

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 11TH JUDICIAL
CIRCUIT IN AND FOR MIAMI DADE-COUNTY, FLORIDA**

CASE NO.: 2021-015089-CA-01

SECTION: CA43

JUDGE: Michael Hanzman

**IN RE: CHAMPLAIN TOWERS SOUTH
COLLAPSE LITIGATION**

APPLICATION FOR FEES

Pursuant to the Court's August 3, 2022 *Sua Sponte Order on Supplemental Attorneys' Fees Applications* ("Sua Sponte Order"), the law firm of HEISE SUAREZ MELVILLE, P.A. (collectively "HSM"), respectfully requests attorneys' fees that have been voluntarily discounted by HSM as noted in the attached Declaration, Exhibit A, for its work during the CTS claims process in favor of wrongful death claimants and real property claimants. No cost reimbursement is being requested in this application. No "common benefit" time is being requested in the application. Composite Exhibit A to the Declaration, reflecting the firm's detailed invoices, is being contemporaneously submitted *in camera* for review consistent with the Court's *Sua Sponte Order*.

WHEREFORE, HEISE SUAREZ MELVILLE, P.A., respectfully requests attorneys' fees as reflected in the attached Declaration.

Respectfully submitted,

HEISE SUAREZ MELVILLE, P.A.
2990 Ponce De Leon Boulevard
Third Floor
Coral Gables, Florida 33134
Telephone (305) 800-4476

By: /s/ Luis E. Suarez

Luis E. Suarez
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was filed with the Clerk of the Court using the Florida Courts E-Filing Portal thereby serving electronic notice to all counsel of record on this August 24, 2022.

By: /s/ Luis E. Suarez
Luis E. Suarez
Florida Bar No. 390021

EXHIBIT “A”

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**DECLARATION OF COURT APPOINTED CLASS COUNSEL LUIS E. SUAREZ
FILED ON BEHALF OF HEISE SUAREZ MELVILLE P.A. IN SUPPORT OF
APPLICATION FOR AWARD OF ATTORNEYS' FEES, COSTS AND EXPENSES**

I, Luis E. Suarez, do hereby declare and state as follows:

1. I am a Shareholder of Heise Suarez Melville, PA ("HSM") and Court appointed **Plaintiff Steering Committee Member** in the above-entitled action. I submit this declaration in further support of Class Counsel's unified Fee Application filed June 12, 2022, and HSM's independent request for a share of any award of attorneys' fees and reimbursement of expenses in connection with the services we rendered in this case. This declaration details our work on this case from June 1, 2022, forward, and supplements HSM's submissions to the Court in connection with the June 12, 2022, Fee Application.

2. Over the past several months, I and other members of my firm provided legal services to class members in connection with the claims process administered by the Court. These services included advising foreigners on the CTS claims process, advising five estate clients on wrongful claims, advising two corporate clients on real property claims, helping five estate clients on preparing claim submission forms, and representing two estate clients on claims hearings. Almost all of our witnesses/underlying clients were foreigners.

3. The information in this declaration regarding my firm's time and expenses is documented and reflected in time and expense printouts and supporting documentation prepared and maintained by my firm in the ordinary course of business, and which is being submitted

directly to the Court for *in camera* review. I am the partner who oversaw the activities in this matter and I have reviewed these printouts (and backup documentation where necessary or appropriate) in connection with the preparation of this declaration. The purpose of this review was to confirm both the accuracy of the entries on the printouts as well as the necessity for, and reasonableness of, the time and expenses committed to the litigation, including the elimination of time that was unnecessary or duplicative.

4. The number of hours spent on these matters by my firm from June 1, 2022, until August 22, 2022, is 372.90, which results in a lodestar of **\$89,182.93**. A breakdown of the detailed lodestar is provided in **Composite Exhibit A (which is only being submitted *in camera*)**. A synopsis is below:

Matter	Month	Fees Requested
Lopez Moreira	June	42,997.50
Pettengill	June	6,930.00
Zyr	June	0 (discount 2,275.00)
Lopez Moreira	July	23,223.08 (discount 5,805.77)
Pettengill	July	16,032.35 (discount 2,404.85)
Total		\$89,182.93

5. The hourly rates shown in **Composite Exhibit A (submitted *in camera*)** are the usual and customary rates set by the firm for each individual attorney, paralegal or other paraprofessional. HSM's rates for this matter have been discounted given the tragedy. The chart set forth in 4 above was prepared from contemporaneous daily time records of the firm.


6. Additionally, HSM has incurred **\$522.35** in expenses and charges in connection with the presentation of the individual clients' claims. Those expenses and charges were waived as part of the discounts reflected in number 4 above.

7. The time and the expenses for which payment is sought as set forth in this declaration are reasonable in amount and were necessary for the effective and efficient presentation of the class members' claims. In addition, I believe that the expenses are all of a type that would normally be charged to a fee-paying client in the private legal marketplace, and are reflected in the books and records of HSM. These books and records are prepared from receipts, expense vouchers, check records and other documents and are an accurate record of the expenses.

8. Additionally, all so-called *Common Benefit* time for July 1, 2022 thru August 23, 2022 is not being requested by the firm.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed this **24th of August, 2022** at Miami, Florida.

/s/ 
LUIS E. SUAREZ