

**WEBEX HEARING DATE:  
THURSDAY, JULY 13, 2023 AT 9:30 AM  
PROVIDENCE COUNTY BUSINESS CALENDAR BEFORE JUDGE STERN**

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND  
PROVIDENCE, SC.**

**SUPERIOR COURT**

St. Joseph Health Services of Rhode Island,  
Inc.

*Petitioner*

vs.

St. Josephs Health Services of Rhode Island  
Retirement Plan, as amended

*Respondent*

Bank of America, in its capacity as Trustee of  
Respondent

*Nominal Respondent*

PC-2017-3856

**RECEIVER'S TWENTY-SEVENTH INTERIM REPORT AND TWENTY-SIXTH  
INTERIM REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF FEES, COSTS AND EXPENSES**

NOW COMES Stephen F. Del Sesto, Esq., solely in his capacity as the Receiver (the "Receiver") for St. Josephs Health Services of Rhode Island Retirement Plan (the "Plan"), and hereby submits this Twenty-Seventh Interim Report (the "Twenty-Seventh Report") and Twenty-Sixth Interim Request for Approval of Fees, Costs and Expenses (the "Twenty-Sixth Fee Application"). In support of the Twenty-Seventh Report and Twenty-Sixth Fee Application the Receiver states as follows:

1. This case was commenced on August 17, 2017, upon the Petition for the Appointment of a Receiver (the "Petition") filed by St. Joseph Health Services of Rhode Island, Inc. ("Petitioner"). As a result of that Petition, on August 18, 2017, this Court appointed Stephen F. Del Sesto, Esq. as Temporary Receiver of the Plan under surety bond ordered by this Court in the amount of One Million and 00/100 (\$1,000,000.00) Dollars (the "Temporary Receiver Order").

2. The Plan is a defined benefit plan organized by Petitioner on or about July 1, 1965, for the benefit of Petitioner's employees. As of the date of the Petition, the Plan had approximately 2,729 vested participants<sup>1</sup> of which approximately 1,229 were then receiving monthly benefits payments. Based on the benefits payments issued by Bank of America as of June 1, 2023, 1,544 participants are currently receiving monthly benefits payments. The total amount of benefits paid in June 2023 equals \$950,778.21.

3. Typically, a hearing on permanent receiver is set for a date approximately twenty (20) days after the appointment of temporary receiver. Here however, the Petitioner requested that the Court set a hearing date no sooner than thirty (30) days to afford the Temporary Receiver time to consider the Petitioner's suggested 40% uniform benefit reduction. Based on that request, the Court docketed the hearing on permanent receiver for October 11, 2017.

4. Immediately upon appointment, in order to provide pension holders with a direct means to obtain answers to questions and access to information, the Receiver established a dedicated email address ([stjosephretirementplan@pierceatwood.com](mailto:stjosephretirementplan@pierceatwood.com)) and two dedicated phone lines (401-490-3436 and 401-865-6249). In addition, the Receiver established a dedicated, public website (<https://www.pierceatwood.com/st-joseph-health-services-rhode-island-retirement-plan>) where all pleadings and other information would be posted for easy accessibility to pension holders and other interested parties. Notice of the dedicated email, phone lines and website was sent to all Plan participants via first class mail. The Receiver believes that establishing these various means of communication has been invaluable to the pension holders and the Receiver. Since establishing the email address and phone lines the Receiver has received hundreds of email and voicemail communications from pension holders. The dedicated website has been revised and is updated regularly to include access to filings made in both the State and Federal litigation matters as well as other related litigation and liquidating receivership matters related to this proceeding, including, without limitation, the Liquidating Receivership (PC-2019-11756).

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<sup>1</sup> According to documents reviewed by the Receiver, excluding United Nurses and Allied Professionals Local 5110 ("UNAP") members hired before October 1, 2008, the Plan was closed to all employees on or about October 1, 2007. Thereafter, benefit accruals were frozen for non-union employees on September 30, 2009, for Federation of Nurses and Health Professionals and other non UNAP union employees on September 30, 2011 and for UNAP employees on June 19, 2014.

5. Due to their day-to-day involvement with the Plan, the Receiver initially had consistent and regular communications with Bank of America (the Plan's Trustee and custodian of the assets) and Angell Pension Group (the Plan's actuary and benefits administrator at the time) regarding the management and administration of the Plan. The Receiver has reviewed quarterly reports and had regular, periodic discussions with Mercer Investment (the Plan's discretionary Investment Manager) regarding the performance of asset investments, the allocation of the asset investments and market conditions and projections that may impact those investments. The Receiver is aware that, among the pension holders and other interested parties, there existed a level of distrust and concern regarding the pre-receivership administration and oversight of the Plan. As a result, the Receiver made changes regarding the day-to-day management and administration of the Plan and its assets and will continue to evaluate and make changes as may be prudent or necessary.

6. In the Order Appointing Permanent Receiver (the "Permanent Receiver Order") entered on October 27, 2017, this honorable Court established the Receiver's duties with respect to the St. Joseph Health Services of Rhode Island Retirement Plan (the "Plan"). The Order generally authorizes the Receiver to monitor, manage and administer the Plan and its assets on behalf of its participants and beneficiaries. Among other actions, the Receiver may engage actuaries, investment advisors, benefit administrators and other professionals to perform various administrative tasks and services for the Plan. The Receiver may also initiate and litigate claims against third parties on the Plan's behalf, acquire and dispose of property, direct investments and pay Plan-related expenses from the assets held in trust.

7. The Receiver continues to receive and review documents related to the Plan and its history. The Receiver and GRS, the Receiver's Plan actuary, are fully engaged regarding benefits administration of the Plan and address multiple inquiries, applications, and questions on a daily basis.

8. Prior to the COVID pandemic, approximately every 4-6 weeks throughout this proceeding the Receiver hosted "town-hall" style, informational meetings at Rhodes on the Pawtuxet in Cranston, Rhode Island. At these meetings the Receiver provided a current status of the receivership proceedings. In addition and in an effort to assure complete transparency of the receivership process and the Receiver's efforts, the Receiver responds to questions raised by the

meeting participants regarding various aspects of the receivership and the Plan. Understanding that not all participants can attend these meetings, the Receiver digitally records each meeting and a link to the meeting recordings is posted to the Receiver's dedicated website and available for unrestricted viewing.

Due to the State gathering restrictions imposed at the beginning of the pandemic in 2020 and in order to continue to provide pension holders with information, the Receiver moved from an in-person to virtual, via Zoom, town-hall meeting format. The Receiver has conducted eleven (11) meetings under this format and intends to continue this format every 6-8 weeks. The most recent meeting was held on June 26, 2023, and the next meeting is likely to be scheduled for some time in August 2023.

9. Prior to this Twenty-Seventh Report and Twenty-Sixth Request for Approval of Fees, the Receiver has filed twenty-six (26) prior reports with the Court and twenty-five (25) prior requests for approval of fees. Rather than set forth summaries for each prior Report, copies of the First Report through the Twenty-Sixth Report and related Orders are on file with the Clerk of the Court and accessible on the Receiver's dedicated website and all are incorporated by reference and made a part of this Twenty-Seventh Interim Report as if fully set forth herein.

10. On or about June 28, 2018, as part of the Fourth Report, the Receiver advised the Court that litigation had been initiated in both State Court (*Stephen Del Sesto, et. al. v. Prospect CharterCARE, LLC, CharterCARE Community Board; St. Joseph Health Services of Rhode Island; Prospect CharterCARE SJHSRI, LLC; Prospect CharterCARE RWMC, LLC; Prospect East Holdings, Inc.; Prospect Medical Holdings, Inc.; Roger Williams Hospital; CharterCARE Foundation; The Rhode Island Community Foundation; Roman Catholic Bishop of Providence; Diocesan Administration Corporation; Diocesan Service Corporation; and The Angell Pension Group, Inc.* (PC-2018-4386)) (the "State Litigation") and Federal Court (*Stephen Del Sesto, et. al. v. Prospect CharterCARE, LLC, CharterCARE Community Board; St. Joseph Health Services of Rhode Island; Prospect CharterCARE SJHSRI, LLC; Prospect CharterCARE RWMC, LLC; Prospect East Holdings, Inc.; Prospect Medical Holdings, Inc.; Roger Williams Hospital; CharterCARE Foundation; The Rhode Island Community Foundation; Roman Catholic Bishop of*

Providence; Diocesan Administration Corporation; Diocesan Service Corporation; and The Angell Pension Group, Inc. (1:18-cv-00328-WES-LDA)) (the “Federal Litigation” together with the State Litigation shall be referred to as the “Litigation”) against various defendants and Special Counsel provided the Court with a status update of those actions and related next steps for the Litigation.

11. Since the filing of the Receiver’s Twenty-Sixth Interim Report and Twenty-Fifth Interim Request for Approval of Fees, Costs and Expenses in this Superior Court Receivership action the following has occurred:

- a. On or about April 21, 2023, this Court held a hearing via WebEx on the Twenty-Sixth Report. Upon conclusion of the hearing, the Court approved the Twenty-Sixth Report and the Twenty-Fifth Fee Request and an Order to that effect entered on May 3, 2023.

12. Since the filing of and hearing on the Twenty-Sixth Report, the following has occurred in the Federal Litigation (CA No.: 1:18-CV-00328-S-LDA):

- a. In accordance with the Court’s directive to return to mediation, the Federal Litigation Plaintiffs and Diocesan Defendants continued mediation efforts with two additional sessions held, the most recent of which occurred on June 19, 2023. With the assistant of the Mediator, Chief Justice Frank Williams (retired), the parties continue to remain engaged and make progress towards settlement. It is the Receiver’s hope that parties will reach a mutually agreeable settlement to be submitted to the Court for review and approval.

13. Since the filing of and hearing on the Twenty-Sixth Report, the following has occurred in the Liquidating Receivership (PC-2019-11756) action:

- a. On March 24, 2023, the original Liquidating Receiver filed his Final Report and Accounting and Request for Final Compensation. After hearing held on April 18, 2023, the Court approved the Original Liquidating Receiver’s Final Report,

accounting and request for compensation, and an Order entered to that effect on April 21, 2023.

14. As previously reported to this Court, under the Receiver's Settlement with the legacy hospitals, (all for the ultimate benefit of the Plan and its participants) the Receiver was assigned the rights to a \$750,000 escrow fund held by RI Department of Labor and Training. This escrow serves as security for potential self-insured obligations of legacy Roger Williams Hospital ("RWH"). With the assistance of Special Counsel, your Receiver is trying to have this escrow released for the benefit of the Plan.

15. Regarding discussions with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation ("PBGC") and the Internal Revenue Service relative to the availability of PBGC coverage for the Plan, the Receiver continues to have regular communications with both of those Federal agencies and provide them with any and all documentation that they have requested. While to date the PBGC has been non-committal regarding the availability of coverage for the Plan, the communications and discussions have continued and remain positive. The Receiver expects those discussions to continue and become more substantive over the coming months and is hopeful the discussions remain positive and progress forward and ultimately result in full statutory coverage for the Plan.

16. As the Court may recall, as of the start of this proceeding, the Plan assets totaled approximately \$85,795,641.9. In months since (as of April 30, 2023) and as a result of the receipt of the NET Settlement funds, the Plan assets totaled approximately \$59,591,311.12.<sup>2</sup> The largest factor in the reduction of the Plan assets is monthly benefit payments and other payments required for the administration of the Plan (i.e. accountant fees, actuarial fees, investment manager fees, benefits administration fees, etc.). It is important to note that during the months since the inception of this proceeding the Plan paid out monthly benefit payments, retroactive benefit payments and other payments and fees related to Plan maintenance and services at an average rate of approximately \$967,000 per month.

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<sup>2</sup> This amount does include the Settlement "A" NET proceeds totaling approximately \$10,569,728.63 which are held with Schwab for the benefit of the Plan.

In an effort to protect and insulate the Plan from dramatic market fluctuations, the Receiver regularly reviews and adjusts the allocation of assets for investment risk. These reallocations have been relatively successful in insulating the Plan from market volatility and losses. The Receiver continues to work with the investment manager to regularly review and assess the allocation of investments so as to maximize the returns for the Plan while at the same time protecting it based on its status and unavoidable, unpredictable fluctuations of the markets.

17. In connection with the administration of the within proceeding, and since the filing of the Twenty-Sixth Report and hearing on same, your Receiver has had additional receipts and disbursements, as identified below and as further detailed and set forth in the “**Schedules of Receipts and Disbursements**” attached hereto,<sup>3</sup> in all estate accounts ultimately maintained for the benefit of the Plan.

	<b><u>SJHSRI Retirement Plan</u></b>	<b><u>CCCB</u></b>	<b><u>SJHSRI</u></b>	<b><u>RWH</u></b>
Starting Cash	\$4,333,791.44	\$9,643.16	\$70,893.42	\$306,362.45
Receipts	\$271,308.62	\$3.22	\$5,329.87	\$5,168.68
Disbursements	\$274,063.84	\$193.75	\$13,410.25	\$72,842.62
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Ending Balance	\$4,331,036.22	\$9,452.63	\$62,813.04	\$238,688.51

18. In connection with this Twenty-Seventh Report, your Receiver is requesting that the Court approve the Twenty-Sixth Fee Application incurred for the two (2) month period from April 1, 2023, through, and including, May 31, 2023. The Receiver respectfully requests that this Court approve the Twenty-Sixth Fee Application of the Receiver and authorize him to pay himself such approved fees. A copy of your Receiver’s Twenty-Sixth Fee Application Invoice will be presented, in redacted form, under separate cover to the Court for review in advance of the Hearing on this Twenty-Seventh Report. Due to the Litigation and the related descriptions and narratives in time entries, to avoid any potential disclosure, strategy, attorney-client privileged communications, etc., the Receiver requests that the redacted invoices submitted to the Court be filed under seal.

<sup>3</sup> Cash-on-hand includes the funds received from Settlement “B” and funds transferred from the Liquidating Receiver in compliance with the Court’s April 7, 2022, Order approving the Petition to Apply.

WHEREFORE, your Receiver prays that this honorable Court enter an order or orders: (1) approving, confirming and ratifying all of the Receiver's acts, doings, and disbursements as Temporary and Permanent Receiver as of the filing of this Twenty-Seventh Report; (2) authorizing the Receiver to satisfy the fees, costs and expenses incurred by the Receiver and presented in connection with the Twenty-Sixth Fee Application for his services as Temporary and Permanent Receiver herein; (3) directing that this proceeding remain open pending final resolution of all the issues identified herein and the general winding down of the Receivership Estate; and (4) granting such further relief as this Honorable Court deems necessary and appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Stephen F. Del Sesto

Stephen F. Del Sesto, Esq. (#6336)  
Solely in his capacity as Permanent Receiver  
for St. Josephs Health Services of Rhode  
Island Retirement Plan, and not individually  
One Citizens Plaza, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Providence, RI 02903  
Tel: 401-490-3415  
[sdelsesto@pierceatwood.com](mailto:sdelsesto@pierceatwood.com)  
Dated: July 5, 2023

### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2023, I electronically filed and served the within document via the Electronic Case Filing System of the Superior Court with notice to all parties in the system.

/s/ Stephen F. Del Sesto



## **SCHEDULES OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS**

**St Joseph Health Services of RI Retirement Plan**  
**Transactions by Account**  
**As of July 5, 2023**

Date	Num	Name	Memo			Balance
<b>BankRI Checking Account</b>						
04/10/2023	408	Litigistics	Inv #3223: copying & mailing			4,333,791.44
05/02/2023	409	Pierce Atwood LLP	Court-approved fees & costs (11.1.22 - 3.31.23)		173.39	4,333,618.05
05/04/2023	410	Wistow Sheehan & Loveley, PC	fees due WSL based upon Trust funds rec'd from BoA from 10/6/22 thru 5/4/23		177,505.59	4,156,112.46
05/28/2023	411	Wistow Sheehan & Loveley, PC	Inv dt'd 5/22/23: Out-of-pocket expenses		75,221.25	4,080,891.21
06/06/2023			reimbursement from Plan for 25th interim fees & costs		16,699.21	4,064,192.00
06/06/2023			Combined Townsend Trust Fund (dist from BoA paid to SJHSRI)	177,505.59		4,241,697.59
06/06/2023			Steinert semi-annual dist from BoA paid to SJHSRI	61,282.42		4,302,980.01
06/06/2023			Steinert semi-annual dist from BoA paid to RWMMC	810.00		4,303,790.01
06/06/2023			Flint quarterly dist paid from BoA to RWMMC	4,514.00		4,304,600.01
06/08/2023	412	Litigistics	Inv #3490: copying & mailing		4,464.40	4,309,114.01
06/21/2023			Horton quarterly distribution from BoA paid to RWMMC	26,386.61		4,304,649.61
Total BankRI Checking Account						4,331,036.22
<b>TOTAL</b>						<b>4,331,036.22</b>

## CCCB

### Transaction Detail by Account

December 16, 2022 through July 5, 2023

Type	Date	Memo			Balance
CCCB BankRI Acct					
Deposit	01/19/2023	closeout funds from Hemmendinger's account	9,642.08		9,642.08
Deposit	01/31/2023	interest	0.34		9,642.42
Deposit	02/22/2023	interest	0.74		9,643.16
Deposit	03/31/2023	interest	0.82		9,643.98
Deposit	04/28/2023	interest	0.79		9,644.77
Deposit	05/31/2023	interest	0.82		9,645.59
Check	06/23/2023	invoices 12/2022 - 05/2023		193.75	9,451.84
Deposit	06/30/2023	interest	0.79		9,452.63
Total CCCB BankRI Acct					
			9,646.38	193.75	9,452.63
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>9,646.38</b>	<b>193.75</b>	<b>9,452.63</b>

**SJHSRI General Fund Account**  
**Transaction Detail by Account**  
**December 16, 2022 through July 5, 2023**

Date	Memo		Balance
<b>SJHSRI BankRI General Fund Acct</b>			
01/19/2023	closeout funds from Hemmendinger's account	70,774.93	70,774.93
01/31/2023	interest	37.55	70,812.48
03/23/2023	interest	80.94	70,893.42
03/31/2023	interest	89.72	70,983.14
04/28/2023	interest	86.93	71,070.07
05/31/2023	interest	89.94	71,160.01
06/14/2023	final closeout funds from Hemmendinger's account	4,975.00	76,135.01
06/23/2023	invoices from 12/2022 thru 5/2023		62,724.76
06/30/2023	interest	88.28	62,813.04
Total SJHSRI BankRI General Fund Acct		76,223.29	62,813.04
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>76,223.29</b>	<b>62,813.04</b>

## RWH General Fund Account

### Transaction Detail by Account

December 16, 2022 through July 5, 2023

Date	Memo		Balance
<b>RWH BankRI General Fund Acct</b>			
01/19/2023	closeout funds from Hemmendinger's account	86,507.19	86,507.19
01/31/2023	Interest	45.90	86,553.09
02/22/2023	Steint semi-annual dist (rec'd from BoA)	1,051.50	87,604.59
02/22/2023	interest	99.72	87,704.31
02/24/2023	chargeback fee		87,694.31
03/02/2023	Knight quarterly dist (from BoA)	10.00	90,718.06
03/02/2023	KOR Subpoena service fee	11.00	90,729.06
03/23/2023	Flint quarterly dist (reissue of ck dtd 11.23.22 (rec'd from BoA)	5,929.00	96,658.06
03/23/2023	Flint quarterly dist (rec'd from BoA)	4,514.00	101,172.06
03/31/2023	interest	130.30	101,302.36
04/04/2023	Horton (\$35,840.17) & Brown (\$8,628) quarterly distributions (rec'd from BoA)	44,468.17	145,770.53
04/20/2023	Court-approved fees & costs Final Report of Hemmendinger		72,927.91
04/28/2023	interest	198.18	73,126.09
05/31/2023	interest	92.54	73,218.63
06/14/2023	final closeout funds from Hemmendinger's account	3,588.99	76,807.62
06/23/2023	VOID:	0.00	76,807.62
06/30/2023	interest	91.28	76,898.90
Total RWH BankRI General Fund Acct		149,751.52	76,898.90
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>149,751.52</b>	<b>76,898.90</b>

**RWH Cy Pres Account**  
**Transaction Detail by Account**  
 December 16, 2022 through July 5, 2023

Type	Date	Memo		Balance
<b>RWH BankRI Cy Pres Acct</b>				
Deposit	01/19/2023	closeout funds from Hemmendinger's account	160,365.02	160,365.02
Deposit	01/31/2023	interest	113.20	160,478.22
Deposit	02/28/2023	interest	244.00	160,722.22
Deposit	03/31/2023	interest	270.55	160,992.77
Deposit	04/28/2023	interest	262.26	161,255.03
Deposit	05/31/2023	interest	271.45	161,526.48
Deposit	06/30/2023	interest	263.13	161,789.61
Total RWH BankRI Cy Pres Acct			161,789.61	161,789.61
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>161,789.61</b>	<b>161,789.61</b>