

STATE OF MINNESOTA

DISTRICT COURT

COUNTY OF CARVER

FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT
PROBATE DIVISION
Case Type: Special Administration

In the Matter of:

Court File No. 10-PR-16-46

Estate of Prince Rogers Nelson,

Decedent,

and

Tyka Nelson,

Petitioner.

**ORDER AUTHORIZING SPECIAL
ADMINISTRATOR'S EMPLOYMENT OF
ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY
EXPERTS**

Before the Court is the motion of the Special Administrator for Court authorization to negotiate with, and potentially employ, entertainment industry experts to assist the Special Administrator in the management and preservation of the wide-ranging intellectual property of the Estate. Minn. Stat. § 524.3-715(21) extends such contractual authority to a Personal Representative. By operation of this Court's Letters of Special Administration, that authority can be exercised by the Special Administrator of the above-captioned Estate. See Minn. Stat. § 524.3-617. Given the statutory and Court authority delegated to the Special Administrator, the Court appreciates the effort taken by the Special Administrator to involve the Court and the potential beneficiaries, although in an understandably limited way given the business dynamic presented by this Estate. This Estate presents unique challenges and opportunities. All are cognizant that the Court appointed the Special Administrator for a limited period of

time. Nevertheless, the Court intends for the Special Administrator to take all prudent steps to monetize the Estate's intellectual property, and defers to the Special Administrator's judgment as to the timing, terms, and conditions necessary to do so.

Accordingly, based upon the record and review of the Affidavit of Craig N. Ordal, the Court hereby ORDERS that:

1. The Special Administrator is authorized to negotiate with the entertainment industry experts identified in the Ordal Affidavit regarding their potential employment to advise and assist the Special Administrator, and as contemplated by Minn. Stat. § 524.3-715(21), "to perform any act of administration, whether or not discretionary";

2. The Special Administrator is also authorized to enter into employment or other contractual relationships with the identified entertainment industry experts on terms and conditions which the Special Administrator determines to be reasonable and beneficial under all of the circumstances, including as to periods of time which might extend beyond the term of the Special Administration;~~and~~

3. In light of the Special Administrator's need to exercise its business judgment as to entertainment opportunities and the challenge of the estate tax obligations arising from the overall appraised value of the Estate yet to be determined and any income tax obligation on income earned in 2016, the Court believes that the proposals of the objecting parties will unnecessarily delay or complicate the ongoing efforts of the Court-appointed Special Administrator to fulfill its fiduciary responsibilities, and therefore the objections are overruled. Nevertheless, the Court expects the Special Administrator to continue its practice of keeping

the interested persons in the Estate as informed as is reasonable and prudent under the business circumstances; and

4. ~~3.~~ Due to the confidential nature of the business negotiations underway, and the understandable concern that dissemination of the confidential business information within the Ordal Affidavit could harm the interests of the Estate, now and in the future, the Affidavit of Craig N. Ordal shall be filed UNDER SEAL, with the Court Administrator authorized to take all necessary steps to effectuate the Court's directive.

Dated: June ____, 2016

Kevin W. Eide
Judge of District Court

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