

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT  
Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the  
Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): February 3, 2026

LEE ENTERPRISES, INCORPORATED  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware  
(State of Incorporation)

1-6227  
(Commission File Number)

42-0823980  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

4600 E. 53rd Street,  
Davenport, Iowa 52807  
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

(563) 383-2100  
Registrant's telephone number, including area code

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class	Trading symbol(s)	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common Stock, par value \$.01 per share	LEE	The Nasdaq Global Select Market

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

## **Item 1.01 Entry into a Material Definitive Agreement.**

### ***Amendment to Rights Agreement***

On February 4, 2026, Lee Enterprises, Incorporated (the “Company”) and Equiniti Trust Company, LLC (the “Rights Agent”) entered into Amendment No. 2 (“Amendment No. 2”) to the Rights Agreement, dated as of March 28, 2024, by and between the Company and the Rights Agent (as amended by Amendment No. 1 to the Rights Agreement, dated as of March 26, 2025, the “Rights Agreement”).

Amendment No. 2 terminated the Rights Agreement by advancing the Final Expiration Time (as defined in the Rights Agreement) to 5:00 P.M., New York City time, on February 4, 2026. As a result, all of the Rights (as defined in the Rights Agreement) expired and are no longer outstanding.

Amendment No. 2 is filed with this Current Report on Form 8-K as Exhibit 4.1 and is incorporated herein by reference. The foregoing description of the Amendment is qualified in its entirety by reference thereto.

### ***Registration Rights Agreement***

In connection with the Closing (as defined below), on February 5, 2026, as previously disclosed, the Company entered into a registration rights agreement (the “Registration Rights Agreement”) with the Investors (as defined below). Pursuant to the Registration Rights Agreement, the Company agreed to provide the Investors certain customary registration rights, including the registration of the Shares (as defined below) for resale. The Company is required to use commercially reasonable efforts to file a registration statement with the SEC covering the resale by the Investors of their Shares within 60 days following the Closing.

The Registration Rights Agreement is filed with this Current Report on Form 8-K as Exhibit 10.1 and is incorporated herein by reference. The foregoing description of the Registration Rights Agreement is qualified in its entirety by reference thereto.

### ***Credit Agreement Amendment***

As previously disclosed, on December 30, 2025, the Company entered into the Second Amendment to Credit Agreement (the “Credit Agreement Amendment”), which amended the Company’s existing Credit Agreement, dated January 29, 2020 (as amended by that Waiver and Amendment dated May 1, 2025), with BH Finance LLC.

The amendments set forth in the Credit Agreement Amendment became operative upon the Company’s receipt of the proceeds of the Private Placement (as defined below) at the Closing.

Pursuant to the Credit Agreement Amendment, among other things, the parties agreed to: (i) for a period of five years following the Closing, reduce the applicable margin on the Company’s 25-year term loan from 9.00% to 5.00% (the “Interest Rate Reduction”), (ii) amend the definition of “Change of Control” to exclude the beneficial ownership of the Investors and their affiliates and (iii) for a period of five years following the Closing, amend the definition of “Excess Cash Flow” such that the minimum amount of cash-on hand held by the Company before being deemed Excess Cash Flow would be equal to \$64.0 million. The Interest Rate Reduction is expected to result in interest savings of approximately \$18 million annually and up to \$90 million over the five-year period.

### **Item 3.02 Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities.**

On February 5, 2026, the Company closed (the “Closing”) its previously announced private placement (the “Private Placement”) and, pursuant to the terms of that certain stock purchase agreement (the “Purchase Agreement”) by and among the Company, David Hoffmann (the “Anchor Investor”) and certain additional investors (the “Other Investors” and, together with the Anchor Investor, the “Investors”), sold an aggregate of 15,384,615 shares (the “Base PIPE Common Shares”) of the Company’s common stock, par value \$0.01 per share (the “Common Stock”), at a purchase price of \$3.25 per share to the Investors. In connection with the Closing, pursuant to the terms of the Purchase Agreement, the Company issued an additional 615,385 shares of Common Stock (the “Fee Reimbursement Shares” and, together with the Base PIPE Common Shares, the “Shares”) as reimbursement of certain of the Anchor Investor’s expenses at a price of \$3.25 per share.

As a result of the consummation of the Private Placement, a change of control of the Company occurred on February 5, 2026. As of such date, the Anchor Investor and his affiliates held 11,528,340 shares of Common Stock, having purchased 10,909,440 shares of common stock for an aggregate purchase price of \$35,455,680.00. Upon the Closing, the Anchor Investor holds, directly or indirectly, approximately 52% of the Company’s outstanding Common Stock as of the Closing. The source of funds for the Anchor Investor’s purchase of the Shares was on-hand capital.

The Private Placement is exempt from the registration requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the “Securities Act”), pursuant to the exemption for transactions by an issuer not involving any public offering under Section 4(a)(2) of the Securities Act and in reliance on similar exemptions under applicable state laws. The Company is relying on this exemption from registration based in part on representations made by the Investors. At the time of issuance, the Shares were not registered under the Securities Act or any state securities laws and may not be offered or sold in the United States absent registration with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) or an applicable exemption from the registration requirements. Neither this Current Report on Form 8-K nor the exhibits attached hereto is an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy the securities described herein.

### **Item 3.03 Material Modification to Rights of Security Holders.**

The disclosure set forth above in Item 1.01 and below in Item 5.03 of this Current Report on Form 8-K is incorporated by reference herein.

### **Item 5.01 Changes in Control of Registrant.**

The disclosure set forth above in Item 3.02 and below in Item 5.02 of this Current Report on Form 8-K is incorporated by reference herein.

### **Item 5.02 Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers.**

As previously disclosed, in connection with the Closing, Kevin Mowbray, the Company’s President and Chief Executive Officer and a member of the Company’s board of directors, voluntarily retired from his positions at Company and its subsidiaries and affiliates effective as of February 5, 2026. Pursuant to Mr. Mowbray’s Retirement and Transition Agreement with the Company, the Company has agreed to pay (i) a severance payment to Mr. Mowbray of \$1,500,000 payable in thirty-six installments and (ii) COBRA medical premiums for a period of 18 months for Mr. Mowbray and his spouse. Mr. Mowbray agreed to provide consultation, advice and assistance in the transition and operation of the Company’s business as reasonably requested by the Company through May 31, 2026. Mr. Mowbray’s decision is not the result of any disagreement with the Company or its operations, policies or practices.

The Company has initiated a search process to identify a new Chief Executive Officer. Nathan Bekke, the Company’s current Chief Operating Officer, has been appointed Interim Chief Executive Officer, effective as of February 5, 2026.

Mr. Bekke's biographical information is disclosed in the Company's Definitive Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A filed with the SEC on January 16, 2025, and such information is incorporated herein by reference. There are no arrangements or understandings between Mr. Bekke and any other persons pursuant to which Mr. Bekke was selected as Interim Chief Executive Officer. Mr. Bekke has no family relationships with any director or executive officer of the Company. Mr. Bekke is not a party to any transaction required to be disclosed under Item 404(a) of Regulation S-K.

As previously disclosed, Timothy R. Millage, Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, and Treasurer of the Company, announced his decision to resign from his positions with the Company to pursue an opportunity in church ministry. Mr. Millage's resignation became effective as of February 3, 2026. Mr. Millage has agreed to provide consulting services to the Company through May 31, 2026. Mr. Millage's decision is due to personal reasons and not the result of any disagreement with the Company or its operations, policies or practices.

The Company has initiated a search process to identify a new Chief Financial Officer. Josh Rinehults, the Company's current Vice President of Operations and Finance, has been appointed as Vice President, Interim Chief Financial Officer, and Treasurer, effective as of February 3, 2026.

Mr. Rinehults, age 45, has served as the Company's Vice President of Operations and Finance since November 2020 and, prior to that, the Company's Finance Director since March 2020. Prior to his service with the Company, Mr. Rinehults served in various financial and accounting roles with the BH Media Group from 2012 to 2020 and Media General from 2007 to 2012 and, prior to those roles, as a senior auditor with Ernst & Young LLP from 2003 to 2007. There are no arrangements or understandings between Mr. Rinehults and any other persons pursuant to which Mr. Rinehults was selected as Interim Chief Financial Officer. Mr. Rinehults has no family relationships with any director or executive officer of the Company. Mr. Rinehults is not a party to any transaction required to be disclosed under Item 404(a) of Regulation S-K.

Pursuant to the Purchase Agreement, the Anchor Investor has the right to designate for nomination or otherwise appoint one individual to serve on the Company's board of directors. On February 5, 2026, David Hoffmann was appointed to the Company's board of directors for a term ending at the Company's 2028 annual meeting. Additionally, pursuant to the Company's second amended and restated bylaws, the board of directors appointed Mr. Hoffmann as Chairman, replacing Mary E. Junck, who previously served in the role. Ms. Junck is expected to remain a director on the Company's board through the expiration of her term at the Company's 2028 annual meeting. The disclosure set forth above in Item 3.02 of this Current Report on Form 8-K is incorporated by reference herein.

### **Item 5.03 Amendments to Articles of Incorporation or Bylaws; Change in Fiscal Year.**

As described in Item 5.07 of this Current Report on Form 8-K, on February 3, 2026, the Company held a special meeting of its stockholders (the "Special Meeting") at which, among other matters of business acted upon, the Company's stockholders approved an amendment (the "Charter Amendment") to the Company's amended and restated certificate of incorporation to increase the number of shares of Common Stock authorized for issuance from 12,000,000 shares to 40,000,000 shares (the "Additional Common Stock Proposal"). The Charter Amendment became effective as of February 3, 2026.

The Charter Amendment is filed with this Current Report on Form 8-K as Exhibit 3.1 and is incorporated herein by reference. The foregoing description of the Charter Amendment is qualified in its entirety by reference thereto.

In connection with the adoption of the Rights Agreement on March 28, 2024, the Company previously filed a certificate of designation with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware setting forth the powers, preferences and relative, participating, optional and other special rights of the Series C Participating Convertible Preferred Stock, without par value (the "Series C Preferred Stock"), issuable upon exercise of the Rights.

Following the expiration of the Rights and the termination of the Rights Agreement, on February 4, 2026, the Company filed a certificate of elimination (the “Certificate of Elimination”) with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware eliminating the Series C Preferred Stock and returning them to authorized but unissued shares of the Company’s Serial Convertible Preferred Stock, without par value, without designation.

The Certificate of Elimination is filed with this Current Report on Form 8-K as Exhibit 3.2 and is incorporated herein by reference. The foregoing description of the Certificate of Elimination is qualified in its entirety by reference thereto.

**Item 5.07 Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders.**

The Company held the Special Meeting on February 3, 2026.

On February 3, 2026, Broadridge Investor Communication Solutions, Inc., the independent inspector of election for the Special Meeting (the “Inspector of Election”), issued its final report certifying the final voting results for the Special Meeting. Set forth below are the final voting results as provided by the Inspector of Election.

Each share of Common Stock outstanding on January 2, 2026, the record date for the Special Meeting (the “Record Date”), had one vote on each proposal. On the Record Date, there were 6,243,660 shares of Common Stock outstanding. Present at the Special Meeting were holders of 3,979,350 shares of Common Stock, all represented by proxy, or approximately 63.73% of the outstanding shares of Common Stock entitled to vote at the Special Meeting as of the Record Date, constituting a quorum. There were no broker non-votes at the Special Meeting as all proposals were deemed “non-routine” such that no broker had discretionary authority to vote any shares of Common Stock at the Special Meeting.

For more information about the proposals set forth below, please see the Company’s Definitive Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A filed with the SEC on January 20, 2026 (the “Proxy Statement”).

**Additional Common Stock Proposal:** A proposal to approve the Charter Amendment.

For	Against
3,940,241	39,109

**Nasdaq 20% Share Issuance Proposal:** A proposal to approve, for purposes of Nasdaq Listing Rule 5635(d), the issuance of the Shares at a purchase price of \$3.25 per share pursuant to the Purchase Agreement.

For	Against	Abstain
3,950,483	28,222	645

**Nasdaq Change of Control Proposal:** A proposal to approve, for purposes of Nasdaq Listing Rule 5635(b), the issuance of the Shares to certain investors pursuant to the Purchase Agreement.

For	Against	Abstain
3,942,482	27,067	9,801

As there were sufficient votes to approve the above proposals, the “Adjournment Proposal” described in the Proxy Statement was not presented to the Company’s stockholders.

**Item 7.01 Regulation FD.**

On February 5, 2026, the Company issued a press release announcing the Closing, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and is incorporated into this Item 7.01 by reference.

The information furnished by and incorporated by reference in this Item 7.01, including Exhibit 99.1, shall not be deemed “filed” for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 nor shall it be deemed incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference in such filing.

**No Offer or Solicitation**

This Current Report on Form 8-K does not constitute an offer to sell or exchange, or the solicitation of an offer to buy or exchange, any securities, nor shall there be any sale of securities in any jurisdiction in which such offer, solicitation or sale would be unlawful prior to the registration or qualification under the securities laws of any such jurisdiction.

**Forward-Looking Statements**

This communication includes forward-looking statements, including statements relating to the effects of the Private Placement and the Credit Agreement Amendment and any expected interest savings as a result thereof. All statements other than statements of historical fact are, or may be deemed to be, forward-looking statements. In some cases, forward-looking statements can be identified by the use of forward-looking terms such as “may,” “will,” “should,” “could,” “expect,” “intend,” “plan,” “anticipate,” “potential,” “outlook” or “shall,” or the negative of these terms or other comparable terms. However, the absence of these words does not mean that the statements are not forward-looking. These forward-looking statements are based on certain assumptions and analyses made by us in light of our experience and our perception of historical trends, current conditions and expected future developments, as well as other factors we believe are appropriate in the circumstances.

These forward-looking statements are subject to known and unknown risks, uncertainties and assumptions that may cause actual results, levels of activity, performance, or achievements to be materially different from any future results, levels of activity, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Factors that might cause or contribute to a material difference include the risks discussed in our filings with the SEC and the following: changes in the Company’s corporate governance; competition and pricing pressures; and economic conditions generally. All forward-looking statements set forth in this communication are qualified by these cautionary statements and there can be no assurance that the actual results or developments anticipated by us will be realized or, even if substantially realized, that they will have the expected consequences to or effects on us or our business or operations. Forward-looking statements set forth in this communication speak only as of the date hereof, and we do not undertake any obligation to update forward-looking statements to reflect subsequent events or circumstances, changes in expectations or the occurrence of unanticipated events, except to the extent required by law.

**Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.**

(d) Exhibits.

<b>Exhibit No.</b>	<b>Description</b>
3.1	<a href="#">Charter Amendment.</a>
3.2	<a href="#">Certificate of Elimination.</a>
4.1	<a href="#">Amendment No. 2 to Rights Agreement, dated as of February 4, 2026, by and between the Company and Equiniti Trust Company, LLC.</a>
10.1*	<a href="#">Registration Rights Agreement, dated February 5, 2026, by and among the Company, David Hoffmann and the Other Investors party thereto.</a>
99.1	<a href="#">Press Release, dated February 5, 2026.</a>
104	Cover Page Interactive Data File (embedded within the Inline XBRL document).

\* Certain schedules and exhibits to this Exhibit have been omitted pursuant to Item 601(a)(5) of Regulation S-K. The Company agrees to provide a copy of any omitted schedule or exhibit to the SEC or its staff upon request.

**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Date: February 5, 2026

**LEE ENTERPRISES, INCORPORATED**

By: /s/ Joshua Rinehults

Joshua Rinehults

Vice President, Interim Chief Financial Officer, and  
Treasurer

CERTIFICATE OF AMENDMENT  
OF  
AMENDED AND RESTATED CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION  
OF  
LEE ENTERPRISES, INCORPORATED

Lee Enterprises, Incorporated (the “**Corporation**”), a corporation organized and existing under the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware (“**DGCL**”), hereby certifies as follows:

1. This Certificate of Amendment (the “**Certificate of Amendment**”) amends the provisions of the Corporation’s Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation filed with the Secretary of State on January 30, 2012 (as amended by the Certificate of Amendment, filed with the Secretary of State on March 9, 2021, the “**Certificate of Incorporation**”).

2. Each of the first three paragraphs of Article Fourth of the Certificate of Incorporation is hereby amended and restated in its entirety, respectively, as follows:

FOURTH: The total number of shares of all classes of stock which the Corporation shall have authority to issue is 43,500,000, consisting of 500,000 shares of Serial Convertible Preferred Stock, without par value, 40,000,000 shares of Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share (“Common Stock”), and 3,000,000 shares of Class B Common Stock, par value \$2.00 per share (“Class B Common Stock”).

Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, the Corporation shall not be authorized to issue non-voting capital stock of any class, series or other designation to the extent prohibited by Section 1123(a)(6) of the Bankruptcy Code; provided, however, that the foregoing restriction shall (i) have no further force and effect beyond that required under Section 1123(a)(6) of the Bankruptcy Code, (ii) only have such force and effect for so long as such Section 1123(a)(6) is in effect and applies to the Corporation and (iii) be deemed void or eliminated if required under applicable law.

The following is a statement of the designations, preferences and rights, and the qualifications, limitations and restrictions thereof, in respect of the Common Stock and the Class B Common Stock and the Serial Convertible Preferred Stock, except such thereof as the Board of Directors is herein expressly authorized to fix.

3. All other provisions of the Certificate of Incorporation shall remain in full force and effect.

4. This amendment was duly adopted in accordance with the provisions of Section 242 of the DGCL.

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Corporation has caused this Certificate of Amendment to be executed by its duly authorized officer on this 3rd day of February 2026.

LEE ENTERPRISES, INCORPORATED

By: /s/ Joshua Rinehults

Name: Joshua Rinehults

Title: Vice President, Interim Chief Financial Officer, and  
Treasurer

*[Signature Page to Certificate of Amendment]*

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**CERTIFICATE OF ELIMINATION  
OF  
SERIES C PARTICIPATING CONVERTIBLE PREFERRED STOCK  
OF  
LEE ENTERPRISES, INCORPORATED**

(Pursuant to Section 151(g) of the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware)

Lee Enterprises, Incorporated, a corporation organized and existing under the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware (the "Corporation"), hereby certifies as follows:

FIRST: that the Certificate of Designation of Series C Participating Convertible Preferred Stock of the Corporation establishing 10,000 shares of the Series C Participating Convertible Preferred Stock of the Corporation was originally filed in the office of the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware on March 28, 2024 (the "Certificate of Designation").

SECOND: that no shares of said Series C Participating Convertible Preferred Stock of the Corporation are outstanding, and no shares thereof will be issued subject to said Certificate of Designation.

THIRD: that the Board of Directors of the Corporation (the "Board") duly adopted the following resolution approving, authorizing and directing the elimination of the Series C Participating Convertible Preferred Stock of the Corporation on February 4, 2026:

**"FURTHER RESOLVED**, that each of the Authorized Officers, acting alone, be, and hereby is, authorized and empowered to, on behalf and in the name of the Company, execute, acknowledge and file, pursuant to Section 151(g) of the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware, a certificate of elimination setting forth that no shares of Series C Participating Convertible Preferred Stock, without par value (the "Series C Preferred Stock"), of the Company are outstanding, that none will be issued pursuant to the certificate of designation of Series C Preferred Stock, originally filed by the corporation with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware on March 28, 2024 (the "Certificate of Designation"), and that the shares that were designated as Series C Preferred Stock are returned to the status of authorized but unissued shares of the Serial Convertible Preferred Stock, without par value, of the Company, without designation, and thereby eliminating from the Company's amended and restated certificate of incorporation, as amended, all matters set forth in the Certificate of Designation, in such form as shall be approved by any Authorized Officer, with the advice of counsel, such determination to be conclusively established by the execution thereof;"

FOURTH: that in accordance with the provisions of Section 151(g) of the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware, the certificate of incorporation of the Corporation is hereby amended to eliminate all reference to the Series C Participating Convertible Preferred Stock of the Corporation.

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Corporation has caused this Certificate of Elimination to be executed by its duly authorized officer on this 4th day of February 2026.

LEE ENTERPRISES, INCORPORATED

By: /s/ Joshua Rinehults

Name: Joshua Rinehults

Title: Vice President, Interim Chief Financial Officer, and  
Treasurer

*[Signature Page to Certificate of Elimination]*

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## AMENDMENT NO. 2 TO RIGHTS AGREEMENT

This Amendment No. 2, dated as of February 4, 2026 (this “**Amendment**”), amends that certain Rights Agreement, dated as of March 28, 2024 (as amended by that certain Amendment No. 1, dated as of March 26, 2025, the “**Agreement**”), by and between Lee Enterprises, Incorporated, a Delaware corporation (the “**Company**”), and Equiniti Trust Company, LLC, a limited trust company organized under the laws of the State of New York (the “**Rights Agent**”). Capitalized terms used herein and not otherwise defined shall have the meanings ascribed to such terms in the Agreement.

WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, the Company and the Rights Agent executed and entered into the Agreement on March 28, 2024, as amended on March 26, 2025;

WHEREAS, Section 27 of the Agreement provides, among other things, that the Company may, and the Rights Agent shall, from time to time, supplement or amend the Agreement without the approval of any holders of Rights Certificates to make any provisions with respect to the Rights which the Company may deem necessary or desirable;

WHEREAS, to the knowledge of the Company, as of the date hereof, no Person has become an Acquiring Person;

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Company has deemed it advisable and in the best interests of the Company and its stockholders to amend the Agreement to advance the Final Expiration Date of the Rights to February 4, 2026; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to and in accordance with Section 27 of the Agreement, the Company desires to amend the Agreement as set forth below.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises set forth above, the parties hereto agree as follows:

1. The definition of “Final Expiration Date” set forth in Section 1.21 of the Agreement is hereby amended and restated in its entirety as follows:

“**Final Expiration Date**” shall mean the Close of Business on February 4, 2026.

2. Exhibit B to the Agreement shall be deemed amended in a manner consistent with this Amendment.

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3. This Amendment shall be deemed to be a contract made under the laws of the State of Delaware and for all purposes shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of such State applicable to contracts to be made and performed entirely within such State; *provided*, that all provisions regarding the rights, duties, liabilities and obligations of the Rights Agent shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New York applicable to contracts made and to be performed entirely within the State of New York.

4. Except as set forth in this Amendment, the Agreement will not otherwise be supplemented or amended by virtue of this Amendment and will remain in full force and effect.

5. This Amendment may be executed in any number of counterparts, and each of such counterparts shall for all purposes be deemed to be an original, and all such counterparts shall together constitute but one and the same instrument. A signature to this Amendment executed and/or transmitted electronically shall have the same authority, effect and enforceability as an original signature.

6. This Amendment shall be effective as of the date first written above and all references to the Agreement shall, from and after such time, be deemed to be references to the Agreement as amended hereby.

7. The undersigned officer of the Company, being duly authorized on behalf of the Company, hereby certifies in his or her capacity as an officer on behalf of the Company to the Rights Agent that this Amendment is in compliance with the terms of Section 27 of the Agreement, and such certification shall be deemed a certificate which complies with Section 20.2 of the Agreement.

*[Signature Page Follows]*

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Amendment has been duly executed by the Company and the Rights Agent as of the date first written above.

**LEE ENTERPRISES, INCORPORATED**

By: /s/ Joshua Rinehults

Name: Joshua Rinehults

Title: Vice President, Interim Chief Financial Officer, and  
Treasurer

*[Signature Page to Amendment No. 2 to Rights Agreement]*

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Amendment has been duly executed by the Company and the Rights Agent as of the date first written above.

**EQUINITI TRUST COMPANY, LLC**

By: /s/ Martin J. Knapp

Name: Martin J. Knapp

Title: SVP, Relationship Director

*[Signature Page to Amendment No. 2 to Rights Agreement]*

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**REGISTRATION RIGHTS AGREEMENT**

**AMONG**

**LEE ENTERPRISES, INCORPORATED**

**AND**

**THE HOLDERS PARTY HERETO**

**DATED FEBRUARY 5, 2026**

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<b>Page</b>
<b>ARTICLE I DEFINITIONS</b>	<b>1</b>
Section 1.1    Definitions	1
<b>ARTICLE II SHELF REGISTRATION</b>	<b>3</b>
Section 2.1    Shelf Registration	3
Section 2.2    Deferral or Suspension of Registration	6
Section 2.3    Selection of Underwriters; Cutback	6
Section 2.4    Lock-up	7
Section 2.5    Participation in Underwritten Offering; Information by Holder	7
Section 2.6    Registration Expenses	8
<b>ARTICLE III PIGGYBACK REGISTRATION</b>	<b>8</b>
Section 3.1    Notices	8
Section 3.2    Underwriter’s Cutback	9
Section 3.3    Company Control	10
Section 3.4    Selection of Underwriters	10
Section 3.5    Withdrawal of Registration	10
<b>ARTICLE IV REGISTRATION PROCEDURES</b>	<b>10</b>
Section 4.1    Registration Procedures	10
<b>ARTICLE V INDEMNIFICATION</b>	<b>14</b>
Section 5.1    Indemnification by the Company	14
Section 5.2    Indemnification by Holders	15
Section 5.3    Conduct of Indemnification Proceedings	15
Section 5.4    Settlement Offers	16
Section 5.5    Other Indemnification	16
Section 5.6    Contribution	16
<b>ARTICLE VI EXCHANGE ACT COMPLIANCE</b>	<b>16</b>
Section 6.1    Exchange Act Compliance	16
<b>ARTICLE VII MISCELLANEOUS</b>	<b>17</b>
Section 7.1    Severability	17
Section 7.2    Governing Law; Jurisdiction; Waiver of Jury Trial	17
Section 7.3    (Reserved.)	17
Section 7.4    Successors and Assigns	17
Section 7.5    Notices	17
Section 7.6    Headings	18
Section 7.7    Additional Parties	18
Section 7.8    Adjustments	18
Section 7.9    Entire Agreement	18
Section 7.10   (Reserved.)	18
Section 7.11   Counterparts; .pdf Signature	19
Section 7.12   Amendment	19
Section 7.13   Extensions; Waivers	19
Section 7.14   Business Days	19
Section 7.15   Independent Nature of Holder’s Obligations	20
Section 7.16   Further Assurances	20
Section 7.17   No Third-Party Beneficiaries	20
Section 7.18   Interpretation; Construction	20
Section 7.19   Term	20

**THIS REGISTRATION RIGHTS AGREEMENT**, dated as of February 5, 2026 (this “Agreement”), is entered into by and among **Lee Enterprises, Incorporated**, a Delaware corporation (the “Company”), and each of the Holders (as defined below) that are parties hereto from time to time.

## RECITALS

The Company and the Holders entered into that certain Stock Purchase Agreement, dated as of December 30, 2025 (the “Stock Purchase Agreement”), in connection with the issuance of certain shares of Common Stock through a private placement. Capitalized terms that are used but not defined herein shall have the meanings set forth in the Stock Purchase Agreement.

Upon the Closing, the Company and the Holders, as set forth on Schedule I hereto, have agreed to enter into this Agreement pursuant to which the Company shall grant the Holders registration rights under the Securities Act (as defined below) with respect to the Registrable Securities (as defined below) in furtherance of the foregoing.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, in consideration of the premises and the mutual covenants contained herein and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the Company and the Holders hereby agree as follows:

## AGREEMENT

### ARTICLE I

#### DEFINITIONS

Section 1.1 Definitions. The following terms as used herein shall have the following respective meanings:

“Joinder Agreement” means a Joinder Agreement in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A.

“Agreement” has the meaning set forth in the Preamble.

“Board” means the Board of Directors of the Company.

“Business Day” means any day other than a Saturday, Sunday, a day on which the SEC or state or federally chartered banking institutions in New York City, New York, in each case, are authorized or obligated by law or executive order to close.

“Company” has the meaning set forth in the Preamble.

“Common Stock” shall mean, collectively, the Company’s common stock, par value \$0.01 per share.

“Control,” and its correlative meanings, “Controlling,” and “Controlled,” mean the possession, direct or indirect (Including through one or more intermediaries), of the power to direct or cause the direction of the management of a Person, whether through the ownership of voting securities, by contract or otherwise.

“Demand Holder” means the Anchor Investor.

“Exchange Act” means the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder.

“Excluded Registration” means any registration (i) pursuant to a Shelf Registration completed in accordance with Article II, or (ii) in connection with registrations on Form S-4 or Form S-8 promulgated by the SEC or any successor or similar forms).

“FINRA” means the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority or any successor regulatory authority.

“ Holders” means each Investor as set forth in the Stock Purchase Agreement that is a holder of Registrable Securities being set forth on Schedule I hereto and any Person that executes a Joinder Agreement.

“Person” means any individual, partnership, limited liability company, corporation, company, association, joint stock company, trust, joint venture, unincorporated organization or any governmental entity or any department, agency or political subdivision thereof.

“Prospectus” means the prospectus included in any Registration Statement, as amended or supplemented by any prospectus supplement with respect to the terms of the offering of any portion of the securities covered by such Registration Statement and, in each case, by all other amendments and supplements to such prospectus, including post-effective amendments and, in each case, all material incorporated by reference in such prospectus.

“Registrable Securities” means, with respect to any Holder, at any time, the Purchased Securities at such time; provided, however, that as to any Registrable Securities, such securities shall cease to be Registrable Securities (i) upon the sale or transfer thereof pursuant to an effective registration statement, pursuant to Rule 144 or otherwise, (ii) when such securities cease to be outstanding, or (iii) when such securities may be sold or disposed of by such Holder under Rule 144 (or any similar provisions then in force) without limitation during a three-month period.

“Registration Statement” means any registration statement of the Company filed with the SEC under the Securities Act that covers the Registrable Securities, including any preliminary Prospectus and the Prospectus, amendments and supplements to such registration statement, including post-effective amendments, all exhibits thereto and all material incorporated by reference in such registration statement.

“Rule 144” means Rule 144 under the Securities Act (or successor rule).

“SEC” means the Securities and Exchange Commission or any other U.S. Federal agency at the time administering the Securities Act.

“Securities Act” means the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder.

“Selling Holder” means the Holders selling Registrable Securities pursuant to a Registration Statement under this Agreement.

“Subsidiary” means each Person in which another Person owns or controls, directly or indirectly, capital stock or other equity interests representing more than 50% in voting power of the outstanding capital stock or other equity interests.

“Underwritten Offering” means a sale, on the Company’s or any Holder’s behalf, of Common Stock by the Company or a Holder to an underwriter for reoffering to the public.

## ARTICLE II

### SHELF REGISTRATION

#### Section 2.1 Shelf Registration.

(a) Shelf Filing. The Company shall use its commercial best efforts to file with the SEC and have declared effective, as promptly as practicable following the execution of this Agreement, a registration statement on Form S-3, to the extent permitted and available (and otherwise, on Form S-1), or any comparable or successor form or forms or any similar short-form registration constituting a “shelf” registration statement providing for the registration of, and the sale by the Holders on a continuous or delayed basis of, all of the Registrable Securities, pursuant to Rule 415 or otherwise (a “Shelf Registration Statement”); *provided* that, notwithstanding anything to the contrary, the initial Shelf Registration Statement shall in any event be filed and declared effective no later than 60 days after the date hereof, but in no event more than 75 days following the initial filing (with such 75-day period tolled for any SEC shutdown during such period). The Company shall replace any Shelf Registration Statement at or before expiration with a successor effective registration statement on Form S-3 (or any comparable or successor form or forms or, if the Company is not eligible to file a registration statement on Form S-3, a successor effective registration statement on Form S-1 providing for the registration of, and the sale by the Stockholders on a continuous or delayed basis of, all of the Registrable Securities, pursuant to Rule 415 or otherwise) to the extent the Demand Holder holds any Registrable Securities. Any such successor registration statement shall be considered a “Shelf Registration Statement” for the purposes of this Agreement. In the event the Company files a Shelf Registration Statement on Form S-1, the Company shall use its reasonable best efforts to convert it to a Shelf Registration Statement on Form S-1 to a registration statement on Form S-3 as soon as practicable after the Company is eligible to use Form S-3.

(b) Shelf Take-Downs. Any Holder may initiate an offering or sale of all or part of its Registrable Securities (a “Shelf Take-Down”), in which case the provisions of this Section 2.1 shall apply. Notwithstanding the foregoing:

(i) any such Holder may initiate an unlimited number of Non-Marketed Shelf Take-Downs pursuant to Section 2.1(d) below; and

(ii) the Demand Holder may initiate an Underwritten Offering (including any block trade) (an “Underwritten Shelf Take-Down”) pursuant to Section 2.1(c) below; provided that in each case, (A) the Company shall only be required to effect one (1) Underwritten Shelf Take-Down in any twelve (12) month period and (B) the Registrable Securities proposed to be sold by the Demand Holder in such Underwritten Shelf Take-Down shall be required to (x) have a reasonably anticipated aggregate offering price of at least \$10.0 million before deduction of underwriting discounts and commissions or (y) constitute all remaining Registrable Securities held by the Demand Holder.

(c) Underwritten Shelf Take-Downs.

(i) Subject to Section 2.1(b), if the Demand Holder so elects in a written request delivered to the Company (an “Underwritten Shelf Take-Down Notice”) to effect a Shelf Take-Down in the form of an Underwritten Shelf Take-Down, the Company shall use commercially reasonable efforts to file and effect an amendment or supplement to its Shelf Registration Statement for such purpose as soon as practicable. The Demand Holder shall indicate in such Underwritten Shelf Take-Down Notice the number of Registrable Securities of the Demand Holder to be included in such Underwritten Shelf Take-Down and whether it intends for such Underwritten Shelf Take-Down to involve a customary “roadshow” (including an “electronic roadshow”) or other marketing effort by the Company and the underwriters (a “Marketed Underwritten Shelf Take-Down”).

(ii) Promptly upon receipt of an Underwritten Shelf Take-Down Notice with respect to a Marketed Underwritten Shelf Take-Down (but in no event more than ten (10) days prior to the expected date of such Marketed Underwritten Shelf Take-Down), the Company shall promptly deliver a written notice of such Marketed Underwritten Shelf Take-Down to any Piggyback Eligible Holder (which notice may be by email and shall state that the material terms of such proposed Marketed Underwritten Shelf Take-Down, to the extent known) (a “Company Notice”) and, in each case, subject to Section 2.3(b) and Section 2.5, the Company shall include in such Marketed Underwritten Shelf Take-Down all such Registrable Securities of such Holders for which the Company has received written requests, which requests must specify the aggregate amount of such Registrable Securities of such Holder to be offered and sold pursuant to such Marketed Underwritten Shelf Take-Down, at least three (3) Business Days prior to the expected date of such Marketed Underwritten Shelf Take-Down.

(iii) Subject to Section 2.2(b), if the Demand Holder desires to effect an Underwritten Shelf Take-Down that is not a Marketed Underwritten Shelf Take-Down, the Demand Holder shall provide written notice (a “Shelf Take-Down Notice”) of such Shelf Take-Down to the Company and the Piggyback Eligible Holders as far in advance of the completion of such Shelf Take-Down as shall be reasonably practicable in light of the circumstances applicable to such Shelf Take-Down but no less than five (5) Business Days prior to such Shelf Take-Down. Any Shelf Take-Down Notice shall set forth (A) the total number of Registrable Securities expected to be offered and sold in such Shelf Take-Down, (B) the expected date of such Shelf Take-Down, (C) the expected plan of distribution of such Shelf Take-Down, and (E) both (i) an invitation to the Piggyback Eligible Holders to elect to include in the Shelf Take-Down the Registrable Securities held by such other Holders (but subject to Section 2.3(b) and Section 2.5) and (ii) the action or actions required (including the timing thereof) in connection with such Shelf Take-Down with respect to the other Piggyback Eligible Holders if any such Holder elects to exercise such right. Upon receipt of a Shelf Take-Down Notice, the Piggyback Eligible Holders may elect to sell Registrable Securities in such Shelf Take-Down, at the same price per Registrable Security and pursuant to the same terms and conditions with respect to payment for the Registrable Securities as agreed to by the Demand Holder, by sending, at least two (2) Business Days prior to the expected date of such Shelf Take-Down set forth in such Shelf Take-Down Notice, an irrevocable written notice to the Demand Holder, indicating its election to participate in the Shelf Take-Down and the total number of its Registrable Securities to include in the Shelf Take-Down (but, in all cases, subject to Section 2.3(b) and Section 2.5).

(iv) Notwithstanding the delivery of any Underwritten Shelf Take-Down Notice, all determinations as to whether to complete any Underwritten Shelf Take-Down and as to the timing, manner, price and other terms of any Underwritten Shelf Take-Down shall be at the discretion of the Demand Holder.

(d) Non-Marketed Shelf Take-Downs. If a Holder desires to effect a Shelf Take-Down that does not constitute an Underwritten Shelf Take-Down (a “Non-Marketed Shelf Take-Down”) and if such Non-Marketed Shelf Take-Down requires actions to be taken by the Company, such Holder shall so indicate in a written request delivered to the Company no later than three (3) Business Days prior to the expected date of such Non-Marketed Shelf Take-Down (or such shorter period as the Company may agree), which request shall include (i) the aggregate number and class or classes of Registrable Securities expected to be offered and sold in such Non-Marketed Shelf Take-Down and (ii) the expected plan of distribution of such Non-Marketed Shelf Take-Down.

(e) Continued Effectiveness. The Company shall use commercially reasonable efforts to keep the Shelf Registration Statement filed pursuant to Section 2.1(a) hereof continuously effective under the Securities Act in order to permit the Prospectus forming a part thereof to be usable by a Holder until the earlier of (i) the date as of which all Registrable Securities registered by such Shelf Registration Statement have been sold and (ii) such shorter period as Holders holding a majority of the Registrable Securities may reasonably determine.

(f) Subsequent Shelf Registrations. If any Shelf Registration Statement ceases to be effective for any reason at any time during the period described in Section 2.1(e), the Company shall use commercially reasonable efforts to obtain the prompt withdrawal of any order suspending the effectiveness thereof, and in any event shall within thirty (30) days of such cessation of effectiveness amend such Shelf Registration Statement in a manner designed to obtain the withdrawal of the order suspending the effectiveness thereof, or file an additional shelf registration statement pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act (or any similar provision then in force) covering all of the Registrable Securities covered by and not sold under the Shelf Registration Statement (a “Subsequent Shelf Registration Statement”). If a Subsequent Shelf Registration Statement is filed, the Company shall use commercially reasonable efforts to cause the Subsequent Shelf Registration Statement to be declared effective as soon as practicable after such filing. As used herein the term “Shelf Registration Statement” means the Shelf Registration Statement referenced in Section 2.1(a) and any Subsequent Shelf Registration Statements.

Section 2.2 Deferral or Suspension of Registration. If (a) the Company receives a written request from a Holder for a Shelf Take-Down and the Board, in its good faith judgment, determines that it would be materially adverse to the Company for such Shelf Take-Down to be effected, because such action would: (i) materially interfere with a significant acquisition or disposition, corporate reorganization, financing, securities offering or other similar transaction involving the Company; (ii) based on the advice of the Company's outside counsel, require disclosure of material non-public information that the Company has a *bona fide* business purpose for preserving as confidential; or (iii) render the Company unable to comply with requirements under the Securities Act or the Exchange Act or Nasdaq, or (b) the Company is subject to an SEC stop order suspending the effectiveness of any Registration Statement or the initiation of proceedings with respect to such Registration Statement under Section 8(d) or 8(e) of the Securities Act, then the Company shall have the right to defer such Shelf Take-Down (but not the preparation) therein for a period of not more than sixty (60) days (or such longer period as the Demand Holder may determine). Unless consented to in writing by the Demand Holder, the Company may utilize its deferral or suspension rights provided under this Section 2.2 for no more than forty-five (45) days in the aggregate in any six (6) month period and for no more than ninety (90) days in the aggregate in any twelve (12) month period.

Section 2.3 Selection of Underwriters; Cutback.

(a) Selection of Underwriters. If the Demand Holder intends to offer and sell the Registrable Securities covered by its request under this Article II by means of an Underwritten Shelf Take-Down, the Demand Holder shall select the managing underwriter or underwriters to administer such offering, which managing underwriter or underwriters shall be investment banking firms of nationally recognized standing and shall be reasonably acceptable to the Company, such acceptance not to be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed.

(b) Underwriter's Cutback. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Article II or Section 3.2, if the managing underwriter or underwriters of an Underwritten Shelf Take-Down advise the Company in their good faith opinion that the inclusion of all such Registrable Securities proposed to be included in the Underwritten Shelf Take-Down would be reasonably likely to interfere with the successful marketing, including, but not limited to, the pricing, timing or distribution, of the Registrable Securities to be offered in such Underwritten Shelf Take-Down, then the number of Registrable Securities proposed to be included in such Underwritten Shelf Take-Down shall be allocated among the Company, the Selling Holders and all other Persons selling Registrable Securities in such Underwritten Shelf Take-Down in the following order:

(i) *first*, the Registrable Securities of the class or classes proposed to be registered held by the Demand Holder and the Registrable Securities of the same class or classes (or convertible at the Holder's option into such class or classes) held by other Holders requested to be included in such Underwritten Shelf Take-Down (allocated, if necessary, *pro rata* among the respective Holders of such Registrable Securities in proportion, as nearly as practicable, to the amounts of Registrable Securities owned by each such Holder);

(ii) *second*, all other securities of the same class or classes (or convertible at the holder's option into such class or classes) requested to be included in such Underwritten Shelf Take-Down other than securities to be sold by the Company; and

(iii) *third*, the securities of the same class or classes to be sold by the Company.

No Registrable Securities excluded from the underwriting by reason of the underwriter's marketing limitation shall be included in such registration or offering. If the underwriter has not limited the number of Registrable Securities to be underwritten, the Company may include securities for its own account (or for the account of any other Persons) in such registration if the underwriter so agrees and if the number of Registrable Securities would not thereby be limited.

Section 2.4 Lock-up. If requested by the managing underwriters in connection with any Underwritten Shelf Take-Down, each Holder who is either (i) participating in the Underwritten Shelf Take-Down or (ii) is a natural person and serving as a director or executive officer of the Company shall agree to be bound by customary lock-up agreements providing that such Holder shall not, directly or indirectly, effect any Transfer (including sales pursuant to Rule 144) of any such Common Stock without prior written consent from the underwriters managing such Underwritten Shelf Take-Down during a period beginning on the date of launch of such Underwritten Offering and ending up to ninety (90) days from and including the date of pricing or such shorter period as reasonably requested by the underwriters managing such Underwritten Shelf Take-Down (the "Lock-Up Period"); provided that (A) the foregoing shall not apply to any shares of Common Stock that are offered for sale as part of such Underwritten Offering and (B) such Lock-Up Period shall be no longer than and on substantially the same terms as the lock-up period applicable to the Company or its directors and executive officers. Each such Holder agrees to execute a customary lock-up agreement in favor of the underwriters to such effect.

Section 2.5 Participation in Underwritten Offering; Information by Holder. No Holder may participate in an Underwritten Shelf Take-Down hereunder unless such Holder (a) agrees to sell such Holder's Common Stock on the basis provided in any underwriting arrangements, and in accordance with the terms and provisions of this Agreement, including, for the avoidance of doubt, any lock-up arrangements, and (b) completes and executes all questionnaires, indemnities, underwriting agreements and other documents reasonably required under the terms of such underwriting arrangements. In addition, the Holders shall furnish to the Company such information regarding such Holder or Holders and the distribution proposed by such Holders, as applicable, as the Company may reasonably request in writing and as shall be required in connection with any registration, qualification or compliance referred to in this Article II. Nothing in this Section 2.5 shall be construed to create any additional rights regarding the registration of Common Stock in any Person otherwise than as set forth herein.

Section 2.6 Registration Expenses. All expenses incident to the Company's performance of or compliance with this Agreement, including without limitation (i) all registration and filing fees, and any other fees and expenses associated with filings required to be made with any stock exchange, the SEC and FINRA (including, if applicable, the reasonable fees and expenses of any "qualified independent underwriter" and its counsel as may be required by the rules and regulations of FINRA), (ii) all fees and expenses of compliance with state securities or blue sky laws (including fees and disbursements of counsel for the underwriters or Selling Holders in connection with blue sky qualifications of the Common Stock and determination of their eligibility for investment under the laws of such jurisdictions as the managing underwriters or the Demand Holder may designate), (iii) all printing and related messenger and delivery expenses (including expenses of printing certificates for the Common Stock in a form eligible for deposit with The Depository Trust Company and of printing prospectuses), (iv) all fees and disbursements of counsel for the Company and of all independent certified public accountants of the Company and its Subsidiaries (including the expenses of any special audit and "cold comfort" letters required by or incident to such performance), (v) all fees and expenses incurred in connection with the listing of the Common Stock on any securities exchange and (vi) all reasonable fees and documented out-of-pocket disbursements of underwriters customarily paid by the issuer or sellers of securities, including expenses of any special experts retained, if required, in connection with the requested registration (excluding underwriting discounts and commissions and transfer taxes, if any, and fees and disbursements of counsel to underwriters (other than such fees and disbursements incurred in connection with any registration or qualification of Common Stock under the securities or blue sky laws of any state)), will be borne by the Company; provided, however, that (x) any underwriting discounts, commissions or fees in connection with the sale of the Registrable Securities will be borne by the Holders *pro rata* on the basis of the number of Common Stock so registered and sold, (y) transfer taxes with respect to the sale of Registrable Securities will be borne by the Holder of such Registrable Securities and (z) the fees and expenses of any counsel, accountants or other persons retained or employed by any Holder will be borne by such Holder.

### ARTICLE III

#### PIGGYBACK REGISTRATION

##### Section 3.1 Notices.

(a) If the Company at any time proposes for any reason to register the sale of securities for cash under the Securities Act through an Underwritten Offering (other than an Excluded Registration) whether or not securities are to be sold by the Company or otherwise (such registration, a "Piggyback Registration"), the Company shall give to the Demand Holder and each Holder holding Registrable Securities equal to or more than 10% of the outstanding shares of the Common Stock immediately prior to the time of such proposed offering of the same class or classes proposed to be registered (or convertible at the Holder's option into such class or classes) eligible to participate in such Piggyback Registration (any such Holder, a "Piggyback Eligible Holders") written notice of its intention to so register the securities, at least ten (10) Business Days prior to the expected date of filing of such Registration Statement or amendment thereto in which the Company first intends to identify the selling stockholders and the number of and type of securities to be sold (each such notice, an "Initial Notice"), to each Holder. The Company shall, subject to the provisions of Section 3.2 and Section 3.3 below, use commercially reasonable efforts to include in such Piggyback Registration on the same terms and conditions as the securities otherwise being sold, all Registrable Securities of the same class or classes as the securities proposed to be registered (or convertible at the Holder's option into such class or classes) with respect to which the Company has received written requests from Holders for inclusion therein within the time period specified by the Company in the applicable Initial Notice, which time period shall be not less than five (5) Business Days after sending the applicable Initial Notice (each such written request, a "Piggyback Notice"), which Piggyback Notice shall specify the number of, and the class or classes, of Registrable Securities proposed to be included in the Piggyback Registration.

(b) If a Holder does not deliver a Piggyback Notice within the period specified in Section 3.1(a), such Holder shall be deemed to have irrevocably waived any and all rights under this Article III with respect to such registration (but not with respect to future registrations in accordance with this Article III).

(c) No registration effected under this Section 3.1 shall relieve the Company of its obligation to effect any registration upon request under Section 2.1 hereof, and no registration effected pursuant to this Section 3.1 shall be deemed to have been effected pursuant to Section 2.1 hereof. The Initial Notice, the Piggyback Notice and the contents thereof shall be kept confidential until the public filing of the Registration Statement.

Section 3.2 Underwriter's Cutback. If the managing underwriter of an Underwritten Offering that includes a Piggyback Registration advises the Company that it is the managing underwriter's good faith opinion that the inclusion of all such Registrable Securities proposed to be included in the Registration Statement for such Underwritten Offering would be reasonably likely to interfere with the successful marketing, including, but not limited to, the pricing, timing or distribution, of the Registrable Securities to be offered thereby, then the number of securities proposed to be included in such Underwritten Offering shall be allocated among the Company, the Selling Holders and all other Persons selling securities in such Underwritten Offering in the following order:

(a) If the Piggyback Registration referred to in Section 3.1 is initiated as an underwritten primary registration on behalf of the Company, then, with respect to each class proposed to be registered:

(i) *first*, the securities held by the Company of the class or classes proposed to be registered that the Company proposes to sell, as applicable;

(ii) *second*, all Registrable Securities of the same class or classes (or convertible at the Holder's option into such class or classes) held by Holders requested to be included in such Piggyback Registration (allocated, if necessary, *pro rata* among the respective Holders of such Registrable Securities in proportion, as nearly as practicable, to the amounts of Registrable Securities owned by each such Holder at the time of such Piggyback Registration); and

(iii) *third*, all other securities of the same class or classes (or convertible at the holder's option into such class or classes) requested to be included in such Piggyback Registration.

(b) if the Piggyback Registration referred to in Section 3.1 is an underwritten secondary registration on behalf of any holder of securities other than a Holder, then, with respect to each class proposed to be registered:

(i) *first*, the securities of the class or classes proposed to be registered held by such holder;

(ii) *second*, the Registrable Securities of the same class or classes (or convertible at the Holder's option into such class or classes) held by Holders requested to be included in such Piggyback Registration (*pro rata* among the respective Holders of such Registrable Securities in proportion, as nearly as practicable, to the amounts of Registrable Securities owned by each such Holder at the time of such Piggyback Registration);

(iii) *third*, all other securities of the same class or classes (or convertible at the holder's option into such class or classes) requested to be included in such Piggyback Registration other than Common Stock to be sold by the Company; and

(iv) *fourth*, the Common Stock to be sold by the Company.

Section 3.3 Company Control. The Company may decline to file a Registration Statement for a primary registration on behalf of the Company after an Initial Notice has been given or after receipt by the Company of a Piggyback Notice, and the Company may withdraw a Registration Statement after filing and after such Initial Notice or Piggyback Notice, but prior to the effectiveness of the Registration Statement, provided that the Company shall promptly notify the Selling Holders in writing of any such action and.

Section 3.4 Selection of Underwriters. If the Company intends to offer and sell Common Stock by means of an Underwritten Offering (other than an offering pursuant to Section 2.1), the Company shall select the managing underwriter or underwriters to administer such Underwritten Offering, which managing underwriter or underwriters shall be investment banking firms of nationally recognized standing.

Section 3.5 Withdrawal of Registration. Any Holder shall have the right to withdraw all or a part of its Piggyback Notice by giving written notice to the Company of such withdrawal at least three (3) Business Days prior to the earliest of (i) effectiveness of the applicable Registration Statement, (ii) the filing of any Registration Statement relating to such Piggyback Registration that includes a price range or (iii) commencement of a "roadshow" relating to the Registration Statement for such Piggyback Registration.

## ARTICLE IV

### REGISTRATION PROCEDURES

Section 4.1 Registration Procedures. If and whenever the Company is under an obligation pursuant to the provisions of this Agreement to use commercially reasonable efforts to effect the registration of any Registrable Securities, the Company shall, as expeditiously as practicable:

(a) in the case of Registrable Securities, use commercially reasonable efforts to cause a Registration Statement that registers such Registrable Securities to become and remain effective for a period of 180 days or, if earlier, until all of such Registrable Securities covered thereby have been disposed of; provided, that, such 180-day period shall be extended, if necessary, to keep the Registration Statement continuously effective, supplemented and amended, including by filing a new Registration Statement, to the extent necessary to ensure that it is available for sales of such Registrable Securities, and to ensure that it conforms with the requirements of this Agreement, the Securities Act and the policies, rules and regulations of the SEC as announced from time to time, until the Selling Holders have sold all of such Registrable Securities.

(b) furnish to each Holder at least ten (10) Business Days before filing a Registration Statement copies of such Registration Statement or any amendments or supplements thereto, which documents shall be subject to the review, comment and approval by one lead counsel (and any reasonably necessary local counsel) selected by the Holders who Beneficially Own a majority of such Registrable Securities included in such registration, which counsel (who may also be counsel to the Company), in each case, shall be subject to the reasonable approval of the Demand Holder, and who shall represent all Holders as a group (the “Selling Holders’ Counsel”) (it being understood that such ten (10) Business Day period need not apply to successive drafts of the same document proposed to be filed so long as such successive drafts are supplied to the Selling Holders’ Counsel in advance of the proposed filing by a period of time that is customary and reasonable under the circumstances);

(c) furnish to each Selling Holder and each underwriter, if any, such number of copies of final conformed versions of the applicable Registration Statement and of each amendment and supplement thereto (in each case including all exhibits and any documents incorporated by reference) reasonably requested by such Selling Holder or underwriter in writing;

(d) in the case of Registrable Securities, prepare and file with the SEC such amendments, including post-effective amendments, and supplements to such Registration Statement and the applicable Prospectus or Prospectus supplement, including any free writing prospectus as defined in Rule 405 under the Securities Act, used in connection therewith as may be (i) reasonably requested by any Holder (to the extent such request relates to information relating to such Selling Holder), or (ii) necessary to keep such Registration Statement effective for at least the period specified in Section 4.1(a) and to comply with the provisions of this Agreement and the Securities Act with respect to the sale or other disposition of such Registrable Securities, and furnish to each Selling Holder and to the managing underwriter(s), if any, within a reasonable period of time prior to the filing thereof a copy of any amendment or supplement to such Registration Statement or Prospectus; provided, however, that, with respect to each free writing prospectus or other materials to be delivered to purchasers at the time of sale of the Registrable Securities, the Company shall (i) ensure that no Registrable Securities are sold “by means of” (as defined in Rule 159A(b) under the Securities Act) such free writing prospectus or other materials without the prior written consent of the sellers of the Registrable Securities, which free writing prospectus or other materials shall be subject to the review of counsel to such sellers and (ii) make all required filings of all free writing prospectuses or other materials with the SEC as are required;

(e) notify in writing the designated Selling Holders’ Counsel promptly (i) of the receipt by the Company of any notification with respect to any comments by the SEC with respect to such Registration Statement or any amendment or supplement thereto or any request by the SEC for the amending or supplementing thereof or for additional information with respect thereto, (ii) of the receipt by the Company of any notification with respect to the issuance by the SEC of any stop order suspending the effectiveness of such Registration Statement or any amendment or supplement thereto or the initiation or threatening of any proceeding for that purpose and (iii) of the receipt by the Company of any notification with respect to the suspension of the qualification of such Registrable Securities for sale in any jurisdiction or the initiation or threatening of any proceeding for such purposes and, in any such case as promptly as reasonably practicable thereafter, prepare and file an amendment or supplement to such Registration Statement or Prospectus which will correct such statement or omission or effect such compliance;

(f) use commercially reasonable efforts to register or qualify such Registrable Securities under such other securities or blue sky laws of such jurisdictions as the Selling Holders reasonably request and do any and all other acts and things which may be reasonably necessary or advisable to enable such Selling Holders to consummate their disposition in such jurisdictions; provided, however, that the Company will not be required to qualify generally to do business, subject itself to general taxation or consent to general service of process in any jurisdiction where it would not otherwise be required to do so but for this Section 4.1(f);

(g) furnish to each Selling Holder such number of copies of a summary Prospectus or other prospectus, including a preliminary prospectus and any other prospectus filed under Rule 424 under the Securities Act, in conformity with the requirements of the Securities Act, and such other documents as such Selling Holders or any underwriter may reasonably request in writing;

(h) notify on a timely basis each Selling Holder of such Registrable Securities at any time when a prospectus relating to such Registrable Securities is required to be delivered under the Securities Act, of the happening of any event as a result of which the Prospectus included in such Registration Statement, as then in effect, includes an untrue statement of a material fact or omits to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading in light of the circumstances then existing and, at the request of such Selling Holder, as soon as practicable prepare, file with the SEC and furnish to such Selling Holder a reasonable number of copies of a supplement to or an amendment of such Prospectus as may be necessary so that, as thereafter delivered to the offeree of such securities, such Prospectus shall not include an untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading in light of the circumstances then existing;

(i) make available for inspection by the Selling Holders' Counsel or any underwriter participating in any disposition pursuant to such Registration Statement and any attorney, accountant or other agent retained by any such Selling Holder or underwriter (collectively, the "Inspectors"), all pertinent financial and other records, pertinent corporate documents and properties of the Company (collectively, the "Records"), as shall be necessary to enable them to exercise their due diligence responsibility, and cause the Company's officers, managers and employees to supply all information (together with the Records, the "Information") requested by any such Inspector in connection with such Registration Statement and request that the independent public accountants who have certified the Company's financial statements make themselves available, at reasonable times and for reasonable periods, to discuss the business of the Company. Any of the Information which the Company determines in good faith and upon consultation with external counsel to be confidential, and of which determination the Inspectors are so notified, shall not be disclosed by the Inspectors unless (i) the disclosure of such Information is necessary to avoid or correct a misstatement or omission in the Registration Statement, (ii) the release of such Information is requested or required pursuant to a subpoena, order from a court of competent jurisdiction or other interrogatory by a governmental entity or similar process; (iii) such Information has been made generally available to the public; or (iv) such Information is or becomes available to such Inspector on a non-confidential basis other than through the breach of an obligation of confidentiality (contractual or otherwise). The Holder(s) of Registrable Securities agree that they will, upon learning that disclosure of such Information is sought in a court of competent jurisdiction or by another governmental entity, give notice to the Company and allow the Company, at the Company's expense, to undertake appropriate action to prevent disclosure of the Information deemed confidential;

(j) deliver to the underwriters of any Underwritten Offering, and any Holder that is named as an underwriter in such offering, a “comfort” letter addressed thereto in customary form and at customary times and covering matters of the type customarily covered by such comfort letters from its independent certified public accountants;

(k) deliver to the underwriters of any Underwritten Offering, and any Holder that is named as an underwriter in such offering, a written and signed legal opinion or opinions addressed thereto in customary form from its outside or in-house legal counsel dated the closing date of the Underwritten Offering;

(l) provide a transfer agent and registrar (which may be the same entity and which may be the Company) for such Registrable Securities and deliver to such transfer agent and registrar such customary forms, legal opinions from its outside or in-house legal counsel, agreements and other documentation as such transfer agent and/or registrar so request;

(m) issue to any underwriter to which any Selling Holders may sell Registrable Securities in such offering certificates, or if the Registrable Securities are uncertificated other evidence of issuance, evidencing such Registrable Securities;

(n) upon the request of any Selling Holder of the Registrable Securities included in such registration, use commercially reasonable efforts to cause such Registrable Securities to be listed on Nasdaq;

(o) otherwise use commercially reasonable efforts to comply with all applicable rules and regulations of the SEC;

(p) notify the Selling Holders and the lead underwriter or underwriters, if any, and (if requested) confirm such advice in writing (email being sufficient), as promptly as reasonably practicable after notice thereof is received by the Company when the applicable Registration Statement or any amendment thereto has been filed or becomes effective and when the applicable Prospectus or any amendment or supplement thereto has been filed;

(q) use commercially reasonable efforts to prevent the entry of, and use commercially reasonable efforts to obtain as promptly as reasonably practicable the withdrawal of, any stop order with respect to the applicable Registration Statement or other order suspending the use of any preliminary or final Prospectus;

(r) promptly incorporate in a prospectus supplement or post-effective amendment to the applicable Registration Statement such information as the lead underwriter or underwriters, if any, and each Selling Holder agree should be included therein relating to the plan of distribution with respect to such class of Registrable Securities, which may include disposition of Registrable Securities by all lawful means, including firm-commitment underwritten public offerings, block trades, agented transactions, sales directly into the market, purchases or sales by brokers, derivative transactions, short sales, stock loan or stock pledge transactions and sales not involving a public offering; and make all required filings of such prospectus supplement or post-effective amendment as promptly as reasonably practicable after being notified of the matters to be incorporated in such prospectus supplement or post-effective amendment;

(s) cooperate with each Selling Holder and each underwriter or agent, if any, participating in the disposition of such Registrable Securities and their respective counsel in connection with any filings required to be made with FINRA;

(t) provide a CUSIP number or numbers for all such units, in each case not later than the effective date of the applicable Registration Statement;

(u) to the extent reasonably requested by the lead or managing underwriters in connection with an Underwritten Offering (including an Underwritten Offering pursuant to Section 2.1) make appropriate officers of the Company available to attend any electronic “roadshows” scheduled in connection with any such Underwritten Offering, with all reasonable out of pocket costs and expenses incurred by the Company or such officers in connection with such attendance to be paid by the Company;

(v) upon request, promptly and no more than three (3) Business Days following any request (subject to the customary receipt of a shareholder representation letter from the Holder and customary procedures of the transfer agent), remove all legends on such Selling Holder’s Registrable Securities relating to the restrictions on resale in connection with the sale of such Registrable Securities pursuant to an effective Registration Statement; and

(w) subject to all the other provisions of this Agreement, use commercially reasonable efforts to take all other steps necessary to effect the registration, marketing and sale of such Registrable Securities contemplated hereby.

## ARTICLE V

### INDEMNIFICATION

Section 5.1 Indemnification by the Company. The Company agrees to indemnify and hold harmless, to the full extent permitted by law, each Holder, its Affiliates and their respective officers, directors, managers, partners, members and representatives, and each of their respective successors and assigns, and each Person who controls any of the foregoing (within the meaning of Section 15 of the Securities Act and Section 20 of the Exchange Act), against any losses, claims, damages, liabilities, expenses, actions or proceedings caused by any violation by the Company of the Securities Act or the Exchange Act applicable to the Company and relating to action or inaction required of the Company in connection with the registration contemplated by a Registration Statement or any untrue or alleged untrue statement of a material fact contained in any Registration Statement, Prospectus, preliminary Prospectus, free writing prospectus (as defined in Rule 405 under the Securities Act or any successor rule thereto) or any amendment thereof or supplement thereto, or any other disclosure document (including reports and other documents filed under the Exchange Act and any document incorporated by reference therein) or any omission or alleged omission to state therein a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein (in the case of any Prospectus, preliminary Prospectus, free writing prospectus or any amendment thereof or supplement thereto, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made) not misleading, or a Selling Holder being deemed to be an “underwriter,” as defined in Section 2(a)(11) of the Securities Act, and will reimburse each such Person for any legal or other expenses reasonably incurred by them in connection with investigating or defending any such losses, claims, damages, liabilities, expenses, actions or proceedings; provided, however, that the Company shall not be liable in any such case to the extent that any such losses, claims, damages, liabilities, expenses, actions or proceedings arise out of or are based upon an untrue statement or alleged untrue statement or omission or alleged omission made in any Registration Statement, Prospectus, preliminary Prospectus, free writing prospectus or any amendment thereof or supplement thereto in reliance upon and in conformity with information furnished to the Company in writing by the Person asserting such loss, claim, damage, liability, expense, action or proceeding specifically for use therein. Such indemnity shall remain in full force and effect regardless of any investigation made by or on behalf of any such Person and shall survive the transfer of such securities. The Company will also indemnify underwriters, selling brokers, dealer managers and similar securities industry professionals participating in the distribution, their officers and directors and each Person who Controls such Persons to the same extent as provided above with respect to the indemnification of the Holder, if requested.

Section 5.2 Indemnification by Holders. Each Holder agrees to indemnify and hold harmless, to the fullest extent permitted by law, the Company, the Company's Controlled Affiliates and their respective directors, managers, partners, members and representatives, and each of their respective successors and assigns, and each Person who controls the Company (within the meaning of Section 15 of the Securities Act and Section 20 of the Exchange Act) against any losses, claims, damages, liabilities, expenses, actions or proceedings caused by any untrue or alleged untrue statement of a material fact contained in any Registration Statement, Prospectus, preliminary Prospectus, free writing prospectus or any amendment thereof or supplement thereto or any omission or alleged omission to state therein a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein (in the case of any Prospectus or any amendment thereof or supplement thereto, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made) not misleading, to the extent, but only to the extent, that such untrue statement or omission was made in reliance on and in conformity with any information furnished in writing by such Holder to the Company expressly for inclusion in such Registration Statement and has not been corrected in a subsequent writing prior to or concurrently with the sale of the Registrable Securities to the Person asserting such loss, claim, damage, liability, expense, action or proceeding; provided that the obligation to indemnify shall be several, not joint and several, for each Holder and in no event shall the liability of any Holder hereunder be greater in amount than the dollar amount of the net proceeds received by such Holder upon the sale of the Registrable Securities giving rise to such indemnification obligation.

Section 5.3 Conduct of Indemnification Proceedings. Any Person entitled to indemnification hereunder will (i) give prompt (but in any event within 30 days after such Person has actual knowledge of the facts constituting the basis for indemnification) written notice to the indemnifying party of any claim with respect to which it seeks indemnification and (ii) permit such indemnifying party to assume the defense of such claim with counsel reasonably satisfactory to the indemnified party; provided, however, that any delay or failure to so notify the indemnifying party shall relieve the indemnifying party of its obligations hereunder only to the extent, if at all, that it is materially and adversely prejudiced by reason of such delay or failure. Any Person entitled to indemnification hereunder shall have the right to select and employ separate counsel and to participate in the defense of such claim, but the fees and expenses of such counsel shall be at the expense of such Person unless (a) the indemnifying party has agreed in writing to pay such fees or expenses, (b) the indemnifying party shall have failed to assume the defense of such claim within a reasonable time after receipt of notice of such claim from the Person entitled to indemnification hereunder and employ counsel reasonably satisfactory to such Person, (c) the indemnified party has reasonably concluded, based on the advice of counsel, that there may be legal defenses available to it or other indemnified parties that are different from or in addition to those available to the indemnifying party or (d) in the reasonable judgment of any such Person, based upon advice of counsel, a conflict of interest may exist between such Person and the indemnifying party with respect to such claims (in which case, if such Person notifies the indemnifying party in writing that such Person elects to employ separate counsel at the expense of the indemnifying party, the indemnifying party shall not have the right to assume the defense of such claim on behalf of such Person). The indemnifying party will not be subject to any liability for any settlement made without its consent (but such consent will not be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed). No indemnifying party shall, without the prior written consent of the indemnified party, effect any settlement of any pending or threatened action or claim in respect of which any indemnified party is or could have been a party and indemnity could have been sought hereunder by such indemnified party unless such settlement (i) includes an unconditional release of such indemnified party from all liability on any claims that are the subject matter of such action, (ii) does not include a statement as to or an admission of fault, culpability or failure to act by or on behalf of any indemnified party, (iii) does not commit any indemnified party to take, or hold back from taking, any action, and does not impose any specific performance or injunctive or other equitable relief or other non-monetary remedy on any indemnified party, and (iv) by its terms obligates the indemnifying party to pay the full amount of monetary damages arising out of, related to, or in connection with such claim and does not require the indemnified party to pay any amount. No indemnified party shall, without the written consent of the indemnifying party, effect the settlement or compromise of, or consent to the entry of any judgment with respect to, any pending or threatened action or claim in respect of which indemnification or contribution may be sought hereunder, and no indemnifying party shall be liable for any settlement or compromise of any such action or claim effected without its consent, in each case which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld.

Section 5.4 Settlement Offers. Whenever the indemnified party or the indemnifying party receives a firm offer to settle a claim for which indemnification is sought hereunder, it shall promptly notify the other of such offer. If the indemnifying party refuses to accept such offer within 20 Business Days after receipt of such offer (or of notice thereof), such claim shall continue to be contested and, if such claim is within the scope of the indemnifying party's indemnity contained herein, the indemnified party shall be indemnified pursuant to the terms hereof. An indemnifying party who is not entitled to, or elects not to, assume the defense of a claim will not be obligated to pay the fees and expenses of more than one counsel for all parties indemnified by such indemnifying party with respect to such claim in any one jurisdiction, unless in the written opinion of counsel to the indemnified party, reasonably satisfactory to the indemnifying party, use of one counsel would be expected to give rise to a conflict of interest between such indemnified party and any other of such indemnified parties with respect to such claim, in which event the indemnifying party shall be obligated to pay the fees and expenses of one additional counsel.

Section 5.5 Other Indemnification. Indemnification similar to that specified in this Article V (with appropriate modifications) shall be given by the Company and each Selling Holder with respect to any required registration or other qualification of Registrable Securities under Federal or state law or regulation of governmental authority other than the Securities Act.

Section 5.6 Contribution. If for any reason the indemnification provided for in Section 5.1 or Section 5.2 is unavailable to an indemnified party or insufficient to hold it harmless as contemplated by Section 5.1 and Section 5.2, then (i) the indemnifying party shall contribute to the amount paid or payable by the indemnified party as a result of such loss, claim, damage or liability in such proportion as is appropriate to reflect the relative fault of the indemnified party and the indemnifying party or (ii) if the allocation provided by clause (i) above is not permitted by applicable law, in such proportion as shall be appropriate to reflect the relative benefits received by the Company, on the one hand, and such prospective sellers, on the other hand, from their sale of the Registrable Securities, provided that, no Selling Holder shall be required to contribute in an amount greater than the dollar amount of the net proceeds received by such Selling Holder with respect to the sale of the Registrable Securities giving rise to such indemnification obligation. The amount paid or payable by an indemnified party as a result of the losses, claims, damages, liabilities, or expenses (or actions in respect thereof) referred to above shall be deemed to include any legal or other fees or expenses reasonably incurred by such indemnified party in connection with investigating or, except as provided in Section 5.3, defending any such action or claim. No Person guilty of fraudulent misrepresentation (within the meaning of Section 11(f) of the Securities Act) shall be entitled to contribution from any Person who was not guilty of such fraudulent misrepresentation. The Holders' obligations in this Section 5.6 to contribute shall be several in proportion to the amount of Registrable Securities registered by them and not joint.

## ARTICLE VI

### EXCHANGE ACT COMPLIANCE

Section 6.1 Exchange Act Compliance. So long as the Company (a) has registered a class of securities under Section 12 or Section 15 of the Exchange Act and (b) files reports under Section 13 of the Exchange Act, then the Company shall use commercially reasonable efforts to enable Holders to sell Registrable Securities without registration under the Securities Act within the limitation of the exemptions provided by Rule 144 under the Securities Act, as such rule may be amended from time to time or any similar rules or regulations adopted by the SEC, including, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, (i) making and keeping current public information available, as those terms are understood and defined in Rule 144 promulgated under the Securities Act and (ii) filing with the SEC in a timely manner all reports and other documents required of the Company under the Exchange Act to the extent so required.

## ARTICLE VII

### MISCELLANEOUS

Section 7.1 Severability. If any provision of this Agreement is adjudicated by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, prohibited or unenforceable for any reason, such provision, as to such jurisdiction, shall be ineffective, without invalidating the remaining provisions of this Agreement or affecting the validity or enforceability of such provision in any other jurisdiction. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if such provision could be more narrowly drawn so as not to be invalid, prohibited or unenforceable in such jurisdiction, it shall, as to such jurisdiction, be so narrowly drawn, without invalidating the remaining provisions of this Agreement or affecting the validity or enforceability of such provision in any other jurisdiction.

Section 7.2 Governing Law; Jurisdiction; Waiver of Jury Trial. This Agreement shall be governed by and construed and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the State of Delaware irrespective of the choice of laws principles thereof. The parties agree that any legal action or proceeding regarding this Agreement shall be brought and determined exclusively in a state or federal court located within the State of Delaware. EACH PARTY TO THIS AGREEMENT HEREBY IRREVOCABLY AND UNCONDITIONALLY WAIVES ALL RIGHT TO TRIAL BY JURY IN ANY ACTION, PROCEEDING, CLAIM OR COUNTERCLAIM ARISING OUT OF OR RELATING TO THIS AGREEMENT OR THE TRANSACTIONS CONTEMPLATED HEREBY.

Section 7.3 (Reserved.)

Section 7.4 Successors and Assigns. The Company may not assign any of its rights or delegate any of its duties hereunder without the prior written consent of the Demand Holder. No Holder may not assign any of its rights or delegate any of its duties hereunder without the prior written consent of the Company.

Section 7.5 Notices. All notices, requests, consents and other communications hereunder to any party shall be deemed to be sufficient if delivered in writing in person, by electronic mail, or sent by nationally-recognized overnight courier postage prepaid (with a copy of such communication sent by electronic mail), addressed to such party at the address set forth below or at such other address as may hereafter be designated in writing by such party to the other parties. All such notices, requests, consents and other communications shall be delivered as follows:

(a) if to the Company, to:

Lee Enterprises, Incorporated  
4600 E. 53<sup>rd</sup> Street  
Davenport, IA  
Attn: Astrid Garcia  
Email: astrid.garcia@lee.net

with copies (which shall not constitute notice) to:

Kirkland & Ellis LLP  
601 Lexington Avenue  
New York, NY 10022  
Attn: Drew Maliniak  
Tel: (212) 390-4441  
Email: drew.maliniak@kirkland.com

Lane & Waterman LLP  
220 North Main Street, Suite 600  
Davenport, Iowa 52801  
Attn: T.F. Olt III, Esq.  
Tel: (563) 324-3246  
Email: tolt@L-WLaw.com

- (b) if to a Holder, to the address or e-mail address set forth under such Holder's name in Schedule I attached hereto.

All such notices, requests, consents and other communications shall be deemed to have been received (i) in the case of personal delivery or delivery by electronic mail, on the date of such delivery and (ii) in the case of dispatch by nationally recognized overnight courier, on the next Business Day following such dispatch.

Section 7.6 Headings. The headings contained in this Agreement are for the sole purpose of convenience of reference, and shall not in any way limit or affect the meaning or interpretation of any of the terms or provisions of this Agreement.

Section 7.7 Additional Parties. Additional parties to this Agreement shall only include each Holder who has executed a Joinder Agreement, in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A.

Section 7.8 Adjustments. If, and as often as, there are any changes in the Common Stock or securities convertible into or exchangeable into or exercisable for Common Stock as a result of any reclassification, recapitalization, stock split (including a reverse stock split) or subdivision or combination, exchange or readjustment of shares or units, or any stock dividend or stock distribution, merger or other similar transaction affecting such Common Stock or such securities, appropriate adjustment shall be made in the provisions of this Agreement, as may be required, so that the rights, privileges, duties and obligations hereunder shall continue with respect to such Common Stock or such securities as so changed.

Section 7.9 Entire Agreement. This Agreement and the other writings referred to herein constitute the entire agreement among the parties hereto with respect to the subject matter hereof and supersedes all prior agreements and understandings, oral or written, with respect to such subject matter.

Section 7.10 (Reserved.)

Section 7.11 Counterparts; .pdf Signature. This Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original instrument, but all of which together shall constitute one and the same document. This Agreement may be executed by .pdf signature (or similar means), and a .pdf signature (or similar means, including DocuSign) shall constitute an original for all purposes. No party hereto or to any such agreement or instrument will raise the use of electronic mail to deliver a signature or the fact that any signature or agreement or instrument was transmitted or communicated through the use of electronic mail as a defense to the formation or enforceability of a contract and each such party forever waives any such defense.

Section 7.12 Amendment. Other than with respect to amendments to Schedule I attached hereto, which may be amended by the Company from time to time to reflect the Holders at such time, this Agreement (including this Section 7.12) may not be amended, modified, supplemented or any provision hereof waived without the written consent of the Holders of at least a majority of the Registrable Securities; provided, however, that any party may give a waiver as to itself; provided further, however that no amendment, modification, supplement, or waiver that disproportionately and adversely affects, alters, or changes the interests of any Holder relative to all other Holders shall be effective against such Holder without the prior written consent of such Holder; provided further, however, that the waiver of any provision with respect to any Registration Statement or offering may be given by Holders holding at least a majority of the then-outstanding Registrable Securities entitled to participate in such offering or, if such offering shall have been commenced, having elected to participate in such offering. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a waiver or consent to depart from the provisions hereof with respect to a matter that relates exclusively to the rights of certain Holders and that does not directly or indirectly affect the rights of other Holders may be given by Holders of at least a majority of the Registrable Securities to which such waiver or consent relates, unless such waiver or consent disproportionately and adversely affects, alters, or changes the interests of any Holder relative to all other Holders to which such waiver or consent relates, in which case, such waiver or consent shall not be effective against such Holder without the prior written consent of such Holder; provided, however, that the provisions of this sentence may not be amended, modified, or supplemented except in accordance with the provisions of the immediately preceding sentence.

Section 7.13 Extensions; Waivers. Any party may, for itself only, (a) extend the time for the performance of any of the obligations of any other party under this Agreement, (b) waive any inaccuracies in the representations and warranties of any other party contained herein or in any document delivered pursuant hereto and (c) waive compliance with any of the agreements or conditions for the benefit of such party contained herein. Any extension or waiver pursuant to this Section 7.13 will be valid only if set forth in a writing signed by the party to be bound thereby. No waiver by any party of any default, misrepresentation or breach of warranty or covenant hereunder, whether intentional or not, may be deemed to extend to any prior or subsequent default, misrepresentation or breach of warranty or covenant hereunder or affect in any way any rights arising because of any prior or subsequent such occurrence. Neither the failure nor any delay on the part of any party to exercise any right or remedy under this Agreement shall operate as a waiver thereof, nor shall any single or partial exercise of any right or remedy preclude any other or further exercise of the same or of any other right or remedy.

Section 7.14 Business Days. If any time period for giving notice or taking action hereunder expires on a day that is not a Business Day, the time period will automatically be extended to the Business Day immediately following such Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday.

Section 7.15 Independent Nature of Holder's Obligations. The obligations of each Holder under this Agreement are several and not joint with the obligations of any other Holder, and no Holder shall be responsible in any way for the performance of the obligations of any other Holder under this Agreement. Nothing contained herein, and no action taken by any Holder pursuant thereto, shall be deemed to constitute the Holder as a partnership, an association, a joint venture or any other kind of group or entity, or create a presumption that a Holder is in any way acting in concert or as a group with respect to such obligations or the transactions contemplated by this Agreement. Each Holder shall be entitled to independently protect and enforce its rights, including, the rights arising out of this Agreement, and it shall not be necessary for any other Holder to be joined as an additional party in any proceeding for such purpose.

Section 7.16 Further Assurances. Each of the parties hereto shall execute all such further instruments and documents and take all such further action as the Company may reasonably require in order to effectuate the terms and purposes of this Agreement.

Section 7.17 No Third-Party Beneficiaries. Except pursuant to Article V, this Agreement shall not confer any rights or remedies upon any Person other than the parties hereto and their respective successors and permitted assigns and other Persons expressly named herein.

Section 7.18 Interpretation; Construction. This Agreement has been freely and fairly negotiated among the parties. If an ambiguity or question of intent or interpretation arises, this Agreement will be construed as if drafted jointly by the parties and no presumption or burden of proof will arise favoring or disfavoring any party because of the authorship of any provision of this Agreement. Any reference to any law will be deemed to refer to such law as amended and all rules and regulations promulgated thereunder, unless the context requires otherwise. The words "include," "includes," and "including" will be deemed to be followed by "without limitation." Pronouns in masculine, feminine, and neuter genders will be construed to include any other gender, and words in the singular form will be construed to include the plural and vice versa, unless the context otherwise requires. The words "this Agreement," "herein," "hereof," "hereby," "hereunder" and words of similar import refer to this Agreement as a whole, including the schedules, exhibits and annexes, as the same may from time to time be amended, modified or supplemented, and not to any particular subdivision unless expressly so limited. References to "will" or "shall" mean that the party must perform the matter so described and a reference to "may" means that the party has the option, but not the obligation, to perform the matter so described. All references to sections, schedules, annexes and exhibits mean the sections of this Agreement and the schedules, annexes and exhibits attached to this Agreement, except where otherwise stated. The parties intend that each representation, warranty, and covenant contained herein will have independent significance. If any party has breached any covenant contained herein in any respect, the fact that there exists another covenant relating to the same subject matter (regardless of the relative levels of specificity) that the party has not breached will not detract from or mitigate the party's breach of the first covenant.

Section 7.19 Term. This Agreement shall terminate (i) with respect to any Holder, at such time as such Holder has no Registrable Securities and (ii) in full and be of no further effect at such time as there are no Registrable Securities held by any Holders. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Article V, Section 7.2, Section 7.5, and Section 7.18 shall survive any termination.

\* \* \* \*

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement on the date first above written.

**COMPANY:**

Lee Enterprises, Incorporated

By: /s/ Joshua Rinehults  
Name: Joshua Rinehults  
Title: Vice President, Interim Chief Financial  
Officer, and Treasurer

**DEMAND HOLDER:**

By: /s/ David Hoffmann  
Name: David Hoffmann  
Title:

**HOLDER:**

By: /s/ David Hoffmann  
Name: David Hoffmann  
Title:

**[HOLDER]:**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name:  
Title:

*[Signature Page to Registration Rights Agreement]*

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**EXHIBIT A**

**JOINDER AGREEMENT**

This Joinder Agreement (“Joinder”) is executed pursuant to the terms of the Registration Rights Agreement, dated as of February 5, 2026, a copy of which is attached hereto (as amended, the “Registration Rights Agreement”), by the undersigned (the “Undersigned”) executing this Joinder. Capitalized terms used herein without definition are defined in the Registration Rights Agreement and are used herein with the same meanings set forth therein. By the execution of this Joinder, the Undersigned agrees as follows:

1. Acknowledgment. The Undersigned acknowledges that the Undersigned is acquiring Common Stock, subject to the terms and conditions of the Registration Rights Agreement.

2. Agreement. The Undersigned (i) agrees that the Common Stock acquired by the Undersigned, and any other Common Stock and other securities of the Company that may be acquired by the Undersigned in the future, shall be bound by and subject to the terms of the Registration Rights Agreement, pursuant to the terms thereof, and (ii) hereby adopts the Registration Rights Agreement with the same force and effect as if the Undersigned were originally a party thereto.

3. Notice. Any notice required as permitted by the Registration Rights Agreement shall be given to the Undersigned at the address listed beside the Undersigned’s signature below.

[NAME OF HOLDER]

Address for Notices:

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

[\_\_\_\_\_] \_\_\_\_\_  
[\_\_\_\_\_] \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: [\_\_\_\_\_] \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: [\_\_\_\_\_] \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of Registrable Securities Beneficially Owned  
(as of the date hereof): [\_\_\_\_\_] \_\_\_\_\_



**SCHEDULE I**

**List of Holders**

*[Intentionally Omitted]*

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****Lee Enterprises Closes Strategic Investment, Welcomes David Hoffmann to Board**

Davenport, Iowa — February 5, 2026 — Lee Enterprises, Incorporated (the “Company” and Nasdaq: LEE) today announced that it has closed its previously announced \$50 million strategic equity private placement. The investment was led by David Hoffmann (“Hoffmann”), with participation from other existing investors in the Company, providing the Company with committed capital and a strengthened financial and governance foundation as it moves into its next phase. The Company received \$50 million of gross proceeds at the closing of the transaction, before transaction expenses.

Concurrently with the closing of the \$50 million investment, an amendment to the Company’s existing credit facility became operative, reducing the annual interest rate on approximately \$455.5 million of the Company’s outstanding long-term debt to 5% from 9% for a five-year period, materially improving the Company’s capital structure and cash flow outlook.

As part of the closing of the transaction, David Hoffmann joined the Company’s board of directors as its chairman.

“The successful closing of this investment represents an important milestone for Lee Enterprises. This transaction strengthens our balance sheet, provides additional financial flexibility, and supports our continued digital transformation,” said Nathan Bekke, Lee’s Interim Chief Executive Officer. “We are excited to welcome David Hoffmann to the Company’s Board of Directors and appreciate the confidence he and our investors have shown in Lee.”

**Advisors**

Oppenheimer & Co. Inc., Kirkland & Ellis LLP and Lane & Waterman LLP served as exclusive financial advisor and legal advisors, respectively, to Lee Enterprises, Incorporated.

Stifel and Lathrop GPM LLP served as the exclusive financial advisor and legal advisor, respectively, to Hoffmann.

**Other Important Information**

The private placement is exempt from the registration requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the “Securities Act”), pursuant to the exemption for transactions by an issuer not involving any public offering under Section 4(a)(2) of the Securities Act and in reliance on similar exemptions under applicable state laws. The Company is relying on this exemption from registration based in part on representations made by the investors in the private placement. At the time of issuance, the shares of the Company’s common stock issued in the private placement were not registered under the Securities Act or any state securities laws and may not be offered or sold in the United States absent registration with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) or an applicable exemption from the registration requirements. This communication is not an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy the securities described herein.

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## About Lee

Lee Enterprises is a major subscription and advertising platform and a leading provider of local news and information with daily newspapers, rapidly growing digital products and nearly 350 weekly and specialty publications serving 72 markets in 25 states. Our core commitment is to provide valuable, intensely local news and information to the communities we serve. Our markets include St. Louis, MO; Buffalo, NY; Omaha, NE; Richmond, VA; Lincoln, NE; Madison, WI; Davenport, IA; and Tucson, AZ. Lee Common Stock is traded on the NASDAQ under the symbol LEE. For more information about Lee, please visit [www.lee.net](http://www.lee.net).

## Forward-Looking Statements

This communication includes forward-looking statements, including statements relating to the effects of the private placement and the amendment to the Company's credit facilities and any expected interest savings as a result thereof. All statements other than statements of historical fact are, or may be deemed to be, forward-looking statements. In some cases, forward-looking statements can be identified by the use of forward-looking terms such as "may," "will," "should," "could," "expect," "intend," "plan," "anticipate," "potential," "outlook" or "shall," or the negative of these terms or other comparable terms. However, the absence of these words does not mean that the statements are not forward-looking. These forward-looking statements are based on certain assumptions and analyses made by us in light of our experience and our perception of historical trends, current conditions and expected future developments, as well as other factors we believe are appropriate in the circumstances.

These forward-looking statements are subject to known and unknown risks, uncertainties and assumptions that may cause actual results, levels of activity, performance, or achievements to be materially different from any future results, levels of activity, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Factors that might cause or contribute to a material difference include the risks discussed in our filings with the SEC and the following: changes in the Company's corporate governance; competition and pricing pressures; and economic conditions generally. All forward-looking statements set forth in this communication are qualified by these cautionary statements and there can be no assurance that the actual results or developments anticipated by us will be realized or, even if substantially realized, that they will have the expected consequences to or effects on us or our business or operations. Forward-looking statements set forth in this communication speak only as of the date hereof, and we do not undertake any obligation to update forward-looking statements to reflect subsequent events or circumstances, changes in expectations or the occurrence of unanticipated events, except to the extent required by law.

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