

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA

IN RE:	§	
	§	CASE NO: 20-10846
	§	
THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH	§	CHAPTER 11
OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW	§	
ORLEANS,	§	COMPLEX CASE
	§	
DEBTOR.	§	SECTION A
	§	

**ORDER (I) APPROVING THE ADEQUACY OF THE JOINT DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT, (II) APPROVING THE SOLICITATION AND VOTING PROCEDURES  
WITH RESPECT TO CONFIRMATION OF THE JOINT PROPOSED CHAPTER 11 PLAN,  
(III) APPROVING BALLOTS AND NOTICES, AND (IV) GRANTING RELATED RELIEF**

The Court held hearings on July 31, 2025, and August 8, 2025, to consider the *Motion For Entry of an Order (I) Approving the Adequacy of the Joint Disclosure Statement, (II) Approving the Solicitation and Voting Procedures With Respect to Confirmation of the Joint Proposed Chapter 11 Plan, (III) Approving Ballots and Notices, and (IV) Granting Related Relief* (the “Motion”),<sup>1</sup> [ECF Doc. 4152], filed by The Roman Catholic Church of the Archdiocese of New Orleans, the debtor and debtor-in-possession (the “Debtor” or “Archdiocese”) in this Chapter 11 Case, the Additional Debtors,<sup>2</sup> and the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors (collectively the “Plan Proponents” and each a “Plan Proponent”) seeking entry of an Order, pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §§ 105, 363, 1122, 1123, 1125, 1126, and 1128, Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure 2002, 3016, 3017, 3018, and 3020, and this Court’s Local Rule 3016-1, approving, among other things: (a) the adequacy of the *Second Amended Modified Disclosure Statement For the Second Amended Joint Chapter 11 Plan of Reorganization For The Roman Catholic Church of the*

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<sup>1</sup> Capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined in this Order (the “Disclosure Statement Order”) have the meanings ascribed to them in the Motion or, as applicable, the Joint Plan.

<sup>2</sup> The Additional Debtors are those entities listed on Exhibit B-1 attached to the plan dated July 15, 2025, [ECF Doc. 4150-2].

*Archdiocese of New Orleans and Additional Debtors, Proposed by the Debtor, the Additional Debtors, and the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors, Dated as of August 6, 2025*, (the “Disclosure Statement”), [ECF Doc. 4242]; (b) the Solicitation and Voting Procedures with respect to confirmation of the proposed *Second Amended Joint Chapter 11 Plan of Reorganization For The Roman Catholic Church of the Archdiocese of New Orleans and Additional Debtors, Proposed by the Debtor, the Additional Debtors, and the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors, Dated as of August 6, 2025*, (as amended, modified, or supplemented from time to time, the “Joint Plan”), [ECF Doc. 4235]; (c) the content and form of Ballots; (d) the content and form of the Solicitation Packages, and the manner of distributing the same; (e) the Archdiocese Support Letter and Survivors’ Committee Letter; (f) the Confirmation Hearing Notice; (g) the Non-Voting Status Notice; (h) the Plan Supplements Notice; and (i) the Assumption and Cure Notice and Rejection Notice to counterparties to Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases that will be assumed or rejected pursuant to the Joint Plan, all as more fully set forth in the Motion.

After having considered the Motion and the oral withdrawal of all objections to the Disclosure Statement, and after hearing the statements in support of the relief requested therein at the hearing on the relief sought in the Motion (the “Hearing”), this Court having found as follows: (a) it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1334; (b) this is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2); (c) this Court may enter a final Order consistent with Article III of the United States Constitution, and venue is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409; (d) the relief requested in the Motion is in the best interests of the Debtor’s Estate, its Creditors, and other parties in interest; (e) notice of the Motion and opportunity for a hearing on the Motion were appropriate pursuant to Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure 2002(b), 3016, and 9006(c) under the circumstances and no other notice need be provided; and (f) the legal and factual bases set forth

in the Motion and at the Hearing establish just cause for the relief granted herein; and, upon all of the proceedings had before this Court,

**IT IS ORDERED** that:

1. The Motion is **GRANTED**.

**A. APPROVAL OF THE DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

2. The Disclosure Statement, including all exhibits thereto, a copy of which is attached as **Schedule 1**, is **APPROVED**, the Court finding that the Disclosure Statement provides Creditors entitled to vote on the Joint Plan with adequate information to make an informed decision as to whether to vote to accept or reject the Joint Plan in accordance with 11 U.S.C. § 1125(a)(1).

3. The Disclosure Statement complies with Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 3016(c) by conspicuously describing the conduct and parties released, enjoined, or exculpated by the Joint Plan, and provides Creditors and other parties in interest with sufficient notice of such releases, injunctions, and exculpations in satisfaction of the requirements of Title 11 of the United States Code and Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 3016(c).

**B. APPROVAL OF THE MATERIALS AND TIMELINE FOR SOLICITING VOTES, AND THE PROCEDURES FOR CONFIRMING THE JOINT PLAN**

**(i) Solicitation, Voting, and Confirmation Dates and Deadlines.**

4. The Solicitation and Voting Procedures (the “Procedures”), a copy of which is attached as **Schedule 2**, are **APPROVED** in their entirety. In accordance with the Procedures, the following dates shall apply (subject to modification, as necessary) with respect to soliciting votes to accept the Joint Plan, voting on the Joint Plan, and Confirming the Joint Plan:

Event	Date	Description
Voting Record Date	<b>August 14, 2025;</b> <u>provided, however</u> , that if a Known Abuse Claimant files an Abuse Proof of Claim against an Additional Debtor, then the Voting Record Date for such Known Abuse Claim shall be <b>October 15, 2025</b>	Date for determining (a) which Creditors holding Claims in the Voting Classes (as defined herein) are entitled to vote to accept or reject the Joint Plan, and (b) whether Claims have been properly assigned or transferred to an assignee under Bankruptcy Rule 3001(e) such that the assignee or transferee, as applicable, can vote to accept or reject the Joint Plan
Solicitation Deadline	<b>August 28, 2025;</b> <u>provided, however</u> , that Solicitation Packages will be distributed on a rolling basis thereafter to Known Abuse Claimants who file Abuse Proofs of Claim against Additional Debtors, as discussed below	The date by which the Plan Proponents must serve the Solicitation Packages, Confirmation Hearing Notice ( <b>Schedule 5</b> ), and Non-Voting Status Notice ( <b>Schedule 6</b> ), as discussed below
Plan Supplements Filing Date and deadline to serve the Plan Supplements Notice	<b>October 20, 2025</b> (ten (10) days before the Confirmation Objection Deadline)	The date by which the Plan Proponents must File the Plan Supplements and serve the Plan Supplements Notice (attached as <b>Schedule 7</b> )
Voting Deadline	<b>October 29, 2025, at 11:59 p.m. Central Time</b>	Date by which Ballots (attached as <b>Schedule 3A, Schedule 3B, Schedule 3C-1, Schedule 3C-2, Schedule 3D, and Schedule 3E</b> ) must be actually received by the Claims and Voting Agent, each as discussed below
Confirmation Objection Deadline	<b>October 30, 2025</b>	Date by which any objections to Confirmation of the Joint Plan must be Filed and served
Deadline to File Voting Report	<b>November 6, 2025</b>	Date by which the report tabulating the voting on the Joint Plan will be Filed with the Court
Deadline to File Reply Briefs in Support of Confirmation	<b>November 7, 2025</b>	Date by which briefs in support of Confirmation of the Joint Plan may be Filed and served

Confirmation Hearing	<p><b>November 12, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. Central Time</b></p> <p>The Confirmation Hearing will continue, if needed, at 9:00 a.m. on the following dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. November 13,</li> <li>b. November 17,</li> <li>c. November 18,</li> <li>d. November 20,</li> <li>e. November 21,</li> <li>f. November 24,</li> <li>g. November 25,</li> <li>h. December 1, and</li> <li>i. December 2, 2025.</li> </ul>	<p>The Confirmation Hearing may be adjourned from time to time without further notice other than by such adjournment being announced in open court, or by a notice of adjournment Filed with the Court.</p>
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**(ii) Approval of the Ballots.**

5. The following Ballots are **APPROVED**: (a) the Ballot for Known Abuse Claims (Class 3), in the form of the attached **Schedule 3A**; (b) the Ballot for Unknown Abuse Claims (Class 4), in the form of the attached **Schedule 3B**; (c) the Master Ballot for Bond Claims (Class 6), in the form of the attached **Schedule 3C-1**; (d) the Beneficial Holder Ballot for Bond Claims (Class 6), in the form of the attached **Schedule 3C-2**; (e) the Ballot for General Unsecured Claims and Unsecured Trade Claims—Debtor (Class 7), in the form of the attached **Schedule 3D**; and (f) the Ballot for Non-Abuse Personal Injury Claims—Debtor (Class 8), in the form of the attached **Schedule 3E**.

**(iii) Approval of the Content, Form, and Distribution of Solicitation Packages to Creditors holding Claims in Voting Classes.**

6. Donlin, Recano & Company, LLC (the “Claims and Voting Agent”) is authorized to assist the Plan Proponents in (a) distributing the Solicitation Packages, (b) receiving, tabulating, and reporting on Ballots cast to accept or reject the Joint Plan by Creditors, (c) responding to inquiries from Creditors other parties in interest relating to the Disclosure Statement, the Joint Plan, the Ballots, the Solicitation Package, and all other related documents and matters related thereto, including the procedures and requirements for voting to accept or reject the Joint Plan and

for objecting to the Joint Plan, (d) soliciting votes on the Joint Plan, and (e) if necessary, contacting Creditors regarding the Joint Plan.

7. The following materials will be included in the Solicitation Packages, which will be sent to Creditors holding Claims in Classes that are entitled to vote to accept or reject the Joint Plan (the “Voting Classes”):

- a. The Disclosure Statement, with exhibits, including but not limited to, the Joint Plan (attached as **Schedule 1**);
- b. The Procedures (attached as **Schedule 2**);
- c. The applicable Ballot (attached as **Schedule 3A, Schedule 3B, Schedule 3C-1, Schedule 3C-2, Schedule 3D, or Schedule 3E**);
- d. The Archdiocese Support Letter (attached as **Schedule 4A**), and for Class 3 Claims, the Survivors’ Committee Letter (attached as **Schedule 4B**);
- e. The Confirmation Hearing Notice (attached as **Schedule 5**);
- f. This Order (without exhibits); and
- g. A pre-addressed, postage pre-paid reply envelope.

8. The Solicitation Package provides the Creditors holding Claims in Voting Classes with adequate information to make informed decisions with respect to voting on the Joint Plan, and satisfies the applicable requirements of Title 11 of the United States Code, Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure 2002(b) and 3017(d), and this Court’s Local Rules, and, therefore, the Solicitation Package is **APPROVED**.

9. On or before the Solicitation Deadline:

- a. The Plan Proponents will distribute, or cause to be distributed, by first-class mail, postage prepaid, the following documents in the Solicitation Package in electronic format (i.e., on a CD-ROM or flash drive) to Creditors holding Claims in Voting Classes: (i) the Disclosure Statement (with exhibits); and (ii) this Order (without exhibits).
- b. The Plan Proponents also will mail, or cause to be mailed, by first-class mail, postage prepaid, the following documents in the Solicitation Package in paper format to Creditors holding Claims in Voting Classes: (i) the Archdiocese Support Letter and, if applicable,

the Survivors' Committee Letter;<sup>3</sup> (ii) the Confirmation Hearing Notice; (iii) the Procedures; (iv) the applicable Ballot; and (v) a pre-addressed, postage pre-paid reply envelope.

- c. The Plan Proponents also will mail, or cause to be mailed, by first-class mail, postage prepaid, the materials in the Solicitation Package (excluding the Ballots) to the U.S. Trustee.

10. Any party that receives any portion of the Solicitation Package in electronic format may request paper copies by: (a) writing the Claims and Voting Agent at Donlin, Recano & Company, LLC, Re: The Roman Catholic Church of the Archdiocese of New Orleans, Attn: Voting Department, P.O. Box 2053, New York, NY 10272- 2042; (b) telephoning the Claims and Voting Agent at 1-877-476-4389 (toll free); and/or (c) e-mailing the Claims and Voting Agent at [drcvote@angeiongroup.com](mailto:drcvote@angeiongroup.com).

11. If a Known Abuse Claimant is represented by counsel, then the Class 3 Solicitation Package shall be distributed to counsel of record. Further, one Solicitation Package (containing unique Ballots) may be distributed to each law firm that is counsel of record for Abuse Claimants holding Known Abuse Claims in Class 3, regardless of how many Known Abuse Claimants the law firm represents, unless such counsel requests additional copies as provided in the preceding paragraph. Additionally, counsel for Known Abuse Claimants may request that the Claims and Voting Agent provide, via electronic mail, a link to the E-Balloting Portal along with the unique Ballot identifier for each Known Abuse Claimant represented by such counsel.

12. Within 72 hours of receipt of the Class 3 Solicitation Package, counsel for a Known Abuse Claimant shall forward the Class 3 Solicitation Package to its Known Abuse Claimant client by first-class mail, postage prepaid, or electronic mail. Within three (3) Business Days after such counsel has forwarded the Class 3 Solicitation Package, counsel shall file a

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<sup>3</sup> The Survivors' Committee Letter shall be included as a separate document at the top of the Class 3 Solicitation Package and may be printed on colored paper.

certificate of service attesting that it has done so. The certificate of service shall be filed under seal to protect the confidentiality of the clients' identity. The Plan Proponents shall have standing to seek sanctions against counsel who fail to comply with this portion of this Order and to seek designation of the votes of those Known Abuse Claimants whose counsel failed to comply with this portion of the Order.

13. Following the Solicitation Deadline, the Claims and Voting Agent shall distribute a Class 3 Solicitation Package to a Known Abuse Claimant (or counsel, if applicable) no later than two (2) Business Days (or as soon as reasonably possible) after the Known Abuse Claimant files an Abuse Proof of Claim against an Additional Debtor.<sup>4</sup>

14. The Plan Proponents and the Claims and Voting Agent are authorized to make reasonable efforts to ensure that any Creditor who has Filed or purchased duplicative Claims that are classified under the Joint Plan in the same Voting Class receives no more than one Solicitation Package (and, therefore, one Ballot) on account of such Claim and Class.

**(iv) Approval of Voting and Tabulation Procedures.**

15. The Voting and Tabulation Procedures set forth in Section E of the Procedures (attached as **Schedule 2**) are **APPROVED** in their entirety, including, but not limited to, "Creditors Entitled to Vote" (at Section E.1), "Establishing Claim Amounts for Voting Purposes Only" (at Section E.2), "Resolution of Disputed Claims for Voting Purposes; Resolution Event" (at Section E.3), and "Ballot Tabulation Procedures" (at Section E.4).

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<sup>4</sup> A new Solicitation Package need not be distributed to a Known Abuse Claimant to whom a Solicitation Package already was distributed on account of a Previously Asserted Claim.

(v) **Approval of the Content, Form, and Distribution of the Confirmation Hearing Notice.**

16. On or before the Solicitation Deadline, the Claims and Voting Agent will mail (by first-class mail, postage prepaid) the Confirmation Hearing Notice (attached as **Schedule 5**) to all known Creditors and all parties required to be notified under Federal Rule of Bankruptcy 2002 (the “2002 List”) as of the Voting Record Date (regardless of whether such parties are entitled to vote on the Joint Plan).

17. The Confirmation Hearing Notice constitutes adequate and sufficient notice to Creditors holding Claims of (a) the Confirmation Hearing, (b) the manner in which a copy of the Joint Plan, Ballot, or other materials in the Solicitation Package may be obtained, and (c) the Confirmation Objection Deadline. The Confirmation Hearing Notice satisfies the requirements of the applicable provisions of Title 11 of the United States Code, the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure, and this Court’s Local Rules, and is **APPROVED**.

(vi) **Approval of Content, Form, and Distribution of the Non-Voting Status Notice.**

18. The Plan Proponents are not required to provide Solicitation Packages to Creditors holding Claims that are not entitled to vote on the Joint Plan. Instead, on or before the Solicitation Deadline, the Claims and Voting Agent will mail (by first-class mail, postage prepaid) (a) the Confirmation Hearing Notice, and (b) the Non-Voting Status Notice (attached as **Schedule 6**) to Creditors holding the following Claims:

<b>Class No. or Plan Section</b>	<b>Description of Claims Not Entitled to Vote</b>
Section 2.1	Administrative Claims
Section 2.3	Administrative Trade Claims
Section 2.4	DIP Credit Card Claim
Section 2.5	Priority Tax Claims
Class 1	Other Priority Claims
Class 2	Secured Claims
Class 5	Non-Insurer Contribution Claims
Class 9	Unsecured Trade Claims—Additional Debtors

Class 10	Additional Debtors' Non-Trade Unsecured Claims—Additional Debtors
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19. The Non-Voting Status Notice includes, among other things: (a) instructions as to how to view or obtain copies of the Disclosure Statement (including the Joint Plan and the other exhibits thereto), this Order, and all other materials in the Solicitation Package (excluding Ballots) from the Claims and Voting Agent, free of charge, or at the Court's electronic case management system; (b) a disclosure regarding the release, exculpation, and injunction language set forth in Article 12 of the Joint Plan; (c) notice of the Confirmation Objection Deadline; (d) notice of the Confirmation Hearing; and (e) information related thereto.

20. The Non-Voting Status Notice satisfies the requirements of the applicable provisions of Title 11 of the United States Code, the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure, and this Court's Local Rules, and is **APPROVED**.

21. The mailing of the Non-Voting Status Notice in lieu of Solicitation Packages satisfies the requirements of Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 3017(d).

22. Additionally, the Plan Proponents are not required to mail or otherwise deliver Solicitation Packages or other solicitation materials to the following: (a) Creditors holding Claims that have already been paid in full during the Chapter 11 Case, or that are authorized to be paid in full in the ordinary course of business pursuant to an Order previously entered by this Court; or (b) any party to whom the Scheduling Order was sent, but was subsequently returned as undeliverable without a forwarding address.

**(vii) Approval of Content, Form, and Distribution of the Plan Supplements Notice.**

23. The Plan Proponents are authorized to send the Plan Supplements Notice, substantially in the form attached as **Schedule 6**, which will be Filed and served by the Plan Supplements Filing Date (ten (10) days before the Confirmation Objection Deadline); provided,

however, that the Plan Proponents reserve the right, subject to the terms and conditions set forth in the Joint Plan, to alter, amend, modify, or supplement any Plan Supplement through the Effective Date. The Plan Supplements Notice satisfies the requirements of the applicable provisions of Title 11 of the United States Code, the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure, and this Court's Local Rules, and is **APPROVED**.

**(viii) Approval of Content, Form, and Distribution of Notices to Contract and Lease Counterparties.**

24. The Plan Proponents are authorized to mail (by first-class mail, postage pre-paid) an Assumption and Cure Notice or Rejection Notice in the forms that are attached as **Schedule 8** and **Schedule 9** to the applicable counterparties to Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases that will be assumed or rejected pursuant to the Joint Plan, as the case may be.

25. Service of **Schedule 8** and **Schedule 9** no later than the Plan Supplements Filing Date (ten (10) days before the Confirmation Objection Deadline) provides adequate and sufficient notice of the following: (a) the deadline and manner in which a counterparty may File an objection to the proposed treatment of an Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease, including, but not limited to, the proposed Cure Amount; and (b) the deadline to File a Proof of Claim for any Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease on the Rejection Schedule. Therefore, Schedule 8 and Schedule 9 satisfy the applicable requirements of Title 11 of the United States Code, the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure, and this Court's Local Rules, and the same are **APPROVED**.

**C. APPROVAL OF THE PROCEDURES FOR FILING OBJECTIONS TO THE JOINT PLAN**

26. No later than the Confirmation Objection Deadline, objections to Confirmation of the Joint Plan or requests for modifications to the Joint Plan, if any, *must*: (a) be in writing; (b) conform to the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure and this Court's Local Rules; (c) state,

with particularity, the legal and factual basis for the objection and, if practicable, a proposed modification to the Joint Plan (or related materials) that would resolve such objection; and (d) be Filed with this Court (contemporaneously with a proof of service), and served upon counsel for the Plan Proponents.

**D. MISCELLANEOUS**

27. The Plan Proponents reserve the right to modify the Joint Plan without further Order of the Court in accordance with Section 14.13 of the Joint Plan, including the right to withdraw the Joint Plan at any time before the Confirmation Date as provided in Section 14.14 of the Joint Plan.

28. The Plan Proponents are authorized to make, before distribution, non-substantive or ministerial changes to any documents in the Solicitation Package and any notices approved herein without further approval of this Court, including, without limitation, changes to correct typographical and grammatical errors and to make conforming changes to the Disclosure Statement, the Joint Plan, and any other materials included in the Solicitation Package.

29. After service of the Solicitation Packages, the Plan Proponents may have additional information regarding the sale of the Affordable Housing Facilities that was not available for inclusion in the Disclosure Statement and would be included in a Plan Supplement or Plan Supplements Notice. Such new information could establish “cause” for a Creditor to change or withdraw an acceptance or rejection of the Joint Plan. Provided that the Voting Report reflects that a Creditor had cast an earlier Ballot and changed its vote, the Voting Report shall be considered notice and opportunity for hearing at the Confirmation Hearing on any objection that the new Ballot should supersede such Creditor’s earlier Ballot(s).

30. With respect to any transferred Claim, the transferee will only be entitled to receive and cast a Ballot on account of such transferred Claim if (a) all actions necessary to effect the

transfer of the Claim pursuant to Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 3001(e) have been completed by the Voting Record Date (including, without limitation, the passage of any applicable objection period); or (b) the transferee Files, no later than the Voting Record Date, (i) the documentation required by Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 3001(e) to evidence the transfer and (ii) a sworn statement of the transferor supporting the validity of the transfer.

31. All time periods set forth in this Order will be calculated in accordance with Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 9006(a).

32. The Plan Proponents are authorized to take all actions necessary to effectuate the relief granted in this Order.

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

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the Debtor is instructed to serve this Order by first-class U.S. Mail within three days on all parties not receiving electronic notice through this Court's CM/ECF system pursuant to applicable Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure, this Court's Local Rules, this Court's Complex Case Procedures, and this Court's *Ex Parte Order Authorizing the Debtor to Limit Notice and Establishing Notice Procedures*, [ECF Doc. 22], and file a certificate of service into the record.

New Orleans, Louisiana, August 12, 2025.



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MEREDITH S. GRABILL  
UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE