim compensation for services rendered to the Trustee, and \$5.70 for reimbursement of actual and necessary expenses incurred for the period of August 1, 2013 through August 31, 2014.

On November 30, 2015, this Court entered an Order granting the fifth Application for Interim Compensation for Gray Hunter Stenn, LLP, thereby allowing GHS \$3,684.40 as interim compensation for services rendered to the Trustee, and \$26.30 for reimbursement of actual and necessary expenses incurred for the period of March 1, 2015 through September 30, 2015.

On November 30, 2016, this Court entered an Order granting the sixth Application for Interim Compensation for Gray Hunter Stenn, LLP, thereby allowing GHS \$8,318.40 as interim compensation for services rendered to the Trustee, and \$6.45 for reimbursement of actual and necessary expenses incurred for the period of March 1, 2016, through September 30, 2016.

C. COMPENSATION REQUEST

5. During the period through December 5, 2017, GHS personnel assisted Trustee and his counsel in connection with income tax returns for the year 2016 and other tax related services for the estate. The detailed statements of the services rendered by GHS in relation to these assignments during such time period are attached hereto and made a part hereof as group Exhibit 1. For this period, GHS is seeking allowance and payment of compensation in the amount of \$5,101.80 plus reimbursement of expenses in the amount of \$6.65. The invoice no. 21015747 is attached as part of this application.

Subsequent to December 5, 2017, GHS prepared the 2017 income tax return for the estate. As it had estimated previously, the charge for that return was \$4,000.

At least one but more likely two additional income tax returns will be required to be prepared and filed on behalf of the estate for 2018 and 2019, depending on when the estate can be closed. GHS has estimated its charges to prepare those income tax returns, based on previous years' charges, at \$4,000 per year. GHS is requesting allowance and payment of those amounts, the additional sum of \$8,000 for services to be rendered.

6. Trustee believes all of GHS's services during the case were or will be necessary and beneficial to the administration of the estate, and that the cost of such services was and is reasonable and constitutes a valid administrative expense of the estate. Trustee requests allowance of GHS's fees in the amount of \$17,101.80 and expense reimbursement of \$6.65, and for authorization to pay GHS the fees and expenses allowed at this time from funds of the estate as an administrative expense. This fee application is a request for final allowance of fees and expenses including all fees and expenses previously allowed on an interim basis and is filed as part of the Trustee final report in the case.

7. Trustee will provide or has provided 21 days notice of this Application as a part of the Trustee's Final Report ("TFR") as part of the Trustee's Notice of Final Report ("NFR").² Trustee requests that the form and manner of notice given be approved and that further notice be waived.

WHEREFORE, Andrew J. Maxwell, Trustee of the Debtors' Chapter 7 estate, hereby requests that this Court enter its order allowing the relief requested in this Motion and granting such other and further relief as this Court deems just and fair.

ANDREW J. MAXWELL, as Chapter 7 Trustee of
marchFIRST, Inc. and Its Subsidiaries

By: /s/ Andrew J. Maxwell
One of his Attorneys

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² Pursuant to the Trustee's application to limit notice, this Court is expected to enter its order regarding limiting notice for the NFR in or about January 2019. A docket number and date are not provided because it was not known at the time this application was updated for the amended TFR.