## IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

In re:	) ) Chapter 11
FTX TRADING LTD., et al.,1	) Case No. 22-11068 (JTD)
Debtor.	) (Joint Administration Requested)
	)

JOINDER OF THE TEXAS STATE SECURITIES BOARD AND TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF BANKING TO THE MOTIONS OF THE UNITED STATES TRUSTEE, STATE OF WISCONSIN, AND VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL REGULATION FOR ENTRY OF AN ORDER DIRECTING THE APPOINTMENT OF AN EXAMINER

The Texas State Securities Board and the Texas Department of Banking ("Texas") by and through the Office of the Texas Attorney General, hereby files this Joinder (the "Joinder") to the following motions: (a) *Motion of the United States Trustee for Entry of an Order Directing the Appointment of an Examiner* [D.E. 176]; (b) *State of Wisconsin's Joinder to the Motion of the United States Trustee for Entry of an Order Directing the Appointment of an Examiner* [D.E. 263]; and (c) *Joinder to Motion for Entry of an Order Appointing an Examiner* [D.E. 339] (collective, the "Motions"). In support of the Joinder, Texas respectfully states as follows:<sup>2</sup>

- 1. The Debtors commenced chapter 11 bankruptcy proceeding in this Court on November 11, 2022 (the "Petition Date"). The Debtors allegedly have millions of creditors and assets that may be located in various parts of the world.
- 2. As has been widely documented and revealed by current CEO, John J. Ray, III, in the First Day Declaration and as set forth in the Motions, before and up to the Petition Date, the Debtors had many indications of upcoming serious financial issues, including the lack of accurate financial

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The last four digits of FTX Trading Ltd.'s tax identification number are 3288. Due to the large number of debtor entities in these Chapter 11 Cases, for which the Debtors will request joint administration, a complete list of the Debtors and the last four digits of their federal tax identification numbers is not provided herein. A complete list of such information will be made available on a website of the Debtors' proposed claims and noticing agent.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Capitalized terms not otherwise defined or provided herein have the meanings ascribed to them in the Motions or D.E. 24 (the "First Day Declaration.").

statements, failure of internal governance or controls, commingling of assets, unreliable auditing information, and absence of appropriate books and records with respect to the Debtors' assets.

- 3. Texas, among several other state and federal regulators, is currently investigating the Debtors and their related entities for violations in connection with their transaction of business in Texas and with Texas account holders.
- 4. Bankruptcy Code Section 1104(c) provides for the appointment of an examiner under appropriate circumstances. Here, due to the magnitude and history of mismanagement by the Debtors, the lack of transparency into the financial condition and assets of the Debtors, and the continued regulatory investigations that are ongoing, the appointment of an examiner with specific guidelines as to their duties is not only appropriate and in the best interest of creditors, but mandatory pursuant to section § 1104(c) as well.
- 5. Texas, along with other regulators, will require constant access to information and documentation in connection with its investigation, and would benefit from working with and gaining this information from a neutral third-party investigator whose focus is on investigating the Debtors as opposed to running the Debtors' business. As the estate's investigations into the Debtors are still in the early stages, such a framework will ensure an effective and orderly process that is in the best interests of the estate.
- 6. Attached hereto as **Exhibit A**, are letters in support of this Joinder. The following State Agencies or Attorney Generals' Offices have given permission for Texas to share their letter of support with this Court:

Alaska Division of Banking & Securities; Arkansas Securities Department; California Department of Financial Protection and Innovation; Florida Office of Financial Regulation; Hawaii Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Idaho Department of Finance; Illinois Attorney General's Office, Revenue Litigation Bureau; Kentucky Department of Financial Institutions; Maine Department of Professional and Financial Regulation;
Maryland Office of the Attorney General;
New Hampshire Bureau of Securities Regulation;
New Jersey Bureau of Securities;
North Carolina Department of the Secretary of State, Securities Division;
Oklahoma Department of Securities;
Tennessee Department of Commerce & Insurance; and
Washington D.C. Department of Insurance, Securities and Banking.

7. For these reasons and those stated in the Motions, Texas joins the U.S. Trustee, the State of Wisconsin, and the Vermont Department of Financial Regulation in their Motions for an order directing the appointment of an examiner.

[Remainder of Page Intentionally Left Blank]

Dated: February 1, 2023 Respectfully submitted,

**KEN PAXTON** 

Attorney General of Texas

**BRENT WEBSTER** 

First Assistant Attorney General

**GRANT DORFMAN** 

Deputy First Assistant Attorney General

SHAWN E. COWLES

Deputy Attorney General for Civil Litigation

RACHEL R. OBALDO

Assistant Attorney General

Chief, Bankruptcy & Collections Division

/s/ Roma N. Desai

ROMA N. DESAI

Texas State Bar No. 24095553

LAYLA D. MILLIGAN

Texas State Bar No. 24026015

ABIGAIL R. RYAN

Texas State Bar No. 24035956

Office of the Attorney General of Texas

Bankruptcy & Collections Division

P. O. Box 12548 MC008

Austin, Texas 78711-2548

Telephone: (512) 463-2173

Facsimile: (512) 936-1409

roma.desai@oag.texas.gov

layla.milligan@oag.texas.gov

1: 11

abigail.ryan@oag.texas.gov

ATTORNEYS FOR THE TEXAS STATE SECURITIES BOARD AND TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF BANKING

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been served via the Court's Electronic Filing System on all parties requesting notice in this proceeding on February 1, 2023.

/s/ Roma N. Desai ROMA N. DESAI Assistant Attorney General

### **EXHIBIT A:**

**State Agencies or Attorney Generals' Offices' Letters in Support** 

#### Case 22-11068-JTD Doc 600-1 Filed 02/01/23 Page 2 of 17



### Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development

Division of Banking & Securities

550 W 7TH AVE, STE 1850 Anchorage, AK 99501 Main: 907.269.8140

Toll free: 888.925.2521 Fax: 907.269.8146

January 30, 2023

Sent via electronic mail

Roma Desai
Layla Milligan
Abigail Ryan
Assistant Attorneys General
Bankruptcy & Collections Division
Texas Office of the Attorney General
P.O. Box 12548
Austin, TX 78711-2548
Email: Roma.Desai@oag.texas.gov
Layla.Milligan@oag.texas.gov
Abigail.Ryan@oag.texas.gov

RE: Joinder of The Texas State Securities Board and Department of Banking to the Motions of the United States Trustee, State of Wisconsin, and Vermont Department of Financial Regulation for Entry of an Order Directing the Appointment of an Examiner, Case No. 22-11068-JTD, United States Bankruptcy Court, District of Delaware

Dear Ms. Desai, Ms. Milligan, and Ms. Ryan,

We are in receipt of the Texas Attorney General's Joinder, which will be filed in the bankruptcy case on February 1, 2023, in the above captioned case (the "Joinder"). We have carefully reviewed and support the Joinder. You are expressly authorized and encouraged to share this letter with the Honorable John T. Dorsey, U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Delaware, who is presiding over this case.

Thank you for your assistance and courtesies.

Very truly yours,

Robert H. Schmidt

Director

State of Alaska

Division of Banking & Securities





February 1, 2023

SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Roma Desai Layla Milligan Abigail Ryan Assistant Attorneys General Bankruptcy & Collections Division Texas Office of the Attorney General P.O. Box 12548 Austin, TX 78711-2548

Email: Roma.Desai@oag.texas.gov Layla.Milligan@oag.texas.gov

Abigail.Ryan@oag.texas.gov

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Thank you for your assistance and courtesies.

Campbell McLaurin AAA

Very truly yours,

J. Campbell McLaurin III

Commissioner (interim)

**Arkansas Securities Department** 



#### STATE OF CALIFORNIA

# Department of Financial Protection and Innovation GOVERNOR Gavin Newsom · COMMISSIONER Clothilde V. Hewlett

February 1, 2023

SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Roma Desai Layla Milligan Abigail Ryan Assistant Attorneys General Bankruptcy & Collections Division Texas Office of the Attorney General P.O. Box 12548 Austin, TX 78711-2548 Email: Roma.Desai@oag.texas.gov Layla.Milligan@oag.texas.gov Abigail.Ryan@oag.texas.gov

RE: Joinder of The Texas State Securities Board and Department of Banking to the Motions of the United States Trustee, State of Wisconsin, and Vermont Department of Financial Regulation for Entry of an Order Directing the Appointment of an Examiner, Case No. 22-11068-JTD, United States Bankruptcy Court, District of Delaware

Dear Ms. Desai, Ms. Milligan, and Ms. Ryan,

The California Department of Financial Protection and Innovation is in receipt of the Texas Attorney General's Joinder, which will be filed in the bankruptcy case on February 1, 2023, in the above captioned case (the "Joinder"). We have carefully reviewed and support the Joinder. You are expressly authorized and encouraged to share this letter with the Honorable John T. Dorsey, U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Delaware, who is presiding over this case.

Thank you for your assistance and courtesies.

Sincerely,

Clothilde V. Hewlett Commissioner California Department of Financial Protection and Innovation

By

Mary Ann Smith **Deputy Commissioner Enforcement Division** 

Mary Ann Smith



#### Commissioner Russell C. Weigel, III

February 1, 2023 SENT BY EMAIL

Roma Desai
Layla Milligan
Abigail Ryan
Assistant Attorneys General
Bankruptcy & Collections Division
Texas Office of the Attorney General
P.O. Box 12548
Austin, TX 78711-2548
Email: Roma.Desai@oag.texas.gov
Layla.Milligan@oag.texas.gov
Abigail.Ryan@oag.texas.gov

RE: Joinder of The Texas State Securities Board and Department of Banking to the Motions of the United States Trustee, State of Wisconsin, and Vermont Department of Financial Regulation for Entry of an Order Directing the Appointment of an Examiner, Case No. 22-11068-JTD, United States Bankruptcy Court, District of Delaware

Dear Ms. Desai, Ms. Milligan, and Ms. Ryan:

The State of Florida, Office of Financial Regulation ("OFR") is in receipt of the Texas Attorney General's Joinder, which will be filed in the bankruptcy case on February 1, 2023, in the above captioned case (the "Joinder"). The OFR has carefully reviewed and support the Joinder. You are expressly authorized and encouraged to share this letter with the Honorable John T. Dorsey, U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Delaware, who is presiding over this case.

Thank you for your assistance and courtesies.

Sincerely,

#### s/ George C. Bedell III

George C. Bedell III Chief Counsel Administrative and Civil Litigation Office of General Counsel



JOSH GREEN, M.D. GOVERNOR | KE KIA'ĀINA

SYLVIA LUKE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA

# STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKUʻĀINA 'O HAWAI'I DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS KA 'OIHANA PILI KĀLEPA BUSINESS REGISTRATION DIVISION SECURITIES ENFORCEMENT BRANCH

335 MERCHANT STREET, ROOM 205, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
P.O. BOX 40, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810
Phone Number: (808) 586-2740
Fax Number: (808) 586-3977

Fax Number: (808) 586-3977 Investing.hawaii.gov

January 30, 2023

NADINE Y. ANDO

DIRECTOR | KA LUNA HO'OKELE

**DEAN I HAZAMA**DEPUTY DIRECTOR | KA HOPE LUNA HO'OKELE

TY Y. NOHARA
ACTING COMMISSIONER OF SECURITIES

Roma Desai	VIA U.S. MAIL
Layla Milligan	VIA CERTIFIED MAIL
Abigail Ryan	VIA FACSIMILE
Assistant Attorneys General	
Bankruptcy & Collections Division	X VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL
Texas Office of the Attorney General	
P.O. Box 12548	
Austin, TX 78711-2548	
Email: Roma.Desai@oag.texas.gov	
Layla.Milligan@oag.texas.gov	

Re: Joinder of The Texas State Securities Board and Department of Banking to the Motions of the United States Trustee, State of Wisconsin, and Vermont Department of Financial Regulation for Entry of an Order Directing the Appointment of an Examiner, Case No. 22-11068-JTD, United States Bankruptcy Court, District of Delaware

Dear Ms. Desai, Ms. Milligan, and Ms. Ryan,

Abigail.Ryan@oag.texas.gov

We are in receipt of the Texas Attorney General's Joinder, which will be filed in the bankruptcy case on February 1, 2023, in the above captioned case (the "Joinder"). We have carefully reviewed and support the Joinder. You are expressly authorized and encouraged to share this letter with the Honorable John T. Dorsey, U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Delaware, who is presiding over this case.

Thank you for your assistance and courtesies.

Very truly yours,

ayhi M. Nakamura-Watanabe



BRAD LITTLE Governor

PATRICIA R. PERKINS Director

January 30, 2023

Roma Desai Layla Milligan Abigail Ryan Assistant Attorneys General Bankruptcy & Collections Division Texas Office of the Attorney General P.O. Box 12548 Austin, TX 78711-2548

#### SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Email: Roma.Desai@oag.texas.gov Layla.Milligan@oag.texas.gov Abigail.Ryan@oag.texas.gov

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Thank you for your assistance and courtesies.

Very truly yours,

John Yaros

Bureau Chief

**SECURITIES BUREAU** 

Bureau Chief - John Yaros 11341 W. Chinden Blvd., Suite A300, Boise ID 83714-1021 Mail To: P.O. Box 83720, Boise ID 83720-0031 Phone: (208) 332-8004 Fax: (208) 332-8099

http://finance.idaho.gov



## OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL STATE OF ILLINOIS

KWAME RAOUL ATTORNEY GENERAL

SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

January 30, 2022

Roma Desai Layla Milligan Abigail Ryan Assistant Attorneys General Bankruptcy & Collections Division Texas Office of the Attorney General P.O. Box 12548 Austin, TX 78711-2548

Email: Roma.Desai@oag.texas.gov Layla.Milligan@oag.texas.gov Abigail.Ryan@oag.texas.gov

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Thank you for your assistance and courtesies.

Very truly yours,

John P. Reding Assistant Attorney General Revenue Litigation Bureau Office of the Attorney General of Illinois 100 West Randolph Street, Fl. 13-225 Chicago, IL 60601 John.reding@ilag.gov



Andy Beshear GOVERNOR

Jacqueline Coleman
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

#### PUBLIC PROTECTION CABINET

Kentucky Department of Financial Institutions

500 Mero Street, 2SW19 Frankfort, KY 40601 Phone: (502) 573-3390 KFI@ky.gov Ray A. Perry SECRETARY

Justin M. Burse
ACTING COMMISSIONER

January 31, 2023

SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Roma Desai
Layla Milligan
Abigail Ryan
Assistant Attorneys General
Bankruptcy & Collections Division
Texas Office of the Attorney General
P.O. Box 12548
Austin, TX 78711-2548
Email: Roma.Desai@oag.texas.gov
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Dear Ms. Desai, Ms. Milligan, and Ms. Ryan,

The Kentucky Department of Financial Institutions has reviewed the Texas Attorney General's *Joinder*, which will be filed in the bankruptcy case on February 1, 2023, in Delaware Bankruptcy Case No. 22-11068-JTD. The Kentucky Department of Financial Institutions supports the *Joinder*, believing that a third-party neutral serving as the appointed examiner would greatly benefit the FTX Bankruptcy proceedings. Your agency is expressly authorized and encouraged to share this letter with the presiding U.S. Bankrutpcy Judge over this matter, Honorable John T. Dorsey.

Thank you for your assistance and courtesy,

Marni Rock Gibson

Marni Rock Gibson
Deputy Commissioner and Securities Administrator
Kentucky Department of Financial Institutions



#### Case 22-11068-JTD Doc 600-1 Filed 02/01/23 Page 10 of 17



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL AND FINANCIAL
REGULATION
OFFICE OF SECURITIES
121 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME
04333-0121

Edward E. Moran ACTING SECURITIES ADMINISTRATOR

January 31, 2023

SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Roma Desai
Layla Milligan
Abigail Ryan
Assistant Attorneys General
Bankruptcy & Collections Division
Texas Office of the Attorney General
P.O. Box 12548
Austin, TX 78711-2548
Email: Roma.Desai@oag.texas.gov
Layla.Milligan@oag.texas.gov
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Thank you for your assistance and courtesies.

Very truly yours,

Edward E. Moran

Acting Securities Administrator Edward.moran@maine.gov

PHONE: (207) 624-8551 TTY users call Maine Relay 711 FAX: (207) 624-8404 www.investors.maine.gov



ANTHONY G. BROWN Attorney General



CANDACE MCLAREN LANHAM
Chief of Staff

CAROLYN A. QUATTROCKI
Deputy Attorney General

# STATE OF MARYLAND OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

FACSIMILE NO. 410-576-6532

WRITER'S DIRECT DIAL NO. 410-576-6950

February 1, 2023

Roma Desai
Layla Milligan
Abigail Ryan
Assistant Attorneys General
Bankruptcy & Collections Division
Texas Office of the Attorney General
P.O. Box 12548
Austin, TX 78711-2548
Email: Roma.Desai@oag.texas.gov
Layla.Milligan@oag.texas.gov
Abigail.Ryan@oag.texas.gov

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Thank you for your assistance and courtesies.

Very truly yours,

Max F. Brauer

**Assistant Attorney General** 

# Case 22-11068-1TD DOC 600-1-Filed 02/01/23 Page 12 of 17 BUREAU OF SECURITIES REGULATION



January 31, 2023

SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Roma Desai
Layla Milligan
Abigail Ryan
Assistant Attorneys General
Bankruptcy & Collections Division
Texas Office of the Attorney General
P.O. Box 12548
Austin, TX 78711-2548
Email: Roma.Desai@oag.texas.gov

Layla.Milligan@oag.texas.gov
Abigail.Ryan@oag.texas.gov

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Thank you for your assistance and courtesies.

Sincerely,

Michael Kirwin

Staff Attorney, New Hampshire Bureau of Securities Regulation

Fax: (603)-271-7933

## **McElroy Deutsch**

570 Broad Street
Suite 1401
Newark, NJ 07102
T: 973.622.7711 | F: 973.622.5314
MDMC-LAW.COM

JEFFREY BERNSTEIN, ESQ. (973) 565-2183 jbernstein@mdmc-law.com

February 1, 2023

#### **VIA E-MAIL DELIVERY**

Roma Desai
Layla Milligan
Abigail Ryan
Assistant Attorneys General
Bankruptcy & Collections Division
Texas Office of the Attorney General
P.O. Box 12548
Austin, TX 78711-2548
Roma.Desai@oag.texas.gov
Layla.Milligan@oag.texas.gov
Abigail.Ryan@oag.texas.gov

Re: Joinder of The Texas State Securities Board and Department of Banking to the

Motions of the United States Trustee, State of Wisconsin, and Vermont Department of Financial Regulation for Entry of an Order Directing the

Appointment of an Examiner

Case No. 22-11068-JTD, United States Bankruptcy Court, District of Delaware

Dear Ms. Desai, Ms. Milligan, and Ms. Ryan,

We are counsel to the New Jersey Bureau of Securities. We are in receipt of the Texas Attorney General's Joinder, which will be filed in the bankruptcy case on February 1, 2023, in the above captioned case (the "Joinder"). We have carefully reviewed and support the Joinder. You are expressly authorized and encouraged to share this letter with the Honorable John T. Dorsey, U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Delaware, who is presiding over this case.

Thank you for your assistance and courtesies.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Jeffrey Bernstein

McElroy, Deutsch, Mulvaney & Carpenter, LLP



# State of North Carolina Department of the Secretary of State

ELAINE F. MARSHALL SECRETARY OF STATE

February 1, 2023

SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Roma Desai Layla Milligan Abigail Ryan Assistant Attorneys General Bankruptcy & Collections Division Texas Office of the Attorney General P.O. Box 12548 Austin, TX 78711-2548

Email: Roma.Desai@oag.texas.gov Layla.Milligan@oag.texas.gov Abigail.Ryan@oag.texas.gov

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Thank you for your assistance and courtesies.

Very truly yours,

Sherrell L. Forbes

Deputy Director, Securities Division

N. C. Department of the Secretary of State



MELANIE HALL ADMINISTRATOR J. KEVIN STITT GOVERNOR

## STATE OF OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF SECURITIES

January 31, 2023

#### VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Roma Desai Layla Milligan Abigail Ryan Assistant Attorneys General Bankruptcy & Collections Division Texas Office of the Attorney General P.O. Box 12548 Austin, TX 78711-2548

Roma.Desai@oag.texas.gov Layla.Milligan@oag.texas.gov Abigail.Ryan@oag.texas.gov

RE: Joinder of The Texas State Securities Board and Department of Banking to the Motions of the United States Trustee, State of Wisconsin, and Vermont Department of Financial Regulation for Entry of an Order Directing the Appointment of an Examiner, Case No. 22-11068-JTD, United States Bankruptcy Court, District of Delaware

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Regards,

Melanie Slace

Melanie Hall Administrator

Oklahoma Department of Securities



January 31, 2023

SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Roma Desai Layla Milligan Abigail Ryan Assistant Attorneys General Bankruptcy & Collections Division Texas Office of the Attorney General P.O. Box 12548 Austin, TX 78711-2548

Email: Roma.Desai@oag.texas.gov Layla.Milligan@oag.texas.gov Abigail.Ryan@oag.texas.gov

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Thank you for your assistance and courtesies.

Very truly yours,

Elizabeth Bowling (Jan 31, 2023 15:23 CST)

Elizabeth Bowling Assistant Commissioner, Tennessee Department of Commerce and Insurance Securities Division



Karima M. Woods, Commissioner

January 30, 2023

#### SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Roma Desai
Layla Milligan
Abigail Ryan
Assistant Attorneys General
Bankruptcy & Collections Division
Texas Office of the Attorney General
P.O. Box 12548
Austin, TX 78711-2548
Email: Roma.Desai@oag.texas.gov
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Thank you for your assistance and courtesies.

Regards,

Stephen Bouchard

Stephen Bouchard

Associate Commissioner for Securities