
UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549
FORM 10-Q

(Mark One)

☒ **QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**
For the quarterly period ended June 30, 2026

OR

☐ **TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**
For the transition period from to

Commission File Number: 001-38821

STARK NOVUS FINANCIAL INC.
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or Other Jurisdiction of
Incorporation or Organization)

83-2533239
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

1700 Broadway, 19th Floor
New York, New York 10019
(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (212) 202-2200

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act: None

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes ☒ No ☐

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically every Interactive Data File required to be submitted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§ 232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit such files). Yes ☒ No ☐

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, smaller reporting company or an emerging growth company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," "smaller reporting company," and "emerging growth company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer ☐

Accelerated filer ☐

Non-accelerated filer ☒

Smaller reporting company ☒

Emerging growth company ☐

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act. ☐

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes ☐ No ☒

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has filed all documents and reports required to be filed by Section 12, 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 subsequent to the distribution of securities under a plan confirmed by a court. Yes ☒ No ☐

As of August 14, 2026, there were 16,289,293 shares of the registrant's Class A common stock were outstanding.

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CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This report, including, without limitation, statements under the heading “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations,” includes forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the “Securities Act”), and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”). These forward-looking statements can be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology, including the words “believes,” “estimates,” “anticipates,” “expects,” “intends,” “plans,” “may,” “will,” “potential,” “projects,” “predicts,” “continue,” “could” or “should,” or, in each case, their negative or other variations or comparable terminology, although not all forward-looking statements are accompanied by such terms. There can be no assurance that actual results will not materially differ from expectations. Such statements include, but are not limited to, any statements regarding our intentions, beliefs or current expectations concerning, among other things, our results of operations, financial condition, liquidity, financial or operational prospects, growth, strategies, and possible business combinations and the financing thereof, and related matters, and any other statements that are not statements of current or historical facts.

By their nature, forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties because they relate to events and depend on circumstances that may or may not occur in the future. Forward-looking statements are based upon assumptions and are not guarantees of future performance. Actual results may differ materially from those contained in forward-looking statements due to various factors, including, but not limited to: limited management, labor, and financial resources; our reliance upon third parties for key aspects of our business; our ability to maintain adequate internal controls; our ability to maintain a market in our securities; our ability to continue as a going concern; and our ability obtain financing, if and when needed, on terms that are acceptable, as well as those risks and factors described in the “Risk Factors” section of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2025. You are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date of this report, and we undertake no obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as may be required by law.

The Company’s stockholders are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date of this report, and we undertake no obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as may be required by law.

Unless the context indicates otherwise, references in this report to the “Company,” “Nu Ride,” “Lordstown,” “Debtors,” “we,” “us,” “our” and similar terms refer to Stark Novus Financial Inc. (f/k/a Nu Ride Inc.; f/k/a Lordstown Motors Corp.; f/k/a DiamondPeak Holdings Corp.) and its consolidated subsidiaries.

PART I
FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Item 1. Financial Statements

Stark Novus Financial Inc.
f/k/a Nu Ride Inc.
f/k/a Lordstown Motors Corp.
Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets

(in thousands except for per share data)
(Unaudited)

	June 30, 2026	December 31, 2025
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 21,525	\$ 34,439
Short-term investments	7,373	4,722
Short-term investments, restricted	2,619	5,100
Prepaid insurance	252	317
Other current assets	390	176
Total current assets	\$ 32,159	\$ 44,754
Loans receivable	11,595	2,215
Total assets	<u>\$ 43,754</u>	<u>\$ 46,969</u>
LIABILITIES, MEZZANINE EQUITY AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 47	\$ 464
Accrued legal and professional fees	697	401
Accrued expenses and other current liabilities	55	126
Total current liabilities	\$ 799	\$ 991
Liabilities subject to compromise	2,603	5,004
Total liabilities	<u>\$ 3,402</u>	<u>\$ 5,995</u>
Commitments and contingencies (Note 7)		
Mezzanine equity		
Series A Convertible Preferred stock, \$0.0001 par value, 12,000,000 shares authorized; 300,000 shares issued and outstanding as of June 30, 2026 and December 31, 2025	\$ 39,928	\$ 38,378
Stockholders' equity		
Class A common stock, \$0.0001 par value, 450,000,000 shares authorized; 16,211,365 and 16,211,365 shares issued as of June 30, 2026 and December 31, 2025, respectively, 16,096,296 and 16,096,296 shares outstanding as of June 30, 2026 and December 31, 2025, respectively	\$ 24	\$ 24
Additional paid in capital	1,180,833	1,182,014
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(231)	(408)
Accumulated deficit	(1,180,202)	(1,179,034)
Total stockholders' equity	\$ 424	\$ 2,596
Total liabilities, mezzanine equity and stockholders' equity	<u>\$ 43,754</u>	<u>\$ 46,969</u>

See Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

Stark Novus Financial Inc.
f/k/a Nu Ride Inc.
f/k/a Lordstown Motors Corp.
Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations

(in thousands except for per share data)
(Unaudited)

	Three months ended June 30, 2026	Three months ended June 30, 2025	Six months ended June 30, 2026	Six months ended June 30, 2025
Operating expense (income):				
Selling, general and administrative expenses	\$ 1,550	\$ 1,683	\$ 3,051	\$ 3,621
Legal settlement and litigation benefit, net	—	(1,326)	(779)	(1,498)
Total operating expense, net	<u>1,550</u>	<u>357</u>	<u>2,272</u>	<u>2,123</u>
Loss from operations	\$ (1,550)	\$ (357)	\$ (2,272)	\$ (2,123)
Other (expense) income:				
Other expense, net	(49)	(37)	(68)	(68)
Realized gain on debt securities available for sale	—	696	—	925
Investment and interest income	539	440	1,172	797
(Loss) income before income taxes	\$ (1,060)	\$ 742	\$ (1,168)	\$ (469)
Income tax expense (benefit)	—	—	—	—
Net (loss) income	\$ (1,060)	\$ 742	\$ (1,168)	\$ (469)
Less accrued preferred stock dividend	782	723	1,550	1,432
Net (loss) income attributable to common shareholders	<u>\$ (1,842)</u>	<u>\$ 19</u>	<u>\$ (2,718)</u>	<u>\$ (1,901)</u>
Net (loss) income per share attributable to common shareholders				
Basic	\$ (0.11)	\$ 0.00	\$ (0.17)	\$ (0.12)
Diluted	<u>\$ (0.11)</u>	<u>\$ (0.00)</u>	<u>\$ (0.17)</u>	<u>\$ (0.12)</u>
Weighted-average number of common shares outstanding				
Basic	<u>16,096</u>	<u>16,096</u>	<u>16,096</u>	<u>16,096</u>
Diluted	<u>16,096</u>	<u>17,528</u>	<u>16,096</u>	<u>16,096</u>

See Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

Stark Novus Financial Inc.
f/k/a Nu Ride Inc.
f/k/a Lordstown Motors Corp.
Condensed Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive (Loss) Income

(in thousands)
(Unaudited)

	Three months ended June 30, 2026	Three months ended June 30, 2025	Six months ended June 30, 2026	Six months ended June 30, 2025
Net (loss) income	\$ (1,060)	\$ 742	\$ (1,168)	\$ (469)
Other comprehensive loss:				
Unrealized gain (loss) on debt securities available for sale	197	(595)	177	(669)
Total comprehensive (loss) income	<u>\$ (863)</u>	<u>\$ 147</u>	<u>\$ (991)</u>	<u>\$ (1,138)</u>

Stark Novus Financial Inc.
f/k/a Nu Ride Inc.
f/k/a Lordstown Motors Corp.
Condensed Consolidated Statements of Changes in Stockholders' Equity

(in thousands)
(Unaudited)

Three months ended June 30, 2026								
	Preferred Stock		Common Stock		Additional Paid-In Capital	Accumulated Deficit	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss	Total Stockholders' Equity
	Shares	Amount	Shares	Amount				
Balance at March 31, 2026	300	\$ 39,146	16,096	\$ 24	\$ 1,181,432	\$ (1,179,142)	\$ (428)	\$ 1,886
Stock-based compensation	—	—	—	—	183	—	—	183
Accrual of Series A Convertible Preferred Stock dividends	—	782	—	—	(782)	—	—	(782)
Unrealized gain on debt securities available for sale	—	—	—	—	—	—	197	197
Net loss	—	—	—	—	—	(1,060)	—	(1,060)
Balance at June 30, 2026	<u>300</u>	<u>\$ 39,928</u>	<u>16,096</u>	<u>\$ 24</u>	<u>\$ 1,180,833</u>	<u>\$ (1,180,202)</u>	<u>\$ (231)</u>	<u>\$ 424</u>
Three months ended June 30, 2025								
	Preferred Stock		Common Stock		Additional Paid-In Capital	Accumulated Deficit	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)	Total Stockholders' Equity
	Shares	Amount	Shares	Amount				
Balance at March 31, 2025	300	\$ 36,164	16,096	\$ 24	\$ 1,183,904	\$ (1,179,626)	\$ 592	\$ 4,894
Stock-based compensation	—	—	—	—	108	—	—	108
Accrual of Series A Convertible Preferred Stock dividends	—	723	—	—	(723)	—	—	(723)
Unrealized loss on debt securities available for sale	—	—	—	—	—	—	(595)	(595)
Net income	—	—	—	—	—	742	—	742
Balance at June 30, 2025	<u>300</u>	<u>\$ 36,887</u>	<u>16,096</u>	<u>\$ 24</u>	<u>\$ 1,183,289</u>	<u>\$ (1,178,884)</u>	<u>\$ (3)</u>	<u>\$ 4,426</u>

See Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

Six months ended June 30, 2026

	Preferred Stock		Common Stock		Additional Paid-In Capital	Accumulated Deficit	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss	Total Stockholders' Equity
	Shares	Amount	Shares	Amount				
Balance at January 1, 2026	300	\$ 38,378	16,096	\$ 24	\$ 1,182,014	\$ (1,179,034)	\$ (408)	\$ 2,596
Stock-based compensation	—	—	—	—	369	—	—	369
Accrual of Series A Convertible Preferred Stock dividends	—	1,550	—	—	(1,550)	—	—	(1,550)
Unrealized gain on available for sale debt securities	—	—	—	—	—	—	177	177
Net loss	—	—	—	—	—	(1,168)	—	(1,168)
Balance at June 30, 2026	<u>300</u>	<u>\$ 39,928</u>	<u>16,096</u>	<u>\$ 24</u>	<u>\$ 1,180,833</u>	<u>\$ (1,180,202)</u>	<u>\$ (231)</u>	<u>\$ 424</u>

Six months ended June 30, 2025

	Preferred Stock		Common Stock		Additional Paid-In Capital	Accumulated Deficit	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)	Total Stockholders' Equity
	Shares	Amount	Shares	Amount				
Balance at January 1, 2025	300	\$ 35,455	16,096	\$ 24	\$ 1,184,505	\$ (1,178,415)	\$ 666	\$ 6,780
Stock-based compensation	—	—	—	—	216	—	—	216
Accrual of Series A Convertible Preferred Stock dividends	—	1,432	—	—	(1,432)	—	—	(1,432)
Unrealized loss on available for sale debt securities	—	—	—	—	—	—	(669)	(669)
Net loss	—	—	—	—	—	(469)	—	(469)
Balance at June 30, 2025	<u>300</u>	<u>\$ 36,887</u>	<u>16,096</u>	<u>\$ 24</u>	<u>\$ 1,183,289</u>	<u>\$ (1,178,884)</u>	<u>\$ (3)</u>	<u>\$ 4,426</u>

Stark Novus Financial Inc.
f/k/a Nu Ride Inc.
f/k/a Lordstown Motors Corp.
Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows

(in thousands)
(Unaudited)

	Six months ended June 30, 2026	Six months ended June 30, 2025
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		
Net loss	\$ (1,168)	\$ (469)
Adjustments to reconcile net loss to net cash used in operating activities:		
Stock-based compensation	369	216
Realized gain on debt securities available for sale	—	(925)
Accretion of investment income	—	(104)
Change in operating assets and liabilities:		
Prepaid insurance and other assets	(149)	(124)
Accounts payable	(417)	(25)
Accrued legal and professional fees	296	(167)
Accrued expenses and other current liabilities and liabilities subject to compromise	(2,465)	(2,382)
Net cash used in operating activities	\$ (3,534)	\$ (3,980)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:		
Purchase of short-term investments	—	(19,589)
Maturities of short-term investments	—	30,000
Issuance of loans receivable	(9,380)	—
Net cash (used in) provided by investing activities	\$ (9,380)	\$ 10,411
Cash and cash equivalents, and restricted cash:		
Net (decrease) increase during the period	\$ (12,914)	\$ 6,431
Balance, beginning of period	34,439	23,095
Balance, end of period	\$ 21,525	\$ 29,526

See Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

Stark Novus Financial Inc.
f/k/a Nu Ride Inc.
f/k/a Lordstown Motors Corp.
Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF ORGANIZATION AND BUSINESS OPERATIONS

Description of Business

Overview

On June 27, 2023, Lordstown Motors Corp., a Delaware corporation, together with its subsidiaries (“Lordstown,” the “Company,” or the “Debtors”), filed voluntary petitions for relief (the “Chapter 11 Cases”) under Chapter 11 of the United States Bankruptcy Code (the “Bankruptcy Code”) in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware (the “Bankruptcy Court”). On March 5, 2024, the Bankruptcy Court entered an order confirming the Second Modified First Amended Joint Plan of Lordstown Motors Corp. and Its Affiliated Debtors (the “Plan”). Following the entry of the confirmation order and all conditions to effectiveness of the Plan being satisfied, the Debtors emerged from bankruptcy on March 14, 2024 (the “Effective Date”) under the name “Nu Ride Inc.”

On July 21, 2026, the Company filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware a Certificate of Amendment to the Company’s Third Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation changing the Company’s name from “Nu Ride Inc.” to “Stark Novus Financial Inc.”

The Company’s assets consist largely of cash on hand, the claims asserted in the Foxconn Litigation (as defined below), claims that the Company may have against other parties, certain loans receivable made after emergence, described below, as well as net operating loss carryforwards (“NOLs”) and other tax attributes, and the Company’s primary operations are: (i) resolving claims filed in the bankruptcy, (ii) prosecuting the Foxconn Litigation (as defined below), (iii) pursuing, compromising, settling or otherwise disposing of other retained causes of action of the Company, and (iv) exploring potential business opportunities, including strategic alternatives or business combinations. No assurances can be made that the Company will be successful in prosecuting any claim or cause of action or that any strategic alternative or business combination will be identified or, if identified, would result in profitable operations. The Company anticipates that the prosecution of claims and causes of action and the evaluation and pursuit of potential strategic alternatives will be costly, complex, and risky.

Affinity Acquisition

On July 15, 2026, Affinity Advisory Holdings Corp., a Delaware corporation (“AAH”) and a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, completed the acquisition of 100% of the voting equity interests of Affinity Advisory Network, LLC and AAN Wealth Advisors, LLC (together, “Affinity”), in order to acquire its integrated platform combining insurance distribution and registered investment advisory services. Affinity supports a nationwide network of agents and advisors serving clients across the United States. Affinity has developed proprietary advisor training systems, lead generation infrastructure and client relationship management tools designed to support scalable growth and recurring client engagement.

Membership Interest Purchase Agreement

The Membership Interest Purchase Agreement (the “Purchase Agreement”) for the transaction was originally signed on June 2, 2026. The aggregate consideration payable under the Purchase Agreement consisted of (a) a cash payment at closing of \$6,720,000, subject to customary adjustments for working capital, cash, indebtedness, and transaction expenses; (b) 80,000 shares of Class A common stock of the Company (the “Class A Common Stock”); and (c) shares of AAH common stock equal to 15% of its issued and outstanding shares immediately following the closing. The Sellers are also eligible to receive a contingent earnout payment of up to \$1,312,000 (plus accrued interest), payable in up to three annual installments of approximately \$437,333 each following the closing, subject to meeting certain insurance-writing thresholds.

As of the date of these condensed consolidated financial statements were issued, the Company has not completed the initial accounting for the acquisition because the valuation analyses necessary to determine the fair values of the assets acquired, liabilities assumed, contingent consideration and identifiable intangible assets have not yet been completed. Because the acquisition occurred subsequent to June 30, 2026, no assets acquired or liabilities assumed have been reflected in the accompanying condensed consolidated balance sheet as of that date. The Company expects to complete the preliminary purchase price allocation during the measurement period prescribed by ASC 805. As of the filing date, management has not completed the valuation procedures necessary to determine the effects of the acquisition on the Company’s historical financial statements, and therefore such information has not been presented in these condensed consolidated financial statements.

Stockholders Agreement

In connection with the acquisition of Affinity, AAH, the Company and the seller of Affinity (the “Affinity Seller”) entered into a Stockholders Agreement (the “Stockholders Agreement”), governing the ongoing governance and ownership of AAH following the closing of the acquisition. Under the Stockholders Agreement, the AAH board of directors will initially be composed of four directors: three directors designated by the Company majority holders (one of which will initially include Alexander Matina) and one director designated by the Affinity Seller (initially Robert Hall, the founder and President of Affinity), for so long as the Affinity Seller collectively holds at least the number of shares held as of the date of the Stockholders Agreement. Certain specified actions, including transactions that disproportionately and materially adversely affect the Affinity Seller’s rights, non-arm’s-length transactions between AAH and the Company, and non pro rata Company share redemptions, require the affirmative vote of the Affinity Seller’s board nominee, subject to a notice-and-response mechanism. The Stockholders Agreement also provides for transfer restrictions on AAH shares customary for situations of this type, including board consent for transfers other than to family members, a right of first refusal in favor of the Company, customary tag-along rights in favor of the minority holders and drag-along rights in favor of the majority holders, subject to customary conditions in each case. The Stockholders Agreement also provides customary rights to the minority holders to put their shares to the Company in certain circumstances and customary rights of the majority holders to call the minority holder shares, in each case upon a repayment schedule.

Employment Agreement

In connection with the acquisition of Affinity, AAH also entered into an Employment Agreement (the “Employment Agreement”) with Robert Hall, pursuant to which Mr. Hall will serve as Chief Executive Officer of AAH, reporting to the board of directors of AAH, for an initial three-year term that automatically renews for successive one-year periods unless either party provides timely written notice of non-renewal. Under the Employment Agreement, Mr. Hall is entitled to an annual base salary of \$125,000, an annual cash bonus targeted at 100% of base salary, an annual equity bonus equal to 0.5% of AAH’s equity (subject to an ownership cap mechanism that may result in cash or Company stock being issued in lieu of excess AAH equity), and an annual Company equity bonus of 10,000 shares of Class A common stock, in each case subject to the achievement of board-established performance goals. In the event Mr. Hall is terminated without cause or resigns for good reason, he is entitled to receive six months of continued base salary and a prorated equity bonus, conditioned upon his execution of a release of claims within the applicable timeframes. The Employment Agreement also includes customary restrictive covenants, including confidentiality obligations and non-competition and non-solicitation covenants that apply during the term of employment and for a period of twenty-four months following any termination of employment.

Foxconn Litigation

In the years prior to the Company’s filing for bankruptcy protection, the Company entered into a series of transactions with affiliates of Foxconn, beginning with the Agreement in Principle that was announced on September 30, 2021, pursuant to which the Company entered into definitive agreements to sell our manufacturing facility in Lordstown, Ohio under an asset purchase agreement (the “Foxconn APA”) and outsource manufacturing of the Endurance to Foxconn under a contract manufacturing agreement (the “CMA”). On November 7, 2022, the Company entered into an investment agreement with Foxconn under which Foxconn agreed to make additional equity investments in the Company (the “Investment Agreement”). The Investment Agreement superseded and replaced an earlier joint venture agreement.

On June 27, 2023, the Company commenced an adversary proceeding against Foxconn (the “Foxconn Litigation”) in the Bankruptcy Court seeking relief for fraudulent and tortious conduct as well as breaches of the Investment Agreement and other agreements, the parties’ joint venture agreement, the Foxconn APA, and the CMA that the Company believes were committed by Foxconn. As set forth in the complaint relating to the adversary proceeding, the Company believes Foxconn’s actions have caused substantial harm to the Company’s operations and prospects and caused significant damages.

On September 29, 2023, Foxconn filed a motion to dismiss all counts of the Foxconn Litigation and brief in support of the same (the “Foxconn Adversary Motion to Dismiss”), asserting that all of the Company’s claims are subject to binding arbitration provisions and that the Company has failed to state a claim for relief. The Company believes that the Foxconn Adversary Motion to Dismiss is without merit and, on November 6, 2023, the Company filed an opposition to Foxconn’s Adversary Motion to Dismiss. Foxconn filed a reply in support of the Foxconn Adversary Motion to Dismiss on November 30, 2023. On December 7, 2023, the Company and its equity committee (the “Equity Committee”) filed a notice of completion of briefing, which provided that the briefing of the Foxconn Adversary Motion to Dismiss has been completed and such motion is ready for disposition.

On August 1, 2024, the Bankruptcy Court entered an opinion and order partially denying and partially granting the Foxconn Adversary Motion to Dismiss, which was subsequently amended on October 1, 2024. Nine of the Company’s claims survived the motion to dismiss on the grounds that the Company pled viable claims against Foxconn and the claims were not subject to mandatory arbitration. The Court also dismissed two of the Company’s claims in favor of arbitration. The order is presently being appealed by Foxconn to the Third Circuit Court of Appeals. The Bankruptcy Court has stayed litigation of the claims that it ruled were not subject to arbitration pending that appeal. The Court also allowed that the two dismissed claims should proceed to arbitration. The Company is vigorously pursuing this litigation. Any net proceeds from the Foxconn Litigation may enhance the recoveries for holders of claims and equity interests of shareholders (“Interests”), as set forth in the Plan. However, no assurances can be provided as to the Company having sufficient resources to pursue the Foxconn Litigation, or the outcome or recoveries, if any.

See Note 7 - Commitments and Contingencies - Foxconn Litigation for additional information.

Stark Novus Financial Inc.
f/k/a Nu Ride Inc.
f/k/a Lordstown Motors Corp.
Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

Basis of Presentation and Principles of Consolidation

The accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements are presented in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (“GAAP”) and pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission. The condensed consolidated financial statements include the accounts and operations of the Company and its wholly owned subsidiary. All intercompany accounts and transactions are eliminated upon consolidation.

Liquidity

The Company had cash and cash equivalents of approximately \$21.5 million, short-term investments of \$7.4 million, and restricted short-term investments of approximately \$2.6 million, an accumulated deficit of \$1.2 billion at June 30, 2026, and a net loss of \$1.2 million for the six months ended June 30, 2026.

The Company’s liquidity and ability to continue as a going concern is dependent upon, among other things: (i) the resolution of significant contingent and other claims and liabilities and (ii) the outcome of the Company’s efforts to realize value, if any, from its retained causes of action, including the Foxconn Litigation, and other remaining assets. The Company is continuing to explore potential business opportunities, including strategic alternatives or business combinations, including those that would preserve the value of the Company’s NOLs.

Based on the foregoing, management believes that the Company will have sufficient working capital to meet its needs through the date one year from this filing. Over this time period, the Company will be using its restricted short-term investments to pay for settled claims and its cash and cash equivalents, unrestricted short-term investments and interest received from our short-term investments and our loans receivable for paying existing accrued expenses and legal and consulting fees expected to be incurred.

Stark Novus Financial Inc.
f/k/a Nu Ride Inc.
f/k/a Lordstown Motors Corp.
Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Use of Estimates in Financial Statement Preparation

The preparation of condensed consolidated financial statements in accordance with GAAP is based on the selection and application of accounting policies that require us to make significant estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts in the condensed consolidated financial statements, and related disclosures in the accompanying notes to the financial statements. Actual results could differ from those estimates. Estimates and assumptions are periodically reviewed and the effects of changes are reflected in the condensed consolidated financial statements in the period they are determined to be necessary. The Chapter 11 Cases may result in ongoing, additional changes in facts and circumstances that may cause the Company's estimates and assumptions to change, potentially materially. The Company undertakes no obligation to update or revise any of the disclosures, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as may be required under applicable securities laws.

Fresh Start Accounting

Upon emergence from bankruptcy, the Company assessed the requirements of fresh start accounting as required in Accounting Standards Codification 852: *Reorganizations* ("ASC 852"). Based on the Company's assessment, management concluded that the Company did not qualify for fresh start accounting under ASC 852 upon emergence from bankruptcy. Management's conclusion was based on the fact that the total of all post-petition liabilities and reserve for allowed claims did not exceed the reorganization value, and the holders of existing voting shares immediately prior to confirmation did not lose control of the entity, as defined as receiving less than 50% of the emerging entity's voting shares. Accordingly, the Company continued to apply GAAP in the ongoing preparation of its financial statements post emergence.

Segment Information

Operating segments are identified as components of an enterprise about which discrete financial information is available for evaluation by the chief operating decision-maker ("CODM") in deciding resource allocation and assessing performance. The Company has determined that its CODM is its Chief Executive Officer.

The Company operates as one operating segment with a focus on (a) claims administration under its Plan, (b) prosecuting, pursuing, compromising, settling, or otherwise disposing of litigation and other retained causes of action including the Foxconn Litigation, (c) defending the Company against any counterclaims, (d) maintaining and managing the NOLs and (e) filing Securities and Exchange Commission required reports and satisfying other regulatory requirements.

The Company's CODM manages and allocates resources to the operations of the Company on a consolidated basis. This enables the CODM to assess the Company's overall level of available resources and determine how best to deploy these resources in line with the Company's long-term company-wide strategic goals. Given the Company does not currently generate revenue, the CODM assesses performance of the Company's single segment and allocation of resources based on consolidated net loss as well as total selling, general, and administrative expenses. The CODM utilizes these metrics in order to assess the Company's net cash usage. Total net loss as well as selling, general, and administrative expenses are used to monitor budget versus actual results.

Significant segment expenses are consistent with those presented on the condensed consolidated statements of operations and comprehensive loss. The measure of segment assets is reported on the condensed consolidated balance sheets as total assets.

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Cash, Cash Equivalents, Restricted Cash, Short-term Investments, and Restricted Short-term Investments

Cash includes cash equivalents which are highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to cash. The Company considers all liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less to be cash equivalents. In general, investments with original maturities of greater than three months and remaining maturities of less than one year are classified as short-term investments. The Company maintains its cash in bank deposit and securities accounts that exceed federally insured limits. The Company has not experienced significant losses in such accounts and management believes it is not exposed to material credit risk.

The Company's short-term investments consist of U.S. treasury notes and bills and U.S. government and prime asset money market funds. The short-term investments are accounted for as available-for-sale securities. The market risk related to these investments is insignificant given that the short-term investments held are highly liquid investment-grade fixed-income securities. The Company records changes in allowance for expected credit loss in other income (expense). There has been no allowance for expected credit losses recorded during any of the periods presented. See Note 3 – Fair Value Measurements for further information.

Restricted short-term investments balances represent the cash reserves as required by the Plan that have been invested in short-term available for sale securities, which consist primarily of U.S. treasury notes and bills and U.S. government and prime asset money market funds. Under the Plan, the Company established an escrow for the payment of certain professional fees incurred in connection with the Chapter 11 Cases ("Professional Fee Escrow"). The Professional Fee Escrow was established based upon estimates and assumptions as of the date the Company emerged from bankruptcy. Therefore, the actual obligations may be more or less than the amount escrowed. To the extent the Professional Fee Escrow is insufficient, the Company will be required to use its available unrestricted cash to settle its obligations. In the event the Professional Fee Escrow exceeds the Company's obligations, funds will be returned to the Company and become unrestricted. The obligations were fully paid in August 2024 and the remainder of the Professional Fee Escrow was released from restriction. The Plan also required the Company to establish a \$45 million reserve for allowed and disputed claims of general unsecured creditors (the "Claims Reserve"), including interest (although there can be no assurance the Company will be able to pay such claims in full, with interest). As of June 30, 2026, \$2.6 million was included in restricted short-term investments, which represents the initial Claims Reserve of \$45 million, less \$42.4 million which was released from the Claims Reserve related to the claims reconciliation process.

Loans Receivable

On December 30, 2025, the Company entered into a Funding Agreement and Secured Promissory Note with Foxpoint Florida LLC ("FPI"), pursuant to which the Company loaned FPI \$2.2 million to finance the acquisition by FPI of certain billboard leasehold assets, including structures and permits, in Florida (the "FPI Loan"). The FPI Loan is secured by a first priority lien on substantially all the assets of FPI, as well as a pledge of all equity interests in FPI held by its owner, and bears interest at 15% per annum, payable monthly in cash, with payment in full of principal and accrued interest on December 30, 2028. Additionally, the Company received equity interests in FPI representing approximately 40% of the aggregate equity interests, subject to reduction to an aggregate of 30% if the FPI Loan is repaid in full on or prior to the second anniversary of closing (December 30, 2027), and 20% if the FPI Loan is repaid in full on or prior to the first anniversary of closing (December 30, 2026).

On January 23, 2026, the Company entered into a Loan and Security Agreement with Foxpoint Florida II, LLC ("FPII") and certain other lenders party thereto, pursuant to which the Company loaned FPII \$5.5 million (out of aggregate loan proceeds of \$7.5 million) to finance the acquisition by FPII of certain billboard leasehold assets, including structures and permits, in Florida (the "FPII Loan"). The FPII Loan is secured by a first priority lien on substantially all the assets of FPII, as well as a pledge of all equity interests in FPII held by its owner, and bears interest at 15% per annum, payable monthly in cash, with payment in full of principal and accrued interest on January 23, 2029. The loan agreement contains representations and warranties, covenants, events of default and conditions customary for loans of this type. Additionally, the Company received equity interests in FPII representing approximately 29.3% of the aggregate equity interests (out of aggregate equity interests issued to the lenders representing 40%), subject to reduction to an aggregate of 30% if the FPII Loan is repaid in full on or prior to the second anniversary of closing (January 23, 2028), and 20% if the FPII Loan is repaid in full on or prior to the first anniversary of closing (January 23, 2027).

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On February 13, 2026, the Company entered into a Funding Agreement and Secured Promissory Note with each of Foxpoint Florida III, LLC and 4445 W. Vine, LLC (“FPIII” and “4445WV”, respectively, and collectively with FPI and FPII, “Foxpoint Florida”), pursuant to which the Company loaned FPIII \$615,000 and 4445WV \$485,000 to finance the acquisition by FPIII of certain billboard leasehold assets in Florida and the acquisition by 4445WV of an easement to such assets (together, the “FPIII Loans”). The FPIII Loans are secured by substantially the same type of collateral and have substantially the same terms as the FPI Loan described above.

On April 1, 2026, the Company entered into a Loan and Security Agreement with Foxpoint Florida IV, LLC (“FPIV”) and certain other lenders party thereto, pursuant to which the Company loaned FPIV \$1.95 million (out of aggregate loan proceeds of \$2.35 million) to finance the acquisition by FPIV of certain billboard leasehold assets, including structures and permits, in Florida (the “FPIV Loan”). The FPIV Loan is secured by a first priority lien on substantially all the assets of FPIV, as well as a pledge of all equity interests in FPIV held by its owner, and bears interest at 15% per annum, payable monthly in cash, with payment in full of principal and accrued interest on March 27, 2029. The loan agreement contains representations and warranties, covenants, events of default and conditions customary for loans of this type. Additionally, the Company received equity interests in FPIV representing approximately 33.2% of the aggregate equity interests (out of aggregate equity interests issued to the lenders representing 40%), subject to reduction to an aggregate of 30% if the FPIV Loan is repaid in full on or prior to the second anniversary of closing (April 1, 2028), and 20% if the FPIV Loan is repaid in full on or prior to the first anniversary of closing (April 1, 2027).

On April 20, 2026, the Company entered into a Funding Agreement and Secured Promissory Note with Foxpoint Florida V, LLC (“FPV”) pursuant to which the Company loaned FPV \$830,000 to finance the acquisition by FPV of certain billboard leasehold assets in Florida (the “FPV Loans”). The FPV Loans are secured by substantially the same type of collateral and have substantially the same terms as the FPIII Loan described above.

The Company and the other lenders of the Foxpoint Florida loans are in the process of negotiating an omnibus amendment to the Foxpoint Florida loan documents with the Borrowers, the Guarantor and related parties, which contemplates among other things, the due date for payment of the monthly interest installments for June 1 through September 1, 2026 being deferred to the closing date of the sale of assets owned by the Borrowers (the “Orlando Sale”), a letter of intent with respect to the Orlando Sale being executed by an agreed-upon date, the net proceeds of the Orlando Sale being applied first to the payment in full of all amounts owing to the Company and the other lenders, and the granting of liens on certain additional assets as security for any shortfall in the repayment and/or if the Orlando Sale fails to close by an agreed upon date. There are no assurances the amendment will be entered into on these terms or at all.

Management determined that its ownership percentages in FPI, FPII, FPIII, 4445WV, FPIV and FPV does not provide it controlling financial interests under the voting interest model nor the power to direct the most significant activities and economies given its lack of board representation. Thus, the Company was not required to consolidate FPI, FPII, FPIII, 4445WV, FPIV and FPV at June 30, 2026 and December 31, 2025. The Company applied the equity method accounting under ASC 323 given its non-controlling interests in FPI, FPII, FPIII, 4445WV, FPIV and FPV but concluded that all of the equity-method investments are de minimis.

Loans that management has the intent and ability to hold for the foreseeable future or until maturity or pay-off generally are reported at their outstanding unpaid principal balances adjusted for charge-offs, the allowance for credit losses, and any deferred fees or costs on originated loans. Interest income is accrued on the unpaid principal balance. Loan origination fees, net of certain direct origination costs, are deferred and recognized as an adjustment of the related loan yield over the estimated life of the loan.

Loans are reported as past due when principal is due and unpaid for a period of 30 days or more. Loans are placed on nonaccrual or charged-off at an earlier date if collection of principal or interest is considered doubtful.

All interest accrued but not collected for loans that are charged off is reversed against interest income. The interest on these loans is accounted for on the cash-basis or cost-recovery method, until qualifying for return to accrual. Loans are returned to accrual status when all the principal and interest amounts contractually due are brought current and future payments are reasonably assured.

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Allowance for Credit Losses

The Allowance for Credit Losses (“ACL”), which consist of the allowance for loan losses represents management’s estimate of current expected credit losses over the contractual term of the loans as of the balance sheet date. Loans are charged against the ACL and recognized in the condensed consolidated statements of operations when management believes the recorded loan balance is confirmed as uncollectible.

Management estimates the allowance balance using relevant information, from internal and external sources, relating to past events, current conditions, and reasonable and supportable forecasts. Specific reserves cover impaired loans, or loans individually valued for impairment, and are primarily measured based on the fair value of collateral.

After applying historic loss experience, the quantitatively derived level of ACL is reviewed using qualitative criteria. Various risk factors are tracked that influence our judgment regarding the level of the ACL and the primary qualitative factors that may be reflected in the quantitative model may include, but not limited to asset quality trends; national and regional economic business conditions and other macroeconomic adjustments, industry monitoring and the value of underlying collateral.

Changes in the level of the ACL reflect changes in these factors. The magnitude of the impact of each of these factors on the qualitative assessment of the ACL changes from quarter to quarter according to the extent these factors are already reflected in historic loss rates and according to the extent these factors diverge from one another. Also considered is the uncertainty inherent in the estimation process when evaluating the ACL.

Variable Interest Entities

We are required to consolidate a variable interest entity (the “VIE”) in which we are considered the primary beneficiary. The primary beneficiary is the entity that has (i) the power to direct the activities that most significantly impact the entity’s economic performance and (ii) the obligation to absorb losses of the VIE or the right to receive benefits from the VIE that could be significant to the VIE. As of June 30, 2026, we concluded that our loans receivable with FPI, FPII, FPIII, 4445WV, FPIV and FPV are VIEs. Due to our lack of control and immaterial equity at risk, we determined that we are not the primary beneficiary and we accounted for this investment under the equity method. Our maximum exposure to risk of loss includes the amount that was invested in the VIE’s, a total of \$11.6 million recorded in loans receivable on the Company’s condensed consolidated balance sheet at June 30, 2026.

Liabilities Subject to Compromise

In the accompanying condensed consolidated balance sheets, the “Liabilities subject to compromise” line is reflective of expected allowed claim amounts in accordance with ASC 852-10 and are subject to change materially based on the continued consideration of claims that may be modified, allowed, or disallowed. Refer to Note 7 - Commitments and Contingencies for further detail.

Stock-Based Compensation

The Company records stock-based compensation in accordance with ASC Topic 718, *Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation* (“ASC Topic 718”), which establishes a fair value-based method of accounting for stock-based compensation plans. In accordance with ASC Topic 718, the cost of stock-based awards issued to employees and non-employees over the awards vesting period is measured on the grant date based on the fair value. For options, the fair value is determined using the Black-Scholes option pricing model, which incorporates assumptions regarding the expected volatility, expected option life and risk-free interest rate. The resulting amount is charged to expense on the straight-line basis over the period in which the Company expects to receive the benefit, which is generally the vesting period. Further, pursuant to ASU 2016-09 - Compensation - Stock Compensation (Topic 718), the Company has elected to account for forfeitures as they occur. See Note 6 - Stock Based Compensation.

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Income Taxes

Income taxes are recorded in accordance with ASC Topic 740, *Income Taxes* (ASC Topic 740). Deferred tax assets and liabilities are determined based on the difference between the condensed consolidated financial statement and tax bases of assets and liabilities using enacted tax rates in effect for the year in which the differences are expected to reverse. Valuation allowances are provided, if based upon the weight of available evidence, it is more likely than not that some or all of the deferred tax assets will not be realized. The Company has recorded a full valuation allowance against its deferred tax assets.

The Company accounts for uncertain tax positions in accordance with the provisions of ASC Topic 740. When uncertain tax positions exist, the Company recognizes the tax benefit of tax positions to the extent that the benefit would more likely than not be realized assuming examination by the taxing authority. The determination as to whether the tax benefit will more likely than not be realized is based upon the technical merits of the tax position as well as consideration of the available facts and circumstances. The Company recognizes any interest and penalties accrued related to unrecognized tax benefits as income tax expense.

Recently Issued Accounting Standards Not Yet Adopted

In November 2024, the FASB issued ASU 2024-03, *Income Statement - Reporting Comprehensive Income - Expense Disaggregation Disclosures (Subtopic 220-40)*. This ASU requires public business entities to provide disclosure of additional information about certain identified costs and expenses on both an interim and annual basis. In January 2025, the FASB issued ASU 2025-01, *Income Statement - Reporting Comprehensive Income - Expense Disaggregation Disclosures (Subtopic 220-40); Clarifying the Effective Date*. This ASU provided clarification regarding the effective dates of annual and interim disclosure requirements presented in ASU 2024-03. Upon consideration of the clarification in ASU 2025-01, the guidance in ASU 2024-03 is effective for annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2026, and interim periods beginning within annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2027. The Company is currently evaluating the effect of this new guidance on the Company's condensed consolidated financial statements.

NOTE 3 - FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

Recurring Fair Value Measurements

The Company follows the accounting guidance in ASC Topic 820, *Fair Value Measurements* (ASC Topic 820) for its fair value measurements of financial assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis. Fair value is defined as an exit price, representing the amount that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. As such, fair value is a market-based measurement that should be determined based on assumptions that market participants would use in pricing an asset or a liability. The three-tiered fair value hierarchy, which prioritizes when inputs should be used in measuring fair value, is comprised of: (Level I) observable inputs such as quoted prices in active markets; (Level II) inputs other than quoted prices in active markets that are observable either directly or indirectly and (Level III) unobservable inputs for which there is little or no market data. The fair value hierarchy requires the use of observable market data when available in determining fair value.

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As of June 30, 2026 and December 31, 2025, the Company held short-term investments which were U.S. treasury bills and notes that are classified as Level I. The valuation inputs for the short-term investments are based upon quoted prices for similar instruments in active markets, quoted prices for identical or similar instruments in markets that are not active, and model-based valuation techniques for which all significant inputs are observable in the market or can be corroborated by observable market data for substantially the full term of the assets.

Simultaneously with the closing of the Initial Public Offering, the Sponsor and the anchor investor purchased warrants (the “Private Placement Warrants”), which expired on October 23, 2025. In connection with the Foxconn Transactions and the closing of the Asset Purchase Agreement, the Company issued warrants to Foxconn, which expired on May 11, 2025 (the “Foxconn Warrants”). No Foxconn Warrants were exercised prior to expiration.

The following tables summarizes the valuation of our financial instruments (in thousands):

	Total	Quoted prices in active markets (Level 1)	Prices with observable inputs (Level 2)	Prices with unobservable inputs (Level 3)
June 30, 2026				
Cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash	\$ 21,525	\$ 21,525	\$ —	\$ —
United States government treasury bills	9,992	9,992	—	—
	Total	Quoted prices in active markets (Level 1)	Prices with observable inputs (Level 2)	Prices with unobservable inputs (Level 3)
December 31, 2025				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 34,439	\$ 34,439	\$ —	\$ —
United States government treasury bills	9,822	9,822	—	—

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The following table summarizes the amortized cost and fair value of available-for-sale securities (in thousands):

	Amortized cost basis	Aggregate fair value	Allowance for credit losses	Unrealized Gains	Maturity Date Range
June 30, 2026					
United States government treasury bills	\$ 9,991	\$ 9,992	\$ —	\$ 1	July 9, 2026
	Amortized cost basis	Aggregate fair value	Allowance for credit losses	Unrealized Gains	Maturity Date Range
December 31, 2025					
United States government treasury bills	\$ 9,720	\$ 9,822	\$ —	\$ 102	July 9, 2026

NOTE 4 - SERIES A CONVERTIBLE PREFERRED STOCK

On November 7, 2022, the Company issued 0.3 million shares of Preferred Stock for \$100 per share to Foxconn, resulting in gross proceeds of \$30 million.

In addition, following the parties' agreement to the EV Program (as defined in the Investment Agreement) budget and the EV Program milestones and satisfaction of those EV Program milestones and other conditions set forth in the Investment Agreement, Foxconn was to purchase in two tranches, a total of 0.7 million additional shares of Preferred Stock at a purchase price of \$100 per share for aggregate proceeds of \$70 million. The parties agreed to use commercially reasonable efforts to agree upon the EV Program budget and EV Program milestones no later than May 7, 2023.

The completion of the subsequent Preferred Stock funding would have provided critical liquidity for the Company's operations. Since April 21, 2023, Foxconn has disputed its obligations under the Investment Agreement to consummate the second closing of Class A common stock (the "Subsequent Common Closing") and to use necessary efforts to agree upon the EV Program budget and EV Program milestones to facilitate the subsequent Preferred Stock funding. Foxconn initially asserted that the Company was in breach of the Investment Agreement due to the Company's previously disclosed receipt of the Nasdaq Notice regarding the Bid Price Requirement. As previously disclosed, Foxconn purported to terminate the Investment Agreement if that purported breach was not cured within 30 days.

The Company continues to believe that the breach allegations by Foxconn are without merit, and that Foxconn was obligated to complete the Subsequent Common Closing on or before May 8, 2023. Despite the Company taking action to satisfy the Bid Price Requirement as of June 7, 2023, and discussions between the parties to seek a resolution regarding the Investment Agreement, Foxconn did not proceed with the Subsequent Common Closing or any Subsequent Preferred Funding. As a result of Foxconn's actions, the Company was deprived of critical funding necessary for its operations.

On June 27, 2023, the Company filed its Chapter 11 Cases and on that same date the Company commenced the Foxconn Litigation in the Bankruptcy Court seeking relief for fraudulent and tortious conduct as well as breaches of the Investment Agreement and other agreements, the parties' joint venture agreement, the Foxconn APA, and the CMA that the Company believes were committed by Foxconn. As set forth in the complaint relating to the adversary proceeding, Foxconn's actions have caused substantial harm to the Company's operations and prospects and significant damages. See Note 7 – Commitments and Contingencies for additional information. The Foxconn Litigation is Adversary Case No. 23-50414. The descriptions herein with respect to the Preferred Stock and any rights thereunder do not account for the potential effects of the Chapter 11 Cases or the Foxconn Litigation on the Preferred Stock or any rights thereunder. The Company reserves all claims, defenses, and rights with respect to the Chapter 11 Cases, the Foxconn Litigation, the Preferred Stock, and any treatment of Preferred Stock or other interests held by Foxconn or any other party and the descriptions below do not account for the impact of any relief should it be granted.

The Preferred Stock, with respect to dividend rights, rights on the distribution of assets on any liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the affairs of the Company and redemption rights, ranks: (a) on a parity basis with each other class or series of any equity interests ("Capital Stock") of the Company now or hereafter existing, the terms of which expressly provide that such class or series ranks on a parity basis with the Preferred Stock as to such matters (such Capital Stock, "Parity Stock"); (b) junior to each other class or series of Capital Stock of the Company now or hereafter existing, the terms of which expressly provide that such class or series ranks senior to the Preferred Stock as to such matters (such Capital Stock, "Senior Stock"); and (c) senior to the Class A common stock and each other class or series of Capital Stock of the Company now or hereafter existing, the terms of which do not expressly provide that such class or series ranks on a parity basis with, or senior to, the Preferred Stock as to such matters (such Capital Stock, "Junior Stock"). While Foxconn's beneficial ownership of our Class A common stock meets the 25% Beneficial Ownership Requirement (as defined in the Investment Agreement), Parity Stock and Senior Stock can only be issued with Foxconn's consent.

The Certificate of Designation, Preferences and Rights of the Series A Convertible Preferred Stock filed by the Company with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware (the "Certificate of Designations") provides that, in the event of any liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the affairs of the Company, the holders of Preferred Stock are entitled, out of assets legally available therefor, before any distribution or payment to the holders of any Junior Stock, and subject to the rights of the holders of any Senior Stock or Parity Stock and the rights of the Company's existing and future creditors, to receive in full a liquidating distribution in cash and in the amount per share of Preferred Stock equal to the greater of (1) the sum of \$100 per share plus the accrued unpaid dividends with respect to such share, and (2) the amount the holder would have received had it converted such share into Class A common stock immediately prior to the date of such event.

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All holders of shares of Preferred Stock are entitled to vote with the holders of Class A common stock on all matters submitted to a vote of stockholders of the Company as a single class with each share of Preferred Stock entitled to a number of votes equal to the number of shares of Class A common stock into which such share could then be converted; provided, that no holder of shares of Preferred Stock will be entitled to vote to the extent that such holder would have the right to a number of votes in respect of such holder's shares of Class A common stock, Preferred Stock or other capital stock that would exceed the limitations set forth in clauses (i) and (ii) of the definition of Ownership Limitations set forth in the Certificate of Designations.

The Certificate of Designations provides that, commencing on November 7, 2023 (the "Conversion Right Date"), and subject to the Ownership Limitations, the Preferred Stock became convertible at the option of the holder into a number of shares of Class A common stock obtained by dividing the sum of the liquidation preference (i.e., \$100 per share) and all accrued but unpaid dividends with respect to such share as of the applicable conversion date by the conversion price as of the applicable conversion date. The conversion price currently is \$29.04 per share and it is subject to customary adjustments. At any time following the third anniversary of the date of issuance, the Company can cause the Preferred Stock to be converted if the volume-weighted average price of the Class A common stock exceeds 200% of the Conversion Price for a period of at least twenty trading days in any period of thirty consecutive trading days. Foxconn's ability to convert is limited by clauses (i) and (ii) of the definition of the Ownership Limitations set forth in the Certificate of Designations.

Upon a change of control (as defined in the Certificate of Designations), Foxconn can cause the Company to purchase any or all of its Preferred Stock at a purchase price equal to the greater of its liquidation preference (including any unpaid accrued dividends) and the amount of cash and other property that it would have received had it converted its Preferred Stock prior to the change of control transaction (the "Change of Control Put").

The terms of the Company's Preferred Stock do not specify an unconditional obligation of the Company to redeem the Preferred Stock on a specific or determinable date, or upon an event certain to occur. The Company notes the existence of the Change of Control Put. However, the ability to execute this put right is contingent on the occurrence of the change of control event, which is not a known or determinable event at time of issuance. Therefore, the Preferred Stock is not considered to be mandatorily redeemable. The conversion of the Preferred Stock is based on a fixed conversion price rather than a fixed conversion amount. The value of the Preferred Stock obligation would not vary based on something other than the fair value of the Company's equity shares or change inversely in relation to the fair value of the Company's equity shares. Based on these factors, Preferred Stock does not require classification as a liability in accordance with the provisions in ASC 480 "Distinguishing Liabilities from Equity".

The Preferred Stock is not redeemable at a fixed or determinable date or at the option of the holder. However, the Preferred Stock does include the Change of Control Put, which could allow the holder to redeem the Preferred Stock upon the occurrence of an event. As the Company cannot assert control over every potential event which would qualify as a change of control, the event is not considered to be solely within the control of the issuer, and would require classification in temporary equity (as per ASC 480-10-S99-3A(4)). Accordingly, the Preferred Stock is classified as temporary equity and is separated from permanent equity on the Company's Balance Sheet.

The Preferred Stock issued by the Company accrues dividends at the rate of 8% per annum whether or not declared and/or paid by the Company (cumulative dividends). In addition, the dividends will compound on a quarterly basis (upon each Preferred Dividend Payment Date (as defined in the Certificate of Designations)) to the extent they are not paid by the Company. The Company records the dividends (effective PIK dividends) as they are earned, based on the fair value of the Preferred Stock at the date they are earned. In addition, the holders of the Preferred Stock participate with any dividends payable in respect of any Junior Stock or Parity Stock. The Company accrued \$1.6 and \$1.4 million in dividends for the six months ended June 30, 2026 and 2025, respectively, and had accrued \$9.9 and \$8.4 million in aggregate dividends as of June 30, 2026 and December 31, 2025, respectively, which represented the estimated fair value to Preferred Stock with a corresponding adjustment to additional-paid-in-capital common stock in the absence of retained earnings.

Upon emergence from bankruptcy, and as of the date of this report, the Preferred Stock remains outstanding and unimpaired. The liquidation preference, plus accrued dividends is presented as Mezzanine Equity within the Company's Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet. As of June 30, 2026 and December 31, 2025, the Company did not consider a change of control to be probable, however there is significant uncertainty regarding the outcome of the Foxconn Litigation which may impact the foregoing, and the Company can provide no assurance regarding such determination.

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NOTE 5 - CAPITAL STOCK AND LOSS PER SHARE

The Company has authorized shares of capital stock totaling 462,000,000 shares, consisting of (i) 450,000,000 shares of Class A common stock and (ii) 12,000,000 shares of preferred stock, each with a par value of \$0.0001.

FASB ASC Topic 260, *Earnings Per Share*, requires the presentation of basic and diluted earnings per share (“EPS”). Basic EPS is calculated based on the weighted average number of shares outstanding during the period. Dilutive EPS is calculated to include any dilutive effect of our share equivalents.

The following outstanding potentially dilutive common stock equivalents have been excluded from the computation of diluted net loss per share attributable to common shareholders for the six months ended June 30, 2026 and 2025, respectively, due to their anti-dilutive effect (in thousands):

	Three months ended June 30, 2026	Three months ended June 30, 2025	Six months ended June 30, 2026	Six months ended June 30, 2025
Foxconn Preferred Stock	1,375	1,270	1,375	1,270
Foxconn Warrants ¹	—	—	—	—
Private Placement Warrants ²	—	154	—	154
Total	1,375	1,424	1,375	1,424

1) Expired on May 11, 2025.

2) Expired on October 23, 2025.

NOTE 6 - STOCK BASED COMPENSATION

The vesting and settlement of any unvested equity awards was suspended during the pendency of the Chapter 11 Cases. Upon emergence, the suspended awards were settled if the vesting conditions had been satisfied. All vested options to purchase Class A common stock that remain outstanding as of the date the Company emerged remain outstanding in accordance with their terms and the terms of the Plan and any options not exercised within three months of an officer’s termination of employment or a director’s termination of board of director service with the Company will be forfeited.

Prior to emergence, the Company and each of its then named executive officers (“NEOs”) were parties to employment agreements that provided for certain payments, including the accelerated vesting of equity awards, to the NEO upon the NEO’s termination of employment by the Company without “Cause” or by the NEO’s choice with “Good Reason”. Accordingly, upon emergence, the Company issued 101,947 shares of Class A common stock to satisfy equity awards that vested during the pendency of the Chapter 11 Cases, and 102,889 shares of Class A common stock related to the accelerated vesting of the NEO awards. The accelerated vesting of the NEO awards resulted in the recognition of \$2.6 million of stock compensation expense during the first quarter of 2024. The remaining \$0.8 million of stock compensation expense during the first quarter of 2024 related to non-accelerated stock-based compensation for other employees prior to emergence.

In accordance with the Plan, on March 14, 2024, the Board of Directors approved, adopted and ratified an amendment to the Company’s 2020 Equity Incentive Plan, as amended to increase the number of shares of Class A common stock reserved for issuance thereunder to an aggregate of 3,000,000 shares.

On May 13, 2024, the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors adopted a modified director compensation plan for the five outside directors that constituted the Board of Directors. The director compensation plan included a three-year grant under the Company’s 2020 Equity Compensation Plan of restricted stock units (“RSUs”) with a fair market value of \$8,000 per director per quarter (\$96,000 per director in the aggregate), based on the closing price per share of the Company’s common stock on May 13, 2024. The RSUs granted cover service on the Board of Directors through the first quarter of 2027 and vest quarterly through January 30, 2027, subject to acceleration on the occurrence of certain events.

On November 26 and December 4, 2024, the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors adopted the director compensation plan for 2025 which includes cash payments of \$140,000 per year (\$210,000 for the board of director chair (the “Chair”) and an annual RSU grant with a fair market value of \$100,000 (\$150,000 for Chair), vesting in substantially equal tranches on the first two anniversaries of the grant date. The grant date is the first trading day in January of each year. The fair value is determined based on the fair market value as of the grant date using the closing price on the grant date.

On September 26, 2025, the Company and its CEO, Alexander Matina, executed an employment agreement. The employment agreement provides for his cash compensation of \$415,000 in addition to an annual RSU grant with a fair market value of \$50,000, vesting in substantially equal tranches on the first two anniversaries of the grant date. The first RSU grant of 9,629 RSUs was issued with a grant date determined to be January 2, 2026. The fair value shall be determined based on the fair market value as of the grant date using the closing price on the grant date.

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On October 16, 2025, the Compensation Committee recommended, and the Board of Directors approved, an amendment to the Company's 2020 Equity Incentive Plan, as amended, to increase the number of shares of Class A common stock reserved for issuance thereunder to an aggregate of 4,000,000 shares, which was approved by the stockholders on December 11, 2025.

The settlement of shares in respect to vested RSUs will occur as such shares vest, unless a director makes an irrevocable election to defer settlement (i.e., until the earliest of (x) five years after the grant date, (y) a change in control event, or (z) separation from service). Such election must be made in the calendar year prior to RSUs being granted. All Company directors elected this deferral in December 2024 and all Company directors but one elected this deferral in December 2025 related to RSUs granted to Board of Directors for 2025 and 2026 service, respectively.

In January 2026, the Company granted a total of 444,413 RSUs to its directors and its CEO for a fair value of \$0.6 million. During the three months ended June 30, 2026, the Company recognized \$0.4 million of stock-based compensation expense, of which \$0.2 million related to the 2026 grants and \$0.2 million related to 2025 and prior grants, and during the three months ended June 30, 2025, the Company recognized \$0.1 million of stock-based compensation expense. During the six months ended June 30, 2026, the Company recognized \$0.2 million of stock-based compensation expense, of which \$0.1 million related to the 2026 grants and \$0.1 million related to 2025 and prior grants, and during the six months ended June 30, 2025, the Company recognized \$0.2 million of stock-based compensation expense. The RSU expense is included in selling, general, and administrative expenses on the condensed consolidated statements of operations. As of June 30, 2026, there was \$0.7 million of unrecognized stock-based compensation related to non-vested awards that is expected to be recognized over a weighted average period of 0.92 years.

NOTE 7 - COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

Voluntary Chapter 11 Proceedings, Liabilities Subject to Compromise and Other Potential Claims

On June 27, 2023, the Company and its subsidiaries commenced the Chapter 11 Cases in the Bankruptcy Court. See Note 1 - Description of Business for additional information.

Until our emergence from bankruptcy on March 14, 2024, the Company operated as debtor-in-possession under the jurisdiction of the Bankruptcy Court and in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code.

The Company has been subject to extensive pending and threatened legal proceedings arising in the ordinary course of business and has already incurred, and expects to continue to incur, significant legal expenses in defending against these claims. The Company sought and achieved resolution of many of these matters as part of the Chapter 11 Cases and has and may in the future enter into further discussions regarding settlement of these matters and may enter into settlement agreements if it believes it is in the best interest of the Company's stakeholders. The Company records a liability for loss contingencies in the condensed consolidated financial statements when a loss is known or considered probable and the amount can be reasonably estimated. Legal fees and costs of litigation, settlement by the Company or adverse decisions with respect to the matters disclosed may result in a liability that is not insured or that is in excess of insurance coverage and could significantly exceed our current accrual and ability to pay and be, individually or in the aggregate, material to the Company's condensed consolidated results of operations, financial condition or cash flows, and diminish or eliminate any assets available for any distribution to creditors and Interest holders.

The filing of the Chapter 11 Cases resulted in an initial automatic stay of legal proceedings against the Company, as further described below. On July 27, 2023, the Bankruptcy Court modified the automatic stay to allow the Karma Action (defined below) to proceed against the Company and that matter was settled, as further described below.

With respect to the stockholder derivative suits filed on behalf of the Company against certain of its officers and directors and certain former DiamondPeak directors prior to the Chapter 11 Cases, the derivative claims asserted in those suits became the property of the Company pursuant to the Bankruptcy Court's order confirming the Plan. The Company appointed an independent committee of directors to evaluate such claims with the assistance and advice of special litigation counsel, to make a recommendation as to the disposition of such claims, including, among other things, whether to pursue or release some or all of those claims against some or all of those officers and directors. Ultimately, such claims were retained by the Company and not released under the Plan.

With respect to the Ohio Securities Class Action opt-out claims (discussed below), the Post-Petition Securities Action and any other similar claims for damages arising from the purchase or sale of the Class A common stock, Section 510(b) the Bankruptcy Code treats such claims as subordinated to all claims or Interests that are senior to the Class A common stock and having the same priority as the Class A common stock.

The Bankruptcy Court established October 10, 2023, as the general bar date for all creditors (except governmental entities) to file their proofs of claim or interest, and December 26, 2023, as the bar date for all governmental entities, which was extended until January 5, 2024, in the case of the SEC or that may arise due to our obligations under the Highway Safety Act of 1970 (the "Safety Act") administered by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration ("NHTSA") described under "NHTSA Matters" below. The deadline to assert rejection damage claims and administrative expense claims has passed. The ability of creditors to amend previously filed proofs of claim, both in terms of amount and nature of claim, will be governed in accordance with applicable law. Furthermore, proofs of claim have been filed asserting unliquidated damages or claims in respect of certain indemnifications or otherwise that we may not be able to estimate, or may be materially more than we estimate. The amount of such liability may diminish the assets available to satisfy general unsecured claims. There is substantial risk of litigation by and against the Company or its indemnified directors and officers with respect to such claims.

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In addition, the deadline for parties to file proofs of claim arising from the Company's rejection of an executory contract or unexpired lease, and proofs of claim for administrative expense claims, was April 15, 2024.

Several rejection damages and administrative expense claims were filed, all but one of which has been settled or withdrawn.

"Liabilities subject to compromise" are recorded at the expected or estimated amount of the total allowed claim, however, the ultimate settlement of these liabilities remains subject to analysis and negotiation, approval of the Bankruptcy Court and the other factors discussed above, and any unliquidated claims may be settled or resolved for materially different amounts. These amounts are also subject to adjustments if we make changes to our assumptions or estimates related to unliquidated claims as additional information becomes available to us. Such adjustments may be material, and the Company will continue to evaluate the amount and classification of its pre-petition liabilities. Any additional liabilities that are subject to compromise will be recognized accordingly, and the aggregate amount of "Liabilities subject to compromise" may change materially.

Upon emergence from bankruptcy, the Company recorded \$60.7 million in restricted cash as required by the Plan for bankruptcy and administrative claim settlements and pre-emergence bankruptcy professional fees. Post emergence the Company settled claims and pre-emergence bankruptcy professional fees totaling \$57.2 million, resulting in a restricted short-term investments balance of \$2.6 million as of June 30, 2026. In accordance with the Plan, the Claims Ombudsman had until the end of the GUC Reserve Adjustment Period (as defined in the Plan) to request an increase in the reserve, if he believed the existing reserve would be insufficient to fund all allowed and disputed unsecured claims. The Claims Ombudsman made no such request, and the GUC Reserve Adjustment Period concluded in September 2024.

Concurrently, the Company recorded a liability totaling \$29.9 million upon emergence from bankruptcy within liabilities subject to compromise, which was reflective of the expected allowed claims amounts in accordance with ASC 852-10. Since emerging from bankruptcy, the Company settled liabilities subject to compromise in the amount of \$27.3 million, resulting in a liabilities subject to compromise balance of \$2.6 million as of June 30, 2026. This balance reflects both undisputed and partially disputed amounts the Company may owe.

The Company's liabilities for legal proceedings and potential related obligations may include amounts for the securities litigation, government claims and indemnification obligations described in more detail below or other claims that may be asserted against the Company and may or may not be offset by insurance. Changes in the Company's operations in connection with the Chapter 11 Cases reduced the Company's need to maintain insurance coverage at previous levels or to carry certain insurance policies. The amount accrued as of June 30, 2026 was estimated based on available information and legal advice, the potential resolution of these matters in light of historical negotiations with the parties, and the potential impact of the outcome of one or more claims on related matters, but does not take into account the impact of the applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, the terms of the Plan, ongoing discussions with the parties thereto and other stakeholders or actual amounts that may be asserted in Claims submitted in the Chapter 11 Cases or for indemnification as these factors cannot yet be determined and are subject to substantial uncertainty. Accordingly, the accrued amount may be adjusted in the future based on new developments and it does not reflect a full range of possible outcomes for these proceedings, or the full amount of any damages alleged, which are significantly higher.

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Insurance Matters

The Company was notified by its primary insurer under its post-merger directors and officers insurance policy that the insurer is taking the position that no coverage is available for the Ohio Securities Class Action, various shareholder derivative actions, the consolidated stockholder class action, various demands for inspection of books and records, the SEC investigation, and the investigation by the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York described below, and certain indemnification obligations, under an exclusion to the policy called the "retroactive date exclusion." The insurer has identified other potential coverage issues as well. Excess coverage typically follows the terms of the underlying insurance and pays covered loss that reaches the excess attachment point. As a result of the denial of coverage, no or limited insurance may be available to us to reimburse our expenses or cover any potential losses for these matters, which could be significant. The insurers in our Side A directors and officers ("D&O") insurance program, providing coverage for individual directors and officers in derivative actions and certain other situations, have issued a reservation of rights letter which, while not denying coverage, has cast doubt on the availability of coverage for at least some individuals and/or claims. The Company continues to analyze the insurer's position and intends to pursue any available coverage under this policy and other insurance.

On October 25, 2024, the Company filed a complaint in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware seeking a declaration that the Company is entitled to coverage from the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 primary layer D&O liability insurance company for costs to defend certain lawsuits and respond to certain SEC and DOJ investigations. The primary policy has face limits of \$5 million. The Company filed a memorandum of law in support of its motion for summary judgment with the Court on November 4, 2024. In response, the primary layer insurer moved to dismiss and filed a competing lawsuit in New York State court seeking a declaration that there is no coverage for the same lawsuits and SEC and DOJ investigations. The Bankruptcy Court granted the motion to dismiss. On cross motions for summary judgment, the New York State court granted summary judgment in favor of the primary layer insurance company and denied the Company's motion for summary judgment. The Company has appealed the decision to the intermediate appellate court. The appellate court reversed the lower court and found the Company has coverage for some claims. The primary layer insurer moved for reargument and leave to appeal to the New York Court of Appeals, the Company opposed the motion and the motion remains pending at this time. No damages are sought against the Company.

Certain former directors and officers have also stated that they intend to pursue coverage for their defense costs related to these lawsuits, and the Bankruptcy Court has ordered that they coordinate with the Company on these efforts in order to maximize the amount of coverage potentially available.

Ohio Securities Class Action

Six related putative securities class action lawsuits were filed against the Company and certain of its current and former officers and directors and former DiamondPeak directors between March 18, 2021 and May 14, 2021 in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio (Rico v. Lordstown Motors Corp., et al.; Palumbo v. Lordstown Motors Corp., et al.; Zuod v. Lordstown Motors Corp., et al.; Brury v. Lordstown Motors Corp., et al.; Romano v. Lordstown Motors Corp., et al.; and FNY Managed Accounts LLC v. Lordstown Motors Corp., et al.). The matters have been consolidated and the Court appointed George Troicky as lead plaintiff and Labaton Sucharow LLP as lead plaintiff's counsel (the "Ohio Securities Class Action"). On March 10, 2021, lead plaintiff and several additional named plaintiffs filed their consolidated amended complaint, asserting violations of federal securities laws under Section 10(b), Section 14(a), Section 20(a), and Section 20A of the Exchange Act and Rule 10b-5 thereunder against the Company and certain of its current and former officers and directors. The complaint generally alleges that the Company and individual defendants made materially false and misleading statements relating to vehicle pre-orders and production timeline. Defendants filed a motion to dismiss, which is fully briefed as of March 3, 2023. The Company filed a suggestion of bankruptcy on June 28, 2023, and filed an amended suggestion of bankruptcy on July 11, 2023, which notified the court of the filing of the Chapter 11 Cases and resulting automatic stay. On August 28, 2023, the court denied the pending motion to dismiss, without prejudice, given the notice of the automatic stay, subject to potential re-filing by the Defendants following the lifting of the stay.

The Plan settled the Ohio Securities Class Action, with the lead plaintiff receiving (i) \$3 million in cash and (ii) up to an additional \$7 million, consisting of (a) 25% of all net litigation proceeds received by the Company on Retained Causes of Action (if any); and (b) the lesser of (x) 16% of any distribution made by the Company on account of Foxconn's preferred stock liquidation preference, and (y) \$5 million, on behalf of the Ohio Settlement Class (as defined in the Plan).

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Derivative Litigation

Four related stockholder derivative lawsuits were filed against certain Company officers and directors, former DiamondPeak directors, and against the Company as a nominal defendant between April 28, 2021 and July 9, 2021 in the U.S. District Court for the District of Delaware (Cohen, et al. v. Burns, et al.; Kelley, et al. v. Burns, et al.; Patterson, et al. v. Burns, et al.; and Sarabia v. Burns, et al.). The derivative actions in the District Court of Delaware have been consolidated. On August 27, 2021, plaintiffs filed a consolidated amended complaint, asserting violations of Section 10(b), Section 14(a), Section 20(a) and Section 21D of the Exchange Act and Rule 10b-5 thereunder, breach of fiduciary duties, insider selling, and unjust enrichment, all relating to vehicle pre-orders, production timeline, and the merger with DiamondPeak. On October 11, 2021, defendants filed a motion to stay this consolidated derivative action pending resolution of the motion to dismiss in the consolidated securities class action. On March 7, 2023, the court granted in part defendants' motion to stay, staying the action until the resolution of the motion to dismiss in the consolidated securities class action, but requiring the parties to submit a status report if the motion to dismiss was not resolved by March 3, 2023. The court further determined to dismiss without a motion, on the grounds that the claim was premature, plaintiffs' claim for contribution for violations of Sections 10(b) and 21D of the Exchange Act without prejudice. The parties filed a joint status report as required because the motion to dismiss in the consolidated securities class action was not resolved as of March 3, 2023. The parties filed additional court-ordered joint status reports on October 28, 2022, January 6, 2023 and April 3, 2023. On April 4, 2023, the Court ordered the parties to submit a letter brief addressing whether the Court should lift the stay. On April 14, 2023, the parties submitted a joint letter requesting that the Court not lift the stay. On April 17, 2023, the court lifted the stay and ordered the parties to meet and confer by May 8, 2023 and submit a proposed case-management plan. On May 9, 2023, the court reinstated the stay and ordered the parties to advise the court of any developments in the consolidated securities class action or material changes to Lordstown's condition. The Company filed a suggestion of bankruptcy on June 27, 2023, which notified the court of the filing of the Chapter 11 Cases and resulting automatic stay. The court entered an order acknowledging the effect of the automatic stay on June 28, 2023. An independent committee of directors evaluated the derivative claims with the assistance and advice of special litigation counsel to make a recommendation as to the disposition of such claims. Ultimately, such claims were retained by the Company and not released under the Plan. The proceedings are subject to uncertainties inherent in the litigation process.

Another related stockholder derivative lawsuit was filed in U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio on June 30, 2021 (Thai v. Burns, et al.), asserting violations of Section 10(b), Section 14(a), Section 20(a) and Section 21D of the Exchange Act and Rule 10b-5 thereunder, breach of fiduciary duties, unjust enrichment, abuse of control, gross mismanagement, and waste, based on similar facts as the consolidated derivative action in the District Court of Delaware. On October 21, 2021, the court in the Northern District of Ohio derivative action entered a stipulated stay of the action and scheduling order relating to defendants' anticipated motion to dismiss and/or subsequent motion to stay that is similarly conditioned on the resolution of the motion to dismiss in the consolidated securities class action. The Company filed a suggestion of bankruptcy on June 28, 2023, and filed an amended suggestion of bankruptcy on July 19, 2023, which notified the court of the filing of the Chapter 11 Cases and resulting automatic stay. An independent committee of directors evaluated the derivative claims with the assistance and advice of special litigation counsel to make a recommendation as to the disposition of such claims. Ultimately, such claims were retained by the Company and not released under the Plan. The proceedings are subject to uncertainties inherent in the litigation process.

Another related stockholder derivative lawsuit was filed in the Delaware Court of Chancery on December 2, 2021 (Cormier v. Burns, et al. (C.A. No. 2021-1049)), asserting breach of fiduciary duties, insider selling, and unjust enrichment, based on similar facts as the federal derivative actions. An additional related stockholder derivative lawsuit was filed in the Delaware Court of Chancery on February 18, 2023 (Jackson v. Burns, et al. (C.A. No. 2023-0164)), also asserting breach of fiduciary duties, unjust enrichment, and insider selling, based on similar facts as the federal derivative actions. On April 19, 2023, the parties in Cormier and Jackson filed a stipulation and proposed order consolidating the two actions, staying the litigation until the resolution of the motion to dismiss in the consolidated securities class action and appointing Schubert Jonckheer & Kolbe LLP and Lifshitz Law PLLC as Co-Lead Counsel. On May 10, 2023, the court granted the parties' proposed stipulation and order to consolidate the actions, and to stay the consolidated action pending the resolution of the motion to dismiss in the consolidated securities class action. While the action remains stayed, on June 24, 2023, the plaintiffs filed a consolidated complaint asserting similar claims, and substituting a new plaintiff (Ed Lomont) for Cormier, who no longer appears to be a named plaintiff in the consolidated action. On June 27, 2023, the Company filed a suggestion of bankruptcy, which notified the court of the filing of the Chapter 11 Cases and resulting automatic stay. An independent committee of directors evaluated the derivative claims with the assistance and advice of special litigation counsel to make a recommendation as to the disposition of such claims. Ultimately, such claims were retained by the Company and not released under the Plan. The proceedings are subject to uncertainties inherent in the litigation process.

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DiamondPeak Delaware Class Action Litigation

Two putative class action lawsuits were filed against former DiamondPeak directors and DiamondPeak Sponsor LLC on December 8 and 13, 2021 in the Delaware Court of Chancery (*Hebert v. Hamamoto, et al.* (C.A. No. 2021-1066); and *Amin v Hamamoto, et al.* (C.A. No. 2021-1085)) (collectively, the “Delaware Class Action Litigation”). The plaintiffs purported to represent a class of investors in DiamondPeak and asserted breach of fiduciary duty claims based on allegations that the defendants made or failed to prevent alleged misrepresentations regarding vehicle pre-orders and production timeline, and that but for those allegedly false and misleading disclosures, the plaintiffs would have exercised a right to redeem their shares prior to the de-SPAC transaction. On February 9, 2023, the parties filed a stipulation and proposed order consolidating the two putative class action lawsuits. The parties subsequently advised the Company that they reached an agreement to resolve this matter, and the former DiamondPeak directors sought indemnification from the Company with respect to a portion of the settlement amount.

On September 8, 2024, the Company and the former DiamondPeak directors entered into a settlement agreement pursuant to which, among other things, such former directors’ claims against the Company were settled.

SEC Claim

The Company received two subpoenas from the SEC for the production of documents and information, including relating to the merger between DiamondPeak and Lordstown Motors Corp. and pre-orders of vehicles, and the Company was informed by the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Southern District of New York that it is investigating these matters. The Company cooperated, and will continue to cooperate, with these and any other regulatory or governmental investigations and inquiries. Ultimately, the SEC filed a claim against the Company for \$45.0 million (the “SEC Claim”). The Company settled the SEC Claim by (i) settling the Ohio Securities Class Action and (ii) making an offer of settlement to the SEC, which was approved by the SEC on February 29, 2024. Upon the Company’s emergence from bankruptcy, the SEC Claim was deemed withdrawn pursuant to the terms of the offer of settlement and the Plan. See the section in this Note 7 titled “Ohio Securities Class Action” for additional information regarding the Company’s continuing contingent obligations related to the Ohio Securities Class Action settlement. No amounts attributable to the Company’s settlement of the SEC Claim were paid or are payable to the SEC.

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Indemnification Obligations

The Company may have potential indemnification obligations with respect to the current and former directors named in the above-referenced actions, which obligations may be significant and may not be covered by the Company's applicable directors and officers insurance. The Company believes it has defenses to certain of these potential indemnification obligations, including that such claims for indemnification are subject to subordination pursuant to applicable law, and, if allowed, should receive the treatment set forth in Article III.B.8 of the Plan.

Foxconn Transactions

The Company entered into a series of transactions with affiliates of Foxconn, beginning with the Agreement in Principle that was announced on September 30, 2021, pursuant to which the Company entered into definitive agreements to sell our manufacturing facility in Lordstown, Ohio under an asset purchase agreement (the "Foxconn APA") and outsource manufacturing of the Endurance to Foxconn under a contract manufacturing agreement (the "CMA"). On November 7, 2022, the Company entered into an investment agreement with Foxconn under which Foxconn agreed to make additional equity investments in the Company (the "Investment Agreement"). The Investment Agreement superseded and replaced an earlier joint venture agreement. The Foxconn APA, the CMA and the Investment Agreement together are herein referred to as the "Foxconn Transactions."

On June 27, 2023, the Company commenced the Foxconn Litigation in the Bankruptcy Court seeking relief for breaches of the Investment Agreement, the Foxconn APA and the CMA and fraudulent and tortious actions that the Company believes were committed by Foxconn. See the following section and Note 1 - Description of Business - Foxconn Litigation for additional information. The Investment Agreement and the CMA were rejected pursuant to the Plan upon the Company's emergence from bankruptcy. The Foxconn APA transaction was consummated before the Chapter 11 Cases. Refer to Note 4 - Series A Convertible Preferred Stock for additional details.

Foxconn Litigation

On June 27, 2023, the Company commenced the Foxconn Litigation in the Bankruptcy Court seeking relief for breaches of the Investment Agreement and other agreements and fraudulent and tortious actions that the Company believes were committed by Foxconn, which have caused substantial harm to our operations and prospects and significant damages.

On September 29, 2023, Foxconn filed a motion to dismiss all counts of the Foxconn Litigation and brief in support of the same (the "Foxconn Adversary Motion to Dismiss"), asserting that all of the Company's claims are subject to binding arbitration provisions and that the Company has failed to state a claim for relief.

On August 1, 2024, the Bankruptcy Court entered an opinion and order partially denying and partially granting the Foxconn Adversary Motion to Dismiss, which was subsequently amended on October 1, 2024. Nine of the Company's claims survived the motion to dismiss on the grounds that the Company pled viable claims against Foxconn and the claims were not subject to mandatory arbitration. The Court also dismissed two of the Company's claims in favor of arbitration. The order is presently being appealed by Foxconn to the Third Circuit Court of Appeals. The Bankruptcy Court has stayed litigation of the claims that it ruled were not subject to arbitration pending that appeal. The Court also allowed that the two dismissed claims should proceed to arbitration.

The Company is vigorously pursuing the litigation.

The Post-Petition Securities Action

On July 26, 2023, a putative class action lawsuit was filed in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio by Bandol Lim ("Plaintiff Lim"), individually and on behalf of other stockholders asserting violations of Section 10(b), Section 20(a) of the Exchange Act and Rule 10b-5 thereunder relating to the Company's disclosure regarding its relationship with Foxconn and the Foxconn Transactions (the "Post-Petition Securities Action"). The lawsuit names Edward Hightower, Adam Kroll, and Daniel Ninivaggi as Defendants ("Defendants") in their capacities as Company officers and/or directors. Defendants have informed the Company they dispute the allegations and intend to vigorously defend against the suit. None of the Debtors is named as a Defendant in the Post-Petition Securities Action. Plaintiff Lim and RIDE Investor Group each filed motions for appointment as lead plaintiff in the Post-Petition Securities Action. On September 30, 2024, the Post-Petition Securities Action was dismissed in full on the grounds that none of the allegations were actionable. Separately, each of the members of the RIDE Investor Group filed proofs of claim (the "RIDE Proofs of Claims") against the Company, purportedly on behalf of themselves and the putative class in the Post-Petition Securities Action, in an unliquidated amount. The RIDE Investor Group has not sought authority from the Bankruptcy Court to file its purported class proofs of claim. The Plan constituted an objection to each of the RIDE Proofs of Claim, and on October 25, 2024, the Company filed additional objections to the RIDE Proofs of Claim on various grounds. Each of the RIDE Proofs of Claim was disallowed by Bankruptcy Court order, and the Company bears no liability for such claims.

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NHTSA Matters

The Company's obligations under the Safety Act administered by NHTSA for the vehicles it has manufactured and sold continued in force during the pendency of and following the Chapter 11 Cases. During the Chapter 11 Cases, the Company's obligations were treated as a claim of the United States government against the Company. The Plan did not discharge the Company from claims arising after emergence from bankruptcy, nor did it preclude or enjoin the enforcement of any police or regulatory power. The Company believes it has repurchased all of the vehicles that were sold (other than the vehicles sold to LAS Capital or its affiliates, for which it assumed warranty, product liability and recall liabilities). The Company cannot predict the extent of the liability that may arise from the Safety Act obligations for vehicles the Company has already manufactured and sold, or any claims that may be asserted by NHTSA.

NOTE 8 - RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Under the Investment Agreement, Foxconn made additional equity investments in the Company, whereby it became a related party under the Company's Related Party Transaction Policy as a 5% or more beneficial owner of the Company's Class A common stock. For the six months ended June 30, 2026 and 2025, the Company made no payments, and had no amounts payable, to Foxconn.

William Gallagher, who served as the Company's Chief Executive Officer from the Effective Date until September 26, 2025, is a principal of M3 Advisory Partners, LP ("M3 Partners"). M3 Partners served as the Equity Committee's financial consultant during the bankruptcy proceedings. Upon emergence from bankruptcy, the Company engaged M3 Partners to provide executive management and support services pursuant to the terms of an engagement agreement (the "Engagement Agreement"). While serving as the Company's Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Gallagher remained employed by M3 Partners and provided his services pursuant to the Engagement Agreement. In connection with the appointment of Alexander Matina as the Company's Chief Executive Officer on September 26, 2025, the Company entered into an amended and restated engagement letter (the "Amended Engagement Agreement") with M3 Partners to reflect that William Gallagher would no longer be serving in the role of Chief Executive Officer of the Company. The Amended M3 Engagement Letter provides that M3 Partners will continue to provide support to the Company, including a litigation trustee, in evaluating and managing its operations, assets and liabilities, and such other services as M3 Partners and the Company otherwise agree in writing.

Pursuant to the Amended Engagement Agreement, M3 Partners' fees are calculated on an hourly basis. The Company incurred approximately \$0.1 million and \$0.2 million in fees payable to M3 Partners under the Engagement Agreement and Amended Engagement Agreement for the three and six months ended June 30, 2026, respectively, which is included in selling, general, and administrative expenses within the condensed consolidated statements of operations. The Company incurred approximately \$0.2 million and \$0.5 million in fees payable to M3 Partners under the Engagement Agreement for the three and six months ended June 30, 2025, respectively, which is included in selling, general, and administrative expenses within the condensed consolidated statements of operations.

The Company has entered into loans with FPI, FPII, FPIII, 4445WV, FPIV and FPV where it has more than a 20% equity interest in and believes these entities are considered related parties (see Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies – Loans Receivable for further information).

NOTE 9 - SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

The Company evaluated subsequent events and transactions that occurred after the balance sheet date up to the date that the financial statements were issued. Based upon this review, the Company did not identify any subsequent events that would have required adjustment or disclosure in the financial statements other than the following:

On July 15, 2026, AAH, a Delaware corporation and a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company completed the acquisition of Affinity Advisory Network, LLC and AAN Wealth Advisors, LLC.

Item 2. Management's Discussion & Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

This Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations ("MD&A") should be read in conjunction with the accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements and notes. Forward-looking statements in this MD&A are not guarantees of future performance and may involve risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those projected. Refer to the "Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements" and the "Risk Factors" section under Part 1 - Item 1A. in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for a discussion of these risks and uncertainties, including without limitation, with respect to the Chapter 11 Cases, our emergence from bankruptcy and our liquidity, capital resources and financial condition.

Our primary operations during the three and six months ended June 30, 2026 have consisted of actions and related expenditures associated with completing the Chapter 11 Cases and emerging from bankruptcy, resolving substantial litigation, claims reconciliation, financial reporting and regulatory compliance. Our assets consist of cash and cash equivalents, short-term investments, the Foxconn Litigation claims, claims the Company may have against other parties, and net operating loss carryforwards ("NOLs"). In addition, we have funded certain loans receivable as part of our ongoing post-emergence financial activities. Additional potential assets, such as the Foxconn Litigation claims, claims the Company may have against other parties, and NOLs, are not reflected in the financial statements.

Upon emergence from bankruptcy: (i) the Foxconn Litigation and other retained causes of action of the Company were preserved and may be prosecuted; (ii) claims filed in the bankruptcy will continue to be resolved pursuant to the claims resolution process with allowed claims being treated in accordance with the Plan; (iii) distributions to holders of allowed claims and allowed Interests will be made subject to the provisions of the Plan, and (iv) we will continue to conduct business and may enter into transactions, including business combinations, or otherwise, that could permit the Company an opportunity to create value, including through use of the NOLs.

In light of our emergence from bankruptcy on March 14, 2024, our results for the three and six months ended June 30, 2026 and 2025, reflect the accounting assumptions and treatment caused by the Chapter 11 Cases and the Plan and may not be representative of our operations and results going forward. See the risks and factors described in the "Risk Factors" section of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2025 for further discussion of the risks associated with our emergence from bankruptcy, our liquidity, capital resources and financial condition, and the use of estimates and resulting uncertainty in establishing our presented financial results, among other risks.

Results of Operations for the three months ended June 30, 2026 and 2025

	(in thousands) (Unaudited)	
	For the three months ended June 30, 2026	For the three months ended June 30, 2025
Operating expenses		
Selling, general and administrative expenses	\$ 1,550	\$ 1,683
Legal settlement and litigation benefit, net	—	(1,326)
Total operating expense, net	\$ 1,550	\$ 357
Loss from operations	(1,550)	(357)
Other (expense) income:		
Other expense, net	(49)	(37)
Realized gain on debt securities available for sale	—	696
Investment and interest income	539	440
(Loss) income before income taxes	\$ (1,060)	\$ 742
Income tax expense (benefit)	—	—
Net (loss) income	(1,060)	742
Less accrued preferred stock dividend	782	723
Net (loss) income attributable to common shareholders	<u>\$ (1,842)</u>	<u>\$ 19</u>

Selling, General and Administrative Expense

Selling, general, and administrative expenses (“SG&A”) decreased by \$0.2 million to \$1.5 million for the three months ended June 30, 2026 compared to \$1.7 million for the three months ended June 30, 2025.

SG&A for the three months ended June 30, 2026 and 2025 consisted of personnel and professional fees and was lower than last year mainly due to lower legal and professional fees as the bankruptcy claims payment and resolution process is winding down.

Legal settlement and litigation benefit, net

The Company had no legal settlement and litigation benefit (expense) for the three months ended June 30, 2026 compared to \$1.3 million for the three months ended June 30, 2025. This represents adjustments to accrued liabilities subject to compromise from claims as a result of the final settlement of claims.

Results of Operations for the six months ended June 30, 2026 and 2025

	(in thousands) (Unaudited)	
	For the six months ended June 30, 2026	For the six months ended June 30, 2025
Operating expenses		
Selling, general and administrative expenses	\$ 3,051	\$ 3,621
Legal settlement and litigation benefit, net	(779)	(1,498)
Total operating expense, net	\$ 2,272	\$ 2,123
Loss from operations	(2,272)	(2,123)
Other (expense) income:		
Other expense, net	(68)	(68)
Realized gain on debt securities available for sale	—	925
Investment and interest income	1,172	797
Loss before income taxes	\$ (1,168)	\$ (469)
Income tax expense (benefit)	—	—
Net loss	(1,168)	(469)
Less accrued preferred stock dividend	1,550	1,432
Net loss attributable to common shareholders	<u>\$ (2,718)</u>	<u>\$ (1,901)</u>

Selling, General and Administrative Expense

Selling, general, and administrative expenses (“SG&A”) decreased by \$0.6 million to \$3.0 million for the six months ended June 30, 2026 compared to \$3.6 million for the six months ended June 30, 2025.

SG&A for the six months ended June 30, 2026 and 2025 consisted of personnel and professional fees and was lower than last year mainly due to lower legal and professional fees as the bankruptcy claims payment and resolution process is winding down.

Legal settlement and litigation benefit, net

Legal settlement and litigation benefit, net decreased by \$0.7 million to \$0.8 million for the six months ended June 30, 2026 compared to \$1.5 million for the six months ended June 30, 2025. This represents adjustments to accrued liabilities subject to compromise from claims as a result of the final settlement of claims.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

The Company had cash and cash equivalents of approximately \$21.5 million, short-term investments of \$7.4 million and restricted short-term investments of approximately \$2.6 million, an accumulated deficit of \$1.2 billion at June 30, 2026, and a net loss of \$1.2 million for the six months ended June 30, 2026.

Our liquidity and ability to continue as a going concern is dependent upon, among other things: (i) the resolution of significant contingent and other claims, liabilities (see Note 7 - Commitments and Contingencies) and (ii) the outcome of our efforts to realize value, if any, from the Company's retained causes of action, including the Foxconn Litigation, and other remaining assets.

We have incurred significant professional fees and other costs in connection with the prosecution of the Chapter 11 Cases and expect to continue to incur significant professional fees and costs. In addition, we are subject to significant contingent unliquidated liabilities, the full scope of which is uncertain at this time (see Note 7 - Commitments and Contingencies). Furthermore, under the Plan, we are conducting a process to reconcile the claims asserted that has resulted in approximately \$2.6 million of the Company's short-term investments being restricted for settling outstanding claims against the Company, including litigation and indemnification claims. Pursuant to the Bankruptcy Code, the Company is first required to pay all administrative claims in full. Under the Plan, the Company established an escrow for the payment of certain professional fees incurred in connection with the Chapter 11 Cases ("Professional Fee Escrow"), which was fully paid out as of September 30, 2024. The Plan also required the Company to establish a \$45 million reserve for allowed and disputed claims of general unsecured creditors (the "Claims Reserve"), including interest (although there can be no assurance the Company will be able to pay such claims in full, with interest). As of June 30, 2026, \$2.6 million was included in restricted short-term investments, which represents the initial Claims Reserve of \$45 million, less \$42.4 million which was released from the Claims Reserve related to the claims reconciliation process. Pursuant to the Plan (which includes certain exceptions), upon emergence (i) the Claims Ombudsman was appointed to oversee the administration of claims asserted against the Company by general unsecured creditors and (ii) a trustee was appointed to oversee the litigation claims held by the trust, which may be funded with certain retained causes of action of the Company, as determined by the Board of Directors. Holders of certain unsecured claims are expected to be entitled to receive post-petition interest on their claim amount as of the later of the date the claim was due to be paid, or the petition date. Therefore, if the claims resolution process takes longer than anticipated, the total liability to settle claims will increase to reflect the increased interest expense.

The amount of the Claims Reserve is subject to change and could increase materially if amounts paid in respect of unliquidated claims are greater than anticipated. The Claims Reserve is adjusted downward as payments are made for allowed claims, and may also be adjusted downward as claims are resolved or otherwise as a result of the claims resolution process. There is also risk of additional litigation and claims that may be asserted after the Chapter 11 Cases against the Company or its indemnified directors and officers that may be known or unknown and the Company may not have the resources to adequately defend or dispute such claims due to the Chapter 11 Cases. The Company cannot provide any assurances as to what the Company's total actual liabilities will be based on any such claims. To the extent that the Claims Reserve is insufficient to pay general unsecured creditors in full with interest, such deficiency will be payable from certain other assets of the Company, as set forth in the Plan.

Our assets consist of cash and cash equivalents, short-term investments, the Foxconn Litigation claims, claims the Company may have against other parties, and NOLs. In addition, we have funded certain loans receivable as part of our ongoing post-emergence financial activities.

See "Risk Factors" under Part I - Item 1A in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for further discussion of the risks associated with our limited capital resources and loss exposures, among other risks.

Summary of Cash Flows

The following table provides a summary of the Company's cash flow data for the period indicated:

	Six months ended June 30, 2026	Six months ended June 30, 2025
Net cash used in operating activities	\$ (3,534)	\$ (3,980)
Net cash (used in) provided by investing activities	\$ (9,380)	\$ 10,411
Net cash used in financing activities	\$ —	\$ —

Net Cash Used in Operating Activities

Net cash used in operating activities decreased by \$0.5 million to \$3.5 million for the six months ended June 30, 2026 compared to \$4.0 million for the six months ended June 30, 2025. The \$3.5 million of cash used in operating activities for the six months ended June 30, 2026 was comprised of the \$1.2 million net loss for the period, as adjusted to reconcile cash used by operating activities for the six months ended June 30, 2026 which included \$2.7 million of changes in operating assets and liabilities, partially offset by \$0.4 million of stock-based compensations. The \$4.0 million of cash used in operating activities for the six months ended June 30, 2025 was comprised of the \$0.5 million net loss for the period, as adjusted to reconcile cash used by operating activities for the six months ended June 30, 2025 which included \$0.9 million of realized gain on debt securities available for sale, \$2.7 million of changes in operating assets and liabilities, partially offset by \$0.2 million of stock-based compensations.

Net Cash (Used In) Provided by Investing Activities

Net cash used in investing activities was \$9.4 million for the six months ended June 30, 2026, which was due to our issuance of loans receivable of \$9.4 million.

Net cash provided by investing activities was \$10.4 million for the six months ended June 30, 2025, which included \$30.0 million related to maturities of short-term investments, partially offset by \$19.6 million for purchases of short-term investments.

Net Cash Used in Financing Activities

For the six months ended June 30, 2026 and 2025, the Company had no financing activities.

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

The Company has no obligations, assets or liabilities, which would be considered off-balance sheet arrangements as of June 30, 2026. The Company does not participate in transactions that create relationships with unconsolidated entities or financial partnerships, often referred to as variable interest entities, which would have been established for the purpose of facilitating off-balance sheet arrangements. The Company has not entered into any off-balance sheet financing arrangements, established any special purpose entities, guaranteed any debt or commitments of other entities, or purchased any non-financial assets.

Critical Accounting Estimates

Liabilities Subject to Compromise

Since filing the Chapter 11 Cases, the Company has operated as a debtor-in-possession under the jurisdiction of the Bankruptcy Court and in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code. In the accompanying Balance Sheet, the "Liabilities subject to compromise" line is reflective of expected allowed claim amounts in accordance with ASC 852-10 and are subject to change materially based on the proceedings and continued consideration of claims that may be modified, allowed, or disallowed. Refer to Note 7 - Commitments and Contingencies for further detail.

Recent Accounting Standards

See Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies to the condensed consolidated financial statements for more information about recent accounting pronouncements, the timing of their adoption, and management's assessment, to the extent they have made one, of their potential impact on the Company's financial condition and results of operations.

Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

As a smaller reporting company, the Company is not required to provide the information required by this item.

Item 4. Controls and Procedures

Management's Evaluation of our Disclosure Controls and Procedures

Disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Exchange Act) are controls and other procedures that are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed in our reports filed or submitted under the Exchange Act, are recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and forms. Disclosure controls and procedures include, without limitation, controls, activities, and procedures designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed in company reports filed or submitted under the Exchange Act is accumulated and communicated to management to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

We do not expect that our disclosure controls and procedures will prevent all errors and all instances of fraud. Disclosure controls and procedures, no matter how well conceived and operated, can provide only reasonable, not absolute, assurance that the objectives of the disclosure controls and procedures are met. The design of disclosure controls and procedures must reflect the fact that there are resource constraints, and the benefits must be considered relative to their costs and the nature of operating activities. Internal control over financial reporting also can be circumvented by collusion or improper override. Because of the inherent limitations in all disclosure controls and procedures, no evaluation of disclosure controls and procedures can provide absolute assurance that we have detected all our control deficiencies and instances of fraud, if any. The design of disclosure controls and procedures also is based partly on certain assumptions about the likelihood of future events, and there can be no assurance that any design will succeed in achieving its stated goals under all potential future conditions. As required by Rules 13a-15 and 15d-15 under the Exchange Act, our Chief Executive Officer, who also serves as our principal financial officer, carried out an evaluation of the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures as of June 30, 2026.

Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting

There have been no changes in our internal control over financial reporting (as such term is defined in Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) of the Exchange Act) during the quarter ended June 30, 2026 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

PART II: OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1. Legal Proceedings

For a description of our legal proceedings, see Note 7 - Commitments and Contingencies of the notes to the condensed consolidated financial statements.

Item 1A. Risk Factors.

An investment in our common stock involves a high degree of risk. You should carefully consider the risks set forth in the section captured “Risk Factors” in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2025, filed with the SEC on March 26, 2026, before making an investment decision. During the period covered by this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, there have been no material changes to the risk factors previously discussed in the Company’s SEC filings.

Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds

None.

Item 3. Defaults upon Senior Securities

None.

Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures

Not applicable.

Item 5. Other Information.

(a) None.

(b) None.

(c) During the quarter ended June 30, 2026, none of our directors or officers adopted or terminated any “Rule 10b5-1 trading arrangement” or “non-Rule 10b5-1 trading arrangement,” (as each term is defined in Item 408(c) of Regulation S-K).

Item 6. Exhibits

Exhibit Index

Exhibit No.	Description
3.1	<u>Third Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on March 15, 2024).</u>
3.2	<u>Certificate of Amendment of the Third Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.2 of the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2025, filed with the SEC on March 26, 2026).</u>
3.3	<u>Certificate of Amendment of the Third Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on July 21, 2026).</u>
3.4	<u>Third Amended and Restated Bylaws (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.2 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on July 21, 2026).</u>
3.5	<u>Certificate of Designation, Preferences and Rights of Series A Convertible Preferred Stock (incorporated by reference to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the SEC on November 22, 2022).</u>
10.1*	<u>Membership Interest Purchase Agreement, dated as of June 2, 2026, as amended by the Amendment to Membership Interest Purchase Agreement, dated as of August 12, 2026, by and among Affinity Advisory Holdings Corp., Affinity Advisory Network, LLC, AAN Wealth Advisors, LLC, HIH M MFTG Trust, The Hall Companies Corporate Ohio Legacy Trust and Robert Hall.</u>
10.2*	<u>Stockholders Agreement, dated as of July 15, 2026, as amended by the Amendment to Stockholder Agreement, dated as of August 12, 2026, by and among Affinity Advisory Holdings Corp., Affinity Advisory Network, LLC, AAN Wealth Advisors, LLC, HIH M MFTG Trust, The Hall Companies Corporate Ohio Legacy Trust and Robert Hall.</u>
10.3*	<u>Employment Agreement, dated as of June 2, 2026, by and between Affinity Advisory Holdings Corp. and Robert Hall.</u>
31.1*	<u>Certification of Principal Executive Officer and Principal Financial Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a), as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002</u>
32.1**	<u>Certification of Principal Executive Officer and Principal Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002</u>
101.INS	XBRL Instance Document - the instance document does not appear in the Interactive Data File because its XBRL tags are embedded within the Inline XBRL document
101.SCH*	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document
101.CAL*	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document
101.DEF*	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document
101.LAB*	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document
101.PRE*	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document
104*	Cover Page Interactive Data File - The cover page interactive data file does not appear in the Interactive Data File because its XBRL tags are embedded within the Inline XBRL document
*	Filed herewith
**	Furnished herewith

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

NU RIDE INC.

Date: August 14, 2026

/s/ Alexander C. Matina

Name: Alexander C. Matina

Title: Chief Executive Officer, President, Treasurer, and Secretary

MEMBERSHIP INTEREST PURCHASE AGREEMENT

by and among

AFFINITY ADVISORY HOLDINGS CORP.,

AFFINITY ADVISORY NETWORK, LLC,

AAN WEALTH ADVISORS, LLC,

HIH M MFTG TRUST,

THE HALL COMPANIES CORPORATE OHIO LEGACY TRUST

and

ROBERT HALL

Dated as of June 2, 2026

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MEMBERSHIP INTEREST PURCHASE AGREEMENT

This **MEMBERSHIP INTEREST PURCHASE AGREEMENT** dated as of June 2, 2026, is by and among (a) Affinity Advisory Holdings Corp., a Delaware corporation (“**Buyer**”), (b) Affinity Advisory Network, LLC, an Ohio limited liability company (“**Affinity**”), (c) AAN Wealth Advisors, LLC, an Ohio limited liability company (“**AAN**” and together with Affinity, the “**Companies**” and each, a “**Company**”), (d) Holly A. Postlewaite, as Trustee of the HIH M MFTG Trust, dated January 1, 2026 (“**Seller 1**”), (e) Joshua A. Postlewaite, as Trustee of The Hall Companies Corporate Ohio Legacy Trust, dated January 1, 2024 (“**Seller 2**” and together with Seller 1, the “**Trust Sellers**” and each, a “**Trust Seller**”) and Robert Hall (“**Hall**” and together with the Trust Sellers, the “**Sellers**” and each a “**Seller**”, and together with Buyer and the Companies, collectively, the “**Parties**” and each, a “**Party**”). Capitalized terms used herein shall have the meanings given to such terms in Annex A of this Agreement.

W I T N E S S E T H :

WHEREAS, the Sellers, directly or indirectly, own, in the aggregate (with Hall being the sole beneficiary of each Trust Seller), all of the issued and outstanding equity interests in the Companies as set forth on Annex B hereto (collectively, the “**Company Interests**,” and, with respect to each Seller, such Seller’s “**Company Interest**”);

WHEREAS, each of Seller 1 and Seller 2 desires to transfer, assign and sell to Buyer, and Buyer desires to purchase from each Trust Seller, such Trust Seller’s right, title and interest in and to the Company Interests constituting one hundred percent (100%) of the issued and outstanding equity interests of Affinity and AAN, respectively (the “**Purchased Interests**”), in accordance with and subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein; and

WHEREAS, on the date hereof, and concurrently with the execution and delivery of this Agreement, Buyer or one of its Affiliates, on the one hand, and Hall, on the other hand, are entering into an employment agreement to be effective and contingent upon the occurrence of the Closing (the “**Key Person Employment Agreement**”).

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants, representations, warranties and agreements contained herein, and of other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, and intending to be bound hereby, the Parties hereby agree as follows:

ARTICLE I
PURCHASE AND SALE

Section 1.1 Purchase and Sale of the Purchased Interests. Upon the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in this Agreement, at the Closing, Buyer shall purchase and acquire from each Trust Seller, and each Trust Seller shall sell, transfer, convey and deliver to Buyer, all right, title and interest in and to the Purchased Interests held by such Seller, in each case free and clear of all Liens (other than restrictions on transfer arising under the Securities Act and applicable state securities Laws), in exchange for such Trust Seller’s Allocable Portion of (a) the Closing Cash Consideration, (b) the Nu Ride Class A Common Stock Consideration, (c) the Buyer Stock Consideration and (d) the Trust Sellers’ right to receive the Earnout Payment, if any, subject to Section 1.5.

Section 1.2 Closing. Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, the closing of the sale of the Purchased Interests (the “**Closing**”) shall take place by exchange of signature pages by email, fax or other electronic transmission as promptly as practicable, that is two (2) Business Days after all of the conditions in Article VI have been satisfied or waived (other than conditions that relate to actions to be taken, or documents to be delivered, at the Closing, but subject to the satisfaction or waiver thereof at the Closing), or such other date as may be mutually agreed to by Buyer and the Sellers (the date on which the Closing actually occurs, the “Closing Date”).

Section 1.3 Deliveries at Closing. At the Closing,

(a) Buyer will:

- (i) Pay, or cause to be paid, to the Trust Sellers (in accordance with their respective Allocable Portions) an aggregate amount equal to (A) the Estimated Closing Cash Consideration *less* (B) the Escrow Amount, by Wire Transfer to the account designated by the Sellers at least five (5) Business Days prior to the Closing Date;
- (ii) Issue, or cause to be issued, to each Trust Seller, such Trust Seller’s Allocable Portion of the Nu Ride Class A Common Stock Consideration and direct the transfer agent for such Nu Ride Class A Common Stock to issue a confirmation to each Trust Seller as promptly as practicable after Closing;
- (iii) Issue, or cause to be issued, to each Trust Seller, such Trust Sellers’ Allocable Portion of the Buyer Stock Consideration and to deliver any applicable share certificates or book-entry confirmations for such Buyer Common Stock evidencing such issuance;
- (iv) Pay, or cause to be paid, to the Escrow Agent the Escrow Amount by Wire Transfer to an account designated in writing by the Escrow Agent;
- (v) Pay, or cause to be paid all amounts necessary to discharge fully the arrangements evidencing Estimated Indebtedness set forth on Section 1.3(a)(v) of the Seller Disclosure Schedule, in each case by Wire Transfer and in accordance with the Payoff Letters;
- (vi) Pay, or cause to be paid, on behalf of the Companies, all amounts necessary to discharge fully all Estimated Transaction Expenses, in each case, by Wire Transfer to the account designated for the applicable payee in writing by the Sellers at least five (5) Business Days prior to the Closing Date;

- (vii) deliver, or cause to be delivered, to the Sellers a certificate, dated as of the Closing Date, signed by an executive officer of Buyer as to the matters contained in paragraphs (a) and (b) of Section 6.3
 - (viii) deliver, or cause to be delivered, to the Sellers, a copy of the Escrow Agreement, duly executed by Buyer and the Escrow Agent;
 - (ix) deliver, or cause to be delivered, to Sellers, a copy of the Stockholders' Agreement, duly executed by Buyer; and
 - (x) deliver, or cause to be delivered, to the Sellers, each Ancillary Agreement to which Buyer or any of its Affiliates is a Party to the extent not executed and delivered prior to the Closing, duly executed by such Person.
- (b) Sellers shall deliver, or cause to be delivered, to Buyer:
- (i) good and valid title to all of the Purchased Interests, free and clear of all Liens (other than restrictions on transfer arising under applicable securities Laws), together with any certificates representing the Purchased Interests and duly executed instruments evidencing the assignment of the Purchased Interests, including an executed assignment agreement, in the form of Exhibit C attached hereto (the “**Assignment Agreement**”);
 - (ii) for each Company, a certificate of good standing (or its equivalent) from the Secretary of State of the State in which such Company was incorporated or organized and each other jurisdiction in which such Company is qualified to do business as a foreign entity, in each case dated as of a date within five (5) Business Days prior to the Closing Date;
 - (iii) evidence reasonably satisfactory to Buyer that all of the agreements and arrangements specified on Section 1.3(b)(iii) of the Seller Disclosure Schedule have been terminated and are of no further force or effect without any further liabilities of any member of the Company Group thereunder or in connection therewith;
 - (iv) all governmental and regulatory consents, approvals, licenses and authorizations identified on Section 1.3(b)(iv) of the Seller Disclosure Schedule;
 - (v) all third party Consents, waivers and approvals identified on Section 1.3(b)(v) of the Seller Disclosure Schedule;
 - (vi) each Ancillary Agreement to which any Seller or member of the Company Group is a party not executed and delivered prior to the Closing, duly executed by such Person;

- (vii) certificates as to certain matters contained in Section 6.2 dated as of the Closing Date signed by the executive officers of the Sellers and Companies;
- (viii) certificates, in form and substance reasonably acceptable to the Buyer, dated as of the Closing Date signed by Hall and the Trustees and executive officers of the Trust Sellers and Companies, respectively, certifying as to the (1) full force and effect of the Organizational Documents of the Trust Sellers and the Companies attached to such certificates as exhibits, and the (2) accuracy and full force and effect of resolutions attached as one or more exhibits to such certificates and adopted by the board of directors (or equivalent governing body) of the Trust Sellers and the Companies, respectively, authorizing the execution and delivery of this Agreement and the Ancillary Agreements and the consummation of the transactions contemplated hereby and thereby; and
- (ix) a duly completed and executed IRS Form W-9 by each Seller (or, if Seller is disregarded for U.S. federal income tax purposes, its regarded owner);
- (x) duly executed letters of resignation, effective as of the Closing, in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to Buyer, from each director, manager and officer of the Company Group (in their capacities as such), each of which is identified on Section 1.3(b)(x) of the Seller Disclosure Schedule;
- (xi) amended and restated limited liability agreements for the Companies in customary form for wholly owned subsidiaries in the forms provided by Buyer, to become effective upon Closing;
- (xii) evidence that the Company Group has purchased and bound the Tail Policy in accordance with Section 5.13(a);
- (xiii) invoices with respect to all Transaction Expenses (other than compensatory Transaction Expenses, if any), which shall provide for instructions and amounts for payment of such Transaction Expenses (including a duly completed and executed IRS Form W-9 by each vendor to be paid);
- (xiv) except as otherwise provided for herein, duly executed copies of the payoff letters (in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to Buyer) issued with respect to such Indebtedness being paid-off at Closing, which shall provide for instructions and amounts for payment and the automatic release, upon receipt of such amount, of all Liens over the properties and assets of the Company Group securing all obligations under such Indebtedness and authorizing Buyer (or its designee) to file any necessary UCC-3 or other termination statements with respect thereto, including releases of security interests in Intellectual Property (which are suitable for filing with the United States Patent and Trademark Office or United States Copyright Office) (the “**Payoff Letters**”); provided, that the Sellers shall have delivered a substantively final version of the Payoff Letters at least five (5) Business Days prior to the Closing reflecting all of the foregoing information;

- (xv) a copy of the Escrow Agreement, duly executed by the Sellers and the Escrow Agent;
- (xvi) a copy of the Stockholders' Agreement, duly executed by Sellers; and
- (xvii) all other previously undelivered documents required to be delivered by any Sellers, any member of the Company Group or any of their respective Affiliates pursuant to this Agreement or the Ancillary Agreements.

Section 1.4 Closing Purchase Price Adjustment.

- (a) No later than five (5) Business Days prior to the scheduled Closing Date, the Sellers shall prepare, or cause to be prepared, and deliver to Buyer an estimated consolidated balance sheet of the Companies, prepared in good faith in accordance with Section 1.4(h), as of 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on the day ending immediately prior to the Closing Date (the "**Estimated Closing Balance Sheet**" and such time, the "**Adjustment Time**"), together with a schedule setting forth the Sellers' good faith estimates of (i) the Net Working Capital Adjustment Amount (the "**Estimated Net Working Capital Adjustment Amount**"), (ii) the aggregate amount of Indebtedness of the Company Group as of immediately prior to the Closing (the "**Estimated Indebtedness**"), (iii) the aggregate amount of unpaid Transaction Expenses as of immediately prior to the Closing (the "**Estimated Transaction Expenses**"), (iv) the aggregate amount of Cash of the Company Group as of immediately prior to the Closing (the "**Estimated Cash**") and (v) the Estimated Closing Cash Consideration (such schedule, together with the Estimated Closing Balance Sheet, the "**Estimated Closing Statement**"). Buyer and its Representatives shall have the opportunity to review and comment on the Estimated Closing Statement and the Sellers shall consider such comments in good faith, and if determined to be necessary in its good faith discretion, revise the Estimated Closing Statement based on such comments; provided that, for the avoidance of doubt, no such review or comments shall be grounds for the Closing to be delayed. Following delivery of the Estimated Closing Statement, the Sellers shall, and shall cause the members of the Company Group to, (x) provide Buyer and its Representatives reasonable access (as reasonably requested in advance in writing) during normal business hours to all information, records, data and working papers reasonably related to or involved in the preparation of the Estimated Closing Statement, including (subject to the execution of customary work paper access letters, if requested) those of any auditors of the Company Group relating to the preparation of the Estimated Closing Statement, (y) permit reasonable access (as reasonably requested in advance in writing) to applicable facilities and personnel involved in the preparation of the Estimated Closing Statement, and (z) cause the senior management personnel of the Company Group involved in the preparation of the Estimated Closing Statement to reasonably cooperate with Buyer and its Representatives in connection with their review of the Estimated Closing Statement, in each case of clauses (x) – (z) in a manner that does not unreasonably disrupt the normal business operations of Sellers or the Company Group.

- (b) No later than 90 days following the Closing Date (provided that Buyer shall use commercially reasonable efforts to do so as promptly as practical following Closing), Buyer shall prepare, or cause to be prepared, and deliver to the Sellers a consolidated balance sheet of the Companies, prepared in accordance with Section 1.4(h), as of Adjustment Time (the “**Final Closing Balance Sheet**”), together with a schedule setting forth Buyer’s calculations of (i) the Net Working Capital Adjustment Amount, (ii) the aggregate amount of Indebtedness of the Company Group as of immediately prior to the Closing, (iii) the Transaction Expenses as of the Closing, (iv) the aggregate amount of Cash of the Company Group as of immediately prior to the Closing and (v) the Closing Cash Consideration (such schedule, together with the Final Closing Balance Sheet, the “**Closing Statement**”). The Sellers shall have 30 days from the date on which the Closing Statement is delivered to the Sellers to review the Closing Statement (the “**Review Period**”). Buyer shall cause the Sellers and their Representatives to be given reasonable access to the financial books and records, and personnel of the Company Group (including the work papers of the Company Group and its accountants) relating to the preparation of the Closing Statement from the beginning of the Review Period through the Resolution Date. The Sellers may, no later than the end of the Review Period, deliver a written notice to Buyer setting forth, in reasonable detail, each item or amount set forth in the Closing Statement to which the Sellers objects or disputes (each such disputed item or amount specifically itemized thereon, a “**Disputed Item**”) and the basis for the Sellers’ disagreement therewith, together with supporting calculations (a “**Dispute Notice**”). If no Dispute Notice is received by Buyer prior to the end of the Review Period, the Final Closing Balance Sheet and the calculation of the Estimated Closing Cash Consideration and all components thereof as prepared by Buyer and set forth in the Closing Statement shall be final, binding and conclusive on the Sellers. If a Dispute Notice is received by Buyer prior to the end of the Review Period, the Sellers and Buyer shall, during the 30-day period following the receipt of such Dispute Notice by Buyer (or such longer period as may be mutually agreed by the Sellers and Buyer) (the “**Resolution Period**”), attempt to resolve their disagreement in good faith with respect to the Disputed Items, and any resolution of such disagreement as to any Disputed Items agreed upon in writing between the Sellers and Buyer shall be final, binding and conclusive on the Parties. Any item or amount set forth in the Closing Statement that is not a Disputed Item set forth in a timely delivered Dispute Notice shall be final, binding and conclusive on Sellers.
- (c) If, for any reason, at the end of the Resolution Period, there are any remaining Disputed Items as to which the Sellers and Buyer have not resolved their disagreement in accordance with Section 1.4(b), either Buyer or the Sellers may elect to refer such Disputed Items (and only such Disputed Items) to the Independent Accounting Firm for resolution of such disagreement in accordance with the terms of this Agreement by written notice to the other. Buyer and the Sellers shall use commercially reasonable efforts to promptly (and in any event, within five (5) Business Days following the date of such written notice) retain the Independent Accounting Firm to resolve such Disputed Items. The Independent Accounting Firm shall conduct its review of such Disputed Items, any related work papers of the parties or their accounting firms and any supporting documentation, and hear such presentations by Buyer, the Sellers, and their respective Representatives, as the Independent Accounting Firm deems necessary or appropriate. Buyer and the Sellers shall each be party to the engagement letter entered into with the Independent Accounting Firm.
- (d) Buyer and the Sellers shall cooperate with one another and the Independent Accounting Firm to resolve the issues set forth in the Dispute Notice no later than 30 days following the date of the Independent Accounting Firm’s retention. The Independent Accounting Firm shall deliver to the Sellers and Buyer a written report (the “**Adjustment Report**”) setting forth the adjustments, if any, that should be made to the Disputed Items referred to the Independent Accounting Firm. The Independent Accounting Firm shall make a determination with respect to any such Disputed Items only in a manner consistent with this Section 1.4, and in no event shall the Independent Accounting Firm’s determination of any Disputed Items be for an amount that is outside the range of the Sellers’ proposal and Buyer’s proposal with respect to such Disputed Items. In making such determination, the Independent Accounting Firm may only consider those items and amounts as to which Buyer and the Sellers have disagreed within the time periods and on the terms specified above and must resolve the matter in accordance with the terms and provisions of this Agreement; provided that the determination of the Independent Accounting Firm will neither be more favorable to Buyer than reflected in the Closing Statement nor more favorable to Sellers than reflected in the Sellers’ timely delivered Dispute Notice. The fees, expenses and costs of the Independent Accounting Firm for the services described herein shall be allocated between the Sellers, on the one hand, and Buyer, on the other hand, in the same proportion that the aggregate amount of the items unsuccessfully disputed by each (as finally determined by the Independent Accounting Firm) bears to the total amount of the disputed items, which proportionate allocation shall also be determined by the Independent Accounting Firm and be included in the Adjustment Report. Buyer, on the one hand, and the Sellers, on the other hand, shall each promptly reimburse the other to the extent the other paid more than the amount so required pursuant to the preceding sentence. The Adjustment Report shall be final and binding upon the Parties, and may be entered or enforced in any court having jurisdiction. The Independent Accounting Firm shall act as an expert, and not as an arbitrator.

- (e) Effective upon (i) the end of the Review Period (if a timely Dispute Notice is not delivered), (ii) the resolution of all matters set forth in the Dispute Notice by written agreement of Buyer and the Sellers (if a timely Dispute Notice is delivered) or (iii) the issuance of the Adjustment Report (as applicable, the “**Resolution Date**”), the Closing Statement and all components set forth therein, each as adjusted if and to the extent necessary to reflect the final resolution of any Disputed Items in accordance with this Section 1.4 and the Total Consideration, shall be final, binding and conclusive on the Parties and the Closing Cash Consideration set forth in the Closing Statement as so adjusted shall be the “**Final Closing Cash Consideration**”.
- (f) Promptly and, in any event, no later than five (5) Business Days following the Resolution Date, (A) if the Final Closing Cash Consideration is greater than the Estimated Closing Cash Consideration (such amount, the “**Shortfall Amount**”), (x) Buyer shall pay, or cause to be paid, by Wire Transfer to the accounts designated by the Sellers at least five (5) Business Days prior to the Closing Date in accordance with their respective Allocable Portions the Shortfall Amount, (y) Buyer and the Sellers shall deliver to the Escrow Agent joint written instructions directing the Escrow Agent to release to the account designated by the Sellers at least five (5) Business Days prior to the Closing Date in accordance with their respective Allocable Portions, all funds then held in the Escrow Account, or (B) if the Final Closing Cash Consideration is less than the Estimated Closing Cash Consideration (such amount, the “**Excess Amount**”), (x) Buyer and the Sellers shall deliver to the Escrow Agent joint written instructions directing the Escrow Agent to release the lesser of (1) the Excess Amount and (2) the portion of all funds then held in the Escrow Account, in either case, to Buyer, (y) if the Excess Amount is greater than the portion of the amount of funds held in the Escrow Account immediately prior to the release to Buyer contemplated in clause (B)(x) above, Sellers shall pay, or cause to be paid, on a joint and several basis, by Wire Transfer to Buyer, such Seller’s Allocable Portion of the difference between the Excess Amount and such amount released to Buyer from the Escrow Account pursuant to clause (B)(x) above, in each case to the account designated by Buyer to the Sellers at least five (5) Business Days prior to the Closing, or such other account as may be notified to Sellers in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement, and (z) if the amount of funds held in the Escrow Account immediately prior to the release to Buyer contemplated in clause (B)(x) above is greater than the Excess Amount, Buyer and the Sellers shall deliver to the Escrow Agent joint written instructions directing the Escrow Agent to release to the account designated by the Sellers at least five (5) Business Days prior to the Closing Date in accordance with their respective Allocable Portions, the portion of all funds held in the Escrow Account immediately following the release to Buyer contemplated in clause (B)(x) above. For the avoidance of doubt, no amounts shall be released from the Escrow Account directly or indirectly to the Sellers or to or on behalf of any Seller until all amounts required to be released to Buyer pursuant to clause (B)(x) above have been so released to Buyer.
- (g) The provisions in this Section 1.4 relating to resolutions of disputes by the Independent Accounting Firm are not intended to and shall not be interpreted to require that the parties refer to such a firm (i) any dispute arising out of a breach by one of the parties of its obligations under this Agreement or (ii) any dispute the resolution of which requires the construction or interpretation of this Agreement (apart from the accounting treatment and arithmetic calculation of components of the Final Closing Balance Sheet or the Final Closing Cash Consideration).
- (h) The Estimated Closing Statement (and the calculation of the Estimated Closing Cash Consideration set forth therein) and the Closing Statement (and the calculation of the Closing Cash Consideration set forth therein) shall be prepared in accordance with the accounting practices, policies and procedures set forth in Exhibit A hereto. An example calculation of Net Working Capital as of March 31, 2026 is attached hereto as Exhibit B.

Section 1.5 Earnout.

- (a) For the period beginning on the Closing Date and ending on the third anniversary of the Closing Date (such period, the “**Earnout Period**,” which period shall be divided into three annual periods ending on each anniversary of the Closing Date (each, an “**Earnout Year**”), and as additional consideration for the Purchased Interests, the Trust Sellers indicated on Annex B shall be entitled, subject to the terms and conditions set forth in this Section 1.5, to receive additional consideration from Buyer up to an aggregate value equal to \$1,312,000.00 (plus interest at the Applicable Rate) (such amount, inclusive of interest at the Applicable Rate, the “**Maximum Earnout Payment Amount**” and any such additional consideration paid, an “**Earnout Payment**”), in the form of up to three annual Earnout Payments.
- (b) Determination of Earnout Payments. Promptly following the end of each Earnout Year but not later than as required pursuant to Section 1.5(c), Buyer shall pay to the Trust Sellers collectively an annual Earnout Payment in the amount of \$437,333.33, plus interest at the Applicable Rate (the “**Annual Earnout Payment**”), provided, and on the condition, that, during the immediately prior Earnout Year, (i) the Company (x) maintained in good standing the Subject Contract or (y) replaced or supplemented the Subject Contract with a substantially similar carrier agreement (including with respect to economic and legal terms, including duration) that is at least A-rated by standard insurance company ratings or similarly rated by either Moody, S&P, Fitch or AmBest and (ii) the Company Group writes the Subject Amount of insurance pursuant to the Subject Contract (and/or its replacement or supplement pursuant to the foregoing clause (y)) (the “**Carrier Condition**”). The interest that is earned on each Annual Earnout Payment shall accrue at the Applicable Rate from the Closing Date through the end of the applicable Earnout Year and shall be payable quarterly in arrears; provided, however, that if the Carrier Condition fails to be satisfied in respect of any Earnout Year as determined at the end of Earnout Period, Sellers shall promptly repay to Buyer any interest paid to Sellers with respect to such Earnout Year. The obligation of Buyer to pay the Annual Earnout Payment to the Trust Sellers shall be guaranteed by Nu Ride Inc. In no event will the aggregate Earnout Payments exceed the Maximum Earnout Payment Amount.
- (c) Payment Procedures; Dispute Resolution.
- (i) Earn-Out Statement. Within 30 days following any Earnout Payment becoming payable, Buyer shall prepare and deliver or cause to be prepared and delivered to the Sellers a statement (each, an “**Earnout Statement**”) setting forth Buyer’s good faith calculation of the applicable amount of any Earnout Payment payable, if any.
- (ii) Right to Dispute. During the 15-day period after the delivery of each Earnout Statement to the Sellers (the “**Earnout Dispute Period**”), the Sellers may dispute in good faith all or any component of Buyer’s calculation of the Earnout Payment during the applicable portion of the Earnout Period set forth in the Earnout Statement by written notice to Buyer (the “**Earnout Dispute Notice**”) setting forth in reasonable detail (including, the amounts in dispute) the nature and basis of Sellers’ dispute (the “**Earnout Disputed Items**”) with any of Buyer’s calculations set forth in the Earnout Statement. All items for which the Sellers do not timely deliver an Earnout Dispute Notice within the Earnout Dispute Period shall be final, binding and conclusive upon the parties. If the Sellers do not timely deliver an Earnout Dispute Notice to Buyer within the Earnout Dispute Period, or if the Sellers deliver written notice to Buyer that the Sellers agree with the Earnout Statement and Buyer’s calculation of the Earnout Payment (if any) set forth therein, then such calculation of the Earnout Payment shall be final, binding and conclusive on the Parties.

- (iii) Dispute Resolution. If an Earnout Dispute Notice is timely received by the Buyer within the Earnout Dispute Period, the Sellers and Buyer shall, during the 30-day period following such delivery of the Earnout Dispute Notice, discuss with a view to resolving their disagreements over the Earnout Disputed Items. If the Sellers and Buyer fail to resolve their differences over any of the Earnout Disputed Items within such 30-day period, they shall jointly submit any unresolved Earnout Disputed Items for resolution to the Independent Accounting Firm in accordance with the procedures set forth in Section 1.4, applied *mutatis mutandis*.
- (iv) Access to Information. During the Earnout Dispute Period and until the final determination of any Earnout Disputed Items, the Sellers and its Representatives will be given reasonable access during normal business hours and upon reasonable advance written notice, to all work papers and back-up materials requested in writing to the extent used by Buyer to prepare the calculation of any Earnout Disputed Items for the applicable Earnout Year. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any such investigation or inquiry shall be conducted (A) only in connection with the determination of the Earnout Disputed Items, (B) in such a manner so as to not interfere with the normal operations of Buyer or the Company Group, (C) at the sole cost and expense of the Sellers and (D) only where such access or disclosure would not jeopardize the attorney-client privilege of any member of Buyer and its Affiliates (including the Company Group) or contravene any Applicable Law.
- (v) Not a Security. For the avoidance of doubt, the right of the Sellers to receive any Earnout Payment (or any portion thereof) (A) is solely a contractual right and is not a security for purposes of any securities Laws; (B) will not be represented by any form of certificate or instrument; (C) does not give any Party the right to any dividend rights, voting rights, liquidation rights, preemptive rights or other rights; (D) is not redeemable; and (E) may not be sold, assigned, pledged, gifted, conveyed, transferred or otherwise disposed of (a “**Transfer**”) (and any Transfer in violation hereof shall be null and void).

- (vi) Payments. Buyer shall pay, or cause to be paid to Sellers, by Wire Transfer to the account designated by the Sellers, the Annual Earnout Payment within ten (10) Business Days after such Annual Earnout Payment is conclusively determined as set forth in this Section 1.5.
- (vii) Set-Off. No interest shall accrue or be payable with respect to any such Earnout Payment, or any portion thereof, other than payments in respect of the Applicable Rate. Upon not less than thirty (30) days' notice to Seller specifying in reasonable detail the basis therefor (the "**Set-Off Notice**"), and in the event no written objection is received by Buyer from Seller prior to the expiration of such thirty (30) day period, Buyer and the Company Group shall have the right to withhold and set off, without duplication, against any amount otherwise due to be paid to the Sellers pursuant to this Section 1.5, any amounts to which Buyer or any of their Affiliates or the Company Group are finally determined pursuant to the terms hereof to be entitled to receive for any reason, including under this Agreement or any other agreement between any Seller, on the one hand, and any of the Buyer, the Company Group or their respective Affiliates, transferees or assigns, on the other hand, such amounts also including, but not limited to, the amount of any Losses to which any Buyer Indemnified Party is finally determined to be entitled under Section 8.2; provided, however, in the event Seller reasonably and in good faith objects to such Set-Off Notice on the basis the foregoing provisions of this Section 1.5(c)(vii) were not followed, then such right to set off shall not be permitted by Buyer until the parties resolve such dispute in accordance with Section 9.9. The foregoing notwithstanding, any undisputed amounts not subject to set-off shall be timely paid to Sellers and any undisputed amounts subject to set-off shall be so set-off by Buyer.
- (viii) Future Acquisitions. If at any time during the Earnout Period, any member of the Company Group acquires a company or business or other Person or other material assets through merger, stock purchase, asset purchase or otherwise, then the determination of whether the Carrier Condition was satisfied shall not include any business resulting from such acquisition or the company, business or assets so acquired (provided, that for the avoidance of doubt, policies written by a member of the Company Group through a carrier contracting with a company, business or assets so acquired shall be counted in determining whether the Carrier Condition was satisfied).
- (ix) Treatment of Earn-Out Payments. The Sellers and Buyer shall, and shall cause their respective Affiliates to, treat for U.S. federal (and applicable state) income tax purposes the payment of any Annual Earnout Payment under this Section 1.5 as an adjustment to the Total Consideration, except for any imputed interest or as otherwise required by Law.

- (d) Good Faith Management. Buyer acknowledges and agrees that, subsequent to the Closing Date, (i) Buyer shall continue to manage the Companies in good faith; and (ii) Buyer shall not take any action, or omit to take any action, with the primary purpose of avoiding or reducing any Annual Earnout Payment otherwise payable to Sellers under this Section 1.5.

Section 1.6 Withholding. Subject to the filing of a W-9 form reflecting the certification that withholding is not required, Buyer, the Company Group and their respective Affiliates and the Escrow Agent shall be entitled to deduct and withhold, any amounts required to be deducted and withheld pursuant to any provision of Applicable Law in connection with any payments required to be made pursuant to the terms of this Agreement. To the extent that amounts are so deducted or withheld, such amounts shall be treated for all purposes of this Agreement as having been paid to the Person otherwise entitled to receive such payments pursuant to this Agreement and shall be paid to the applicable Governmental Authority.

ARTICLE II REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES OF SELLERS

Except as set forth in a correspondingly labeled section of the written disclosure schedule delivered by the Sellers to Buyer on or prior to the date of this Agreement (the “**Seller Disclosure Schedule**”), each Seller hereby represents and warrants to Buyer, jointly and severally, as follows:

Section 2.1 Organization. Such Seller (if such Seller is not a natural person) is duly organized or formed, validly existing and in good standing (if applicable) under the Laws of the jurisdiction of its incorporation or formation.

Section 2.2 Authority; Validity of Agreements. Such Seller (if such Seller is not a natural person) has full power and authority, and such Seller (if such Seller is a natural person) has legal capacity, to execute and deliver this Agreement and each Ancillary Agreement to which such Seller is specified to be a party thereto, to perform its obligations hereunder and thereunder and to consummate the Transactions. If such Seller is a natural person, such Seller is not married or married under a separation of assets regime and, therefore, no consent of the respective spouse, as applicable, is necessary in order to enter into this Agreement or any Ancillary Agreement. If such Seller is not a natural person, the execution, delivery and performance by such Seller of each of this Agreement and each Ancillary Agreement to which such Seller is or, at the Closing, will be a party, has been, and the consummation by such Seller of the Transactions has been, duly and validly authorized and approved by all necessary corporate or other legal action of such Seller, including any necessary approval or consent of its general partner, board of managers or managing member (or equivalent governing body or Person), members, partners, stockholders or other equity owners. This Agreement and any Ancillary Agreement executed and delivered on or prior to the date hereof has been, and upon its execution prior to or at the Closing each other Ancillary Agreement to which such Seller is or, at the Closing, will be a party will be, duly and validly executed and delivered by such Seller, and (assuming due authorization, execution and delivery by the other parties hereto and thereto) this Agreement and each such Ancillary Agreement constitute or will constitute a valid and binding obligation of such Seller, enforceable against such Seller in accordance with its terms, except as (a) the enforceability hereof may be limited by bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium, rehabilitation, liquidation, fraudulent conveyance, preferential transfer or other similar Applicable Laws affecting the enforcement of creditors’ rights and remedies generally and (b) the availability of equitable remedies may be limited by equitable principles of general applicability.

Section 2.3 Title to Purchased Interests.

- (a) As of the date hereof, such Seller is the record owner of the equity interests in the applicable Company or the applicable Trust Seller set forth opposite such Seller's name on Section 3.2(b) of the Seller Disclosure Schedule, free and clear of any Liens, and does not own any other equity interests in any member of the Company Group or any Equity Rights in or to any member of the Company Group. At the Closing, Buyer will acquire good and valid title to the Purchased Interests owned by such Seller, free and clear of any Liens.
- (b) In the case of any Seller that is not an individual, Section 2.3(b) of the Seller Disclosure Schedule sets forth a true and complete list of each record owner of all of the equity interests or beneficiaries (as applicable) in such Seller.

Section 2.4 Consents and Approvals. Such Seller is not required to obtain the Consent of any Governmental Authority or other third party in connection with the execution and delivery by such Seller of this Agreement and each Ancillary Agreement to which such Seller is or will be a party, the performance of its obligations hereunder or thereunder or the consummation of the Transactions.

Section 2.5 No Conflicts. Neither the execution, delivery or performance of this Agreement or the Ancillary Agreements to which it is a party, nor the consummation by such Seller of the Transactions, will: (a) violate, conflict with, or result in a breach or default under any provision of the Organizational Documents of such Seller (if applicable); (b) violate any Applicable Law; or (c) result in a violation or breach by such Seller of, conflict with or constitute (with or without due notice or lapse of time or both) a default (or give rise to any right of termination, cancellation, redemption, payment or acceleration) under any Contract to which such Seller is a party or by which such Seller or any of its properties or assets are bound.

Section 2.6 Litigation. Except as set forth on Section 2.6 of the Seller Disclosure Schedule, there is no pending, or, to the Knowledge of the Sellers, threatened Proceeding concerning such Seller or that, individually or in the aggregate, would reasonably be expected to prevent or materially impair or delay the consummation of the Transactions or such Seller's ability to perform its obligations under this Agreement or under any Ancillary Agreement.

Section 2.7 Brokers and Finders. Except as set forth in Section 2.6 of the Seller Disclosure Schedule no broker, finder or similar intermediary is entitled to any broker's, finder's or similar fee or other commission in connection with this Agreement or the Ancillary Agreements or the Transactions based on any Contracts or other arrangements entered into by such Seller or any of its Affiliates or Related Parties.

Section 2.8 Investment Representations. Each applicable Seller:

- (a) agrees that it shall acquire shares of the Nu Ride Class A Common Stock and Buyer Common Stock issued to it (the "**Securities**") for investment and for its own account and not as a nominee or agent for any other Person and with no present intention of distributing or reselling such Securities or any part thereof in any transactions that would be in violation of the Securities Act or any state securities or "blue-sky" Laws;
- (b) understands (i) that the Securities have not been registered for sale under the Securities Act or any state securities or "blue-sky" Laws in reliance upon exemptions therefrom, which exemptions depend upon, among other things, the bona fide nature of the investment intent of the Parties as expressed herein, (ii) that the Securities must be held indefinitely and not sold until such Securities are registered under the Securities Act and any applicable state securities or "blue-sky" Laws, unless an exemption from such registration is available, (iii) that, except as provided in this Agreement, Buyer is under no obligation to so register the Securities and (iv) that the Securities shall be subject to customary restrictive legends as set forth in this Agreement, or to the extent the Securities are uncertificated, shall be subject to customary restrictive notations in the books and records of the transfer agent for the Securities;
- (c) has had an opportunity to conduct diligence and has received information concerning the business affairs and financial condition of Buyer and its subsidiaries sufficient to reach an informed and knowledgeable decision to acquire the Securities to be issued to such Seller;
- (d) understands that an investment in the Securities involves a substantial degree of risk and acknowledges that no representation has been made regarding the future performance of Buyer or the future market value of the Securities;
- (e) understands that an investment in the Securities is an illiquid investment subject to transfer restrictions and acknowledges that such Seller has the financial ability to bear the economic risk of such investment;
- (f) has such knowledge and experience in financial and business matters, knows of the high degree of risk associated with investments generally, is a sophisticated and experienced investor, is capable of evaluating the merits and risks of acquiring and holding the Securities, is able to bear the economic risk of an investment therein in the amount contemplated and can afford to suffer a complete loss of their investment in the Securities acquired by such Seller; and
- (g) is an "accredited investor" as such term is defined in Rule 501 under the Securities Act.

ARTICLE III
REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES
REGARDING THE COMPANIES

Except as set forth in a correspondingly labeled section of the written disclosure schedule delivered by the Companies to Buyer on or prior to the date of this Agreement (the “**Company Disclosure Schedule**”), the Sellers and Companies hereby represent and warrant to Buyer, jointly and severally, as follows:

Section 3.1 Organization. Each member of the Company Group is duly organized or formed, validly existing and in good standing (if applicable) under the Laws of the jurisdiction of its incorporation or formation and in each jurisdiction in which it conducts business as a foreign entity. Each member of the Company Group has the requisite corporate or other legal power and authority to carry on the Business as presently conducted by it and to own, lease and operate all of its material properties and assets, as currently conducted, owned, leased or operated. Prior to the date hereof, the Sellers have made available to Buyer true and complete copies of Organizational Documents of each member of the Company Group as in effect on the date hereof, and a correct and complete list of each such Organizational Document is set forth in Q of the Company Disclosure Schedule. Each such Organizational Document is in full force and effect and there has not been, and are no violations thereof.

Section 3.2 Capital Structure; Subsidiaries.

- (a) The Company Interests are and immediately prior to the Closing, duly authorized, validly issued and fully paid and have not been issued in violation of any Applicable Law, Contract or Equity Rights.
- (b) Section 3.2(b) of the Company Disclosure Schedule sets forth, (i) the name of each member of the Company Group, together with the type of entity and jurisdiction of organization of each such member of the Company Group, (ii) all of the authorized equity interests in (by class or series, if applicable), or other securities of, each member of the Company Group (the “**Company Interests**”), (iii) the number of Company Interests in (by class or series, if applicable), or other securities of, each member of the Company Group that are issued and outstanding, together with the record owners thereof and as of immediately prior to the Closing, and (iv) the members of the board of managers or sole manager (or the governing body or Person) of each member of the Company Group as of the date hereof. The Persons set forth on Section 3.2(b) of the Company Disclosure Schedule as provided in clause (iii) hereof are the sole record owners of all the issued and outstanding equity interests in, and other securities of, each member of the Company Group as of the date hereof and as of immediately prior to the Closing.

- (c) Except as contemplated by this Agreement and the Ancillary Agreement, there are no outstanding securities, options, restricted stock units, restricted stock, warrants, calls, rights, conversion rights, preemptive rights, rights of first refusal, redemption rights, repurchase rights, plans, “tag-along” or “drag-along” rights or other commitments, agreements, arrangements or undertakings (“**Equity Rights**”) (i) obligating any member of the Company Group to issue, deliver, redeem, purchase or sell, or cause to be issued, delivered, redeemed, purchased or sold, any Company Interests or any other securities or obligations convertible or exchangeable into or exercisable for or measured by reference to any Company Interest, (ii) giving any Person a right to subscribe for or acquire a Company Interest or (iii) obligating any member of the Company Group to issue, grant, adopt or enter into any such Equity Right. There are no outstanding or authorized equity appreciation, phantom equity, profits interests or other profit participation or similar rights with respect to any Company Interests. No member of the Company Group has (x) outstanding Indebtedness that would reasonably be expected to entitle or convey to any Person the right to vote with the owners of any member of the Company Group on any matter or that is convertible into or exercisable for or measured by reference to any Company Interest or (y) Equity Rights that could entitle or convey to any Person the right to vote with the owners of any member of the Company Group on any matter.
- (d) Except as set forth on Section 3.2(d) of the Company Disclosure Schedule, neither Company currently owns nor has it previously owned, any other Person that is or was a Controlled Affiliate of any member of the Company Group.
- (e) None of the assets of any member of the Company Group are deemed to constitute Plan Assets or are subject to Similar Law.
- (f) No stock option, restricted stock unit, phantom stock, stock appreciation right or other equity or equity-based incentive in either Company exists or remains outstanding.

Section 3.3 Authority; Validity of Agreements. Each Company has full power and authority to execute and deliver this Agreement and each Ancillary Agreement to which it is a party, to perform its obligations hereunder and thereunder and to consummate the Transactions. The execution, delivery, and performance by each Company of each of this Agreement and the Ancillary Agreements to which it is, or at Closing will be, a party has been, and the consummation by each Company of the Transactions has been, duly and validly authorized and approved by all necessary corporate or other legal action of each such Company, as applicable. This Agreement and any Ancillary Agreement executed and delivered on or prior to the date hereof has been, and upon its execution prior to or at the Closing each of the other Ancillary Agreements will be, duly and validly executed and delivered by each Company, to the extent it is specified to be a party thereto, and (assuming due authorization, execution and delivery by the parties hereto and thereto) this Agreement and each Ancillary Agreement executed and delivered on or prior to the date hereof constitutes, and upon its execution at the Closing each other Ancillary Agreement will constitute, a valid and binding obligation of each Company, to the extent it is specified to be a party thereto, enforceable against each in accordance with its terms, except as (a) the enforceability hereof may be limited by bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium, rehabilitation, liquidation, fraudulent conveyance, preferential transfer or other similar Applicable Laws affecting the enforcement of creditors’ rights and remedies generally and (b) the availability of equitable remedies may be limited by equitable principles of general applicability.

Section 3.4 Consents and Approvals. Except as set forth on Section 3.4 of the Company Disclosure Schedule, no member of the Company Group is required to obtain any Consent of any Governmental Authority or other third Party in connection with the execution and delivery by such member of the Company Group of this Agreement or any Ancillary Agreement to which such member of the Company Group is a party or the performance of this Agreement or any such Ancillary Agreement or the consummation of the Transactions other than the Texas Insurance Approval.

Section 3.5 No Conflicts. Neither the execution, delivery or performance of this Agreement and/or the Ancillary Agreements to which it is, or at Closing will be, a party, nor the consummation by the applicable member of the Company Group of the Transactions, will: (a) violate, conflict with, or result in a breach or default under any provision of the Organizational Documents of any of the members of Company Group; (b) violate Applicable Law in any material respect; (c) result in a violation or breach by any member of the Company Group, conflict with, or constitute (with or without due notice or lapse of time or both) a default (or give rise to any right of termination, cancellation, redemption, payment or acceleration) under any Contract to which such member of the Company Group is a party or by which such member of the Company Group and/or any of their respective properties or assets are bound; or (d) result in the creation of any Lien (other than any Permitted Lien) (or have such result upon notice or lapse of time, or both) upon any of the material properties, material assets or equity of any member of the Company Group under any of the terms, conditions or provisions of any Contract.

Section 3.6 Financial Statements.

- (a) Section 3.6(a) of the Company Disclosure Schedule sets forth true and complete copies of (i) the unaudited balance sheet of each Company and its Subsidiaries as of December 31, 2025, December 31, 2024 and December 31, 2023 and the related unaudited statements of income and comprehensive income, changes in members' deficit and cash flows for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2025, December 31, 2024 and December 31, 2023, (ii) an unaudited balance sheet of each Company and its Subsidiaries as of March 31, 2026 (the "**Unaudited Company Consolidated Balance Sheet**") and the related unaudited statement of income and comprehensive income for the 12-month period then ended. The balance sheets referred to in the previous sentence have been prepared from, and are in accordance with, the books and records of the Company Group and present fairly in all respects the financial position of the Company Group as of the dates thereof, and the other financial statements referred to in this Section 3.6(a) (including the related notes thereto, where applicable) present fairly in all respects the results of the operations and cash flows of each Company and its Subsidiaries (as applicable) for the respective fiscal periods therein set forth, in each case in accordance with a standard system of accounting established and administered on a cash basis consistently applied. The Companies maintain a standard system of accounting established and administered on a cash basis consistently applied throughout the periods covered thereby (subject, in the case of the unaudited financial statements contemplated in clause (i) and (ii) above, to the absence of footnote disclosures (none of which footnote disclosures would, alone or in the aggregate, be materially adverse to the business, operations, assets, liabilities, financial condition, operating results, value, cash flow or net worth of the Company Group)).
- (b) The Company Group maintains and complies with a system of accounting controls sufficient to provide assurances that (i) their business is operated in accordance with management's general or specific authorization and with Laws, (ii) transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in material conformity with a standard system of accounting established and administered on a cash basis consistently applied and (iii) access to properties and assets is permitted in accordance with management's general or specific authorization.
- (c) No member of the Company Group received a management letter or other written notice from its auditor regarding, or has otherwise identified but not fully remedied any, insufficiencies in or material unresolved violations of such member of the Company Group's, or any Client's internal accounting controls or accounting policies.
- (d) Except as set forth on Section 3.6(d) of the Company Disclosure Schedule, (i) all accounts and notes receivable of the Company Group are or shall, as applicable, be valid receivables arising in the ordinary course of business consistent with past practice of each member of the Company Group; (ii) no Person has any Lien on such receivables or any part thereof, and no agreement for deduction, free goods, discount or other deferred price or quantity adjustment has been made with respect to any such receivables and (iii) there is no pending contest or dispute with respect to the amount or validity of any amount of any such account receivables.
- (e) Except as set forth on Section 3.6(e) of the Company Disclosure Schedule, no member of the Company Group has any Indebtedness.

Section 3.7 Absence of Undisclosed Liabilities. No member of the Company Group has any liabilities of any kind or nature whatsoever, whether known or unknown, accrued, contingent, absolute, determined, or determinable, whether otherwise due or to become due, and whether or not required to be included on a balance sheet prepared in accordance with a standard system of accounting established and administered on a cash basis consistently applied, except (a) as and to the extent disclosed or reserved against in the Unaudited Company Consolidated Balance Sheet or (b) contractual obligations and liabilities that (i) were incurred after the date of the Unaudited Company Consolidated Balance Sheet in the ordinary course of business consistent with past practice of each member of the Company Group (none of which relates to or arises from breach of contract, tort, violation of Law, infringement or misappropriation), (ii) individually and in the aggregate, have not been, and would not reasonably be expected to be, material to the members of the Company Group, taken as a whole, and (iii) are not prohibited by this Agreement or any Ancillary Agreement.

Section 3.8 Absence of Certain Changes. Since the Lookback Date (a) each member of the Company Group has conducted the Business in the ordinary course consistent with past practice, (b) there has not occurred any event or events that, individually or in the aggregate, have had or would be reasonably expected to have a Company Material Adverse Effect or prevent or delay the ability of any member of the Company Group to perform its obligations under this Agreement or any Ancillary Agreement, and (c) no member of the Company Group has taken any action that would, if such member of the Company Group had taken such action after the date hereof and prior to the Closing, require the consent of Buyer under Section 5.2 of this Agreement.

Section 3.9 Assets. The Companies own and have (and immediately after giving effect to the Transactions, the Companies will have) good and valid title to, or valid leasehold interests in, all of the properties and assets (real, personal or mixed, tangible or intangible) (i) used or held for use in the conduct of the Business now and at the Closing, (ii) reflected on the Unaudited Company Consolidated Balance Sheet (other than such assets that were sold or otherwise disposed of in the ordinary course of business consistent with past practice) or (iii) that were acquired by a Company after the date of the Unaudited Company Consolidated Balance Sheet, in each case of clauses (i), (ii) and (iii) free and clear of any Liens other than Permitted Liens. The Business is and has only been conducted through the Companies. Affinity Advisory Network LLC, a Delaware limited liability company (the “**Delaware Entity**”) does not hold and never has held any assets or liabilities.

Section 3.10 Real Property. None of the members of the Company Group owns or has ever owned any real property or interest therein. Section 3.10 of the Company Disclosure Schedule sets forth a true, correct and complete list of all of the Leases of real property to which any member of the Company Group is a party. The Leases set forth on Section 3.10 of the Company Disclosure Schedule constitute all of the real property leased, subleased, licensed or otherwise used in connection with the operation of the Business as presently conducted. The Company has delivered to the Buyer a true and complete copy of each such Lease document (including all amendments, extensions, renewals, guaranties and other agreements with respect thereto). There exists no default or, to the Knowledge of the Companies, any condition, or any state of facts or event which with the passage of time or giving of notice would constitute a default, in the performance of its obligations under any of the Leases by any member of the Company Group or, to the Knowledge of the Companies, by any other party to any of such Leases or that would permit the termination, modification or acceleration of rent under any such Lease. None of the members of the Company Group has received any written or, to the Knowledge of the Companies, oral communication from the landlord or lessor under any of such Leases claiming that any member of the Company Group is in breach of its obligations under such Leases. Except as set forth on Section 3.10 of the Company Disclosure Schedule with respect to each of the Leases: (i) such Lease is legal, valid, binding, enforceable and in full force and effect; (ii) the Company’s possession and quiet enjoyment of the leased real property under such Lease has not been disturbed, and to the Knowledge of the Companies, there are no disputes with respect to such Lease; (iii) no security deposit or portion thereof deposited with respect such Lease has been applied in respect of a breach or default under such Lease which has not been redeposited in full; (iv) the Company has not subleased, licensed or otherwise granted any Person the right to use or occupy such property subject to such Lease or any portion thereof; and (v) all buildings, structures, improvements, fixtures, building systems and equipment, and all components thereof, included in the real property subject to each Lease are in good condition and repair and sufficient for the operation of the Business as presently conducted, and, to the Knowledge of the Companies, there are no facts or conditions affecting any of such improvements which would, individually or in the aggregate, interfere in any material respect with the use or occupancy of such improvements or any portion thereof in the operation of the Business as presently conducted.

Section 3.11 Material Contracts.

- (a) Section 3.11(a) of the Company Disclosure Schedule contains a true and complete list of all Material Contracts in existence on the date hereof. Prior to the date hereof, each Company has delivered to Buyer true and complete copies of all written Material Contracts or if such Material Contract is unwritten, a written summary of all material terms thereof, in each case, together with all amendments, waivers, other modifications, exhibits, schedules, attachments or other supplements thereto. Except as set forth Section 3.11(a) of the Company Disclosure Schedule, there are no oral Material Contracts.
- (b) Each Material Contract is valid, binding on the member of the Company Group, is in full force and effect, and is enforceable against such member of the Company Group that is a party thereto, as applicable, and to the Knowledge of the Companies, each other Party thereto in accordance with its terms except as (i) the enforceability thereof may be limited by bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium, rehabilitation, liquidation, fraudulent conveyance, preferential transfer or other similar Applicable Laws affecting the enforcement of creditors' rights and remedies generally and (ii) the availability of equitable remedies may be limited by equitable principles of general applicability. There are no existing material defaults and, to the Knowledge of the Companies, no event has occurred that, with the giving of notice or lapse of time or both, would become material defaults of any member of the Company Group, or, to the Knowledge of the Companies, any other party thereto, under any Material Contract.
- (c) Except as provided in this Agreement or in any Ancillary Agreement or as set forth on Section 3.11(c) of the Company Disclosure Schedule, no member of the Company Group or Seller is bound by or subject to any of the following: (i) any Contract (including any so-called "take-or-pay" or "keep well" agreements) under which (A) any Person has directly or indirectly guaranteed Indebtedness, Liabilities or obligations of any member of the Company Group or (B) any member of the Company Group has directly or indirectly guaranteed Indebtedness, Liabilities or obligations of any Person (other than any other member of the Company Group); (ii) any Contract (other than the Organizational Documents of any member of the Company Group) providing for the indemnification of any Person with respect to Liabilities, whether absolute, accrued, contingent or otherwise; (iii) any Contract under which any member of the Company Group has made or is obligated to make, directly or indirectly, any advance, loan, extension of credit or capital contribution to, or other investment in, any Person; (iv) any Contract prohibiting or materially (individually or in the aggregate) restricting the ability of any member of the Company Group (A) to conduct their respective businesses, to engage in any business or operate, in each case, in any geographical area or (B) to compete with any Person; (v) any Contract to cap fees, share fees or other payments, offset fees, waive fees or to reimburse, reduce, return or assume any or all fees or expenses thereunder; (vi) any Contract that provides for earn-outs or other similar contingent obligations; (vii) any Contract which contains a (A) "clawback" or similar undertaking requiring the reimbursement or refund of any fees (whether performance based or otherwise) paid to any direct or indirect equityholder, member or partner of any member of the Company Group or (B) a "most favored nation" or similar provision; or (viii) any Contract requiring any member of the Company Group (A) to co-invest with any other Person, (B) to provide seed capital or similar investment or (C) to invest in any investment product.

Section 3.12 Litigation. Section 3.12 of the Company Disclosure Schedule contains a true and complete list, since the Lookback Date, of all past, pending, threatened in writing and, to the Knowledge of the Companies, threatened orally (a) Proceedings by, against or affecting any member of the Company Group, or, with respect to the Business, Sellers or any of their Affiliates and (b) Client Disputes. Prior to the date hereof, all files and other material written information related to such Proceedings and Client Disputes have been made available to Buyer as true, correct, and complete copies.

Section 3.13 Brokers and Finders. Except as set forth on Section 3.13 of the Company Disclosure Schedule, no broker, finder or similar intermediary is entitled to any broker's, finder's or similar fee or other commission in connection with this Agreement or the Ancillary Agreements or the Transactions based on any Contracts or other arrangements entered into by such Company Group or any of its Affiliates or Related Parties.

Section 3.14 Affiliate Arrangements.

- (a) Except as set forth on Section 3.14(a) of the Company Disclosure Schedule, since the Lookback Date, there have not been any Contracts between (i) any member of the Company Group, on the one hand, and (ii) any Seller or a Related Party thereof, or any director, officer or employee of any of them, or, to the Knowledge of the Companies, any Affiliate of any of the foregoing, on the other hand (any such Contract, an “**Affiliate Arrangement**”).
- (b) Except as set forth on Section 3.14(b) of the Company Disclosure Schedule, none of any Seller or an Affiliate or a Related Party thereto or any director, officer or employee of any of them, or, to the Knowledge of the Companies, any Affiliate or Related Party of any of the foregoing, (i) owns, uses, or has any interest in, directly or indirectly, (x) any property or asset, real or personal, tangible or intangible, used in the Business as presently conducted or owned by any member of the Company Group or (y) any Person that is a Client, supplier, lessor, lessee or competitor of any member of the Company Group, (ii) serves as a trustee, officer, director or employee of any Person that is a Client, supplier, lessor, lessee or competitor of any member of the Company Group, (iii) has received any loans from or is otherwise a debtor of, or made any loans to or is otherwise a creditor of, any member of the Company Group or (iv) receives any payment, compensation, equity-participation, revenue-share, commission, fee or other similar economic benefit (other than compensation from or distributions by any member of the Company Group) from or in relation to any Client of any member of the Company Group. Ownership of a class of securities of a Person that is publicly traded shall not be deemed to be an interest for purposes of this Section 3.14(b).

Section 3.15 Compliance with Law; Government Regulation.

- (a) (i) Each member of the Company Group and the Business is in compliance and, since the Lookback Date, has complied in all material respects with all Applicable Laws and (ii) since the Lookback Date, no member of the Company Group or any Seller has received any written, or to the Knowledge of the Companies, oral, notice asserting any violation by any member of the Company Group or the Business of any Applicable Law.
- (b) Each member of the Company Group holds, and since the Lookback Date has at all times held, all licenses, registrations, franchises, permits, orders, approvals, and authorizations (collectively, “**Permits**”) that are required in order to permit such member of the Company Group to own or lease its properties and assets and to conduct the Business under and pursuant to all Applicable Laws in all material respects. All such presently held or presently required Permits are in full force and effect, and no such suspension, cancellation, modification or revocation or Proceeding has been threatened in writing, or, to the Knowledge of the Companies, threatened orally.

- (c) (i) Section 3.15(c) of the Company Disclosure Schedule lists each employee, individual service provider, officer, director or personnel of the Company Group that is registered, licensed or qualified as an investment adviser representative or a registered representative of a broker-dealer, or in any other capacity under any Applicable Law in light of such Person's activities or receipt of compensation relating to the Business and (ii) no other employee, individual service provider, officer, director or personnel of the Company Group is subject to any such registration, licensing, or qualification requirement or to any material Liability or disability by reason of any failure to be so registered, licensed or qualified. No member of the Company Group has received written, or to the Knowledge of the Companies, oral notice of any pending Proceeding concerning any failure to obtain any such registration, license, or qualification.
- (d) AAN Wealth Advisors LLC is the only member of the Company Group that is required to be registered as an investment adviser with the SEC pursuant to the Investment Advisers Act or other State Adviser Laws (each, an "**Investment Adviser**"). The Investment Adviser has (i) at all applicable times been duly registered as an investment adviser with each state securities regulator with which it was required to be so registered under Applicable Law (such applicable state securities laws, "**State Adviser Laws**") and (ii) duly submitted on or about June 1, 2026 its application for registration as a registered investment adviser with the SEC. To the Knowledge of the Companies, there is no basis for disqualification or denial of its application for registration as a registered investment adviser with the SEC. Each member of the Company Group has been and is in material compliance with the Investment Advisers Act (and the State Adviser Laws) and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder, and to the extent required to be registered as an investment adviser under the Investment Advisers Act or State Adviser Laws, such registration has been and is in full force and effect and, to the Knowledge of the Companies, there is no basis for any disqualification, denial, suspension, or revocation thereof. No other member of the Company Group that is not an Investment Adviser (i) is or has been an "investment adviser" required to register under the Investment Advisers Act, State Adviser Laws or any other Applicable Laws to be licensed or qualified as an investment adviser or (ii) is subject to any material Liability by reason of any failure to be so registered, licensed, or qualified nor has received any notice from any Governmental Authority relating to any failure to be so registered, licensed or qualified.

- (e) No member of the Company Group is (i) a bank, thrift, bank holding company, trust company, broker-dealer, commodity broker-dealer, introducing broker, municipal advisor, municipal securities dealer, commodity pool operator, commodity trading advisor, futures commission merchant, swap execution facility, real estate broker, insurance company or transfer agent within the meaning of any Applicable Law, (ii) required to be registered, licensed or qualified as a bank, thrift, bank holding company, trust company, broker-dealer, commodity broker-dealer, introducing broker, municipal advisor, municipal securities dealer, commodity pool operator, commodity trading advisor, futures commission merchant, swap execution facility, real estate broker, insurance company or transfer agent under any Applicable Law or (iii) subject to any material Liability or disability by reason of any failure to be so registered, licensed or qualified. No member of the Company Group has received written, or to the Knowledge of the Companies, oral, notice of any pending Proceeding concerning any failure to obtain any bank, thrift, bank holding company, trust company, broker-dealer, commodity broker-dealer, introducing broker, municipal advisor, municipal securities dealer, commodity pool operator, commodity trading advisor, futures commission merchant, swap execution facility, real estate broker, insurance company or transfer agent registration, license or qualification.
- (f) No member of the Company Group, no Seller, and, to the Knowledge of the Companies, no director or officer, employee, individual service provider or personnel of any member of the Company Group, is, or at any time since the inception of the Companies has been, (i) subject to any cease and desist, censure or other disciplinary or similar order issued by any Governmental Authority, (ii) a party to any consent agreement or disciplinary agreement with any Governmental Authority, or (iii) subject to any order or directive by any Governmental Authority.
- (g) Each member of the Company Group has filed all registrations, reports, prospectuses, proxy statements, statements of additional information, financial statements, sales literature, statements, notices and other material filings required to be filed by such Person with any Governmental Authority, including all required amendments or supplements to any of the above, since the inception of the Companies (the “**Filings**”) and, to the Knowledge of the Companies, no event has occurred or information has become known or condition exists as a result of which it is necessary or advisable, in the reasonable opinion of the Company Group or its counsel, to amend or supplement the Filings so that the Filings do not and will not contain any untrue statement of material fact or omit to state any material fact necessary in order to make the statements contained therein not misleading. Each such Filing as of the time of its filing or, if applicable, as of the time of its most recent amendment, complied in all material respects with, to the extent in effect at such time, the requirements of the Securities Act, the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the Investment Advisers Act, and the Investment Company Act, State Adviser Laws or any other Applicable Law applicable to such form or report. Prior to the date hereof, the Companies have provided to Buyer true and complete copies, in each case from the inception of the Companies through the date hereof, of all (i) Filings, (ii) audit or inspection reports received by any member of the Company Group from any Governmental Authority and all written responses thereto made by any member of the Company Group, (iii) correspondence relating to any investigation, audit or inspection provided to any member of the Company Group by any Governmental Authority and (iv) material correspondence relating to any investigation provided to any member of the Company Group by any Governmental Authority.

- (h) Since the Lookback Date, (i) no member of the Company Group and, with respect to the Business, neither Sellers nor any of their Affiliates, have received written or, to the Knowledge of the Companies, oral notice that any Governmental Authority has initiated or, threatened in writing to initiate or, to the Knowledge of the Companies, threatened orally to initiate any Proceeding with respect to the Business or any member of the Company Group and (ii) no member of the Company Group and, with respect to the Business, neither Sellers nor any of their Affiliates, have received any written notice or communication or, to the Knowledge of the Companies, oral notice or communication (A) of any violation or exception by any Governmental Authority with respect to any report or statement by any Governmental Authority relating to any examination of any member of the Company Group or, with respect to the Business, neither Sellers nor any of their Affiliates, (B) threatening to revoke or condition the continuation of any Permit or (C) restricting or disqualifying their activities or the activities of their respective directors, officers, or personnel (except for restrictions generally imposed by rule, regulation or administrative policy on similarly regulated Persons generally).
- (i) Except as otherwise set forth in Section 3.15(i) of the Company Disclosure Schedule, the Company Group have adopted and implemented written policies and procedures as required by Applicable Law, including Rules 204A-1, 206(4)-5, and 206(4)-7 under the Investment Advisers Act, including formal written codes of ethics, insider trading policies, privacy policies, cybersecurity and information security policies, “know-your-customer” and anti-money laundering programs and related due diligence, reporting and recordkeeping procedures, investment opportunity and expense allocation policies, business continuity, policies and procedures designed to ensure compliance with Anti-Corruption Laws, Customs & Trade Laws and Sanctions, and other policies or procedures required by Applicable Law (the “Policies”), of which a true and correct copy of each Policy has been made available to Buyer. Except as otherwise set forth in Section 3.15(i) of the Company Disclosure Schedule, since the Lookback Date, (i) the Policies have complied in all material respects with Applicable Law and been reasonably designed to prevent violations of Applicable Law by the Company Group, any of their respective directors, officers, employees, personnel, agents or other Persons acting for or on behalf of any of the foregoing; and, (ii) to the Knowledge of the Companies, the Policies have been complied with by the Company Group and their respective directors, officers, employees, personnel, agents or other Persons acting for or on behalf of any of the foregoing, and there has been no violations of any such Policies by any such Person.
- (j) Since the Lookback Date, none of the Company Group or any of their respective directors, officers, employees, investors, or, to the Knowledge of the Companies, any of their agents or other Person acting for or on behalf of any of the foregoing has (i) been or is currently a Sanctioned Person or Restricted Person; (ii) since February 24, 2022 been or is currently a PCWR; (iii) engaged or is currently engaging in any business or other dealings with, for the benefit of, or involving (A) any Sanctioned Country or (B) any Sanctioned Person or Restricted Person or (C) since February 24, 2022 any PCWR; (iv) failed to conduct its import, export, and reexport transactions and any other transfers in accordance with all applicable Customs & Trade Laws; or (v) otherwise been in violation of applicable Anti-Money Laundering Laws, Anti-Corruption Laws, Sanctions, or Customs & Trade Laws. To the extent required by Applicable Law, the Company Group has adopted, and maintained effective “know-your-customer” and anti-money laundering programs and related due diligence, reporting and recordkeeping procedures covering the Company Group, and has complied with the material terms of such programs and procedures for detecting and identifying money laundering with respect to the Company Group.
- (k) The Companies have delivered or otherwise made available to Buyer true and correct copies of all written policies of the Company Group regarding illegal or unlawful payments, including policies and procedures designed to ensure compliance with Anti-Corruption Laws. Since the inception of each member of the Company Group there has not been any violation of any such policy.
- (l) No member of the Company Group nor, to the extent acting on behalf of any member of the Company Group, any of their respective directors, officers or any Person for whose acts any member of the Company Group is vicariously liable has: (i) used any funds for unlawful contributions, loans, donations, gifts, entertainment or other unlawful expenses relating to political activity; (ii) unlawfully made (directly or indirectly), agreed to make, authorized or promised any payment to a Government Official to obtain or retain business for or with, or direct business to, any Person; (iii) unlawfully made, agreed to make, authorized or promised any payment to any other Person while knowing or having reason to know that all or part of the payment would be paid, offered or promised to a Government Official to obtain or retain business for or with, or direct business to, any Person; (iv) taken any action that would constitute a violation of any Anti-Corruption Laws; or (v) made or agreed to make, or received or agreed to receive, any other unlawful payment. For purposes of this section, a “payment” includes payment of funds or the transfer of anything of value.

- (m) No member of the Company Group or, to the Knowledge of the Companies, any “affiliated person” (as defined in the Investment Company Act) of a member of the Company Group is ineligible, or has suffered any event that permits the SEC to find such Person to be ineligible, pursuant to Section 9(a) or 9(b) of the Investment Company Act, to serve as an investment adviser to an investment company registered under the Investment Company Act, nor is there any Proceeding pending or, to the Knowledge of the Companies, threatened by any Governmental Authority, that would result in the ineligibility of any member of the Company Group, or to the Knowledge of the Companies, any “affiliated person” (as defined in the Investment Company Act) of a member of the Company Group to serve in any such capacities. No member of the Company Group or, to the Knowledge of the Companies, any “person associated with” (as defined in Section 202(a)(17) of the Investment Advisers Act) a member of the Company Group (i) is ineligible pursuant to Section 203(e) or 203(f) of the Investment Advisers Act to serve as an investment adviser or as a “person associated with” an investment adviser (as defined in Section 202(a)(17) of the Investment Advisers Act), (ii) suffered any event that permits the SEC to censure or otherwise penalize such Person pursuant to Section 203(e) or 203(f) of the Investment Advisers Act, or (iii) is subject to disqualification as an “ineligible person” under Rule 206(4)-1 under the Investment Advisers Act; nor is there any Proceeding pending or, to the Knowledge of the Companies, threatened by any Governmental Authority, that would reasonably be expected to result in (i) the ineligibility of any member of the Company Group or, to the Knowledge of the Companies, any “person associated with” (as defined in Section 202(a)(17) of the Investment Advisers Act) a member of the Company Group to serve in any such capacities, or any other sanction or penalty pursuant to Section 203(e) or 203(f) of the Investment Advisers Act or (ii) any such Person’s disqualification as an “ineligible person” under Rule 206(4)-1 under the Investment Advisers Act.
- (n) The Company Group exclusively owns and has the exclusive right to use the Performance Record. The Performance Record is accurate and complete in all material respects. The Company Group maintains the appropriate documentation necessary to form the basis for, demonstrate or recreate the calculation of the performance or rate of return of all portfolios in the Performance Record (current and historical performance results) in material compliance with Applicable Law. The Company Group owns and maintains all books and records required under Applicable Law, including Rule 204-2 under the Investment Advisers Act.
- (o) No “bad actor” disqualifying event described in Rule 506(d) under the Securities Act is applicable to any member of the Company Group, or any other employee, individual service provider, officer, director or personnel of any of the foregoing or, with respect to any member of the Company Group as an “issuer” for purposes of Rule 506 promulgated under the Securities Act, any Person listed in the first paragraph of Rule 506(d)(1), nor is there any Proceeding pending or, to the Knowledge of the Companies, threatened by any Governmental Authority that would result in the ineligibility of any Client, member of the Company Group, employee, individual service provider or any such other Person to offer or participate in an offering of securities in reliance on Rule 506 of Regulation D under the Securities Act.
- (p) To the Knowledge of the Companies, there are no issues identified by the SEC or any other Governmental Authority with respect to any member of the Company Group that remain unresolved as of the date of this Agreement.
- (q) As of the date of this Agreement, to the Knowledge of the Companies, no member of the Company Group is subject to, and has not received any notice of, an examination, inspection, investigation, or inquiry by a Governmental Authority, and no such examination, inspection, investigation, or inquiry has been started or completed for which no examination report is available.
- (r) No member of the Company Group nor any of their respective directors, officers, employees, personnel, agents or other Persons acting for or on behalf of any of the foregoing, (i) has ever been indicted for or convicted of any felony or any crime involving fraud, misrepresentation or insider trading or (ii) is subject to any outstanding order barring, suspending or otherwise materially limiting the right of any such individual to engage in the Business or in any other activity conducted as part of the Company Group as currently conducted.

- (s) No member of the Company Group is prohibited from charging fees to any Person pursuant to Rule 206(4)-5 under the Investment Advisers Act or any similar “pay-to-play” rule or requirement. Since the Lookback Date, no member of the Company Group and, to the Knowledge of the Companies, no “covered associate” of any of them has made a “contribution” to an “official” of a “government entity” (as such terms are defined in Rule 206(4)-5 of the Investment Advisers Act) that would result in any such Person being unable to receive compensation for the provision of investment advisory services to any plan or program of a Governmental Authority. Since the Lookback Date, no member of the Company Group and, to the Knowledge of the Companies, no “covered associate” of any member of the Company Group has a Contract under which it is paying a placement agent, finder, solicitor or similar person to solicit a “government entity” (as defined in Rule 206(4)-5 under the Investment Advisers Act) to retain a member of the Company Group to provide advisory, research or other services to a government entity, including any such Contracts that have been terminated but pursuant to which payments are continuing to be made for prior services.
- (t) Each member of the Company Group has, to the extent applicable to it, complied in all material respects with Regulation S-P and Regulation S-ID and has, to the extent required by Applicable Law, adopted policies and procedures reasonably designed to address the protection of client records and information. There have been no violations of a material nature of any such policies.
- (u) All marketing materials utilized by the Business at the time of their use for marketing purposes did not contain any material misrepresentations or omissions, and otherwise complied in all material respects with, to the extent in effect at such time, the requirements of the Investment Advisers Act applicable to such marketing materials, and any other Applicable Law.
- (v) Additional Insurance Regulatory Matters
 - (i) Each member of the Company Group and each of their respective directors, officers, managers, employees, agents, independent contractors and representatives, at each time since the Lookback Date that such Person solicited, negotiated, sold or delivered an insurance product was duly licensed at such time under applicable insurance Laws to perform such activity. Each such solicitation, negotiation, sale and delivery was authorized under a valid appointment with an insurance carrier or insurance producer.
 - (ii) The assets held by any member of the Company Group in a fiduciary capacity to meet its obligations to insurance carriers, producers and policyholders are at least equal to the amounts required to be held in such fiduciary capacity pursuant to premium trust and other applicable Laws or pursuant to any Contracts with such carriers, producers and policyholders.

(iii) At any time since the Lookback Date:

- (A) none of the members of the Company Group, any of their respective directors, officers, managers, employees, agents, independent contractors and representatives has been, in material violation of any applicable Laws applicable to the brokering, writing, sale, administration, servicing or production of insurance products, including Laws with respect to producer compensation, disclosure of compensation, discrimination, rebating, suitability or “best interest”;
- (B) none of the members of the Company Group have been in material violation of any Contract with an insurance carrier or producer authorizing such entity to offer insurance products on behalf of such carrier or producer;
- (C) no sales agent, independent contractor or representative has breached in any material respect the terms of any Producer Contract with any member of the Company Group appointing such Person; and
- (D) no insurance carrier or insurance producer whose products are offered by a member of the Company Group has notified such entity that such carrier or producer intends to materially alter or terminate its relationship with such entity.

(iv) There is no Proceeding pending or, threatened to suspend, revoke or limit any insurance license of any member of the Company Group or Hall or, to the Knowledge of the Companies, any of the Companies’ respective directors, officers, manager, employees, agents, independent contractors or representatives.

Section 3.16 Funds. No member of the Company Group acts, and has not since inception acted, as investment adviser, investment sub-adviser, general partner, managing member, manager or sponsor to any pooled investment vehicle.

Section 3.17 Assets Under Management; Clients.

- (a) Section 3.17(a) of the Company Disclosure Schedule sets forth a true and complete list of (i) the name of each Client (ii) the assets under management of each Client as of December 31, 2025, (iii) if applicable, the underlying investors in each Client as of the date on which the offering related to such Client was completed and (iv) the aggregate management fees paid by each Client for each calendar year ending as of December 31, 2023, December 31, 2024 and December 31, 2025.
- (b) At all times since the Lookback Date, there has been in full force and effect a written Investment Advisory Contract for each Client.
- (c) Any asset management or performance fee to which any Company is entitled to, or has received since the Lookback Date, complies with Applicable Law.

- (d) Section 3.17(a) of the Company Disclosure Schedule sets forth a correct and complete list of each Benefit Plan Client. Each member of the Company Group is, and has been at all times that such member of the Company Group provided services to a Benefit Plan Client, a qualified professional asset manager within the meaning of Prohibited Transaction Class Exemption (“PTCE”) 84-14, as amended. Each member of the Company Group that has provided services to a Benefit Plan Client has conducted its activities and provided such services in compliance in all respects with the requirements of ERISA, Section 4975 of the Code, Similar Law, PTCE 84-14, as amended, and any rules and regulations thereunder, each as applicable. No member of the Company Group (i) is, or within the previous six years, has been, the subject of any audit, proceeding, penalty or enforcement by the U.S. Department of Labor or any Governmental Authority, either directly or in connection with any services or transactions relating to any Benefit Plan Client or (ii) is subject to disqualification from serving as a “fiduciary” or a “qualified professional asset manager” under Section 411(a) of ERISA or Part I(g) of PTCE 84-14, as amended, respectively. To the extent required by ERISA and/or Section 4975 of the Code, each member of the Company Group has (i) acknowledged its fiduciary status in writing with respect to each Benefit Plan Client subject to ERISA, (ii) provided all relevant disclosures under Section 408(b)(2) of ERISA, (iii) maintained bond coverage as required by Section 412 of ERISA and (iv) not engaged in or caused a Benefit Plan Client to engage in any non-exempt prohibited transaction under Section 406 of ERISA or Section 4975 of the Code or a violation of Similar Law. Since the Lookback Date, (i) the applicable members of the Company Group have performed their respective investment management, advisory, and related duties and responsibilities in compliance, in all material respects with, and otherwise consistent with the terms of the applicable Investment Advisory Contract and (ii) no member of the Company Group has received any written communication from any Client or any Governmental Authority regarding any actual or alleged failure to perform investment management, advisory, and related duties and responsibilities in compliance with such Investment Advisory Contract.
- (e) There have been no material errors, miscalculations, discrepancies and/or changes to calculation methodologies with respect to any fees charged under such Investment Advisory Contracts (or any credits, refunds or reimbursements to any Client related thereto), and all fees paid by Clients have been calculated using a calculation methodology consistently applied and in accordance with the applicable Investment Advisory Contract in all material respects.

Section 3.18 Taxes.

- (a) Except as set forth in Section 3.18(a) of the Company Disclosure Schedule, all Tax Returns required to be filed by or with respect to each member of the Company Group has been duly and timely filed (taking into account valid extensions) with the appropriate Governmental Authority, and all Tax Returns filed by or with respect to each member of the Company Group are true, correct and complete in all material respects and all Taxes required to be paid by or with respect to each member of the Company Group (regardless of whether shown due on any Tax Return) or claimed to be due by any Governmental Authority has been duly and timely paid in full.
- (b) There are no Liens for Taxes upon the assets or properties of any member of the Company Group except for Liens for Liens described in clause (a) of the definition of Permitted Liens.
- (c) There are no outstanding waivers, extensions, or comparable consents (or request to waive or extend) regarding the application of the statute of limitations with respect to any Taxes or Tax Returns of any member of the Company Group. None of the members of the Company Group has requested an extension of time within which to file any Tax Return in respect of any taxable period for which a Tax Return has not since been filed (other than an automatically granted extension obtained in the ordinary course of business). No power of attorney granted by any member of the Company Group is currently in force.
- (d) No jurisdiction in which any member of the Company Group does not file a Tax Return or pay Taxes, in each case, of a particular type has made a claim that any member of the Company Group is required to file a Tax Return for or pay Taxes, in each case, of such particular type, in such jurisdiction.
- (e) Except as set forth in Section 3.18(a) of the Company Disclosure Schedule, no federal, state, local or foreign audits, actions, suits, proceedings, investigations, claims or administrative proceedings, have commenced or are presently pending with regard to any Taxes or Tax Returns of or including any member of the Company Group, and none of the members of the Company Group has received notification that such an audit or other proceeding is pending or, threatened in writing with respect to any Taxes owed by any member of the Company Group or any Tax Return filed by or with respect to any member of the Company Group, as applicable. Except as set forth in Section 3.18(a) of the Company Disclosure Schedule, none of the members of the Company Group has received written notice of a deficiency or adjustment for any Tax owed by any member of the Company Group that has not been paid in full or otherwise fully resolved.
- (f) None of the members of the Company Group has received a ruling, technical advice memorandum or similar document from any taxing authority or signed an agreement with any taxing authority.

- (g) None of the members of the Company Group is a party to, bound by, or has any obligation under, any tax sharing or similar agreement or has any liability or obligation to any Person as a result of, or pursuant to, any such agreement.
- (h) No member of the Company Group owes Taxes in any jurisdiction in which such member does not file Tax Returns.
- (i) Any Taxes of any member of the Company Group that accrued through, but were not due and payable as of, the date of the Unaudited Company Consolidated Balance Sheet, were properly accrued on the Unaudited Company Consolidated Balance Sheet in all material respects. Since the date of the Unaudited Company Consolidated Balance Sheet, no member of the Company Group has incurred any liability for Taxes other than in the ordinary course of business.
- (j) None of the members of the Company Group (or any predecessor thereof) has been a member of a federal, state, local or foreign consolidated, combined, unitary or similar group and none of the members of the Company Group have liability for the Taxes of another Person (other than for any member of the Company Group) under Applicable Law, as a result of transfer, successor or similar liability or by operation of law or contract.
- (k) No member of the Company Group will be required to include any item of income in, or exclude any item of deduction from, taxable income for any taxable period (or portion thereof) beginning after the Closing Date as a result of (i) any change in method of accounting for a taxable period (or portion thereof) ending on or prior to the Closing Date, (ii) any “closing agreement” as described in Section 7121 of the Code (or any corresponding or similar provision of non-U.S. state or local Tax law) or any other written agreement with a Governmental Authority with respect to Taxes executed on or prior to the Closing Date, (iii) any use of an improper method of accounting for a taxable period ending on or prior to the Closing Date, (iv) any installment sale or open transaction disposition made on or prior to the Closing Date, or (v) any prepaid amount received or deferred revenue accrued on or prior to the Closing Date.
- (l) No assets of any member of the Company Group constitute “Section 197(f)(9) intangibles” within the meaning of Treasury Regulations Section 1.197-2(h)(1)(i).
- (m) Each member of the Company Group has properly (i) collected and remitted sales, use, value-added and similar Taxes with respect to sales made to customers, and (ii) for all sales that are exempt from such sales, use, value-added and similar Taxes and that were made without charging or remitting sales or similar Taxes, received and retained any appropriate exemption certificates and other documentation qualifying such sale as exempt.

- (n) No member of the Company Group has ever been engaged in any transaction that is a “listed transaction” within the meaning of Section 6011 of the Code.
- (o) Each member of the Company Group has complied in all material respects with all Applicable Laws relating to the payment and withholding of Taxes and has, within the time and manner prescribed by Law, withheld and paid over to the proper Governmental Authority all amounts required to be withheld and paid over (or such amounts have been withheld and paid over on its behalf) under all Applicable Laws.
- (p) Each member of the Company Group has been continuously classified since formation as a partnership or disregarded entity for U.S. federal and all applicable state and local income Tax purposes and no member of the Company Group has ever taken any position on a Tax Return inconsistent with such treatment.
- (q) No member of the Company Group has made any election related to pass-through entity Taxes under any state or local Law.
- (r) No member of the Company Group has made any election or otherwise taken any action to cause the Partnership Audit Rules to apply at an earlier date than is required by applicable Law.
- (s) Each equity interest granted by a member of the Company Group that was intended to constitute a “profits interest” for U.S. federal income tax purposes has at all times qualified and currently qualifies as a “profits interest” under U.S. IRS Revenue Procedures 93-27 and 2001-43. With respect to any equity interest issued by a member of the Company Group that is subject or was subject on the date of grant to a “substantial risk of forfeiture” within the meaning of Section 83 of the Code and the rules and guidance promulgated thereunder, the holder thereof made a valid and timely election under Section 83(b) of the Code with respect to such equity interest.
- (t) All Company Interests are held by “United States persons” as defined in Section 7701(a)(30) of the Code.

Section 3.19 Benefit Plans; Employees.

- (a) Section 3.19(a) of the Company Disclosure Schedule sets forth an accurate and complete list, by jurisdiction, of each Plan. With respect to each Plan, Sellers have provided to Buyer true, accurate and complete copies of the following: (i) the current plan and trust documents, all amendments thereto (or, if unwritten, a written summary of the material terms of such Plan); (ii) any related insurance contracts or other funding agreements or arrangements; and (iii) all non-routine correspondence since the Lookback Date to or from any Governmental Authority.

- (b) Except as set forth in Section 3.19(a) of the Company Disclosure Schedule, no Plan is, and no member of the Company Group or any of their respective ERISA Affiliates sponsors, maintains, contributes to or has since the Lookback Date been required to contribute to or has any Liability under or with respect to any (i) “defined benefit plan” (as defined in Section 3(35) of ERISA) or any plan that is or was subject to Title IV of ERISA, Section 302 of ERISA or Sections 412 or 430 of the Code, (ii) “multiemployer plan” (as defined in Section 3(37) of ERISA), (iii) multiple employer plan (within the meaning of section 210 of ERISA or Section 413(c) of the Code) or (iv) “multiple employer welfare arrangement” (as defined in Section 3(40) of ERISA). No member of the Company Group has any Liability by reason of at any time being treated as a single employer under Section 414 of the Code with any other Person.
- (c) Each Plan has been established, maintained, funded, operated and administrated in accordance with its terms and in compliance in all material respects with all Applicable Laws, and no event has occurred (whether by an action or a failure to act) and no condition exists that has subjected, or could reasonably be expected to subject any member of the Company Group to any Tax, fine, lien, penalty or Liability imposed by Applicable Law. All contributions, reimbursements, or other premium payments (including all employer contributions and employee salary reduction contributions) that have become due with respect to any Plan have been timely made, or, to the extent not yet due, have been properly accrued in accordance with GAAP.
- (d) No member of the Company Group provides or has promised to provide and no Plan provides or promises to provide post-employment, post-service, or post-ownership health or welfare benefits to any Person, or beneficiaries or dependents thereof, except as required by Applicable Law and for which the covered Person pays the full premium cost of coverage. The Company Group has never been an applicable large employer within the meaning of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. There have been no “prohibited transactions” (as defined in Section 406 of ERISA or Section 4975 of the Code) or breaches of fiduciary duty (as determined under ERISA) with respect to any Plan.
- (e) No Plan is subject to the Laws of a jurisdiction other than the United States (whether or not United States Law also applies).
- (f) Neither the execution and delivery of this Agreement nor the consummation of the Transactions could (either alone or in conjunction with any other event) (i) result in, cause the accelerated vesting, funding (through a grantor trust or otherwise), payment or delivery of, or increase the amount or value of (including the forgiveness of indebtedness), any compensation, payment or benefit to any current or former employee or other individual service provider (ii) require a contribution by any member of the Company Group to any Plan, (iii) limit or restrict the right of any member of the Company Group to merge, amend or terminate any Plan or (iv) result in any payment (whether in cash, property or the vesting of property) or benefit that could, individually or in combination with any other payment or benefit, constitute an “excess parachute payment” (within the meaning of Section 280G(b)(1) of the Code).

- (g) No member of the Company Group has any obligation to gross-up, indemnify, reimburse or otherwise make whole any Person for any Taxes or other amounts, including pursuant to Sections 409A or 4999 of the Code.
- (h) No Plan constitutes in any part a “nonqualified deferred compensation plan” (as defined under Section 409A(d)(1) of the Code).
- (i) There are no (i) pending or, to the Knowledge of the Companies, threatened actions, audits, Proceedings, lawsuits, inquiries, disputes or investigations with respect to any Plan (other than routine claims for benefits) and there are no facts or circumstances that could give rise to any such action, audit, Proceeding, claim, lawsuit, inquiry, dispute or investigation, (ii) Proceedings or arbitrations which have been asserted or instituted, or, to the Knowledge of the Companies, threatened against any Plan, any fiduciaries thereof with respect to their duties to the Plans or the assets of any of the trusts under any of the Plans or (iii) pending or threatened in writing to initiate or, to the Knowledge of the Companies, threatened orally, any claims, actions, disputes or Proceedings by any Person against any member of the Company Group in respect of their employment with the Company Group.

Section 3.20 Employee and Labor Matters.

- (a) Section 3.20(a) of the Company Disclosure Schedule sets forth a list of all employees of and individual service providers to the Company Group as of the date hereof, including for each, as applicable: (i) name, (ii) title and position; (iii) base compensation or wage rate; (iv) all bonuses, similar remuneration paid during 2025, and year-to-date 2026; (v) all commissions paid during 2025, and year-to-date 2026; (vi) employing entity; (vii) whether such individual is classified as exempt or nonexempt under applicable wage and hour laws; and (viii) primary work location (city and state). Section 3.20(a) of the Company Disclosure Schedule also identifies each individual service provider that has performed services for the Company Group as an independent contractor or consultant and received a Form 1099 from the Company since January 1, 2024, together with their status as an independent contractor, the period during which such services were performed, the type of such services, and the consulting fees paid for each of 2024, 2025, and year-to-date 2026. If there are any changes in employees or independent service providers or the matters referenced in this Section 3.20(a) prior to Closing, Sellers shall promptly provide an updated Section 3.20(a) of the Company Disclosure Schedule to Buyer.

- (b) (i) No member of the Company Group is, and since the Lookback Date has been, and neither Sellers nor any of their Affiliates (with respect to the Business) are, or since the Lookback Date have been, a party to, or bound by, any CBA, and no CBA is currently being negotiated, (ii) there are no, and since the Lookback Date, there have been no, pending representation or certification proceedings brought, filed or threatened in writing, to the Knowledge of the Companies, threatened orally, to be brought or filed, with any labor relations tribunal or authority against or affecting any member of the Company Group or any employee of or individual service provider to the Company Group and (iii) to the Knowledge of the Companies, there are no, and since the Lookback Date, there have been no, pending or threatened union organizing activities or attempts against or affecting the Company Group. No employees of or individual service providers to any member of the Company Group are covered by a CBA or represented by any labor union, works council or other labor organization.
- (c) There are no, and since the Lookback Date, there have been no pending or, to the Knowledge of the Companies, threatened, strikes, lockouts, organized work stoppages, picketing, handbilling, material labor grievances, labor arbitrations, unfair labor practice charge or other material labor disputes against or affecting any member of the Company Group or, with respect to the Business, Sellers or any of their Affiliates. There are, and since the Lookback Date have been, no actions, suits, claims, investigations or other Proceedings against the Company Group pending, or to the Knowledge of the Companies, threatened to be brought or filed, by or with any Governmental Authority or arbitrator in connection with the employment of any current or former employee of, applicant for employment by or consultant or contractor to, the Company, including any claim related to labor, employment, and employment practices, including all Laws respecting terms and conditions of employment, equal employment opportunity (including compliance with any affirmative action plan obligations), wages and hours (including the classification of independent contractors and exempt and non-exempt employees), immigration (including the completion of Forms I-9 for all employees and the proper confirmation of employee visas), harassment, discrimination, retaliation, disability rights or benefits, collective bargaining, profit sharing, the payment of social security and similar Taxes, occupational safety and health, workers compensation employee leave issues, employee trainings and notices and plant closings and layoffs (including the Worker Adjustment and Retraining notification Act of 1988, as amended, or similar Laws).

- (d) Each member of the Company Group and, with respect to the Business, Sellers or any of their Affiliates, are and, since the Lookback Date have been, in compliance, has complied in all material respects with all Applicable Laws relating to labor employment, and employment practices, including all Laws respecting terms and conditions of employment, equal employment opportunity (including compliance with any affirmative action plan obligations), wages and hours (including the classification of independent contractors and exempt and non-exempt employees), immigration (including the completion of Forms I-9 for all employees and the proper confirmation of employee visas), harassment, discrimination, retaliation, disability rights or benefits, collective bargaining, profit sharing, the payment of social security and similar Taxes, occupational safety and health, workers compensation employee leave issues, employee trainings and notices and plant closings and layoffs (including the Worker Adjustment and Retraining notification Act of 1988, as amended, or similar Laws). No member of the Company Group is and, with respect to the Business, neither Sellers nor any of their Affiliates are, liable for the payment of any compensation, damages, Taxes, fines, penalties, or other amounts, however designated, for failure to comply in all material respects with any of the foregoing Applicable Laws.
- (e) Except as would not result in material Liability for the Company Group or, with respect to the Business, Sellers or any of their Affiliates: (i) each member of the Company Group has and, with respect to the Business, Sellers and each of their Affiliates have, fully and timely paid all wages, salaries, wage premiums, commissions, bonuses, severance and termination payments, fees, and other compensation that have come due and payable to their respective current or former employees and independent contractors under Applicable Law, Contract or Company Group policy; and (ii) each individual who is providing or since the Lookback Date has provided services to the Company Group or the Business and is or was classified and treated as an (y) exempt employee, or (z) independent contractor, consultant, leased employee, or other non-employee service provider, in each case is and has been properly classified and treated as such for all applicable purposes.
- (f) There is no officer, executive, employee or independent contractor of the Company Group who has or have indicated an intention to terminate his, her or their employment with or service to the Company Group, and, to the Knowledge of the Companies, no such individual has any plans to terminate employment with the Company Group.
- (g) To the Knowledge of the Companies, no employee of or individual service provider intends to reject Buyer's or its Affiliate's offer of employment or terminate his or her employment prior to the one-year anniversary of the Closing.

- (h) To the Knowledge of the Companies, no current or former employee or independent contractor/individual service provider of the Company Group or the Business is in violation of any term of any employment agreement, non-disclosure agreement, common law non-disclosure obligation, fiduciary duty, non-competition agreement, restrictive covenant or other obligation (i) owed to any member of the Company Group or, with respect to the Business, to Sellers or any of their Affiliates, or (ii) owed to any third party with respect to such individual's right to be employed by or engaged by any member of the Company Group or to provide services to the Business.
- (i) Each member of the Company Group and, with respect to the Business, Sellers and each of their Affiliates have, promptly, thoroughly, and impartially investigated all sexual harassment, or other discrimination, retaliation or policy violation, allegations of which any of them are or have been aware. With respect to each such allegation with potential merit, the applicable member of the Company Group or, with respect to the Business, Sellers or their applicable Affiliate, have taken prompt corrective action that is reasonably calculated to prevent further improper action. Neither the Company Group nor Sellers or any of their Affiliates reasonably expect any Liabilities with respect to any such allegations and is not aware of any allegations relating to officers, directors, employees, contractors, individual service providers, or agents of the Company Group that would indicate a breach of fiduciary duty or that, if known to the public, would bring the Company Group or the Business into material disrepute.

Section 3.21 Intellectual Property.

- (a) Section 3.21(a) of the Company Disclosure Schedule sets forth a complete and accurate list of all (i) Owned Intellectual Property that is issued or the subject of registration (or for which issuance or registration has been applied) in any jurisdiction or under any treaty regime ("**Registered Intellectual Property**"), indicating for each such item (as applicable) the application or registration number, date and jurisdiction or regime of filing or issuance, and the identity of the current applicant or registered owner; (ii) material unregistered Owned Intellectual Property (provided that, with respect to trade secrets, only a high level, non-confidential description must be listed); and (iii) domain names and social media accounts and identifiers that are used by any member of the Company Group. Each item of Registered Intellectual Property is subsisting, in full force and effect, valid, and enforceable, and not abandoned or lapsed. All registration, filing, maintenance, renewal, and other relevant fees due for the Registered Intellectual Property have been timely paid and all necessary documents and certificates in connection therewith have been timely filed with the applicable authorities. The Company Group (i) solely and exclusively owns all right, title, and interest in and to the Owned Intellectual Property and (ii) has a valid and enforceable, sufficient legal right to use all other Intellectual Property that is used in connection with, developed for, or necessary to conduct the business of the Company Group as conducted in the 6 months prior to Closing (together with the Owned Intellectual Property, the "**Company Intellectual Property**"), in each case of (i) and (ii) free and clear of all Liens other than Permitted Liens. The transactions contemplated by this Agreement will not have an adverse effect on any of the Company Group's right, title or interest in and to any of the Company Intellectual Property and all Company Intellectual Property shall be owned or available for use pursuant to a valid and enforceable written contract by the Company Group on terms and conditions immediately after the Closing identical to those under which such Company Intellectual Property was owned or available for use in connection with the business of the Company Group immediately before the Closing.

- (b) (i) None of the members of the Company Group, the conduct of the business of the Company Group, or the use of the Company Intellectual Property infringes, misappropriates or violates, or has in the past six (6) years infringed, misappropriated, or violated, any third party's Intellectual Property rights, and (ii) to the Knowledge of the Companies, no third party is engaged in any activity that infringes, misappropriates, conflicts with, or violates any Company Intellectual Property. There is no claim, action, or Proceeding pending against any member of the Company Group or any Affiliate thereof, and no such member or Affiliate has received any written claim alleging that such member or Affiliate, the conduct of the business of the Company Group, or the use of any Company Intellectual Property infringes, misappropriates or violates, or has infringed, misappropriated or violated any third party's Intellectual Property rights, or otherwise challenging any member of the Company Group's or any of its Affiliates' ownership of, right to use, or the validity, enforceability or registrability of, any Company Intellectual Property. There is not pending by any member of the Company Group or any Affiliate thereof, and no such member or Affiliate has made any claim in writing, alleging that a third party has infringed, misappropriated, or violated any Company Intellectual Property. There is not pending any Proceeding, and none of the members of the Company Group have sent or received in writing, any threat of, any opposition proceedings, reexamination proceedings, cancellation proceedings, interference proceedings or similar actions challenging the validity, enforceability or registrability of any Company Intellectual Property. To the Knowledge of the Companies, there are no facts that could form the basis for any Proceedings related to any of the foregoing.
- (c) The Company Group takes and has taken commercially reasonable steps (i) to maintain, enforce and protect all Owned Intellectual Property, including by maintaining the secrecy, confidentiality and value of confidential or proprietary Business Data and (ii) to secure ownership of Intellectual Property authored, conceived, created, reduced to practice, or developed on any of its or their behalf or in connection with the business of the Company Group. Each Person who has participated in the authorship, conception, creation, reduction to practice, or development of any Intellectual Property for or in connection with the business of the Company Group have entered into written Contracts or agreements providing for (i) the confidentiality and non-disclosure by such Person of all Business Data and (ii) the assignment by such employee or Person (by way of a present grant of assignment) to a member of the Company Group all right, title, and interest in and to such Intellectual Property. Each Person with access to Business Data has signed an agreement with reasonable confidentiality and non-disclosure obligations and use restrictions. No member of the Company Group has disclosed or made accessible, or has a duty of obligation (whether present, contingent or otherwise) to disclose or make accessible, any Business Data to any third party other than pursuant to a valid, written and enforceable Contract entered into in the ordinary course of business which requires the relevant Person to keep such confidential information confidential. To the Knowledge of the Companies, no such Person is in violation of any Contract, agreement, obligation, or duty referenced in this Section 3.21(c).
- (d) All Systems (i) are fully functional and operate and run in a reasonable and efficient business manner, and (ii) are sufficient for the current and currently contemplated needs of the business of the Company Group, including as to capacity and ability to meet current peak volumes and anticipated volumes in a timely manner, (iii) conform in all material respects to the specifications and purposes thereof, and there have been no material failures, breakdowns, outages, or unavailability of any of the foregoing since the Lookback Date, and (iv) are free from any Malicious Code. There have been no Security Incidents. The Company Group has taken commercially reasonable steps to safeguard the internal and external integrity and security of the Systems and any data that such Systems Process. The Company Group owns, or has a valid right to access and use, all Systems. The transactions contemplated by this Agreement will not have an adverse effect on the Company Group's ownership of, (or grant of use by a third party for), the Systems, and the Systems shall be owned, or available for use from a third party, by the Company Group on terms and conditions immediately after the Closing identical to those under which such Systems were owned or available for use by the Company Group immediately before the Closing. The Company Group has and maintains reasonable backup and disaster recovery plans and procedures with respect to the Systems and the Data stored or processed thereby in the event of any unplanned interruption in service or unavailability of the Systems, including interruption or unavailability caused by a force majeure event, crisis, or act of God. The Systems remain fully operational at all times during Systems continuity and disaster recovery plan testing, which testing takes place no less frequently than once every 12 months.

- (e) The Company Group maintains commercially reasonable policies and procedures regarding data Processing and takes all commercially reasonable measures to protect and maintain the privacy and security of all Personal Information Processed in connection with the business of the Company Group. Such policies, procedures and measures comply in all material respects with all applicable Data Laws and Requirements. All Personal Information Processed by or on behalf of any member of the Company Group, or otherwise in connection with the business of the Company Group, has been Processed with the consent of each individual to whom it relates as required by all applicable Data Laws and Requirements and has been used only for the purposes for which it was initially collected. The conduct of the business of the Company Group as currently conducted and as conducted since the Lookback Date is and has been in compliance in all material respects with all applicable Data Laws and Requirements. No member of the Company Group has given or been required (under any Law or agreement or Contract) to give notice to any Person of any actual or alleged data security breaches, unlawful Processing of Personal Information, Security Incidents, or noncompliance pursuant to any applicable Data Laws and Requirements. Since the Lookback Date, no member of the Company Group has received written notice of any Proceeding with respect to any applicable Data Laws and Requirements or any Security Incident. The consummation of the transactions contemplated by this Agreement does not and shall not violate or breach any of the applicable Data Laws and Requirements.
- (f) No member of the Company Group has used, or is currently using, including through its use of products or services licensed from or otherwise provided by a third-party vendor, AI Technology (i) as a material component of or in the development, deployment or provision of any of the products or services of the Company Group or (ii) for high-risk purposes, including significant or consequential decisions concerning a Person or profiling of a Person. To the Knowledge of the Companies, there has been no material violation of any policies or procedures of the Company Group governing its use, development, training, or commercialization of AI Technologies. No Company Group member has included, and no Company Group member does include, any Personal Information, Intellectual Property of any third party, or Business Data in any inputs used, directly or indirectly, for purposes of Training any AI Technology.

Section 3.22 Insurance. The Company Group maintains the insurance policies and bonds listed in Section 3.22 of the Company Disclosure Schedule (collectively, the “**Company Insurance Policies**”), which schedule sets forth the coverage period, policy amount, insurance carrier, coverage limits and deductibles of each such Company Insurance Policy. All such Company Insurance Policies are in full force and effect, all premiums due and payable have been paid, and no notice of cancellation or termination has been received with respect to any such Company Insurance Policy. There is no material claim by any member of the Company Group pending under any of such Company Insurance Policies or bonds as to which coverage has been denied or disputed by the underwriters of such Company Insurance Policies. The Company Insurance Policies provide coverage for the Company Group in a manner consistent with customary practice in the industries in which the Company Group operates and sufficient for material compliance with all applicable legal requirements and with all Contracts to which any member of the Company Group is a party, and policies providing substantially similar insurance coverage have been in effect continuously since the Lookback Date.

Section 3.23 Minute Books and Other Records. True, correct, and complete copies of the minutes of all meetings of the members, board of managers or committee or subcommittee thereof of each member of the Company Group (including action taken by written consent or otherwise without a meeting) since the Lookback Date have previously been made available to Buyer.

Section 3.24 Brokers and Finders. Except as set forth in Section 3.24, no broker, finder or similar intermediary has acted for or on behalf of, or is entitled to any broker’s, finder’s or similar fee or other commission from, any member of the Company Group in connection with this Agreement or the Ancillary Agreements or the Transactions.

Section 3.25 Privacy. The Company Group has been and is in compliance with all of privacy notice(s), internal policies and procedures, and any applicable contractual obligations concerning the collection, use, storage, security, disclosure, retention or other processing of Personal Information including non-public personal information, personal data, personal information or similar information under Applicable Law. The foregoing privacy notice(s), policies and procedures and contractual obligations comply with all Applicable Laws concerning Personal Information, including the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act and Regulation S-P (the “**Privacy Laws**”). The Company Group has implemented commercially reasonable technical, physical, and administrative safeguards reasonably designed to protect and have not experienced any loss or theft, or unauthorized access, use or disclosure of Personal Information used in the conduct of the business of the Company Group. With respect to any third parties that process Personal Information used in the conduct of the business of the Company Group, the Company Group (a) conducts reasonable diligence concerning those third-parties; (b) requires by written contract that such third parties agree to maintain reasonable safeguards and comply with the Privacy Laws; and (c) conducts reasonable ongoing diligence to confirm compliance by such third-parties. The Company Group has not received notice of any claims or complaints or been charged with the violation of any Privacy Laws and, to the Knowledge of the Companies, is not currently under investigation with respect to any violation of any Privacy Laws.

Section 3.26 Environmental, Social and Governance Matters.

- (a) No member of the Company Group has made any environmental, social and governance (“ESG”)-related commitments to Clients in any disclosures or reports made available to Clients.
- (b) Except as would not, individually or in the aggregate, reasonably be expected to have a Company Material Adverse Effect, there have not been any ESG-related incidents related to the business of the Company Group or any Seller.

Section 3.27 Accuracy of Statements. No representation or warranty by Sellers in this Agreement, nor any statement contained in a schedule or certification delivered to Buyer by Sellers or Companies pursuant to this Agreement, contains an untrue statement of a material fact or omits to state a material fact necessary to make the statements contained herein or therein, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading.

ARTICLE IV
REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES OF BUYER

Buyer hereby represents and warrants to the Companies and Sellers as follows:

Section 4.1 Organization. Buyer is a legal entity duly organized, validly existing and in good standing under the Laws of Delaware and has all requisite corporate or other legal power and authority to carry on its business and to own, lease and operate all of its material properties and assets, as currently conducted, owned, leased or operated.

Section 4.2 Authority; Validity of Agreements. Buyer has full corporate or other legal power and authority to execute and deliver this Agreement and each Ancillary Agreement to which Buyer is or is specified to be a party, to perform its obligations hereunder and thereunder and to consummate the Transactions. The execution, delivery, and performance by Buyer of each of this Agreement and the Ancillary Agreements has been, and the consummation by Buyer of the Transactions has been, duly and validly authorized and approved by all necessary corporate action of Buyer. This Agreement and any Ancillary Agreement executed and delivered on or prior to the date hereof has been, and upon its execution prior to or at the Closing each of the other Ancillary Agreements will be, duly and validly executed and delivered by Buyer and (assuming due authorization, execution and delivery by the parties hereto and thereto) this and each Ancillary Agreement executed and delivered on or prior to the date hereof constitutes, and upon its execution prior to or at the Closing each other Ancillary Agreement will constitute, a valid and binding obligation of Buyer, to the extent it is specified to be a party thereto, enforceable against each in accordance with its terms, except as (a) the enforceability hereof may be limited by bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium, rehabilitation, liquidation, fraudulent conveyance, preferential treatment or other similar Applicable Laws affecting the enforcement of creditors’ rights and remedies generally and (b) the availability of equitable remedies may be limited by equitable principles of general applicability.

Section 4.3 Consents and Approvals. Other than the Texas Insurance Approval, none of Buyer nor any of its Affiliates is required to obtain the Consent of any Governmental Authority or other third party in connection with the execution and delivery by Buyer of this Agreement and each Ancillary Agreement or the performance of this Agreement and each Ancillary Agreement by Buyer or the consummation of the Transactions.

Section 4.4 No Conflicts. Neither the execution, delivery or performance of this Agreement or the Ancillary Agreements to which it is a party, nor the consummation by Buyer of the Transactions, will: (a) violate, conflict with, or result in a breach or default under any material provision of the Organizational Documents of Buyer; (b) violate any Applicable Law; (c) result in a violation or breach by Buyer of, conflict with or constitute (with or without due notice or lapse of time or both) a default (or give rise to any right of termination, cancellation, redemption, payment or acceleration) under any Contract to which it is a party, or by which it or any of its properties or assets are bound; or (d) result in the creation of any Lien (other than any Permitted Lien) (or have such result upon notice or lapse of time, or both) upon any of the properties or assets of Buyer under any of the terms, conditions or provisions of any Contract, except for, in the case of clauses (b) through (d) of this Section 4.4, any violation, breach, conflict, default or right of termination, cancellation, redemption, payment or acceleration that would not, individually or in the aggregate, reasonably be expected to prevent or materially delay the ability of Buyer to perform its obligations hereunder or thereunder.

Section 4.5 Legal Proceedings. There is no Proceeding pending or, to the knowledge of Buyer, threatened, against Buyer that, individually or in the aggregate, would reasonably be expected to prevent or materially impair or delay the consummation of the Transactions or Buyer's ability to promptly perform its obligations hereunder or under any Ancillary Agreement.

Section 4.6 Financing. Buyer has as of the date hereof, and will have at the Closing, sufficient funds to make the payments required to be made at Closing by the Buyer pursuant to the terms of this Agreement, and all of its and its Representatives' fees and expenses incurred in connection with the Transactions.

Section 4.7 Brokers and Finders. No broker, finder, or similar intermediary has acted for or on behalf of, or is entitled to any broker's, finder's or similar fee or other commission from Buyer or any of its Affiliates in connection with this Agreement or the Ancillary Agreements or the Transactions.

Section 4.8 No Representations. Buyer acknowledges and agrees that it (a) has made its own inquiry and investigation into, and based thereon has formed an independent judgment concerning, the Companies and Seller, (b) has been furnished with or given adequate access to such information about the Companies and Seller, as it has requested, and (c) other than with respect to fraud or any willful and material breach of this Agreement, will not assert any claim against the Sellers or any of their respective agents, consultants or representatives, or hold the Sellers, for any inaccuracies, misstatements or omissions with respect to such information (other than the Sellers with respect to the representations and warranties made in this Agreement or other Ancillary Agreement by the Sellers and its Affiliates). Other than with respect to fraud or any willful and material breach of this Agreement or the representations and warranties made in this Agreement or other Ancillary Agreement by the Sellers and its Affiliates, Buyer acknowledges that the Sellers make no representations or warranties with respect to any financial projection or forecast relating to the Companies and the Sellers.

Section 4.9 Independent Judgment. Buyer has made its own independent judgment of the commercial potential, condition and usefulness of the business and assets and all aspects of the Companies. Buyer has such experience in business and financial affairs in general, and the industry and business in which Companies conduct their operations in particular, to be independently capable of evaluating the risks and merits of the transactions contemplated herein.

Section 4.10 Accuracy of Statements. No representation or warranty by Buyer in this Agreement, nor any statement contained in a schedule or certification delivered to Sellers by Buyer pursuant to this Agreement, contains an untrue statement of a material fact or omits to state a material fact necessary to make the statements contained herein or therein, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading.

ARTICLE V COVENANTS

Section 5.1 Making of Covenants and Agreements. The Sellers agree to cause the members of the Company Group to comply with the covenants and agreements of the Company Group contained in this Agreement.

Section 5.2 Conduct of Business. During the period from the date of this Agreement until the earlier of: (1) the date this Agreement is terminated in accordance with Article VII and (2) the Closing Date, except (w) as expressly permitted by this Agreement or the Ancillary Agreements, (x) as set forth in Section 5.2 of the Seller Disclosure Schedule, or (y) with the prior written consent of Buyer, Sellers shall cause each member of the Company Group to: (A) operate its business and operations in the ordinary course consistent with past practice; (B) use commercially reasonable efforts to keep available the present services of any employees or individual third party service providers; (C) use commercially reasonable efforts to preserve intact its business, Contracts, operations, assets, rights, franchises, goodwill and relations with the Clients and others with whom it conducts business; and (D) without limiting the generality of the foregoing, not directly or indirectly:

- (a) (i) amend its Organizational Documents; (ii) merge with or into or consolidate with, or agree to merge with or into or consolidate with, any other Person; (iii) split, combine, redeem, reclassify, purchase, or otherwise acquire any equity interests or shares of capital stock of, or other equity or voting interest in, such member of the Company Group; or (iv) liquidate or dissolve;
- (b) authorize for issuance, issue, sell, deliver or agree or commit to issue, sell or deliver (i) any equity interests or capital stock of or other equity or voting interest or securities; (ii) any Equity Rights in respect of, security convertible into, exchangeable for, measured by reference to or evidencing the right to subscribe for or acquire any such interests or securities; or (iii) any equity appreciation, phantom equity, profits interest or other profit participation or similar rights;

- (c) make any distribution or declare, pay, or set aside any dividend (other than any distribution or dividend paid solely in cash consistent with past practices), or effect any recapitalization;
- (d) change any financial accounting principle, method, or practice (including any principles, methods or practices relating to the estimation of reserves or other liabilities), other than changes required by GAAP or Applicable Law to be implemented during such period;
- (e) (i) make, amend or revoke any Tax accounting method or Tax election (including tax classification elections), except any election described in clause (viii); (ii) settle or compromise any Tax liability or assessment; (iii) surrender any right to claim a refund of any Tax; (iv) agree to any adjustment of any Tax attribute; (v) enter into any “closing agreement” within the meaning of Section 7121 of the Code (or any comparable agreement under state, local or foreign Applicable Law); (vi) consent to waive or extend any statute of limitations with respect to any Taxes; (vii) incur any material Tax liability outside of the ordinary course of business; or (viii) fail to timely make any election that was available to be made by it under Section 6226 of the Code (or similar provision of state, local or other Tax Law);
- (f) incur any Indebtedness, guarantee the Indebtedness of any other Person, or make any loan or advance to any other Person;
- (g) (i) sell, transfer, license, lease or make any other disposition of any of its material assets or (ii) grant or suffer to exist any Lien (other than Permitted Liens) on any of its material assets;
- (h) sell, assign, license, (other than pursuant to a non-exclusive license of Owned Intellectual Property granted to customers pursuant to the form of customer agreement used by the Company Group in the ordinary course of business), transfer, abandon, let lapse, or otherwise dispose of, or subject to any Lien (other than Permitted Lien), any Owned Intellectual Property;
- (i) disclose any Confidential Information or Business Data (except to the Buyer and its Affiliates, or in the ordinary course of business pursuant to a reasonable and written confidentiality agreement that acknowledges the confidentiality of, and contains reasonable covenants to protect the confidentiality of, such Confidential Information or Business Data);
- (j) make any material change to (i) the operation or security of, or any administrative, technical, or physical safeguards related to, any System or privacy or data security or (ii) any policies or procedures with respect to Personal Information, except as required by applicable Law;

- (k) initiate or settle any Proceeding;
- (l) implement any employee layoffs, reductions in force, furloughs, temporary layoffs, salary or wage reductions, work schedule changes or other such actions;
- (m) other than as required by Applicable Law or as required by the terms of (as in effect on the date hereof) of any existing Plan set forth on Section 3.19(a) of the Company Disclosure Schedule (i) enter into, establish, adopt, modify, amend or terminate any Plan or any other benefit or compensation plan, program, policy, agreement or arrangement that would constitute a Plan if in effect as of the date hereof; (ii) take any action to accelerate the time of payment, vesting or funding of any rights or benefits with respect to any current or former employee, or other individual service provider of the Company Group; (iii) grant any cash or equity, equity-based or phantom equity incentive awards, bonuses, severance or similar compensation or benefits to any current or former employee, or other individual service provider; (iv) increase or decrease the compensation, bonus or other compensation or benefits payable to any current or former employee or other individual service provider or (v) hire or engage (or otherwise enter into any employment or consulting agreement or arrangement with) or terminate (other than for cause), furlough, promote or temporarily lay off any individual.
- (n) waive or release any non-competition, non-solicitation, non-disclosure, non-interference, non-disparagement, or other restrictive covenant obligation of any current or former employee or other individual service provider;
- (o) acquire any material assets, business, or Person other than in the ordinary course of business consistent with past practice;
- (p) make or incur any capital expenditure other than in the ordinary course of business consistent with past practice;
- (q) (i) enter into, amend or modify in any material respect, waive or terminate any Material Contract or any Contract that would be a Material Contract if entered into prior to the date hereof, other than in the ordinary course of business consistent with past practice, or (ii) enter into, amend or modify, or waive any Affiliate Arrangement;
- (r) enter into any new line of business or change its investment and risk management and other material operating policies in any material respect;
- (s) (i) terminate any Investment Advisory Contract, (ii) amend or modify any economic terms of any Investment Advisory Contract, (iii) modify in any material respect any other terms of any Investment Advisory Contract; or (iv) introduce any new investment products; or
- (t) agree to, or make any commitment to, take any of the actions prohibited by this Section 5.2.

Section 5.3 Consents Generally. In furtherance and not in limitation of Section 5.4, each Party shall cooperate with the other and use its reasonable best efforts to take or cause to be taken all actions, and do or cause to be done all things, reasonably necessary, proper or advisable on its part under this Agreement and Applicable Law to consummate the Transactions, including preparing and filing as promptly as reasonably practicable following the date hereof all documentation to effect all necessary notices, reports, petitions and other filings and to obtain as promptly as practicable following the date hereof all Consents from any third party and/or any Governmental Authority, in order to consummate the Transactions; provided, however, that nothing in this Section 5.3 shall require Buyer to propose, negotiate, effect or agree to, the sale, divestiture, license or other disposition of any assets, securities or business of the Company Group, Buyer or any Buyer Affiliate, or otherwise take any action that limits the freedom of action with respect to, or its ability to retain any of the businesses, product lines or assets of the Company Group, Buyer or any Buyer Affiliate; provided, further, that the Sellers shall not, and shall cause each member of the Company Group not to, agree orally or in writing to any amendments to any Contract, to any concessions in any commercial arrangements or to any loss of rights (whether to have effect prior to or after the Closing), in each case, in connection with obtaining any Consents from any private third party or Governmental Authority without obtaining the prior written consent of Buyer. Subject to Applicable Law and any applicable confidentiality restrictions, Buyer and its counsel, on the one hand, and the Sellers and its counsel, on the other hand, shall have the right to review (in advance to the extent reasonably practicable) any filing made with, or written materials submitted to, any Governmental Authority in connection with the Transactions. To the extent not otherwise prohibited by Applicable Law, the Sellers and its counsel, on the one hand, and Buyer and its counsel, on the other hand, shall provide counsel for the other party with copies of all filings made by such party, and all correspondence between such party (and its advisors) with any Governmental Authority and any other information supplied by such party to a Governmental Authority or received from such Governmental Authority in connection with the Transactions.

Section 5.4 Client Consents.

- (a) Each Seller shall, and shall cause each member of the Company Group to, use its reasonable best efforts to obtain, as promptly as reasonably practicable following the date hereof, the consent of each Client to the “assignment” (as defined in the Investment Advisers Act or State Adviser Laws, as applicable) or continuation of its Investment Advisory Contract resulting from the consummation of the Transactions if and to the extent required by the terms of such Investment Advisory Contract, any Contract to which any Seller or any member of the Company Group is a party and/or Applicable Law and in the manner required by the terms of such Investment Advisory Contract and/or Applicable Law (which reasonable best efforts the parties agree shall be deemed to have been satisfied (and consent deemed to have been given for all purposes under this Agreement) with respect to Investment Advisory Contracts only if the following requirements have been satisfied) (each Client where all applicable requirements have been satisfied, a “**Client Consent**”): the affirmative written consent of the applicable Client has been obtained, provided that, in any case, no consent shall be deemed to have been given for any purpose under this Agreement if at any time prior to the Closing such Client notifies the Company or its Affiliates that such Client has not so consented or has terminated, or intends to terminate, its Investment Advisory Contract (and such notice is not withdrawn in writing).

- (b) Buyer shall reasonably cooperate with the Company Group in connection with the obtaining the Client Consents under this Section 5.4. Each Party will take reasonable steps to keep the other apprised in a timely manner of the status of the Client Consents under this Section 5.4, including by notifying the other Party as soon as practicable following receipt of any substantive communication from any Client adversely affecting the Client Consents referred to in this Section 5.4.
- (c) Buyer shall be provided a reasonable opportunity prior to distribution to review and comment on all substantive written consent materials to be distributed to any Client (with such comments to be considered for inclusion in good faith), provided that the distribution of written materials substantially the same as written materials previously reviewed by Buyer shall not require further review by Buyer for any subsequent distribution. At all times prior to Closing, Sellers shall maintain records of discussions with Clients regarding Client Consents and shall take reasonable steps to keep Buyer informed of the status of Client Consents. Sellers shall and shall cause the Company Group to, promptly upon receipt, make available to Buyer copies of (i) all substantive correspondence between the Sellers, the Company Group or their respective Affiliates, on the one hand, and each Client, on the other hand, with respect to Client Consents, and (ii) all executed Client Consents (and make available for Buyer's inspection such Client Consents) and any related materials, such as telephone logs or other records relating to the Client Consent process.
- (d) Prior to Closing, without the prior written consent of the Sellers, none of Buyer or any of their Affiliates or their respective employees, directors, officers or agents shall, directly or indirectly, contact any Client, any investor in a Client or any Affiliate of a Client regarding the transactions contemplated by this Agreement (other than communications unrelated to the Transactions).
- (e) No member of the Company Group shall agree, or enter into an understanding, to cap, reduce, waive, reimburse or otherwise modify the fees payable by (or in respect of) any Client or any account thereof in connection with obtaining the Consent of such Client to the "assignment" of its Investment Advisory Contract without the prior written consent of Buyer.

Section 5.5 Pre-Closing Access; Information.

- (a) Between the date hereof and the Closing Date or the earlier valid termination of this Agreement, to the extent not prohibited by Applicable Law, Sellers shall, and shall cause the members of the Company Group to (i) provide Buyer and its respective Representatives with reasonable access during normal business hours to, and permit them to review, the premises, Contracts, policies, financial information and accounts, Client materials and presentations and other information of the Company Group, to the extent reasonably requested by Buyer and (ii) cooperate with Buyer and its respective Representatives in connection with the foregoing (including by meeting with them as Buyer may reasonably request); provided that any such access shall occur only during normal business hours upon reasonable advance notice by Buyer to the Sellers, under the supervision of one of the Companies' personnel and shall be conducted in a manner that does not unreasonably interfere with the operations of the Company Group or the Business. No member of the Company Group shall be required to provide access to or to disclose information where such access or disclosure would reasonably be expected to jeopardize the attorney-client privilege of any member of the Company Group or its Affiliates or contravene any Applicable Law. All information provided or accessed under this Section 5.5 shall be subject to the terms of Section 5.7.
- (b) Between the date hereof and the Closing Date or the earlier valid termination of this Agreement, Sellers shall provide (or cause to be provided) to Buyer as promptly as practicable after the same are available to the applicable member of the Company Group, copies of any regularly prepared monthly and quarterly financial information of each member of the Company Group, including an unaudited balance sheet as of the applicable month end or quarter end, and related unaudited statement of income and unaudited statement of cash flows for the one month or quarter and year to date periods then ended.

Section 5.6 Notification of Certain Matters.

- (a) Until the Closing or earlier valid termination of this Agreement, each Party shall promptly notify or disclose to the other Parties in writing of the occurrence of any event, development, fact or circumstance of which it has knowledge or of which it receives a written notice or other written communication from a third party (including any Governmental Authority), arising before or after the date of this Agreement, that would, individually or in connection with other events, reasonably be expected to result in any of the conditions set forth in Article VI of this Agreement becoming incapable of being satisfied; provided that such notification or disclosure shall not (x) cure any breach of the disclosing Party's representations and warranties set forth in Article II, Article III or Article IV, as applicable, or failure of the disclosing Party to comply with or perform any of its covenants or obligations set forth in this Agreement or (y) be deemed to be an acknowledgement or admission by the disclosing Party regarding whether or not any of the conditions to the Closing have been satisfied or in determining whether or not any of the representations, warranties or covenants contained in this Agreement have been breached.

- (b) During the period from the date of this Agreement until the Closing or the earlier valid termination of this Agreement, Sellers shall make available to Buyer, promptly after the same become available, (i) true and complete copies of all inspection reports provided to any member of the Company Group by any Governmental Authority and (ii) true and complete copies of all correspondence and other documents relating to any inquiry or investigation provided to any member of the Company Group by any Governmental Authority, in each case, other than privileged communications to counsel. Notwithstanding the obligations contained in this Section 5.6, no Person shall be required to provide any information where such access or disclosure would reasonably be expected to jeopardize the attorney-client privilege of such Person or its Affiliates or contravene any Applicable Law. All information provided or accessed under this Section 5.6 shall be subject to the terms of the Confidentiality Agreement.

Section 5.7 Confidentiality and Announcements.

- (a) From and after the Closing, each Seller shall, and shall cause its Affiliates to, keep confidential all information relating to any member of the Company Group, the Clients and the Business, other than information that is known to the public (other than as a result of a breach of this Section 5.7(a)), including all Confidential Information, except (i) with the prior written consent of Buyer, (ii) to professional advisors who are bound by a duty of confidentiality to, or are subject to a confidentiality agreement with, the disclosing Person in order to obtain reasonably necessary accounting, legal, financial or tax advice, and (iii) as required by Applicable Law or administrative process (in the case of any suit or action seeking court ordered disclosure, the disclosing Person shall provide Buyer as much advance written notice as practicable and permitted by Applicable Law of such required disclosure so that Buyer may contest, at their sole expense, such disclosure).
- (b) The Parties agree (i) to be bound by and comply with the provisions set forth in the Confidentiality Agreement, which provisions are hereby incorporated herein by reference, and (ii) that, upon the Closing, the Confidentiality Agreement shall automatically and fully terminate without any further action by, or any further liability or obligation on the part of, any Person.

- (c) The Sellers (on behalf of all parties other than Buyer) and Buyer shall consult with each other as to the form, substance and timing of any press release or other public disclosure related to this Agreement or the Transactions, and no such press release or other public disclosure shall be made by any Party without the consent of the Sellers and Buyer, except as may be required by Applicable Law or regulation or by obligations pursuant to any listing agreement with any national securities exchange (in which case such Party shall consult, to the extent practicable under the circumstances, deliver a draft of such press release to the other and give the other party reasonable opportunity to review such disclosure); provided that nothing herein shall be deemed to prohibit Buyer or any of its respective Affiliates from, or require the consent of any other Person in connection with Buyer or any of its respective Affiliates, discussing the transactions contemplated hereby in connection with non-public communications to actual or potential investors so long as such investors are bound by appropriate confidentiality requirements with respect to such information.

Section 5.8 Expenses. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this Agreement, (a) Buyer, on one hand, and the Sellers, on the other hand, shall each bear their own direct and indirect Transaction Expenses and (b) Sellers shall bear the direct and indirect Transaction Expenses of the Company Group, including with respect to the procurement or attempted procurement of Client Consents pursuant to Section 5.4.

Section 5.9 Further Assurances. Each Party agrees to, and to cause its Affiliates to, execute such documents and other papers and use its reasonable best efforts to perform or cause to be performed such further customary acts as may be reasonably required to carry out the provisions contained in this Agreement and the Ancillary Agreements or otherwise to effectuate or evidence the Transactions. Following the Closing, upon the reasonable request of any Party or Parties, the other Parties, as the case may be, agree to, and to cause their respective Affiliates to, promptly execute and deliver such further instruments of assignment, transfer, conveyance, endorsement, direction or authorization and other documents as may be requested to effectuate the purposes of this Agreement, the Ancillary Agreements and the Transactions.

Section 5.10 Tax Matters.

- (a) The Parties agree to allocate the Final Closing Cash Consideration (and any other amounts that are treated as additional consideration for Tax purposes) ten percent (10%) to the AAN Purchased Interests and ninety percent (90%) to the Affinity Purchased Interests. The portion of any amounts treated as consideration hereunder for tax purposes (including any liabilities of each Company that are deemed assumed by Buyer for U.S. federal income tax purposes) to be allocated to those assets of each Company specified on Section 5.10(a), shall be set forth therein.

- (b) Sellers shall be liable for any and all Transfer Taxes. The Party legally responsible for filing any Tax Return relating to Transfer Taxes shall properly complete, sign, and timely file any and all such Tax Returns with respect to such taxes (the “**Transfer Tax Returns**”) and if required by Applicable Law, the other parties shall join in the execution of any such Transfer Tax Returns. The Parties shall reasonably cooperate with each other to reduce or eliminate any such Transfer Taxes.
- (c) Buyer and Sellers shall provide the other with such assistance as may reasonably be requested by the other party in connection with the preparation of any Tax Return, any audit or other examination by any taxing authority, or any judicial or administrative proceedings relating to liability for Taxes with respect to the members of the Company Group. Any information obtained pursuant to this Section 5.10(c) providing for the sharing of information or review of any Tax Return or other schedule relating to Taxes shall be kept confidential by the Parties, except as otherwise required by Applicable Law.
- (d) For purposes of determining the amount of Taxes for any Straddle Period under this Agreement, (i) any Tax based upon or related to income, receipts or payroll (including withholding) shall be determined by assuming that the applicable member of the Company Group had a taxable year or period that ended on the Closing Date using the closing of the books method of accounting (and for such purpose, the taxable period of any partnership or other pass-through entity in which the member of the Company Group holds a beneficial interest shall be deemed to terminate at such time) and (ii) any other Tax shall be deemed to be the amount of such Tax for the entire period multiplied by a fraction, the numerator of which is the number of days in the portion of the Straddle Period ending on the Closing Date and the denominator of which is the number of days in the entire Straddle Period.
- (e) The Sellers shall, at the sole cost and expense of the Sellers, prepare or cause to be prepared and timely file or cause to be timely filed all Pass-Through Income Tax Returns of any member of the Company Group for any Pre-Closing Tax Period that are due (taking into account any valid extensions of time to file) after the Closing Date (the “**Seller Prepared Returns**”). Each Seller Prepared Returns shall be prepared in a manner consistent with the past practices of the Company Group, except as otherwise required by Applicable Law or changes in facts. At least 30 days prior to the due date of any Seller Prepared Return (taking into account any valid extensions of time to file), the Sellers shall submit a draft of such Tax Return to Buyer for Buyer’s review, comment, and approval (such approval not to be unreasonably withheld, conditioned, or delayed). The Sellers shall cause each applicable member of the Company Group to incorporate any reasonable comments made by Buyer in the Seller Prepared Return actually filed. To the extent any Seller Prepared Returns are legally required to be filed by any member of the Company Group or Buyer, the Buyer shall, or shall cause, such Seller Prepared Returns to be filed in accordance with this Section 5.10(e).

- (f) If requested by Buyer, with respect to any Tax audit, dispute or other Tax proceeding with respect to any member of the Company Group for any Tax period ending on or prior to the Closing Date that is governed by the Partnership Tax Audit Rules, the applicable member of the Company Group shall, and shall cause its partnership representative or designated individual to, make an election pursuant to Section 6226 of the Code (and any similar provision of state or local Law) so that the partners or owners of such Company Group member (rather than the applicable Company Group member itself) are liable for any Taxes that result from such Tax audit, dispute or other proceeding. With respect to any Tax audit, dispute or other Tax proceeding related to a Pass-Through Income Tax Return, in each case, of a member of the Company Group for a Pre-Closing Tax Period for which the Sellers are reasonably expected to be fully liable for any Taxes resulting from such audit, dispute or proceeding under Applicable Law or this Agreement (for the avoidance of doubt, taking into account any applicable limitation herein), the Sellers may control, the conduct of such Tax audit, dispute or other Tax proceeding; provided that (i) the Sellers shall keep Buyer fully informed of any material developments and provide copies of all material correspondence with the applicable Governmental Authority and (ii) such Tax audit, dispute or other proceeding shall not be settled without the prior written consent of Buyer (which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed). Buyer shall control all other Tax audits, disputes and proceedings related to the Company Group. To the extent of any inconsistency between this Section 5.10(f) and Section 8.3, the provisions of this Section 5.10(f) shall control.

Section 5.11 Affiliate Arrangements. Except as set forth in Section 5.11 of the Seller Disclosure Schedule, all Affiliate Arrangements shall be automatically terminated, effective upon the Closing, without any further right, obligation or liability of any Person thereunder.

Section 5.12 Noncompetition; Non-Solicitation of Investors and Non-Disparagement.

- (a) For the benefit of Buyer and the Company Group, during the Restriction Period, each Seller covenants and agrees (severally and jointly with any other Seller), that such Seller shall not, and each Seller will cause its Controlled Affiliates not to, directly or indirectly, engage in (on his or its own behalf or on behalf of any other Person), have an equity interest or other economic interest in, manage, be employed by or otherwise provide services to (whether as partner, member, director, consultant, lender or otherwise) any Person (or division or unit thereof) engaged in any Competing Business (other than, in the case of Hall, on behalf of Buyer and its Affiliates during the terms of Hall's employment or consulting (as applicable) relationship with Buyer and its Affiliates). Notwithstanding the foregoing, each Seller and any Controlled Affiliates thereof shall be permitted to make passive investments in up to five percent (5%) of the shares of any publicly traded company and permitted to the activities as set forth in Section 5.12(f).

- (b) For the benefit of Buyer and the Company Group, each Seller agrees (severally and jointly with any other Seller) that such Seller shall not, and shall cause its Controlled Affiliates to not, directly or indirectly, during the Restriction Period (and without prejudice to the covenants and agreements set forth in Section 5.12(a) and Section 5.12(c)) engage in any of the following activities on such Seller's own behalf or on behalf of any other Person (other than, in the case of a Hall, on behalf of Buyer and its Affiliates during the terms of Hall's employment or consulting (as applicable) relationship with Buyer and its Affiliates): (i) soliciting, recruiting or hiring (or attempting to solicit, recruit or hire) any Covered Employee; or (ii) working together in any business or enterprise involving a Competing Business with any Covered Employee.
- (c) For the benefit of Buyer and the Company Group, each Seller agrees that such Seller shall not, and will cause its Controlled Affiliates not to, directly or indirectly, during the Restriction Period (and without prejudice to the covenants and agreements set forth in Section 5.12(a) and Section 5.12(b)) engage in any of the following activities on his or its own behalf or on behalf of any other Person (other than, in the case of Hall, on behalf of Buyer and its Affiliates during the terms of Hall's employment or consulting (as applicable) relationship with Buyer and its Affiliates): (i) soliciting or inducing any Person that is a Present Client, Potential Client or Past Client for the purpose of (1) causing any funds or accounts with respect to which any member of the Company Group engaged in a Competing Business provides Investment Management Services to be withdrawn from such services, or (2) causing any such Person not to engage the Company Group to provide Investment Management Services for any additional funds or accounts (or otherwise attempt to cause any of the foregoing to occur); (ii) investing in any fund or other investment product that is a Competing Business (excluding passive investments in up to five percent (5%) of the shares of any publicly traded company); or (iii) performing any Investment Management Services with respect to a Competing Business for any Person that is a Present Client, Potential Client or Past Client.
- (d) For the benefit of Buyer and the Company Group, each Seller agrees that such Seller shall not, and will cause its Controlled Affiliates not to, directly or indirectly, during the Restriction Period (and without prejudice to the covenants and agreements set forth in Section 5.12(a) and Section 5.12(b)) publish, or communicate to any Person any statement or comment, whether oral or written, that would reasonably be expected to disparage, defame, or otherwise harm the reputation or goodwill of Buyer, the Company Group, or any of their respective Affiliates, or any of their respective current or former officers, directors, employees, partners, members, managers, agents or representatives, in each case in connection with the Business or the transactions contemplated hereby; provided, that the foregoing shall not restrict truthful statements required by Applicable Law or made in connection with the enforcement of this Agreement or any Ancillary Agreement.

- (e) Each Seller agrees that the non-competition and other restrictive covenants set forth in this Section 5.12 have been entered into by such Seller in connection with the direct or indirect payment to such Seller of such Seller's applicable portion of the consideration contemplated in this Agreement and such Seller agrees that the non-competition and other restrictive covenants set forth in this Section 5.12 have been entered into by such Seller in connection with the Transactions and such Seller and/or its Affiliates will receive substantial economic benefits therefrom and that the scope of activity, periods of time and the geographic area applicable to the covenants set forth in this Section 5.12 are reasonable. However, if any such scope of activity, period or such area should be adjudged unreasonable in any judicial or arbitral proceeding, then the scope of activity shall be narrowed, the period of time shall be reduced by such number of months or such area shall be reduced by elimination of such portion of such area, or all three or any of the foregoing, to the extent deemed unreasonable, so that such covenants may be enforced in such maximum area, for such maximum scope of activity, and during such maximum period of time as are adjudged to be reasonable.
- (f) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Agreement, Hall may continue to engage in business and act as an independent sales agent with (i) National Care Planning Council, (ii) Skidz Tire and Race Shop, (iii) Hall & Associates LLC and (iv) Heart of Wellness (each, an entity owned, directly or indirectly, by Hall) (the "**Permitted Activities**"); provided that such Permitted Activities are in compliance in all respects with the provisions of Section 5.7 and this Section 5.12 and pursuant to the terms of the final proviso of Section 12 of the Key Person Employment Agreement.

Section 5.13 Tail Policy; D&O Indemnification.

- (a) Prior to the Closing, the Company Group shall purchase and bind, and fully fund the cost of, a non-cancellable pre-paid directors' and officers' liability, errors and omissions, fiduciary, and professional liability and employment practices insurance policy that provides coverage for the present and former directors, managers, officers and similar functionaries of the Company Group, as applicable (each, a "**Covered Party**") (the cost of which shall be borne by the Companies), which shall provide coverage for six (6) years following the Closing of not less than the existing coverage under, and have other terms no less favorable on the whole to, the Covered Parties than the coverage presently maintained by the Company Group (such policy, the "**Tail Policy**").

- (b) Each Covered Party to whom this Section 5.13 applies shall be third party beneficiaries of this Section 5.13. The provisions of this Section 5.13 are intended to be for the benefit of each Covered Party and their respective heirs. The obligations under this Section 5.13 shall not be terminated or modified in such a manner as to adversely affect any such Covered Party without his or her written consent.

Section 5.14 Exclusivity. The Sellers shall not, shall cause their respective Affiliates (including the members of the Company Group) to not, and shall direct their respective stockholders, partners, board members, management, professional advisors, directors, officers, employees, investment bankers and other representatives not to, (a) solicit, initiate, seek or knowingly encourage the initiation of any Acquisition Proposal, (b) participate in any discussions or negotiations with any third party regarding, or furnish to any third party any information in connection with, any Acquisition Proposal or (c) enter into any agreement, letter of intent, memorandum of understanding or term sheet with respect to, or consummate, an Acquisition Proposal, or, in the case of each of clauses (a) through (c) above, authorize or permit the same.

Section 5.15 Release of Guaranties. Following the Closing, Buyer and Hall shall cooperate and use commercially reasonable efforts to effectuate the release and replacement of the personal guaranties of Hall (or have him replaced by the applicable Company, if he is a party in his individual capacity) in respect of the contracts with vendors or supplies of the Companies set forth on Schedule 5.15 of the Company Disclosure Schedule, and Buyer shall cause the Companies to make, and shall indemnify Hall for any payments made by him that the Companies failed to make, in respect of obligations thereunder that are appropriately the obligation of the Companies rather than Hall.

Section 5.16 Preservation of Books and Records; Post-Closing Access. From and after the Closing Date, Buyer agrees that it shall preserve and keep the books and records relating to the Companies (a) for a period of three (3) years from the Closing Date and shall make the books and records and employees available to each other, as the case may be, as may be reasonably required in connection with any third-party legal proceedings against or governmental investigations of the Sellers or Companies or government reporting obligation of the parties hereunder or for any other reasonable business purpose arising from or relating to the Seller or Companies, during the regular business hours and upon the prior written request thereto by the other party, as the case may be. In the event that Buyer wishes to destroy any such books or records at any time after three (3) years from the Closing, Buyer shall first give ninety (90) days prior written notice to the Sellers and the Sellers shall have the right at their sole option and expense, upon prior written notice given to Buyer within said ninety (90) day period, to take possession of said records within said ninety (90) day period.

Section 5.17 Certain Outstanding Obligations. With respect to certain outstanding obligations, the parties have made the agreements and covenants set forth in Section 5.17 of the Seller Disclosure Schedule, which is hereby incorporated into this Agreement.

Section 5.18 IRS Resolution. The parties acknowledge correspondence between the Companies and the Internal Revenue Service (“IRS”) with respect to certain payroll tax and related matters, copies of all of which have been provided in the virtual data room to Buyer, regarding funds owed as a refund from the IRS to the Companies and funds owed by the Companies to the IRS. The parties acknowledge this matter with the IRS will be resolved after the Closing and any net amount owed to the IRS will be promptly paid by Hall to the IRS, and any net amount received from the IRS by the Companies will be promptly paid to Hall.

Section 5.19 Financial Statements. Prior to and following the Closing, Sellers will use their commercially reasonable efforts to cooperate with and to assist Buyer and its Affiliates (and their advisors) in preparing financial statements with respect to the Companies necessary under Rule 3-05 of Regulation S-X and related requirements.

Section 5.20 Delaware Entity. Prior to Closing, Sellers shall use their commercially reasonable efforts to dissolve the Delaware Entity.

ARTICLE VI CONDITIONS TO CLOSING

Section 6.1 Mutual Conditions. The obligations of each Party to effect the Closing shall be subject to the satisfaction at or before the Closing of the following conditions, any of which may be waived in writing by the Sellers and Buyer, acting jointly:

- (a) No order, injunction, judgment, or decree issued by any court of competent jurisdiction or other Governmental Authority preventing the consummation of the Transactions shall be in effect. No Applicable Law shall have been enacted, entered, promulgated, or enforced by any court or Governmental Authority that prohibits or makes illegal the consummation of the Transactions.

Section 6.2 Conditions to Buyer’s Obligations. The obligations of Buyer to effect the Closing shall be subject to the satisfaction at or before the Closing of the following conditions, any of which may be waived in writing by Buyer:

- (a) Truth of Representations and Warranties.
 - (i) (A) Each of the Seller Fundamental Representations set forth in Article II shall be true and correct in all respects as of the date hereof and as of Closing as though made on and as of the date hereof and as of Closing, except for any such representation or warranty made as of a specific date, which shall remain true and correct as of such specific date, and (B) each of the other representations and warranties set forth in Article II shall be true and correct in all respects (determined without regard to any qualifications or limitations as to materiality or words of similar import other than defined terms that have “material” in their name), except for the failure to be so true and correct that, individually or in the aggregate, does not have and would not be reasonably expected to have a material adverse effect on the ability of the Sellers to consummate the Transactions or to comply with their obligations hereunder in a timely manner, in each case as of the date hereof and as of Closing with the same effect as though each such representation and warranty had been made at and as of the date hereof and as of Closing, except for any representation or warranty made as of a specific date, which shall remain true and correct as of such specific date.

- (ii) (A) Each of the Seller Fundamental Representations set forth in Article III shall be true and correct in all respects as of the date hereof and as of Closing as though made on and as of the date hereof and as of Closing, except for any representation or warranty made as of a specific date, which shall remain true and correct as of such specific date, (B) each of the representations and warranties in, Section 3.8(b) shall be true and correct in all respects, and (C) each of the other representations and warranties set forth in Article III shall be true and correct in all respects (determined without regard to any qualifications or limitations as to materiality, Company Material Adverse Effect or words of similar import other than defined terms that have “material” in their name), except for the failure to be so true and correct that, individually or in the aggregate, does not have and would not be reasonably expected to have a Company Material Adverse Effect, in each case as of the date hereof and as of Closing with the same effect as though each such representation and warranty had been made at and as of the date hereof and as of Closing, except for any representation or warranty made as of a specific date, which shall remain true and correct as of such specific date.
- (b) Performance of Agreements.
 - (i) Each Seller shall have performed and complied in all material respects with each agreement and covenant required by this Agreement and the Ancillary Agreements to be performed or complied with by such Seller at or prior to the Closing; and
 - (ii) Each Company shall have performed and complied in all material respects with each agreement and covenant required by this Agreement and the Ancillary Agreements to be performed or complied with by it at or prior to the Closing.

- (c) Consents. (i) Consent of each Client in accordance with Section 5.4 shall have been obtained and shall be in full force and effect and (ii) the Texas Insurance Approval shall have been obtained.
- (d) Company Material Adverse Effect. Since the date of this Agreement, there shall have been no Company Material Adverse Effect.
- (e) Ancillary Agreements. Each Ancillary Agreement executed and delivered prior to the Closing to be delivered pursuant to Section 1.3(b) shall be in full force and effect and not have been breached or repudiated by any Party thereto (other than Buyer).
- (f) Key Person Employment Agreements. As of the Closing, each of the Key Person Employment Agreements shall be in full force and effect without repudiation, termination (including purported or threatened termination) or, except as previously approved in writing by Buyer, modification or amendment, and shall not have been breached by the individual party thereto, and the individual party thereto shall be ready and able to commence his or her full-time employment with any Buyer or one of its Affiliates immediately following the Closing.
- (g) Closing Deliverables. Buyer shall have received the certificates, documents, and other items to be delivered to it pursuant to Section 1.3(b).

Section 6.3 Conditions to the Sellers' Obligations. The obligations of Sellers to effect the Closing shall be subject to the satisfaction at or before the Closing of the following conditions, any of which may be waived in writing by the Sellers:

- (a) Truth of Representations and Warranties. (i) Each of the Buyer Fundamental Representations shall be true and correct in all respects as of the date hereof and as of Closing as though made on and as of the date hereof and as of Closing and (ii) each of the other representations and warranties of Buyer set forth in Article IV shall be true and correct in all respects (determined without regard to any qualifications or limitations as to materiality or words of similar import), except for the failure to be so true and correct that, individually and in the aggregate, has not had and would not be reasonably expected to have a material adverse effect on the ability of Buyer to consummate the Transactions or to comply with its obligations hereunder in a timely manner, in each case as of the date hereof and as of Closing with the same effect as though each such representation and warranty had been made at and as of the date hereof and as of Closing, except for any representation or warranty made as of a specific date, which shall remain true and correct as of such specific date.
- (b) Performance of Agreements. Buyer shall have performed and complied in all material respects with each agreement and covenant required by this Agreement and the Ancillary Agreements to be performed or complied with by Buyer at or prior to the Closing Date.

- (c) Ancillary Agreements. Each Ancillary Agreement executed and delivered prior to the Closing shall be in full force and effect and not have been breached or repudiated by Buyer.
- (d) Closing Deliverables. Sellers shall have received the certificates, documents, and other items to be delivered to them pursuant to Section 1.3(a).

Section 6.4 Frustration of Closing Conditions. Neither Buyer, on the one hand, nor Sellers, on the other hand, may rely on the failure of any condition set forth in this Article VI to be satisfied if such failure was primarily caused by the failure of such party to act in good faith or to use its reasonable best efforts to cause the Closing to occur.

Section 6.5 Waiver of Closing Conditions. Upon the occurrence of the Closing, any condition set forth in this Article VI that was not satisfied as of the Closing shall be deemed to have been waived as of and from the Closing.

ARTICLE VII TERMINATION

Section 7.1 Termination.

- (a) This Agreement may be terminated prior to the Closing as follows:
 - (i) by mutual written consent of the Sellers and Buyer;
 - (ii) by the Sellers or Buyer, if any Applicable Law is in effect making the consummation of the Transactions illegal or any final, non-appealable order is in effect permanently preventing the consummation of the transactions contemplated by this Agreement any order, injunction, judgment, or decree of any Governmental Authority permanently restraining, enjoining, or otherwise prohibiting the consummation of the Transactions shall have become final and non-appealable;
 - (iii) by the Sellers, if there shall be a material breach by Buyer of any representation or warranty or any covenant or agreement contained in this Agreement which would result in a failure of a condition set forth in Section 6.1 or Section 6.3 and which breach cannot be cured or has not been cured (to the extent necessary to avoid a failure of such a condition) within thirty (30) Business Days after Buyer's receipt of notice thereof from the Sellers;

- (iv) by Buyer, if there shall be a material breach by any of the Sellers of any representation or warranty or any covenant or agreement contained in this Agreement which would result in a failure of a condition set forth in Section 6.1 or Section 6.2 and which breach cannot be cured or has not been cured (to the extent necessary to avoid a failure of such a condition) within thirty (30) Business Days after receipt by the Sellers of written notice thereof from Buyer; or
 - (v) by the Sellers or Buyer if the Closing does not occur by the date that is 120 days following the date hereof (the “**Termination Date**”); provided that notwithstanding the foregoing, no Party may terminate this Agreement pursuant to this Section 7.1(a)(v) if such party is in material breach of any of its obligations or representations, warranties, covenants or agreements contained in this Agreement and such breach is a principal reason the Closing has not occurred by such date.
- (b) The termination of this Agreement shall be effectuated by the delivery by Buyer or the Sellers, as applicable, to the other party of a written notice of such termination. If this Agreement so terminates, it shall become null and void and have no further force or effect, except as provided in Section 7.2.

Section 7.2 Survival after Termination. If this Agreement is terminated in accordance with Section 7.1 hereof and the Transactions are not consummated, this Agreement shall become void and of no further force and effect, without any liability on the part of any Party, except for the provisions of Section 5.7(c), Section 5.8, this Section 7.2, Article IX, and except that the Confidentiality Agreement shall remain in effect in accordance with its terms. Notwithstanding the foregoing, nothing in this Section 7.2 shall relieve any Party of liability for any fraud or its willful and material breach of this Agreement. For purposes of this Agreement, “willful and material breach” means a material breach of any material representation, warranty or covenant or other agreement set forth in this Agreement that is a consequence of an act or failure to act by or on behalf of the breaching party with knowledge (which shall be deemed to include knowledge of facts that a Person acting reasonably should have) that the taking of such act or failure to take such act would, or would reasonably be expected to, result in a breach of this Agreement.

ARTICLE VIII
SURVIVAL; INDEMNIFICATION

Section 8.1 Survival of Representations and Warranties.

- (a) All representations and warranties of the Parties contained in this Agreement shall expire twelve (12) months following the Closing, other than the Seller Fundamental Representations and the Buyer Fundamental Representations, which shall survive sixty (60) days following the expiration of the applicable statute of limitations. No claims may be brought with respect to any representation or warranty following the foregoing expiration dates (including, for the avoidance of doubt, claims for breach of contract, warranty, tort, negligence or any other cause of action, whether predicated on common law, statute, strict liability, or otherwise, other than in the case of fraud). All covenants and agreements set forth in this Agreement shall survive for the time periods specified therein or, if not specified therein, then for the longest statute of limitations permitted by applicable Law in respect of such covenants and agreements; provided, that any representation, warranty, covenant or agreement in respect of which indemnity may be sought under Section 8.2, and the indemnity with respect thereto, shall survive the time at which it would otherwise terminate pursuant to this Section 8.1 if, prior to such time, notice of the nonfulfillment, violation, inaccuracy or breach or potential nonfulfillment, violation, inaccuracy or breach thereof giving rise to such right or potential right of indemnity shall have been given in accordance with Section 8.3 and Section 9.6 to the party(ies) against whom such indemnity may be sought. No claim for indemnification may be asserted following the expiration of the applicable survival period for the representation, warranty, covenant or agreement that is the basis for such claim; provided, however, that if, at any time prior to the expiration of the applicable survival period, a Buyer Indemnified Party or Seller Indemnified Party, as applicable, delivers a written notice of a claim, then the claim asserted in such notice shall survive the applicable expiration date until such claim is fully and finally resolved. It is the intention of the parties that the statute of limitations be modified as described above.
- (b) If written notice of a claim has been given in the manner required by this Article VIII prior to the expiration of the applicable representations and warranties by the party seeking indemnification for such claim, then the relevant representations and warranties of the other Party shall survive solely as to such claim until such claim has been finally resolved pursuant to this Article VIII. All covenants and other agreements the performance of which is specified to occur on or prior to the Closing shall survive the Closing until the date that is eighteen (18) months following the Closing Date, and all covenants and other agreements that by their terms are to be performed after the Closing Date, shall survive the Closing in accordance with their terms. Solely for purposes of this Article VIII (and, for the avoidance of doubt, Section 6.2(a) and Section 6.3(a) (as applicable)), the representations and warranties contained in Article II, Article III and Article IV are made as of the date of this Agreement and as of the Closing Date (unless expressly made as of an earlier date, in which case they are made as of such date) so that any indemnitee may recover Losses for any failure of any representation or warranty to be true and correct at either such date.

Section 8.2 Indemnification.

- (a) Buyer Indemnified Parties. Sellers shall jointly and severally indemnify and defend the Buyer and its Affiliates (including following the Closing, the Company Group) and their respective managers, officers, directors, employees, agents, successors and assigns (collectively, the “**Buyer Indemnified Parties**”) against, and shall hold them harmless from, any and all Losses attributable to, resulting from or arising out of:
- (i) any breach of, or inaccuracy in, any of the representations and warranties of Sellers or the Companies contained in Article II or Article III of this Agreement;
 - (ii) the breach of any covenant, undertaking, agreement or other obligation of the Sellers or the Companies contained in this Agreement;
 - (iii) any Taxes of the Sellers for any periods and of the Company Group with respect to Pre-Closing Tax Periods; or
 - (iv) to the extent not paid or accounted for pursuant to the terms of this Agreement, any Transaction Expenses or Indebtedness as of the Closing Date.
- (b) Seller Indemnified Parties. Buyer shall indemnify and defend the Sellers and their respective managers, officers, directors, employees, agents, successors and assigns (collectively, the “**Seller Indemnified Parties**” and, together with the Buyer Indemnified Parties, the “**Indemnified Parties**” and each an “**Indemnified Party**”) against, and shall hold them harmless from, any and all Losses attributable to, resulting from or arising out of:
- (i) any breach of, or inaccuracy in, any of the representations and warranties of Buyer contained in Article IV of this Agreement; or
 - (ii) the breach of any covenant, undertaking, agreement or other obligation of Buyer contained in this Agreement.
- (c) Limitations on Indemnification. Except in the event of fraud, the maximum amount of indemnifiable Losses that may be recovered from Sellers or Buyer (as applicable the “**Indemnifying Party**”) pursuant to Section 8.2(a)(i), Section 8.2(a)(ii), Section 8.2(a)(iii) or Section 8.2(a)(iv) shall be the Total Consideration.
- (d) Additional Limitations.
- (i) The amount of any Losses suffered, sustained or incurred by any Indemnified Party shall be reduced by the amount such Indemnified Party actually recovers (after deducting all reasonable attorneys’ fees, expenses and other costs of recovery (including any deductible amount and any resultant increase in insurance premiums of the Indemnified Party)) from any insurer (excluding self-insurance or captive insurance) or other Person then liable for such Losses.

- (ii) If any Indemnified Party receives any amounts under insurance coverage (excluding self-insurance or captive insurance) or from any Person with respect to Losses sustained at any time subsequent to any payment for those Losses to such Indemnified Party pursuant to this Article VIII, then such Indemnified Party shall promptly reimburse the applicable Indemnifying Party (to an account designated by such Indemnifying Party) for any payment made up to such amount (subject to the limitations set forth in subsection (i) above).
- (iii) The Sellers will not have any obligation to indemnify and hold harmless the Buyer Indemnified Parties pursuant to Section 8.2(a)(i) in respect of Losses arising from the breach of, or inaccuracy in, any representation or warranty described therein that is not a Seller Fundamental Representation unless and until the aggregate amount of all such Losses exceeds One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) (the “**Deductible**”) (at which point the Sellers will indemnify the Buyer Indemnified Parties for the amount of all such Losses in excess of the Deductible).
- (e) Manner of Payment. Except as otherwise provided herein, any indemnification of the Buyer Indemnified Parties or Seller Indemnified Parties pursuant to this Section 8.2 shall be effected by Wire Transfer from the applicable Seller(s) or Buyer, as the case may be, to the account(s) designated by the applicable Buyer Indemnified Party or Seller Indemnified Party, as the case may be, within five (5) days after the determination thereof; provided, that the Buyer Indemnified Parties shall be entitled to (but shall not be required to) set-off any amounts due or payable to any of the Buyer Indemnified Parties by any Sellers hereunder, against any amounts otherwise payable by any of the Buyer Indemnified Parties to such Sellers including without limitation, amounts payable pursuant to Section 1.4 or Section 1.5. No exercise by Buyer of such right of set-off shall constitute a default in the payment of any amount against which such set-off is made. All indemnification payments under this Section 8.2 shall be deemed adjustments to the Total Consideration, for all Tax purposes, unless otherwise required by Law. Without limiting the foregoing, the Parties agree that any amounts payable by a Seller to a Buyer Indemnified Party hereunder pursuant to (x) a final, non-appealable judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction that is not paid by such Seller within ten (10) Business Days of such final, non-appealable judgment or (y) the mutual agreement of such Buyer Indemnified Party and such Seller may, at the discretion of such Buyer Indemnified Party, be satisfied by reducing any Earnout Payments, as applicable, that would otherwise be issued to such Seller pursuant to Section 1.5.

- (f) Disregard for Qualifications as to Materiality. Notwithstanding anything in this Agreement to the contrary, for purposes of determining whether any representation or warranty (other than the representations and warranties set forth in Section 3.8(b)) has been breached and the amount of Losses arising therefrom, each representation and warranty in this Agreement and the schedules and exhibits hereto shall be read without regard and without giving effect to, and ignoring any reference to, the qualifications as to “material”, “materiality” or “Company Material Adverse Effect” or similar words or phrases contained in such representation or warranty (as if such words, clauses or phrases, as applicable, were deleted from such representation and warranty), as applicable, (and other than in respect of any defined term containing “Material Contract” or the representations and warranties set forth in Section 3.8(b)).
- (g) Claims Unaffected by Investigation. The right of an Indemnified Party to indemnification or to assert or recover on any Claim shall not be affected by any investigation conducted with respect to, or any information received or knowledge acquired (or capable of being received or acquired) at any time, whether before or after the execution and delivery of this Agreement or the Closing Date, with respect to the accuracy of or compliance with any of the representations, warranties, covenants or agreements set forth in this Agreement. The waiver of any condition based on the accuracy of any representation or warranty, or on the performance of or compliance with any covenant or agreement, shall not affect the right to indemnification or other remedy based on such representations, warranties, covenants or agreements.
- (h) Benefit of this Article VIII. The provisions of this Article VIII are intended for the benefit of, and shall be enforceable by, each Person entitled to indemnification under this Article VIII.

Section 8.3 Claims Procedures.

- (a) Non-Third Party Claims. If a claim for Losses (a “**Claim**”) is to be made by any Indemnified Party that does not involve a third party, such Indemnified Party shall give written notice (a “**Claim Notice**”) to the Sellers if the Claim Notice is being given by a Buyer Indemnified Party and to Buyer if the Claim Notice is being given by the Sellers, in each case, promptly after such Indemnified Party becomes aware of any fact, condition or event giving rise to Losses for which indemnification may be sought under Section 8.2, which Claim Notice shall specify in reasonable detail, to the extent reasonably known and practicable at such time, the amount of the Claim and the individual item of Loss included in the amount so stated, the date (if any) such item was suffered, sustained or incurred and the basis for indemnification. The failure of any Indemnified Party to give timely notice hereunder shall not affect such Indemnified Party’s rights to indemnification hereunder, except to the extent the applicable Indemnifying Party is actually prejudiced by such delay or failure, in which case the amount of reimbursement to which the Indemnified Party is entitled shall be reduced by the amount, if any, by which the Indemnified Party’s Losses would have been less had such Claim Notice been timely given. If the applicable Indemnifying Party (i) notifies the Indemnified Party in writing that they do not dispute the claim described in such Claim Notice or (ii) fails to respond within thirty (30) days following receipt of such Claim Notice, the Losses identified in the Claim Notice will be conclusively deemed a Liability of the Indemnifying Party under Section 8.2(a) or Section 8.2(b), as applicable. If the applicable Indemnifying Party notifies the Indemnified Party in writing that it disputes its Liability with respect to such Claim, the estimated amount of such Losses or any other aspect of such Claim within 30 days following receipt of such Claim Notice, the parties shall attempt in good faith to resolve such dispute; provided, that if such dispute has not been resolved within 60 days following receipt of such Claim Notice, then the Indemnifying Party or the Indemnified Party may seek legal redress in accordance with Article IX.

(b) Third Party Claims.

- (i) If any Indemnified Party receives notice of the assertion of any Claim or the commencement of any Proceeding by a third party with respect to a matter subject to indemnity hereunder (a “**Third Party Claim**”), notice thereof (a “**Third Party Notice**”) shall promptly be given to the Sellers if the Third Party Notice is being given by a Buyer Indemnified Party or to Buyer if the Third Party Notice is being given by the Sellers (on behalf of a Seller). The Third Party Notice shall specify in reasonable detail, to the extent reasonably known and practicable at such time, the amount of the Claim and the item of Loss included in the amount so stated, the date (if any) such item was suffered, sustained or incurred and the basis for indemnification, and will include copies of all notices and documents (including court papers) served on or received by the Indemnified Party. The failure of any Indemnified Party to give timely notice hereunder shall not affect such Indemnified Party’s rights to indemnification hereunder, except to the extent such delay or failure actually prejudices the applicable Indemnifying Party, in which case the amount of reimbursement to which the Indemnified Party is entitled shall be reduced by the amount, if any, by which the Indemnified Party’s Losses would have been less had such Third Party Notice been timely delivered. After receipt of a Third Party Notice, the Indemnifying Party shall have the right, but not the obligation, by providing written notice to the Indemnified Party, to (A) take control of the defense and investigation of such Third Party Claim, (B) employ and engage attorneys of its own choice (subject to the approval of the Indemnified Party, such approval not to be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed) to handle and defend the same, at the Indemnifying Party’s sole cost and expense, and (C) compromise or settle such claim, which compromise or settlement shall be made only with the written consent of the Indemnified Party; provided, that such consent will not be required if such settlement includes an unconditional release of the Indemnified Party and provides solely for payment of monetary damages for which the Indemnifying Party pays in full.
- (ii) In the event that the Indemnifying Party desires to defend the Indemnified Party against a Third Party Claim and assumes the defense of such Third Party Claim, (A) the Indemnifying Party shall use its reasonable best efforts to defend diligently such Third Party Claim, (B) the Indemnified Party, prior to the period in which the Indemnifying Party assumes the defense of such matter, may take such reasonable actions to preserve any and all rights with respect to such matter, without such actions being construed as a waiver of the Indemnified Party’s rights to defense and indemnification pursuant to this Agreement, but with such actions not being determinative of the amount of any Losses, and (C) the Indemnifying Party shall be deemed to have agreed that it shall indemnify the Indemnified Party for all Losses resulting from such Third Party Claim pursuant to and subject to the conditions of this Article VIII. The Indemnified Party shall cooperate in all reasonable respects, at the Indemnifying Party’s request, with the Indemnifying Party and its attorneys in the investigation, trial and defense of such Third Party Claim and any appeal arising therefrom, including, if appropriate and related to such Third Party Claim, in making any counterclaim against the third party claimant, or any cross complaint against any Person, in each case, at the expense of the Indemnifying Party. The Indemnified Party may, at its own sole cost and expense, monitor and further participate in (but not control) the investigation, trial and defense of such Third Party Claim and any appeal arising therefrom; provided, however, if (I) the employment of counsel shall have been authorized in writing by the Indemnifying Party in connection with the defense of such action or claim, (II) the Indemnifying Party shall not have employed, or is prohibited under this Section 8.2(h) from employing, counsel in the defense of such action or claim, or (III) such Indemnified Party shall have reasonably concluded (following the advice of counsel) that a conflict or potential conflict exists between the Indemnified Party and the Indemnifying Party or there may be defenses available to the Indemnified Party that are contrary to, or inconsistent with, those available to the Indemnifying Party, then, in any such event, the reasonable fees and expenses of not more than one additional counsel for the Indemnified Party shall be borne by the Indemnifying Party.

- (iii) Notwithstanding the foregoing, if (A) the Indemnifying Party does not elect to assume such defense and investigation in writing within 15 days after receipt of the Third Party Notice, (B) the Indemnifying Party fails to actively and diligently, with legal counsel reasonably acceptable to the Indemnified Party, conduct the defense of the action, (C) such Third Party Claim seeks an injunction or other equitable remedies in respect of the Indemnified Party or its business, (D) such Third Party Claim is reasonably likely to result in Liabilities that, taken with other then existing claims under this Article VIII, would not be fully indemnified hereunder, (E) the Indemnified Party has been advised by counsel that an actual or potential conflict of interest exists between the Indemnified Party and the Indemnifying Party in connection with the defense of the Third Party Claim, (F) such Third Party Claim seeks a finding or admission of a violation of Applicable Law by the Indemnified Party or any of its Affiliates, or (G) such Third Party Claim relates to any ongoing business practices, operations or relationships of the Indemnified Party (which, in the case of Buyer, shall include the Company Group after the Closing), then the Indemnified Party shall have the right, but not the obligation (upon delivering notice to such effect to the Indemnifying Party) to retain separate counsel of its choosing, defend such Third Party Claim and have the sole power to direct and control such defense (all at the reasonable cost and expense of the Indemnifying Party); it being understood that the Indemnified Party's right to indemnification for a Third Party Claim shall not be adversely affected by assuming the defense of such Third Party Claim. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, whether or not the Indemnifying Party shall have assumed the defense of such Third Party Claim, the Indemnified Party shall not settle, compromise or pay such Third Party Claim for which it seeks indemnification hereunder without the prior written consent of the Indemnifying Party, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed.
- (iv) The Indemnified Party and the Indemnifying Party shall use commercially reasonable efforts to avoid production of Confidential Information (consistent with Applicable Law), and to cause all communications among employees, counsel and others representing any Party to a Third Party Claim to be made so as to preserve any applicable attorney-client or work-product privileges.

- (v) The Indemnified Party and the Indemnifying Party shall cooperate in any investigation and defense of all Third Party Claims. The Indemnified Party and the Indemnifying Party shall keep each other reasonably informed with respect to the status of all Third Party Claims and shall make available copies of all material written notices and court papers received by the other that relate to any Third Party Claims. The Person controlling the defense of a Third Party Claim shall consider good faith comments made on the materials filed or submitted in such defense offered by the Indemnified Party and Indemnifying Party in a similar good faith.

Section 8.4 Exclusivity. From and after the Closing (other than in respect of claims based on fraud or any willful and material breach of this Agreement, the adjustments to Closing Cash Consideration in accordance with Section 1.4, and Section 5.16, each of which will not be so limited by this Section 8.4), the availability of specific performance pursuant to Section 9.9, or other equitable remedy the indemnification provisions in this Article VIII, will be the exclusive remedy for any breach or violation of or inaccuracy in any representation, warranty, covenant or agreement contained in this Agreement.

ARTICLE IX MISCELLANEOUS

Section 9.1 Amendments; Extension; Waiver. This Agreement may not be amended, altered, or modified except by written instrument executed by Buyer and the Sellers. The failure by any Party to enforce at any time any of the provisions of this Agreement shall in no way be construed to be a waiver of any such provision nor in any way to affect the validity of this Agreement or any part hereof or the right of such party thereafter to enforce each and every such provision. No waiver of any breach of or non-compliance with this Agreement shall be held to be a waiver of any other or subsequent breach or non-compliance. Any waiver made by any Party in connection with this Agreement shall not be valid unless agreed to in writing by the Sellers and Buyer.

Section 9.2 Entire Agreement. This Agreement and any documents executed by the parties simultaneously herewith or pursuant hereto, including the Ancillary Agreements, constitute the entire agreement of the Parties with respect to the subject matter hereof and supersede all prior agreements and understandings, written and oral, among the parties with respect to the subject matter hereof.

Section 9.3 Construction and Interpretation. When a reference is made in this Agreement to Sections, Annexes, Exhibits or Schedules, such reference shall be to a Section of or Annex, Exhibit or Schedule to this Agreement unless otherwise indicated. The table of contents headings and footers contained in this Agreement are for reference purposes only and shall not affect in any way the meaning or interpretation of this Agreement. Whenever the words “include,” “includes” or “including” are used in this Agreement, they shall be deemed to be followed by the words “without limitation.” The word “or” shall not be exclusive unless the context clearly requires the selection of one (but not more than one) of a number of items. References to “written” or “in writing” include in electronic form. Unless the defined term “Business Days” is used, references to “days” in this Agreement refer to calendar days; provided, that if any action is required to be done or taken on a day that is not a Business Day, then such action shall be required to be done or taken not on such day but on the first succeeding Business Day thereafter. References in this Agreement to any Contract (including this Agreement) mean such Contract as amended, restated, supplemented or modified from time to time in accordance with the terms thereof; provided that with respect to any Contract listed (or required to be listed) on the Seller Disclosure Schedule or the Company Disclosure Schedule, all material amendments and modifications thereto (but excluding any purchase orders, work orders or statements of work) must also be listed on the appropriate section of the applicable Seller Disclosure Schedule or the Company Disclosure Schedule. With respect to the determination of any period of time, the word “from” means “from and including” and the words “to” and “until” each means “to but excluding.” References in this Agreement to any Law shall be deemed also to refer to such Law, as amended, and all rules and regulations promulgated thereunder. If any Party has breached any representation, warranty, covenant or agreement contained in this Agreement in any respect, the fact that there exists another representation, warranty, covenant or agreement relating to the same subject matter (regardless of the relative levels of specificity) which the Party has not breached shall not detract from or mitigate the fact that the Party is in breach of the first representation, warranty, covenant or agreement. The word “extent” in the phrase “to the extent” (or similar phrases) shall mean the degree to which a subject or other thing extends, and such phrase shall not mean simply “if.” An accounting term not otherwise defined in this Agreement has the meaning assigned to it in accordance with GAAP. Except where otherwise provided, all amounts in this Agreement are stated and shall be paid in United States dollars. All capitalized terms defined in Annex A or elsewhere in this Agreement are equally applicable to the singular and plural forms thereof. The Parties have participated jointly in the negotiation and drafting of this Agreement. In the event any ambiguity or question of intent or interpretation arises, this Agreement shall be construed as if drafted jointly by all Parties, and no presumption or burden of proof shall arise favoring or disfavoring any Party by virtue of the authorship of any provision of this Agreement.

Section 9.4 Disclosure Schedules, Annexes and Exhibits. The Seller Disclosure Schedule and the Company Disclosure Schedule, Exhibits and Annexes attached hereto or referred to in this Agreement are (a) each by this Agreement incorporated in and made a part of this Agreement as if set forth in full herein and (b) qualified in their entirety by reference to specific provisions of this Agreement. Certain agreements and other matters are listed in schedules for informational purposes only, notwithstanding the fact that, because they do not rise above applicable materiality thresholds or otherwise, they are not required to be listed hereon by the terms of this Agreement. In no event shall the listing of such agreements or other matters in a schedule be deemed or interpreted to broaden or otherwise amplify the Sellers’ representation and warranties, covenants or agreements contained in this Agreement, and nothing in a schedule shall influence the construction or interpretation of any of the representations and warranties contained in this Agreement. The headings contained in the Seller Disclosure Schedule and the Company Disclosure Schedule are for convenience of reference only, and shall not be deemed to modify or influence the interpretation of the information contained therein or this Agreement. The disclosure of any item or matter in the Seller Disclosure Schedule or the Company Disclosure Schedule shall not be construed as an admission, representation or indication that such item or other matter is “material” or would have a Company Material Adverse Effect or that such item or other matter is required to be referred to or disclosed in the Seller Disclosure Schedule or the Company Disclosure Schedule (as applicable), nor shall such disclosure establish a standard of materiality for any purpose whatsoever. The disclosure of any item or matter relating to any possible breach or violation of any law or contract shall not be construed as an admission or indication that any such breach or violation exists or has actually occurred.

Section 9.5 Severability. Any term or provision of this Agreement that is invalid or unenforceable in any jurisdiction shall, as to that jurisdiction, be ineffective to the extent of such invalidity or unenforceability without rendering invalid or unenforceable the remaining terms and provisions of this Agreement or affecting the validity or enforceability of any of the terms or provisions of this Agreement in any other jurisdiction. If any provision of this Agreement is so broad as to be unenforceable, the provision shall be interpreted to be only so broad as is enforceable.

Section 9.6 Notices. All notices and other communications hereunder shall be in writing and shall be addressed as follows (or at such other address for a Party as shall be specified by like notice):

If to Buyer (or, after the Closing, any member of the Company Group):

c/o Nu Ride Inc.
1700 Broadway, 19th Floor
New York, NY 10019
Attention: Alexander C. Matina
Email: amatina@nurideinc.com

With a copy (which shall not constitute notice) to:

Herbert Smith Freehills Kramer (US) LLP
1177 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10036
Attention: John Bessonette; Arlene Ortiz-Leytte
Email: John.Bessonette@hsfkramer.com; Arlene.OrtizLeytte@hsfkramer.com

If to the Sellers or any Seller (or, prior to the Closing, any member of the Company Group):

1485 Championship Cir SE
Massillon, Ohio 44646
Attention: Robert Hall
Email: rhall@affinityadvisorynetwork.com

with copies (which shall not constitute notice hereunder) to:

Jackson Kelly PLLC
20 NW Third Street, Suite 700
P.O. Box 1507
Evansville, Indiana 47706
Attention: Marc Fine
Email: mdfine@jacksonkelly.com

All such notices or communications shall be deemed to have been delivered and received: (a) if delivered in person, on the day of such delivery, (b) if by reputable overnight delivery service, on the second Business Day after the sending thereof, and (c) when sent, if sent by electronic mail before 5:00 p.m. on a Business Day at the location of receipt and otherwise at 9:00 a.m. on the next Business Day.

Section 9.7 Binding Effect; No Assignment. This Agreement shall inure to the benefit of and be binding upon the Parties and their respective successors and permitted assigns. This Agreement may not be assigned, in whole or in part, by any Party without the prior written consent of Buyer and the Sellers, and any purported assignment or other transfer without such consent shall be void and unenforceable; provided that Buyer may assign, transfer or pledge, in whole or in part, all or any of its respective rights or obligations under this Agreement to one or more of its Affiliates without the consent of any Person; provided that any such assignment shall not relieve the assignor from any obligation under this Agreement.

Section 9.8 Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in two or more counterparts (including by facsimile, pdf, or other electronic transmission), each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which taken together shall constitute one and the same agreement, it being understood that all of the parties need not sign the same counterpart.

Section 9.9 Specific Performance.

- (a) Except as otherwise provided herein, any and all remedies herein expressly conferred upon a Party will be deemed cumulative with and not exclusive of any other remedy conferred hereby or by Law or equity upon such Party, and the exercise by a Party of any one remedy will not preclude the exercise of any other remedy. The Parties agree that irreparable damage (for which money damages would be inadequate and for which the non-breaching Party would have no adequate remedy at Law) would occur in the event that any of the provisions of this Agreement were not performed by them in accordance with the terms hereof or were otherwise breached. Accordingly, each Party agrees that each Party shall be entitled to specific performance, an injunction or injunctions or other equitable relief to prevent breaches of the provisions of this Agreement to enforce specifically the provisions of this Agreement (without any requirement to post any bond or other security in connection with seeking such relief), in addition to any other remedy at Law or equity. The Parties agree not to raise any objections to the availability of the equitable remedy of specific performance to prevent or restrain breaches of this Agreement and to specifically enforce the terms and provisions of this Agreement to prevent breaches or threatened breaches of, or to enforce compliance with, the covenants and obligations of the parties under this Agreement, or any other equitable relief.

- (b) Without limitation of the provisions of Section 9.9(a), if the Closing in accordance with this Agreement shall not have occurred because of a breach by any Party of such breaching Party's obligations under this Agreement and all of the conditions to such breaching Party's obligations set forth in Section 6.1 and Section 6.2 (in the case of Buyer) or Section 6.3 (in the case of any other Party) have either been satisfied or previously waived by the Person entitled to so waive such condition(s) (or have not been satisfied, would have been satisfied or are capable of being satisfied, in each case but for such breach of such breaching Party's obligations under this Agreement), then either the Sellers (in the case of a breach by Buyer) or Buyer (in the case of a breach by any other Party) shall have the right to a court order or other equitable relief specifically enforcing the provisions of this Agreement to which such breach applies and, in any event, to specifically force the Closing to occur in accordance with this Agreement. If any Party brings any action to enforce specifically the performance of the terms and provisions of this Agreement by any other Party, the Termination Date shall automatically be extended by (x) the amount of time during which such action is pending, plus twenty (20) Business Days or (y) such other time period established by the court presiding over such action.

Section 9.10 Governing Law; Waiver of Jury Trial; Jurisdiction. The Law of the State of Delaware shall govern (a) all claims or matters related to or arising from this Agreement (including any tort or non-contractual claims) and (b) any questions concerning the construction, interpretation, validity and enforceability of this Agreement, and the performance of the obligations imposed by this Agreement, in each case without giving effect to any choice-of-law or conflict-of-law rules or provisions (whether of the State of Delaware or any other jurisdiction) that would cause the application of the Law of any jurisdiction other than the State of Delaware. EACH PARTY IRREVOCABLY WAIVES ALL RIGHTS TO TRIAL BY JURY IN ANY PROCEEDING BROUGHT TO RESOLVE ANY DISPUTE BETWEEN OR AMONG ANY OF THE PARTIES (WHETHER ARISING IN CONTRACT, TORT OR OTHERWISE) ARISING OUT OF, CONNECTED WITH, RELATED OR INCIDENTAL TO THIS AGREEMENT, THE TRANSACTIONS CONTEMPLATED BY THIS AGREEMENT AND/OR THE RELATIONSHIPS ESTABLISHED AMONG THE PARTIES UNDER THIS AGREEMENT. THE PARTIES TO THIS AGREEMENT FURTHER WARRANT AND REPRESENT THAT EACH HAS REVIEWED THIS WAIVER WITH ITS LEGAL COUNSEL, AND THAT EACH KNOWINGLY AND VOLUNTARILY WAIVES ITS JURY TRIAL RIGHTS FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH LEGAL COUNSEL. Each of the Parties irrevocably and unconditionally submits to the exclusive jurisdiction of first, the Chancery Court of the State of Delaware or if such court declines jurisdiction, then to the Federal District Court for the District of Delaware, in any Proceeding arising out of or relating to this Agreement, agrees that all claims in respect of the Proceeding shall be heard and determined in any such court and agrees not to bring any Proceeding arising out of or relating to this Agreement in any other courts. Nothing in this Section 9.10, however, shall affect the right of any Party to serve legal process in any other manner permitted by Law or at equity. Each Party agrees that a final judgment in any Proceeding so brought shall be conclusive and may be enforced by suit on the judgment or in any other manner provided by Law or at equity.

Section 9.11 No Third Party Beneficiaries. Except as set forth in Section 5.13 and Article VIII, nothing in this Agreement expressed or implied, is intended to confer on any person, other than the Parties or their respective successors and permitted assigns, any rights, remedies, obligations or liabilities.

Section 9.12 Waiver of Conflicts; Attorney-Client Communications.

- (a) Recognizing that Herbert Smith Freehills Kramer (US) LLP (the “**Counsel**”) has acted as legal counsel to the Buyer and its Affiliates prior to the Closing in connection with the negotiation, documentation and consummation of the Transactions and the sale process related hereto (collectively, the “**Engagement**”), and that the Counsel intends to continue to act as legal counsel to the Buyer and its Affiliates after the Closing, including on matters relating to the Engagement or the Transactions where one or more of the Sellers may be considered to be adverse or have differing interests, each of the Sellers hereby waives, on its own behalf and agrees to cause its Affiliates to waive, any conflicts that may arise in connection with the Counsel representing the Buyer and/or its Affiliates and the Company Group after the Closing where the Sellers are considered to be adverse or to have differing interests, in respect of matters that arise or relate to the Engagement or the Transactions, and hereby consents to any such representation.
- (b) Each of the Parties acknowledges that the foregoing provision applies whether or not the Counsel provides legal services to any member of the Company Group after the Closing Date. Each of the Parties hereby acknowledges and agrees that all communications among the Counsel, the Buyer and its Affiliates and/or any director, manager, officer, owner, employee or representative of any of the foregoing made in connection with the negotiation, preparation, execution, delivery and performance of this Agreement, any Ancillary Agreement or the Transactions (“**Privileged Communications**”), are privileged communications, and shall remain privileged after the Closing, and the attorney-client privilege and the expectation of client confidence and work product and other immunities belongs solely to the Buyer and shall be exclusively controlled by the Buyer, and shall not pass to or be claimed by the Sellers, any Subsidiary of Sellers (including the Company Group) or any other Party. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event that a dispute arises between any Party, on the one hand, and a third party, on the other hand, such Party may assert the attorney-client privilege or work product or other immunities to prevent disclosure of confidential communications to such third party.
- (c) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary set forth in Section 9.12(b), in the event that any Party is required or requested under Applicable Law (including by order or request of any Governmental Authority) to produce or disclose any Privileged Communications to a Governmental Authority, such Party shall be entitled to so produce or disclose such Privileged Communications; provided that, if legally permissible, as soon as reasonably practicable following such request or Order, such Party shall notify the Counsel in writing so that they can seek such remedy as may be available to such Party or the Buyer to prevent the production or disclosure of, or access to, any Privileged Communications or maintain the confidentiality of any Privileged Communications and shall provide reasonable cooperation in efforts by the Buyer to prevent or limit disclosure.

[Remainder of page intentionally left blank.]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have caused this Agreement to be executed as of the date first above written.

AFFINITY ADVISORY HOLDINGS CORP.

By: /s/ Alexander C. Matina_

Name: Alexander C. Matina

Title: President

[Signature page to Membership Interest Purchase Agreement]

AFFINITY ADVISORY NETWORK, LLC

By: /s/ Robert Hall

Name: Robert Hall

Title: Manager

AAN WEALTH ADVISORS, LLC

By: /s/ Robert Hall

Name: Robert Hall

Title: Manager

HHH M MFTG TRUST, DATED JANUARY 1, 2026:

By: /s/ Holly A. Postlewaite

Name: Holly A. Postlewaite

Title: Trustee

**THE HALL COMPANIES CORPORATE OHIO LEGACY TRUST,
DATED JANUARY 1, 2024:**

By: /s/ Joshua A. Postlewaite

Name: Joshua A. Postlewaite

Title: Trustee

ROBERT HALL

/s/ Robert Hall

[Signature page to Membership Interest Purchase Agreement]

Defined Terms

For all purposes of this Agreement (other than as otherwise defined or specified in any Exhibit or Schedule), the following terms shall have the respective meanings set forth below in this Annex A (such definitions to apply to both the singular and plural forms of the terms herein defined):

“**AAN**” has the meaning set forth in the Preamble.

“**AAN Purchased Interests**” means the Purchased Interests from AAN.

“**Acquisition Proposal**” means any proposal or offer from any Person (other than Buyer and its respective accountants, attorneys, consultants, advisors, investment bankers, or other representatives) relating to any merger or recapitalization involving any member of the Company Group, sale of the equity securities in any member of the Company Group, any sale of all or substantially all of the assets of any member of the Company Group or other similar transaction involving any member of the Company Group (excluding sales of inventory in the ordinary course of business).

“**Adjustment Report**” has the meaning set forth in Section 1.4(d).

“**Adjustment Time**” has the meaning set forth in Section 1.4(a).

“**Affiliate**” means, with respect to any Person, any Person that directly or indirectly through one or more intermediaries, Controls, is Controlled by, or is under common Control with, the first Person; provided that, (a)(i) an Affiliate of a natural person also includes such person’s Related Parties and (ii) an Affiliate of any Person includes any other Person in which the first Person owns a 10% or greater interest and (b) none of Buyer or any of their Affiliates shall be deemed to be Affiliates of any member of the Company Group.

“**Affiliate Arrangement**” has the meaning set forth in Section 3.14(a).

“**Affinity**” has the meaning set forth in the Preamble.

“**Affinity Purchased Interests**” means the Purchased Interests from Affinity.

“**Agreement**” means this Membership Interest Purchase Agreement, including the Seller Disclosure Schedule and the Company Disclosure Schedule and any Annexes, Exhibits and Schedules hereto, as such may hereunder be amended or restated from time to time in accordance with Section 9.1 of this Agreement.

“**AI Technology**” means any computer model or system that uses one or more algorithms to analyze input data, learn from that data, and make decisions or predictions or generate output based on that learning. AI Technologies include neural networks, machine learning models, deep learning models, large language models, generative artificial intelligence systems, computer vision systems, natural language processing systems.

“**Allocable Portion**” means, with respect to each Trust Seller, the percentage set forth opposite such Trust Seller’s name on Annex B attached hereto under the heading “Allocable Portion”.

“**Ancillary Agreements**” means the Escrow Agreement and the other agreements and certificates to be entered into or delivered in connection with this Agreement.

“**Annual Earnout Payment**” has the meaning set forth in Section 1.5(b).

“**Anti-Corruption Laws**” means Applicable Laws relating to anti-bribery or anti-corruption including, but not limited to, the FCPA and the UK Bribery Act 2010.

“**Anti-Money Laundering Laws**” means Applicable Laws related to money laundering, including the Currency and Foreign Transaction Reporting Act of 1970 (also known as the Bank Secrecy Act), as amended, the USA PATRIOT ACT of 2001, as amended, the Money Laundering Control Act of 1986, the UK Proceeds of Crime Act 2002, the UK Money Laundering, Terrorist Financing and Transfer of Funds (Information on the Payer) Regulations 2017 (as updated) and any other Applicable Law related to money laundering of any jurisdictions in which the applicable Person conducts business, including any anti-racketeering laws involving money laundering or bribery as a racketeering act.

“**Applicable Law**” means, with respect to any Person, any Law applicable to such Person or any of its respective Affiliates, or any of their respective directors, officers, employees, or agents in their capacity as such with respect to such Person or Affiliate, or any of their respective assets, properties, or businesses.

“**Applicable Rate**” means a rate per calendar quarter equal to the secured overnight financing rate as administered by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York (or a successor administrator of the secured overnight financing rate) plus 200 basis points.

“**Assignment Agreement**” has the meaning set forth in Section 1.3(b)(i).

“**Base Closing Consideration Amount**” means \$6,720,000.

“**Benefit Plan Client**” means any Person, including a Client, subject to Title I of ERISA, Section 4975 of the Code or any Similar Law to which any member of the Company Group has provided services.

“**Business**” means the business and operations as a field marketing organization, financial wholesaler, or national marketing organization and/or business and operations related to integrated retirement, investment and estate-planning solutions through insurance distribution, registered investment advisory and legal services.

“**Business Data**” means all Trade Secrets, Personal Information, or other Data related to, developed for, used in, necessary for, or otherwise material to or Processed in connection with the business of the Company Group (including of third parties to which any member of the Company Group, any Seller or any of their respective Affiliates owes a duty of confidentiality) or otherwise included in the Company Intellectual Property.

“**Business Day**” means a day other than a Saturday, Sunday, or other day on which commercial banks in New York, New York are authorized or required by Law to close.

“**Buyer**” has the meaning set forth in the preamble to this Agreement and includes any successor or permitted assign.

“**Buyer Certificate of Incorporation**” means the Certificate of Incorporation of Buyer, dated May 27, 2026, as amended, restated, or otherwise modified from time to time.

“**Buyer Common Stock**” means the Common Stock of Buyer, par value \$0.01 per share, authorized pursuant to the Buyer’s Certificate of Incorporation.

“**Buyer Fundamental Representations**” means Section 4.1 (Organization), Section 4.2 (Authority; Validity of Agreements) and Section 4.7 (Brokers and Finders).

“**Buyer Indemnified Parties**” has the meaning set forth in Section 8.2.

“**Buyer Stock Consideration**” means the number of shares Buyer Common Stock, which shall equal, in the aggregate amongst both Trust Sellers, fifteen percent (15)% of the issued and outstanding shares of Buyer Common Stock immediately following the Closing (for an aggregate deemed value of \$1,440,000) and shall be subject to the provisions set forth in the Stockholders’ Agreement.

“**Carrier Condition**” has the meaning set forth in Section 1.5(b).

“**Cash**” means all cash and cash equivalents held by the Company Group minus the amount of any outstanding and uncleared checks, drafts and transfers issued by or on behalf of the Company Group, bank overdrafts, cash in reserve accounts or cash escrow accounts, custodial cash, security deposits, cash supporting obligations under letters of credit and cash otherwise subject to any legal or contractual restriction, limitation or Tax on the ability to freely transfer or use such cash for any lawful purpose, in each case, determined on a consolidated basis in accordance with GAAP, but in all cases excluding any cash or cash equivalents used to pay or retire any Indebtedness or Transaction Expenses on the Closing Date prior to the Closing.

“**Claim**” has the meaning set forth in Section 8.3(a).

“**Claim Notice**” has the meaning set forth in Section 8.3(a).

“**Client**” means any Person to which any member of the Company Group provides investment management or investment advisory services, including any sub-advisory services, pursuant to any Investment Advisory Contract or any other applicable Contract with such Person. For purposes of obtaining Consents and any representation, warranty, covenant, or condition contained in this Agreement related thereto, “Client” shall be deemed to include investors in Clients and any other Persons whose Consent may be required by the terms of any applicable Contract with a Client.

“**Client Consent**” has the meaning set forth in Section 5.4.

“**Client Dispute**” means any written dispute between any member of the Company Group, on the one hand, and any Client, on the other hand.

“**Closing**” has the meaning set forth in Section 1.2.

“**Closing Cash Consideration**” means an amount equal to the Base Closing Consideration Amount plus (b) the Net Working Capital Adjustment Amount (which adjustment amount may be a positive or negative amount), minus (c) the aggregate amount of Indebtedness of the Company Group as of immediately prior to the Closing, minus (d) the Transaction Expenses, plus (e) the Cash of the Company Group as of the Closing.

“**Closing Date**” has the meaning set forth in Section 1.2.

“**Closing Statement**” has the meaning set forth in Section 1.4(b).

“**Code**” means the United States Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

“**Companies**” has the meaning set forth in the preamble to this Agreement.

“**Company Disclosure Schedule**” has the meaning set forth in Article III.

“**Company Group**” means the Companies and their Controlled Affiliates.

“**Company Insurance Policies**” has the meaning set forth in Section 3.22.

“**Company Intellectual Property**” has the meaning set forth in Section 3.21(a).

“**Company Interest**” has the meaning set forth in Section 3.2(b).

“Company Material Adverse Effect” means an event, change, circumstance, occurrence, fact, development effect, or other matter, either individually or in the aggregate with all other changes, circumstances, occurrences, facts, developments, effects or other matters, with or without notice, lapse of time or both, that (x) has been or would reasonably be expected to be materially adverse to the business, assets, properties, condition (financial or otherwise) or results of operations or prospects of the Company Group, taken as a whole, or (y) does or would reasonably be expected to prevent or materially delay the ability of the Sellers to consummate the transactions contemplated by this Agreement; provided that none of the following shall constitute a “Company Material Adverse Effect” for purposes of clause (x): (a) events, changes, circumstances, occurrences, facts, developments or effects that are the result of factors generally affecting the industries or jurisdictions in which the members of the Company Group operate or participate; (b) changes in general economic conditions affecting the national, regional or world economy; (c) any national or international political conditions in or affecting any jurisdiction in which the members of the Company Group conduct business; (d) any embargo, riot, earthquake, hurricane, tsunami, tornado, flood, mudslide, wild fire, other weather-related or meteorological event, pandemic, epidemic, disease outbreak or other natural disaster or act of god; (e) the engagement by the United States in hostilities or the escalation thereof, whether or not pursuant to the declaration of a national emergency or war, or the occurrence or the escalation of any military or terrorist attack upon the United States, or any United States territories, possessions or diplomatic or consular offices or upon any United States military installation, equipment or personnel; (f) changes in GAAP or in Applicable Law or in interpretations thereof by courts or other Governmental Authorities, in each case, after the date of this Agreement; (g) any adverse event, change, circumstance, occurrence, fact, development or effect caused by any announcement, pendency or consummation of the transactions contemplated by this Agreement (except this clause (g) shall not apply with respect to any representation or warranty that is intended to address the consequences of the execution, delivery or performance of this Agreement or the consummation of the transactions contemplated by this Agreement); (h) any failure of the members of the Company Group to meet any forecasts or revenue, earnings, or fundraising or other projections (provided that the underlying cause of the member’s failure to meet such forecasts or revenue, earnings, or other projections shall be taken into account to the extent not otherwise excluded under this Agreement); or (i) actions taken or omitted at the written request of Buyer or any action expressly required by this Agreement; provided that, with respect to clause (a), clause (b), clause (c), clause (d), clause (e) or clause (f) above, such events, changes, circumstances, occurrences, facts, developments or effects may be taken into account to the extent they disproportionately adversely affect the Company Group, taken as a whole, relative to other businesses in the industries in which the members of the Company Group operate or participate.

“Competing Business” means the business of any Person which competes with a material strategy, or business line of the of the Company Group’s Business.

“Confidential Information” means all information (whether or not specifically identified as confidential), in any form or medium, that is disclosed to, or developed or learned by, any of the Company Group or any of their respective employees, consultants or advisors, as the case may be, that relates to the Business, products, operations, financial condition, services, research or development of any member of the Company Group or its customers, vendors, suppliers, processors, independent contractors or other business relations, including: (a) internal business information (including information relating to strategic plans and practices, business, accounting, financial or marketing plans, practices or programs, training practices and programs, salaries, bonuses, incentive plans and other compensation and benefits information and accounting and business methods); (b) identities of, individual requirements of, specific contractual arrangements with, and information about, the Company Group, its customers and its confidential information; (c) industry research compiled by, or on behalf of Company, including identities of potential target companies, management teams, and transaction sources identified by, or on behalf of, any member of the Company Group; (d) compilations of data and analyses, processes, methods, track and performance records, data and databases (and all Data relating thereto); (e) Personal Information; and (f) information related to Company Intellectual Property and updates of any of the foregoing; provided, however, that “Confidential Information” shall not include any information that (i) is or becomes generally available to the public other than as a result of any Seller act or omission or (ii) becomes available to any Seller on a non-confidential basis from a source other than the Company Group, provided that such source is not known by such Seller to be bound by a confidentiality agreement with, or other contractual, legal or fiduciary obligation of confidentiality to, a member of the Company Group or any other Party with respect to such information.

“**Confidentiality Agreement**” means the Confidentiality and Non-Disclosure Agreement, dated October 14, 2025, between Generational Equity, LLC and/or Generational Capital Markets, Inc. and Nu Ride Inc., as amended, supplemented, waived or otherwise modified.

“**Consent**” means any consent, approval, authorization, waiver, permit, license, grant, agreement, exemption or order of, or registration, declaration or filing with, any Person, including any Governmental Authority, that is required to be made or obtained in connection with (a) the execution and delivery by any member of the Company Group, any Seller, the Sellers or Buyer of this Agreement or any Ancillary Agreement or (b) the consummation of the Transactions.

“**Contract**” means any written or oral loan agreement, indenture, letter of credit (including related letter of credit application and reimbursement obligation), mortgage, security agreement, pledge agreement, deed of trust, bond, note, guarantee, surety obligation, warranty, license, franchise, permit, power of attorney, purchase or sales order, lease or other agreement, contract, instrument, obligation, offer, undertaking, commitment, arrangement or understanding, in each case as amended, supplemented, waived or otherwise modified, in each case, to which the applicable Person is a party or by which the applicable Person or any of its properties or assets is bound.

“**Control**” or “**Controlled**” means the possession, directly or indirectly, of the power to direct or cause the direction of the management and policies of a Person, whether through the ownership of voting securities, by contract, as trustee or executor, or otherwise. For purposes of this definition, a general partner or managing member of a Person shall always be considered to Control such Person.

“**Controlled Affiliate**”, in respect of a Person, means an Affiliate that is Controlled by such Person.

“**Counsel**” has the meaning set forth in Section 9.12(a).

“**Covered Employee**” means any consultant or employee of the Company Group that provides services to the business conducted by the Company Group or its successors and assigns as of the Closing.

“**Covered Party**” has the meaning set forth in Section 5.13(a).

“**Customs & Trade Laws**” means all applicable export, import, customs and trade, and anti-boycott laws or regulations administered, enacted or enforced by any Governmental Authority, including: (a) the laws, regulations, and programs administered or enforced by U.S. Customs and Border Protection, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the U.S. International Trade Commission, the U.S. Department of Commerce, and the U.S. Department of State; (b) the U.S. Tariff Act of 1930; (c) the U.S. Export Control Reform Act of 2018 and the Export Administration Regulations, including related restrictions with regard to persons or entities on the U.S. Department of Commerce’s Denied Persons List, Unverified List, Military End Users List or Entity List; (d) the U.S. Arms Export Control Act and the International Traffic in Arms Regulations, including related restrictions with regard to persons or entities on the U.S. Department of State’s Debarred List; (e) the U.S. Foreign Trade Regulations; (f) the anti-boycott laws and regulations administered by the U.S. Department of Commerce and the U.S. Department of the Treasury; (g) the EU Dual Use Regulation (Regulation (EC) No. 428/2009); (h) the UK Export Control Act 2002, Export Control Order 2008 and any retained EU Applicable Laws; and (i) all other Applicable Laws, regulations or programs.

“Data Laws and Requirements” means the following, in each case, to the extent relating to Personal Information or otherwise relating to privacy or security, or security breach notification requirements, and applicable to the business of, or any member of, the Company Group: (a) all Privacy Laws, (b) any Company Group members’ own data protection and privacy policies, notices, and principles, (c) requests from data subjects for access to data held by any Company Group member, (d) Contracts or agreements any Company Group member has entered into or by which it is bound, and (e) industry or self-regulatory standards to which any Company Group members is bound (including the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard, if applicable) or with which any Company Group member holds itself out to any Person as being compliant.

“Delaware Entity” has the meaning set forth in Section 3.9.

“Dispute Notice” has the meaning set forth in Section 1.4(b).

“Disputed Item” has the meaning set forth in Section 1.4(b).

“Earnout Dispute Notice” has the meaning set forth in Section 1.5(c)(ii).

“Earnout Dispute Period” has the meaning set forth in Section 1.5(c)(ii).

“Earnout Disputed Items” has the meaning set forth in Section 1.5(c)(ii).

“Earnout Payment” has the meaning set forth in Section 1.5(a).

“Earnout Period” has the meaning set forth in Section 1.5(a).

“Earnout Statement” has the meaning set forth in Section 1.5(c)(i).

“Earnout Year” has the meaning set forth in Section 1.5(a).

“Engagement” has the meaning set forth in Section 9.12(a).

“Equity Rights” has the meaning set forth in Section 3.2(c).

“ERISA” means the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended.

“ERISA Affiliate” means any Person that, together with any member of the Company Group, is or was, at a relevant time, treated as a single employer under Section 414 of the Code.

“**Escrow Account**” means the account established pursuant to the Escrow Agreement to hold the Escrow Amount.

“**Escrow Agent**” means J.P. Morgan Chase (or if J.P. Morgan Chase is not available, another bank).

“**Escrow Agreement**” means a customary escrow agreement by and among Buyer, the Sellers, and the Escrow Agent, on the form provided by the Escrow Agent.

“**Escrow Amount**” means \$100,000.

“**ESG**” has the meaning set forth in [Section 3.26\(a\)](#).

“**Estimated Cash**” has the meaning set forth in [Section 1.4\(a\)](#).

“**Estimated Closing Balance Sheet**” has the meaning set forth in [Section 1.4\(a\)](#).

“**Estimated Closing Cash Consideration**” means an amount equal to (a) the Base Closing Consideration Amount plus (b) the Estimated Net Working Capital Adjustment Amount (which adjustment amount may be a positive or negative amount), minus (c) the Estimated Indebtedness, minus (d) the Estimated Transaction Expenses, plus (e) the Estimated Cash.

“**Estimated Closing Statement**” has the meaning set forth in [Section 1.4\(a\)](#).

“**Estimated Indebtedness**” has the meaning set forth in [Section 1.4\(a\)](#).

“**Estimated Net Working Capital Adjustment Amount**” has the meaning set forth in [Section 1.4\(a\)](#).

“**Estimated Transaction Expenses**” has the meaning set forth in [Section 1.4\(a\)](#).

“**Excess Amount**” has the meaning set forth in [Section 1.4\(f\)](#).

“**Filings**” has the meaning set forth in [Section 3.15\(g\)](#).

“**Final Closing Balance Sheet**” has the meaning set forth in [Section 1.4\(b\)](#).

“**Final Closing Cash Consideration**” has the meaning set forth in [Section 1.4\(c\)](#).

“**GAAP**” means United States generally accepted accounting principles, consistently applied.

“**Government Official**” means any: (a) officer or employee of a government, including any Governmental Authority, or any person acting in an official capacity for or on behalf of any Governmental Authority; or (b) officer or employee of a government-owned or government-controlled entity of any kind, including a government-owned or government-controlled business enterprise.

“Governmental Authority” means any nation, state, territory, province, county, city or other unit or subdivision thereof or any entity, authority, agency, department, board, commission, instrumentality, arbitrator, or arbitral body (public or private), court or other judicial body authorized on behalf of any of the foregoing to exercise legislative, judicial, regulatory, or administrative functions of or pertaining to government, and any Self-Regulatory Organization.

“Indebtedness” means, with respect to a party, without duplication: (a) all indebtedness for borrowed money or indebtedness issued or incurred in substitution or exchange for indebtedness for borrowed money; (b) all indebtedness evidenced by any note, bond, debenture, mortgage or other debt instrument or debt security; (c) all indebtedness for borrowed money of any Person for which such party has guaranteed payment; (d) all capitalized Lease obligations or obligations required to be capitalized in accordance with GAAP; any Liabilities in respect of earnouts or deferred purchase price for assets, securities, property or services with respect to which such Person is liable, contingently or otherwise, as obligor or otherwise for additional purchase price; (e) reimbursement obligations under any drawn letters of credit, or any surety or performance bonds; (f) any unpaid bonuses, commissions or similar compensatory obligations, severance obligations or unfunded or underfunded Liabilities in respects of any pension (whether defined benefit or defined contribution), retirement, deferred compensation, gratuity, termination indemnity or retiree or post-termination health and welfare Liabilities and all Liabilities under any similar plans, programs, agreements, arrangement or Contracts (in each case, whether or not accrued), together with employer portion of any applicable FICA, state, local or foreign withholding, payroll, social security, Medicare or similar Taxes therefrom (computed as though all such amounts were payable as of Closing); (g) obligations under derivative financial instruments, including hedges, currency and interest rate swaps and other similar instruments; (h) all unpaid Taxes of the Company Group for all Pre-Closing Tax Periods (including any non-resident Taxes and any pass-through entity Taxes), which (A) shall not be an amount less than zero in any jurisdiction or with respect to any type of Tax, and (B) shall not include any offsets or reductions with respect to Tax refunds or overpayments of Tax, (i) deferred revenue; (j) all long term deferred rent liabilities; (k) accrued amounts payable to, payments on behalf of, or reimbursements payable to, an Affiliate; (l) any amounts due and unpaid pursuant to the settlement of any Proceeding; (m) any declared but unpaid dividends, (n) all obligations of the type referred to in clauses (a) through (m), the payment of which such Person is responsible or liable, directly or indirectly, as obligor, guarantor, surety or otherwise, and (o) for clauses (a) through (m), any accrued interest, termination fees, prepayment penalties, change of control payments, “breakage” costs, make-whole payments or similar payments and penalties, charges, expenses and fees or equivalents thereof with respect to any of the amounts in clauses (a) through (m).

“Indemnified Party” has the meaning set forth in Section 8.2.

“Indemnifying Party” has the meaning set forth in Section 8.2(c).

“Independent Accounting Firm” means any internationally recognized independent public accounting firm mutually agreed upon by the Sellers and Buyer (such agreement not to be unreasonably withheld).

“Intellectual Property” means, any and all of the following together with all right, title and interest therein and thereto: (a) patents and patent applications, and reissues, reexaminations, continuations, divisions, continuations-in-part, extensions, revisions and counterparts thereof in any jurisdiction; (b) registered and unregistered trademarks and service marks, brand names, trade names, trade dress, logos, slogans, domain names, social media accounts and identifiers and other indicia of source, and all goodwill associated with any of the foregoing, and all applications and registrations therefor; (c) copyrights (whether registered or unregistered) and all copyright registrations and applications for registration of copyrights, all works of authorship (whether or not copyrightable), database rights and moral rights; (d) software (whether in source code, object code, or other form), (e) data, databases, compilations of data, data repositories and data lakes, together with rights under Contracts relating thereto (collectively, **“Data”**), data classifications and data analysis, enrichment, measurement and management tools; (f) know-how, trade secrets, and other confidential or proprietary information, including non-public designs, technologies, processes, techniques, protocols, methods, methodologies, formulae, formulations, algorithms, layouts, inventions (whether patentable or unpatentable and whether or not reduced to practice), specifications, discoveries, compositions, architectures, drawings, plans, ideas, research and development, customer and supplier lists, pricing and cost information, track or performance records, financial or asset-allocation or other models, and business and marketing plans and proposals (collectively, **“Trade Secrets”**); (g) privacy and publicity rights; (h) any other rights that are equivalent or similar to any of the foregoing; and (i) all rights with respect to causes of action, judgements, settlements, claims and demands related thereto, and rights to prosecute and recover damages for any past, present or future infringements, dilutions, misappropriation and other violations thereof.

“Investment Adviser” has the meaning set forth in Section 3.15(d).

“Investment Advisers Act” means the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended, and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder by the SEC.

“Investment Advisory Contract” means an investment advisory, investment sub-advisory, investment management, or similar Contract under which any member of the Company Group provides Investment Management Services to any Person.

“Investment Company Act” means the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder by the SEC.

“Investment Management Services” means any services rendered which involve (a) the management of an investment account or fund (or portions thereof or a group of investment accounts or funds), (b) the giving of advice with respect to the investment and/or reinvestment of assets or funds (or any group of assets or funds), or (c) otherwise acting as an “investment adviser” within the meaning of Applicable Law, and activities related or incidental thereto.

“IRS” has the meaning set forth in Section 3.18(a).

“Key Person Employment Agreement” has the meaning set forth in the recitals.

“**Knowledge of the Companies**” means those facts actually known by each of Robert Hall, Josh Postlewaite and Beth Hall and such knowledge such Persons would have after reasonable inquiry of the relevant employee or other service provider who would reasonably be expected to have knowledge of the applicable subject matter.

“**Knowledge of the Sellers**” means those facts actually known by any Seller.

“**Law**” means any domestic or foreign federal, state, or local statute, law (whether statutory or common), act, statute, ordinance, rule, administrative code, administrative interpretation, regulation, order, consent, writ, injunction, ruling, award, directive, judgment, decree, policy, ordinance, decision, guideline, or other requirement of, or agreement with, a Governmental Authority.

“**Lease**” means any of the real estate or other material personal property leases or subleases, or a sublease of an interest thereunder (including any oral/non-written arrangements allowing for the use of real property), of any of member of the Company Group, together with all amendments, modifications, alterations, and renewals thereof.

“**Liability**” means any and all debts, liabilities and obligations, whether accrued or fixed, known or unknown, absolute or contingent, matured or unmatured or determined or determinable.

“**Lien**” means, whether arising under any Contract or otherwise, any debts, claims, security interests, liens, licenses, encumbrances, pledges, mortgages, retention agreements, hypothecations, rights of others, assessments, restrictions, voting trust agreements, options, rights of first offer, proxies, title defects, and charges or other restrictions or limitations of any nature whatsoever.

“**Lookback Date**” means January 1, 2023.

“**Losses**” means any and all losses (including the right to seek recovery for any diminution of value of the Business), liabilities, Taxes, claims, penalties, damages, costs, fines, expenses, judgments and settlements (including interest and penalties with respect thereto and all reasonable out-of-pocket expenses and attorneys’ and accountants’ fees and expenses incurred in the investigation or defense of any of the same or in asserting, preserving or enforcing any of the respective rights in connection with or under this Agreement) whether or not resulting from a claim by a third Party, provided that no Party shall be liable to any other Person for any Losses pursuant to Article VIII to the extent such Losses constitute any special, exemplary or punitive damages unless awarded to a third Party.

“**Malicious Code**” means any (i) “back door,” “drop dead device,” “time bomb,” “Trojan horse,” “virus,” “ransomware,” or “worm” (as such terms are commonly understood in the software industry), or (ii) other code designed or intended to have, or capable of performing, any of the following functions: (a) disrupting, disabling, harming, interfering with or otherwise impeding in any manner the operation of, or providing unauthorized access to, a System on which such code is stored or installed; or (b) damaging or destroying any Data or file without the user’s consent.

“**Material Contract**” means any Contract to which any member of the Company Group is a Party or otherwise bound of the type listed below:

(a) Investment Advisory Contracts and any other Contract with any Client;

(b) Leases;

(c) any collective bargaining agreement or other Contract with any labor union, labor organization, or works council (each a “**CBA**”);

(d) any Contract that is a settlement, conciliation, or similar agreement with any Governmental Authority or pursuant to which any member of the Company Group will have any outstanding monetary obligation or any other material outstanding obligation after the date of this Agreement;

(e) any employment, consulting, severance, agency, bonus, equity or equity-based, compensation, deferred compensation, trusts or funds Contract (i) relating to or for the benefit of current, future or former service providers, employees, officers, directors, sales representatives, distributors, dealers, agents, independent contractors or consultants (whether or not legally binding) or (ii) that provide for any change in control, transaction, sale, retention or similar compensation or benefits or any severance benefits;

(f) Contracts relating to any Indebtedness;

(g) any joint venture, strategic partnership, exclusive distribution, limited liability company, co-marketing or similar Contract involving a sharing of profits or payments based on revenues, profits, or assets under management;

(h) stock purchase agreements, asset purchase agreements and other acquisition or divestiture agreements (including all exhibits, schedules, and annexes thereto) that are material to the Business;

(i) Contracts that involve the annual payment of more than \$10,000 in any year or more than \$35,000 in the aggregate that cannot be terminated by any member of the Company Group on less than 90 days’ notice, or that require a material payment or other material economic penalty or cost upon termination;

(j) Contracts pursuant to which a member of the Company Group shares management rights with, or has granted to or is subject to consent, veto, or similar rights of, a third party;

(k) Contracts between two or more members of the Company Group for the sharing of costs or expenses or the provision of services;

(l) Contracts (A) relating to the licensing or granting of any rights or covenants with respect to any Intellectual Property (whether granted to or by the Company Group), other than non-exclusive licenses granted to the Company Group in the ordinary course of business for generally available commercial, unmodified, “off the shelf” software used solely for the Company Group’s own internal use for an aggregate fee, royalty or other consideration for any such software or group of related software licenses of no more than \$100,000 (“**Software Licenses**”), (B) relating to the acquisition, divestiture, or development of Intellectual Property (other than employee invention assignment agreements executed on the Company Group’s standard form of agreement, which agreements, together with the Software Licenses, shall be deemed to be Material Contracts), (C) affecting the Company Group’s ability to use, enforce, or disclose any Company Intellectual Property or otherwise arising out of any Intellectual Property-related dispute (which shall include concurrent use agreements, settlement agreements and consent to use agreements);

(m) Contracts with an insurance carrier or an insurance producer (known by whatever name including “field marketing organization contract” or “national marketing organization contract”) authorizing a member of the Company Group to offer or sell insurance products on behalf of such carrier or producer, including the Subject Contract;

(n) Contracts with any sales agent, representative, independent contractor or similar non-employee third person who is authorized to offer or place insurance products or services on behalf of a member of the Company Group (each, a “Producer Contract”); or

(o) any other Contracts not covered in (a) through (n) above that is material to the Business as currently conducted.

“**Maximum Earnout Payment Amount**” has the meaning set forth in Section 1.5(a).

“**Net Working Capital**” means the excess of (a) the total consolidated current assets of the Company Group (excluding Cash, unrestricted Cash, deferred Tax assets and income Tax assets) minus (b) the total consolidated current liabilities of the Company Group (excluding deferred Tax liabilities and income Tax liabilities), in each case, using the same account categories included in Exhibit B – Example Calculation of Net Working Capital.

“**Net Working Capital Adjustment Amount**” means an amount (which may be positive or negative) equal to (a) Net Working Capital as of the Adjustment Time, as reflected on the Estimated Closing Balance Sheet, minus (b) the Net Working Capital Target Amount.

“**Net Working Capital Target Amount**” means \$279,000.

“**Nu Ride Class A Common Stock**” means the Class A Common Stock of Nu Ride Inc., authorized pursuant to the Nu Ride Inc. Third Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation.

“**Nu Ride Class A Common Stock Consideration**” means the portion of the purchase price payable in Nu Ride Class A Common Stock, which shall comprise, in the aggregate amongst both Trust Sellers, 80,000 shares of Nu Ride Class A Common Stock, issued at a deemed price of \$1.60 per share and shall be subject to the provisions set forth in Annex C.

“**Organizational Documents**” means, with respect to any Person that is a corporation, its articles or certificate of incorporation or memorandum and articles of association, as the case may be, and its bylaws; with respect to any Person that is a limited partnership, its certificate of limited partnership and its limited partnership agreement; with respect to any Person that is a limited liability company, its certificate of formation and its limited liability company operating agreement; with respect to any Person that is a trust or other entity, its declaration or agreement of trust or its constituent document; and with respect to any other Person, its comparable organizational documents.

“Owned Intellectual Property” means all Intellectual Property owned or purported to be owned by any member of the Company Group.

“Partnership Tax Audit Rules” means Code Sections 6221 through 6241, together with any guidance issued thereunder or successor provisions and any similar provision of state or local tax laws.

“Party” has the meaning set forth in the preamble to this Agreement.

“Pass-Through Income Tax Return” means any U.S. federal, state or local Tax Return filed by or with respect to an entity treated as a pass-through entity for purposes of such Tax Return for which the items of income and loss or results of operations reflected on such Tax Returns are reflected on the Tax Returns of such entity’s partner(s), member(s), or other direct or indirect owner(s) for Tax purposes, including any IRS Forms 1065 (and any similar state or local Tax Returns), Schedule K-1s or other such equivalent statements.

“Past Client” means, as of the Closing, any Person who is neither a Present Client nor a Potential Client and that was, during the twelve (12) months immediately preceding the Closing Date, a recipient of Investment Management Services from the Company Group and with whom the applicable Seller had contact during the course of such Seller’s employment or consulting relationship with the Company Group, regarding its Investment Advisory Contract.

“Payoff Letters” has the meaning set forth in Section 1.3(b)(xiv).

“PCWR” means a “person connected with Russia”, as defined in Regulation 19A(2) of the UK Russia (Sanctions) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (as amended), which, at the date of this Agreement, includes:

- (a) an individual who is, or an association or combination of individuals who are, ordinarily resident in Russia;
- (b) an individual who is, or an association or combination of individuals who are, located in Russia;
- (c) a person, other than an individual, which is incorporated or constituted under the law of Russia; or
- (d) a person, other than an individual, which is domiciled in Russia.

“Performance Record” means the investment performance record of the Company Group.

“**Permits**” has the meaning set forth in Section 3.15(b).

“**Permitted Activities**” has the meaning set forth in Section 5.12(f).

“**Permitted Liens**” means all Liens that are:

(a) for property Taxes which have been incurred in the ordinary course of business and are not yet due and payable as of the Closing Date;

(b) Liens or pledges to secure payments of workmen’s compensation and other payments, unemployment and other insurance, old-age pensions or other social security obligations, or the performance of bids, tenders, leases, contracts, public or statutory obligations, surety, stay or appeal bonds, or other similar obligations arising in the ordinary course of business;

(c) materialmen’s, workmen’s, repairmen’s, warehousemen’s, vendors’, mechanics’ or carriers’ Liens or other similar Liens arising in the ordinary course of business and securing sums that are not yet due and payable and which shall be paid in full and released at Closing, or deposits or pledges to obtain the release of any such Liens;

(d) statutory landlords’ Liens and landlord’s Liens under Leases to which any of member of the Company Group is a party; and

(e) zoning restrictions, easements, rights of way, licenses, and restrictions on the use of real property or minor irregularities in title thereto, that do not materially impair the use of such property in the normal operation of the Business or the value of such property for the purpose of such Business.

“**Person**” means any natural person or any firm, partnership, limited liability partnership, association, corporation, limited liability company, joint venture, trust, business trust, sole proprietorship, or other business entity or any division thereof.

“**Personal Information**” means (a) any information that relates to, identifies, describes, is reasonably capable of being associated with, or could reasonably be linked, directly or indirectly, with a particular household or identified or identifiable or other natural person; and (b) any information that constitutes “personal information” or “personal data” or other similar terms under applicable Law. An identifiable natural person is one who, inter alia, can be identified, directly or indirectly, in particular by reference to an identifier such as a name, an identification number, location data, an online identifier or one or more factors specific to the physical, physiological, genetic, mental, economic, cultural or social identity of that natural person.

“**Plan**” means each (a) “employee benefit plan” (as such term is defined in Section 3(3) of ERISA, whether or not subject to ERISA) and (b) each other compensation or benefit plan, program, policy, agreement, arrangement or Contract, including any employment, individual consulting, bonus, commission, deferred compensation, sale, transaction, bonus, incentive compensation, stock purchase, stock option, restricted stock unit, phantom stock, stock appreciation right or other equity or equity-based incentive, phantom equity, severance, change-in-control, termination pay, separation, retention, stay, welfare, post-termination or retiree welfare, hospitalization or other medical, disability, life or other insurance, supplemental unemployment benefits, vacation, paid time off, profit-sharing, pension, retirement or other fringe plan, program, policy, agreement, arrangement or Contract, in each case, (i) that is sponsored, maintained, contributed to or required to be contributed to by any member of the Company Group for the benefit of any current or former employee or individual service provider of the Business, (ii) that is sponsored, maintained, contributed to or required to be contributed to by any member of the Company Group, or (iii) under or with respect to which any member of the Company Group has or could reasonably be expected to have any Liability (including on account of an ERISA Affiliate).

“**Plan Assets**” means “plan assets” within the meaning of the U.S. Department of Labor regulations located at 29 C.F.R. Section 2510.3-101, as modified by Section 3(42) of ERISA.

“**Policies**” has the meaning set forth in [Section 3.15\(i\)](#).

“**Potential Client**” means, as of the Closing Date, any Person (i) with whom the Company Group has engaged in substantive discussions regarding the provision of Investment Management Services at any point during the 12 months immediately preceding the Closing Date (but who has not become a recipient of such Investment Management Services) or (ii) introduced to the applicable Seller, or with whom the applicable Seller has had contact during the course of his employment or consulting relationship with the Company Group, regarding the provision of Investment Management Services.

“**Pre-Closing Tax Period**” means any taxable period ending on or before the Closing Date and, with respect to any Straddle Period, the portion of such Straddle Period through the end of the Closing Date.

“**Present Client**” means, as of the Closing Date, any Person who is a recipient of Investment Management Services from the Company Group pursuant to an Investment Advisory Contract.

“**Privacy Laws**” has the meaning set forth in [Section 3.25](#).

“**Privileged Communications**” has the meaning set forth in [Section 9.12\(b\)](#).

“**Proceeding**” means any action, cause of action, claim, demand, suit, charge, complaint, litigation, audit, arbitration, review, examination, inquiry, proceeding or investigation of any nature, civil, criminal, regulatory or otherwise, in law or in equity, whether or not by or before any court, tribunal, arbitrator or other Governmental Authority.

“**Process**” (or “**Processing**” or “**Processed**”) means access, collection, use, processing, storage, sharing, sale, distribution, transfer, disclosure, sorting, treatment, compromise, modification, manipulation, transmit, performance of operations on, enhancement, aggregation, destruction, theft, loss, privacy, security, or disposal of or to, any Data or information or Systems.

“**Producer Contract**” has the meaning set forth in the definition of “Material Contract.”

“**PTCE**” has the meaning set forth in Section 3.17(d).

“**Purchased Interests**” has the meaning set forth in the recitals.

“**Registered Intellectual Property**” has the meaning set forth in Section 3.21(a).

“**Related Party**” means, with respect to any natural person: (a) the parents of such Person; (b) the spouse or domestic partner of such Person; (c) the spouse of such Person’s children; (d) the lineal descendants of such Person’s parents, spouse or domestic partner, including any adoptive relationships, (e) estates, trusts, partnerships and other entities of which any portion of the legal or beneficial interests are held directly or indirectly by the foregoing and (f) any Affiliates of any of the Persons described in clauses (a)-(e).

“**Representatives**” means, with regard to any specified Person, such Person’s directors, officers, employees, partners, members, Affiliates, financial advisors, attorneys, accountants, consultants, agents and representatives.

“**Resolution Date**” has the meaning set forth in Section 1.4(e).

“**Resolution Period**” has the meaning set forth in Section 1.4(b).

“**Restricted Person**” means any person or entity identified on the U.S. Department of the Treasury Office of Foreign Assets Control (“**OFAC**”)’s Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons List, Sectoral Sanctions Identifications List, or Chinese Military Industrial Complex Companies List, the U.S. Department of Commerce Bureau of Industry and Security (“**BIS**”)’s Denied Persons List, Unverified List, Military End Users List, or Entity List or the U.S. Department of State’s Debarred List or Nonproliferation Sanctions List.

“**Restriction Period**” means the period commencing on the Closing Date and continuing for five (5) years following the Closing Date.

“**Review Period**” has the meaning set forth in Section 1.4(b).

“**Sanctioned Country**” means, at any time, a country or territory which is itself the subject or target of any country-wide or territory-wide Sanctions (at the time of this Agreement), Cuba, Iran, North Korea Syria, the Crimea, so-called People’s Republic of Donetsk and so-called People’s Republic Luhansk regions of Ukraine, Venezuela and, as applicable within the previous five years, Sudan.

“Sanctioned Person” means any Person that is the target of any Sanctions or subject to any Customs or Trade Laws restrictions, including (a) any Restricted Person or person listed on any Sanctions- or export-restricted party list maintained by a Governmental Authority of the United States (including OFAC, BIS, and the U.S. Department of State), Canada, the United Kingdom (including the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office and HM Treasury, including the Office of Financial Sanctions Implementation), the United Nations Security Council, the European Union, any European Union Member State, or any other relevant jurisdiction; (b) organized, resident or located in a Sanctioned Country; (c) in the aggregate, 50% or more owned, directly or indirectly, or otherwise controlled by a Person or Persons described in clause (a) or (b); or (d) any national of a Sanctioned Country with whom U.S. Persons are prohibited from dealing.

“Sanctions” means all Laws and orders relating to economic, financial, or trade sanctions administered or enforced by the United States (including by the U.S. Department of Treasury’s Office of Foreign Assets Control and the U.S. Department of State), Canada, the United Kingdom (including the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office and HM Treasury, including the Office of Financial Sanctions Implementation), the United Nations Security Council, the European Union, any European Union Member State, or any other relevant Governmental Authority.

“SEC” means the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

“Securities” has the meaning set forth in Section 2.8(a).

“Securities Act” means the U.S. Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder.

“Security Incident” means any actual or reasonably suspected (i) breach of security, successful phishing incident, ransomware or malware attack affecting any System, (ii) incident in which any Business Data Processed by or for any member of the Company Group or the thereof was or may have been Processed in an unauthorized manner or otherwise lost, compromised, or exfiltrated, or (iii) other cyber or security incident with respect to any Systems or Business Data.

“Self-Regulatory Organization” means, each national securities exchange in the United States and each other commission, board, agency or body, whether United States or foreign, that is charged with the supervision or regulation of brokers, dealers, commodity pool operators, commodity trading advisors, futures commission merchants, securities underwriting or trading, stock exchanges, commodities exchanges, insurance companies or agents, investment companies or investment advisers, or to the jurisdiction of which any member of the Company Group is subject.

“Seller” has the meaning set forth in the preamble to this Agreement.

“Seller 1” has the meaning set forth in the Preamble.

“Seller 2” has the meaning set forth in the Preamble.

“Seller Disclosure Schedule” has the meaning set forth in Article II.

“Seller Fundamental Representations” means each of the representations and warranties set forth in Section 2.1 (Organization), Section 2.2 (Authority; Validity of Agreements), Section 2.3 (Title to Purchased Interests), Section 2.7 (Brokers and Finders), Section 3.1 (Organization), Section 3.2 (Capital Structure; Subsidiaries), Section 3.3 (Authority; Validity of Agreements), Section 3.14 (Affiliate Arrangements) and Section 3.24 (Brokers and Finders).

“**Seller Indemnified Parties**” has the meaning set forth in Section 8.2.

“**Seller Prepared Returns**” has the meaning set forth in Section 5.10(c).

“**Set-Off Notice**” has the meaning set forth in Section 1.5(c)(vii).

“**Stockholders’ Agreement**” means the Stockholders’ Agreement of Buyer, dated as of the Closing Date, by and between Buyer and the Trust Sellers.

“**Shortfall Amount**” has the meaning set forth in Section 1.4(f).

“**Similar Law**” means any Applicable Laws that are substantially similar to Title I of ERISA or Section 4975 of the Code.

“**State Adviser Laws**” has the meaning set forth in Section 3.15(d).

“**Straddle Period**” means any taxable period that includes but does not end on the Closing Date.

“**Subject Amount**” has the meaning set forth in Schedule A.1.

“**Subject Contract**” has the meaning set forth in Schedule A.2.

“**Subsidiary**” of a Person means an Affiliate of such Person of which 50% or more of the voting stock (or of any general partnership or other voting or controlling equity interest in the case of a Person that is not a corporation) is beneficially owned by the Person directly or indirectly through one or more other Persons; provided that a “Client” shall not be deemed a Subsidiary of any of the Companies.

“**Systems**” means all software, computers, computer systems, servers, hardware, telecommunications and network equipment, firmware, middleware, websites, Data, networks, workstations, routers, hubs, switches, communication equipment and lines, telecommunications equipment and lines, co-location facilities and equipment, and all other information technology equipment and related items of automated, computerized or software systems, including any outsourced systems and processes and the data transmitted thereby or thereon, in each case owned, leased or licensed by any member of the Company Group, any Seller or any of their respective Affiliates, or otherwise used in or relied on in connection with the operation of the business of any member of the Company Group.

“**Tail Policy**” has the meaning set forth in Section 5.13(a).

“**Tax**” means: (a) any federal, state, local, foreign and other taxes, levies, fees, imports, duties and charges of whatever kind imposed by any taxing or similar authority (including any interest, penalties, or additions to the tax attributable to, imposed in connection therewith, or with respect thereto), including taxes imposed on, or measured by net or gross income, alternative minimum, accumulated earnings, personal holding company, franchise, doing business, unincorporated business, capital stock, net worth, assets, capital, profits, windfall profits, gross receipts, business, escheat or unclaimed property, securities transaction, value added, sales, use, excise, custom, transfer, registration, stamp, premium, real property, personal property, ad valorem, intangibles, rent, occupancy, license, occupational, employment, unemployment, social security (or similar), disability, workers’ compensation, payroll, withholding, estimated and recording, whether computed on a separate, consolidated, unitary, combined or other basis; (b) any liability for the payment of any amounts described in this definition as a result of being a member of an affiliated, consolidated, combined, unitary or similar group, as a result of transferor or successor liability, or as a result of the operation of Law; and (c) any liability for the payments of any amounts as a result of being a Party to any tax sharing agreement or as a result of any express or implied obligation to indemnify any other Person with respect to the payment of any amounts of the type described in clause (a) or (b).

“**Tax Return**” means any return, report, declaration, form, claim for refund or information statement relating to Taxes, including any schedule or attachment thereto, and including any amendment thereof.

“**Termination Date**” has the meaning set forth in Section 7.1(a)(v).

“**Texas Insurance Approval**” means a filing of a Form FIN-531 with, and approval or non-objection of such filing by, the Texas Department of Insurance.

“**Third Party Claim**” has the meaning set forth in Section 8.3(b)(i).

“**Third Party Notice**” has the meaning set forth in Section 8.3(b)(i).

“**Total Consideration**” means an amount equal to the sum of the Closing Cash Consideration, the Nu Ride Class A Common Stock Consideration, the Buyer Stock Consideration and the Maximum Earnout Payment Amount.

“**Train**” means, with respect to any AI Technology, to train, fine-tune, test, or validate such AI Technology.

“**Transaction Expenses**” means (a) all out-of-pocket expenses (including all fees and expenses of counsel, accountants, investment bankers, including Generational Equity, experts and consultants to a Party and its Affiliates) incurred or subject to reimbursement by the Company Group and Sellers or on their behalf in connection with or related to the authorization, preparation, negotiation, execution and performance of this Agreement, the Ancillary Agreements and the Transactions, (b) any sale, change of control or transaction bonus, retention, stay, severance, deferred compensation, incentive or other similar compensatory payment or benefit payable or provided to any current or former employee or other individual service provider of the Company Group, in each case, in connection with the execution and delivery of this Agreement or the consummation of the Transactions (including in combination with any other event), together with the employer portion of any applicable FICA, state, local or foreign withholding, payroll, social security, Medicare or similar Taxes therefrom, (c) any Transfer Taxes, (d) fifty percent (50%) of the fees and expenses of the Escrow Agent and (e) all costs and expenses in connection with obtaining the Tail Policy.

“**Transactions**” means the transactions contemplated by this Agreement and the Ancillary Agreements.

“**Transfer**” has the meaning set forth in Section 1.5(c)(v).

“**Transfer Tax Returns**” has the meaning set forth in Section 5.10(b).

“**Transfer Taxes**” means all sales (including, without limitation, bulk sales), use, transfer, recording, privilege, documentary, registration, conveyance, excise, license, stamp, duties or similar Taxes and fees incurred in connection with or resulting from this Agreement and the transactions contemplated hereunder.

“**Treasury Regulations**” means the final and temporary federal income tax regulations promulgated under the Code, as the same may be amended hereafter from time to time.

“**Unaudited Company Consolidated Balance Sheet**” has the meaning set forth in Section 3.6(a).

“**Wire Transfer**” means a payment in immediately available funds by wire transfer in U.S. dollars.

Lock-Up Provisions

(a) Sellers shall not effect any Trade, other than a Permitted Transfer, of any shares of Nu Ride Class A Common Stock constituting Nu Ride Class A Common Stock Consideration beneficially owned or otherwise held by the Sellers (the “Lock-Up Shares”) during the period beginning on the Closing Date and continuing to and including the date that is three years after the Closing Date (the “Lock-Up Period”); provided the Lock-Up Period shall expire and terminate in the event of the termination of Hall without “Cause” as defined in and pursuant to the Key Person Employment Agreement.

(b) During the Lock-Up Period, any purported Transfer of Lock-Up Shares by the Sellers other than in accordance with this Agreement shall be null and void, and Nu Ride Inc. shall refuse to recognize any such Transfer for any purpose.

(c) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in this Agreement, during the Lock-Up Period, the Holders may make Permitted Transfers of any Lock-Up Shares. In connection with any Permitted Transfer of Lock-Up Shares, (i) the restrictions and obligations contained in this Annex C will continue to apply to such Lock-Up Shares after any Transfer of such Lock-Up Shares, and (ii) the transferee of such Lock-Up Shares shall have no rights under this Agreement, unless, for the avoidance of doubt, such transferee is a Permitted Transferee in accordance with this Agreement and complies with the following sentence. Any transferee of Lock-Up Shares that is a Permitted Transferee of the transferor shall be required, at the time of and as a condition to such Transfer, to become a party to this Agreement solely for purposes of this Annex C by executing and delivering a joinder, whereupon such transferee will be treated as a Party (with the same rights and obligations as the transferor as to the applicable Lock-Up Shares) for all purposes of Annex C of this Agreement.

(d) In order to enforce the foregoing covenant, Nu Ride Inc. shall place restrictive legends on the certificates or book-entry positions representing the applicable Lock-Up Shares subject to this Annex C and shall be entitled to impose stop transfer instructions with respect to such shares until the end of the applicable Lock-Up Period. Such legend shall be in substantially the following form, in addition to any other applicable legends:

“THE SECURITIES REPRESENTED HEREBY ARE SUBJECT TO RESTRICTIONS ON TRANSFER SET FORTH IN ANNEX C OF THE MEMBERSHIP INTEREST PURCHASE AGREEMENT, DATED AS OF JUNE 2, 2026, BY AND AMONG THE ISSUER OF SUCH SECURITIES AND THE HOLDER OF THE NU RIDE CLASS A COMMON STOCK. A COPY OF SUCH AGREEMENT WILL BE FURNISHED WITHOUT CHARGE BY THE ISSUER TO THE HOLDER HEREOF UPON WRITTEN REQUEST.”

(e) Additional Definitions:

(i) “Family Member” with respect to any Person who is an individual, means (A) such Person’s spouse, former spouse, ancestors and descendants (whether natural or adopted), parents and their descendants and any spouse of the foregoing persons (collectively, “relatives”); (B) any trust, family partnership or estate- or tax-planning vehicle the sole economic beneficiaries of which are such Person or such Person’s relatives; (C) the trustee, fiduciary, executor or personal representative of such Seller with respect to any entity described in the immediately preceding clause (B); or (D) any limited partnership, limited liability company, corporation or other entity the governing instruments of which provide that such Person (or such Person’s relatives or executor) shall have the power to direct the management and policies of such entity and of which the sole owners of partnership interests, membership interests or any other equity interests are, and will remain, limited to such Seller and such Person’s relatives.

(ii) “Holder” means initially, any Seller, and then any holder of Nu Ride Class A Common Stock or who is a Party to, or who succeeds to rights under and pursuant to, this Annex C of this Agreement.

(iii) “Permitted Transfer” means any Transfer (A) of any Nu Ride Class A Common Stock constituting Nu Ride Class A Common Stock Consideration, made to a Permitted Transferee of the transferor upon prior written notice to Nu Ride Inc., (B) of Nu Ride Class A Common Stock to Nu Ride Inc. in accordance with its certificate of incorporation or (C) made pursuant to any liquidation, merger, stock exchange or other similar transaction subsequent to the Closing Date which results in all of Nu Ride Inc.’s stockholders exchanging or having the right to exchange their Nu Ride Class A Common Stock for cash, securities or other property.

(iv) “Permitted Transferee” means, with respect to any Person, (A) any Family Member of such Person, (B) any Affiliate of such Person, (C) any Affiliate of any Family Member of such Person, (D) if such Person is a natural person, (i) by virtue of laws of descent and distribution upon death of such individual or (ii) in accordance with a qualified domestic relations order or (E) the members, managers, limited or general partners, stockholders or other equityholders of such Person as part of a distribution of any Nu Ride Class A Common Stock to such members, managers, limited or general partners, stockholders or other equityholders.

(v) “Trade” means (A) any Transfer and (B) any hedging or other transaction or arrangement (including, without limitation, any short sale or the purchase or sale of, or entry into, any put or call option, or combination thereof, forward, swap or any other derivative transaction or instrument, however described or defined) which is designed to or which reasonably could be expected to lead to or result in a sale, loan, pledge or other disposition (whether by the undersigned or someone other than the undersigned on behalf of the undersigned), or transfer of any of the economic consequences of ownership, in whole or in part, directly or indirectly, of any Nu Ride Class A Common Stock to the extent constituting Nu Ride Class A Common Stock Consideration, whether any such transaction or arrangement (or instrument provided for thereunder) would be settled by delivery of Nu Ride Class A Common Stock, or other securities, in cash or otherwise.

Accounting Principles

The Estimated Closing Statement (and the calculation of the Estimated Closing Cash Consideration set forth therein, including the components included therein of Cash, Net Working Capital, Indebtedness and Transaction Expenses) and the Closing Statement (and the calculation of the Closing Cash Consideration set forth therein, including the components included therein of Cash, Net Working Capital, Indebtedness and Transaction Expenses) shall be prepared and calculated in accordance with GAAP. The foregoing will also be calculated in accordance with the following clauses (a), (b) and (c) and with respect to Net Working Capital, also as outlined in Exhibit B.

(a) Treatment of Payroll Cash – While Cash was excluded from the Exhibit B calculation of the Net Working Capital, any Cash delivered by Sellers in respect of payroll liabilities (which will be delivered in the amount of \$100,000 at Closing and will not count as Cash of the Companies that increases the Estimated Closing Cash Consideration or Closing Cash Consideration to be paid at Closing) will be included in the calculation of Net Working Capital.

(b) Accounts Receivable – Any unpaid accounts receivables as of Closing that are collected within the period after Closing and prior to delivery of the Closing Statement will be included in the calculation of Net Working Capital.

(c) Indebtedness – Any items included in the calculation of Indebtedness will be excluded from Net Working Capital.

Form of Assignment Agreement

For value received, [Trust Seller] (“Trust Seller”) hereby sells, assigns and transfers unto Affinity Advisory Holdings Corp., a Delaware corporation (“Buyer”), all of Trust Seller’s right, title and interest in and to all of the equity interests of [Company], an Ohio limited liability company (the “Company”) held by Trust Seller (the “Company Interests”), free and clear of all Liens, none of which Company Interests are represented by a certificate and all of which Company Interests are standing in the name of the undersigned on the books of the Company, and hereby irrevocably constitutes and appoints each officer of the Company (acting alone or with one or more agents) as attorney-in-fact to transfer the Company Interests on the books of the Company with full power of substitution in the premises. Capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in that certain Membership Interest Purchase Agreement, dated as of June 2, 2026 (the “Purchase Agreement”), by and among Buyer, Trust Seller, the Company and the other parties signatory thereto.

This Assignment Agreement is entered into in accordance with and is subject to all of the terms and conditions set forth in the Purchase Agreement, all of which are hereby incorporated herein by reference. Nothing in this Assignment Agreement shall be construed as a waiver or limitation upon any of the rights or remedies of the parties hereto as set forth in, or arising in connection with, the Purchase Agreement, or any instrument or document delivered by the parties hereto pursuant to the Purchase Agreement. The provisions of Section 5.9 (Further Assurances) and Article IX of the Purchase Agreement are hereby incorporated by reference to this Assignment Agreement mutatis mutandis.

Dated: [●], 2026

TRUST SELLER:

[TRUST SELLER]

By: _____
Name: _____
Title: _____

Dated: [●], 2026

BUYER:

Affinity Advisory Holdings Corp.

By: _____
Name: _____
Title: _____

AMENDMENT TO MEMBERSHIP INTEREST PURCHASE AGREEMENT

This **AMENDMENT TO PURCHASE AGREEMENT**, dated as of this 12th day of August, 2026, but effective as of the 15th day of July (this “**Amendment**”), is entered into by and among the undersigned parties hereto. Capitalized terms used and not otherwise defined herein shall for all purposes of this Amendment have the respective meanings specified therefor in that certain Membership Interest Purchase Agreement dated effective as of June 2, 2026 (the “**Purchase Agreement**”) by and among (a) Affinity Advisory Holdings Corp., a Delaware corporation (“**Buyer**”), (b) Affinity Advisory Network, LLC, an Ohio limited liability company (“**Affinity**”), (c) AAN Wealth Advisors, LLC, an Ohio limited liability company (“**AAN**” and together with Affinity, the “**Companies**” and each, a “**Company**”), (d) Holly A. Postlewaite, as Trustee of the HIH M MFTG Trust, dated January 1, 2026 (“**Seller 1**”), (e) Joshua A. Postlewaite, as Trustee of The Hall Companies Corporate Ohio Legacy Trust, dated January 1, 2024 (“**Seller 2**” and together with Seller 1, the “**Trust Sellers**” and each, a “**Trust Seller**”) and Robert Hall (“**Hall**” and together with the Trust Sellers, the “**Sellers**” and each a “**Seller**”, and together with Buyer and the Companies, collectively, the “**Parties**” and each, a “**Party**”).

Recitals:

- A. The Parties executed the Purchase Agreement on June 2, 2026 and consummated the transaction contemplated thereunder on July 15, 2026 (the “**Closing**”).
- B. The Parties desire to amend Annex B to the Purchase Agreement to amend and restate the allocation of the Purchase Price among the Trust Sellers.

Terms:

1. Amendment to Annex B. Annex B to the Purchase Agreement is hereby deleted in its entirety and replaced by Annex B attached hereto and by this reference made a part hereof.
2. Ratification. The Parties hereby ratify and confirm their obligations pursuant to the Purchase Agreement, as amended by this Amendment. It is further agreed by the parties that, except as expressly modified herein, all other terms and conditions concerning the Purchase Agreement shall remain in full force and effect as originally written and are hereby ratified and confirmed.
3. Authority to Execute. The individual(s) executing this Amendment on behalf of the respective parties hereto represents and warrants that they are duly authorized to deliver this Amendment on behalf of the respective parties hereto and that this Amendment is binding upon the respective parties hereto in accordance with its terms.
4. Miscellaneous. The provisions of Article IX of the Purchase Agreement are incorporated herein by reference and shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the terms and conditions of this Amendment as to each party hereto.

[The remainder of this page is left intentionally blank. Signature Page to follow.]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this **AMENDMENT TO MEMBERSHIP INTEREST PURCHASE AGREEMENT** has been duly executed and delivered by the duly authorized officers of each of the parties hereto as of the date first written above.

AFFINITY ADVISORY NETWORK, LLC

By: /s/ Robert Hall
Name: Robert Hall
Title: Manager

AAN WEALTH ADVISORS, LLC

By: /s/ Robert Hall
Name: Robert Hall
Title: Manager

HHH M MFTG TRUST, DATED JANUARY 1, 2026:

By: /s/ Holly A. Postlewaite
Name: Holly A. Postlewaite
Title: Trustee

**THE HALL COMPANIES CORPORATE OHIO
LEGACY TRUST, DATED JANUARY 1, 2024:**

By: /s/ Joshua A. Postlewaite
Name: Joshua A. Postlewaite
Title: Trustee

ROBERT HALL

/s/ Robert Hall

AFFINITY ADVISORY HOLDINGS CORP.

By: /s/ Alexander C. Matina
Name: Alexander C. Matina
Title: President

Annex B

Sellers; Allocable Portions; Ownership

[illegible]

STOCKHOLDERS AGREEMENT

THIS STOCKHOLDERS AGREEMENT (this “**Agreement**”) dated as of July 13, 2026, is made by and among Affinity Advisory Holdings Corp., a Delaware corporation (the “**Company**”), Nu Ride Inc., a Delaware corporation (“**Parent**”), each of the other Persons listed on the signature pages attached hereto (collectively, the “**RH Trust Holders**” and each, an “**RH Trust Holder**”), and each other Person who executes a joinder in the form of Exhibit A attached hereto after the date hereof (collectively, the “**Additional Holders**” and each, an “**Additional Holder**”, and together with the RH Trust Holders and their respective Permitted Transferees, the “**Minority Stockholders**” and each, a “**Minority Stockholder**”, and collectively with Parent, the RH Trust Holders and their respective Permitted Transferees, the “**Stockholders**” and individually a “**Stockholder**”). Capitalized terms used herein but not otherwise defined have their meanings set forth in Section 1.

WHEREAS, each Stockholder owns certain shares of the common stock of the Company, par value \$0.001 per share (the “**Common Stock**”); and

WHEREAS, the Company and the Stockholders desire to enter into this Agreement for the purposes of, among other things, establishing the composition of the Board and the manner and terms by which the Stockholder Shares may be transferred.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants contained herein and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the parties hereby agree as follows:

1. Definitions. As used herein, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

“**Affiliate**” means, as to any Person, any other Person which directly or indirectly controls, or is under common control with, or is controlled by, such Person. As used in this definition, “control” (including, with its correlative meanings, “controlled by” and “under common control with”) shall mean possession, directly or indirectly, of power to direct or cause the direction of management or policies (whether through ownership of securities or partnership or other ownership interests, by contract or otherwise). For the avoidance of doubt, the Company and Parent shall not be Affiliates of any RH Holders.

“**Aggregate Consideration**” has the meaning set forth in Section 6(c).

“**Agreement**” has the meaning set forth in the preamble to this Agreement.

“**Approved Sale**” has the meaning set forth in Section 6(a).

“**Approved Sale Notice**” has the meaning set forth in Section 6(a).

“**Approving Stockholders**” has the meaning set forth in Section 6(a).

“**Available Shares**” has the meaning set forth in Section 11(d)(i).

“**Board**” means the Company’s board of directors.

“Business Day” means any day that is not a Saturday, Sunday or other day on which banks are required or authorized by law to be closed in New York, New York.

“Cause” means (a) for any Management Stockholder who is party to an employment agreement, consulting agreement or similar agreement with the Company or a Subsidiary or other Affiliate of the Company that defines “Cause,” “Cause” as defined in such agreement, and (b) for any other Management Stockholder: (i) the repeated failure of such Person to perform such duties as are lawfully requested by the Board or by any employee to whom such Person reports, directly or indirectly, (ii) the repeated failure by such Person to observe all material and lawful policies of the Company and its Subsidiaries applicable to such Person, (iii) any action or omission constituting gross negligence or willful misconduct of such Person in the performance of his or her duties, (iv) the material breach by such Person of any provision of the Company’s or its Subsidiaries’ respective employee handbooks, such Person’s employment, consulting or service agreement with the Company or any of its Subsidiaries, or the breach by such Person of any non-competition, non-solicitation or similar restrictive agreement with the Company or any of its Subsidiaries, (v) any act or omission constituting fraud, embezzlement, disloyalty or dishonesty with respect to the Company or its Subsidiaries, (vi) the use of illegal drugs or repetitive abuse of other drugs or repetitive excess consumption of alcohol interfering with the performance of such Person’s duties, or other conduct (whenever occurring) causing the Company or any of its Subsidiaries public disgrace that is reasonably expected to cause economic harm, or (vii) the commission of any felony or of a misdemeanor involving dishonesty, disloyalty, or moral turpitude. Notwithstanding the foregoing, it shall be a condition precedent to the Company’s right to terminate any Management Stockholder for “Cause” that, for the purposes of subsections (i), (ii) and (iv) hereof, if the “Cause” event is curable, the Company shall first give the Management Stockholder written notice stating with reasonable specificity the reason for the termination and a period of fifteen (15) days from and after the giving of such notice shall have elapsed without the Management Stockholder having effectively cured or remedied such breach during such 15-day period.

“Certificate of Incorporation” means the Certificate of Incorporation of the Company, as amended, restated or otherwise modified from time to time.

“Common Stock” has the meaning set forth in the recitals to this Agreement.

“Company” has the meaning set forth in the preamble to this Agreement.

“Distribution Priorities” has the meaning set forth in Section 6(c).

“Equity Interest” means any share, capital stock, partnership, member or similar interest in the Company, including any option, warrant, right or security (including debt securities) convertible, exchangeable or exercisable therefor.

“Fair Market Value” of each share of Management Securities means the market value as finally determined pursuant to Section 11(c).

“**Family Group**” means, with respect to an individual, such individual’s spouse and descendants (whether natural or adopted) and any trust solely for the benefit of such individual and/or such individual’s spouse, their respective ancestors and/or descendants (whether natural or adopted).

“**Fiscal Year**” means the calendar year, unless the Company has a taxable year other than the calendar year, in which case Fiscal Year shall be the period that conforms to its taxable year.

“**Management Securities**” means the Stockholder Shares or rights to acquire Stockholder Shares which are issued to, acquired by or held by a Management Stockholder; provided that Management Securities shall continue to be Management Securities in the hands of any transferee, directly or indirectly, of a Management Stockholder (except for the Company, Parent or their Affiliates).

“**Management Stockholder**” means any Stockholder who is an employee, consultant, or director of the Company or any of its Subsidiaries at the time of or after becoming a party to this Agreement.

“**Membership Interest Purchase Agreement**” means the Membership Interest Purchase Agreement dated as of June 2, 2026, by and among the Company, Affinity Advisory Network, LLC, AAN Wealth Advisors, LLC, HHH M MFTG Trust, the Hall Companies Corporate Ohio Legacy Trust and Robert Hall, as amended, restated or otherwise modified from time to time.

“**Option Notice**” has the meaning set forth in Section 11(d)(i).

“**Other Stockholders**” means, with respect to a Stockholder, all Stockholders other than such Stockholder.

“**Parent Majority Holders**” means the holders of a majority of the issued and outstanding Parent Stockholder Shares.

“**Parent Nominee**” has the meaning set forth in Section 2(a)(i)(A).

“**Parent Stockholder Shares**” means all Stockholder Shares issued or issuable to, or held by, Parent and those transferees that are Affiliates of Parent or are expressly designated by Parent as holders of Parent Stockholder Shares; provided, that if the transferee of Parent is not an Affiliate of Parent and Parent does not make such designation, the transferee will own Stockholder Shares and shall have none of the rights granted to the holders of the Parent Stockholder Shares.

“**Permitted Transferees**” has the meaning given thereto in Section 5(d).

“**Person**” means an individual, a partnership, a corporation, a limited liability company, an association, a joint stock company, a trust, a joint venture, an unincorporated organization or a governmental entity or any department, agency or political subdivision thereof.

“**Public Offering**” means the sale, in an underwritten public offering registered under the Securities Act, of shares of Common Stock of the Company.

“**Public Sale**” means any sale of Stockholder Shares to the public pursuant to an offering registered under the Securities Act or to the public effected through a broker, dealer or market maker pursuant to the provisions of Rule 144 under the Securities Act.

“**Qualified Public Offering**” means a Public Offering providing aggregate gross proceeds (before deducting under-writing discounts and expenses) to the Company and any selling Stockholders of at least \$50 million and at an offering price which represents a common equity valuation of Common Stock outstanding immediately prior to the issuance of Common Stock in connection with such offering of at least \$250 million.

“**Repurchase Notice**” has the meaning set forth in Section 11(c).

“**Repurchase Option**” has the meaning set forth in Section 11(a).

“**Repurchase Price**” has the meaning set forth in Section 11(c).

“**RH Holders**” means, collectively, the RH Trust Holders and to the extent holding Stockholder Shares, Robert Hall and his and the RH Trust Holders’ respective Affiliates and their Permitted Transferees pursuant to this Agreement.

“**RH Stockholder Shares**” means all Stockholder Shares issued or issuable to or held by any RH Holders.

“**RH Trust Holders**” has the meaning set forth in the preamble to this Agreement

“**Sale Notice**” has the meaning set forth in Section 5(c).

“**Sale of the Company**” means (a) a transaction or series of transactions (including by way of merger, consolidation, or sale of equity) the result of which is that the holders of the Stockholder Shares immediately prior to such transaction(s) (on a fully diluted as if converted basis) and their Affiliates are, after giving effect to such transaction(s), no longer, in the aggregate, (i) the “beneficial owners” (as such term is defined in Rule 13d-3 and Rule 13d-5 promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act), directly or indirectly through one or more intermediaries, of more than 50% of the Stockholder Shares or the shares of capital stock of any Subsidiary of the Company (on a fully diluted basis as if converted basis) or (ii) able to designate or elect a majority of the board of directors (or its equivalent) of the Company, any Subsidiary of the Company or the resulting entity or its parent company, or (b) sale, lease, transfer, conveyance or other disposition, in one or a series of related transactions, of all or substantially all of the Company’s or any of its Subsidiary’s assets determined on a consolidated basis.

“**Securities Act**” means the Securities Act of 1933, as amended from time to time.

“**Securities Exchange Act**” means the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended from time to time.

“**Stock Equivalents**” means any securities convertible into or exchangeable for capital stock of the Company.

“**Stockholder**” has the meaning set forth in the preamble to this Agreement.

“**Stockholder Shares**” means (i) any Common Stock held by the Stockholders, (ii) any other capital stock, if applicable, held by the Stockholders, and (iii) any equity securities of the Company issued or issuable directly or indirectly with respect to the securities referred to in clauses (i) or (ii) above by way of stock dividend or stock split or in connection with a combination of shares, recapitalization, merger, consolidation or other reorganization.

“**Stockholder Shares Deemed Outstanding**” means the number of Stockholder Shares, determined on a fully diluted basis giving effect to all outstanding Stock Equivalents or any options, warrants or other rights to acquire capital stock of the Company or Stock Equivalents, in each case without regard to any restrictions on exercise, exchange or conversion.

“**Subsidiary**” means, with respect to any Person, any corporation, partnership, association or other business entity of which (i) if a corporation, a majority of the total voting power of shares of stock entitled (without regard to the occurrence of any contingency) to vote in the election of directors, managers or trustees thereof is at the time owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by that Person or one or more of the other Subsidiaries of that Person or a combination thereof, or (ii) if a partnership, association or other business entity, a majority of the partnership or other similar ownership interest thereof is at the time owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by any Person or one or more Subsidiaries of that Person or a combination thereof. For purposes hereof, a Person or Persons shall be deemed to have a majority ownership interest in a partnership, association or other business entity if such Person or Persons shall be allocated a majority of partnership, association or other business entity gains or losses or shall be or control the managing director or a general partner of such partnership, association or other business entity.

“**Transfer**” has the meaning set forth in Section 5(a).

2. Board of Directors.

(a) Until the provisions of this Section 2 cease to be effective, to the extent permitted by law, each Stockholder shall vote all voting securities of the Company over which such Stockholder has voting control, and shall take all other necessary or desirable actions within such Stockholder’s control (whether in such Stockholder’s capacity as a stockholder, director, member of a board committee or officer of the Company or otherwise, and including, without limitation, attendance at meetings in person or by proxy for purposes of obtaining a quorum and execution of written consents in lieu of meetings), and the Company shall take all necessary and desirable actions within its control (including, without limitation, calling special Board and stockholder meetings), so that:

(i) the initial authorized number of directors on the Board shall be established at four (4) persons and that the following persons shall be elected to the Board:

(A) three (3) persons designated by the Parent Majority Holders from time to time (such persons, collectively, the “**Parent Nominees**” and each, a “**Parent Nominee**”), with the initial Parent Nominee being Alexander Matina; and

(B) for so long as the RH Trust Holders continue to collectively own at least a number of shares of Common Stock equal to the number of shares of Common Stock held by them on the date hereof, and in any event until the end of the Earnout Period, as defined in the Membership Interest Purchase Agreement, one (1) person designated by the RH Trust Holders holding a majority of the issued and outstanding shares of Common Stock then held by all of the RH Trust Holders (such person, the “**RH Trust Holders Nominee**”), who shall initially be Robert Hall.

(ii) the authorized number of directors on the Board may be increased or decreased from time to time, to the extent such increase or decrease is approved by the Board and the Parent Majority Holders. Any vacancy created by a newly created Board seat shall be filled and removed by the Board at the direction of or with the approval of the Parent Majority Holders;

(iii) committees of the Board may be established from time to time by the Board in its discretion; provided that (x) a majority of the members of all committees shall consist of Parent Nominees, and (y) the RH Trust Holders Nominee shall be included in committees of the Board; provided that the Parent Majority Holders determine in good faith that the appointment of the RH Trust Holders Nominee to such committee would not result in a conflict of interest with respect to the matters delegated to the authority of such committee;

(iv) any Parent Nominee may only be removed from the Board or any committee thereof at the written request of the Parent Majority Holders, but only upon such written request and under no other circumstances except as required by law;

(v) the RH Trust Holders Nominee may only be removed from the Board or any committee thereof, at the written request of the holders of a majority of the Stockholder Shares held by the RH Trust Holders; provided, that the Parent Majority Holders shall have the right to remove the RH Trust Holders Nominee from the Board at any time upon the termination of the RH Trust Holders Nominee’s (or, if the RH Trust Holders Nominee is not Robert Hall, Robert Hall’s) employment or service with the Company and/or its Subsidiaries; and

(vi) in the event that any Parent Nominee designated hereunder for any reason ceases to serve as a member of the Board or any committee thereof during such Parent Nominee’s term of office, the resulting vacancy on the Board shall be filled by a representative designated by the Parent Majority Holders; and

(vii) in the event that the RH Trust Holders Nominee designated hereunder for any reason ceases to serve as a member of the Board or any committee thereof during such RH Trust Holders Nominee’s term of office, then if at such time the RH Trust Holders are entitled to designate a director to the Board pursuant to Section 2(a)(i)(B), the resulting vacancy on the Board shall be filled by a representative designated by the RH Trust Holders holding a majority of the shares of Common Stock then held by all of the RH Trust Holders and, if such designee is not Robert Hall, who is reasonably acceptable to the Parent Majority Holders.

(b) The Company shall, pursuant to such policies as are from time to time established by the Board, pay the reasonable out-of-pocket expenses incurred by each director of the Company, in connection with attending the meetings of the Board and any committee thereof and any other activity or travel that such director is required to make in connection with such director's role as a member of the Board. The Company shall be permitted to pay director fees to all directors except those directors who are employees of the Company, as determined by the Board. So long as any director serves on the Board and for six (6) years thereafter, the Company or an Affiliate thereof shall maintain directors and officers indemnity insurance coverage and employment practices liability insurance coverage (or equivalent "tail" insurance policies) reasonably satisfactory to the Parent Majority Holders, and the governing documents of the Company and its Subsidiaries shall provide for indemnification and exculpation of directors to the fullest extent possible under applicable law. This Agreement does not, and is not intended to, confer upon any director any rights with respect to continued employment by the Company or any of its Subsidiaries, and nothing herein should be construed to have created any employment agreement with any director.

(c) For so long as the RH Trust Holders are entitled to designate the RH Trust Holders Nominee, (i) actions by the Board that by their terms materially and adversely affect the RH Trust Holders' rights in a disproportionate manner relative to the rights of Parent, (ii) material transactions between the Company and Parent that are not on commercial, arm's-length terms in any material respect, and (iii) any repurchase or redemption of any Parent Stockholder Shares by the Company, other than a repurchase or redemption proportionately affecting or offered to all outstanding shares of the same class of capital stock of the Company, shall, in each case, require the affirmative vote of the RH Trust Holders Nominee (which shall not be unreasonably withheld, delayed or conditioned); provided that (a) the RH Trust Holders Nominee's vote shall be cast in good faith and in compliance with his or her fiduciary and other duties to the Company, its Subsidiaries and their respective stockholders, and (b) if the RH Trust Holders Nominee fails to vote on such action (including, for these purposes, if there is not an RH Trust Holders Nominee in office at such time) within ten (10) days following the delivery of notice that the Company desires to take such action, then the RH Trust Holders Nominee's affirmative vote shall no longer be required for the Company or its Subsidiary to take such action.

(d) Except as expressly provided in clause (c) above, all actions of the Board shall require a simple majority of the votes of directors then in office. Each Stockholder agrees that (i) each director shall be entitled to cast one vote with respect to any matter before the Board or any committee of the Board and (ii) if not all of the Parent Nominees are present at any meeting of the Board, or if not all of the Parent Nominee seats are filled, then the Parent Nominee(s) present at any meeting of the Board or who are signing a written consent in lieu of a meeting shall have the right to cast an aggregate number of Board votes equal to the number of votes that could have been cast by all Parent Nominees if they were present and all seats were filled.

(e) A quorum for a meeting of the Board or committee thereof, shall exist if the majority of directors serving on the Board or committee (as applicable), including at least one Parent Nominee, are present at such meeting.

(f) Any action required or permitted to be taken at any meeting of the Board or of any committee thereof may be taken without a meeting if all members of the Board or committee, as the case may be, consent thereto in writing (including by e-mail or by other means of electronic transmission), as the case may be.

(g) If an issue is to be discussed or voted upon, or otherwise arises at a meeting of the Board or any committee thereof which, in the reasonable good faith judgment of the majority of the directors at such a meeting (including, for such purposes, votes that are attributable to the Parent Nominee(s) then in office pursuant to clause (d) above, if applicable) represents a potential conflict of interest for any director, such director shall recuse him or herself from such discussion or vote, and shall leave the meeting if requested by such majority of the directors while such issue is being discussed and/or voted upon.

(h) The provisions of this Section 2 shall terminate automatically and be of no further force and effect upon the consummation of a Qualified Public Offering.

3. Governance of Subsidiaries. On the date hereof, the Company will own 100% of the equity of Affinity Advisory Network, LLC and AAN Wealth Advisors, LLC (the “**Effective Date Subsidiaries**”) and the Company or such Subsidiaries may thereafter form or acquire other subsidiaries, which may be corporations, limited liability companies or other types or forms of entities. For the avoidance of doubt, the Company, as approved by the Board, may determine from time to time the governing documents and governance structure of all such Subsidiaries, including the Effective Date Subsidiaries, and appoint the manager, managing member, general partner, and/or any other relevant or applicable similar role or position, and approve or cause the approval of all applicable documents and agreements in respect of or related to such Subsidiary, including amendments or modifications thereto or the termination thereof; *provided*, that if either or both of the Effective Date Subsidiaries have at any time a board of directors, the board of such entity shall be constituted in the same manner as the Company’s Board as provided above in Section 2, *mutatis mutandis*.

4. Conflicting Agreements. Each Stockholder represents that such Stockholder has not granted and is not a party to any proxy, voting trust or other agreement which is inconsistent with or conflicts with the provisions of this Agreement, and no holder of Stockholder Shares shall grant any proxy or become party to any voting trust or other agreement which is inconsistent with or conflicts with the provisions of this Agreement.

5. Transfer of Stockholder Shares.

(a) Transfer of Stockholder Shares. No holder of Stockholder Shares shall sell, transfer, assign, pledge, mortgage, or otherwise dispose (a “**Transfer**”) of (whether with or without consideration and whether voluntarily or involuntarily or by operation of law) any interest in such holder’s Stockholder Shares, except (i) pursuant to and in compliance with Section 5(b), Section 5(c), Section 6, Section 9 or Section 11, as applicable, (ii) a Transfer to a Permitted Transferee pursuant to Section 5(d), (iii) with the advance written consent of the Board (which may be granted or withheld for any reason), or (iv) in a Public Sale.

(b) First Refusal Right of Holders of Parent Stockholder Shares.

(i) Subject to Section 5(d), to the extent the Board consents to a Transfer, at least 30 days prior to any Transfer of any Stockholder Shares (other than a Permitted Transfer) by a Minority Stockholder (the “**Transferring Stockholder**”), the Transferring Stockholder shall deliver a written notice (a “**First Refusal Notice**”) to holders of the Parent Stockholder Shares. With respect to any such notice, the holders of Parent Stockholder Shares are referred to as the “**Offerees**.” The First Refusal Notice shall disclose in reasonable detail the proposed number of Stockholder Shares to be transferred, the proposed terms and conditions of the Transfer and the identity of the proposed transferee(s). The Transferring Stockholder will not deliver a First Refusal Notice to the Offerees unless and until it has received a *bona fide* offer from the named proposed transferee(s) to effect the Transfer in question. The purchase price specified in any First Refusal Notice shall be payable solely in cash at the closing of the transaction or in installments over time.

(ii) After receipt of a First Refusal Notice, each Offeree may elect to purchase all or a portion of the Stockholder Shares specified in the First Refusal Notice at the price and on the terms specified therein, by delivering written notice of such election to the Transferring Stockholder within 20 days (the “**Election Period**”) after delivery of the First Refusal Notice (each such electing Offeree being referred to herein as an “**Electing Offeree**”). If any such offer is oversubscribed (i.e., if the aggregate number of shares that the Electing Offerees have elected to purchase exceeds the number of Stockholder Shares specified in the First Refusal Notice), then the Stockholder Shares specified in the First Refusal Notice initially will be allocated among all Electing Offerees pro rata based on the respective number of Stockholder Shares they hold on a fully-diluted basis; any unallocated shares will be allocated among those Electing Offerees who have elected to purchase more of such Stockholder Shares than have heretofore been allocated to them (pro rata based on the respective number of Stockholder Shares they hold on a fully-diluted basis); thereafter, any unallocated Stockholder Shares specified in the First Refusal Notice will be further allocated in a similar manner as may be necessary until all of the Stockholder Shares specified in the First Refusal Notice have been allocated; provided, that in any event, no Electing Offeree will be allocated more than the maximum number that such Electing Offeree specified in its notice referred to in the preceding sentence.

(iii) If the Offerees, in the aggregate, have elected to purchase from the Transferring Stockholder all or any portion of the Stockholder Shares specified in the First Refusal Notice, then the Transfer of such shares to the Offerees shall be consummated as soon as practical after the delivery of the election notice(s) to the Transferring Stockholder, but in any event within 30 days after the expiration of the Election Period. If the Offerees have not elected to purchase all of the Stockholder Shares being offered, then the Transferring Stockholder may, within 60 days after the expiration of the Election Period, Transfer all (but not less than all) of such remaining Stockholder Shares to the transferee(s) named in the First Refusal Notice at the price specified in the First Refusal Notice and on terms no more favorable to the transferee(s) thereof than those specified in the First Refusal Notice. If such Stockholder Shares are not so transferred within such 60-day period, then they shall be re-offered to the Offerees under this Section 5(b) prior to any subsequent Transfer (other than a Permitted Transfer).

(c) Tag Along Rights. At least 15 days prior to any Transfer of Stockholder Shares constituting at least a majority of the then outstanding capital stock of the Company by holders of Parent Stockholder Shares (other than pursuant to Sections 5(d) or 6), such holders of Parent Stockholder Shares shall deliver a written notice (the “**Sale Notice**”) to the Company and the Other Stockholders, specifying in reasonable detail the identity of the prospective transferee(s) and the terms and conditions of the Transfer, including the number and type of Stockholder Shares to be Transferred and the price therefor. The Other Stockholders may elect to participate in the contemplated Transfer by delivering written notice to the holders of Parent Stockholder Shares within 10 days after delivery of the Sale Notice. If any Other Stockholders have elected to participate in such Transfer, each of such Other Stockholders shall be entitled to sell in the contemplated Transfer, at the same price and on the same terms (provided that adequate provision shall be made to account for any exercise or conversion prices payable by any Stockholder with respect to such Stockholder Shares), a number of Stockholder Shares equal to the product of (i) the quotient determined by dividing the number of Stockholder Shares owned by such Other Stockholder by the aggregate number of Stockholder Shares owned by all Stockholders, and (ii) the aggregate number of Stockholder Shares to be sold in the contemplated Transfer, and the aggregate consideration payable upon such sale shall be apportioned and distributed ratably based on the Stockholder Shares of the class or series actually transferred in such sale. The holders of Parent Stockholder Shares shall be entitled to sell in the contemplated Transfer, at the same price and on the same terms, all Stockholder Shares to be sold in the contemplated Transfer which are not properly elected to be sold by the Other Stockholders.

(d) Permitted Transfers. The restrictions contained in Sections 5(a), 5(b) and 5(c) shall not apply with respect to any Transfer of Stockholder Shares by any Stockholder:

(i) in the case of an individual Stockholder, pursuant to applicable laws of descent and distribution or to any member of such Stockholder’s Family Group, and

(ii) in the case of holders of Parent Stockholder Shares, (x) to Affiliates of such holders, or (y) bona fide pledges made to secure a loan or debt financing, including transfers upon foreclosure or other enforcement of remedies in connection with such loan or debt financing;

provided, that the restrictions contained in Sections 5(a), 5(b) and 5(c) shall continue to be applicable to such Stockholder Shares after any such Transfer; and provided further, that the transferees of such Stockholder Shares shall have agreed in writing to be bound by the provisions of this Agreement which affect the Stockholder Shares so transferred by executing a joinder in the form of Exhibit A attached hereto and other documents requested by the Company. All transferees permitted under this Section 5(d) are collectively referred to herein as “**Permitted Transferees**.” Each Stockholder transferring Stockholder Shares to a Permitted Transferee shall give the Company written notice at least 15 days prior to such Transfer.

(e) Termination of Restrictions. The restrictions set forth in this Section 5 shall continue with respect to each Stockholder Share until the earlier of (i) the Transfer of such Stockholder Share in a Public Sale or an Approved Sale, or (ii) the consummation of a Qualified Public Offering.

6. Sale of the Company / Drag-Along.

(a) At any time, and from time to time, the Parent Majority Holders (the “**Approving Stockholders**”) shall have the right to cause a Sale of the Company in accordance with the terms of this Section 6 (an “**Approved Sale**”). The Approving Stockholders shall initiate such action by giving written notice (an “**Approved Sale Notice**”) to the Company. If the Approving Stockholders deliver an Approved Sale Notice, the Company shall (i) authorize the Approving Stockholders to initiate a Sale of the Company process and direct and control all decisions in connection therewith (including the hiring or termination of any investment bank or professional adviser and making all decisions regarding valuation and consideration), and (ii) participate in, and cooperate in good faith with such process, in each case as requested by the Approving Stockholders. Each of the Stockholders and the Company agree to cooperate with the Approving Stockholders to facilitate a Sale of the Company. The Approving Stockholders may take any and all actions which they believe are necessary or appropriate under this Section 6, including, without limitation, conducting negotiations with any potential acquirer and its agents regarding such Sale of the Company, terminating the Approved Sale process, dealing with the Company and the Stockholders under this Section 6 and engaging counsel, accountants or other representatives to represent the Stockholders in connection with the foregoing matters. In the event that such Sale of the Company does not occur following the delivery of any Approved Sale Notice, upon written notice to the Company from the Approving Stockholders, the Approving Stockholders shall have the right to cause the Company to initiate a new Approved Sale process and cause a Sale of the Company.

(b) In the event of an Approved Sale, each Stockholder will (i) consent to, vote in favor of and raise no objections against the Approved Sale or the process pursuant to which the Approved Sale was arranged, (ii) waive any dissenter’s rights and other similar rights, and (iii) if the Approved Sale is structured as a sale of securities, agree to sell its Stockholder Shares (and any other capital stock of the Company, if applicable) on the terms and conditions of the Approved Sale. Each Stockholder will take all necessary and/or desirable actions as directed by the Approving Stockholders in connection with the consummation of any Approved Sale, including without limitation executing the applicable transaction agreements and appointing the Company or its designee(s) as its attorney-in-fact to do the same on its behalf (to the extent the Company does not already have such Stockholder’s power of attorney pursuant to the following two sentences). Each Stockholder hereby grants the Company or its designee(s) such Stockholder’s perpetual and irrevocable power of attorney with full right, power and authority to take all actions necessary and/or desirable to sell, transfer or otherwise dispose of all Stockholder Shares (and any other capital stock of the Company, if applicable) held by such Stockholder, in connection with the consummation of an Approved Sale. Pursuant to such power of attorney, the Company shall have the right to execute any and all documents related to an Approved Sale (including documents granting customary indemnities to a buyer of assets or securities) on behalf of such Stockholder.

(c) The foregoing obligations of the Stockholders with respect to an Approved Sale are subject to the satisfaction of the following conditions: (i) upon the consummation of such Approved Sale, each Stockholder, to the extent such Stockholder is receiving any consideration, shall receive the same form of consideration in respect of its securities as each other Stockholder holding securities of the same class and/or series of Stockholder Shares (except that members of management may receive securities pursuant to a “rollover” which option may not be offered to all Stockholders), and the aggregate consideration payable upon consummation of such Approved Sale to all Stockholders in respect of their Stockholder Shares (the “**Aggregate Consideration**”) shall be apportioned and distributed as between the different classes or series of Stockholder Shares in accordance with the distribution priorities set forth in the Certificate of Incorporation, as in effect immediately prior to such Approved Sale, and as between holders of Stockholder Shares of a particular class or series, ratably based on the Stockholder Shares of such class or series actually Transferred in the Approved Sale (subject to timing of issuance differences which affect any yield payable thereunder) (the “**Distribution Priorities**”); (ii) subject to clause (d)(ii) below, if any holders of a series or class of Stockholder Shares are given an option as to the form and amount of consideration to be received, each holder of such series or class of Stockholder Shares shall be given the same option (except that members of management may receive securities pursuant to a “rollover” which option may not be offered to all Stockholders); (iii) each holder of then currently exercisable rights to acquire Stockholder Shares shall be given an opportunity to exercise such rights prior to the consummation of the Approved Sale and participate in such sale as a holder of such class of Stockholder Shares; (iv) any representations and warranties to be made by a Stockholder in connection with the Approved Sale are limited to representations and warranties related to authority, ownership and the ability to convey title to such Stockholder Shares, including, but not limited to, representations and warranties that (w) the Stockholder holds all right, title and interest in and to the Stockholder Shares such Stockholder purports to hold, free and clear of all liens and encumbrances, (x) the obligations of the Stockholder in connection with the transaction have been duly authorized, if applicable, (y) the documents to be entered into by the Stockholder have been duly executed by the Stockholder and delivered to the acquirer and are enforceable (subject to customary limitations) against the Stockholder in accordance with their respective terms; and (z) neither the execution and delivery of documents to be entered into by the Stockholder in connection with the transaction, nor the performance of the Stockholder’s obligations thereunder, will cause a breach or violation of the terms of any agreement to which the Stockholder is a party, or any law or judgment, order or decree of any court or governmental agency that applies to the Stockholder; (v) no Stockholder is liable for the breach of any representation, warranty or covenant made by any other Stockholder in connection with the Approved Sale, other than the Company; and (vi) indemnification obligations of each Stockholder shall not exceed the amount of consideration otherwise payable to such Stockholder in connection with such Approved Sale, except with respect to claims related to fraud by such Stockholder, the liability for which need not be limited as to such Stockholder.

(d) Notwithstanding the foregoing but subject to clause (e) below, (i) Company expenses (including reasonable out-of-pocket costs and expenses incurred on behalf of the Company by the Approving Stockholders in connection with the Approved Sale), purchase price adjustments, escrow amounts, purchase price holdbacks, indemnity obligations and other similar items, shall be deemed to reduce (or increase, as the case may be, i.e. in the case of a purchase price adjustment increase or an indemnity payment in favor of the Stockholders) the Aggregate Consideration for purposes of determining the apportionment in accordance with the Distribution Priorities, (ii) non-cash consideration (including debt and equity securities) shall be allocated among the Stockholder Shares in accordance with the Distribution Priorities after all cash consideration is so allocated, (iii) cash amounts paid to the Stockholders following the applicable closing (i.e. purchase price adjustment increases, earnout payments, escrow and holdback releases, and similar items) shall be allocated among the Stockholder Shares as such amounts would have been allocated at the applicable closing had such amounts been included in the Aggregate Consideration and apportioned in accordance with the Distribution Priorities, and (iv) amounts payable directly by the Stockholders (rather than from escrow or holdback) following the applicable closing (i.e. pursuant to purchase price adjustment decreases, indemnity obligations, and similar items) shall be allocated among the Stockholder Shares (and paid accordingly by the Stockholders which held such Stockholder Shares as of the applicable closing) to reflect the reduction in consideration, if any, which each Stockholder Share would have suffered at the applicable closing had such amounts been deducted from the Aggregate Consideration for purposes of determining the apportionment in accordance with the Distribution Priorities.

(e) For the avoidance of doubt, the fees and expenses of the Approving Stockholders (either directly or indirectly by the Company and any Subsidiary) incurred on behalf of the Company in connection with an Approved Sale, to the extent not paid or reimbursed by the Company or any of its Subsidiaries, shall be paid by the Company.

(f) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in this Section 6, in connection with an Approved Sale, employees of the Company or its Subsidiaries and certain Stockholders (excluding Parent) will enter into customary and reasonable non-competition, non-solicitation and/or confidentiality arrangements, if such agreements are requested by the buyer in such Approved Sale, provided that the restrictive covenants in such agreements shall be subject to the reasonable approval of the RH Trust Holders Nominee (which shall not be unreasonably delayed or conditioned).

(g) This Section 6 shall automatically terminate upon the consummation of a Qualified Public Offering.

7. Legends. In addition to any other applicable legends, to the extent certificated, each certificate evidencing Stockholder Shares and each certificate issued in exchange for or upon the transfer of any Stockholder Shares (if such shares remain Stockholder Shares as defined herein after such transfer) shall be stamped or otherwise imprinted with a legend in substantially the following form:

“THE SECURITIES REPRESENTED BY THIS CERTIFICATE HAVE NOT BEEN REGISTERED UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933, AS AMENDED. THE TRANSFER OF THE SECURITIES REPRESENTED BY THIS CERTIFICATE IS SUBJECT TO A STOCKHOLDERS AGREEMENT DATED AS OF JULY 15, 2026 BY AND AMONG THE ISSUER OF SUCH SECURITIES (THE “**COMPANY**”) AND CERTAIN OF THE COMPANY’S STOCKHOLDERS. A COPY OF SUCH STOCKHOLDERS AGREEMENT WILL BE FURNISHED WITHOUT CHARGE BY THE COMPANY TO THE HOLDER HEREOF UPON WRITTEN REQUEST.”

8. Transfers in Violation of Agreement. Any Transfer or attempted Transfer of any Stockholder Shares in violation of any provision of this Agreement shall be null and void, and the Company shall not record such Transfer on its books or treat any purported transferee of such Stockholder Shares as the owner of such shares for any purpose.

9. Transfer of Stockholder Shares. In connection with a Transfer of any Stockholder Shares permitted under Section 5(a) or other Transfer, if so determined by the Board, the holder thereof shall, at the Company's request, deliver written notice to the Company describing in reasonable detail the Transfer or proposed Transfer, together with an opinion of counsel reasonably acceptable to the Company (if requested by the Company) to the effect that such Transfer of Stockholder Shares may be effected without registration of such Stockholder Shares under the Securities Act. No Transfer or issuance of any Stockholder Shares shall be permitted unless and until the prospective transferee agrees to become a party to this Agreement and be bound by all the terms and conditions hereof by executing and delivering to the Company a joinder to this Agreement in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A.

10. Additional Parties; Joinder. Subject to Section 5, the Company shall require any Person who acquires any Stockholder Shares or Stock Equivalents, or any other equity security in the Company or any other security or option that gives a Person the right to acquire equity securities in the company (whether from another Stockholder or from the Company, including upon exercise or conversion of any Equity Securities) after the date hereof (the "**Acquired Securities**") to become a party to this Agreement and to succeed to all of the rights and obligations of a "holder of Stockholder Shares" under this Agreement by obtaining an executed joinder to this Agreement from such Person in the form of Exhibit A attached hereto, as a condition to receipt, and the acquisition of the applicable Stockholder Shares or Stock Equivalents shall not be consummated or become effective until such joinder is received by the Company. Upon the execution and delivery of the joinder by such Person, such Person's Acquired Securities shall be Stockholder Shares hereunder, and such Person shall be a "holder of Stockholder Shares" under this Agreement with respect to the Acquired Securities.

11. Repurchase Option.

(a) Repurchase Option. Except as provided for in Section 12, in the event that a Management Stockholder is terminated by the Company or any of its Subsidiaries for Cause, the Management Securities held by such Management Stockholder, or one or more Permitted Transferees of such Management Stockholder, will be subject to repurchase by the Company and the Parent Majority Holders pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth in this Section 11 (the "**Repurchase Option**").

(b) Termination for Cause. If such Management Stockholder is no longer employed by or provides services to the Company or any of its Subsidiaries (as applicable) as a result of a termination by the Company or its Subsidiaries for Cause (or a resignation by such Management Stockholder at a time when Cause exists), then within 90 days after the date such Management Stockholder's employment with or service to the Company or any of its Subsidiaries is terminated (the "**Company Exercise Period**"), the Company may elect to purchase all or any portion of the Management Securities at a price per share equal to fifty percent (50%) of the Fair Market Value thereof (as adjusted for any stock split, combination or similar transaction).

(c) Repurchase Procedures. The Company may elect to exercise the right to purchase all or any portion of the Management Securities by delivering written notice (the “**Repurchase Notice**”) to the holder or holders of such Management Securities. The Repurchase Notice will set forth the number of shares of Management Securities to be acquired from such holder(s), the Board’s good faith determination of the Fair Market Value, the aggregate consideration to be paid for such shares (the “**Repurchase Price**”) and the time and place for the closing of the transaction. If any shares of Management Securities are held by Permitted Transferees of the Management Stockholder, the Company shall purchase the shares elected to be purchased from such holder(s) of shares of Management Securities pro rata according to the number of shares of Management Securities held by such holder(s) at the time of delivery of such Repurchase Notice (determined as nearly as practicable to the nearest share).

(d) Parent Rights.

(i) If for any reason the Company does not elect to purchase all of the Management Securities owned by a Management Stockholder and its Permitted Transferees pursuant to this Section 11 during the Company Exercise Period, holders of Parent Stockholder Shares and then in certain circumstances subject to the approval of Parent, any other Stockholder will be entitled to exercise the Repurchase Option, in the manner set forth in this Section 11(d), for the Management Securities that the Company has not elected to purchase (the “**Available Shares**”). As soon as practicable, but in any event within thirty (30) days after the Company Exercise Period, the Company will deliver written notice (the “**Option Notice**”) to all holders of Parent Stockholder Shares setting forth the number of Available Shares and the price for each Available Share.

(ii) Holders of Parent Stockholder Shares, and, if applicable, other Stockholders, will be permitted to purchase all or some of the Available Shares, as determined by Parent.

(e) Closing. The closing of the transactions contemplated by this Section 11 will take place on the date designated by the Company in the Repurchase Notice, which date will not be more than 60 days after the delivery of such notice. The Company and/or Parent and/or other Stockholders, as the case may be, will pay for the Management Securities to be purchased pursuant to the Repurchase Option by wire transfer of immediately available funds to an account designated in writing by the Management Stockholder, in the aggregate amount of the purchase price for such shares. At the closing, the applicable seller(s) of the Management Securities shall deliver the certificate or certificates representing such Management Securities to the purchasers thereof, accompanied by duly executed stock powers in form and substance satisfactory to the purchaser(s) thereof. The applicable seller(s) shall provide customary representations and warranties to the purchasers thereof regarding the sale of the Management Securities, including but not limited to the representation that such seller has good and marketable title to the Management Securities to be transferred, free and clear of all liens, claims and other encumbrances.

(f) Restrictions on Repurchase. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in this Agreement, all repurchases of Management Securities by the Company shall be subject to applicable restrictions contained in the Delaware General Corporation Law or in any loan agreement to which the Company is a party. If any such restrictions prohibit the repurchase of Management Securities hereunder which the Company is otherwise entitled or required to make, the Company may make such repurchases as soon as it is permitted to do so under such restrictions (and all time periods with respect to the repurchase transaction will be tolled until such restrictions no longer exist).

12. RH Holders. The RH Stockholder Shares shall be subject to the provisions set forth in Exhibit B hereto.

13. Irrevocable Proxy. In order to secure each Stockholder's obligation to vote its Stockholder Shares and other voting securities of the Company in accordance with the provisions hereof, each Stockholder other than Parent hereby appoints Parent or its designee(s) from time to time, as his or its true and lawful proxy and attorney-in-fact, with full power of substitution, to vote all of its Stockholder Shares and other voting securities of the Company for the election and/or removal of directors and all such other matters as expressly provided for in this Agreement. Each Attorney-in-Fact may exercise the irrevocable proxy granted to him pursuant to the prior sentence at any time any Stockholder fails to comply with the provisions of this Agreement. The proxies and powers granted by each Stockholder pursuant to this Section 13 are coupled with an interest and are given to secure the performance of each Stockholder's obligations under this Agreement. Such proxies and powers shall be irrevocable and shall survive the death, incompetency, disability, bankruptcy or dissolution of such Stockholder and the subsequent holders of its Stockholder Shares.

14. Investment Opportunities. Unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Board, each Management Stockholder shall, and shall cause Persons that such Management Stockholder controls, to bring to the Company and its Subsidiaries all investment or business opportunities of which any of the foregoing become aware and which they believe are, or may be, directly related to the business of the Company or its Subsidiaries (the "**Business**"); provided, however, that the foregoing shall not restrict any Management Stockholder from owning, directly or indirectly, an aggregate of no more than five percent (5%) of the outstanding stock or other equity interest of or in any corporation or other business enterprise that is competitive with the Business; provided, that such participation therein is solely as a passive investor and does not include any role as director, officer, manager or other service provider. Notwithstanding the prior sentence, the Stockholders expressly acknowledge that, due to the nature of the business activities of Parent and its Affiliates (collectively, the "**Exempted Stockholders**"), (a) (i) each Exempted Stockholder and its respective Affiliates are permitted to have, and may presently or in the future have, businesses, investments or other business relationships with entities engaged in other, complementary or competing lines of business other than through the Company or any of its Subsidiaries, (ii) each Exempted Stockholder and its respective Affiliates may have or may develop a strategic relationship with businesses that are or may be competitive or complementary with the Company or any of its Subsidiaries, (iii) none of the Exempted Stockholders and their respective Affiliates will be prohibited by virtue of their investments in the Company or its Subsidiaries or their service on, or their right (if any) to appoint Persons to serve on, the Board from pursuing and engaging in any such activities, (iv) none of the Exempted Stockholders and its respective Affiliates will be obligated to inform the Company or any of its Subsidiaries of any such opportunity, relationship or investment, and (v) the Stockholders (other than the Exempted Stockholders) will not acquire or be entitled to any interest or participation in any other business as a result of the participation therein of any of the Exempted Stockholders and their respective Affiliates and (b) each of the parties hereto expressly waive, to the fullest extent permitted by applicable law, any rights to assert any claim that any matters set forth in the foregoing clause (a) breaches any fiduciary or other duty or obligation owed to the Company or any Stockholder or to assert that such involvement constitutes a conflict of interest by such Exempted Stockholders with respect to the Company or any Stockholder.

15. Financial Statements. The Company shall furnish to the holders of Parent Stockholder Shares, and any other Stockholder holding Stockholder Shares representing at least 5% of the total issued and outstanding voting shares of the Company, annual and quarterly (except for the 4th quarter) financial statements of the Company and its Subsidiaries prepared in the course of preparing Parent's consolidated financial statements.

16. Representations and Warranties. Each Stockholder represents and warrants that (a) this Agreement has been duly authorized, executed and delivered by such Stockholder and constitutes the valid and binding obligation of such Stockholder, enforceable in accordance with its terms, (b) such Stockholder has not granted and is not a party to any proxy, voting trust or other agreement which is inconsistent with, conflicts with or violates any provision of this Agreement, (c) such Stockholder has such knowledge and experience in financial and business matters and is capable of evaluating the merits and risks of an investment in the Company and is making an informed investment decision with respect thereto, (d) such Stockholder is acquiring interests in the Company for investment only and not with a view to, or for resale in connection with, any distribution to the public or public offering thereof, (e) the execution, delivery and performance of this Agreement have been duly authorized by such Stockholder, and (f) such Stockholder is an accredited investor as such term is defined in Regulation D promulgated pursuant to Section 4(2) of the Securities Act. No holder of Stockholder Shares shall grant any proxy or become party to any voting trust or other agreement which is inconsistent with, conflicts with or violates any provision of this Agreement.

17. Amendment and Waiver. Except as otherwise provided herein, no modification, amendment or waiver to or of this Agreement or any provision hereof shall be effective unless such modification, amendment or waiver is approved in writing by the Company and the holders of a majority of the Stockholder Shares.

18. Severability. Whenever possible, each provision of this Agreement shall be interpreted in such manner as to be effective and valid under applicable law, but if any provision of this Agreement is held to be invalid, illegal or unenforceable in any respect under any applicable law or rule in any jurisdiction, such invalidity, illegality or unenforceability shall not affect any other provision or any other jurisdiction, but this Agreement shall be reformed, construed and enforced in such jurisdiction as if such invalid, illegal or unenforceable provision had never been contained herein.

19. Entire Agreement. Except as otherwise expressly set forth herein, this Agreement embodies the complete agreement and understanding among the parties hereto with respect to the subject matter hereof and supersedes and preempts any prior understandings, agreements or representations by or among the parties, written or oral, which may have related to the subject matter hereof in any way (without affecting any subscription, employment, service or other agreements to which a Stockholder may be a party).

20. Further Assurances. In connection with this Agreement and the transactions contemplated hereby, the Company and each Stockholder hereby agree, at the request of the Company or any other Stockholder, to execute and deliver such additional documents, instruments, conveyances and assurances and to take such further actions as may be required to carry out the provisions hereof and give effect to the transactions contemplated hereby.

21. Successors and Assigns. Except as otherwise provided herein, this Agreement shall bind and inure to the benefit of and be enforceable by the Company and its successors and assigns and the Stockholders and any subsequent holders of Stockholder Shares and the respective permitted successors and assigns of each of them, so long as they hold Stockholder Shares.

22. No Third Party Beneficiaries. This Agreement is for the sole benefit of the parties hereto (and their respective heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns) and nothing herein, express or implied, is intended to or shall confer upon any other Person any legal or equitable right, benefit or remedy of any nature whatsoever under or by reason of this Agreement.

23. Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in separate counterparts, each of which shall be an original, and all of which taken together shall constitute one and the same agreement. PDF counterpart signatures to this Agreement shall be acceptable and binding.

24. Remedies. The parties hereto shall be entitled to enforce their rights under this Agreement specifically to recover damages by reason of any breach of any provision of this Agreement and to exercise all other rights existing in their favor. The parties hereto agree and acknowledge that money damages may not be an adequate remedy for any breach of the provisions of this Agreement and that the Company may in its sole discretion apply to any court of law or equity of competent jurisdiction for specific performance and/or injunctive relief (without posting a bond or other security) in order to enforce or prevent any violation of the provisions of this Agreement.

25. Notices. All notices, demands or other communications to be given or delivered under or by reason of the provisions of this Agreement will be in writing and will be deemed to have been given when delivered personally, mailed by certified or registered mail, return receipt requested and postage prepaid, or sent via a nationally recognized overnight courier, or sent via electronic mail to the recipient accompanied by a certified or registered mailing. Such notices, demands and other communications will be sent to the Company and each other party hereto at the address set forth on its signature page hereto, with a copy, in the case of notices to the Company or the Parent, to Herbert Smith Freehills Kramer LLP, 1177 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York, 10036, attn: John Bessonette and Arlene Ortiz-Leytte (john.bessonette@hsfkramer.com and arlene.ortizleytte@hsfkramer.com).

26. **GOVERNING LAW.** ALL QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE CONSTRUCTION, VALIDITY AND INTERPRETATION OF THIS AGREEMENT SHALL BE GOVERNED BY AND CONSTRUED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DOMESTIC LAWS OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE, WITHOUT GIVING EFFECT TO ANY CHOICE OF LAW OR CONFLICT OF LAW PROVISION OR RULE OF ANY JURISDICTION THAT WOULD CAUSE THE APPLICATION OF THE LAWS OF ANY JURISDICTION OTHER THAN THE STATE OF DELAWARE.

27. **Jurisdiction.** Each party to this Agreement, by its execution hereof, (a) hereby irrevocably submits, and agrees to cause each of its Subsidiaries to submit, to the exclusive jurisdiction of the Court of Chancery in and for New Castle County in the State of Delaware (or, if subject matter jurisdiction in that court is not available, in any appropriate state or federal court in New Castle County of the State of Delaware) for the purpose of any action, claim, cause of action or suit (in contract, tort or otherwise), inquiry, proceeding or investigation arising out of or based upon this Agreement or relating to the subject matter hereof (collectively, an “**Action**”), (b) hereby waives, and agrees to cause each of its Subsidiaries to waive, to the extent not prohibited by applicable law, and agrees not to assert, and agrees not to allow any of its Subsidiaries to assert, by way of motion, as a defense or otherwise, in any such action, any claim that it is not subject personally to the jurisdiction of the above-named courts, that its property is exempt or immune from attachment or execution, that any such proceeding brought in one of the above-named courts is improper, or that this Agreement or the subject matter hereof may not be enforced in or by such court, (c) hereby agrees not to commence or to permit any of its Subsidiaries to commence any Action, other than before one of the above-named courts, nor to make any motion or take any other action seeking or intending to cause the transfer or removal of any such Action to any court other than one of the above-named courts whether on the grounds of inconvenient forum or otherwise, (d) hereby consents to service of process in any such proceeding in any manner permitted by Delaware law, and (e) hereby waives, and agrees to cause each of its Subsidiaries to waive, and covenants that neither it nor any of its Subsidiaries will assert (whether as plaintiff, defendant or otherwise) any right to trial by jury in any forum in respect of any Action.

28. **Spousal Consent.** Each Stockholder who is married on the date of this Agreement (or at the time of execution of a joinder agreement) shall cause such Stockholder’s spouse to execute and deliver to the Company a consent of spouse in the form of Exhibit C hereto (a “**Spousal Consent**”), dated as of the date hereof (or thereof). If any Stockholder should marry following the date of this Agreement (or joinder agreement), such Stockholder shall cause his or her spouse to execute and deliver to the Company a Spousal Consent within thirty (30) days thereof.

29. **Descriptive Headings.** The descriptive headings of this Agreement are inserted for convenience only and do not constitute a part of this Agreement.

* * * * *

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Stockholders Agreement as of the date first above written.

AFFINITY ADVISORS HOLDING CORP.

By: /s/ Alexander C. Matina

Name: Alexander C. Matina

Title: President

NU RIDE, INC.

By: /s/ Alexander C. Matina

Name: Alexander Matina

Title: Chief Executive Officer

[Signature page to Stockholders Agreement]

HHH M MFTG TRUST:

By: /s/ Holly Postlewaite

Name: Holly Postlewaite

Title: Trustee

THE HALL COMPANIES CORPORATE OHIO LEGACY TRUST:

By: /s/ Joshua A. Postlewaite

Name: Joshua A. Postlewaite

Title: Trustee

By: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

/s/ Robert Hall

Robert Hall

[Signature page to Stockholders Agreement]

EXHIBIT A

**FORM OF JOINDER TO
STOCKHOLDERS AGREEMENT**

THIS JOINDER to the Stockholders Agreement, dated as of _____, ____ by and among Affinity Advisory Holding Corp., a Delaware corporation (the “**Company**”), and certain stockholders of the Company (the “**Agreement**”), is made and entered into as of _____ by and between the Company and _____ (“**Holder**”). Capitalized terms used herein but not otherwise defined shall have the meanings set forth in the Agreement.

WHEREAS, Holder has acquired certain Equity Interests (“**Holder Stock**”), and the Agreement and the Company require Holder, as a holder of Holder Stock, to become a party to the Agreement, and Holder agrees to do so in accordance with the terms hereof.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants contained herein and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the parties to this Joinder hereby agree as follows:

1. Agreement to be Bound. Holder hereby agrees that upon execution of this Joinder, it shall become a party to the Agreement and shall be fully bound by, and subject to, all of the covenants, terms and conditions of the Agreement as though an original party thereto and shall be deemed a Stockholder for all purposes thereof. In addition, Holder hereby agrees that all [Common Stock] held by Holder shall be deemed [Stockholder Shares // Parent Stockholder Shares] for all purposes of the Agreement.

2. Successors and Assigns. Except as otherwise provided herein, this Joinder shall bind and inure to the benefit of and be enforceable by the Company and its successors and assigns and Holder and any subsequent holders of Holder Stock and the respective successors and assigns of each of them, so long as they hold any shares of Holder Stock.

3. Counterparts. This Joinder may be executed in separate counterparts each of which shall be an original and all of which taken together shall constitute one and the same agreement.

4. Notices. For purposes of Section 25 of the Agreement, all notices, demands or other communications to the Holder shall be directed to:

[Name]
[Address]
[Facsimile Number]
[Email]

5. Governing Law. **ALL QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE CONSTRUCTION, VALIDITY AND INTERPRETATION OF THIS JOINDER SHALL BE GOVERNED BY AND CONSTRUED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DOMESTIC LAWS OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE, WITHOUT GIVING EFFECT TO ANY CHOICE OF LAW OR CONFLICT OF LAW PROVISION OR RULE (WHETHER OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE OR ANY OTHER JURISDICTION) THAT WOULD CAUSE THE APPLICATION OF THE LAWS OF ANY JURISDICTION OTHER THAN THE STATE OF DELAWARE.**

6. Descriptive Headings. The descriptive headings of this Joinder are inserted for convenience only and do not constitute a part of this Joinder.

* * * * *

Exhibit A-1

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Joinder as of the date first above written.

AFFINITY ADVISORY HOLDING CORP.

By: _____
Name: _____
Title: _____

[HOLDER]

By: _____

EXHIBIT B

RH - Put-Call Provisions¹

Termination without Cause / for Good Reason.

Executive Put Right. Following termination of Hall's employment by the Buyer without Cause (or by Hall for Good Reason), or if the Buyer notifies Hall that it is not renewing the Key Person Employment Agreement, in each case as defined in and pursuant to the Key Person Employment Agreement (the "**EA**"), the Trust Sellers shall have the right but not the obligation (the "**Executive Put Right**") to cause the Buyer to purchase from the Trust Sellers, Hall and any Affiliates and transferees of the foregoing (the "**Hall Sellers**"), all, but not less than all, of the equity interests in the Buyer held by them, including Buyer Stock Consideration and equity acquired pursuant to the Company Equity Bonus, as defined in and pursuant to the EA, or otherwise (collectively, all such equity held by the Hall Sellers, the "**Hall Equity**"). Within sixty (60) days following Hall's termination of employment, the Buyer shall provide Hall with a notice stating the purchase price for the Hall Equity should the Trust Sellers elect to exercise the Executive Put Right, as provided in clause (c) below. The Trust Sellers may exercise the Executive Put Right by providing notice to the Buyer within thirty (30) days following Hall's receipt of such notice.

Buyer Call Right. If the Trust Sellers do not exercise the Executive Put Right, then Buyer shall have the right but not the obligation (the "**Buyer Call Right**") to purchase (or cause its designee(s), which may be the Company, to purchase) from the Hall Sellers all or any portion of the Hall Equity. The Buyer may exercise the Buyer Call Right by providing notice to Hall and the Trust Sellers within thirty (30) days following the expiration of the period during which the Trust Sellers may exercise the Executive Put Right.

Purchase Price. The purchase price for the repurchase of equity pursuant to clause (a) or clause (b) above shall be the fair market value of the equity to be purchased, as reasonably determined by the Company; provided, that the Company shall provide its calculation of the fair market value when it provides its notice starting the purchase price. If Hall disagrees within ten (10) business days that the purchase price represents fair market value, then Buyer and Hall shall negotiate in good faith in an effort to agree either that the purchase price determined by the Company represents fair market value or that a different purchase price represents fair market value. If by the date that is thirty (30) days after the date on which the Company provided its determination of the fair market value, Buyer and Hall cannot reach agreement, then the fair market value of the equity to be purchased as of the date of termination of employment shall be determined by an independent third party accounting firm mutually agreed to by the Buyer and Hall, with each paying 50% of such firm's fees and expenses.

Consummation of Repurchase. In all cases, the repurchase shall be consummated on a date selected by the Buyer within thirty (30) days following the date on which the fair market value of the equity to be purchased is determined, either by agreement or the third party accounting firm, as applicable. One third of the aggregate purchase price shall be paid at or within ninety (90) days after the consummation of the repurchase and the remaining amount shall be paid with a promissory note bearing interest at the applicable federal rate. Such promissory note shall provide for payment in equal amounts on the first and second anniversaries of the consummation of the repurchase subject to earlier repayment in the Buyer's discretion.

¹ Capitalized terms used but not defined herein have the meanings given them in the Membership Interest Purchase Agreement.

Termination by Hall without Good Reason.

Buyer Call Right. Following termination of Hall's employment by Hall without Good Reason, or if Hall notifies the Buyer that he is not renewing the Key Person Employment Agreement, in each case as defined in and pursuant to the Key Person Employment Agreement, the Buyer shall have the right but not the obligation (the "**Buyer Call Right**") to purchase (or cause its designee(s), which may be the Company, to purchase) from the Hall Sellers all or any portion of the Hall Equity. The Buyer may exercise the Buyer Call Right by providing notice to Hall and the Trust Sellers at any time following termination of Hall's employment as provided in the preceding sentence, which notice shall identify the equity to be purchased and the purchase price for such equity as determined in accordance with clause (c) below.

Executive Liquidity Right. If Buyer has not previously exercised the Buyer Call Right as provided in clause (a) above, then beginning on the date that is seven (7) years after the Closing (or if Hall's employment terminates after such date, beginning on such date) and for a period of ninety (90) days thereafter, Hall shall have the right but not the obligation to give the Company notice of his desire for liquidity in respect of all of the Hall Equity. Following receipt of such notice, the Company and Hall shall cooperate in good faith to agree upon a plan to provide Hall with liquidity on account of the Hall Equity within a reasonable timeframe under the circumstances, taking into account the Company's financial position and other relevant circumstances, which liquidity may be provided through cash, Nu Ride shares or a combination of both (or such other mechanism(s) as the parties may agree).

Purchase Price. The purchase price for the repurchase of equity pursuant to clause (a) or clause (b) above shall be (x) the fair market value of the equity to be purchased, as reasonably determined by the Company, or (y) if less, the value of the Hall Equity in the transactions contemplated by the Membership Interest Purchase Agreement (i.e. \$1,440,000); provided, that the Company shall provide its calculation of the fair market value when it provides its notice starting the purchase price. If Hall disagrees within ten (10) business days with the Company's calculation of fair market value, then Buyer and Hall shall negotiate in good faith in an effort to agree either that the fair market value proposed by the Company represents fair market value or that a different amount represents fair market value. If by the date that is thirty (30) days after the date on which the Company provided its determination of the fair market value, Buyer and Hall cannot reach agreement, then the fair market value of the equity to be purchased as of the date of termination of employment shall be determined by an independent third party accounting firm mutually agreed to by the Buyer and Hall, with each paying 50% of such firm's fees and expenses.

Consummation of Repurchase. In the case of a repurchase pursuant to exercise of the Buyer Call Right in clause (a) above, the repurchase shall be consummated on a date selected by the Buyer within thirty (30) days following the date on which the fair market value of the equity to be purchased is determined, either by agreement or the third party accounting firm, as applicable. One third of the aggregate purchase price shall be paid at or within ninety (90) days after the consummation of the repurchase and the remaining amount shall be paid with a promissory note bearing interest at the applicable federal rate. Such promissory note shall provide for payment in equal amounts on the first and second anniversaries of the consummation of the repurchase subject to earlier repayment in the Buyer's discretion. In the case of a repurchase pursuant to the exercise of the Executive Liquidity Right in clause (b) above, the repurchase shall be consummated on terms determined in accordance with the provisions of such clause (b).

Termination for Cause.

Buyer Call Right. Following termination of Hall's employment for Cause, as defined in and pursuant to the Key Person Employment Agreement, the Buyer shall have the right but not the obligation (the "**Buyer Call Right**") to purchase (or cause its designee(s), which may be the Company, to purchase) from the Hall Sellers all or any portion of the Hall Equity (other than Management Securities, as defined in the Stockholders Agreement, which shall instead be covered by the provisions of the Stockholders Agreement relating to terminations of Management Stockholders for Cause). The Buyer may exercise the Buyer Call Right by providing notice to Hall and the Trust Sellers at any time following termination of Hall's employment as provided in the preceding sentence, which notice shall identify the equity to be purchased and the purchase price for such equity as determined in accordance with clause (c) below.

Purchase Price. The purchase price for the repurchase of equity pursuant to clause (a) above shall be (x) the fair market value of the equity to be purchased, as reasonably determined by the Company, or (y) if less, the value of the Hall Equity in the transactions contemplated by the Membership Interest Purchase Agreement (i.e. \$1,440,000); provided, that the Company shall provide its calculation of the fair market value when it provides its notice starting the purchase price. If Hall disagrees within ten (10) business days with the Company's calculation of fair market value, then Buyer and Hall shall negotiate in good faith in an effort to agree either that the fair market value proposed by the Company represents fair market value or that a different amount represents fair market value. If by the date that is thirty (30) days after the date on which the Company provided its determination of the fair market value, Buyer and Hall cannot reach agreement, then the fair market value of the equity to be purchased as of the date of termination of employment shall be determined by an independent third party accounting firm mutually agreed to by the Buyer and Hall, with each paying 50% of such firm's fees and expenses.

Consummation of Repurchase. The repurchase shall be consummated on a date selected by the Buyer within thirty (30) days following the date on which the fair market value of the equity to be purchased is determined, either by agreement or the third party accounting firm, as applicable. One third of the aggregate purchase price shall be paid at or within ninety (90) days after the consummation of the repurchase and the remaining amount shall be paid with a promissory note bearing interest at the applicable federal rate. Such promissory note shall provide for payment in equal amounts on the first and second anniversaries of the consummation of the repurchase subject to earlier repayment in the Buyer's discretion.

EXHIBIT C

FORM OF SPOUSAL CONSENT

SPOUSAL CONSENT

I, the undersigned, [____], am aware that [____], my spouse, has agreed (a) to acquire, purchase or continue to hold certain shares of the Common Stock of Affinity Advisory Holding Corp., a Delaware corporation (the “**Company**”) (together with any future shares that may be purchased or awarded to or held by my spouse) (the “**Shares**”) and (b) to hold the Shares in accordance with the terms and conditions of the applicable governing documents of the Company and the Stockholders Agreement of the Company, dated as of [____], 2026 (the “**Stockholders Agreement**”), by and among the Company and the stockholders party thereto (the governing documents of the Company and the Stockholders Agreement together, collectively, the “**Equity Documents**”), standing in [his/her] name on the books and records of the Company, including such community property interest I may have therein, if any.

In consideration of the Company’s issuance of the Shares, and as an inducement to the Company to issue the Shares to [____], my spouse, pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth in the Equity Documents, I hereby irrevocably agree to be bound by the provisions of the Equity Documents to the extent that I may have any community property interest in the Shares, and I hereby irrevocably agree to be bound by any restrictions, limitations, terms or conditions set forth in the Equity Documents that may be applicable to any such community property interest in the Shares.

For so long as the Equity Documents remain in effect or applicable to my spouse, I further agree that, in the event of the dissolution of my marriage to [____], or other legal division of marital property, I will transfer and sell to my spouse any and all right, title or interest that I may have in the Shares, and I further agree that a court may award such entire interest (if any) to [____] as part of any such legal division of property.

For so long as the Equity Documents remain in effect or applicable to my spouse, I further agree, on my death, to bequeath and devise to my spouse, or to a trust of which my spouse is the sole trustee and beneficiary, any and all right, title or interest that I may have in the Shares; I hereby direct that any residuary clause in my will shall not be deemed to apply to my community property interest (if any) in the Shares.

I further agree to sign any forms of consent, similar to this Spousal Consent, reflecting my consent to and agreement to be bound by any further documents prepared in connection with the Equity Documents.

Without limitation of the foregoing, for so long as the Equity Documents remain in effect or applicable to my spouse, I also specifically and irrevocably waive my right to any prior notice of any sale, lease, exchange, encumbrance, foreclosure or other disposition of all or any portion of the Shares, which notice may be required pursuant to any applicable law, rule, regulation, statute, code or ordinance of any jurisdiction or governmental authority. I hereby appoint my spouse as my attorney-in-fact with respect to the exercise of any rights or the performance of any obligations under the Equity Documents or the consummation of any transactions contemplated thereby.

This Spousal Consent may be attached to and made a part of the Equity Documents and may be relied upon by the Company and the other stockholders of the Company as an inducement to enter into the Equity Documents.

[Signature Page Follows]

Exhibit C-1

The undersigned has executed this Spousal Consent effective as of this ____ day of _____, 20__.

Name: _____

Address: _____

[Signature Page to Spousal Consent]

AMENDMENT TO STOCKHOLDERS AGREEMENT

This **AMENDMENT TO STOCKHOLDERS AGREEMENT**, dated as of this 12th day of August, 2026, but effective as of the 15th day of July (this “**Amendment**”), is entered into by and among Affinity Advisory Holdings Corp., a Delaware corporation (the “**Company**”), Stark Novus Financial Inc., f/k/a Nu Ride Inc. a Delaware corporation (including in its capacity as the holder of a majority of the Stockholder Shares, “**Parent**”), Holly A. Postlewaite, as Trustee of the HIH M MFTG Trust, dated January 1, 2026 (the “**HIH Trust**”) and Joshua A. Postlewaite, as Trustee of The Hall Companies Corporate Ohio Legacy Trust, dated January 1, 2024 (the “**RH Trust Holder**”). Capitalized terms used and not otherwise defined herein shall for all purposes of this Amendment have the respective meanings specified therefor in that certain Membership Interest Purchase Agreement dated effective as of June 2, 2026, as amended August 12, 2026 (the “**Purchase Agreement**”) and that certain Stockholders Agreement dated effective as of July 15, 2026 (the “**Stockholders Agreement**”).

Recitals:

- A. The parties hereto previously entered into the Stockholders Agreement and erroneously included the HIH Trust as a signatory.
- B. The parties hereto desire to amend the Stockholders Agreement to replace any plural reference to RH Trust Holders to refer in the singular to RH Trust Holder.
- C. The Parties desire to amend the Schedule A to the Stockholders Agreement to correct the allocation of the Stock solely to RH Trust Holder.
- D. The Parties desire to amend Section 17 of the Stockholders Agreement to permit updates to Schedule A thereto without amendments to the Stockholders Agreement.

Terms:

1. Amendment to Parties. Any reference to “RH Trust Holders” in the Stockholders Agreement shall be deleted in its entirety and replaced with the singular “RH Trust Holder” and any reference to the HIH Trust as a signatory to the Stockholders Agreement shall be deleted in its entirety to reflect RH Trust Holder as the sole RH Trust Holder under the Stockholders Agreement. Parent, as defined under the Stockholders Agreement, shall refer to Stark Novus Financial, Inc., f/k/a Nu Ride, Inc. and any reference to Parent as a signatory shall be amended to reflect the correct name of Parent.
2. Amendment to Schedule A. Schedule A to the Stockholders Agreement is hereby deleted in its entirety and replaced by Schedule A attached hereto and by this reference made a part hereof.
3. Amendment to Section 17. Section 17 of the Stockholders Agreement is hereby amended to add the following sentence at the end of the existing provision: “Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Company shall have the right, acting through the Board, to amend, update or otherwise modify Schedule A hereto from time to time to reflect any changes in the ownership of Stockholder Shares, without the consent or approval of any Stockholder and without any further action constituting an amendment to this Agreement.”
4. Ratification. The Parties hereby ratify and confirm their obligations pursuant to the Stockholders Agreement, as amended by this Amendment. It is further agreed by the parties that, except as expressly modified herein, all other terms and conditions concerning the Stockholders Agreement shall remain in full force and effect as originally written and are hereby ratified and confirmed.
5. Books and Records. Parent, Company, and RH Trust Holder shall take all reasonable steps necessary to amend, revise and restate their corporate records and any ancillary documents to reflect the understanding set forth in this Amendment.
6. Authority to Execute. The individual(s) executing this Amendment on behalf of the respective parties hereto represents and warrants that they are duly authorized to deliver this Amendment on behalf of the respective parties hereto and that this Amendment is binding upon the respective parties hereto in accordance with its terms.
7. Miscellaneous. The provisions of Sections 17-27 and 29 of the Stockholders Agreement are incorporated herein by reference and shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the terms and conditions of this Amendment as to each party hereto.

[The remainder of this page is left intentionally blank. Signature page to follow]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this **AMENDMENT TO STOCKHOLDERS AGREEMENT** has been duly executed and delivered by the duly authorized officers of each of the parties hereto as of the date first written above.

HHH M MFTG TRUST, DATED JANUARY 1, 2026:

(signing solely to acknowledge and consent to its removal as a party to the Stockholders Agreement)

By: /s/ Holly A. Postlewaite

Name: Holly A. Postlewaite

Title: Trustee

**THE HALL COMPANIES CORPORATE OHIO
LEGACY TRUST, DATED JANUARY 1, 2024:**

By: /s/ Joshua A. Postlewaite

Name: Joshua A. Postlewaite

Title: Trustee

/s/ Robert Hall

Robert Hall

AFFINITY ADVISORY HOLDINGS CORP.

By: /s/ Alexander Matina

Name: Alexander Matina

Title: President

STARK NOVUS FINANCIAL INC., F/K/A NU RIDE INC.

By: /s/ Alexander Matina

Name: Alexander Matina

Title: Chief Executive Officer

SCHEDULE A

OWNERSHIP SCHEDULE

Name	No. of Shares	Class
Stark Novus Financial, Inc., f/k/a Nu Ride, Inc.	850,000	Common Stock
The Hall Companies Corporate Ohio Legacy Trust dated January 1, 2024	150,000	Common Stock

EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT

This Employment Agreement (as the same may be amended from time to time in accordance with its terms, this “Agreement”), is entered into as of June 2, 2026 between Affinity Advisory Holding Corp. (the “Company”) and Robert Hall (the “Executive”).

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the Company, Executive, and certain affiliates of Executive, have entered into a Membership Interest Purchase Agreement dated of even date herewith (the “Purchase Agreement”), whereby Executive and certain affiliates of Executive are selling to the Company the membership interests of Affinity Advisory Network, LLC (“Affinity”) and AAN Wealth Advisors, LLC (“AAN” and together with Affinity, the “AAN Business”) (the “Transaction”). This Agreement will become effective as of the closing of the Transaction (the “Closing Date”) (for the avoidance of doubt, if the Transaction does not close and the Closing Date does not occur, this Agreement shall be null and void).

WHEREAS, the Company desires to employ the Executive, and the Executive has agreed to be employed by the Company, on the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in this Agreement;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants contained herein, and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the parties hereto, intending to be legally bound, hereby agree as follows:

1. Employment. The Company hereby agrees to employ (directly or through one of its affiliates) the Executive to serve in the capacities described in this Agreement, and the Executive agrees to accept such employment and perform such services, upon the terms and subject to the conditions set forth herein.

2. Term. The initial employment period (unless Executive’s employment is earlier terminated as provided in Section 8) shall be for three (3) years commencing on the Closing Date (the “Start Date”) (the Start Date through the end of the three (3) year period shall be the “Initial Term” and the employment period, including any renewals, the “Employment Period”). After the Initial Term, the Employment Period will be deemed automatically extended for successive one-year periods until such time as the parties enter into a new employment agreement or either party provides written notice at any time, but no later than ninety (90) days prior to expiration of the then-current Employment Period, of its intent to terminate the Employment Period. Nothing in this Section 2 shall limit any party’s right to terminate Executive’s employment in accordance with Section 8.

3. Duties and Responsibilities.

(a) **Title and Reporting.** The Executive shall hold the title of Chief Executive Officer of the Company and shall have such authority and responsibility as is consistent with such position as determined by the Board of Directors of the Company (“Board”) from time to time, including, without limitation, serving as a director, officer, or manager of Nu Ride Inc. or any direct or indirect subsidiary or affiliate thereof (collectively with the Company, the “Company Group”) as determined by the Board. The Executive shall hold such other titles and serve in such other positions as may be requested by the Board from time to time with no additional compensation beyond that set forth herein. The Executive shall report to the Board.

(b) Standard of Care. The Executive shall at all times perform his duties and responsibilities honestly, diligently, in good faith and to the best of his ability and shall observe and comply with all of the policies and procedures established by the Company and the Board from time to time (including any employee handbook of a member of the Company Group) that are applicable to the Company's senior executives, and with all applicable laws, rules and regulations imposed by any governmental or regulatory authorities.

(c) Devotion of Time. The Executive will devote to the business and affairs of the Company Group his best efforts and such business time (except for vacation as permitted hereunder and reasonable absence for illness) as may be necessary or desirable to pursue the goals of the Company as established by the Board from time to time; provided, however, that the foregoing shall not prevent the Executive from continuing to engage in business and act as an independent sales agent with (i) National Care Planning Council, (ii) Skidz Tire and Race Shop, (iii) Hall & Associates LLC and (iv) Heart of Wellness (each entity owned, directly or indirectly by Hall) (the "Other Business Endeavors"), in the case of items (i) through (iv) to the extent the Executive's involvement with and devotion time to such Other Business Endeavors does not materially increase as compared to such involvement or devotion of time prior to the date hereof, or in charitable, civic, educational, professional, community or industry affairs, so long as such activities do not, individually or in the aggregate, (x) violate any covenants applicable to the Executive hereunder or under any other agreement to which the Executive is a party or (y) materially interfere with the performance of the Executive's duties and responsibilities as an employee of the Company in accordance with the terms hereof.

(d) Work Location. The Executive generally shall be permitted to work remotely except the Executive shall be expected to travel domestically and internationally to the extent necessary or desirable in the performance of his duties hereunder, as reasonably determined by the Board.

4. Compensation

(a) Base Salary. As compensation for his services hereunder and in consideration of the covenants set forth in this Agreement, the Company shall pay to the Executive an annual base salary (as may be adjusted from time to time, the "Base Salary") of \$125,000 per annum. The Base Salary shall be payable in accordance with the Company's customary payroll practices and procedures and shall be prorated for any partial period during the Employment Period.

(b) Cash Bonus. For each calendar year during the Employment Period beginning with 2026, the Executive shall be eligible to receive an annual bonus (the "Annual Bonus") based on the achievement of performance goals to be established each year during the Employment Period by the Board in its sole and absolute discretion after consultation with the Executive, provided that the Annual Bonus for 2026 shall be determined by the Board after consultation with the Executive based upon 2026 results and achievements. The target Annual Bonus for each calendar year shall be equal to 100% of the Base Salary, and the bonus shall be pro-rated for 2026. Any Annual Bonus awarded hereunder shall be paid in the year following the year in respect of which the Annual Bonus is being paid and no later than March 15 of such year.

(c) Company Equity Bonus. For each calendar year during the Employment Period beginning with 2026, the Executive shall be eligible to receive a number of shares of common stock of the Company equal to 0.5% of the equity of the Company as of the last day of the applicable calendar year (the “Company Equity Bonus”) based on the achievement of performance goals to be established each year in the Employment Period by the Board in its sole and absolute discretion after consultation with the Executive, with the number of units to be granted in respect of 2026 to be prorated to reflect the portion of the calendar year during which the Executive was employed under this Agreement subsequent to the Start Date and to be determined by the Board after consultation with the Executive based upon 2026 results and achievements. Any Company Equity Bonus awarded hereunder shall be issued in the year following the year in respect of which the Company Equity Bonus is being paid and no later than March 15 of such year. No Company Equity Bonus shall be paid if the applicable performance goals have not been achieved and no additional number of shares of Company common stock will be granted for extraordinary achievement of the performance goals. To the extent that the Company establishes an equity incentive plan, the Company Equity Bonus shall be granted in accordance with the terms of such plan, as in effect from time to time. As a condition to the receipt of the Company Equity Bonus, the Executive shall become a party to any shareholders agreement among the shareholders of the Company. In the event the issuance of earned additional Company Equity Bonus to Executive would cause Executive’s ownership of the equity of the Company (including (i) ownership of the equity of the Company by trusts or other holders affiliated with Executive, and (ii) ownership of the equity of the Company by parties other than Nu Ride Inc. or an affiliate thereof, if applicable) to exceed twenty percent (20%) of the aggregate fair market value of all the equity of the Company, then the Company will provide Executive with an amount equal to the fair market value (as determined by the Board in good faith after consultation with Executive) of the excess either, at the Company’s election, (i) in cash in accordance with Section 4(b) and in addition to any Annual Bonus, or (ii) in shares of the common stock of Nu Ride Inc. in accordance with Section 4(d) and in addition to any Nu Ride Equity Bonus, with the value of Nu Ride Inc. shares to be calculated using a trailing 30-day volume-weighted average price measured through the payment date, in each case in lieu of any excess portion of the Company Equity Bonus. In the event that the Company acquires other subsidiaries in addition to the AAN Business, the annual amount of the Company Equity Bonus shall be adjusted to reflect such acquisition, with the revised Company Equity Bonus equal to (i) 0.5% multiplied by (ii) the quotient determined by the value of the AAN Business as of the consummation of such transaction divided by the value of the Company immediately following the consummation of such transaction.

(d) Nu Ride Equity Bonus. For each calendar year during the Employment Period beginning with 2026, the Executive shall be eligible to receive 10,000 shares of the common stock of Nu Ride Inc. (“Nu Ride”) (the “Nu Ride Equity Bonus”) based on the achievement of performance goals to be established each year in the Employment Period by the Board in its sole and absolute discretion after consultation with the Executive, with the number of shares to be granted in respect of 2026 to be prorated to reflect the portion of the calendar year during which the Executive was employed under this Agreement subsequent to the Start Date and to be determined by the Board after consultation with the Executive based upon 2026 results and achievements. Any Nu Ride Equity Bonus awarded hereunder shall be paid in the year following the year in respect of which the Nu Ride Equity Bonus is being paid and no later than March 15 of such year. No Nu Ride Equity Bonus shall be paid if the applicable performance goals have not been achieved and no additional number of shares of Nu Ride common stock will be granted for extraordinary achievement of the performance goals. The Nu Ride Equity Bonus shall be granted in accordance with the terms of Nu Ride’s Amended and Restated 2020 Equity Incentive Plan or any successor plan.

(e) Commissions in respect of Other Business Endeavors. Any pass-through commissions related to Executive's sales as an independent sales agent through the Other Business Endeavors will be payable as follows: (i) one-half percent (0.5%) will be payable to the Company; and (ii) the remainder shall be payable to the Executive.

5. Benefits. The Executive shall be entitled to participate in all employee benefit plans and programs (including, without limitation, medical insurance plans and programs) that are established and made generally available by the Company from time to time to its senior executives, subject, however, to the applicable eligibility requirements and other provisions of such plans and programs (including, without limitation, requirements as to position, tenure, location, salary, age and health). The Company reserves the right to amend, modify or terminate any such plans and programs that may be adopted from time to time in its sole discretion.

6. Vacation. The Executive shall be entitled to twenty (20) days of vacation (or such greater amount as is approved by the Board) for each calendar year to be accrued and used in accordance with the Company's vacation policies, as in effect from time to time, for similarly situated employees and prorated for any partial year of employment. Accrued but unused vacation shall be forfeited on December 31 of each calendar year (or, if sooner, upon Executive's termination of employment), except as otherwise required by law.

7. Reimbursement of Expenses. The Company shall pay or reimburse the Executive for all reasonable and documented travel, business entertainment and other out-of-pocket expenses actually incurred by him in furtherance of the performance of his duties hereunder in accordance with the procedures and limits of the Company as in effect from time to time including, without limitation, the submission of reasonable written verification or receipts documenting such expenses.

8. Termination. This Agreement, and the Executive's employment hereunder, may be terminated as follows:

(a) For Cause. The Company may immediately terminate the Executive's employment hereunder for cause by delivery of written notice to the Executive upon the occurrence of any of the following events (a termination for "Cause"):

(i) the Executive refuses or willfully fails to comply with any directive of the Board that does not violate applicable law;

(ii) the Executive engages in dishonest or willful misconduct in connection with his performance of his duties to, or that adversely affects, any member of the Company Group;

(iii) the Executive is determined by the Board to have committed a fraud, theft, or embezzlement or misappropriation of funds against or affecting any member of the Company Group, or any affiliate, customer, client, agent, creditor, equityholder, or employee of any member of the Company Group;

(iv) the Executive commits a material breach of this Agreement or any other agreement with any member of the Company Group or any affiliate thereof to which he is a party;

(v) the Executive is convicted of, or enters a plea of guilty or *nolo contendere* to, a felony or a crime involving fraud, dishonesty or moral turpitude; or

(vi) the Executive violates any law or other regulations applicable to any member of the Company Group or materially violates any Company Group policy (including its policies regarding discrimination, harassment, and retaliation).

provided, however, that a termination for Cause, and the rights of the Company with respect thereto, shall not include the occurrence of events or circumstances covered by Section 8(a)(i), Section 8(a)(iv), or Section 8(a)(vi) unless, if such events or circumstances are capable of being cured (as determined in good faith by the Board in its sole discretion), such events or circumstances are not cured within fifteen (15) days following receipt of written notice from the Company of the occurrence of the events or circumstances.

(b) Death. The Executive's employment hereunder shall automatically terminate without notice to either party hereto in the event of the Executive's death.

(c) Without Cause. The Company shall have the right to terminate the Executive's employment hereunder at any time without Cause immediately upon written notice to the Executive.

(d) Good Reason: The Executive may terminate his employment for Good Reason. "Good Reason" shall mean the occurrence of any of the following during the Employment Period without the Executive's written consent:

(i) a material reduction in the Executive's Base Salary;

(ii) a material diminution in the Executive's title, authority, or reporting structure; provided, however, that the appointment of officers or engagement of employees that report to the Executive directly or indirectly shall not constitute Good Reason; or

(iii) a material breach by the Company of any material provision of the Agreement or a material provision of any other agreement between the Executive and the Company.

The Executive cannot terminate his employment for Good Reason unless the Executive has provided written notice to the Company of the existence of the circumstances providing grounds for termination for Good Reason within sixty (60) days of the initial existence of such grounds and the Company has had at least thirty (30) days from the date on which such notice is provided to cure such circumstances and, if such circumstances are not cured, the termination is effective within thirty (30) days after the conclusion of such cure period. If the Executive does not provide notice of intent to terminate employment for Good Reason within sixty (60) days after the first occurrence of the applicable grounds, then the Executive will be deemed to have waived the right to terminate for Good Reason with respect to such grounds.

(e) Mutual Agreement. The parties hereto may terminate the Executive's employment hereunder upon their mutual written consent.

(f) By Executive. The Executive shall have the right to terminate the Executive's employment hereunder at any time on forty-five (45) days' prior written notice to the Company (which forty-five (45) days' notice may be waived or reduced in the Board's discretion).

(g) Effect of Termination. Effective as of any date of termination of the Executive's employment with the Company, without any further action required by any party, the Executive shall be removed from, and shall no longer hold, all positions then held by him with any member of the Company Group. The Executive agrees that he shall execute any documentation (including letters of resignation) reasonably necessary or desirable to give effect to the provisions of this Section 8(g).

(h) Cessation of Professional Activity. Upon delivery of a written notice of termination by either party hereto, the Company may relieve the Executive of his duties and responsibilities and require the Executive to immediately cease all professional activity on behalf of any member of the Company Group. In addition, in the event that the Board determines that there is a reasonable basis for it to investigate whether circumstances exist that would, if true, permit the Company to terminate the Executive's employment for Cause, the Board may relieve the Executive of his duties and responsibilities during the pendency of such investigation; provided, however, that, during such period, the Company shall remain bound by the terms hereof, including, without limitation, the payment to the Executive of his Base Salary and, if applicable, any benefits earned pursuant to the terms hereof.

9. Payments Upon Termination

(a) Following termination of the Executive's employment hereunder for any reason, the Company shall:

(i) pay to the Executive his Base Salary at the time of termination earned through the date of termination;

(ii) pay to the Executive his accrued but unused vacation in accordance with the Company policy; and

(iii) reimburse the Executive for any expenses incurred through the date of termination for which the Executive is entitled to reimbursement under Section 7 ((i), (ii), and (iii), together, the "Accrued Amounts").

(b) If the Executive is terminated without Cause, or resigns for Good Reason, in each case during the Employment Period, in addition to the above:

(i) the Company shall continue to pay to the Executive the Base Salary for a period of six (6) months in accordance with the Company's customary payroll practices; and

(ii) A pro rata portion of the Company Equity Bonus and the Nu Ride Equity Bonus for the calendar year in which such termination occurred shall be issued to the Executive within sixty five (65) days after the effective date of termination; provided, however, that if the Release Condition is not satisfied by the Release Effective Date then Executive's entitlement to the Company Equity Bonus and the Nu Ride Equity Bonus shall be forfeited without consideration on such date.

The Executive acknowledges and agrees that he will not be eligible to receive any termination payments or benefits provided for in this Section 9(b) (the "Release Condition") unless he timely executes a separation agreement and general release, in a form to be provided by the Company at such time (the "Release"), releasing any and all claims the Executive may have arising out of the Executive's employment (other than enforcement of this Section 9), and delivers such executed Release to the Company not later than forty-five (45) days after the date of termination. The Executive shall not be entitled to receive any amount under Section 9(b) unless the Release has become fully enforceable and non-revocable prior to the sixtieth (60th) day after the date of termination (the "Release Effective Date") and provided, further, that any payments pursuant to this Section 9(b) shall be subject to the Executive's continued compliance with Sections 10 through 15 and 30 below.

10. Confidential Information.

(a) The Executive agrees to, and to cause his affiliates, at all times during the Employment Period and thereafter, except as otherwise permitted under Sections 10(c) and (d), to: (i) hold in the strictest confidence and neither use in any manner detrimental to the members of the Company Group, or disclose, publish or divulge, directly or indirectly, to any individual or entity, any Confidential Information (as defined below), other than in the performance of the Executive's duties to the members of the Company Group; and (ii) inform all other persons or entities to whom the Executive discloses Confidential Information in accordance with the terms of this Section 10 of the proprietary interest and nature of such Confidential Information and of the recipient's obligations to keep such information confidential. The Executive further agrees that all memoranda, media, disks, files, notes, records or other documents that contain Confidential Information, whether in electronic form or hard copy, and whether created by the Executive or others, that come into his possession, shall be and shall remain the exclusive property of the Company to be used by the Executive only in the performance of his obligations hereunder. The Executive agrees that the foregoing restrictions shall apply whether or not such information is marked "Confidential".

(b) For purposes of this Agreement, the term “Confidential Information” shall include, without limitation, with respect to the members of the Company Group, all data, information, reports, interpretations, forecasts and records, financial or otherwise, including, without limitation, the identity of any customer, client, industry partner, referral source, supplier, subcontractor, licensee, distributor, funding source or business relation of any member of the Company Group and all property owned by any member of the Company Group or in which any of them have any rights and information related to the business or financial affairs of the members of the Company Group, including, without limitation, customer, client, industry partner and referral source lists and accounts, prospective customer, client, producer and industry partner and referral source lists, customer, client, industry partner and referral source data, systems, policies, manuals, advertising, marketing plans, marketing strategies, research, trade secrets, business plans, financial and performance data, strategies, methods of conducting business, cost and pricing information, formulas, processes, procedures, standards, manuals, techniques, designs, technology, confidential reports, computer software, financial and performance results and other data, telephone lists, contract forms, catalogs, books, records, files and all other information, knowledge or data of any kind or nature relating to the products, services, customers, clients, industry partners, referral sources, financing sources, employees, investors or business of the members of the Company Group. The term “Confidential Information” does not include information that: (i) is or becomes generally available to the public other than as a result of a disclosure by any person or entity having an obligation of confidentiality to the members of the Company Group; (ii) was or becomes available to the Executive (other than in connection with his employment hereunder) on a non-confidential basis from a source other than the Company; provided, however, that such source is not bound by a confidentiality agreement with or other contractual, legal or fiduciary obligation of confidentiality to any member of the Company Group with respect to such information; (iii) is developed independently by the Executive without the use of any Confidential Information (other than in the Executive’s capacity as an officer, director, manager, employee or consultant of any member of the Company Group); (iv) is required to be disclosed by order of a court of competent jurisdiction, administrative agency or governmental body, or by any law, rule or regulation, or by subpoena, summons or any other administrative or legal process, or by applicable regulatory standards, after notice of such requirement has been given to the Company, and the Company has had a reasonable opportunity to oppose such disclosure as provided in Section 10(e).

(c) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, the Executive is hereby notified in accordance with the Defend Trade Secrets Act of 2016 that the Executive will not be held criminally or civilly liable under any federal or state trade secret law for the disclosure of a trade secret that is made (i) in confidence to a federal, state or local government official, either directly or indirectly, or to an attorney, in each case solely for the purpose of reporting or investigating a suspected violation of law; or (ii) in a complaint or other document filed in a lawsuit or other proceeding, if such filing is made under seal. The Executive is further notified that if the Executive files a lawsuit for retaliation by any member of the Company Group for reporting a suspected violation of law, the Executive may disclose the trade secrets of any such member of the Company Group to the Executive’s attorney and use the trade secret information in the court proceeding if the Executive files any document containing the trade secret under seal and does not disclose the trade secret except pursuant to court order.

(d) Nothing in this Agreement or in any policy of any member of the Company Group prohibits the Executive from reporting possible violations of federal, state or local law or regulation to, or discussing any such possible violations with, any governmental agency or entity or self-regulatory organization, including, without limitation, by initiating communications directly with, responding to any inquiry from, or providing testimony before any federal, state or local regulatory authority or agency or self-regulatory organization, including, without limitation, the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, or making any other disclosures that are protected by the whistleblower provisions of any federal, state, or local law or regulation. Similarly, nothing in this Agreement or in any policy of any member of the Company Group is intended to limit in any way the Executive's right or ability to file a charge or claim of discrimination with the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (the "EEOC"), the National Labor Relations Board, or comparable state or local agencies. These agencies have the authority to carry out their statutory duties by investigating the charge, issuing a determination, or taking any other action authorized under the statutes such agencies enforce. The Executive retains the right to communicate with the EEOC and comparable state or local agencies, and such communication can be initiated by the Executive or in response to a communication from any such agency, and is not limited by any obligation contained in this Agreement. The Executive also may make confidential disclosures to an attorney retained by the Executive.

(e) If the Executive becomes legally required (whether by deposition, interrogatories, requests for information or documents, subpoenas, civil investigative demands or similar processes) to disclose any Confidential Information, he will provide the Company with prompt written notice thereof, unless otherwise prohibited by applicable law, so that the Company may seek a protective order or other appropriate remedy and the Executive will, at the Company's expense, cooperate with and assist the Company in securing such protective order or other remedy. In the event that such protective order is not obtained, or that the Company waives compliance with the provisions of this Section 10 to permit a particular disclosure, the Executive shall furnish only that portion of the Confidential Information which he is advised by counsel in writing is legally required to be disclosed and shall exercise his reasonable efforts to obtain reliable assurances that confidential treatment will be afforded such Confidential Information. For the avoidance of doubt, the provisions of this Section 10(e) shall not apply to any communication permitted under Section 10(c) or (d).

11. Return of Documents and Property. Upon termination of the Executive's employment with the Company (for any reason) or at any other time upon the written request of the Company, the Executive (or his heirs and/or personal representatives): (a) shall deliver, or cause to be delivered, to the appropriate member of the Company Group, and shall not retain for the Executive's or anyone else's use, all memoranda, media, disks, files, notes, records, documents or other materials obtained in connection with the Executive's employment with the Company or which otherwise relate to the business of the members of the Company Group (whether or not containing Confidential Information) and shall not retain any copies thereof in any format or storage medium (including, without limitation, computer disk or memory); (b) purge from any computer system in his possession, other than those owned by and returned to the appropriate member of the Company Group, all computer files which contain or are based upon any Confidential Information and confirm such purging in writing to the Company; and (c) return any other property that rightfully belongs to the members of the Company Group, including, without limitation, computers and cellular phones, in accordance with their respective policies in effect from time to time.

12. Non-Compete. The Executive agrees that, during the Employment Period and for a period of twenty-four (24) months after the date of termination, the Executive shall not, directly or indirectly, on the Executive's own behalf or on behalf of any other person or entity, whether as employer, employee, proprietor, owner, shareholder, partner, equityholder, director, consultant, agent, lender, guarantor, member, manager, trustee or otherwise, engage in Competitive Activities (as defined below) or own, manage, have control of or participate or invest in, alone or in combination with other persons or entities, any person or entity engaged in Competitive Activities. For purposes of this Agreement, "Competitive Activities" shall mean any activity that is competitive with any material lines of business of the Company as a financial wholesaler, field marketing organization, or national marketing organization and/or business and operations related to integrated retirement, investment and estate-planning solutions through insurance distribution, registered investment advisory and legal services, as conducted, or reasonably anticipated to be conducted within twelve (12) months after the termination of Executive's employment, by the Company Group at any time during the Employment Period, within any State or Territory of the United States in which the Company Group operates or provides services to any clients or customers, in each case to the extent the Executive was materially involved in (including at a strategic level), or had access to Confidential Information concerning, such business within the preceding two years. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Executive and his affiliates may: (i) acquire and hold, as a passive investment, securities representing not more than two percent (2%) of the outstanding voting securities of any publicly held corporation that is engaged in Competitive Activities; and (ii) engage in business and act as an individual sales agent with the Other Business Endeavors; provided that the Executive otherwise complies with all other obligations under this Agreement (including Section 3(c)); and provided that, notwithstanding anything contained herein to the contrary, in the event of termination of this Agreement for any reason other than for Cause, the Company shall permit Executive to place sales as an independent agent through the Company as a field marketing organization ("FMO") for a period of twenty four (24) months following such termination, and Executive shall place all such sales through the Company as FMO, in each case consistent with historical practices related to commissions, and except as may be otherwise agreed by the Parties.

13. Non-Solicitation of Customers, Vendors, Etc. The Executive agrees that, during the Employment Period and for a period of twenty-four (24) months after the date of termination, the Executive shall not, directly or indirectly, on the Executive's own behalf or on behalf of any other person or entity (except as otherwise necessary or advisable in the performance of the Executive's duties hereunder), (a) encourage, solicit or induce any customer, client, independent producer, independent contractor, distributor, industry partner, referral source, agent, supplier, licensee, landlord, lessor, lender, investor, vendor or other person or entity having business relations with any member of the Company Group with which the Executive communicated on behalf of the Company Group, provided or supervised the provision of services to, or learned Confidential Information about in connection with his employment hereunder, in each case within the preceding two years (each, a "Protected Relationship") to cease doing business with or reduce the amount of business conducted with or through any member of the Company Group, or in any way otherwise interfere with the business relationship between any such Protected Relationship and any member of the Company Group; or (b) shall not, directly or indirectly, on the Executive's own behalf or on behalf of any other person or entity, whether as employer, employee, proprietor, owner, shareholder, partner, equityholder, director, consultant, agent, lender, guarantor, member, manager, trustee or otherwise, engage in business with or own, manage, have control of or participate or invest in, alone or in combination with other persons or entities, any person or entity with which any member of the Company Group is involved in litigation during the Employment Period.

14. Non-Solicitation or Hire of Employees and Contractors. The Executive agrees that, during the Employment Period and for a period of twenty-four (24) months after the date of termination, the Executive shall not, directly or indirectly, on the Executive's own behalf or on behalf of any other person or entity (except as otherwise necessary or advisable in the performance of the Executive's duties hereunder), (a) encourage, solicit or induce, or in any manner attempt to encourage, solicit or induce, any independent producer engaged by, or individual employed by, or person or entity providing consulting or contracting services to, any member of the Company Group and with whom or which the Executive communicated or learned Confidential Information in connection with his employment hereunder, to terminate such employment or consulting or contracting services or (b) encourage, solicit or induce, or in any manner attempt to encourage, solicit or induce, any individual who is then or has within the preceding twelve months been employed by or provided consulting or contracting services to, including any independent producer engaged by engaged by, any member of the Company Group, and with whom or which the Executive communicated or learned Confidential Information in connection with his employment hereunder, to become employed or provide consulting services to any other person or entity; provided, however, that this Section 14 shall not be violated by (i) general advertising not targeted at employees or consultants of any member of the Company Group or (ii) the solicitation of any person or entity whose employment with any member of the Company Group was terminated by such member of the Company Group at least six (6) months prior to such solicitation or hiring.

15. Assignment of Work Product.

(a) The parties hereto agree that any work of authorship, invention, design, discovery, development, technique, improvement, source code, hardware, device, data, apparatus, practice, process, method, or other work product whatever related to the business of the members of the Company Group that the Executive, either solely or in collaboration with others, conceives, creates, makes, discovers, invents, develops, perfects, or reduces to practice during the Executive's employment with the Company (including, without limitation, such employment prior to the Start Date), whether or not during regular business hours or on the premises of any member of the Company Group, shall be the sole and complete property of the appropriate member of the Company Group. More particularly, and without limiting the foregoing, the Executive agrees that all of the foregoing and any (i) inventions (whether patentable or not, and without regard to whether any patent therefor is ever sought); (ii) marks, names, or logos (whether or not registrable as trade or service marks, and without regard to whether registration therefor is ever sought); (iii) works of authorship (without regard to whether any claim of copyright therein is ever registered); and (iv) trade secrets, ideas, and concepts (clauses (i) through (iv)), collectively, "Intellectual Property") related to the business of the members of the Company Group, shall perpetually and throughout the world be the exclusive property of the appropriate member of the Company Group, as shall all tangible media (including, without limitation, papers, computer media, and digital and cloud-based of all types and models) in which such Intellectual Property shall be recorded or otherwise fixed.

(b) The Executive agrees that all works of authorship created in whole or in part by the Executive during the Executive's employment with the Company and related to the business of the members of the Company Group shall be works made for hire of which the appropriate member of the Company Group is the author and owner of the copyright. To the extent that any competent decision-making authority should ever determine that any work of authorship created by the Executive during the Executive's employment with the Company is not a work made for hire, the Executive hereby assigns all right, title, and interest in and to the copyright therein, in perpetuity and throughout the world, to the Company. To the extent that this Agreement does not otherwise serve to grant or otherwise vest in the members of the Company Group all rights in any Intellectual Property created in whole or in part by the Executive during the Executive's employment with the Company, the Executive hereby assigns all right, title, and interest therein, in perpetuity and throughout the world, to the Company. The Executive agrees to execute, immediately upon the Company's reasonable request and without any additional compensation, any further assignments, applications, conveyances or other instruments, at any time after execution of this Agreement, whether or not the Executive remains employed by the Company at the time such request is made, in order to permit the members of the Company Group and/or their respective successors or assigns to protect, perfect, register, record, maintain, or enhance their rights in any Intellectual Property; provided, however, that the Company shall bear the cost of any such assignments, applications, or consequences.

(c) Notwithstanding the foregoing, the provisions of this Section 15 shall not apply to an invention that the Executive developed entirely on his own time without using the Company Group's equipment, supplies, facilities, or trade secret information except for those inventions that either (i) relate at the time of conception or reduction to practice of the invention to the Company Group's business, or actual or demonstrably anticipated research or development of the Company Group; or (ii) result from any work performed by the employee for the employer.

16. Enforceability of Covenants.

(a) The Executive hereby acknowledges and agrees that (i) the restrictions on his activities contained in Sections 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15 are necessary for the reasonable protection of the members of the Company Group and their goodwill and are a material inducement to the Company entering into this Agreement and (ii) a breach or threatened breach of any such provisions will cause irreparable harm to the members of the Company Group for which there is no adequate remedy at law.

(b) The Executive agrees that in the event of any breach or threatened breach of any provision contained in Sections 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15, the members of the Company Group shall be entitled, in addition to any other rights or remedies available to the members of the Company Group at law, in equity or otherwise, to a temporary, preliminary or permanent injunction or injunctions and temporary restraining order or orders to prevent breaches of such provisions and to specifically enforce the terms and provisions thereof without having to prove special damages or the inadequacy of the available remedies at law, in equity or otherwise and without the requirement of posting of a bond.

(c) The parties hereto acknowledge that the time, scope and other provisions contained in Sections 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15 are reasonable and necessary to protect the goodwill and business of the members of the Company Group.

(d) If any covenant contained in Sections 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15 is held to be unenforceable by reason of the time or scope, such covenant shall be interpreted to extend to the maximum time or scope for which it may be enforced as determined by a court making such determination, and such covenant shall only apply in its reduced form to the operation of such covenant in the particular jurisdiction in which such adjudication is made.

(e) The existence of any claim or cause of action by the Executive against any member of the Company Group, whether predicated on this Agreement or otherwise, shall not constitute a defense to the enforcement by the members of the Company Group of any provision of Sections 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15.

(f) In the event of any breach by the Executive of any of the restrictive covenants contained in Sections 12, 13, or 14, the running of the period of the applicable restriction shall be automatically tolled and suspended for the duration of such breach, and shall automatically recommence when such breach is remedied in order that the members of the Company Group shall receive the full benefit of the Executive's compliance with each such covenant.

(g) The provisions of Sections 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15 are in addition to and supplement any other agreements, covenants or obligations to which the Executive is or may be bound from time to time. To the extent a covenant set forth in Sections 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15 conflicts with a covenant or obligation set forth in any other such agreement, the provision that is more favorable to the members of the Company Group will control.

17. Representations and Warranties; Indemnity. The Executive represents and warrants to the Company that the execution and delivery of this Agreement by him, and the performance by him of his obligations hereunder, shall not constitute (with or without notice or lapse of time or both) a breach or violation of a provision of any understanding, contract or commitment, written or oral, express or implied, to which the Executive is a party or to which the Executive is or may be bound, including, without limitation, any understanding, contract or commitment with any present or former employer, in each case, that imposes restrictions that would, or would reasonably be expected to, interfere with the Executive's ability to perform his obligations under this Agreement. The Executive hereby agrees to indemnify and hold the members of the Company Group harmless from and against any and all claims, losses, damages, liabilities, costs and expenses (including, without limitation, attorneys' fees and expenses) incurred by the members of the Company Group in connection with any such breach or violation by the Executive of any such understanding, contract or commitment.

18. Taxes. Payment of all compensation and benefits to the Executive by the Company shall be subject to all legally required and customary withholdings. The Company makes no representations regarding the tax implications of the compensation and benefits to be paid to the Executive under this Agreement, including, without limitation, under Section 409A ("Section 409A") of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and applicable administrative guidance and regulations. It is intended that this Agreement will be exempt from, and if not exempt will comply with, Section 409A and all regulations and guidance issued thereunder to the extent this Agreement is subject thereto, and this Agreement shall be interpreted on a basis consistent with such intent. All payments under this Agreement are intended to be excluded from the requirements of Section 409A or be payable on a fixed date or schedule in accordance with Section 409A(a)(2)(iv). Notwithstanding anything in this Agreement to the contrary, in the event that the Executive is deemed to be a "specified employee" within the meaning of Section 409A(a)(2)(B)(i), no payments hereunder that are "deferred compensation" subject to Section 409A shall be made to the Executive prior to the date that is six (6) months after the date of the Executive's "separation from service" (as defined in Section 409A and any Treasury Regulations promulgated thereunder) or, if earlier, the Executive's date of death. Following any applicable six (6) month delay, all such delayed payments will be paid in a single lump sum on the earliest permissible payment date. For purposes of this Agreement, with respect to payments of any amounts that are considered to be "deferred compensation" subject to Section 409A, references to "termination of employment" (and substantially similar phrases) shall be interpreted and applied in a manner that is consistent with the requirements of Section 409A. For purposes of Section 409A, the Executive's right to receive any installment payment pursuant to this Agreement will be treated as a right to receive a series of separate and distinct payments. Any reimbursements under this Agreement shall be made on or before the last day of the Executive's taxable year following the taxable year in which the expense was incurred by the Executive. The amount of any expenses eligible for reimbursement or the amount of any in-kind benefits provided, as the case may be, under this Agreement during any calendar year shall not affect the amount of expenses eligible for reimbursement or the amount of any in-kind benefits provided during any other calendar year. The right to reimbursement or to any in-kind benefit pursuant to this Agreement shall not be subject to liquidation or exchange for any other benefit.

19. Binding Effect; Assignment. This Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the parties hereto and their respective heirs, executors, personal representatives, successors and permitted assigns, and the Executive consents to the assignment by the Company of its rights and obligations under this Agreement to an affiliate or a purchaser or assignee of all or substantially all of the assets of the members of the Company Group or their respective businesses. The Executive may not assign any of his rights or delegate any of his duties hereunder without the prior written consent of the Board (which consent may be granted or withheld in the Board's sole discretion).

20. Entire Agreement. This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement and understanding of the parties hereto with respect to the subject matter hereof and thereof and supersedes all prior agreements, understandings, arrangements, promises and commitments, whether written or oral, express or implied, between Executive and any member of the Company Group, and all such prior agreements, understandings, arrangements, promises and commitments are hereby canceled and terminated.

21. Amendment. This Agreement may not be amended, supplemented or modified in whole or in part except by an instrument in writing signed by the party hereto against whom enforcement of any such amendment, supplement or modification is sought.

22. Survival. The provisions of Sections 8(g) and 9 through 34 shall survive the termination or expiration of this Agreement and the Employment Period.

23. Notices. Any notice, request or other document required or permitted to be given under this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be deemed given (a) upon delivery if delivered by hand, facsimile or e-mail transmission (unless the sender receives a bounce back or failure to deliver message notification); (b) three (3) days after the date of deposit in the mail, postage prepaid, if mailed by U.S. certified or registered mail; or (c) on the next business day, if sent by prepaid overnight courier service, in each case, addressed as follows:

If to the Executive to:

Robert Hall
1485 Championship Cir SE
Massillon, Ohio 44646

With a copy to:

Jackson Kelly PLLC
20 NW Third Street, Suite 700
P.O. Box 1507
Eansville, Indiana 47706
Attention: Marc D. Fine
Email: mdfine@jacksonkelly.com

If to the Company to:

Affinity Advisory Network LLC
c/o Nu Ride Inc.
1700 Broadway, 19th Floor
New York, New York 10019
Attn: Alexander C. Matina
Email: amatina@nurideinc.com

With a copy to:

Herbert Smith Freehills Kramer (US) LLP
1177 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10036
Attn: John Bessonette
Email: John.Bessonette@hsfkramer.com

Either party hereto may change the address to which notice shall be sent by giving notice of such change of address to the other party hereto in the manner provided above.

24. Waivers. The failure or delay of either party hereto to enforce any provision of this Agreement shall in no way affect the right of such party to enforce the same or any other provision of this Agreement. The waiver by either party hereto of any breach of any provision of this Agreement shall not be construed as a waiver by such party of any succeeding breach of such provision or a waiver by such party of a breach of any other provision. The granting of any consent or approval by either party hereto in any one instance shall not be construed to waive or limit the need for such consent or approval in any other or subsequent instance.

25. Governing Law; Waiver of Jury Trial; Specific Performance; Arbitration.

(a) This Agreement shall be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Ohio applicable to contracts executed and to be wholly performed within such State. Except as provided in Section 25(b) below, each party hereto hereby irrevocably and unconditionally consents and submits to the exclusive jurisdiction of the state or federal courts sitting in or for Stark County in the State of Ohio, for any actions, suits or proceedings arising out of or relating to this Agreement or Executive's employment by the Company, and each party hereto agrees not to commence any action, suit or proceeding relating thereto except in such courts; provided, however, that nothing in this Agreement shall prevent either party hereto from enforcing a judgment entered into by any such court in any other jurisdiction. Each party hereto further agrees that any service of process, summons, notice or document by U.S. registered mail to its address set forth herein shall be effective service of process for any action, suit or proceeding brought against it in any such court. Each party hereto irrevocably and unconditionally waives any objection to the laying of venue of any action, suit or proceeding arising out of this Agreement or the transactions contemplated hereby in such courts, and irrevocably and unconditionally waives and agrees not to plead or claim in any such court that any action, suit or proceeding brought in any such court has been brought in an inconvenient forum. EACH PARTY HERETO HEREBY IRREVOCABLY WAIVES TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW, ALL RIGHTS TO TRIAL BY JURY IN ANY ACTION, PROCEEDING OR COUNTERCLAIM (WHETHER BASED UPON STATUTE, CONTRACT, TORT (INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, NEGLIGENCE) OR OTHERWISE) ARISING OUT OF OR RELATING TO THIS AGREEMENT OR THE TRANSACTIONS CONTEMPLATED HEREUNDER.

(b) Except for the Company's right to obtain injunctive relief in a court of law pursuant to Section 16(b), the Company and the Executive agree that any dispute arising out of or related to Executive's employment with the Company or the termination thereof shall be submitted to binding arbitration before JAMS for resolution. The arbitration shall be conducted in Ohio by a single arbitrator who shall be a former judge or an attorney who specializes in the field of employment law and shall have prior experience arbitrating employment disputes as an arbitrator. The arbitration shall be conducted in accordance with the JAMS Employment Arbitration Rules & Procedures then in effect, as modified herein. The award of the arbitrator shall be final and binding on the parties, and judgment on the award may be confirmed and entered in any state or federal court in Ohio, and the parties hereby assent to the exclusive jurisdiction of such courts and to venue in such courts. Any such arbitration shall be conducted on a strictly confidential basis, and Executive shall not disclose the existence of a claim, the nature of a claim, any documents, exhibits, or information exchanged or presented in connection with such a claim, or the result of any action (collectively, "Arbitration Materials"), to any third party, with the sole exception of Executive's spouse and legal counsel (including any experts or consultants), provided that each such person agrees to be bound by the confidentiality terms of this Agreement, and except as necessary for the prosecution or defense of any proceeding (including but not limited to actual or potential witnesses in such proceeding, provided that each such person agrees to be bound by the confidentiality terms of this Agreement). In the event of any court proceeding as noted above, Executive agrees to take all steps necessary to protect the confidentiality of the Arbitration Materials, and agrees to the entry of an appropriate protective order encompassing the confidentiality terms of this Agreement.

26. Severability. Without limiting the generality of Section 16(d), if any term or provision of this Agreement shall be determined by a court of competent jurisdiction to be illegal, invalid or unenforceable for any reason, the remaining provisions of this Agreement shall remain enforceable and the invalid, illegal or unenforceable provisions shall be modified so as to be valid and enforceable and shall be enforced.

27. Section Headings. Section headings are included in this Agreement for convenience of reference only, and shall in no way affect the meaning or interpretation of this Agreement.

28. Counterparts; Electronic Delivery. This Agreement may be executed in two or more counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which taken together shall constitute one and the same instrument. This Agreement, any amendments hereto, to the extent delivered by means of facsimile or electronic mail in “.pdf”, “.tif” or similar format or by DocuSign (any such delivery, an “Electronic Delivery”), shall be treated in all manners and respects as an original agreement or instrument and shall be considered to have the same binding legal effect as if it were the original signed version thereof delivered in person. No objection shall be raised as to the authenticity of any signature due solely to the fact that said signature was transmitted via Electronic Delivery.

29. Number of Days. In computing the number of days for purposes of this Agreement, all days shall be counted, including, without limitation, Saturdays, Sundays and holidays; provided, however, that if the final day of any time period falls on a Saturday, Sunday or holiday on which federal banks in the United States are or may elect to be closed, then the final day shall be deemed to be the next day which is not Saturday, Sunday or such holiday.

30. Cooperation with Regard to Litigation. The Executive agrees to cooperate with the members of the Company Group, during the Employment Period and thereafter, in connection with any action, suit, proceeding or investigation, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative, brought by or against or otherwise involving the members of the Company Group. Such cooperation includes providing information and meeting and consulting with the Company or its representatives or counsel, or representatives of or counsel to the members of the Company Group, and by being available to testify on behalf of the members of the Company Group, in each case as reasonably requested by the Company. The Company agrees to pay (or reimburse, if already paid by the Executive) all reasonable and documented out-of-pocket expenses actually incurred in connection with the Executive’s cooperation and assistance. If such cooperation is provided after the Employment Period, the Company Group will make reasonable efforts to minimize disruption of Executive’s other activities. To the extent Executive is required to spend substantial time on such matters, the Company shall compensate Executive at an hourly rate based on Executive’s Base Salary at the end of the Employment Period.

31. Insurance. During the Employment Period and for a period of six (6) years thereafter, the Company shall ensure that the Executive is a covered person under any directors’ and officers’ liability insurance policy it maintains for the benefit of any of its current or former directors or officers.

32. Third Party Beneficiaries. Each member of the Company Group is an intended third party beneficiary of this Agreement with the right to enforce the Executive’s obligations hereunder as if a party hereto.

33. Joint Drafting. In recognition of the fact that the parties hereto had an equal opportunity to negotiate the language of, and draft, this Agreement, the parties hereto acknowledge and agree that there is no single drafter of this Agreement and, therefore, the general rule that ambiguities are to be construed against the drafter is, and shall be, inapplicable. If any language in this Agreement is found or claimed to be ambiguous, each party hereto shall have the same opportunity to present evidence as to the actual intent of the parties hereto with respect to any such ambiguous language without any inference or presumption being drawn against either party hereto.

34. Cumulative Remedies. All rights and remedies existing under this Agreement are cumulative to, and not exclusive of, any rights or remedies otherwise available, whether by contract, at law, in equity or otherwise.

35. Further Assurances. Each party hereto agrees with the other party hereto that it will cooperate with such other party and will execute and deliver, or cause to be executed and delivered, all such other instruments and documents, and will take such other actions, as such other party may reasonably request from time to time to effectuate the provisions and purpose of this Agreement.

[Remainder of this page intentionally left blank; signature page follows.]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Employment Agreement as of the day and year first written above.

COMPANY:

AFFINITY ADVISORY HOLDINGS CORP.

By: /s/ Alexander C. Matina

Name: Alexander C. Matina

Title: President

[Signature Page to Employment Agreement]

EXECUTIVE:

By: /s/ Robert Hall
Robert Hall

[Signature page to Employment Agreement]

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 302
OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

I, Alexander C. Matina, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of Stark Novus Financial Inc.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements and other financial information included in this report, fairly present, in all material respects, the financial condition, results of operations, and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. I am responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:

(a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;

(b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of the financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;

(c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and

(d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and

5. I have disclosed, based on my most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors:

(a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize, and report financial information; and

(b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: August 14, 2026

/s/ Alexander C. Matina

Alexander C. Matina

Chief Executive Officer, President, Treasurer, and Secretary
(Principal Executive Officer and Principal Financial Officer)

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO
18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350, AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO
SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

In connection with the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of Stark Novus Financial Inc. (the “Company”) for the period ended June 30, 2026, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the “Report”), I, Alexander C. Matina, Chief Executive Officer, President, Treasurer, and Secretary of the Company, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that, to my knowledge:

1. The Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended; and
2. The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

August 14, 2026

By: /s/ Alexander C. Matina

Alexander C. Matina
Chief Executive Officer, President, Treasurer, and Secretary
(Principal Executive Officer and Principal Financial Officer)
