

ORDERED.

Dated: April 21, 2026



Catherine Peek McEwen
United States Bankruptcy Judge

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA
TAMPA DIVISION
www.flmb.uscourts.gov

In re:

Chapter 11

THE STEPHAN CO.,

Case No. 8:25-bk-08937-CPM

Debtor.¹

**ORDER GRANTING JOINT MOTION FOR ENTRY OF AN
ORDER APPOINTING DAVID NEIER AS LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE
FOR FUTURE TALC PERSONAL INJURY CLAIMANTS**

THIS CASE came before the Court on April 9, 2026 at 3:00 p.m., upon the *Joint Motion for Entry of An Order Appointing David Neier as Legal Representative for Future Talc Personal Injury Claimants [Doc. 188]*, (the “**Motion**”)² filed by the above-captioned debtor and debtor in possession (the “**Debtor**”) and the Committee of Asbestos Claimants (the “**Committee**”) and with the Debtor, the “**Movants**”) for entry of an order (a) appointing David Neier as legal

¹ The last four digits of the Debtor’s federal tax identification number are 6812. The Debtor’s mailing address is 2211 Reach Road, Suite B4, Williamsport, Pennsylvania 17701.

² Capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined herein shall have the meaning ascribed to such terms in the Motion.

representative for future talc personal injury claimants, and (b) granting related relief, all as more fully set forth in the Motion; and this Court having reviewed the Motion and the Neier Declaration; and the Court having jurisdiction to consider the Motion and the relief requested therein in accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1334; and the Court having found that this is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2) and that this Court may enter an order consistent with Article III of the United States Constitution; and the Court having found that venue of this proceeding and the Motion in this district is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1408; and the Court having found that the Movants provided appropriate notice of the Motion and the opportunity for a hearing on the Motion under the circumstances and that no other or further notice is necessary; and the Court having determined that the legal and factual bases set forth in the Motion and the hearing with respect to the Motion establish just cause for the relief granted herein; and after due deliberation thereon; and good and sufficient cause appearing therefor, it is HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. All objections to the entry of this Order, to the extent not withdrawn or settled, are overruled with prejudice.

2. Mr. Neier is hereby appointed as the legal representative (the “**Future Claimants’ Representative**” or “**FCR**”) of all persons that will assert talc-related personal injury demands (as defined in the Bankruptcy Code) against the Debtor after the effective date of a confirmed plan under sections 105(a) and 524(g) of the Bankruptcy Code but who have not presently done so.

3. The Future Claimants’ Representative is appointed subject to the following terms and conditions:

- a. **Standing**: The Future Claimants’ Representative shall have standing under section 1109(b) of the Bankruptcy Code to be heard as a party-in-interest in all matters relating to the Chapter 11 Case and all appeals therefrom and shall have such powers and duties of a committee, as set forth in section 1103 of the Bankruptcy Code, as are appropriate for a Future Claimants’ Representative;

- b. Engagement of Professionals: The Future Claimants' Representative may, subject to approval from the Court pursuant to sections 105(a) and 1103 of the Bankruptcy Code and consistent with the treatment afforded other professionals in the Chapter 11 Case, retain attorneys and other professionals;
- c. Compensation: The Future Claimants' Representative shall apply for compensation in accordance with the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Local Rules, and any order entered by the Court establishing procedures for interim compensation and reimbursement of expenses of professionals; Subject to Court approval, Mr. Neier shall be compensated at the FCR's hourly rate of \$600 subject to periodic adjustment, plus reimbursement of reasonable and documented expenses. Mr. Neier shall file a supplement to the Neier Declaration to reflect any changes in his billing rate, and any parties in interest shall have 10 days to file a written objection to any such changes, with any such unresolved objections to be determined by this Court;
- d. Indemnification: The Debtor shall indemnify and agree to defend and hold harmless Mr. Neier, his partners, associates, principals, employees, and professionals (collectively, the "**Indemnified Parties**") from and against any losses, claims, damages or liabilities (or actions in respect thereof) to which any Indemnified Party may become subject as a result of or in connection with Mr. Neier's rendering services hereunder, unless and until it is finally judicially determined that such losses, claims, damages, or liabilities were caused by gross negligence, willful misconduct, bad faith, or fraud on the part of one or more of the Indemnified Parties in performing their obligations. Any such indemnification shall only be paid and, if requested, be an allowed administrative expense under section 503(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, upon application to and approval of the Court. For the avoidance of doubt, gross negligence, willful misconduct, bad faith, or fraud on the part of one Indemnified Party shall not preclude indemnification for the other Indemnified Parties; and
- e. Right to Receive Notices: Mr. Neier and any professionals retained by Mr. Neier and approved by the Court shall have the right to receive all notices and pleadings that are required to be served upon any statutory committee.

4. Mr. Neier may employ attorneys and other professionals consistent with sections 327 and 1103, subject to prior approval of this Court.

5. Mr. Neier and any professionals he retains with Court authority shall have the right to receive all notices and pleadings that are required to be served upon any statutory committee and its counsel pursuant to applicable law or an Order of this Court.

6. This Court retains exclusive jurisdiction with respect to all matters arising from or related to the implementation, interpretation, and enforcement of this Order.

###

Submitted by:

Patricia Redmond, Esq.
Florida Bar No. 303739
predmond@stearnsweaver.com
Stearns Weaver Miller
Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A.
Museum Tower Building, Suite 2200
150 West Flagler Street
Miami, Florida 33130
Telephone: (305) 789-3200

Attorney Patricia Redmond is directed to serve a copy of the Order on interested parties who do not receive service by CM/ECF and file a proof of service within three days of entry of the Order.