

1 ALLEN MATKINS LECK GAMBLE  
2 MALLORY & NATSIS LLP  
3 DAVID R. ZARO (BAR NO. 124334)  
4 865 South Figueroa Street, Suite 2800  
5 Los Angeles, California 90017-2543  
6 Phone: (213) 622-5555  
7 Fax: (213) 620-8816  
8 E-Mail: dzaro@allenmatkins.com

9 ALLEN MATKINS LECK GAMBLE  
10 MALLORY & NATSIS LLP  
11 EDWARD G. FATES (BAR NO. 227809)  
12 One America Plaza  
13 600 West Broadway, 27th Floor  
14 San Diego, California 92101-0903  
15 Phone: (619) 233-1155  
16 Fax: (619) 233-1158  
17 E-Mail: tfates@allenmatkins.com

18 Attorneys for Receiver  
19 THOMAS HEBRANK

20 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
21 **CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

22 SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE  
23 COMMISSION,

24 Plaintiff,

25 v.

26 PACIFIC WEST CAPITAL GROUP,  
27 INC.; ANDREW B CALHOUN IV;  
28 PWC TRUST; BRENDA CHRISTINE  
BARRY; BAK WEST, INC.; ANDREW B  
CALHOUN JR.; ERIC CHRISTOPHER  
CANNON; CENTURY POINT, LLC;  
MICHAEL WAYNE DOTTA; and  
CALEB AUSTIN MOODY (dba SKY  
STONE),

29 Defendants.

30 Case No. 2:15-cv-02563 AB (ASx)

31 **THIRTY-SECOND INTERIM  
32 APPLICATION OF ALLEN  
33 MATKINS LECK GAMBLE  
34 MALLORY & NATSIS, LLP,  
35 GENERAL COUNSEL TO THE  
36 RECEIVER, FOR PAYMENT OF  
37 FEES AND REIMBURSEMENT OF  
38 EXPENSES**

39 Date: March 27, 2026  
40 Time: 10:00 a.m.  
41 Ctrm.: 7B  
42 Judge: Hon. André Birotte Jr.

1 Allen Matkins Leck Gamble Mallory & Natsis LLP (“Allen Matkins”),  
2 general counsel to Thomas Hebrank (“Receiver”), the Court-appointed receiver for  
3 PWCG Trust, hereby submits this thirty second interim application for approval and  
4 payment of fees and reimbursement of expenses (“Application”). This Application  
5 covers the period from October 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025 (“Thirty-  
6 Second Application Period”), and seeks interim approval of \$1,930.50 in fees and  
7 \$11.00 in expenses, and an order authorizing the Receiver to pay, on an interim  
8 basis, 80% of the fees incurred (\$1,544.40) and 100% of expenses incurred.

## I. INTRODUCTION

10 This equity receivership was established pursuant to the Consent of  
11 Defendant PWCG Trust filed on February 12, 2018, and the Judgment as to  
12 Defendant PWCG Trust (“Appointment Order”) entered on February 16, 2018. Dkt.  
13 Nos. 143, 145. The Appointment Order confers full powers of an equity receiver,  
14 including full power over all funds, assets, and other property of PWCG Trust, and  
15 including its bank accounts, life insurance policies (“Policies”), books and records,  
16 and all funds and assets controlled or managed by PWCG Trust. The Appointment  
17 Order also authorizes the Receiver to “engage and employ attorneys, accountants,  
18 and other persons” to assist him in the performance of his duties. Dkt. No. 145,  
19 Section III(F).

20 The Receiver promptly determined that his experienced staff at E3 Realty  
21 Advisors, Inc., dba E3 Advisors (“E3”), as well as experienced, qualified counsel  
22 was critical due to the number of people involved, the amount at stake for investors,  
23 the transactional volume, and the complex issues facing PWCG Trust. Accordingly,  
24 the Receiver has cost-effectively used his team at E3 to assist in carrying out  
25 receivership duties, as well as Allen Matkins as his counsel.

1        In an abundance of caution, the Receiver sought specific Court approval of  
2 Allen Matkins' employment, which was approved on April 10, 2018. Dkt.  
3 Nos. 150, 152. The Court also approved the Receiver's proposal to file reports and  
4 fee applications on a quarterly basis. *Id.*

5                    **II. FEE APPLICATION**

6        This fee application should be read in conjunction with the Receiver's Thirty-  
7 Second Interim Report ("Thirty-Second Report") filed on January 30, 2026 (Dkt.  
8 No. 693), which describes in detail the Receiver's activities during the Thirty-  
9 Second Application Period. This Application seeks interim approval of \$1,930.50 in  
10 fees for a total of 2.20 hours worked, and payment on an interim basis of 80% of  
11 that amount, or \$1,544.40. The work performed is described task-by-task on  
12 Exhibit A and is broken down into the following categories:

Category	Hours	Amount
Reporting	1.20	\$1,053.00
Claims & Distributions	0.60	\$526.50
Employment/Fees	0.40	\$351.00
Total	2.20	\$1,930.50

19        Allen Matkins has worked efficiently to assist the Receiver to address legal  
20 issues facing the receivership estate. The firm's work has allowed the Receiver to  
21 preserve and protect the substantial value of receivership estate assets. Allen  
22 Matkins' work has assisted the Receiver in carrying out his Court-ordered duties and  
23 the firm should be compensated on an interim basis.

24                    **III. SUMMARY OF TASKS PERFORMED AND COSTS INCURRED**

25                    **A. Categories and Descriptions of Work**

26                    1. Reporting

27        Allen Matkins' time in this category focused on preparing the Receiver's  
28 Thirty-First Interim Report. Dkt. 686. The report contains detailed descriptions of

1 the Receiver's activities during the third quarter of 2025, policy maturities, investor  
2 communications, pending litigation, and post-receivership receipts and  
3 disbursements. The reports also include the Receiver's recommendations for the  
4 continued administration of the receivership estate. The reasonable and necessary  
5 fees for work in this category total \$1,053.00.

6       2. Claims & Distributions

7       Time in this category was spent responding to direct inquiries from investors,  
8 assisting the Receiver in preparing monthly updates for investors, and in advising  
9 the Receiver on handling unique investor claim issues. The reasonable and  
10 necessary fees for work in this category total \$526.50.

11      3. Employment/Fees

12      Allen Matkins does not charge for time spent preparing its own fee  
13 applications. The firm assisted the Receiver in preparing his Thirty-First Interim  
14 Fee Application, which was filed on December 9, 2025. Dkt. 687. The reasonable  
15 and necessary fees for work in this category total \$351.00.

16      B. Summary of Expenses Requested for Reimbursement

17      Allen Matkins requests the Court approve reimbursement of \$11.00 in out-of-  
18 pocket costs. The itemization of such expenses is summarized below by category.

Category	Total
Document Searches (incl. PACER, Lexis, Sec. of State)	\$11.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 11.00</b>

23      **IV. FEES AND COSTS INCURRED AND PAID TO DATE**

24      From inception of the receivership through December 31, 2025, the Receiver  
25 incurred fees and costs of \$825,509.45, of which amount \$154,691.91 is subject to  
26 holdback pending approval of the Receiver's final fee application at the conclusion  
27 of the receivership, \$10,660.30 is awaiting the Court's review and approval, and  
28 \$662,108.89 has been approved by the Court and paid to date. During the same time

1 period, Allen Matkins has incurred fees and costs of \$1,834,079.00, of which  
2 amount \$358,168.63 is subject to holdback pending approval of Allen Matkins' final  
3 fee application at the conclusion of the receivership, \$1,941.50 is awaiting the  
4 Court's review and approval, and \$1,474,354.97 has been approved by the Court and  
5 paid to date.

6 **V. THE FEES AND COSTS ARE REASONABLE AND SHOULD BE  
7 ALLOWED**

8 "As a general rule, the expenses and fees of a receivership are a charge upon  
9 the property administered." *Gaskill v. Gordon*, 27 F.3d 248, 251 (7th Cir. 1994).  
10 These expenses include the fees and expenses of this Receiver and his professionals,  
11 including Allen Matkins. Decisions regarding the timing and amount of an award of  
12 fees and costs to the Receiver and his Professionals are committed to the sound  
13 discretion of the Court. See *SEC v. Elliot*, 953 F.2d 1560, 1577 (11th Cir. 1992)  
14 (rev'd in part on other grounds, 998 F.2d 922 (11th Cir. 1993)).

15 In allowing fees, a court should consider "the time, labor and skill required,  
16 but not necessarily that actually expended, in the proper performance of the duties  
17 imposed by the court upon the receiver[], the fair value of such time, labor and skill  
18 measured by conservative business standards, the degree of activity, integrity and  
19 dispatch with which the work is conducted and the result obtained." *United States v.*  
20 *Code Prods. Corp.*, 362 F. 2d 669, 673 (3d Cir. 1966) (internal quotation marks  
21 omitted). In practical terms, receiver and professional compensation thus ultimately  
22 rests upon the result of an equitable, multi-factor balancing test involving the  
23 "economy of administration, the burden that the estate may be able to bear, the  
24 amount of time required, although not necessarily expended, and the overall value of  
25 the services to the estate." *In re Imperial 400 Nat'l, Inc.*, 432 F.2d 232, 237 (3d Cir.  
26 1970). Regardless of how this balancing test is formulated, no single factor is  
27 determinative and "a reasonable fee is based [upon] all circumstances surrounding

28

1 the receivership.” *SEC v. W.L. Moody & Co., Bankers (Unincorporated)*,  
2 374 F. Supp. 465, 480 (S.D. Tex. 1974).

3 As a preliminary matter, the Appointment Order confers on the Receiver  
4 substantial duties and powers, including to conduct such investigation and discovery  
5 as is necessary to locate and account for all receivership assets, take such action as is  
6 necessary and appropriate to assume control over and preserve receivership assets,  
7 and employ attorneys and others to investigate and, where appropriate, institute,  
8 pursue, and prosecute all claims and causes of action of whatever kind and nature.

9 *See Appointment Order, Section III.*

10 The Receiver promptly determined that experienced, qualified counsel was  
11 necessary due to the size and complexity of the receivership estate and the Court  
12 agreed, specifically approving Allen Matkins’ employment. Dkt. No. 152. The  
13 Court also approved the Receiver’s proposal to file interim reports and fee  
14 applications on a quarterly basis. *Id.*

15 Allen Matkins has submitted a detailed fee application which describes the  
16 nature of the services rendered, and the identity and billing rate of each individual  
17 performing each task. *See Exhibit A.* Allen Matkins has endeavored to staff matters  
18 as efficiently as possible, while remaining cognizant of the complexity of issues.  
19 The request for fees is based on Allen Matkins’ customary billing rates charged for  
20 comparable services provided in other matters, less a 10% discount. Moreover,  
21 Allen Matkins wrote off and did not charge for 0.70 hours of work (\$614.25 in fees).

22 The work performed by Allen Matkins was essential to carrying out the  
23 Receiver’s Court-ordered duties. The Receiver and Allen Matkins have worked  
24 diligently since the Receiver’s appointment to preserve and protect the assets of the  
25 receivership estate, to investigate potential claims against third parties, and to  
26 maximize the funds available for ultimate distribution to investors. Moreover, Allen  
27 Matkins seeks payment of only 80% of fees incurred on an interim basis in  
28 recognition of the fact that its work in assisting the Receiver is ongoing. Payment of

1 the proposed 20% holdback will be sought at the conclusion of the receivership.  
2 Allen Atkins' fees are fair and reasonable and should be approved and paid on an  
3 interim basis.

4 **VI. CONCLUSION**

5 Allen Matkins therefore respectfully requests this Court enter an Order:

- 6 1. Approving Allen Matkins' fees, on an interim basis, of \$1,930.50;
- 7 2. Authorizing and directing the Receiver to pay 80% of approved fees, or  
8 \$1,544.40, from the assets of the Receivership Entities;
- 9 3. Approving Allen Matkins' costs in the amount of \$11.00 and  
10 authorizing and directing the Receiver to reimburse such costs in full; and  
11 3. For such other and further relief as the Court deems appropriate.

12  
13 Dated: February 18, 2026

ALLEN MATKINS LECK GAMBLE  
MALLORY & NATSIS LLP

14 By: /s/ Edward G. Fates  
15 EDWARD G. FATES  
16 Attorneys for Receiver  
THOMAS HEBRANK

21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28

# **EXHIBIT A**

02/06/26 10:56:52 PROFORMA STATEMENT FOR MATTER 377432.00004 (Thomas C. Hebrank, as Receiver for PWCG) (Reporting)

**Preliminary Billing Form**

Billing Atty: 001665 - Fates, Edward  
(Ted)

Matter #: 377432.00004

Client Name: Thomas C. Hebrank, as Receiver for PWCG

Date of Last Billing: 01/12/26  
Proforma Number: 1386760

Matter Name: Reporting

Client/Matter Joint Group # 377432-1

Client Matter Number:

**Fees for Matter 377432.00004.(Reporting)**

Trans Date	Index	Description of Service Rendered	Timekeeper	Hours	Fees	Sum	Circle	Action		
							WO	HD	TR	_____
11/05/25	10297542	Work on Receiver's 31st interim report	Fates, Edward (Ted)	0.90	789.75	789.75				_____
11/07/25	10329489	Analyze Receiver updates for 31st interim report and discuss same with Receiver	Fates, Edward (Ted)	0.30	263.25	1,053.00	WO	HD	TR	_____

**Disbursements for Matter 377432.00004 (Reporting)**

Trans Date	Index	Type	Quantity	Amt	Circle	Action		
					WO	HD	TR	_____
10/07/25	2972170	DCSRCH – Document Search - PACER - Usage 3rd QTR	0.00	0.90				_____
10/07/25	2972171	DCSRCH – Document Search - PACER - Usage 3rd QTR	0.00	3.60	WO	HD	TR	_____
10/07/25	2972172	DCSRCH – Document Search - PACER - Usage 3rd QTR	0.00	1.50	WO	HD	TR	_____
10/07/25	2972173	DCSRCH – Document Search - PACER - Usage 3rd QTR	0.00	5.00	WO	HD	TR	_____

**Proforma Summary**

**Timekeeper**

Number	Timekeeper	Hours	Rate	Amounts
001665	Fates, Edward (Ted)	1.20	877.50	1,053.00

02/06/26 10:56:52 PROFORMA STATEMENT FOR MATTER 377432.00004 (Thomas C. Hebrank, as Receiver for PWCG) (Reporting)

**Proforma Summary**

**Timekeeper**

Number	Timekeeper	Hours	Rate	Amounts
		1.20		\$1,053.00
Subtotal Fees				\$1,053.00
Discount				0.00
Total Fees				1,053.00
Total Disbursements				11.00

**Attorney Billing Instructions**

( <input type="checkbox"/> ) BILL ALL	( <input type="checkbox"/> ) Hold
( <input type="checkbox"/> ) BILL FEES ONLY	( <input type="checkbox"/> ) Write Off
( <input type="checkbox"/> ) BILL COST ONLY	( <input type="checkbox"/> ) Transfer All

**Billing Instructions**

expires 6/30/2026: 10% off standard rates (automatic); no text editing; no conf calls; copies @ .10

**Account Summary – As Of 02/06/26**

	Fiscal YTD			Calendar YTD			LTD		
	Total	Fees	Disb.	Total	Fees	Disb.	Total	Fees	Disbursements
Worked	5,703.75	5,703.75	0.00	2,457.00	2,457.00	0.00	110,378.00	102,798.90	7,579.10
Unbilled Adj	17.55	17.55	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	55.70	55.70	0.00
Billed	5,237.02	5,237.02	0.00	2,176.20	2,176.20	0.00	99,290.80	99,290.80	7,568.10
Collected	5,237.02	5,237.02	0.00	2,176.20	2,176.20	0.00	106,858.90	99,290.80	7,568.10
AR Write Off	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
 <i>WIP</i>	 <b>Total</b>	 <b>Fees</b>	 <b>Costs</b>						
	<b>3,521.00</b>	<b>3,510.00</b>	<b>11.00</b>						
<i>Balance</i>									
<i>AR Balance</i>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>						
<i>Unalloc</i>	<b>0.00</b>								
<i>Payment</i>									
<i>Client Trust</i>									
<i>Balance</i>	<b>0.00</b>								

**Billing Address**

02/06/26 10:56:52 PROFORMA STATEMENT FOR MATTER 377432.00004 (Thomas C. Hebrank, as Receiver for PWCG) (Reporting)

Thomas C. Hebrank, as Receiver for PWCG Trust  
c/o E3 Advisors  
501 West Broadway, Suite 800  
San Diego, CA 92101

---

02/06/26 10:56:52 PROFORMA STATEMENT FOR MATTER 377432.00006 (Thomas C. Hebrank, as Receiver for PWCG) (Claims & Distributions)

**Preliminary Billing Form**

Billing Atty: 001665 - Fates, Edward  
(Ted)

Matter #: 377432.00006

Client Name: Thomas C. Hebrank, as Receiver for PWCG

Date of Last Billing: 01/12/26  
Proforma Number: 1386760

Matter Name: Claims & Distributions

Client/Matter Joint Group # 377432-1

Client Matter Number:

**Fees for Matter 377432.00006.(Claims & Distributions)**

Trans Date	Index	Description of Service Rendered	Timekeeper	Hours	Fees	Sum	WO	Circle HD	Action TR	
11/07/25	10300274	Assist Receiver in preparing update for investors to be posted on receivership website	Fates, Edward (Ted)	0.30	263.25	263.25				
12/16/25	10354449	Respond to inquiry from investor claimant regarding status of policies and future distributions	Fates, Edward (Ted)	0.30	263.25	526.50	WO	HD	TR	

**Proforma Summary**

Timekeeper Number	Timekeeper	Hours	Rate	Amounts
001665	Fates, Edward (Ted)	0.60	877.50	526.50
		0.60		\$526.50
Subtotal Fees				\$526.50
Discount				0.00
Total Fees				526.50
Total Disbursements				0.00

**Attorney Billing Instructions**

(   ) BILL ALL	(   ) Hold
(   ) BILL FEES ONLY	(   ) Write Off
(   ) BILL COST ONLY	(   ) Transfer All

02/06/26 10:56:52 PROFORMA STATEMENT FOR MATTER 377432.00006 (Thomas C. Hebrank, as Receiver for PWCG) (Claims & Distributions)

**Billing Instructions**

expires 6/30/2026: 10% off standard rates (automatic); no text editing; no conf calls; copies @ .10

**Account Summary – As Of 02/06/26**

	Fiscal YTD			Calendar YTD			LTD		
Worked	Total	Fees	Disb.	Total	Fees	Disb.	Total	Fees	Disbursements
Unbilled	4,914.00	4,914.00	0.00	1,842.75	1,842.75	0.00	170,918.10	170,918.10	0.00
Adj	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	9.81	9.81	0.00
Billed	2,866.95	2,866.95	0.00	2,544.75	2,544.75	0.00	168,552.36	168,552.36	0.00
Collected	2,866.95	2,866.95	0.00	2,544.75	2,544.75	0.00	168,552.36	168,552.36	0.00
AR Write Off	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<i>WIP</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Fees</i>	<i>Costs</i>						
	2,369.25	2,369.25	0.00						
<i>Balance</i>									
<i>AR Balance</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>						
<i>Unalloc</i>									
<i>Payment</i>									
<i>Client Trust</i>	<i>0.00</i>								
<i>Balance</i>									

**Billing Address**

Thomas C. Hebrank, as Receiver for PWCG Trust  
c/o E3 Advisors  
501 West Broadway, Suite 800  
San Diego, CA 92101

02/06/26 10:56:53 PROFORMA STATEMENT FOR MATTER 377432.00009 (Thomas C. Hebrank, as Receiver for PWCG) (Employment/Fees)

**Preliminary Billing Form**

Billing Atty: 001665 - Fates, Edward  
(Ted)

Matter #: 377432.00009

Client Name: Thomas C. Hebrank, as Receiver for PWCG

Date of Last Billing: 01/12/26  
Proforma Number: 1386760

Matter Name: Employment/Fees

Client/Matter Joint Group # 377432-1

Client Matter Number:

**Fees for Matter 377432.00009.(Employment/Fees)**

Trans	Date	Index	Description of Service Rendered	Timekeeper	Hours	Fees	Sum	Circle	Action
	11/12/25	10307025	Revisions to Receiver's 31st fee application (.2) meet and confer communications with SEC counsel (.2)	Fates, Edward (Ted)	0.40	351.00	351.00	WO	HD TR

**Proforma Summary**

Timekeeper	Timekeeper	Hours	Rate	Amounts
Number				
001665	Fates, Edward (Ted)	0.40	877.50	351.00
Subtotal Fees		0.40		\$351.00
Discount				\$351.00
Total Fees				0.00
Total Disbursements				351.00
				0.00

**Attorney Billing Instructions**

( <input type="checkbox"/> ) BILL ALL	( <input type="checkbox"/> ) Hold
( <input type="checkbox"/> ) BILL FEES ONLY	( <input type="checkbox"/> ) Write Off
( <input type="checkbox"/> ) BILL COST ONLY	( <input type="checkbox"/> ) Transfer All

**Billing Instructions**

expires 6/30/2026: 10% off standard rates (automatic); no text editing; no conf calls; copies @ .10

02/06/26 10:56:53 PROFORMA STATEMENT FOR MATTER 377432.00009 (Thomas C. Hebrank, as Receiver for PWCG) (Employment/Fees)

**Account Summary – As Of 02/06/26**

	Fiscal YTD			Calendar YTD			LTD		
	Total	Fees	Disb.	Total	Fees	Disb.	Total	Fees	Disbursements
Worked	1,930.50	1,930.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	18,521.55	18,521.55	0.00
Unbilled Adj	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	23.30	23.30	0.00
Billed	1,804.96	1,804.96	0.00	1,579.50	1,579.50	0.00	18,161.47	18,161.47	0.00
Collected	1,804.96	1,804.96	0.00	1,579.50	1,579.50	0.00	18,161.47	18,161.47	0.00
AR Write Off	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
 <i>WIP</i>	 <b>Total</b>	 <b>Fees</b>	 <b>Costs</b>						
<i>Balance</i>	<b>351.00</b>	<b>351.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>						
<i>AR Balance</i>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>						
<i>Unalloc</i>	<b>0.00</b>								
<i>Payment</i>									
<i>Client Trust</i>	<b>0.00</b>								
<i>Balance</i>									

**Billing Address**

Thomas C. Hebrank, as Receiver for PWCG Trust  
c/o E3 Advisors  
501 West Broadway, Suite 800  
San Diego, CA 92101