

1 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
2 DISTRICT OF NEVADA

3 FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION, *et al.*,

4 Plaintiffs,

5 vs.

6 AMERICAN TAX SERVICE LLC, *et al.*,

7 Defendants.
8

Case No.: 2:25-cv-01894-GMN-EJY

**ORDER GRANTING, IN PART, FIRST
INTERIM APPLICATION FOR
PAYMENT OF FEES AND
REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES**

9 Pending before the Court is the First Interim Application for Payment of Fees and
10 Reimbursement of Expenses of Receiver, Stephen J. Donell, and his Professionals, (ECF No.
11 69), filed by Receiver Stephen J. Donell. Defendants did not file a Response and the time to do
12 so has passed.

13 Receiver Donell requests approval and payment of fees in the amount of \$114,684.30
14 and expenses in the amount of \$3,171.43. Allen Matkins Leck Gamble Mallory & Natsis LLP
15 requests approval and payment of fees in the amount of \$149,669.10 and expenses in the
16 amount of \$614.08. Stapleton Group requests approval and payment of fees in the amount of
17 \$109,040.80 and expenses in the amount of \$4,208.48. SLBiggs requests approval and
18 payment of fees in the amount of \$16,031.50 and expenses in the amount of \$158.78. Semenza
19 Rickard Law requests approval and payment of fees in the amount of \$6,660.50 and expenses
20 in the amount of \$1,182.12.

21 For the reasons set forth in the First Interim Application, the Court approves the fees and
22 expenses requested by: Receiver Donell, Allen Matkins Leck Gamble Mallory & Natsis LLP,
23 Stapleton Group, and SLBiggs. The Court, however, DENIES the fees and expenses requested
24 by Semenza Rickard Law for the following reason. Semenza Rickard Law requests \$6,660.50
25 in fees. But, upon review of the record, it appears that the amount billed for expenses adds up

1 to \$2,302 upon manual calculation, and not \$6,660.50 as the “subtotal” line reflects. (See SR
2 Law Invoice, Ex. 5 to First Interim Appl., ECF No. 69-6).

3 Accordingly,

4 **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that the First Interim Application, (ECF No. 69), is
5 **GRANTED, in part, and DENIED, in part.**

6 Receiver Donell’s fees and expenses, in the respective amounts of \$114,684.30 and
7 \$3,171.43, are approved.

8 Allen Matkins Leck Gamble Mallory & Natsis LLP fees and expenses, in the respective
9 amounts of \$149,669.10 and \$614.08, are approved.

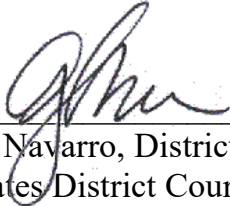
10 Stapleton Group’s fees and expenses, in the respective amounts of \$109,040.80 and
11 \$4,208.48, are approved.

12 SLBiggs’s fees and expenses, in the respective amounts of \$16,031.50 and \$158.78, are
13 approved.

14 Receiver Donell is authorized to pay himself and his Professionals the above-approved
15 fees and expenses, in full, from the funds of the receivership estate established in this action.

16 Semenza Rickard Law’s fees and expenses are not approved. Receiver Donell is not
17 authorized, to pay Semenza Rickard Law. Semenza Rickard Law may file a new application
18 for reimbursement explaining the reason for the discrepancy identified above and the
19 reimbursement amount it requests. The Court will then consider the new application.

20
21 Dated this 6 day of February, 2026.

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23 _____
24 Gloria M. Navarro, District Judge
25 United States District Court