

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
DALLAS DIVISION

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION, §

Plaintiff, §

v. §

Civil Action No. 3:05-CV-1328-(BD)

MEGAFUND CORPORATION, STANLEY A. §

LEITNER, SARDAUKAR HOLDINGS, IBC., §

and BRADLEY C. STARK, CIG, LTD., and §

JAMES A. RUMPF, Individually and d/b/a §

CILAK INTERNATIONAL, §

Defendants, §

and §

PAMELA C. STARK, §

Relief Defendant. §

**ECF
Referred to the U.S. Magistrate Judge**

**RECEIVER’S FIFTH INTERIM APPLICATION TO ALLOW AND PAY (1)
RECEIVER’S FEES AND EXPENSES; (2) ATTORNEYS FEES AND EXPENSES; AND
(3) ACCOUNTANTS FEES AND EXPENSES WITH BRIEF IN SUPPORT
(LANCORP FINANCIAL GROUP RECEIVERSHIP ESTATE)**

TO THE HONORABLE JEFF A. KAPLAN, UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE:

Michael J. Quilling, Receiver, files this his Fifth Interim Application to Allow and Pay (1) Receiver’s Fees and Expenses; (2) Attorneys Fees and Expenses; and (3) Accountants Fees and Expenses (Lancorp Financial Group Receivership Estate) and, in support of such, would respectfully show unto the Court as follows:

BACKGROUND

1. On July 1, 2005 the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) filed its Complaint and request for appointment of a receiver [Dkt. No. 1]. On July 5, 2005 the Court

appointed Michael J. Quilling as Receiver for the Defendants and Relief Defendant in this case [Dkt. No. 9]. On July 18, 2005 the SEC filed an Amended Complaint expanding this receivership to include other individuals and entities [Dkt. No. 27]. On July 19, 2005 the Court issued an Amended Order Appointing Temporary Receiver (“Order Appointing Receiver”) [Dkt. No. 36].

2. The Order Appointing Receiver authorizes the Receiver to employ such attorneys and accountants as is necessary and proper in connection with the claims process. Since his appointment, the Receiver employed the law firm of Quilling Selander Cummiskey & Lownds, P.C. (“QSCL”) as his general counsel. The Receiver is an attorney and a shareholder in that firm and has rendered many of the legal services addressed in this Application as well as performing his duties as the Receiver. The Receiver also employed the accounting firm of Litzler Segner Shaw & McKenney, LLP (“LSSM”).

3. On August 12, 2005 the Receiver filed an Unopposed Motion to Designate Receivership Estates [Docket No. 48]. On August 15, 2005 the Court entered an Order that established two receivership estates within these proceedings, the Megafund Corporation/CIG, Ltd. Receivership Estate and the Sardaukar Holdings Receivership Estate [Docket No. 50].

4. On January 17, 2006 the Receiver filed an Agreed Motion to Expand Receivership to include Lancorp Financial Group, LLC [Docket No. 83]. On January 20, 2006 the Court entered its Order adding a third receivership estate, the Lancorp Financial Group Receivership Estate [Dkt. No. 84].

5. On April 10, 2006 the Receiver filed his Second Interim Application to Allow and Pay (1) Receiver’s Fees and Expenses; (2) Attorneys’ Fees and Expenses; and (3) Accountants Fees and Expenses [Dkt. No. 122]. On May 8, 2006 the Court issued an Order requiring the Receiver to file an amended application [Dkt. No. 139].

6. On May 18, 2006 the Receiver filed his Amended Second Interim Application to Allow and Pay (1) Receiver's Fees and Expenses; (2) Attorneys Fees and Expenses; and (3) Accountants Fees and Expenses [Dkt. No. 145]. On June 1, 2006 the Court issued an Order approving the Amended Application [Dkt. No. 154].

7. On July 10, 2006 the Receiver filed his Third Interim Application to Allow and Pay (1) Receiver's Fees and Expenses; (2) Attorney' Fees and Expenses; and (3) Accountants Fees and Expenses [Dkt. No. 168]. On August 14, 2006 the Court issued an Order approving the Application [Dkt. No. 186].

8. On October 6, 2006 the Receiver filed his Fourth Interim Application to Allow and Pay (1) Receiver's Fees and Expenses; (2) Attorneys Fees and Expenses; and (3) Accountants Fees and Expenses [Dkt. No. 213]. On November 15, 2006 the Court issued an Order denying the Fee Application without prejudice and directing the Receiver to re-file it after submitting an interim distribution plan to the Magistrate Judge for approval [Dkt. No. 234].

9. On February 8, 2007, the Receiver filed his Amended Fourth Interim Application to Allow and Pay (1) Receiver's Fees and Expenses; (2) Attorneys Fees and Expenses; and (3) Accountants Fees and Expenses [Dkt. No. 270]. On March 20, 2007, the Court issued an Order approving the Application [Dkt. No. 299].

10. On January 20, 2007 the Receiver filed his Motion to Make Interim Distribution from the Lancorp Financial Receivership Estate [Dkt. No. 262]. On April 12, 2007, the District Court issued an Order approving the distribution [Dkt. No. 307] and since that time the Receiver has issued checks to holders of allowed claims totaling \$2.5 million.

**APPLICATION FOR FEES AND EXPENSES
OF THE RECEIVER AND HIS ATTORNEYS**

11. This Application seeks the approval and payment of fees and reimbursable expenses for the Receiver and QSCL for the time period from February 1, 2007 through April 30, 2007 as to the Lancorp Financial Group Receivership Estate and only that estate.

12. Pursuant to this Court's Order of May 8, 2005 [Docket No. 139] **the monthly expenses incurred have already been paid.**

13. During the period covered by this Application, the Receiver has incurred fees and expenses with respect to his activities and those of QSCL on a monthly basis as follows:

Month	Fees	Expenses
February 2007	\$4,434.00	\$446.93
March 2007	\$4,145.00	\$35.07
April 2007	\$7,564.00	\$870.40
TOTAL:	\$16,143.00	\$1,352.40

14. Exhibit "A", which is attached and incorporated for all purposes, conveys the following information for the time period of February 1, 2007 through April 30, 2007: (a) the number of hours worked by each attorney and staff member on a particular day; (b) the manner and type of work performed by each attorney and staff member; (c) the customary billing rate for each person rendering service in this matter; and (d) the monetary value assigned to each task performed by a given attorney and/or staff member. Each of the invoices attached hereto as Exhibit "A" reflect aggregate expenses by category during a given month.

15. Attached as Exhibit "B" are copies of each expense item that exceeds \$500.00 for the months covered by this Application. **There are no such expenses for this period.**

JOHNSON FACTORS

16. In support of this request for compensation and reimbursement of expenses, the Receiver respectfully directs this Court's attention to those factors generally considered by courts in awarding compensation to professionals for services performed in connection with the administration of a receivership estate. As stated by the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals in *Migis v. Pearle Vision, Inc.*, 135 F.3d 1041, 1047 (5th Cir. 1998), "The calculation of attorneys fees involves a well-established process. First, the court calculates a 'lodestar' fee by multiplying the reasonable number of hours expended on the case by the reasonable hourly rates for the participating lawyers. (cite omitted.) The court then considers whether the lodestar figure should be adjusted upward or downward depending on the circumstances of the case. In making a lodestar adjustment the court should look at twelve factors, known as the Johnson factors, after *Johnson v. Georgia Highway Express, Inc.*, 488 F.2d 714 (5th Cir. 1974)." Those factors as applied to the services rendered in this case by the Receiver and QSCL are addressed below.

(a) The Time and Labor Required. The Receiver and QSCL respectfully refer the Court's attention to Exhibit "A" which details the involvement of the Receiver and QSCL's attorneys in this case during the period covered by this Application showing that more than 96 hours of attorney, Receiver, and paraprofessional time have been expended.

(b) The Novelty and Difficulty of the Questions. Many of the tasks reflected in Exhibit "A" involved factual and legal questions that were of substantial complexity.

(c) The Skill Requisite to Perform the Service. The Receiver believes that the services performed in this case have required individuals possessing considerable experience in asset seizure, tracing and liquidation. Both the Receiver and QSCL have considerable experience in such areas.

(d) The Preclusion of Other Employment Due to Acceptance of the Case. The Receiver

and QSCL have not declined any representation solely because of their services as Receiver and counsel for the Receiver.

(e) The Customary Fee. The hourly rates sought herein are commensurate with or lower than the rates charged by other practitioners of similar experience levels in the Northern District of Texas. During the course of these proceedings, the following timekeepers at QSCL have performed legal services on behalf of the Receiver with respect to these proceedings:

Lawyers:

- Michael J. Quilling (\$350.00 per hour), licensed in Texas in 1982 and Texas Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law and Civil Trial Law, Texas Super Lawyer 2004-2006;
- James H. Moody (\$350.00 per hour) licensed in Texas in 1978, Texas Super Lawyer 2004-2006;
- D. Dee Raibourn (\$250.00 per hour) licensed in Texas in 1998;
- Michael Clark (\$225 per hour) licensed in Texas in 1997;
- Brent Rodine (\$150.00 per hour) licensed in Texas in 2005; and
- Matthew Kita (\$175.00 per hour) licensed in Texas in 2005.

QSCL Attorney Profiles of all lawyers are attached hereto as Exhibit "C". During the course of these proceedings, the following paralegals have performed services on behalf of the Receiver with respect to these proceedings:

Paralegals:

- Stephen M. Tomasky (\$110.00 per hour) senior claims administrator for six years, has processed thousands of claims in receivership cases;

- Leslie D. Finn (\$100.00 per hour) claims administrator for four years, has processed thousands of claims in receivership cases; and
- Charley Brumley (\$85.00 per hour) paralegal for two years.

(f) Whether the Fee is Fixed or Contingent. The Receiver's and QSCL's fees are fixed insofar as monies exist by way of Receivership Assets from which to pay such fees. Payment of such fees, however, is subject to Court approval.

(g) Time Limitations Imposed by the Client or Other Circumstances. The time requirements during the period covered by this Application have been normal.

(h) The Amount Involved and the Results Obtained. As to the Lancorp Financial Group Receivership Estate, the primary assets were located in Oregon. The Receiver has obtained all cash in bank accounts and has partially recovered funds in a brokerage account. The Receiver is currently pursuing litigation to recover additional funds. 130 claims totaling \$10,568,053.02 have been processed by the Receiver and approved by the Court. \$2.5 million has been paid pro-rata to the holders of allowed claims.

Other actions by the Receiver are described in the Interim Report submitted simultaneously with this Application.

(i) The Experience, Reputation and Ability of the Attorneys. QSCL has several attorneys who specialize exclusively in the practice of civil trial law. The practice of those attorneys regularly includes the representation of bankruptcy trustees and receivers. The reputation of QSCL's attorneys is recognized and respected in their community in Texas.

(j) The Undesirability of the Case. The representation of the Receiver incident to this case has not been undesirable.

(k) The Nature and Length of the Professional Relationship with the Client. QSCL did not represent the Receiver in these proceedings prior to being retained in these proceedings.

(l) Award in Similar Cases. QSCL believes that the fees requested in this case are less than or equal to those which have been awarded in similar cases in this District.

**APPLICATION FOR FEES AND EXPENSES
OF THE RECEIVER'S ACCOUNTANT**

17. There are no fees for the accountants during this period.

WHEREFORE, the Receiver respectfully requests that the Court allow the requested compensation for professional services and expenses rendered by the Receiver, his legal counsel, and his accountants and authorize the Receiver to pay QSCL \$16,143.00 (fees only) for the time period from February 1, 2007 through April 30, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: /s/ Michael J. Quilling
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ATTORNEYS FOR RECEIVER

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This is to certify that on the 9th day of May, 2007, a true a correct copy of the above and foregoing has been served on the attorneys for the parties in this matter via electronic notice.

This Application will also be posted on the Receiver's website, www.secreceiver.com after filing.

/s/ Michael J. Quilling