IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

IN RE: REFERRAL OF CASES AND PROCEEDINGS:TO THE U.S. BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE:DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY:STANDING ORDER 2025-02

WHEREAS, on July 23, 1984, the Court entered a Standing Order regarding the referral of all cases under Title 11 of the United States Code to the U.S. Bankruptcy Judges of this District (the "1984 Standing Order"); and

WHEREAS, on September 18, 2012, the Court entered Standing Order 12-1, which amended and supplemented the 1984 Standing Order, affording the U.S. Bankruptcy Judges of this District the authority to submit proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law in proceedings referred under Title 11; and

WHEREAS, by entry of a June 2, 2025 Order, this Court amended Local Civil Rule 301.1 to delineate that U.S. Bankruptcy Judges of this District may serve as a mediator or settlement judge as part of his or her official judicial duties; and

WHEREAS, given the newly amended Local Civil Rule 301.1, as well as the 1984 Standing Order and Standing Order 12-1, this Court deems it necessary and appropriate to update its procedures and protocol for referral of cases and proceedings to the U.S. Bankruptcy Judges of this District; accordingly

IT IS ORDERED, effective immediately, that as related to the referral of cases and proceedings to the U.S. Bankruptcy Judges of this District, any such Judge is authorized to act as a mediator or settlement judge as part of his or her official duties; and it is further

ORDERED that, to the extent necessary or appropriate to give effect to this aspect of the reference, all U.S. Bankruptcy Judges of this District are designated as judicial neutrals under 28 U.S.C. §§ 651-57, and thus entitled to all the legal immunities and protections afforded to such individuals; and it is further

ORDERED that this Standing Order supplements the 1984 Standing Order and Standing Order 12-1; and it is further

ORDERED that all provisions of the 1984 Standing Order and Standing Order 12-1 that are not within the scope of this Standing Order remain in full force and effect.

ShimmiriSumb

Hon. Renée Marie Bumb Chief United States District Judge

Dated: June 6, 2025