PACHULSKI STANG ZIEHL & JONES LLP ATTORNEYS AT LAW LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

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Sloan (collectively, the "On the Rocks Parties"), on the other hand. The Settlement Agreement
provides, among other things, for the payment to the Debtor's estate (the "Estate") by the On the
Rocks Parties of \$593,434, plus interest as applicable pursuant to the terms of the Settlement
Agreement, in full and complete satisfaction of amounts owed to the Estate on account of jewelry
and coins purchased by On the Rocks from the Debtor. In addition, the Settlement Agreement
provides that the On the Rocks Parties agree to enter into a confession of judgment in the
Settlement Amount. A copy of the Settlement Agreement is attached hereto as Exhibit 2. The
Trustee seeks approval of the Settlement Agreement and authorization to take any and all actions
reasonably necessary to effectuate the Settlement Agreement.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Trustee, in the exercise of his business judgment, believes that the Settlement Agreement is fair and reasonable and in the best interests of the Estate. After extensive, arms-length negotiations between the Trustee and the On the Rocks Parties, the parties determined to enter into the Settlement Agreement. Absent such consensual resolution, the Estate will be subject to litigation risks and costs, the attendant delay, and the possibility of an adverse result. Accordingly, the Trustee believes that the Settlement Agreement is in the best interests of the Estate and its creditors and should be approved.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Motion is based on this Notice and Motion, the accompanying Memorandum of Points and Authorities, the Declaration of R. Todd Neilson that is attached to the Motion, and any other admissible evidence properly brought before the Court.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that Local Bankruptcy Rule 9013-1(o)(1) requires that any response to the Motion and a request for a hearing thereon shall be filed with the Bankruptcy Court and served upon Trustee's counsel at the address appearing on the upper-left hand corner of the caption page to this Motion and the Office of the U.S. Trustee within fourteen (14) days of the date of service of the Motion. Pursuant to Local Bankruptcy Rule 9013-1(h), the failure to timely file and serve written opposition may be deemed by the Court to be consent to the granting of the relief requested in the Motion.

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2	Agreem	ent, authorize the
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5	Dated:	March 17, 2015
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WHEREFORE, the Trustee respectfully requests that the Court approve the Settlement Agreement, authorize the Trustee to take all actions necessary to implement the Settlement Agreement, and grant such other and further relief as is just and proper under the circumstances.

PACHULSKI STANG ZIEHL & JONES LLP

By <u>/s/ Linda F. Cantor</u> Linda F. Cantor

Counsel for R. Todd Neilson, Chapter 7 Trustee

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#### MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

I.

#### **STATEMENT OF FACTS**

#### A. The Background of the Debtor's Business

The Debtor is a California corporation. The Debtor was in the business of selling and purchasing gold, silver, coins, bullion, and other precious metals through its internet website or by phone. Prior to the filing of the bankruptcy, customer complaints concerning delayed or undelivered orders were increasingly made to the Better Business Bureau against the Debtor and in early March, 2014, a class-action lawsuit was filed against the Debtor and its principal in the United States District Court, Northern District of California. The Debtor ceased operations on or about March 3, 2014. Shortly before the initiation of these proceedings, a raid was conducted at the business offices of the Debtor by the Secret Service and the Department of Justice and the Debtor's computers and documents were seized for an ongoing criminal investigation.

#### B. Procedural Background of Case

The Debtor commenced this case by the filing of a voluntary petition for relief under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code on March 10, 2014. In light of pending criminal investigation and other ongoing litigation, on March 18, 2014, the United States Trustee filed a *Stipulation Appointing Chapter 11 Trustee* [Docket No. 15] (the "Stipulation"), which was signed by both the Debtor and its attorney. The Stipulation was approved by the Bankruptcy Court on March 18, 2014 [Docket No. 16] and an Order was entered by the Court on March 21, 2014 approving the *U.S. Trustee's Application for the Appointment of a Chapter 11 Trustee, appointing R. Todd Neilson as Trustee of the Debtor's estate* [Docket No. 22]. Thereafter upon notice and hearing, the case was converted to a chapter 7 and R. Todd Neilson continues to serve as the chapter 7 Trustee [Docket 108].

#### C. Estate's Claim Against the On the Rocks Parties

On the Rocks Jewelry & Coins ("On the Rocks") is engaged in the business of buying and selling jewelry and coins and is a sole proprietorship owned by David Halpin and Desiree Sloan.

On the Rocks, Mr. Halpin and Ms. Sloan are referred to collectively herein as the "On the Rocks

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Parties." Prior to the Petition Date, On the Rocks purchased and received gold and silver coins in the total amount of \$5,676,880.00 (the "Purchased Coins") from the Debtor. On the Rocks paid the Debtor \$5,083,446.00 on account of certain of the Purchased Coins and stopped making payments to the Debtor on the remaining Purchased Coins on February 12, 2014. As set forth on Exhibit A to the Settlement Agreement, On the Rocks owes the Debtor's estate (the "Estate") \$593,434.00 on account of the remaining Purchased Coins. On or about July 14, 2014, the Trustee made demand upon On the Rocks to pay the outstanding balance in the amount of \$593,434.00. Rather than proceed with litigation, the parties engaged in good faith, arms' length negotiations to resolve payment by On the Rocks to the Estate of the outstanding balance.

The Trustee has determined in his reasonable business judgment that the compromise set forth in the Settlement Agreement is in the best interest of the Estate because it resolves the On the Rocks Parties' liability for and payment of amounts due and owing to the Estate and avoids litigation with respect thereto.

#### D. **Proposed Settlement Agreement**

After extensive, arms-length negotiations between the Trustee and the On the Rocks Parties, the parties determined to enter into the Settlement Agreement, which provides, among other things<sup>1</sup>:

- (i) Each of the On the Rocks Parties agrees to pay to the Estate, pursuant to the terms, conditions, and requirements set forth in the Settlement Agreement, the sum of \$593,434.00, plus interest as applicable pursuant to the terms of this Settlement Agreement (the "Settlement Amount"), in full and complete satisfaction and settlement of the amount owed to the Estate on account of the Purchased Coins. Each of the On the Rocks Parties shall be jointly and severally liable up to the Settlement Amount until such amount is paid in full to the Estate. The Settlement Amount shall be paid in installment payments (each, an "Installment Payment") as set forth in the chart attached to the Settlement Agreement as Exhibit B.
  - A confession of judgment (the "Confession of Judgment") in substantially (ii)

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The summary contained herein is a summary only, and if and to the extent there is any inconsistency between the summary and the Settlement Agreement, the terms of the latter govern. Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Settlement Agreement.

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the form attached to the Settlement Agreement as Exhibit C will be executed by each of the On the Rocks Parties, jointly and severally, for the Settlement Amount. The Confession of Judgment will be held by counsel for the Trustee, who shall be permitted to file and seek to enforce the Confession of Judgment only upon the occurrence of an Event of Default (defined in the Settlement Agreement), and subject to applicable notice as set forth in paragraph 6 of the Settlement Agreement.

(iii) Effective on the date of the payment by the On the Rocks Parties to the Estate of the final Installment Payment, the Estate and the Trustee, solely in his capacity as trustee, and each of their respective successors and assigns (collectively the "Trustee Releasers") shall be deemed to have irrevocably and unconditionally, fully, finally and forever waived, released, acquitted and discharged the On the Rocks Parties and each of its, his and her successors and assigns (collectively, the "On the Rocks Releasees") from any and all claims, manner of actions, causes of action, suits, costs, debts, liabilities, obligations, dues, sums of money, accounts, reckonings, bonds, bills, specialties, covenants, contracts, controversies, agreements, promises, variances, trespasses, damages, judgments, executions and demands whatsoever, of whatever kind or nature, whether known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, in law or equity, which the Trustee Releasers have, have had, may have or may claim to have against the On the Rocks Releasees solely in connection with, or relating specifically to, the Purchased Coins. The foregoing is not intended to nor shall it have the effect of releasing any of the On the Rocks Parties from the performance of their obligations in accordance with the Settlement Agreement or the Confession of Judgment.

Further, effective on the date of the payment by the On the Rocks Parties to the Estate of the final Installment Payment, each of the On the Rocks Parties shall be deemed to have irrevocably and unconditionally, fully, finally and forever waived, released, acquitted and discharged the Trustee Releasers and each of their respective successors and assigns from any and all claims, manner of actions, causes of action, suits, costs, debts, liabilities, obligations, dues, sums of money, accounts, reckonings, bonds, bills, specialties, covenants, contracts, controversies, agreements, promises, variances, trespasses, damages, judgments, executions and demands

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whatsoever, of whatever kind or nature, whether known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, in law or equity, which the On the Rocks Parties have, have had, may have or may claim to have against any of the Trustee Releasers relating to the Purchased Coins. The On the Rocks Parties specifically reserve and do not release any rights, claims, defenses, or counterclaims in connection with any claims that the Trustee Releasers have against the On the Rocks Parties other than those relating to the Purchased Coins.

As discussed herein, the Trustee believes that the compromise reached in the Settlement Agreement is a fair and reasonable one, offering the best net result for the Estate.

II.

## THE PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT IS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE ESTATE

#### Α. Standard for Approval of Settlements

Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 9019(a) provides,

On motion by the trustee and after hearing on notice to creditors, the debtor and indenture trustees as provided in Rule 2002(a) and to such other entities as the court may designate, the court may approve a compromise or settlement.

The standard for approval of a compromise was further addressed by the Supreme Court in Protective Committee for Independent Stockholders of TMT Trailer Ferry, Inc. v. Anderson, 390 U.S. 414, reh'g denied, 391 U.S. 909 (1968). There the Court held that a bankruptcy court in considering whether to approve a compromise, should inform itself regarding

> all facts necessary for an intelligent and objective opinion of the probabilities of ultimate success should the claim be litigated. Further, the judge should form an educated estimate of the complexity, expense, and likely duration of such litigation, the possible difficulties of collecting on any judgment which might be obtained, and all other factors relevant to a full and fair assessment of the wisdom of the proposed compromise.

Id. The court further held in TMT Trailer that compromises reached during the course of insolvency proceedings must be "fair and reasonable." 390 U.S. at 424. Significantly, the court stated that "[b]asic to this process in every instance, of course, is the need to compare the terms of the compromise with the likely rewards of litigation." Id.

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The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals has held that the determination of whether a proposed
settlement agreement meets the requisite standards of fairness, equity and reasonableness, is a
function of several factors: (a) the probability of success in the litigation; (b) the difficulties, if any,
to be encountered in the matter of collection; (c) complexity of the litigation involved, and the
expense, inconvenience and delay necessarily attending it; and (d) the paramount interest of
creditors and a proper deference to their reasonable views. See Martin v. Kane (In re A&C
Properties), 784 F.2d 1377, 1381 (9th Cir.), cert. denied sub nom., Martin v. Robinson, 479 U.S.
854 (1986); accord Woodson v. Fireman's Fund Insur. Co. (In re Woodson), 839 F.2d 610, 620
(9th Cir. 1988); In re MGS Marketing, 111 B.R. 264, 267 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 1990).

Finally, the bankruptcy court has wide latitude and discretion in evaluating a proposed compromise because the judge is "uniquely situated to consider the equities and reasonableness." United States v. Alaska National Bank (In re Walsh Construction, Inc.), 669 F.2d 1325, 1328 (9th Cir. 1982). In that vein, the Ninth Circuit has further stated:

> A compromise agreement allows the trustee and the creditor to avoid the expenses and burdens associated with litigating "sharply contested and dubious" claims. The bankruptcy court need not conduct an exhaustive investigation into the validity of the asserted claim. It is sufficient that, after appraising itself of all facts necessary for an intelligent and objective opinion concerning the claim's, validity, the court determines that either (1) the claim has "substantial foundation" and is not "clearly invalid as a matter of law," or (2) the outcome of the claim's litigation is "doubtful."

Id. at 1328 (citations omitted).

Here, the Trustee and the On the Rocks Parties have agreed on the terms of payment of amounts owed by On the Rocks to the Estate on account of merchandise purchased prior to the Petition Date. Although the Trustee believes that the Estate's position is the stronger one, there is no guarantee that the Trustee would prevail in any litigation against the On the Rocks Parties to collect such amounts, which litigation would unduly require the expenditure of the Estate's resources. In the Trustee's view, the Settlement Agreement is a reasonable, expedient, and balanced resolution.

Further, the Estate is obtaining a release of all claims by the On the Rocks Parties and the Trustee does not believe that the Estate has any claims or causes of action against the On the Rocks

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Parties that will be released pursuant to the release under the Settlement Agreement. Thus, the Trustee does not believe the Estate is giving up anything of material value through the release.

Accordingly, the Trustee believes that the Settlement Agreement and all its provisions are reasonable, fair and in the best interest of the Estate and creditors.

III.

#### **CONCLUSION**

**WHEREFORE**, the Trustee respectfully requests that the Court approve the Settlement Agreement, authorize the Trustee to take all actions necessary to implement the Settlement Agreement, and grant such other and further relief as is just and proper under the circumstances.

PACHULSKI STANG ZIEHL & JONES LLP Dated: March 17, 2015

> By /s/ Linda F. Cantor Linda F. Cantor

> > Counsel for R. Todd Neilson, Chapter 7 Trustee

## **EXHIBIT 1**

<sup>1</sup> Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Motion.

PACHULSKI STANG ZIEHL & JONES LLP

creditors; and (2) notice of the Motion was adequate, appropriate, and properly served under the circumstances and no further notice need be given.

#### THEREFORE, GOOD CAUSE APPEARING, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

- 1. The Motion is granted;
- 2. The Settlement Agreement is approved;
- 3. The Parties are authorized to enter into the Settlement Agreement and take any and all actions reasonably necessary to consummate the terms thereof; and
- 4. This Court shall retain jurisdiction to determine any matters or disputes that arise in connection with the Settlement Agreement and this Order.

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## **EXHIBIT 2**

# SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN R. TODD NIELSON, CHAPTER 7 TRUSTEE FOR THE TULVING COMPANY, INC., ON THE ROCKS JEWELRY & COINS, DAVID HALPIN AND DESIREA SLOAN

This settlement agreement (the "<u>Settlement Agreement</u>") is entered into by and between R. Todd Nielson, solely in his capacity as the chapter 7 trustee (the "<u>Trustee</u>") for The Tulving Company, Inc. (the "<u>Debtor</u>"), on the one hand, and On the Rocks Jewelry & Coins ("<u>On the Rocks</u>"), David Halpin ("<u>Halpin</u>"), and Desirea Sloan ("<u>Sloan</u>" and, collectively with Halpin and On the Rocks, the "<u>On the Rocks Parties</u>"), on the other hand. The Trustee, On the Rocks, Halpin and Sloan may be referenced herein as the "Parties" and/or each as a "Party."

#### **Background**

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2014 (the "Petition Date"), the Debtor commenced a case by filing a voluntary petition for relief under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code") in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California (the "Court"); and

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2014, the Office of the United States Trustee (the "<u>U.S.</u> <u>Trustee</u>") filed a *Stipulation Appointing Chapter 11 Trustee*, which was approved by the entry of an Order by the Court on March 18, 2014. On March 21, 2014, an Order was entered by the Court appointing R. Todd Neilson as chapter 11 trustee of the Debtor's estate. Thereafter, upon notice and hearing, the case was converted to a chapter 7 and R. Todd Neilson continues to serve as the chapter 7 Trustee; and

WHEREAS, On the Rocks is engaged in the business of buying and selling jewelry and coins; and

WHEREAS, On the Rocks is a sole proprietorship owned by Halpin and Sloan;

and

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WHEREAS, prior to the Petition Date, On the Rocks purchased and received gold and silver coins in the total amount of \$5,676,880.00 (the "Purchased Coins") from the Debtor. On the Rocks paid the Debtor \$5,083,446.00 on account of certain of the Purchased Coins and stopped making payments to the Debtor on the remaining Purchased Coins on February 12, 2014. Attached hereto as **Exhibit A** is a list of the remaining Purchased Coins that On the Rocks purchased and received from the Debtor but for which it has not paid the Debtor. As set forth on **Exhibit A**, On the Rocks owes the Debtor's estate (the "Estate") \$593,434.00 on account of the remaining Purchased Coins set forth therein; and

WHEREAS, on or about July 14, 2014, the Trustee made demand upon On the Rocks to pay the outstanding balance in the amount of \$593,434.00 owed by On the Rocks to the Debtor; and

WHEREAS, rather than proceed with litigation, the Parties engaged in good faith, arms' length negotiations to resolve payment by On the Rocks to the Estate of the outstanding balance in the amount of \$593,434.00;

#### **Terms and Conditions**

NOW THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, and the Parties intending to be legally bound, the Parties hereby agree that:

- 1. **Recitals.** The recitals set forth above are true and correct and incorporated herein by reference.
- 2. **Settlement Amount.** Each of the On the Rocks Parties agrees to pay to the Estate, pursuant to the terms, conditions, and requirements set forth herein, the sum of \$593,434.00, plus interest as applicable pursuant to the terms of this Settlement Agreement (the

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"Settlement Amount"), in full and complete satisfaction and settlement of the amount owed to the Estate on account of the Purchased Coins. Each of the On the Rocks Parties shall be jointly and severally liable up to the Settlement Amount until such amount is paid in full to the Estate. Each of the On the Rocks Parties is therefore individually liable for the full performance of all terms and payment of all sums required under this Settlement Agreement. The Settlement Amount shall be paid in installment payments (each, an "Installment Payment") as set forth in the chart attached hereto as Exhibit B. In the event (i) the date upon which an Installment Payment is due is a Saturday or Sunday, such payment shall be due on the immediately following Monday and (ii) the date upon which an Installment Payment is due is a legal holiday, such payment shall be due on the immediately following business day. Any additional payments made by the On the Rocks Parties, other than the Installment Payments set forth on Exhibit B, shall reduce the ending principal balance of the Settlement Amount first by an additional 10% of the payment received. Each Installment Payment set forth on Exhibit B shall be wired to the Trustee as follows:

Bank: Rabobank, N.A.

**Specialty Deposits** 

90 E. Thousand Oaks Blvd., Suite 300

Thousand Oaks, CA 91360

Routing Number: 122237159

Account Name: The Tulving Company

Account Number: 5012086768

3. **Interest.** The Settlement Amount shall accrue interest at the rate of five percent (5%) as set forth on **Exhibit B**, provided, however, that such interest shall be waived only if each Installment Payment set forth on **Exhibit B** is timely made so that it is received by the Trustee on the applicable date set forth on **Exhibit B** or within the Cure Period (defined

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below). Interest shall continue to accrue on the Settlement Amount on account of any Installment Payment that is not timely made in accordance with the foregoing sentence.

- 4. **Settlement Effective Date.** The effective date of this Settlement Agreement and all of its terms, with the exception of the releases set forth in paragraphs 9 and 10 of this Settlement Agreement, shall be the date this Settlement Agreement is executed by all Parties.
- 5. Confession of Judgment. A confession of judgment (the "Confession of Judgment") in substantially the form attached hereto as Exhibit C shall be executed by each of the On the Rocks Parties, jointly and severally, for the Settlement Amount and delivered to the Trustee simultaneously with the execution of this Agreement by the On the Rocks Parties. Each of the On the Rocks Parties shall be jointly and severally liable up to the Settlement Amount until such amount is paid in full to the Estate. The Confession of Judgment shall be held by counsel for the Trustee, who shall be authorized to file and seek to enforce the Confession of Judgment only upon the occurrence of an Event of Default (and subject to applicable notice as set forth in paragraph 6 of this Settlement Agreement).
- Parties to timely make any Installment Payment set forth on **Exhibit B** shall constitute an "<u>Event of Default</u>" under this Settlement Agreement. The Trustee will provide written notice of the Event of Default (the "<u>Notice of Default</u>") by electronic mail to the On the Rocks Parties at myfairlady 1600@gmail.com and the On the Rocks Parties shall have the opportunity to cure such default within seven (7) calendar days from the date such notice is sent (the "<u>Cure Period</u>"), provided, however, that if such day is a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, the Cure Period shall expire on the immediately preceding business day. If the On the Rocks Parties fail to cure such

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default within the Cure Period, the Trustee shall be permitted to exercise his rights under paragraph 7 of this Settlement Agreement. The On The Rocks Parties shall be required to provide written notice to the Trustee in the event of any change of the electronic mail address for the On the Rocks Parties set forth herein.

- 7. Trustee's Rights Upon Event of Default. Upon an Event of Default, subject to the notice provision set forth in paragraph 6 of this Settlement Agreement, the Trustee shall be permitted to file and enforce the Confession of Judgment in accordance with applicable law. The On the Rocks Parties unequivocally waive their rights to contest the entry of the Confession of Judgment except if proper notice was not given in accordance with paragraph 6 of this Settlement Agreement or there was no Event of Default. The resort to any rights, remedies, powers, and privileges of the Trustee hereunder or under applicable law shall not prevent the concurrent or subsequent employment of any other right. No failure by the Trustee to exercise, nor delay in exercising any right shall be construed as a waiver of any Event of Default or as a waiver of any right. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing provisions, the acceptance by the Trustee from time to time of any payment under this Settlement Agreement, which is past due and payable at the time of such payment, shall not (i) constitute a waiver of or impair or extinguish any right or to exercise any other right at the time or at any subsequent time, or nullify any prior exercise of such right; or (ii) constitute a waiver of the requirement of punctual payment and performance or a novation in any respect.
- 8. **Payment of the Confession of Judgment Amount.** All amounts paid by the On the Rocks Parties under this Settlement Agreement which reduced the Settlement Amount shall be credited against the Confession of Judgment to reduce the amount thereof.

  Notwithstanding any amounts paid pursuant to this Settlement Agreement, the Trustee shall be

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authorized to have the Confession of Judgment entered in its full original amount and then shall reduce the amount of the Confession of Judgment by the amount of the Settlement Amount paid in accordance with this Settlement Agreement. In the event the Settlement Amount is paid in full, the Confession of Judgment shall be deemed satisfied and discharged ninety-one (91) days after the final payment assuming no bankruptcy is pending against any of the On the Rocks Parties.

9. Release by the Trustee, the Debtor, and the Debtor's Estate. Effective on the date of the payment by the On the Rocks Parties to the Estate of the final Installment Payment as set forth on **Exhibit B** such that the Settlement Amount is fully paid and satisfied, the Debtor, the Estate and the Trustee, solely in his capacity as trustee, and each of their respective successors and assigns (collectively the "Trustee Releasers") shall be deemed to have irrevocably and unconditionally, fully, finally and forever waived, released, acquitted and discharged the On the Rocks Parties and each of its, his and her successors and assigns (collectively, the "On the Rocks Releasees") from any and all claims, manner of actions, causes of action, suits, costs, debts, liabilities, obligations, dues, sums of money, accounts, reckonings, bonds, bills, specialties, covenants, contracts, controversies, agreements, promises, variances, trespasses, damages, judgments, executions and demands whatsoever, of whatever kind or nature, whether known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, in law or equity, which the Trustee Releasers have, have had, may have or may claim to have against the On the Rocks Releasees solely in connection with, or relating specifically to, the Purchased Coins. Notwithstanding anything contained herein or elsewhere to the contrary, the foregoing is not intended to nor shall it have the effect of releasing any of the On the Rocks Parties from the performance of their obligations in accordance with this Settlement Agreement or the Confession of Judgment.

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- payment by the On the Rocks Parties. Effective on the date of the payment by the On the Rocks Parties to the Estate of the final Installment Payment as set forth on Exhibit B such that the Settlement Amount is fully paid and satisfied, each of the On the Rocks Parties shall be deemed to have irrevocably and unconditionally, fully, finally and forever waived, released, acquitted and discharged the Trustee Releasers and each of their respective successors and assigns from any and all claims, manner of actions, causes of action, suits, costs, debts, liabilities, obligations, dues, sums of money, accounts, reckonings, bonds, bills, specialties, covenants, contracts, controversies, agreements, promises, variances, trespasses, damages, judgments, executions and demands whatsoever, of whatever kind or nature, whether known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, in law or equity, which the On the Rocks Parties have, have had, may have or may claim to have against any of the Trustee Releasers relating to the Purchased Coins. The On the Rocks Parties specifically reserve and do not release any rights, claims, defenses, or counterclaims in connection with any claims that the Trustee Releasers have against the On the Rocks Parties other than those relating to the Purchased Coins.
- 11. **Admissions.** This Settlement Agreement is and shall be construed as an admission by the On the Rocks Parties that each such party is jointly and severally liable for and indebted to the Estate on account of the Purchased Coins in the Settlement Amount.
- 12. **Expenses.** The Parties shall bear their own costs, expenses and attorneys' fees and expenses incurred to date in connection with this Settlement Agreement. In the event of any dispute, controversy, or claim arises in connection with this Settlement Agreement, and any Party institutes any litigation or other proceeding, the prevailing Party in any such litigation or proceeding shall be entitled to recover his, her, or its attorneys' fees and costs.

- 13. **Assignment by Trustee.** The Trustee shall have the right, in his sole discretion, to sell and/or assign the Estate's interest in this Settlement Agreement.
- Agreement is determined by a court of competent jurisdiction to be illegal, invalid or unenforceable, that provision shall not be a part of this Settlement Agreement. The legality, validity and enforceability of the remaining provisions shall not be affected by a provision of this Settlement Agreement that is illegal, invalid, or unenforceable.

#### 15. Miscellaneous.

- (a) Neither this Settlement Agreement, nor any statement made or action taken in connection with the negotiation of this Settlement Agreement, shall be offered or received in evidence or in any way referred to in any legal action or administrative proceeding among or between the Parties hereto, other than as may be necessary (i) to obtain approval of, and enforcement of, this Settlement Agreement (including the mutual releases contained herein); (ii) to seek damages or injunctive relief in connection therewith; or (iii) as more thoroughly set forth herein.
- (b) Each of the Parties hereto shall execute and deliver any and all additional papers, documents, and other assurances, and shall do any and all acts and things reasonably necessary or appropriate in conjunction with the performance of each of the Parties' respective obligations hereunder.
- (c) No provision of this Settlement Agreement is intended to confer any rights, benefits, remedies, obligations or liabilities hereunder upon any person other than the Parties hereto and their respective successors.

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- (d) This Settlement Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the law of the State of California without regard to any choice of law provisions or any similar law in any other jurisdiction.
- (e) This Settlement Agreement may be signed in counterpart originals and delivered by facsimile or email, which, when fully executed, shall constitute a single original.
- (f) The United States Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California shall retain exclusive jurisdiction (and the Parties consent to such retention of jurisdiction) with respect to any disputes arising from or related to, or other actions to interpret, administer, or enforce the terms and provisions of, this Settlement Agreement.
- based limitations or defenses, whether at law, in equity, under statute, contract, or otherwise (including, but not limited to, the doctrine of laches or waiver), which might be asserted as a time bar and/or limitation in connection with the Purchased Coins is hereby tolled until the date of the payment by the On the Rocks Parties to the Trustee of the final Installment Payment as set forth on **Exhibit B** such that the Settlement Amount is fully paid and satisfied. Nothing in this Settlement Agreement shall operate to revive or extend the time for filing any claim that is now time barred or barred by any applicable statute or period of limitations, statutes of repose, or other time-related defense as of the date this Settlement Agreement is executed as set forth below.
- (h) Each person or entity who executes this Settlement Agreement on behalf of another person or entity represents and warrants that he, she, or it is duly authorized to execute this Settlement Agreement on behalf of such person or entity, has the requisite authority to bind such person or entity, and such person or entity has full knowledge of and has consented

to this Settlement Agreement. The representations and warranties set forth in this paragraph shall survive execution of this Settlement Agreement.

- (i) In executing the Settlement Agreement, each of the Parties represents and warrants, for itself, that it enters this Settlement Agreement knowingly, voluntarily, and intelligently and that: (a) it does so with full knowledge of its available rights, (b) it has had available to it such information as it considered reasonably necessary to making an informed judgment concerning the Settlement Agreement, and (c) it has conducted such investigation as it deems appropriate regarding the settlement and its rights and asserted rights in connection with the matters that are the subject of the Settlement Agreement.
- (j) The Parties acknowledge that this Settlement Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the Parties with respect to the subject matter hereof, and all prior agreements, negotiations and understandings with respect to the subject matter hereof are canceled and superseded by this Settlement Agreement.
- (k) This Settlement Agreement shall not be modified, altered, amended or vacated without the written consent of all parties hereto or order of the Court.
- (l) This Settlement Agreement shall inure to the benefit of and be binding upon the successors and assigns of the Parties hereto.

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(m) The headings of all sections of this Settlement Agreement are inserted solely for the convenience of reference and are not a part of and are not intended to govern, limit, or aid in the construction or interpretation of any term or provision hereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Settlement Agreement is hereby executed as of the date(s) set forth below:

ACCEPTED AND AGREED TO BY: February CHAPTER 7 TRUSTEE, THE TULVING COMPANY, INC. R. Todd Nielson, solely in his capacity as Chapter 7 Trustee of The Tulving Company, Inc. February 25, 2015 ON THE ROCKS JEWELRY & COINS Name: Desirea Sloan Title: OWNER February 23, 2015 DAVID HALPIN February 23, 2015 DESIREA SLOAN February 7 APPROVED AS TO FORM: Harlene Miller, Esq Harlene Miller Law 17910 Sky Park Circle, Suite 105 Irvine, CA 92614 Telephone: (949) 756-1313 Facsimile: (949) 260-1185

Attorney for Defendants On the Rocks Jewelry & Coins, David Halpin and Desirea Sloan

#### **EXHIBIT A**

### **Purchased Coins**

Coin Quantity	Coin Description	Amount
220	2014 Canadian Maple Leaf 1 Ounce .9999 Gold Coin	\$270,171.00
280	American Eagle 1 Ounce Gold Coin	\$347,018.00
30	South African Krugerrand 1 Ounce Gold Coin	\$36,850.50
2000	Amark 1 Ounce Silver Round	\$40,450.00
	Total:	\$694,489.50
	Less Partial Payments:	(\$101,055.50)
	Outstanding Balance:	\$593,434.00

#### **EXHIBIT B**

**Settlement Amount Payment Schedule** 

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Bankruptcy Estate of Tulving Company, Inc.

Payment Schedule

On The Rocks Jewelry & Coins

Date		Principal Sul to Interes	•	incipal duction	Interest	Balance of Loan Due	e of Loan if All ents on Time	Total Payment	Date Received	Amount
10/31/14	1	\$ 593,43	4,00 \$	6,000.00	\$	\$ 587,434.00	\$ 587,434.00	\$ 6,000.00	10/31/14	\$ 6,000.00
11/15/14	2	587,43		1,776.18	1,223.82	585,657,82	584,434.00	3,000.00	11/19/14	3,000_00
11/30/14	3	585,65	7.82	1,779.88	1,220.12	583,877,94	581,434.00	3,000.00	12/03/14	3,000,00
12/15/14	4	583,87		1,783.59	1,216.41	582,094,35	578,434.00	3,000.00	12/19/14	3,000.00
12/31/14	5	582,09		1,706.46	1,293.54	580,387.90	575,434.00	3,000.00	01/05/15	3,000.00
02/20/15	6	580,38		3,000.00	044.54	577,387.90	572,434.00	3,000.00		
02/28/15	7	577,38		2,358.46 802.02	641.54 1,197.98	575,029.44 574,227.42	569,434,00 567,434,00	3,000,00 2,000,00		
03/15/15	8	575,02 574,22		3,723 94	1,276.06	570,503.48	562,434.00	5,000.00		
04/15/15	10	570,50		811.45	1,188.55	569,692.03	560,434.00	2,000.00		
04/30/15	11	569,69		3,813.14	1,186.86	565,878.89	555,434.00	5,000.00		
05/15/15	12	565,87	8.89	821 09	1,178.91	565,057.80	553,434.00	2,000,00		
05/31/15	13	565,05	7.80	3,744.32	1,255.68	561,313.48	548,434.00	5,000.00		
06/30/15	14	561,31		2,661.19	2,338.81	558,652.29	543,434.00	5,000,00		
07/31/15	15	558,65		2,594.69	2,405.31	556,057.60	538,434,00	5,000,00		
08/31/15	16	556,05		2,605.86	2,394.14	553,451.73	533,434.00	5,000.00		
09/30/15	17	553,45		2,693.95	2,306.05	550,757.78	528,434.00	5,000.00 5,000.00		
10/31/15 11/30/15	18 19	550,75 548,12		2,628.68 2,716.13	2,371.32 2,283.87	548,129.10 545,412.97	523,434.00 518,434.00	5,000,00		
12/31/15	20	545,41		15,000.00	2,200.07	530,412.97	503,434.00	15,000.00		
12/31/15	21	530,41		2,651.69	2,348,31	527,761.28	498,434.00	5,000,00		
01/31/16	22	527,76		2,716 28	2,283,72	525,045.00	493,434.00	5,000,00		
02/28/16	23	525,04	5,00	675 29	4,324.71	524,369.71	488,434.00	5,000.00		
03/31/16	24	524,36	9,71	624.62	4,375.38	523,745,09	483,434.00	5,000.00		
04/30/16	25	523,74		484 59	4,515,41	523,260.49	478,434.00	5,000.00		
05/31/16	26	523,26		562.72	4,437.28	522,697.78	473,434.00	5,000.00		
06/30/16	27	522,69		15,000 00	0.445.44	507,697,78	458,434.00	15,000.00		
06/30/16	28	507,69		2,884.59	2,115.41	504,813.19 501,986.69	453,434.00	5,000.00 5,000.00		
07/31/16 08/31/16	29 30	504,81 501,98		2,826,50 2,838,67	2,173.50 2,161.33	499,148.02	448,434.00 443,434.00	5,000.00		
09/30/16	31	499,14		2,920,22	2,079.78	496,227.80	438,434.00	5,000.00		
10/31/16	32	496,22		2,863.46	2,136.54	493,364.34	433,434.00	5,000.00		
11/30/16	33	493,36		2,944.32	2,055.68	490,420,02	428,434.00	5,000,00		
12/31/16	34	490,42		15,000 00	(8)	475,420.02	413,434.00	15,000.00		
12/31/16	35	475,42	0.02	2,953 05	2,046,95	472,466.97	408,434.00	5,000,00		
01/31/17	36	472,46		2,965.77	2,034,23	469,501.20	403,434,00	5,000,00		
02/28/17	37	469,50		3,174.16	1,825.84	466,327.04	398,434,00	5,000.00		
03/31/17	38	466,32		2,992 20	2,007.80	463,334.84	393,434.00	5,000,00		
04/30/17	39	463,33		3,069.44	1,930.56	460,265.40	388,434.00	5,000.00 5,000.00		
05/31/17 06/30/17	40	460,26 457,24		3,018 30 15,000 00	1,981.70	457,247.10 442,247.10	383,434.00 368,434.00	15,000.00		
06/30/17	42	442,24		3,157.30	1,842.70	439,089.79	363,434,00	5,000.00		
07/31/17	43	439,08		3,109.47	1,890.53	435,980.32	358,434.00	5,000,00		
08/31/17	44	435,98		3,122.86	1,877.14	432,857.46	353,434.00	5,000,00		
09/30/17	45	432,85	7,46	3,196.43	1,803,57	429,661.03	348,434.00	5,000.00		
10/31/17	46	429,66	1,03	3,150.07	1,849.93	426,510.96	343,434.00	5,000.00		
11/30/17	47	426,51		3,222.87	1,777.13	423,288.09	338,434.00	5,000.00		
12/31/17	48	423,28		15,000.00	4 757.04	408,288.09	323,434.00	15,000.00		
12/31/17	49	408,28		3,242 09	1,757.91	405,046.00	318,434.00	5,000.00		
01/31/18	50 51	405,04 401,78		3,256 05 3,437.48	1,743.95 1,562.52	401,789.94 398,352.46	313,434.00 308,434.00	5,000.00 5,000.00		
02/28/18 03/31/18	52	398,35		3,284 87	1,715,13	395,067.59	303,434.00	5,000.00		
04/30/18	53	395,06		3,353 89	1,646.11	391,713.70	298,434.00	5,000.00		
05/31/18	54	391,71		3,313.45	1,686,55	388,400.25	293,434.00	5,000.00		
06/30/18	55	388,40		15,000 00	390	373,400.25	278,434.00	15,000.00		
06/30/18	56	373,40	0.25	3,444.17	1,555.83	369,956.08	273,434.00	5,000.00		
07/31/18	57	369,95	6.08	3,407.13	1,592.87	366,548.95	268,434.00	5,000.00		
08/31/18	58	366,54		3,421,80	1,578.20	363,127,15	263,434.00	5,000.00		
09/30/18	59	363,12		3,486.97	1,513.03	359,640.18	258,434.00	5,000.00		
10/31/18	60	359,64		3,451.55	1,548,45	356,188.63	253,434.00	5,000.00		
11/30/18	61	356,18		3,515.88	1,484.12	352,672.75	248,434.00	5,000.00		
12/31/18	62	352,67		15,000.00	4 452 07	337,672,75	233,434.00	15,000.00		
12/31/18	63	337,67		3,546,13 3,561.40	1,453.87 1,438.60	334,126.61 330,565.22	228,434.00 223,434.00	5,000.00 5,000.00		
01/31/19 02/28/19	64 65	334,12 330,56		3,714.47	1,285.53	326,850.75	218,434.00	5,000.00		
03/31/19	66	326,85		3,592.73	1,407.27	323,258.02	213,434.00	5,000.00		
04/30/19	67	323,25		3,653 09	1,346.91	319,604.93	208,434.00	5,000.00		
05/31/19	68	319,60		3,623 92	1,376.08	315,981.01	203,434,00	5,000.00		
06/30/19	69	315,98		15,000 00	1,070.00	300,981.01	188,434.00	15,000.00		
06/30/19	70	300,98		3,745 91	1,254.09	297,235.09	183,434.00	5,000.00		
07/31/19	71	297,23		3,720.24	1,279.76	293,514.86	178,434.00	5,000.00		
08/31/19	72	293,51	4.86	3,736,26	1,263,74	289,778.60	173,434.00	5,000,00		
09/30/19	73	289,77		3,792.59	1,207.41	285,986.01	168,434.00	5,000.00		
	74	285,98	6.01	3,768,67	1,231.33	282,217,34	163,434.00	5,000.00		
10/31/19 11/30/19	75	282,21		3,824.09	1,175.91	278,393.25	158,434.00	5,000.00		

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Bankruptcy Estate of Tulving Company, Inc.

Payment Schedule

On The Rocks Jewelry & Coins

Date		Principal Subject to Interest	Principal Reduction	Interest	Balance of Loan Due	Balance of Loan if All Payments on Time	Total Payment	Date Received	Amount
12/31/19	76	278,393.25	15,000.00	*	263,393.25	143,434.00	15,000.00		
12/31/19	77	263,393.25	3,865.95	1,134.05	259,527.30	138,434.00	5,000.00		
01/31/20	78	259,527.30	3,882.59	1,117.41	255,644.71	133,434.00	5,000.00		
02/28/20	79	255,644.71	4,005.83	994.17	251,638.88	128,434.00	5,000.00		
03/31/20	80	251,638.88	3,881,60	1,118.40	247,757.28	123,434.00	5,000.00		
04/30/20	81	247,757,28	3,967.68	1,032,32	243,789.60	118,434.00	5,000.00		
05/31/20	82	243,789,60	3,950.35	1,049,65	239,839,25	113,434.00	5,000.00		
06/30/20	83	239,839.25	15,000.00		224,839.25	98,434.00	15,000.00		
06/30/20	84	224,839.25	4,063.17	936.83	220,776.08	93,434.00	5,000.00		
07/31/20	85	220,776.08	4,049.44	950,56	216,726.64	88,434.00	5,000.00		
08/31/20	86	216,726.64	4,066 87	933,13	212,659.77	83,434.00	5,000.00		
09/30/20	87	212,659.77	4,113 92	886.08	208,545.85	78,434.00	5,000.00		
10/31/20	88	208,545.85	4,102 09	897.91	204,443.76	73,434.00	5,000.00		
11/30/20	89	204,443.76	4,148.15	851.85	200,295.61	68,434.00	5,000.00		
12/31/20	90	200,295.61	15,000 00	300	185,295.61	53,434.00	15,000.00		
12/31/20	91	185,295,61	4,202.20	797.80	181,093.41	48,434.00	5,000.00		
01/31/21	92	181,093.41	4,220.29	779.71	176,873.12	43,434.00	5,000.00		
02/28/21	93	176,873.12	4,312.16	687,84	172,560.96	38,434,00	5,000.00		
03/31/21	94	172,560.96	4,257.03	742.97	168,303.93	33,434.00	5,000.00		
04/30/21	95	168,303.93	4,298.73	701.27	164,005.19	28,434.00	5,000.00		
05/31/21	96	164,005.19	4,293 87	706.13	159,711.33	23,434.00	5,000.00		
06/30/21	97	159,711.33	15,000 00	327	144,711,33	8,434.00	15,000.00		
06/30/21	98	144,711.33	4,397 04	602,96	140,314.29	3,434.00	5,000.00		
07/31/21	99	140,314.29	4,395 87	604.13	135,918.42		5,000.00		
08/31/21	100	135,918.42	4,414.80	585.20	131,503.63		5,000.00		
09/30/21	101	131,503.63	4,452.07	547.93	127,051.56		5,000.00		
10/31/21			4,452.97	547.03	122,598,59		5,000.00		
11/30/21		122,598.59	4,489,17	510.83	118,109.41		5,000.00		
12/31/21		118,109.41	15,000.00		103,109,41		15,000.00		
12/31/21			4,556.06	443.94	98,553,36		5,000.00		
01/31/22		98,553.36	4,575.67	424.33	93,977.68		5,000.00		
02/28/22		93,977.68	4,634.53	365.47	89,343.15		5,000.00		
03/31/22		89,343.15	4,615.33	384.67	84,727.82		5,000.00		
04/30/22		84,727.82	4,646.97	353.03	80,080.86		5,000.00		
05/31/22		80,080.86	4,655 21	344.79	75,425.65		5,000.00		
06/30/22		75,425.65	15,000 00		60,425.65		15,000.00		
06/30/22			4,748 23	251.77	55,677.42		5,000.00		
07/31/22			4,760 28	239.72	50,917.15		5,000.00		
08/31/22		50,917.15	4,780.77	219,23	46,136.37		5,000.00		
09/30/22			4,807.77	192,23	41,328.61		5,000.00		
10/31/22			4,822 06	177.94	36,506.55		5,000.00		
11/30/22			4,847.89	152.11	31,658.66		5,000.00		
12/31/22			15,000.00	102111	16,658.66		15,000.00		
12/31/22			4,928.28	71.72	11,730.38		5,000.00		
01/31/23			4,949.49	50.51	6,780.89		5,000.00		
02/28/23		6,780.89	4,973.63	26.37	1,807.26		5,000.00		
03/31/23			1,807.26	7.78	0.00		1,815.04		
00,01,20		,,551,25	\$ 593,434 00	########	3,00		########		\$ 18,000.00

Note 1: Additional payments received other then shown above will reduce the ending principal balance first by an additional 10% of the payment received. Note 2: Payments that are scheduled to be paid on a weekend and/or holiday are due on the next business day.

Page 2 of 2

#### Exhibit C

Form of Confession of Judgment

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PACHULSKI STANG ZIEHL & JONES LLP
10100 Santa Monica Blvd., 13th Floor
Los Angeles, California 90067-4100
Telephone: (310) 277-6910
Facsimile: (310) 201-0760

Attorneys for Plaintiff, R. Todd Neilson, as the Chapter 7 Trustee for The Tulving Company, Inc.

## SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

#### CENTRAL DISTRICT

In the Matter of the Confession of Judgment	
by ON THE ROCKS JEWELRY AND COINS	,
DAVID HALPIN, and DESIREA SLOAN,	

#### Defendants,

In Favor of R. TODD NEILSON, AS CHAPTER 7 TRUSTEE FOR THE TULVING COMPANY, INC.,

#### Plaintiff.

Case No.:

CONFESSION OF JUDGMENT STATEMENT

We, On the Rocks Jewelry & Coins ("On the Rocks"), David Halpin and Desirea Sloan, hereby confess judgment in the above-entitled cause in favor of Plaintiff R. Todd Neilson, as Chapter 7 Trustee (the "Trustee") for the estate (the "Estate") of The Tulving Company. Inc. ("Tulving"), in the sum of \$593,434.00, plus interest as applicable pursuant to the terms of the Settlement Agreement (defined below) (the "Settlement Amounts"). A true and correct copy of the Settlement Agreement is attached hereto as Exhibit 1 and incorporated herein by reference. This Confession of Judgment is for a debt justly due to the Estate which arises out of the following facts:

On March 10, 2014 (the "Petition <u>Date</u>"), Tulving commenced a case by filing a 1. voluntary petition for relief in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California (the "Bankruptcy Court") under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code. On March 21, 2014, and Order was entered by the Bankruptcy Court appointing R. Todd Neilson as

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chapter 11 trustee of the Estate. Thereafter, upon notice and hearing, the case was converted to a chapter 7 and R. Todd Neilson continues to serve as the chapter 7 Trustee of the Estate.

- 2. On the Rocks is a sole proprietorship owned by David Halpin and Desirea Sloan. On the Rocks, Mr. Halpin and Ms. Sloan shall be referred to collectively herein as the "On the Rocks Parties."
- 3. Prior to the Petition Date, On the Rocks purchased and received gold and silver coins in the total amount of \$5,676,880.00 (the "Purchased Coins") from Tulving. On the Rocks paid Tulving \$5,083,446.00 on account of certain of the Purchased Coins and stopped making payments to Tulving on the remaining Purchased Coins on February 12, 2014. Attached to the Settlement Agreement as Exhibit A is a list of the remaining Purchased Coins that On the Rocks purchased and received from Tulving but for which it did not pay Tulving.
- 4. On or about July 14, 2014, the Trustee made demand upon On the Rock to pay the outstanding balance in the amount of \$593,434.00 owed by On the Rocks to Tulving.
- 5. The Trustee and the On the Rocks Parties have entered into a settlement agreement (the "Settlement Agreement") pursuant to which, among other things, each of the On the Rocks Parties agrees to pay to the Trustee, pursuant to the terms, conditions, and requirements set forth herein, the Settlement Amount, in full and complete satisfaction and settlement of the amount owed to the Estate on account of the Purchased Coins. Each of the On the Rocks Parties has agreed to and shall be jointly and severally liable up to the Settlement Amount until such amount is paid in full to the Estate. Each of the On the Rocks Parties is therefore individually liable for the full performance of all terms and payment of all sums required under the Settlement Agreement.
  - 6. This Confession of Judgment is further made pursuant to the Settlement Agreement.

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1	7. In making this Confession of Judgment, we have conferred with our counsel and we
2	understand that we are giving up defenses and the right to challenge any of the statements set forth
3	above, we are giving up the rights to a trial by a court or by a jury on the matters stated above, and
4	the right to challenge the Settlement Amount, and we knowingly and voluntarily waive those rights.
5	
6	Dated: Leb 23, 2015 ON THE ROCKS JEWELRY & COINS
7	By:
8	David Halpin
9	By:
10	Desirea Sloan
11	Dated: Feb 23, 2015
12	David Halpin
13	Dated: Feb. 23, 2015
14	Desirea Sloan
15	
16 17	DI FA 23 2015 DE STATE MA
18	Dated: Leb 3, 2015 By: Marlene Miller, Esq.
19	Harlene Miller Law 17910 Sky Park Circle, Suite 105 Irvine, CA 92614
20	Telephone: (949) 756-1313 Facsimile: (949) 260-1185
21	raesinine. (949) 200-1103
22	Attorney for Defendants On the Rocks Jewelry & Coins, David Halpin and
23	Desirea Sloan
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PACHULSKI STANG ZIEHL & JONES LLP ATTORNEYS AT LAW LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

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Case 8:14-bk-11492-ES

PACHULSKI STANG ZIEHL & JONES LLP Attorneys At Law Los Angeles, Calfornia

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I further declare that I have examined the Confession of Judgment Statement by On the
Rocks, Mr. Halpin and Ms. Sloan and have advised On the Rocks, Mr. Halpin and Ms. Sloan to
utilize the confession of judgment procedure.
I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing
is true and correct.
By Harlene Miller, Esq. Harlene Miller, Law 17910 Sky Park Circle, Suite 105 Irvine, CA 92614 Telephone: (949) 756-1313 Facsimile: (949) 260-1185  Attorney for Defendants On the Rocks Jewelry & Coins, David Halpin and Desirea Sloan

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PACHULSKI STANG ZIEHL & JONES LLP ATTORNEYS AT LAW LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

#### **DECLARATION OF R. TODD NEILSON**

I. R. Todd Neilson, declare as follows:

- I am the duly appointed chapter 7 trustee (the "Trustee") in the above-captioned 1. bankruptcy case (the "Case"). I make this Declaration on facts within my personal knowledge (albeit my own or that gathered by professionals rendering services to me), or as a result of having reviewed the court file in this Case. If called upon, I can and will competently testify to the facts stated herein
- 2. I make this declaration in support of the *Motion For Order Approving Settlement* Agreement With On the Rocks Jewelry & Coins, et al. Pursuant To Bankruptcy Rule 9019; Memorandum Of Points And Authorities In Support Thereof (the "Motion"). Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein have the meanings ascribed to them in the Motion.
- 3. The Debtor is a California corporation. The Debtor was in the business of selling and purchasing gold, silver, coins, bullion, and other precious metals through its internet website or by phone.
- The Debtor commenced this case by the filing of a voluntary petition for relief under 4. chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code on March 10, 2014. In light of certain pending criminal investigation and other ongoing litigation, on March 18, 2014, the United States Trustee filed a Stipulation Appointing Chapter 11 Trustee [Docket No. 15] ("Stipulation"), which was signed by both the Debtor and its attorney. The Stipulation was approved by the Bankruptcy Court on March 18, 2014 [Docket No. 16] and an Order was entered by the Court on March 21, 2014 approving the U.S. Trustee's Application for the Appointment of a Chapter 11 Trustee, appointing me as Trustee of the Debtor's estate (the "Estate") [Docket No. 22]. Thereafter upon notice and hearing, the case was converted to a chapter 7 proceeding and I continue to serve as the chapter 7 Trustee [Docket 108].
- 5. I understand that On the Rocks Jewelry & Coins ("On the Rocks") is engaged in the business of buying and selling jewelry and coins and is a sole proprietorship owned by David Halpin and Desiree Sloan. Prior to the Petition Date, On the Rocks purchased and received gold and silver coins in the total amount of \$5,676,880.00 (the "Purchased Coins") from the Debtor. On

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- the Rocks paid the Debtor \$5,083,446.00 on account of certain of the Purchased Coins and stopped making payments to the Debtor on the remaining Purchased Coins on February 12, 2014. As set forth on Exhibit A to the Settlement Agreement, On the Rocks owes the Debtor's estate (the "Estate") \$593,434.00 on account of the remaining Purchased Coins. On or about July 14, 2014, counsel on my behalf made demand upon On the Rocks to pay the outstanding balance in the amount of \$593,434.00. Rather than proceed with litigation, the parties engaged in good faith, arms' length negotiations to resolve payment by On the Rocks to the Estate of the outstanding balance.
- 6. I have determined in my reasonable business judgment that the compromise set forth in the Settlement Agreement is in the best interest of the Estate because it resolves the On the Rocks Parties' liability for and payment of amounts due and owing to the Estate and avoids litigation with respect thereto.
- 7. After extensive, arms-length negotiations, the parties determined to enter into the Settlement Agreement, which provides, among other things:<sup>1</sup>
  - Each of the On the Rocks Parties agrees to pay to the Estate, pursuant a. to the terms, conditions, and requirements set forth in the Settlement Agreement, the sum of \$593,434.00, plus interest as applicable pursuant to the terms of this Settlement Agreement (the "Settlement Amount"), in full and complete satisfaction and settlement of the amount owed to the Estate on account of the Purchased Coins. Each of the On the Rocks Parties shall be jointly and severally liable up to the Settlement Amount until such amount is paid in full to the Estate. The Settlement Amount shall be paid in installment payments (each, an "Installment Payment") as set forth in the chart attached to the Settlement Agreement as Exhibit B.
  - b. A confession of judgment (the "Confession of Judgment") in substantially the form attached to the Settlement Agreement as Exhibit C will be executed by each of the On the Rocks Parties, jointly and severally, for the Settlement Amount. The

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The summary contained herein is a summary only, and if and to the extent there is any inconsistency between the summary and the Settlement Agreement, the terms of the latter govern. Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Settlement Agreement.

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Confession of Judgment will be held by counsel, who shall be authorized to file and seek to enforce the Confession of Judgment only upon the occurrence of an Event of Default (defined in the Settlement Agreement), and subject to applicable notice as set forth in paragraph 6 of the Settlement Agreement.

Effective on the date of the payment by the On the Rocks Parties to c. the Estate of the final Installment Payment, the Estate and the Trustee, solely in his capacity as trustee, and each of their respective successors and assigns (collectively the "Trustee Releasers") shall be deemed to have irrevocably and unconditionally, fully, finally and forever waived, released, acquitted and discharged the On the Rocks Parties and each of its, his and her successors and assigns (collectively, the "On the Rocks Releasees") from any and all claims, manner of actions, causes of action, suits, costs, debts, liabilities, obligations, dues, sums of money, accounts, reckonings, bonds, bills, specialties, covenants, contracts, controversies, agreements, promises, variances, trespasses, damages, judgments, executions and demands whatsoever, of whatever kind or nature, whether known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, in law or equity, which the Trustee Releasers have, have had, may have or may claim to have against the On the Rocks Releasees solely in connection with, or relating specifically to, the Purchased Coins. The foregoing is not intended to nor shall it have the effect of releasing any of the On the Rocks Parties from the performance of their obligations in accordance with the Settlement Agreement or the Confession of Judgment.

Further, effective on the date of the payment by the On the Rocks Parties to the Estate of the final Installment Payment, each of the On the Rocks Parties shall be deemed to have irrevocably and unconditionally, fully, finally and forever waived, released, acquitted and discharged the Trustee Releasers and each of their respective successors and assigns from any and all claims, manner of actions, causes of action, suits, costs, debts, liabilities, obligations, dues, sums of money, accounts, reckonings, bonds, bills, specialties, covenants, contracts, controversies, agreements, promises, variances, trespasses, damages, judgments, executions and demands whatsoever, of whatever kind or nature, whether known or

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unknown, suspected or unsuspected, in law or equity, which the On the Rocks Parties have
have had, may have or may claim to have against any of the Trustee Releasers relating to
the Purchased Coins. The On the Rocks Parties specifically reserve and do not release any
rights, claims, defenses, or counterclaims in connection with any claims that the Trustee
Releasers have against the On the Rocks Parties other than those relating to the Purchased
Coins.

- 8. The parties have agreed on the terms of payment of amounts owed by On the Rocks to the Estate on account of merchandise purchased prior to the Petition Date. Although I believe that the Estate's position is the stronger one, there is no guarantee that the Estate would prevail in any litigation against the On the Rocks Parties, which would unduly require the expenditure of estate resources. In my view, the Settlement Agreement is a reasonable, expedient, and balanced resolution.
- 9. Further, the Estate is obtaining a release of all claims by the On the Rocks Parties and I do not believe that the Estate has any claims or causes of action against the On the Rocks Parties that will be released pursuant to the release under the Settlement Agreement. Thus, I do not believe the Estate is giving up anything of material value through the release.
- 10. Accordingly, I respectfully submit that the Settlement Agreement and all its provisions are reasonable, fair and in the best interest of the Estate and creditors.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed this 16th day of March 2015, at San Pedro, California.

#### PROOF OF SERVICE OF DOCUMENT

I am over the age of 18 and not a party to this bankruptcy case or adversary proceeding. My business address is: 10100 Santa Monica Boulevard, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor, Los Angeles, California 90067

A true and correct copy of the foregoing document entitled (specify): NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION FOR ORDER

BANKRUPTCY RULE S DECLARATION OF R.	9019; MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND A	ed (a) on the judge in chambers in the form and
Orders and LBR, the for March 17, 2015, I check	regoing document will be served by the court ked the CM/ECF docket for this bankruptcy of	IC FILING (NEF): Pursuant to controlling General via NEF and hyperlink to the document. On (date) ase or adversary proceeding and determined that the EF transmission at the email addresses stated below:
		Service information continued on attached page
case or adversary proce first class, postage prep	15, I served the following persons and/or entereding by placing a true and correct copy the	ities at the last known addresses in this bankruptcy reof in a sealed envelope in the United States mail, dge here constitutes a declaration that mailing to the filed.
		☐ Service information continued on attached page
for each person or entity following persons and/o such service method), b	y served): Pursuant to F.R.Civ.P. 5 and/or or r entities by personal delivery, overnight mai ry facsimile transmission and/or email as follows:	SIMILE TRANSMISSION OR EMAIL (state method ontrolling LBR, on (date) March 17, 2015, I served the service, or (for those who consented in writing to ows. Listing the judge here constitutes a declaration oleted no later than 24 hours after the document is
Via Federal Express The Honorable Erithe A United States Bankrupto Central District of Califo Ronald Reagan Federal 411 West Fourth Street, Santa Ana, CA 92701-4	cy Court rnia   Building and Courthouse   Suite 5040	
		⊠ Service information continued on attached page
I declare under penalty	of perjury under the laws of the United State	s that the foregoing is true and correct.
March 17, 2015	Myra Kulick	/s/ Myra Kulick
Date	Printed Name	Signature

This form is mandatory. It has been approved for use by the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California.

#### 1. TO BE SERVED BY THE COURT VIA NOTICE OF ELECTRONIC FILING (NEF):

- Wesley H Avery wamiracle6@yahoo.com, wavery@rpmlaw.com
- Candice Bryner candice@brynerlaw.com
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- becky@ringstadlaw.com Nanette D Sanders
- Richard C Spencer rspencer@rspencerlaw.com
- United States Trustee (SA) ustpregion16.sa.ecf@usdoj.gov

#### 2. SERVED BY UNITED STATES MAIL:

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Frankel

Nokes & Quinn

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Accountants for Landlord

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Interested Party

Frye & Hsieh

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On the Rocks Jewelry & Rare Coins

Attn: David Halpin and Desirea Sloan

207 N. El Camino Real San Clemente, CA 92672