## IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

In re:	)
ACR MANAGEMENT, L.L.C., et al., <sup>1</sup>	)
Debtors.	)
JAMES LUCE, an individual,	)
Movant,	)
V.	)
ACR MANAGEMENT, L.L.C., et al.,	) )

Respondents.

Case No. 04-27848-MBM Chapter 11 (Jointly Administered)

Docket No.: \_\_\_\_

**Related Docket No.: 1116** 

**Objection Deadline: January 25, 2005** Hearing Date: February 1, 2005, at 3:00 p.m. (EST)

## **RESPONSE OF THE DEBTORS TO [CM/ECF# 1116] MOTION OF** JAMES LUCE FOR RELIEF FROM AUTOMATIC STAY TO PURSUE CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST THE DEBTOR FOR INJURIES TO JAMES LUCE, WITH **RECOVERY TO BE LIMITED TO AVAILABLE INSURANCE COVERAGE AND NOT** FROM ASSETS OF THE BANKRUPTCY ESTATE

The above-captioned Debtors-in-Possession (collectively, the "Debtors<sup>2</sup>") by and

through their undersigned attorneys, hereby submit this response (the "Response") to the motion

(filed on 1/08/2005, CM/ECF#1116, the "Motion") filed by James Luce (the "Movant"), for

relief from the automatic stay to pursue a cause of action against the Debtors for negligence. In

support of this Response, the Debtors respectfully represent as follows:

The Debtors are the following entities: ACR Management, L.L.C., Anthony Crane Rental Holdings, L.P., ACR/Dunn Acquisition, Inc., Anthony Crane Capital Corporation, Anthony Crane Holdings Capital Corporation, Anthony Crane International, L.P., Anthony Crane Sales & Leasing, L.P., Anthony International Equipment Services Corporation, Anthony Sales & Leasing Corporation, Carlisle Equipment Group, L.P., Carlisle GP, L.L.C., Husky Crane, Inc., Anthony Crane Rental, L.P., d/b/a Maxim Crane Works, Maxim Crane Works, LLC, Sacramento Valley Crane Service, Inc., The Crane & Rigging Company, LLC, Thompson & Rich Crane Service, Inc.

<sup>2</sup> All capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Motion.

## **RELEVANT BACKGROUND**

1. On or about April 18, 2002, allegedly the Movant during the course of his employment sustained personal injuries to his body when he fell off a crane. The Movant alleges that he slipped on oil that one of the Debtors had negligently caused to leak on the floorboard of the crane, and alternatively, failed to clean up the oil.

On or about May 29, 2003, the Movant initiated a proceeding against one of the Debtors in the District Court of Jefferson County, Texas 172<sup>nd</sup> Judicial District, Cause No. E-170-058 (the "Action"), alleging causes of action in negligence.

3. By the Motion, the Movant now seeks relief from the automatic stay to pursue the Action against the Debtors with recovery to be limited to filing a proof of claim in the Debtors' bankruptcy cases and to recovering available insurance proceeds.

4. The Debtors are covered by various insurance policies for possible liability arising out of incidents such as the one underlying the Action. Depending on the year in which an incident occurs, the Debtors may have several layers of third party liability insurance coverage, and the policies involved and the deductibles and/or self-insured retention liabilities may vary.

5. In the time period relevant to the incident giving rise to the Action, the Debtors were covered by several layers of third party liability and indemnity coverage pursuant to various policies (the "Policies"). Pursuant to the terms of some of these Policies, there may have been retentions and/or deductibles.

6. This Court set a bar date of November 17, 2004, for filing proofs of claim for all pre-petition claims other than those of governmental units, and a bar date of December 13, 2004, for governmental units to file proofs of claim (collectively, the "Bar Date"). Accordingly, these deadlines for filing proofs of claim have passed.

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7. On December 30, 2004, this Court entered an Order confirming the Debtors' Plan of Reorganization.

## **CONDITIONS TO MOVANT'S RELIEF**

8. The Debtors do not object to the Movant's request for this Court to lift the automatic stay so as to permit the Movant to continue its prosecution of the Action, so long as (i) the relief is limited to liability covered by the Policies, (ii) the only relief that the Movant may pursue as to the Debtors directly or indirectly, shall be to participate in the distribution afforded pre-petition unsecured claims based upon any timely-filed Proof of Claim that was filed by the Movant, if any, by the Bar Date; (iii) the relief does not seek to impose or allow the Movant to impose liability upon the Debtors' insurers beyond the express terms of the Policies; (iii) and the relief does not cause the Debtors to bear extraordinary expense.

9. Accordingly, the Debtors request that the Movant's relief be conditioned upon the following:

a. The relief from stay be limited, as to the Debtors, to allowing the Movant to liquidate his claims and recover from any applicable insurance coverage, and the Movant may not seek to enforce any judgment obtained against any asset of the Debtors, or property of the Debtors' estate other than their applicable insurance coverage; provided however, the Movant not be precluded from pursuing recovery upon the Movant's claims from any other party to the Action that may, for any cognizable reason, be liable therefor; WHEREFORE, the Debtors respectfully request that this Court enter an Order (a

proposed form of order is being filed simultaneously herewith) (i) granting the Motion subject to

the above conditions; and (ii) granting such other relief the Court deems just and proper.

Dated: Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania January 24, 2005

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-and-

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