1 2 3 4 5 6 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 8 CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 9 10 WESTERN DIVISION SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE Case No. 2:18-cv-05008-FMO-AFM 11 COMMISSION, ORDER GRANTING 12 Plaintiff, 1) ESTABLISHING CLAIMS 13 PROCEDURES; AND (2) SETTING V. CLAIMS BAR DATE [168] 14 RALPH T. IANNELLI and ESSEX CAPITAL CORP., Ctrm: 6D 15 Judge Hon. Fernando M. Olguin Defendants. 16 17 Before the Court is the Stipulation for Order: (1) Establishing Claims 18 19 Procedures; and (2) Setting Claims Bar Date (the "Stipulation") by and between 20 Geoff Winkler (the "Receiver"), the Court-appointed permanent receiver for 21 Defendant Essex Capital Corporation and its subsidiaries and affiliates (collectively, the "Receivership Entities" or "Entities"), and the Plaintiff Securities and Exchange 22 Commission. 23 The Stipulation having been considered, and good cause appearing therefor, 24 25 this Court orders as follows: The Stipulation is granted, in its entirety; A. 26 The proposed procedures set forth in the Stipulation are approved as 27 Β. follows: 28

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I. <u>INVESTOR CLAIMS.</u>

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1. The Receiver will send a letter (the "Claim Letter") to all known investor and non-investor creditors of the Entities who appear to have suffered net losses from their investments in, or contributions to, the Entities (collectively, sometimes referred to herein as the "Net Losers") reflecting the Receiver's calculation of the Net Loser's claim for reimbursement (the "Claim") against the Receivership Entities, as reflected in the Receiver's records. This amount (the "Claim Amount") will be the result of the Receiver's money-in/money-out ("MIMO") calculations, and shall not include accrued interest, late fees, contract or other damages, attorneys' fees, or similar contingent, consequential, or unliquidated claims. The Claim Letter will further inform the Net Loser that, if he/she/it disputes the Receiver's calculated Claim Amount, the Net Loser must submit a completed Claim Form (as defined, below) to the Receiver, along with any documentation in support of the Net Loser's position and calculation of his/her/its Claim, by the Claims Bar Date (as defined below). Any prospective claimant, including a Net Loser, who does not return a completed Claim Form to the Receiver on or before the Claims Bar Date will be deemed to have accepted and agreed to the Receiver's valuation of his/her/its Claim, in the amount of the Claim Amount associated with that Claim.

II. <u>CLAIM FORM.</u>

2. The Receiver's Claim Letters will also include, as an attachment, a form (the "Claim Form") by which any prospective claimant, including any Net Loser, who disputes the Receiver's calculation of his/her/its Claim Amount may provide information to the Receiver regarding that dispute, including his/her/its valuation of his/her/its Claim, and any associated supporting documentation, as addressed further, below. Λ copy of the Claim Form will also be available on the Receiver's website for this matter, www.essex-receivership.com.

1203229.02/LA -2-

3. Prospective claimants who do not receive a Claim Letter, either because the Receiver does not believe them to be Net Losers or otherwise, or who receive the Claim Letter but dispute the Receiver's calculation of their Claim Amount, shall be required to complete the Claim Form by providing specific information about the nature and amount of their prospective Claim. Further, such claimants will be required to submit adequate supporting documentation at the time their Claim Forms are returned to the Receiver, in order to evidence the validity and extent of each purported Claim.

III. SUBMISSION OF CLAIM FORM.

4. All prospective claimants, including Net Losers, shall be permitted to submit their Claim Forms to the Receiver by mail or email, on or before the Claims Bar Date. Prospective claimants submitting a Claim Form by email will receive an acknowledgement of receipt by email, and claimants submitting a Claim Form by mail can request a date-stamped copy acknowledging receipt.

IV. <u>CLAIMS BAR DATE.</u>

- 5. The Receiver shall notify all prospective claimants, by posting on his website, www.essex-receiversip.com, a notice of the deadline (the "Claims Bar Date") by which all prospective claimants, including Net Losers, who dispute the Receiver's valuation of their prospective Claims, including his calculation of their Claim Amounts, must return their completed Claim Forms, along with all available documentation supporting their valuation of their prospective Claims, to the Receiver. Any prospective claimant, including a Net Loser, who does not return a completed Claim Form to the Receiver on or before the Claims Bar Date will be deemed to have accepted and agreed to the Receiver's valuation of his/her/its Claim, in the amount of the Claim Amount associated with that Claim.
- 6. The Claims Bar Date shall be established as the date sixty (60) calendar days from the date of the Receiver's first publication of notice of the Claims Bar

1203229.02/LA -3-

Date on his website, www.essex-receivership.com, following receipt of an order from this Court approving the Stipulation.

V. <u>ADDITIONAL NOTICE BY PUBLICATION.</u>

7. The Receiver will provide notice to all prospective claimants of the above-described claims process and the Claims Bar Date, by email (for all known investor and other Entity creditor email addresses) and by publishing a one-time notice in a publication of wide circulation in the geographic area of the Entities' principal place of business, Santa Barbara, California. Such notice shall include a referral to the Receiver's website, www.essex-receivership.com, where claims-related materials may be viewed and downloaded. The combination of email and published notice, in addition to posting on the Receiver's website, will result in adequate notice, without undue expenditure of limited Receivership Estate resources.

VI. <u>DISPUTED CLAIMS REVIEW PROCEDURE.</u>

- 8. Any prospective claimant, including a Net Loser, who does not return a completed Claim Form to the Receiver on or before the Claims Bar Date will be deemed to have accepted and agreed to the Receiver's valuation of his/her/its Claim, in the amount of the Claim Amount associated with that Claim.
- 9. For all other Claims, the Receiver will evaluate all Claim Forms and supporting documents received by the Claims Bar Date, and compare them against the records of the Receivership Entities, the results of his investigation and accounting, and other relevant materials, and make a determination regarding the recommended treatment of each Claim.
- 10. Claims will be evaluated on a strict MIMO basis, across the Receivership Entities as a whole. Accordingly, Claims will be determined based on each investor's (or creditor's) net investment in (or net monetary contribution to) the Receivership Entities, in the aggregate. The process will thus ensure that no

1203229.02/LA -4-

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investor or creditor receives an inequitable benefit as a consequence of the combinations of Entities in which their money was invested, or to which they made a monetary contribution. 3 11. In the event that the Receiver does not accept a particular claimant's 4 asserted Claim or Claim Amount, the Receiver will provide written notice to the 5 claimant of the objection and the Receiver's revised, proposed Claim Amount, if 6 any. The Receiver will attempt to confer with the claimant in an effort to resolve 7 the dispute. Differences that cannot be resolved directly between the Receiver and 8 the claimant will be submitted to this Court for determination by motion, at such time as the Receiver makes his recommendations to this Court regarding the 10 equitable treatment of Claims. 11 Effective immediately upon the entry of this Order, the Receiver is authorized 12 to commence his clams procedures, as set forth in the Stipulation. 13 14 SO ORDERED. 15 16 /s/ July 31, 2020 Dated: 17 Hon. Fernando M. Olguin Judge, United States District Court 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

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