

**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN**

In re) Chapter 9
)
CITY OF DETROIT, MICHIGAN,) Case No. 13-53846
)
Debtor.) Hon. Steven W. Rhodes
)
) Expedited Consideration
) Requested

**SYNCORA GUARANTEE INC. AND SYNCORA
CAPITAL ASSURANCE INC. *EX PARTE* MOTION TO EXTEND
THE VOTING DEADLINE WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN CLAIMS**

Syncora Guarantee Inc. and Syncora Capital Assurance Inc. (collectively, “Syncora”) submit this *ex parte* motion (the “Ex Parte Motion”) for entry of an order extending the Voting Deadline, defined below, regarding the ballots that are the subject of the *Motion to Enforce the Solicitation Procedures Order* [Docket No. 5444] (the “Enforcement Motion”) until two business days after this Court enters an order granting any of the relief requested in the Enforcement Motion. In support of this *Ex Parte Motion*, Syncora respectfully states as follows:

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

1. The Court has jurisdiction over this motion pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334. This is a core proceeding under 28 U.S.C. § 157(b) and venue is proper in this district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409.

RELIEF REQUESTED

2. Syncora seeks entry of an order extending the Voting Deadline to two business days after this Court enters an order granting any of the relief requested in the Enforcement Motion.¹

BASIS FOR RELIEF

3. On June 18, 2014, Syncora filed the Enforcement Motion. Under the Enforcement Motion, Syncora sought entry of an order enforcing the Solicitation Procedures Order² against the City and requiring the City to provide Syncora with Class 14 ballots so that Syncora may vote its Class 14 claims and an additional Class 9 ballot that allows Syncora to vote its additional Class 9 claims, as described in the Enforcement Motion.

4. The Enforcement Motion was filed only after Syncora — upon receiving its solicitation package and for over a month — had sought to work with the City to resolve the issue of Syncora not receiving its ballots and the City not offering any resolution.

¹ The relief requested in this *Ex Parte* Motion does not apply to the ballots Syncora received and will submit by the Voting Deadline.

² Capitalized terms that are not defined herein have the definitions ascribed to them in the Enforcement Motion.

5. The deadline for submitting ballots to accept or reject the Plan is at or before 5 p.m., Eastern Time, on July 11, 2014 (the “Voting Deadline”). See Disclosure Statement, Preamble.

6. Syncora filed the Enforcement Motion with sufficient notice to have it heard prior to the Voting Deadline. However, Syncora was informed by the Court that a hearing on the Enforcement Motion may not take place until after the Voting Deadline.

7. Syncora does not believe that the Voting Deadline applies to the relief sought in the Enforcement Motion pursuant to Rule 3018 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the “Bankruptcy Rules”).³ But for the avoidance of doubt and to preserve its sacred right to vote its claims, *see, e.g., In re Adelpia Comm’ns Corp.*, 359 B.R. 54, 56 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 2006) (stating that the “ability to vote on a reorganization plan is one of the most sacred entitlements that a creditor has”),

³ Pursuant to the Solicitation Procedures Order, parties seeking to have their claims estimated for voting purposes are required to file a motion pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 3018. See Solicitation Procedures Order, ¶ 13 (“If any claimant seeks different treatment of a claim for voting purposes, other than in accordance with the Amended Tabulation Rules, such claimant shall be required to file a motion pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 3018(a) for an order temporarily allowing such claim in a different amount or classification for purposes of voting to accept or reject the Plan (a “Rule 3018 Motion”) and serve such motion on the City’s counsel by the later of (a) May 1, 2014 or (b) 10 days after the date of service of a notice of objection, if any, to the applicable claim. Any Ballot submitted by a claimant that files a Rule 3018 Motion shall be counted solely in accordance with the Amended Tabulation Rules until the underlying claim is temporarily allowed by order of this Court for voting purposes in a different amount or classification, after notice and a hearing.”).

Syncora respectfully requests that, pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 9006(b) and Rule 9006-1(b) of the Local Rules of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Michigan (the “Local Bankruptcy Rules”), this Court enter an order extending the Voting Deadline until two business days after this Court grants the relief sought in the Enforcement Motion. *See* Fed. R. Bankr. P. 9006(b) (providing that “the court for cause shown may at any time in its discretion . . . with or without motion or notice order the period enlarged if the request therefor is made before the expiration of the period originally prescribed”); E.D. Mich. L.B.R. 9006-1(b) (providing that “a party may file a motion for an *ex parte* order reducing or enlarging the time for a party to take any action or file any paper”).

8. Despite its unsuccessful attempts over the past month to obtain from the City the proper ballots to vote its claims, Syncora continues to remain open to resolving this issue amicably with the City without the Court’s involvement. The Solicitation Procedures Order clearly provides that Syncora should have received the additional ballots it requested.

9. The relief Syncora requests in this *Ex Parte* Motion will prejudice no party in interest. The City will have ample time after the extended deadline and in advance of confirmation to tabulate Syncora’s additional votes. Syncora does not seek any extension of the Voting Deadline regarding the ballots it did receive.

10. Pursuant to Local Bankruptcy Rule 9006-1(b), Syncora sought the City's concurrence in the relief sought on June 24, 2014, but the City did not concur.

11. Syncora will serve this *Ex Parte* Motion to the parties in the above-captioned proceeding and will provide notice of the *ex parte* order upon issuance pursuant to Local Bankruptcy Rule 9006-1(b).

Conclusion

WHEREFORE, Syncora respectfully requests that the Court enter an order, substantially in the form attached as Exhibit 1, granting the relief requested in this *Ex Parte* Motion and granting such further relief as this Court deems appropriate.

Dated: June 25, 2014

/s/ Ryan Blaine Bennett

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Exhibit 1
Proposed Order

**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN**

In re)
) Chapter 9
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CITY OF DETROIT, MICHIGAN,) Case No. 13-53846
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Debtor.) Hon. Steven W. Rhodes
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**ORDER GRANTING *EX PARTE*
MOTION TO EXTEND THE VOTING DEADLINE**

This matter having come before the Court on the motion (the “*Ex Parte Motion*”) of Syncora for the entry of an order (this “*Order*”) extending the Voting Deadline,¹ the Court having reviewed Syncora’s *Ex Parte Motion*, and the Court having determined that the legal and factual bases set forth in the *Ex Parte Motion* establish just cause for the relief granted herein;

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. Syncora’s *Ex Parte Motion* is GRANTED.
2. Syncora is authorized to take all actions necessary to effectuate the relief granted pursuant to this Order in accordance with the *Ex Parte Motion*.
3. The terms and conditions of this Order shall be immediately effective and enforceable upon its entry.

¹ Capitalized terms used but otherwise not defined herein have the meaning set forth in the *Ex Parte Motion*.

4. The Court retains jurisdiction with respect to all matters arising from or related to the implementation of this Order.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

STEVEN W. RHODES
United States Bankruptcy Judge