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CORPORATION, an Arizona

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IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF MARICOPA

PETITION NO. 157

Cause No. CV2016-014142

PETITION FOR ORDER AMENDING MENAGED JUDGMENT AND ASSIGMENT TO ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

> (Assigned to the Honorable John Hannah)

Peter S. Davis, as the court appointed Receiver, respectfully petitions the Court as follows:

I. THE SETTLEMENT WITH MENAGED AND JUDGMENT

Defendant.

On August 18, 2016, this Court entered its *Order Appointing Receiver*, which appointed Peter S. Davis as Receiver of DenSco Investment Corporation ("Receivership Order").

DenSco Investment Corporation ("DenSco") was an Arizona corporation formed by Denny Chittick ("Chittick") in April 2001. Since at least 2009, DenSco was engaged primarily in funding the purchase of real estate secured by deeds of trust using money raised from investors. Generally, this business practice is described as a "hard money" lender. As detailed in the Receiver's multiple Status Reports to this Court, the Receiver uncovered a series of fraud schemes perpetrated upon DenSco and Chittick by Yomtov Scott Menaged ("Menaged") in the purchase of these properties. Between 2007 and 2008, DenSco began a lending relationship with Yomtov Scott Menaged ("Menaged") and loaning Menaged monies for the purchase of residential real estate through foreclosure auctions. Menaged utilized two limited liability companies to solicit loans from DenSco. Menaged learned through his ongoing relationship with DenSco that he could take advantage of DenSco's lending practices and defraud DenSco by employing a series of fraudulent schemes including: (1) intentionally obtaining two hard money loans on a single property that Menaged had purchased at a foreclosure auction by tricking different hard money lenders into believing that their respective loan was going to be secured against the real property in a first position; and (2) falsifying documents to trick DenSco into believing that Menaged had "purchased" property at a foreclosure auction and that DenSco's loan was secured against the related property, when in fact Menaged had not purchased the property at all.

While the Receivership was in its initial weeks, the Receiver learned that on April 20, 2016, Menaged filed for relief under Chapter 7 of the United States Bankruptcy Code. In his initial bankruptcy filings Menaged did not list DenSco as a creditor or disclose that he owed any money to DenSco. After conducting an initial forensic analysis of the books and records of DenSco, the Receiver determined that Menaged may have owed as much as \$47 million to DenSco.

On January 1, 2017, the Receiver filed his *Verified Complaint to Determine Dischargeability of Debt* (the "Adversary Proceeding") in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Arizona against Menaged and his wife, Francine Menaged (hereinafter referred to as the "Menageds") seeking a judicial determination that the amount of \$47,156,641.92 constitutes a nondischargeable obligation of the Menageds

under 11.U.S.C. §523(1), and seeking a judgment in favor of the Receiver against the Menageds' marital community of \$47,156,641.92¹.

Eventually, Menaged admitted that he devised and facilitated a series of fraudulent schemes against DenSco to utilize the loan proceeds from DenSco from his actions for other purposes, including repayment of other DenSco loans, living expenses, gambling, and the acquisition of personal assets.

After negotiations, the Menageds agreed to a Settlement Agreement which included the consent to the entry of a nondischargeable civil judgment in favor of the Receiver in the amount of \$31,000,000, and an agreement that Menaged would cooperate with the Receiver's ongoing investigation into activities relating to DenSco, to the extent that such cooperation and testimony does not violate his privilege against self-incrimination under the Fifth Amendment to the United States Constitution. In exchange for his cooperation, the Receiver agreed that funds that were recovered at least partially as a result of Menaged's cooperation would be offset against the principal balance of the Judgment.

On August 8, 2017, the Receiver filed his *Petition No. 32: Petition for Order Approving Settlement Agreement with Yomtov Scott Menaged and Francine Menaged*, which was approved by this Court on August 11, 2017.

II. MENAGED COOPERATION AND ESTATE RECOVERIES

During the course of the administration of the Receivership, the Receiver has recovered over \$29 million from the liquidation of DenSco assets and the litigation of claims held by DenSco. During this time, Menaged has provided the Receiver with significant cooperation to identify potential claims, explain suspicious transactions, and provide testimony and other assistance in advancing the Receiver's claims. While the actual benefit of Menaged's cooperation is difficult to quantify, the Receiver

¹ The Receiver named Francine Menaged for the sole purpose of binding the Menageds' marital community.

recommends that Menaged be credited against the Judgment the amount of \$17,896,746. More specifically, the Receiver recommends that Menaged is credited for settlement proceeds totaling \$16,375,000 from the litigation settlements with US Bank², Clark Hill³ and Active Funding⁴; and \$1,521,746 that the Receiver recovered as a result of the liquidation of Menaged's furniture stores, recoveries from civil and criminal proceedings against Menaged's family, and other related recoveries. The Receiver's recommended credit of \$17,896,746 against Menaged's Judgment provides Menaged with a credit of 100% of the civil recoveries as detailed in the attached *Calculation of Menaged Judgment*. (See Exhibit "A").

III. AMENDMENT OF JUDGMENT AND ASSIGNMENT TO ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

As the DenSco Receivership comes to a close, the Receiver recommends that the Court approve the Receiver's recommendation to amend the Judgment to reduce the principal amount owed to \$16,946,287⁵ and approve the assignment of the Judgment to

the Arizona Corporation Commission for future judgment collection.

Given that Menaged is not scheduled to be released from incarceration until 2030, and the prospect that Menaged may have the ability to generate significant income to pay back some of the Judgment after his release, the Arizona Corporation Commission has agreed to accept the assignment of the Judgment and continue efforts to collect under the Judgment for the benefit of the DenSco approved creditors.

If this Court approves the amendment and assignment of the Judgment, the Receiver will file a *Notice of Balance of Judgment* in the Bankruptcy Court to (1) reflect the outstanding balance of \$16,946,287; and (2) detail that future judgment collection will be the responsibility of the Arizona Corporation Commission. Once filed, the

² Order Re: Petition No. 137

²⁶ Order Re: Petition No. 13

⁴ Order Re: Petition No. 107

⁵ The principal of the Judgment will be amended to \$16,946,287 which represents principal of \$13,103,885 and accrued interest of \$3,843,033 as of April 30, 2025.

Receiver will have the *Notice of Balance of Judgment* recorded in all counties in Arizona where the original judgment was recorded.

Additionally, at the conclusion of the Receivership and after this Court has approved the final distribution to creditors and the Receiver has paid said distributions, the Receiver will provide the Arizona Corporation Commission with a final outstanding accounting of the remaining amounts owed to each DenSco creditor and related contact information for each creditor to allow future distributions under the Judgment to be made to the DenSco approved creditors by the Arizona Corporation Commission.

WHEREFORE, the Receiver respectfully requests that the Court enter an order: (1) Approving the Receiver's recommendation that Menaged should be credited \$17,896,115.00 against the Judgment; (2) Amending the principal amount of the Judgment to \$16,946,287; (3) Directing the Receiver to file a Notice of Balance of Judgment in reflecting the new principal amount of the Judgment; (4) Ordering that when the amended Judgment is assigned to the Arizona Corporation Commission it will be a civil judgment of the state and pursuant to A.R.S. § 12-1551(E)(3) and exempt from any judgment renewal requirements; and (5) directing the Receiver to facilitate the assignment of the Amended Judgment to the Arizona Corporation Commission for future collection.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 13th day of May, 2025.

BURCH & CRACCHIOLO, P.A.

Attorneys for the Receiver

By: /s/ Ryan W. Anderson

Ryan W. Anderson

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E-filed through AZTurboCourt this 13th day of May, 2025 with the Clerk of the Maricopa County Superior Court; and

1	COPY emailed and/or mailed
2	this same day to:
3	Wendy L. Coy, Director of Enforcement
4	Securities Division Arizona Corporation Commission
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Exhibit "A"

J.S. Held LLC Arizona Corporation Commission v. DenSco Investment Corporation

Receivership of DenSco Investment Corp.
Calculation of Menaged Judgment Balance: Summary
August 18, 2016 through April 30, 2025

Description		Amount	Notes
Beginning Judgment Amount		31,000,000	[1]
Adjustments for Menaged-Assisted Recoveries:			
Settlement proceeds from the litigation settlements with Clark Hill, US Bank, and		(16,375,000)	[2]
Active Funding			
Scott Menaged Federal Restitution		(3,610)	
Furniture King, et al. Income		(273,663)	
Easy - Marilyn Property Proceeds		(35,067)	
Joseph Menaged Forfeiture		(709,405)	
Joseph Menaged Settlement		(350,000)	
Stephen Brown Settlement		(150,000)	
Total Adj. for Menaged-Assisted Recoveries		(17,896,746)	
Remaining Judgment Principal		13,103,254	
Plus Interest Accrued through 04/30/25		3,843,033	
Judgment Balance as of 04/30/25		16,946,287	

Notes:

- [1] Pursuant to Section A of the Settlement Agreement, Menaged consented to a \$31,000,000 nondischargeable civil judgment in favor of the Receiver.
- [2] Pursuant to Section D of the Settlement Agreement, "In the event that [Menaged]'s cooperation results in monetary recoveries for the Receiver against third parties after the date of this Agreement, the Receiver agrees to reduce the amount of the Judgment in an amount equal to the gross recovery from the third party that is related to [Menaged]'s cooperation."