

In Re the Estate of:

Prince Rogers Nelson

Court File No. 10-PR-16-46

Decedent,

**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, provided that: (a) the term of employment of any entertainment industry expert shall be limited to 90 days; and (b) no entertainment or intellectual property exploitation agreement in which the Estate grants rights that extends more than one year from the effective date of the proposed agreement shall be entered without first providing a copy of the proposed agreement to counsel for the potential heirs for review and comment. Any comments by potential heirs must be provided to the Special Administrator within five days of receipt of the proposed agreement including as to periods of time which might extend beyond the term of the Special Administration; In response to any comments concerning proposed agreements, the Special Administrator must submit to the heir/heirs an affidavit stating they have reviewed all submitted comments and the actions that were taken. Further, if requested from beneficiaries, the Special Administrator must provide documentation to the named heir/heirs, other like proposals they evaluated along with any known potential conflicts that may exist between the Special Administrator, Counsel to the Special Administrator and any entity benefiting from the agreement.

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.

SO ORDERED.

Dated: June _____, 2016

Kevin W. Eide
Judge of District Court