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DISTRICT COURT

CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

Case No. A-19-791409-B

Dept. No. 16

STATE OF NEVADA, EX REL. COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE, IN HER OFFICIAL CAPACITY AS STATUTORY RECEIVER FOR DELINQUENT DOMESTIC INSURER,

Plaintiff,

vs.

LANCET INDEMNITY RISK RETENTION GROUP, INC., a Nevada Domiciled Association Captive Insurance

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TWELFTH STATUS REPORT

COMES NOW, Commissioner of Insurance, Barbara D. Richardson, in her sole capacity as Receiver, and CANTILO & BENNETT, L.L.P., Special Deputy Receiver ("SDR"), and files this quarterly Status Report ("Report") in the above-captioned receivership. In accordance with the orders of this Court and the Nevada Revised Statutes ("NRS") Chapter 696B, the Receiver makes this "true report[s] in summary form of the insurer's affairs under the receivership and of progress being made in accomplishing the objectives of the receivership." NRS 696B.290(7).

Page 1 of 14

ACTIVE 62909775v1

Case Number: A-19-791409-B

## I. INTRODUCTION

Lancet Indemnity Risk Retention Group ("Lancet" or the "Company") is an association captive insurance company organized under the insurance laws of Nevada and the Liability Risk Retention Act of 1986. Lancet received its Amended Certificate of Authority on November 19, 2008, and operates under the authority of NRS Chapter 694C. Lancet was focused on the medical professional liability line and was formed to insure the medical professional liability of its physician and medical group members.

Pursuant to NRS 679A.160, Lancet is subject to Nevada laws in Chapters 694C and 695E that pertain to captive insurers (as "captive insurer" is defined in NRS 694C.060) and risk retention groups (as "risk retention group" is defined in NRS 695E.110) that have a Certificate of Authority from the Division of Insurance. Lancet is considered an association captive insurer (as "association captive insurer" is defined in NRS 694C.050). As a risk retention group ("RRG"), Lancet is subject to the federal Liability Risk Retention Act of 1986. RRGs domiciled in Nevada do not participate in the Nevada Insurance Guaranty Association. Pursuant to NRS 695E.140(1)(a), Lancet is also subject to all laws that pertain to traditional liability insurers (with exceptions given in Bulletin 14-008).

At the outset of the receivership, Lancet owned minimal personal property, had no office lease of its own, and only two employees. Lancet's business was primarily conducted through third-party contractors, such as Tampa Bay Health Solutions, LLC (management and policyholder services), Western Litigation, Inc. (claims administrator), and Risk Services (accounting and auditing services). The Company also provided in-house premium financing services for a number of its policies.

On March 11, 2019, the Company consented to receivership by a letter from its President and Board of Directors to the Commissioner requesting that Lancet be placed into receivership. The Commissioner filed her Verified Petition for Appointment of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Per the "About Us" page on the Company's web site (prior to receivership): "Domiciled in Nevada, Lancet Indemnity is a Physician Owned and Directed Professional Liability Insurance carrier that utilizes professional Insurance Executives for the underwriting, development and implementation process of our several coverage options."

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Commissioner as Receiver and Other Permanent Relief on March 19, 2019. As detailed in the petition, Lancet qualified for receivership based on several criteria and Lancet was in a very hazardous financial condition. On April 12, 2019, this Court entered its Permanent Injunction and Agreed Order Appointing Commissioner as Permanent Receiver of Lancet Indemnity Risk Retention Group (the "Permanent Receivership Order"). Barbara D. Richardson, Commissioner of Insurance ("Commissioner"), in her capacity as Receiver for Lancet, appointed the firm of Cantilo & Bennett, L.L.P. as the Special Deputy Receiver of the Companies. The "Receiver" and "Special Deputy Receiver" are referred to collectively herein as the "Receiver."

In brief, the Permanent Receivership Order established the following key points for the receivership:

- that all evidences of coverage, insurance policies, and contracts of insurance 1. are to be canceled effective on April 30, 2019, unless the Receiver determines that any such contracts should be canceled as of an earlier date;
- 2. that the Receiver may impose a full suspension on all disbursements owed by Lancet, including insurance policy disbursements, and costs related to the defense or adjudication of insurance policy claims;
- 3. that the receivership court has exclusive jurisdiction over all matters pertaining to Lancet and all persons are enjoined from commencing, bringing, maintaining, or further prosecuting any action at law, suit in equity, arbitration, or special or other proceeding against the Company, Receiver, or Special Deputy Receiver;
- 4. that the Receiver is vested with exclusive title both legal and equitable to all of Lancet's property wherever located, to administer under the general supervisions of the Court;
- 5. that the Receiver may change to her own name the name of any of Lancet's accounts, funds, or other property or assets, held with any bank, savings and loan association, other financial institution, or any other person, wherever

located, and may withdraw such funds, accounts, and other assets from such institutions or take any lesser action necessary for the proper conduct of the receivership; and

6. that the Receiver is authorized to establish a receivership claims and appeal procedure for all receivership claims. The receivership claims and appeals procedures shall be used to facilitate the orderly disposition or resolution of claims or controversies involving the receivership or the receivership estate.

On February 25, 2020, the Receiver filed a consolidated motion for a Final Order Placing Lancet Indemnity Risk Retention Group, Inc. into Liquidation, and for a Final Order Setting a Claims Filing Deadline and Granting Related Relief (the "Consolidated Motion"). The Consolidated Motion was heard and granted on April 1, 2020. On April 9, 2020, the Court entered its Final Order Placing Lancet into Liquidation (the "Liquidation Order") and its Final Order Setting Claims Filing Deadline for Lancet and Related Relief (the "Claims Order"). The Claims Order established a Claims Filing Deadline of April 1, 2021, and procedures for filing claims against Lancet, which is discussed further below. The Liquidation Order also granted the Receiver's request to formally place Lancet into liquidation effective on April 9, 2020.

#### II. RECEIVERSHIP ADMINISTRATION

## A. Notice of Receivership

The Receiver initially distributed notices regarding the Permanent Receivership Order to all interested parties of Lancet, as detailed in the Receiver's prior quarterly status reports. On February 5, 2020, the Court entered its Order Regarding Motion for Instructions Including Notice Requirements (the "Notice Order"). Future notices about Lancet's receivership will continue to be provided to interested parties in accordance with the Court's Notice Order.

#### **B.** Claims Administration

The April 1, 2021, Claims Filing Deadline has now passed, and Lancet received one hundred nine (109) timely Proof of Claim ("POC") submissions. The Special Deputy

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Receiver is processing the POCs and has sent out one hundred six (106) Notices of Claim Determination ("NCD") as of this report. A matrix showing the claim determinations made to date is attached as Exhibit A to this status report. Pursuant to the Receivership Appeal Procedure, each NCD recipient has sixty (60) days to object in writing to the SDR's determination(s). Five objections have been submitted as of this report. Some policy claim determinations (i.e., "Class B" claims pursuant to NRS 696B.420(1)(b)) are contingent on the claimant's further cooperation with the Receiver's efforts to comply with federal Medicare reporting requirements pertaining to 42 U.S.C. § 1395y(b)(7) and (8). Additionally, the SDR is requesting policyholder consent, as required by the Lancet policies, to resolve each POC submitted by a third-party claimant for malpractice coverage under a Lancet policy. Where consent is withheld, or where a third-party claimant does not accept the SDR's proposed resolution of a POC, it may be necessary to seek the Court's further instruction. The Receiver will continue to keep the Court apprised of developments in this regard, and plans to submit a more detailed report on the estate claims and appeals with the next status report to the Court.

The Receiver's third-party claims administrator ("TPA"), Claims Resource Management, Inc. ("CRMI"), is assisting the Receiver in the evaluation and adjudication of incoming POCs. CRMI is also responding to loss run and credentialing requests to the extent possible given the limited resources of the Lancet estate.<sup>2</sup>

## C. Third-Party Support Services

CRMI is the third-party claims administrator for the receivership estate. Further information regarding CRMI's receivership services is provided in section (B), *supra*. PALOMAR FINANCIAL, LC ("Palomar"), an affiliated company of the SDR, performs financial and technical administrative support services for Lancet in receivership. Palomar is being used to save costs for the receivership estate, centralize data and information, and facilitate

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> As previously reported, Lancet at this time can only provide loss run and claim history based on the available records of Lancet as of April 2019. Therefore, loss run reports provided by the SDR contain a disclosure regarding the completeness and accuracy of the same.

the receivership's administration. Merlinos & Associates ("Merlinos") is an actuarial firm that was selected to assist the receivership estate as described further below in section E ("Actuarial Reports").

The Receiver has received notice from time to time of lawsuits filed against Lancet in violation of the Court's Permanent Receivership Order. The Receiver's established procedure is to write to the parties involved to inform them of the injunctions of the Permanent Receivership Order, and to request a voluntary dismissal of Lancet from the matter. Thus far, the majority of counsel have been amenable to such requests. In limited cases and only when absolutely necessary, the Receiver will engage outside counsel to address ongoing or repeated violations of this Court's orders.

The Receiver has written in previous status reports about an ongoing Kentucky matter where Lancet was named as a third-party defendant in a lawsuit, and the plaintiff has refused to defer to the injunctions within the Permanent Receivership Order ("Holbrook Matter"). The Perry Circuit Court in that matter denied Lancet's Motion to Dismiss necessitating further action in Kentucky in an effort to bring this matter to a close. Such actions include:

- 1. Requesting that the court in the Holbrook Matter enter a formal written order;
- 2. Registering the Permanent Receivership Order in Kentucky under the Uniform Enforcement of Foreign Judgments Act;
- 3. Filing a Motion for Relief from Prior Proceeding;
- 4. Filing a separate complaint for declaratory and injunctive relief in the Franklin Circuit Court (*i.e.*, the Kentucky court holding exclusive jurisdiction over all matters relating to insurance delinquency proceedings) ("Franklin Court Proceedings"), along with a Motion for Restraining Order. This action for declaratory and injunctive relief requested a judgment declaring *inter alia* that the Permanent Receivership Order enjoins commencement or

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 prosecution of any action against Lancet in Kentucky, and that all claims of the opposing parties in the Kentucky lawsuit are now barred.<sup>3</sup>

Despite these efforts, on October 1, 2021, Plaintiff (*i.e.*, Holbrook) filed a Renewed Motion to Compel in the Perry Circuit Court action, seeking to compel Lancet's participation in discovery in a proceeding outside the Receivership Court.<sup>4</sup>

Though it granted Lancet partial summary judgment, the Franklin Circuit Court has indicated that the Receiver should seek relief from the Perry Circuit Court to enjoin Holbrook from further prosecuting her suit against Lancet (i.e., violating the Permanent Receivership Order) in that court. Lancet's Motion for Relief remains pending in the Perry Circuit Court and on November 5, 2021, Lancet's counsel filed a Motion for Ruling on Pending Motion for Relief. To date, there is still no ruling from the Perry Circuit Court. In the meantime, on November 10, 2021, Holbrook also filed a Notice of Appeal in the Franklin Court Proceedings.<sup>5</sup> The clerk of the Franklin Circuit Court will certify the record, which is expected to occur within the next thirty (30) days. After the certification is filed, Holbrook will have sixty (60) days to file the Appellant's Brief. Lancet's brief will then be due sixty (60) days after the Appellant's brief is filed. The Receiver has attempted

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The Franklin Circuit Court, through its orders entered July 30, 2021, and October 12, 2021, has, *inter alia*, recognized the injunction issued by the Nevada Receivership Court as validly domesticated in Kentucky, and ruled that Lancet is entitled to summary judgment on the issue of liability (*i.e.*, Lancet has no liability to the parties in the Holbrook proceeding because they failed to timely file a POC in the Nevada receivership proceeding).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> On October 14, 2021, the Perry Circuit Court held a hearing on the Plaintiff's Renewed Motion to Compel at which hearing the court abated the Plaintiff's Motion to Compel (pending Plaintiff's review of documents previously provided by the Receiver) and indicated that, in the meantime, the Receiver's previous motion to reconsider would be taken under submission. The Perry Circuit Court has not ruled on the pending motion as of this report.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The appeal includes the October 12, 2021, Order Denying Defendants' Motion to Alter, Amend or Reconsider (its July 30, 2021, Order Denying Defendants' Motion to Dismiss) and granting, in part, Plaintiff's Motion for Summary Judgment, as well as the court's order entered July 30, 2021, denying Defendants' Motion to Dismiss.

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at numerous times to cease the needless dissipation of the assets of the Lancet liquidation estate in the Holbrook matter, and will continue attempts in this regard.

#### D. **Records & Property**

The Receiver is maintaining access, for the time being, to the cloud-based Lancet policy database (i.e., the Epic system, owned by Applied Systems, Inc.). The Receiver is currently evaluating whether to terminate this Epic system, given the progress made in resolving the claims of the estate. The Receiver has terminated the premium financing software (i.e., the Input 1 system) in order to conserve costs, as the software was determined to no longer be necessary.

As previously reported, it does not appear that the Company kept complete and accurate claims records – and it has been necessary for the Receiver and/or CRMI to request records from third parties in an attempt to complete the claim files. Many files remain incomplete. The Receiver will continue to evaluate the available records and will continue to make requests as needed for missing information.

#### $\mathbf{E}.$ **Actuarial Reports**

Merlinos is an actuarial firm that was selected to assist the estate by evaluating the policy and claims information for Lancet to provide a projection of the current and future claims liabilities of the estate. Merlinos also evaluated Lancet's liability for the return premium owed for tail coverage policies that were terminated by the receivership order cancelling such insurance coverages.

Merlinos has completed its actuarial reports on loss and loss expense reserves, gross of reinsurance, for Lancet as of April 30, 2019, and December 31, 2019. The Receiver wrote about these reports in the previous Seventh Status Report. The Receiver has determined that a further actuarial report is not needed at this time. Updates to the Lancet claims data will be made as claims are processed and claim determinations made final.

#### F. Reinsurance

The Receiver is working with Lancet's reinsurance brokers, Tyser & Co. Ltd. ("Tysers") (formerly known as Integro Insurance Brokers Limited), to evaluate Lancet's

 reinsurance coverage and reinsured claims. After a number of commutation agreements were executed in July and August of 2018, just one reinsurer remained on a small portion of insurance risk for one excess of loss reinsurance contract (the "XOL"), with most of the XOL reinsurance extinguished and released in 2018. The Receiver, and Tysers, will continue to report claims on the XOL contract for the small portion of insurance risk that remains covered.

Lancet also had an Awards Made reinsurance treaty.<sup>6</sup> The Receiver pursued and collected a reinsurance reimbursement payment due to Lancet, on the above-referenced *Mora* claim, from the Awards Made treaty reinsurers. The Receiver reported on the settlement of this claim in the previous Eighth Status Report.

As of the prior Eleventh Status Report, the Receiver had made reinsurance recoveries totaling \$662,425.90 for the Lancet estate. The Receiver has recently submitted additional XOL reinsurance claims and has made an additional recovery totaling \$131,678.23 for the Lancet estate (*i.e.*, bringing the total recovered to date to \$794,104.13. The recent recovery will be reflected in the financials submitted for the next status report. The Receiver will continue to work with CRMI and Tysers to prepare the reinsurance reporting on an ongoing basis that is necessary for further reinsurance recoveries. Lancet does not have any reinsurance policies that would provide coverage to individual claimants or policyholders of Lancet, and the above-referenced collections have been placed into the general assets of the estate for the benefit of all creditors of the estate.

### G. Tax Matters

On March 4, 2021, the Receiver requested tax prompt assessment from the Department of Treasury regarding tax claims that may exist for tax year 2018. On October 14, 2021, the Department of Treasury wrote to acknowledge receipt of Lancet's request for

Generally, an "awards made" reinsurance contract provides indemnification of the insurance company for a percentage of the losses that accrue to the insurance company as a result of each award made (*i.e.*, a verdict or judgment rendered by a court of competent jurisdiction) reported to the insurance company during the term of the Awards Made reinsurance contract term.

prompt assessment for tax year 2018, and advised that the Internal Revenue Service will let Lancet know whether the request is approved or denied within 120 days. The Receiver has filed Lancet's federal tax returns for tax years 2019 and 2020, and on October 14, 2021, the Receiver requested tax prompt assessment from the Department of Treasury regarding tax claims that may exist for tax years 2019 and 2020. The Department of Treasury has not yet responded to the latter request.

#### Η. Asset Recovery

On March 4, 2019, the Receiver put the prior directors and officers ("D&O") of the Company, and their professional liability and/or errors and omissions insurance carrier (the "D&O Insurance Carrier"), on notice of prior bad acts and actionable claims of the Receiver resulting from pre-receivership errors, omissions, negligence, and As further detailed by the Receiver in prior status reports, the misrepresentations. Receiver, the D&O, and the D&O Insurance Carrier reached a settlement agreement without the need for any litigation - and the Receiver has collected the agreed-upon settlement amount.

#### I. Receivership Assets and Liabilities

The Receiver has been gathering information and evaluating the assets and liabilities of Lancet. A further liability analysis will be updated when the Company's claims evaluation is completed with the assistance of outside parties who are now performing claims services, and also when all claim appeals, if any, have been resolved. On September 11, 2019, the Court entered its Order Granting Receiver's Motion to Approve Fees and Rates Filed on July 24, 2019. Pursuant to this Order, the Receiver has included an informational copy, as Exhibit B to this Twelfth Status Report, of the invoices paid to

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the SDR and other receivership consultants since the last status report to this Court.<sup>7</sup> Below is an overview of some key financial matters for the Lancet receivership.

As of December 31, 2021, the approximate liquid assets of the Company were as follows:

- a. Cash in bank total: \$151,250.62
- b. Investments fair market value total: \$1,710,573.99

A cash flow report for December 2021, is attached as Exhibit D.

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The *in camera* materials, **Exhibit C**, are being submitted in a separate envelope that reflect paid invoices. Certain billings submitted to the Court are appropriate for *in camera* review (as opposed to being made part of a public filing). In this regard, courts have held that the bills of legal counsel and experts may be withheld from legal discovery and are not subject to legal disclosure, as this information may provide indications or context concerning potential litigation strategy and the nature of the expert services being provided. *See, e.g., Avnet, Inc. v. Avana Technologies Inc.*, No. 2:13–cv–00929– GMN–PAL, 2014 WL 6882345, at \*1 (D. Nev. Dec. 4, 2014) (finding that billing entries were privileged because they reveal a party's strategy and the nature of services provided); *Fed. Sav. & Loan Ins. Corp. v. Ferm*, 909 F.2d 372, 374-75 (9th Cir. 1990) (considering whether or not fee information revealed counsel's mental impressions concerning litigation strategy). Other courts that have addressed this issue have recognized that the "attorney-client privilege embraces attorney time, records and statements to the extent that they reveal litigation strategy and the nature of the services provided." *Real v. Cont'l Grp., Inc.*, 116 F.R.D. 211, 213 (N.D. Cal. 1986).

The *in-camera* review should apply not only to documentation concerning attorney fees, but it also extends to "details of work revealed in [an] expert's work description [which] would relate to tasks for which she [or he] was compensated[,]" a situation which is "analogous to protecting attorney-client privileged information contained in counsel's bills describing work performed." *See DaVita Healthcare Partners, Inc. v. United States*, 128 Fed. Cl. 584, 592-93 (2016); *see also Chaudhry v. Gallerizzo*, 174 F.3d 394, 402 (4th Cir. 1999) (recognizing that "correspondence, bills, ledgers, statements, and time records which also reveal the motive of the client in seeking representation, litigation strategy, or the specific nature of the services provided, such as researching particular areas of law," are protected from disclosure) (quoting *Clarke v. Am. Commerce Nat'l Bank*, 974 F.2d 127, 129 (9th Cir. 1992)).

## 1 III. **CONCLUSION** 2In compliance with this Court's instructions for a status report regarding the affairs 3 of the Company, the Receiver has submitted the aforementioned status report and requests that the Court approve this Twelfth Status Report and the actions taken by the Receiver. 4 5 DATED: February 9th, 2022. 6 Respectfully submitted: 7 Barbara D. Richardson, Commissioner of 8 Insurance of the State of Nevada, in her Official Capacity as Statutory Receiver of 9 Delinquent Domestic Insurer 10 By: /s/ CANTILO & BENNETT, L.L.P. Special Deputy Receiver 11 By Its Authorized Representative 12 Mark F. Bennett 13 Respectfully submitted: 14 By: /s/ Kara Hendricks 15 KARA B. HENDRICKS, Bar No. 7743 GREENBERG TRAURIG, LLP 16 10845 Griffith Peak Drive, Suite 600 17 Las Vegas, NV 89135 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27

#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I am an employee of Greenberg Traurig, and that, pursuant to Nev. R. Civ. P. 5(b)(2)(d) and E.D.C.R. 8.05, on this 9th day of February 2022, I caused a true and correct copy of the foregoing *Twelfth Status Report* to be filed and served electronically via Odyssey, the Court's electronic filing system upon all parties registered to this action. I further certify that I caused a true and correct copy of the *Twelfth Status Report* to be served via U.S. Mail, postage pre-paid on February 9, 2022, upon the parties listed below:

Holland & Hart LLP Ms. Constance L. Akridge, Esq. 9555 Hillwood Dr., 2nd floor Las Vegas, Nevada 89134

Benedict Maniscalco 2727 W. Martin Luther King Blvd., Suite 800 Tampa, Florida 33607

Andrew Carlton Director of Captive Accounting Risk Services Companies 1605 Main Street, Suite 800 Sarasota, Florida 34236

Eric Springall 8360 W. Sahara Avenue, Suite 110 Las Vegas, Nevada 89117 Salvatore Rodriguez 2810 West St. Isabel Street, Suite 201 Tampa, Florida 33607

Anthony F. Maniscalco 2810 West St. Isabel Street, Suite 201 Tampa, FL 33607

Leonard William Luria 2727 West Martin Luther King Boulevard, Suite 570 Tampa, Florida 33607

Alan J. Iezzi 15511 North Florida Avenue, Suite D Tampa, Florida 33613

Robert Joseph Menendez 203 15th Avenue Indian Rocks Beach, Florida 33785

Mark A. Tisdel 1520 South Lapeer Road, #120 Lake Orion, Michigan 48360

/s/ Andrea Lee Rosehill An employee of Greenberg Traurig, LLP

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## EXHIBIT LIST

$_2$	EXHIBIT NO.	DESCRIPTION	NO. OF PAGES
			(Excluding tabs)
3	A	Matrix of Claim	5
4		Determinations Made to	
5		Date	
6	В	Bill Summaries of Interim	35
$_{7}$		Fees and Expenses	
8		Incurred by Lancet	
		Indemnity Risk Retention	
9		Group for Cantilo &	
10		Bennett, L.L.P., Palomar	
11		Financial, Greenberg	
12		Traurig, CRMI, Frost	
13		Brown Todd, and Calhoun	
		Thomson + Matza LLP	
14	C	In Camera Submission to	123
15		be Filed Separately	
16	D	Cash Flow and	2
17		Disbursements Summary	