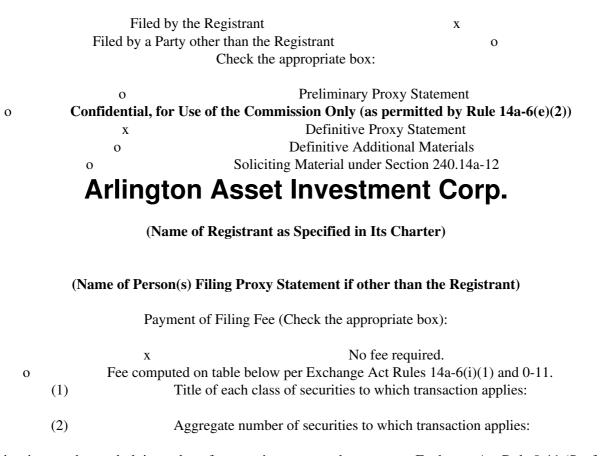
Arlington Asset Investment Corp. Form DEF 14A April 21, 2015

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

# **SCHEDULE 14A**

# Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934



(3) Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (Set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):

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(4)	Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:		
(5)	Total fee paid:		
o Fee paid previously with preliminary materials. Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filin owhich the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, form or schedule and the date of its filing.			
(1)	Amount previously paid:		
(2)	Form, schedule or registration statement no.:		
(3)	Filing party:		
(4)	Date filed:		

# ARLINGTON ASSET INVESTMENT CORP. NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS TO BE HELD ON JUNE 10, 2015

To the Shareholders of Arlington Asset Investment Corp.:

The 2015 annual meeting of shareholders of Arlington Asset Investment Corp., a Virginia corporation (the Company ), will be held at Le Méridien Hotel, 1121 19<sup>th</sup> Street North, Arlington, Virginia 22209, on Wednesday, June 10, 2015, at 9:00 a.m., Eastern Time, for the following purposes:

1. To elect the eight directors nominated by the Board of Directors, each to serve until the 2016 annual meeting of shareholders and until his successor is duly elected and qualified;

2. To ratify the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP ( PwC ) as the Company s independent registered public accounting firm for 2015; and

3. To transact such other business as may properly come before the annual meeting or any adjournment or postponement thereof.

Only holders of the Company s Class A and Class B common stock outstanding at the close of business on the record date, April 13, 2015, are entitled to notice of, and to vote at, the annual meeting. Holders of the Company s Class A and Class B common stock outstanding at the close of business on the record date will vote together as a single group on all matters at the annual meeting. A list of shareholders entitled to vote at the annual meeting will be available at the annual meeting and for ten days prior to the annual meeting at the Company s principal executive office, which is located at 1001 Nineteenth Street North, Suite 1900, Arlington, Virginia 22209.

Whether or not you plan to attend the annual meeting, it is important that your shares are represented and voted. Pursuant to rules adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC), we have provided access to our proxy materials over the Internet. Accordingly, we are sending a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials (the Notice) on or about April 21, 2015 to our stockholders of record on April 13, 2015. The Notice contains instructions for your use of this process, including how to access our proxy statement and annual report over the Internet, how to authorize your proxy to vote online and how to request a paper copy of the proxy statement and annual report if you so desire. If you hold your shares in street name (i.e., through a broker, bank or other nominee), you will receive instructions from your nominee that you must follow in order to provide voting instructions to your nominee, or you may contact your nominee directly to request these instructions.

By Order of the Board of Directors

D. Scott Parish Corporate Secretary

Arlington, Virginia April 20, 2015

Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be held on June, 10, 2015. The Proxy Statement for the 2015 Annual Meeting of Shareholders and the Company s 2014 Annual Report to Shareholders are available electronically at *www.proxyvote.com* as well as on our website at www.arlingtonasset.com.

# ARLINGTON ASSET INVESTMENT CORP. 1001 Nineteenth Street North, Suite 1900 Arlington, Virginia 22209

# PROXY STATEMENT 2015 ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS TO BE HELD JUNE 10, 2015

# GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE ANNUAL MEETING

# **The Solicitation of Proxies**

The Board of Directors of Arlington Asset Investment Corp. (we, us, our or the Company) is soliciting proxies i connection with the 2015 annual meeting of shareholders to be held on June 10, 2015. The mailing address of our principal executive office is 1001 Nineteenth Street North, Suite 1900, Arlington, Virginia 22209. The Notice is first being mailed to shareholders on or about April 21, 2015.

The solicitation of proxies is being made primarily through the use of the Internet, as described in the Notice. The cost of preparing this proxy statement, the accompanying proxy materials and the Notice, and the cost of any supplementary solicitations, which may be made by standard mail, e-mail, telephone or personally by our directors, officers or employees, will be borne by us. None of our directors, officers or employees will receive any additional or special compensation for soliciting your proxy. We will, on request, reimburse brokers, banks and other nominees for their reasonable expenses in sending our proxy materials and voting instruction forms to street name holders to obtain their voting instructions.

# Matters to be Presented

At the annual meeting, shareholders will consider and vote on:

the election of the eight directors nominated by our Board of Directors, each to serve until the 2016 annual meeting of shareholders and until his successor is duly elected and qualified; and

a proposal to ratify the appointment of PwC as our independent registered public accounting firm for 2015. We are not aware of any other matters to be presented at the annual meeting. If any other matters are properly presented at the annual meeting, the proxies will vote your shares, if authorized, in accordance with the recommendation of our Board of Directors or use their own judgment to determine how to vote your shares.

# Who Can Vote

You are entitled to vote at the annual meeting if our records show that you held shares of our Class A or Class B common stock as of the close of business on the record date, April 13, 2015. At the close of business on the record

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE ANNUAL MEETING

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date, 22,862,075 shares of our Class A common stock and 104,716 shares of our Class B common stock were outstanding. Holders of our Class A and Class B common stock will vote together as a single group on all matters presented at the annual meeting. Each share of our Class A common stock is entitled to one vote per share. Each share of our Class B common stock is entitled to three votes per share.

# How to Vote

If you are a shareholder of record, you have three options for voting before the annual meeting. You may authorize your proxy and vote over the Internet or by telephone as described in the Notice and on the proxy card accompanying the proxy statement. Alternatively, if you request and receive a paper copy of the proxy card by mail you may authorize your proxy and vote by mail by signing and returning the proxy card in the envelope provided. Once you authorize your proxy, you may revoke your proxy by (i) executing and delivering to us a later dated proxy card, (ii) subsequently authorizing your proxy over the Internet or by telephone, (iii) sending a written revocation of your proxy to our Corporate Secretary at our principal executive office or (iv) attending the annual meeting and voting in person.

If you hold your shares in street name (i.e., through a broker, bank or other nominee), you will receive instructions from your nominee that you must follow in order to provide voting instructions to your nominee, or you may contact your nominee directly to request these instructions. If you hold your shares in street name, you must follow the instructions you receive from your nominee in order to revoke your voting instructions.

# Attending the Annual Meeting in Person

If you are a shareholder of record, you may vote your shares at the annual meeting if you attend in person. If you would like to attend the annual meeting in person, you will need to bring valid photo identification and an account statement or other evidence acceptable to us of ownership of your shares as of the close of business on the record date. If you hold your shares in street name and wish to vote in person at the annual meeting, you also will need to contact your nominee and obtain a legal proxy from your nominee and bring it to the annual meeting. Even if you plan to attend the annual meeting, we encourage you to vote your shares before the meeting via the Internet, by telephone or by mail. Whether you hold your shares of record or in street name, if you would like to attend the annual meeting in person, please register in advance by contacting our Investor Relations department at *ir@arlingtonasset.com*. Attendance at the annual meeting will be limited to individuals that register in advance and present valid photo identification and proof of stock ownership on the record date.

# **Quorum Requirement**

A majority of the votes entitled to be cast on a matter, represented in person or by proxy, constitutes a quorum for action on that matter. A quorum is required to conduct business at the annual meeting. If you (1) have authorized your proxy over the Internet or by telephone or by signing and returning the proxy card and you have not revoked your proxy or (2) attend the annual meeting and vote in person, your shares will be counted for the purpose of determining whether there is a quorum. Abstentions and shares held by brokers, banks or other nominees that are voted on any matter will be included in determining whether a quorum is present.

# Discretionary Authority to Vote Shares Held in Street Name

If you hold your shares in street name through a brokerage account, your broker, bank or other nominee may or may not vote your shares in its discretion in the absence of your voting instructions depending on the proposal before the meeting. Under the rules of the New York Stock Exchange (the NYSE ), your broker or other nominee may vote your shares in its discretion on routine matters. The proposal to approve the ratification of the appointment of PwC as our independent registered public accounting firm is considered a routine matter on which brokers may vote if no voting instructions are furnished.

Unlike the proposal to ratify the appointment of our independent auditors, the proposal to elect directors is a non-routine matter for which brokers do not have discretionary voting power and for which specific instructions from beneficial owners are required. As a result, brokers are not allowed to vote on the election of directors on behalf of their beneficial owner customers if the customers do not return specific voting instructions. Shares held in street name that are not voted due to a lack of discretionary authority are referred to as broker non-votes.

# Vote Required for Each Matter to be Presented at the Annual Meeting

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If a quorum is present at the annual meeting, directors will be elected by a plurality of the votes cast by the shares entitled to vote in the election of directors. Votes withheld and broker non-votes are not treated as votes cast and thus will have no effect on the outcome of the vote on the election of directors.

If a quorum is present, the proposal to ratify the appointment of PwC as our independent registered public accounting firm for 2015 will be approved if the votes cast in favor of the proposal exceed the votes cast opposing the proposal.

Abstentions are not treated as votes cast and thus will have no effect on the outcome of the vote on this proposal. Brokers may vote in their discretion on the proposal to ratify the appointment of PwC on behalf of clients who have not furnished voting instructions. As a result, broker non-votes will not arise in connection with, and thus will have no effect on, this proposal.

# **Board Recommendation**

The Board of Directors recommends that you vote:

FOR the election of all eight nominees for director recommended by our Board of Directors; and FOR the ratification of the appointment of PwC as our independent registered public accounting firm for 2015. Shareholders should specify their choice for each matter on the enclosed proxy. If no specific instructions are given, it is intended that all proxies that are signed and returned will be voted FOR the election of all eight nominees for director recommended by our Board of Directors and FOR the ratification of the appointment of PwC.

# 2014 Annual Report

A copy of our 2014 Annual Report, including our consolidated financial statements and the notes thereto but excluding exhibits, is available online on at *www.proxyvote.com* as well as on our website at *www.arlingtonasset.com* under Investor Relations SEC Filings.

Shareholders may obtain an additional printed copy of our 2014 Annual Report (without exhibits) by contacting our Investor Relations department in writing c/o Arlington Asset Investment Corp., 1001 Nineteenth Street North, Suite 1900, Arlington, Virginia 22209, Attention: Investor Relations. Shareholders may also contact our Investor Relations department by telephone at (703) 373-0200 or by e-mail at *ir@arlingtonasset.com*.

## **Electronic Delivery of Proxy Materials**

You may access this proxy statement and our 2014 Annual Report (including exhibits) at *www.proxyvote.com* as well as on our website *www.arlingtonasset.com* under Investor Relations SEC Filings. In order to reduce our costs of printing and mailing proxy materials, we have opted to make this proxy statement and our 2014 Annual Report available electronically via the Internet, as permitted by SEC rules, rather than in printed form. This e-proxy process expedites shareholders receipt of proxy materials and lowers the costs of our Annual Meeting. If you are a street name shareholder who wishes to register for electronic delivery of future proxy materials, you should review the information provided in the proxy materials mailed to you by your broker, bank or other nominee.

# Householding of Proxy Statements and Annual Reports

SEC rules allow for the delivery of a single copy of the Notice or the proxy materials to any household at which two or more shareholders reside, if it is believed the shareholders are members of the same family. This delivery method, known as householding, will save us printing and mailing costs. Duplicate account mailings will be eliminated by allowing shareholders to consent to such elimination, or through implied consent, if a shareholder does not request continuation of duplicate mailings. If you hold our Class A or Class B common stock in your own name as a holder of record, householding will not apply to your shares. However, brokers, banks or other nominees or fiduciaries that hold our shares in street name for beneficial owners of our common stock and that distribute proxy materials and annual reports they receive to beneficial owners may be householding. Depending upon the practices of your broker, bank or other nominee or fiduciary, you may need to contact them directly to discontinue duplicate mailings to your

household. If you wish to revoke your consent to householding, you must contact your broker, bank or other nominee or fiduciary.

Also, if you own our Class A or Class B common stock in more than one account, such as individually and also jointly with your spouse, you may receive more than one set of our proxy statements and annual reports to shareholders. To

assist us in saving money and to provide you with better shareholder services, we encourage you to have all of your accounts registered in the same name and address. You may do this by contacting our transfer agent, American Stock Transfer & Trust Company, LLC, and following their procedures.

# Shareholder Proposals and Nominations for the 2016 Annual Meeting

Shareholders may submit proposals for inclusion in our proxy statement for our 2016 annual meeting of shareholders, nominate individuals for election at our 2016 annual meeting and propose other business for consideration by our shareholders at our 2016 annual meeting. The following describes certain procedures and deadlines applicable to these shareholder proposals:

*Shareholder Proposals for Inclusion in 2016 Proxy Statement.* Under SEC rules, proposals that shareholders seek to have included in the proxy statement for our 2016 annual meeting of shareholders must be received by the Corporate Secretary no later than December 23, 2015.

*Other Shareholder Proposals and Nominations.* Our Amended and Restated Bylaws (our Bylaws ), which are available on our website as discussed below, govern the submission of nominations for director or other business proposals that a shareholder wishes to have considered at a meeting of shareholders, but which are not included in our proxy statement for that meeting. Under our Bylaws, nominations for director or other business proposals to be addressed at our next annual meeting may be made by a shareholder entitled to vote who has delivered a notice to the Corporate Secretary no later than the close of business on March 12, 2016, and no earlier than February 11, 2016. The notice must contain the information required by our Bylaws.

Our Bylaws currently provide that in order for a proposal of a shareholder to be presented at our 2016 annual meeting of shareholders, other than a shareholder proposal included in our proxy statement pursuant to Rule 14a-8, it must be

delivered to the Corporate Secretary at our principal executive offices not earlier than the close of business on the 120<sup>th</sup> day and not later than the close of business on the 90<sup>th</sup> day prior to the first anniversary of the preceding year s annual meeting; provided, however, that in the event that the date of the annual meeting is more than 30 days before or more than 60 days after such anniversary date, notice by the shareholder must be so delivered not earlier than the close of business on the 120<sup>th</sup> day prior to the date of such annual meeting and not later than the close of business on the 120<sup>th</sup> day prior to the date of such annual meeting and not later than the close of business on the later of the 90<sup>th</sup> day prior to the date of such annual meeting or, if the first public announcement of the date of such annual meeting is less than 100 days prior to the date of such annual meeting, the 10<sup>th</sup> day following the day on which public announcement of the date of such annual meeting is first made by our Company. Any such proposal should be mailed to: Arlington Asset Investment Corp., 1001 Nineteenth Street North, Suite 1900, Arlington, Virginia 22209,

Attention: Corporate Secretary. As described in more detail in our Bylaws, the shareholder giving the notice or nomination must include:

As to the shareholder giving notice and the beneficial owner, if any, on whose behalf the nomination or proposal is made:

the name and address of such shareholder, as they appear on our books, of such beneficial owner, if any, and of their respective affiliates or associates or others acting in concert therewith;

the class or series and number of shares of our Company which are, directly or indirectly, owned beneficially and of record by such shareholder, such beneficial owner and their respective affiliates or associates or others acting in concert therewith;

any option, warrant, convertible security, stock appreciation right or similar right with a value derived, in whole or in part, from the value of any class or series of shares of our Company, or any contract, derivative, swap, synthetic arrangement or other transaction or series of transactions designed to produce economic benefits and risks that correspond substantially to the ownership of any class or series of shares of our Company, including due to the fact that the value of such contract, derivative, swap or other transaction or series of transactions is determined by reference to the price, value or volatility of any class or series of shares of our Company (any of the foregoing, a

Derivative Instrument ) directly or indirectly engaged in, entered into or owned beneficially by such shareholder, the beneficial owner, if any, or any affiliates or associates or others acting in concert therewith;

any proxy, voting agreement, voting trust or other contract, arrangement or understanding pursuant to which such shareholder, the beneficial owner, if any, or any affiliate, associate or others acting in concert therewith has a right to vote any class or series of shares of our Company;

any short interest in any of our securities;

any rights to distributions on the shares of our Company owned beneficially by such shareholder, the beneficial owner, if any, or any affiliate, associate or others acting in concert therewith that are separated or separable from the underlying shares of our Company;

any proportionate interest in shares of our Company or Derivative Instruments held, directly or indirectly, by a general or limited partnership in which such shareholder, the beneficial owner, if any, or any affiliate, associate or others acting in concert therewith is a general partner or, directly or indirectly, beneficially owns an interest in a general partner of such general or limited partnership;

any performance-related fees (other than an asset-based fee) to which such shareholder, the beneficial owner, if any, or any affiliate or associate or others acting in concert therewith, the beneficial owner, if any or any affiliates or associates or others acting in concert therewith is entitled based on any increase or decrease in the value of shares of our Company or Derivative Instruments, if any;

any direct or indirect interest of such shareholder in any contract with our Company, any affiliate of our Company or any principal competitor of our Company; and

any other information relating to such shareholder and beneficial owner, if any, that would be required to be disclosed in a proxy statement and form of proxy or other filings required to be made in connection with solicitations of proxies for, as applicable, the proposal and/or for the election of directors in a contested election pursuant to the rules and regulations of the SEC.

As to each person whom the shareholder proposes to nominate for election as a director:

the name, age, business address and residence of the person;

the class, series and number of shares of our Company that are beneficially owned by the person;

the date such shares were acquired and the investment intent of such acquisition;

a description of all direct and indirect compensation and other material monetary agreements, arrangements and understandings during the past three years, and any other material relationships, between or among such shareholder and beneficial owner, if any, and their respective affiliates and associates, or others acting in concert therewith, on the one hand, and each proposed nominee and/or his or her respective affiliates and associates, or others acting in concert therewith, on the other hand, including all information that would be required to be disclosed pursuant to Rule 404 promulgated under SEC Regulation S-K if the shareholder making the nomination and any beneficial owner on whose behalf the nomination is made, if any, or any affiliate or associate thereof or person acting in concert therewith, were the registrant for purposes of such rule and the nominee were a director or executive officer of such registrant; all other information relating to the person that is required to be disclosed in solicitations of proxies for election of directors or is otherwise required by the rules and regulations of the SEC; and

a completed and signed questionnaire, representation and agreement with respect to the background and qualification of the person.

In order for a shareholder to bring other business before a shareholder meeting, timely notice must be received by us within the time limits described above. That notice must include:

the information described above with respect to the shareholder proposing such business; a description of the business desired to be brought before the meeting, the reasons for conducting such business at the meeting and any material interest of the shareholder and/or shareholder associated person in such business; 5 the text of the proposal or business; and

a description of all agreements, arrangements and understandings between the shareholder and beneficial owner, if any, and any other person or persons (including their names) in connection with the proposal of such business by the shareholder.

The advance notice provisions in our Bylaws are in addition to, and separate from, the requirements that a shareholder must meet in order to have a proposal included in the proxy statement under the rules and regulations of the SEC.

Copies of our Bylaws are available on our website at *www.arlingtonasset.com* under Investor Relations Corporate Governance, or may be obtained from the Corporate Secretary at the address shown above under Electronic Delivery of Proxy Materials.

# **PROPOSAL NO. 1**

# **ELECTION OF DIRECTORS**

The Nominating and Governance Committee has recommended for nomination, and the Board of Directors has nominated for election, the eight nominees listed below under the heading Nominees for Election as Directors. All of the nominees are currently serving as members of our Board of Directors. If elected, these directors will serve until the 2016 annual meeting of shareholders and until his successor is duly elected and qualified. Each nominee has agreed to be named in this proxy statement and to serve if elected.

Although we know of no reason why any of the nominees for director listed below would not be able to serve, if unforeseen circumstances (e.g., death or disability) make it necessary for the Board of Directors to propose a substitute nominee for any of the nominees named below and you have authorized the proxies to vote your shares for the election of the nominees named below, the proxies will vote your shares for that substitute nominee. Proxies cannot be voted at the annual meeting for more than these eight nominees, except as described above.

Unless you direct otherwise in the proxy card, the persons named as proxies in the proxy card will vote your proxy FOR the election of each of the nominees listed below. If a quorum is present at the annual meeting, directors will be elected by a plurality of the votes cast by the shares entitled to vote in the election of directors. Cumulative voting is not permitted in the election of directors.

### **Nominees for Election as Directors**

ERIC F. BILLINGS, age 62, is our Executive Chairman. Since co-founding our Company in 1989, he has continuously served as a director. He was appointed Chairman and Chief Executive Officer on April 28, 2005 and served as Chief Executive Officer until June 2014. He served as Vice Chairman and Chief Operating Officer from 1989 to 1999, Vice Chairman and Co-Chief Executive Officer from 1999 to April 2003 and Co-Chairman and Co-Chief Executive Officer from 1999 to April 2003 and Co-Chairman and Co-Chief Executive Officer from April 2003 to April 2005. Mr. Billings also served as Chairman of FBR & Co., a publicly-traded investment banking, institutional brokerage and asset management firm from 2006 until 2012. From 2006 to 2008, Mr. Billings also served as the Chief Executive Officer of FBR Capital Markets. In addition, he concurrently holds the position of Senior Managing Partner and Co-Portfolio Manager of Billings Capital Management, LLC, an investment management company he runs with his sons. Mr. Billings serves on the Board of Visitors and the Center for Financial Policy Advisory Board at the University of Maryland s Robert H. Smith School of Business. He also sits on the Leadership Council of the Board of Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Washington.

The Board of Directors determined that Mr. Billings qualifications to serve as a director include his more than 30 years of career investment experience and his extensive knowledge of the environment in which we operate due, in part, to his senior management positions with our Company since its founding over 20 years ago. Further, his past and present senior management positions with FBR & Co. and Billings Capital Management, LLC, as applicable, provide him with additional business and leadership experience in the areas of investment banking, institutional brokerage and asset management. Mr. Billings also served as Chairman of the Board of FBR & Co., which provided him with additional leadership and consensus-building skills to guide the Board, as well as exposure to an array of best practices.

**DANIEL J. ALTOBELLO**, age 74, has served as a director of our Company since June 2000. Since October 2000, Mr. Altobello, Chairman of Altobello Family LP, has been a private investor and active board member of several

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companies. From September 1995 until October 2000, Mr. Altobello was the Chairman of Onex Food Services, Inc., the parent of Caterair International, Inc. and LSG/SKY Chefs. He is a current member of the boards of directors of DiamondRock Hospitality Company, a publicly-traded hotel REIT, NorthStar Healthcare Income, Inc., a public non-traded real estate investment trust, MamaMancini s, Inc., and Mesa Air Group, Inc. From 2004 to December 2010, he served as a member of the board of JER Investors Trust, Inc., a specialty finance company. Mr. Altobello previously served on the advisory board of Thayer | Hidden Creek, a private equity firm. Mr. Altobello is also a trustee of Loyola Foundation, Inc.

The Board of Directors determined that Mr. Altobello s qualifications to serve as a director include his notable business and leadership experience in the areas of specialty finance and real estate through his service as a director of DiamondRock Hospitality Company, NorthStar Healthcare Income, Inc., and JER Investors Trust,

Inc. He also has experience in the areas of airlines and food service distribution, due to his past position as Chairman of Onex Food Services, Inc. and his current position as a director of Mesa Air Group, Inc. His past and present service on multiple public and private company boards, including his service on the audit committee of DiamondRock Hospitality Company and NorthStar Healthcare Income, Inc., provides him with comprehensive experience in the area of corporate governance that can be extremely valuable to Board and Company operations.

**DANIEL E. BERCE**, age 61, has served as a director of our Company since January 2011. Mr. Berce is Chief Executive Officer and President of General Motors Financial Company, Inc. (formerly AmeriCredit Corp.), a position he has held since General Motors Co. acquired AmeriCredit Corp. on October 1, 2010. Mr. Berce had been a director of AmeriCredit Corp. since 1990, and was Chief Executive Officer and President from 2005 through 2010, President from 2003 through 2005 and Chief Financial Officer from 1990 through 2003. Mr. Berce is also a director of Cash America International, Inc., a publicly-traded consumer finance company, and AZZ, Inc., a publicly-traded provider of galvanizing services and specialty electrical products.

The Board of Directors determined that Mr. Berce s qualifications to serve as a director include his extensive leadership experience, specifically his experience as a chief executive officer and chief financial officer of a publicly-traded company. He also has more than 20 years of experience in the consumer finance industry, experience in finance and accounting as well as experience as a director of multiple publicly-traded companies. Mr. Berce is also a licensed Certified Public Accountant and has served on our Audit Committee and the audit committees of other companies, all of which have designated him as an audit committee financial expert.

DAVID W. FAEDER, age 58, has served as a director of our Company since June 2013. Mr. Faeder is a Managing Partner of Fountain Square Properties, a diversified real estate company, a position he has held since 2003. He served as the Vice Chairman (from 2000 to 2003), President (from 1997 to 2000) and Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer (from 1993 to 1997) of Sunrise Senior Living, Inc., a provider of senior living services in the United States, United Kingdom and Canada. From 1991 to 1993 he served as Vice President of Credit Suisse First Boston (formerly First Boston Corporation), directing the real estate advisory business for the RTC in the Washington, DC area. From 1984 to 1991 he served as Vice President of Morgan Stanley and Company, Inc., a brokerage firm, specializing in real estate transactions and financings. Prior to that time, Mr. Faeder held various other accounting positions with Ernst and Whinney, Better Homes of Virginia, and Goodman and Company. Mr. Faeder is currently a director of Federal Realty Investment Trust, a publicly-traded REIT.

The Board of Directors determined that Mr. Faeder s qualifications to serve as a director include his public company and accounting experience, specifically having previously served as the chief financial officer of Sunrise Senior Living, his real estate investment experience from his time as a private real estate investor, as well as his past and present service on multiple public and private company boards, including his service on our and other companies audit committees, all of which have designated him as an audit committee financial expert.

PETER A. GALLAGHER, age 74, served as a director of FBR Asset Investment Corporation, a predecessor of our Company, since August 2000 and, upon the merger that formed our Company in March 2003, he became a director of our Company. Mr. Gallagher retired in May 2004 as the President and Chief Executive Officer of America s Promise the Alliance for Youth, a non-profit organization dedicated to building the character and competence of America s youth, in which capacity he had served since July 1997. From 1994 through 1996, Mr. Gallagher served as Chief Executive Officer of Source One Financial Services, Inc., and from 1989 through 1993 he served as Senior Vice President of AT&T Consumer Affairs. Mr. Gallagher has also served as a member of the Board of Trustees of Pew Charitable Trust-Partnership for Civic Change, VHA Health Foundation, Inc., and the National Assembly of Health and Human Service Organizations, and from 1996 through 1999 he served as Vice Chairman of the District of Columbia Emergency Board of Education.

The Board of Directors determined that Mr. Gallagher s qualifications to serve as a director include his significant business experience in the areas of loan origination financial services through his past senior management position with Source One Financial Services, Inc. He complements his business experience with experience gained through his past position as President and Chief Executive Officer of America s Promise the Alliance for Youth, and through his service on the boards of several other non-profit organizations.

RALPH S. MICHAEL, III, age 60, has served as a director of our Company since 2006. He currently serves as President and Chief Executive Officer of Fifth Third Bank, Greater Cincinnati, a position he has held since December 2010. He served as President and Chief Operating Officer of The Ohio Casualty Insurance Company from 2005 to November 2007 and served as a director from 2002 to 2005. From 2003 to 2005 he was Executive Vice President and Manager of Private Asset Management and held other positions with U.S. Bank. From 1979 to 2002 he held various executive and management positions with PNC Financial Services Group. Mr. Michael is a director of AK Steel Corporation, Key Energy Services, Inc., each of which is a publicly-traded company. He is also a director of Cincinnati Bengals, Inc., CSAA Insurance Exchange, and a trustee of Xavier University (Ohio).

The Board of Directors determined that Mr. Michael s qualifications to serve as a director include the broad business and finance background obtained through his more than 30 years of experience working in financial services, much of which has been in executive management positions, as well as his extensive experience as a corporate board member, including his service on our and other companies audit committees, all of which have designated him as an audit committee financial expert.

ANTHONY P. NADER, III, age 51, has served as a director of our Company since March 2015. Mr. Nader is a Managing Director of SWaN & Legend Venture Partners, a principal investment firm that Mr. Nader co-founded in 2006. Mr. Nader also serves as Vice Chairman of Asurion, a privately held company that provides technology protection. In 2008, Mr. Nader successfully merged his prior company, National Electronics Warranty ( NEW ) with Asurion. Mr. Nader joined NEW in 1990 as Chief Operating Officer, was named President in 1999 and Chief Executive Officer in 2006, a position he held until 2013. Mr. Nader currently serves on the executive committee of the Inova Health System Board of Trustees. He is the past chairman of the Inova Health System Foundation Board. He is a director of The Cranemere Group Limited, Optoro, Inc., La Lumiere, BigTeams and is an active advisor for KIND Healthy Snacks.

The Board of Directors determined that Mr. Nader s qualifications to serve as a director include the considerable business experience obtained through his 25 years as a senior executive with NEW which, under his leadership, grew to be the largest global provider of extended service plans for the consumer electronics and appliance industry. Further, Mr. Nader has a substantial and diversified investment background as a founder of SWaN & Legend Venture Partners that has investments in growth oriented companies as well as domestic and international real estate holdings.

J. ROCK TONKEL, JR., age 52, is our Chief Executive Officer, a position he has held since June 2014, and our President. He also has served as a director of our Company since March 2007. From February 2007 until June 2014 he served as our Chief Operating Officer. From April 2004 to February 2007, Mr. Tonkel served as President and Head of Investment Banking at FBR & Co. Prior to that, Mr. Tonkel served as Executive Vice President and Head of Investment Banking, a position he assumed in February 2002. Mr. Tonkel joined FBR & Co. in 1994 as a Managing Director and Head of Investment Banking s financial institutions group.

The Board of Directors determined that Mr. Tonkel s qualifications to serve as a director include his more than 25 years of experience in financial services companies, the mortgage industry, the investment banking industry, his experience in capital markets, as well as his expertise in public and private company finance. Further, his past positions as President and Head of Investment Banking at FBR & Co. and as Managing Director of FBR & Co. s financial institutions investment banking group provide him with additional business and leadership experience in key

areas of the investment and asset management industry.

#### THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS A VOTE FOR THE ELECTION OF EACH OF THE NOMINEES LISTED ABOVE.

# **PROPOSAL NO. 2**

# RATIFICATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF OUR INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

The Audit Committee has appointed PwC as our independent registered public accounting firm to audit our financial statements for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2015. A resolution will be presented at the annual meeting to ratify the appointment of PwC by the Audit Committee. If our shareholders do not ratify the appointment of PwC at the annual meeting, the Audit Committee will consider that fact in its review and future selection of our independent registered public accounting firm. Representatives of PwC will be present at the annual meeting and will have the opportunity to make statements if they desire to do so. Representatives of PwC are expected to be available to respond to appropriate questions.

Unless you direct otherwise when voting your proxy, the persons named as proxies will vote your proxy FOR the approval of the ratification of PwC as our independent registered public accounting firm for 2015. If a quorum is present at the annual meeting, the ratification of the appointment of PwC as our independent registered public accounting firm for 2015 will be approved if the votes cast in favor of the ratification exceed the votes cast opposing the ratification.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS A VOTE FOR THE RATIFICATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS LLP AS OUR INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM FOR 2015.

# Information Regarding Fees Paid to our Independent Accountants in 2014 and 2013

Aggregate fees for professional services rendered for us and our subsidiaries by PwC for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013 were (dollars in thousands):

	Year En 31,	Year Ended December 31,	
	2014	2013	
Audit Fees <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 572	\$ 577	
Audit-Related Fees <sup>(2)</sup>			
Tax Fees <sup>(3)</sup>	125	122	
All Other Fees <sup>(4)</sup>	92	70	
Total	\$ 789	\$ 769	

(1)Audit fees represent the aggregate fees billed for each of the last two fiscal years for professional services rendered by PwC for the audit of our financial statements and the financial statements of our subsidiaries and the review of unaudited financial statements included in our quarterly reports on Form 10-Q filed with the SEC, and services that are provided by PwC in connection with the statutory and regulatory filings that are made by us and our

PROPOSAL NO. 2 RATIFICATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF OUR INDEPENDENT REGISTERED P2JBLIC AG

subsidiaries.

Audit-related fees represent the aggregate fees billed by PwC for assurance and related services that are reasonably (2) related to the performance of the audit or review of our financial statements and the financial statements of our subsidiaries and are not reported in Audit Fees in the table above. No such fees were billed or paid to PwC in 2014

- <sup>(2)</sup> subsidiaries and are not reported in Audit Fees in the table above. No such fees were billed or paid to PwC in 2014 or 2013.
- $^{(3)}$  Tax fees represent the aggregate fees billed in each of the last two fiscal years for professional services rendered by PwC for tax compliance, tax advice and tax planning.

All other fees represent the aggregate fees billed in each of the last two fiscal years for products and services (4) provided by PwC, other than the services reported in Audit Fees, Audit-Related Fees and Tax Fees in the table

above. In 2014 and 2013, these amounts represented fees paid to PwC in connection with advisory services.

# **Audit Committee Pre-Approval Policies and Procedures**

It is the Audit Committee s policy to review and, if appropriate, pre-approve all audit and non-audit services provided by the independent registered public accounting firm to us and our subsidiaries. In accordance with this policy, the Audit Committee has granted authority to the Committee Chairman, Mr. Michael, to approve non-audit services in an amount up to \$50,000 on behalf of the Audit Committee. Any such approval will be communicated to the Audit Committee at the next scheduled meeting. The Audit Committee pre-approved 100% of the services provided by PwC to our Company and its subsidiaries during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014.

# INFORMATION ON OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS, ITS COMMITTEES AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

# **Independence of our Board of Directors**

The listing standards of the NYSE and our Corporate Governance Guidelines require that a majority of our directors must be independent directors. Our Corporate Governance Guidelines specify that an independent director is a director who meets the independence requirements of the NYSE, as then in effect, and of such additional guidelines as our Board may adopt. These categorical standards provide a baseline for determining the independence of members of the Board. The independence standards used by our Board are attached to our Corporate Governance Guidelines, which are available on our website at *www.arlingtonasset.com*.

In making affirmative independence determinations, the Board broadly considers all relevant facts and circumstances, including, among other factors, any commercial, industrial, banking, consulting, legal, accounting, charitable and familial relationships to which a director is party. Using these criteria, the Board has affirmatively determined that the following directors have no material relationship with our Company and are independent under the listing standards of the NYSE and our Corporate Governance Guidelines: Daniel J. Altobello, Daniel E. Berce, David W. Faeder, Peter A. Gallagher, Ralph S. Michael, III, and Anthony P. Nader, III.

# **Board Leadership Structure**

Mr. Billings served as our Chairman and Chief Executive Officer from April 2005 until June 11, 2014. Effective June 11, 2014, Mr. Tonkel was appointed as Chief Executive Officer of the Company. Mr. Tonkel succeeded Mr. Billings, who retired from this position in order to focus on his other business activities. Mr. Billings continues to serve as Executive Chairman. In his capacity as Executive Chairman, Mr. Billings is the person best suited to set the agendas, priorities and procedures of the Board and to lead discussions of our strategy due to his in-depth knowledge of our business and operations.

The Board also believes that our existing corporate governance practices achieve independent oversight and management accountability. These governance practices are reflected in our Corporate Governance Guidelines and individual committee charters and include the following:

a substantial majority of the Board members are independent;

each of the Audit, Compensation and Nominating and Governance Committees is comprised entirely of independent directors;

the Board has a non-management Lead Independent Director, Mr. Altobello, with the responsibilities described below; and

the independent directors meet at least quarterly in executive session without management present.

# Board Meetings and Executive Sessions of our Non-Management Directors

The Board of Directors held a total of 12 meetings during 2014. Each of the incumbent directors attended at least 75% of the aggregate of the total number of meetings of the Board and the Board committees on which he served. In accordance with our Corporate Governance Guidelines, our non-management directors are required to meet without the management directors being present at least quarterly. Mr. Altobello, the Lead Independent Director, presides at

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all meetings of the non-management directors. Shareholders and other interested persons may contact the Lead Independent Director in writing by mail directed to the Corporate Secretary c/o Arlington Asset Investment Corp., 1001 Nineteenth Street North, Suite 1900, Arlington, Virginia 22209.

# Lead Independent Director

In accordance with our Corporate Governance Guidelines, the Board of Directors has a Lead Independent Director who is elected annually by secret ballot by the independent directors of the Board to act in a lead capacity to coordinate the actions of the other independent directors, as described below. Mr. Altobello is our current Lead Independent Director. The Lead Independent Director coordinates and moderates executive sessions of the Board s independent directors and acts as principal liaison between the independent directors and the Chief Executive Officer on (i) topics or issues as requested by the independent directors, any committee of the Board or the full Board or (ii) any topic selected by the Lead Independent Director. In addition to the duties of all Board members, the Lead Independent Director is responsible to ensure that the following functions are addressed as needed or as appropriate, as determined in the good faith discretion of the Lead Independent Director:

presiding over non-committee meetings of the non-management directors;

timing and agendas for Board and committee meetings;

nature, quantity, and timing of information provided to the independent directors by the management, including information specifically requested by the Lead Independent Director;

retention of counsel or consultants who report directly to the Board, or to the Lead Independent Director; delivery of reports from the Nominating and Governance Committee regarding compliance with and implementation of our corporate governance policies;

delivery of reports from the Nominating and Governance Committee regarding recommended revisions to our corporate governance policies;

evaluation, along with the members of the Compensation Committee and the full Board, of the Chief Executive Officer s performance and meeting with the Chief Executive Officer to discuss the Board s evaluation; and recommending members for various Board committees, as well as selection of the committee chairs.

# **Board Committees**

The Board currently has three standing committees: the Audit Committee, the Compensation Committee and the Nominating and Governance Committee. From time to time the Board of Directors may establish other standing or special committees to discharge specific duties delegated to such committees by the Board. Current standing committee membership and the number of meetings of each committee during 2014 are described below. Messrs. Billings, Tonkel and Nader do not serve on any of our Board s standing committees. We expect Mr. Nader to be appointed to one or more of these committees during 2015.

Name	Audit	Compensation	Nominating and Governance	
Daniel J. Altobello			ü	
Daniel E. Berce	ü	ü (Chairman)		
David W. Faeder	ü		ü	
Peter A. Gallagher	ü	ü	ü (Chairman)	
Ralph S. Michael, III	ü (Chairman)	ü		
Anthony P. Nader, III				
Number of Meetings in 2014:	5	9	5	
Audit Committee				

The current members of the Audit Committee are Mr. Michael, who serves as Chairman, Messrs. Berce, Faeder and Gallagher. Among other responsibilities, the Audit Committee assists the Board of Directors in monitoring our financial reporting process, and is solely responsible for hiring and monitoring the independence and performance of our independent auditors. The Board has determined that each member of the Audit Committee is independent according to the independence standards set forth in the NYSE listing standards and our Corporate Governance Guidelines. In addition, each member of the Audit Committee meets the heightened independence requirements for audit committees specified by Rule 10A-3 under the Exchange Act. The Board has determined that each member of the Audit Committee is financially literate under the standards established by the NYSE. The Board has also determined that Messrs. Faeder, Michael and Berce are qualified as an audit committee financial expert within the

meaning of applicable SEC rules, and possess related financial management expertise within the meaning of the listing standards of the NYSE. The

Board of Directors has adopted a written charter for the Audit Committee, a current copy of which is available to shareholders on our website at *www.arlingtonasset.com*. For additional information on our Audit Committee s oversight of our financial reporting process, please refer to Audit Committee Report in this proxy statement. For additional information on the Audit Committee s role in risk management see Risk Oversight below.

# **Compensation Committee**

The current members of the Compensation Committee are Mr. Berce, who serves as Chairman, Mr. Gallagher and Mr. Michael. The Board has determined that each member of the Compensation Committee is independent according to the independence standards set forth in the NYSE listing standards and our Corporate Governance Guidelines. The Compensation Committee reviews our compensation plans and makes recommendations concerning those plans and concerning executive officer compensation. The Board of Directors has adopted a written charter for the Compensation Committee, a current copy of which is available to shareholders on our website at *www.arlingtonasset.com*. For additional information on the Compensation Committee s processes and procedures for the consideration and determination of executive and director compensation, please refer to Compensation Discussion and Analysis and Compensation Committee Report in this proxy statement.

# Nominating and Governance Committee

The current members of the Nominating and Governance Committee are Mr. Gallagher, who serves as Chairman, Mr. Altobello and Mr. Faeder. The Board has determined that each member of the Nominating and Governance Committee is independent according to the independence standards set forth in the NYSE listing standards and our Corporate Governance Guidelines. The Nominating and Governance Committee assists the Board of Directors in identifying individuals qualified to become Board members, plays a leadership role in shaping the governance of our Company, engages in management succession planning and development and oversees the evaluation of the Board. The Board of Directors has adopted a written charter for the Nominating and Governance Committee, a current copy of which is available to shareholders on our website at *www.arlingtonasset.com*.

# **Code of Ethics**

We have not adopted a code of ethics that applies only to our principal executive officer, principal financial officer and principal accounting officer because our Board of Directors has adopted a Statement of Business Principles that is broadly written and covers these officers and their activities. Our Statement of Business Principles is available on our website at *www.arlingtonasset.com*.

# **Availability of Corporate Governance Materials**

Shareholders may view our corporate governance materials, including our Bylaws, Corporate Governance Guidelines, Statement of Business Principles and the charters of each of the committees of our Board of Directors, on our website at *www.arlingtonasset.com*. Our corporate governance materials may be obtained free of charge by submitting a written request to the Corporate Secretary c/o Arlington Asset Investment Corp., 1001 Nineteenth Street North, Suite 1900, Arlington, Virginia 22209.

# **Director Nominations**

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Our Nominating and Governance Committee s responsibilities, as noted above and as described in its charter, include seeking, screening and recommending director candidates for nomination to serve on our Board of Directors. Our Corporate Governance Guidelines also contain information concerning the responsibilities of the Nominating and Governance Committee with respect to identifying and evaluating director candidates. The Nominating and Governance Committee may identify potential Board candidates from a variety of sources, including recommendations of our shareholders.

#### Director Candidate Recommendations and Nominations by Shareholders

A shareholder may nominate a person for election to the Board of Directors in compliance with applicable Virginia law and our Bylaws. No candidates were nominated by shareholders for election to the Board of Directors at the 2014 annual meeting in accordance with this policy. Our Bylaws require that any such nominations for our 2016 annual meeting of shareholders must be received by us no earlier than February 11, 2016, and no later than March 12, 2016. Any such notice must satisfy the other requirements with respect to such proposals and nominations contained in our Bylaws. If a shareholder fails to meet the requirements or deadlines described in our policy, such nominations will be considered out of order and will not be acted upon at our 2016 annual meeting of shareholders. We may exercise discretionary voting authority under proxies we solicit to vote against any such proposal. See General Information about the Annual Meeting Shareholder Proposals and Nominations for the 2016 Annual Meeting for additional information.

#### Process for Identifying and Evaluating Director Candidates

The Nominating and Governance Committee evaluates all director candidates in accordance with the director qualifications described in our Corporate Governance Guidelines, a copy of which is available on our website at www.arlingtonasset.com. The Committee evaluates properly submitted shareholder nominations no differently than other nominations. In accordance with our Corporate Governance Guidelines, the Nominating and Governance Committee considers, among other things, business experience and skills, independence, diversity, judgment, integrity, the ability to commit sufficient time and attention to the activities of the Board, the absence of any potential conflicts with our interests, and such other factors as it deems appropriate given the current needs of the Board and our Company, to maintain a balance of knowledge, experience and capability. The Nominating and Governance Committee recommends candidates based on its consideration of each individual s specific skills and experience and its annual assessment of the composition and needs of the Board as a whole, including with respect to diversity. Consideration of diversity as one of many attributes relevant to a nomination to the Board is implemented through the Nominating and Governance Committee s standard evaluation process. In particular, the Committee obtains and reviews questionnaires, interviews candidates as appropriate and engages in thorough discussions at Committee meetings in an effort to identify the best candidates and to populate an effective Board. The effectiveness of the Board s diverse mix of viewpoints, backgrounds, experience, expertise, skills and other demographics is considered as part of the Nominating and Governance Committee s annual assessment.

#### **Communications with the Board of Directors**

Shareholders wishing to communicate with the Board of Directors should send any communication in writing to our Corporate Secretary c/o Arlington Asset Investment Corp., 1001 Nineteenth Street North, Suite 1900, Arlington, Virginia 22209. Any such communication must state the number of shares of Class A common stock and Class B common stock beneficially owned by the shareholder making the communication. The Corporate Secretary will forward such communication to the full Board of Directors, a committee of the Board of Directors, the Lead Independent Director or to any other individual director or directors, as appropriate. If a communication is unduly hostile, threatening, illegal or otherwise inappropriate, the Corporate Secretary is authorized by the Board to discard the communication or take appropriate legal action regarding the communication.

# **Risk Oversight**

Our Audit Committee is primarily responsible for overseeing our risk management processes on behalf of the Board. The Audit Committee receives reports from management and the internal auditor regarding our assessment of risks. While the Board (through the Audit Committee) oversees our risk management, our management team is responsible for the day-to-day risk management processes. We believe this division of responsibilities is the most effective approach for addressing the risks facing our Company.

# **Director Attendance at the Annual Meeting**

In accordance with our Corporate Governance Guidelines, directors are expected to attend our annual meeting of shareholders, unless excused by the Lead Independent Director with good cause. All of the members of our Board of Directors attended the 2014 annual meeting of shareholders in person.

# **Contributions to Charitable Entities**

During the past three fiscal years, we have not made any charitable contributions to any charitable organization for which any of our directors served as an executive officer.

# **Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation**

The Compensation Committee consists of the following non-employee directors, all of whom are independent according to the standards set forth in the NYSE listing standards and our Corporate Governance Guidelines: Messrs. Berce (Chairman), Gallagher and Michael. None of the current members of the Compensation Committee has ever served as an officer or employee of our Company or had any relationship with our Company requiring disclosure as a related party transaction under the applicable SEC rules. During fiscal year 2014, none of our executive officers served on the compensation committee or board of directors of another entity, one of whose executive officers served on the compensation committee and none of our executive officers served on the compensation committee of whose executive officers served on the compensation committee of another entity, one of whose executive officers served on our Board.

# **Director Stock Ownership Guidelines**

On February 9, 2011, the Board affirmed the stock ownership guidelines applicable to each member of the Board who is not also an executive officer. Under these ownership guidelines, each non-executive director is required to retain 100% of any equity awards made to such director from and after February 9, 2011 until the date on which the director is no longer a director of our Company.

# **Director Compensation**

Compensation for non-employee directors is established by our Compensation Committee to provide an appropriate level of compensation relative to the work required for service on our Board, as well as to director compensation practices in the competitive market. Our Compensation Committee periodically, but at least annually, reviews non-employee director compensation, assuring that individual cash components (i.e., retainers and meeting fees), total cash, and equity awards are appropriately positioned.

Our non-employee directors are compensated in both cash and equity (in the form of restricted stock units ( RSUs )) in order to align our directors interests with the long-term interests of our shareholders. Our non-employee director compensation includes:

Element	Amount
Annual Cash Retainer	\$ 50,000
Annual RSU Grant	\$ 80,000
Lead Independent Director Retainer <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 95,000
Audit Committee Chair Premium <sup>(2)</sup>	\$ 25,000
Nominating and Governance Committee Chair Premium <sup>(3)</sup>	\$ 10,000
Compensation Committee Chair Premium <sup>(3)</sup>	\$ 10,000
In-Person Board or Committee Meeting Fee	\$ 1,500
Telephonic Board or Committee Meeting Fee	\$ 500

Paid in four equal installments each quarter. Retainer consists of \$82,500 in cash and \$12,500 in RSUs, and is paid in addition to annual cash retainer and RSU grant.

- (2) Paid in four equal installments each quarter. Premium consists of \$17,500 in cash and \$7,500 in RSUs and is paid in addition to annual cash retainer and RSU grant.
- (3) Paid in four equal installments each quarter. Premium consists of \$5,000 in cash and \$5,000 in RSUs and is paid in addition to annual cash retainer and RSU grant.

We also reimburse our non-employee directors for their reasonable out-of-pocket expenses incurred in attending meetings of our Board of Directors and its committees and corporate events that directors may be asked to attend.

## **Director Compensation for 2014**

The following table contains compensation information for each of our non-employee directors serving on the Board during the year ended December 31, 2014. Neither J. Rock Tonkel, Jr., our President and Chief Executive Officer, nor Eric F. Billings, our Executive Chairman, received compensation for their services as members of the Board of Directors in 2014. Anthony P. Nader, III began his term as a member of the Board of Directors on March 1, 2015, therefore he did not receive compensation in 2014.

Fees Earned or Paid in Cash <sup>(1)</sup>	Stock Awards <sup>(2)</sup>	Total Compensation
\$ 166,500	\$ 92,500	\$ 259,000
\$ 83,000	\$ 85,000	\$ 168,000
\$77,000	\$ 80,000	\$ 157,000
\$ 89,500	\$ 85,000	\$ 174,500
\$ 96,000	\$ 87,500	\$ 183,500
	or Paid in Cash <sup>(1)</sup> \$ 166,500 \$ 83,000 \$ 77,000 \$ 89,500	or Paid in Cash <sup>(1)</sup> Awards <sup>(2)</sup> \$ 166,500 \$ 92,500 \$ 83,000 \$ 85,000 \$ 77,000 \$ 80,000 \$ 89,500 \$ 85,000

As stated above, includes an annual cash retainer paid to each of our non-employee directors, as well as in-person and telephonic attendance fees for each meeting of our Board of Directors and its standing committees on which

(1)each of our non-employee directors served. Additionally, includes cash portion of Lead Independent Director retainer for Mr. Altobello, and cash portions of Audit, Nominating and Governance, and Compensation Committee Chair Premiums for Messrs. Michael, Gallagher and Berce, respectively.

In fiscal 2014, each non-employee director received an award of RSUs with the number of shares calculated to target the grant date values listed in this column, with each RSU valued at \$27.70, the closing price of our Class A common stock on the NYSE on the grant date. The amounts in this column reflect the grant date fair value

(2) calculated in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718 for awards granted to non-employee directors during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014. For more information regarding the valuation of RSU awards granted by us to our non-employee directors, please refer to Note 8 in the notes to our consolidated financial statements included in our 2014 Annual Report.

# **Outstanding Equity Awards Held By Directors**

As of December 31, 2014, our non-employee directors held RSUs as set forth in the table below:

Name	Aggregate Number of RSUs Outstanding at Fiscal Year End	Aggregate Fair Value of RSUs Outstanding at December 31, 2014 <sup>(1)</sup>	Aggregate Grant Date Fair Value of RSUs Outstanding at Fiscal Year End <sup>(2)</sup>	Aggregate Number of Options Outstanding at Fiscal Year End	Aggregate Grant Date Fair Value of Option Awards Outstanding at Fiscal Year End	
Daniel J. Altobello	36,434	\$ 969,509	\$ 1,109,897			
Daniel E. Berce	14,683	\$ 390,715	\$ 374,960			
David W. Faeder	5,793	\$ 154,152	\$ 159,972			
Peter A. Gallagher	32,831	\$ 873,633	\$ 982,383			
Ralph S. Michael, III	33,170	\$ 882,654	\$ 779,922			

(1) The amounts in this column equal the number of RSUs multiplied by \$26.61, the last sale price on the NYSE on December 31, 2014.

The amounts in this column reflect the grant date fair value calculated in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718

(2) for equity awards granted to non-employee directors. For more information regarding the valuation of equity awards granted by us to our non-employee directors, please refer to Note 8 in the notes to our consolidated financial statements included in our 2014 Annual Report.

# **Annual Grant of RSUs to Non-Employee Directors**

On June 11, 2014, the date of our 2014 annual meeting of shareholders, each of our non-employee directors received an annual grant of 2,888 RSUs having an aggregate grant date fair value of \$80,000, based on the closing sale price of our Class A common stock on the NYSE on June 11, 2014. The RSUs were granted pursuant to our 2011 Long-Term Incentive Plan. In addition to the annual grant of RSUs, we also granted additional RSUs to our non-employee directors for services as our Lead Independent Director or as a chairman of one of our Board s standing committees, as noted in Director Compensation for 2014 above.

A non-employee director s interest in RSUs awarded pursuant to our 2011 Long-Term Incentive Plan vests immediately on the award grant date. These vested RSUs are converted into shares of our Class A common stock on a one-for-one basis, with any fractional shares being settled in cash, upon the later of the date the grantee separates from our service or the first anniversary of the grant date (the Settlement Date ). If a change in control occurs before the Settlement Date, the settlement will occur on the control change date.

Prior to the effectiveness of the 2011 Long-Term Incentive Plan on June 2, 2011, we awarded RSUs to our non-employee directors pursuant to the Company s 2004 Long-Term Incentive Plan, the FBR Stock and Annual Incentive Plan or the Company s Non-Employee Director Stock Compensation Plan (the Prior Plans ). A non-employee director s interest in RSUs awarded pursuant to one of the Prior Plans vested if he served on our Board of Directors from the date of grant until the first anniversary of the award. Vested RSUs ordinarily are converted to shares of Class A common stock on a one-for-one basis, with any fractional share being settled in cash, one year after the participant ceases to be a member of our Board of Directors.

RSUs do not have any voting rights but are entitled to cash dividend equivalent payments.

The following table sets forth certain information regarding RSUs granted on June 11, 2014 to our non-employee directors as discussed above.

	Aggregate	Grant Date
Name	Number	Fair Value
	of RSUs	of RSUs
	Awarded	Awarded <sup>(1)</sup>
Daniel J. Altobello	3,339	\$ 92,500
Daniel E. Berce	3,068	\$ 85,000
David W. Faeder	2,888	\$ 80,000
Peter A. Gallagher	3,068	\$ 85,000
Ralph S. Michael, III	3,158	\$ 87,500

(1) The grant date fair value is calculated in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718 and is based on the closing sale price of our Class A common stock on the NYSE on June 11, 2014, which was \$27.70.

### **EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF THE COMPANY**

Our named executive officers for the year ended December 31, 2014 were J. Rock Tonkel, Jr., President and Chief Executive Officer, Eric F. Billings, Executive Chairman of the Board, and Kurt R. Harrington, Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer. The following persons have been appointed by our Board of Directors to serve as our executive officers in the fiscal year ending December 31, 2015

ERIC F. BILLINGS, age 62, is our Executive Chairman. Since co-founding our company in 1989, he has continuously served as a director. He was appointed Chairman and Chief Executive Officer on April 28, 2005 and served as Chief Executive Officer until June 2014. He served as Vice Chairman and Chief Operating Officer from 1989 to 1999, Vice Chairman and Co-Chief Executive Officer from 1999 to April 2003 and Co-Chairman and Co-Chief Executive Officer from 1999 to April 2003 and Co-Chairman and Co-Chief Executive Officer from April 2003 to April 2005. Mr. Billings also served as Chairman of FBR & Co., a publicly-traded investment banking, institutional brokerage and asset management firm from 2006 until 2012. From 2006 to 2008, Mr. Billings also served as the Chief Executive Officer of FBR Capital Markets. In addition, he concurrently holds the position of Senior Managing Partner and Co-Portfolio Manager of Billings Capital Management, LLC, an investment management company he runs with his sons. Mr. Billings serves on the Board of Visitors and the Center for Financial Policy Advisory Board

at the University of Maryland s Robert H. Smith School of Business. He also sits on the Leadership Council of the Board of Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Washington.

**J. ROCK TONKEL, JR.**, age 52, is our Chief Executive Officer, a position he has held since June 2014, and our President. He also has served as a director of our Company since March 2007. From February 2007 until June 2014 he served as our Chief Operating Officer. From April 2004 to February 2007, Mr. Tonkel served as President and Head of Investment Banking at FBR & Co. Prior to that, Mr. Tonkel served as Executive Vice President and Head of Investment Banking, a position he assumed in February 2002. Mr. Tonkel joined FBR & Co. in 1994 as a Managing Director and Head of Investment Banking s financial institutions group.

KURT R. HARRINGTON, age 62, was our Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer until March 23, 2015, a position he had held since January 2000. Following a search for a new chief financial officer, Richard E. Konzmann was chosen to succeed Mr. Harrington. On March 10, 2015, the Board appointed Mr.
Konzmann as Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer of the Company, effective March 23, 2015. To assist with the transition, Mr. Harrington will remain an employee of the Company until April 30, 2015.

**RICHARD E. KONZMANN**, age 46, is our Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer, a position he has held since March 23, 2015. Prior to joining the Company, Mr. Konzmann was employed by American Capital, Ltd. (NASDAQ: ACAS), a publicly traded private equity firm and global asset manager of publicly traded mortgage real estate investment trusts, business development companies and private equity funds. While at American Capital, Ltd., Mr. Konzmann served as Senior Vice President, Accounting from 2006 to March 2015, Vice President, Accounting from 2003 to 2005 and Corporate Controller from 2002 to 2003. From 1993 to 2002, Mr. Konzmann served in various controllership, finance and asset management roles with Crestline Capital Corporation (NYSE: CLJ) and Host Marriott Corporation (NYSE: HMT). From 1990 to 1993, Mr. Konzmann was employed with the public accounting firm Deloitte and Touche LLP. Mr. Konzmann is a Certified Public Account and Certified Valuation Analyst.

### **PRINCIPAL SHAREHOLDERS**

The following table sets forth, as of March 31, 2015, certain information concerning the beneficial ownership of our Class A and Class B common stock by (i) each of our directors and director nominees, (ii) each of our named executive officers, (iii) all of our executive officers and directors as a group and (iv) each person known to us to be the owner of more than 5% of our Class A or Class B common stock.

For purposes of the table below, beneficial ownership has been determined in accordance with Rule 13d-3 of the Exchange Act. Unless indicated otherwise in the footnotes to the table below, each individual has sole voting and investment power with respect to all shares of our Class A and Class B common stock shown as beneficially owned by such person. The address of each individual listed in the table is c/o Arlington Asset Investment Corp., 1001 Nineteenth Street North, Suite 1900, Arlington, Virginia 22209.

Name of Beneficial Owners	Number of Shares of Class A Common Stock	Percent of Class <sup>(1)</sup>	Number of Shares of Class B Common Stock		Percent of Total Voting Power <sup>(3)</sup>
Eric F. Billings	125,217 <sup>(4)</sup>	*	65,460 <sup>(5)</sup>	61.8 %	1.4 %
J. Rock Tonkel, Jr.	291,928	1.3 %	14,000 <sup>(6)</sup>	13.2 %	1.4 %

Daniel J. Altobello	37,934 (7)	*		:	*	*
Daniel E. Berce	19,683 (7)	*		:	*	*
David W. Faeder	5,793 (7)	*		:	*	*
Peter A. Gallagher	32,831 (7)	*		:	*	*
Richard E. Konzmann		*		:	*	*
Ralph S. Michael, III	35,495 (7)	*		:	*	*
Anthony P. Nader, III	800 (7)	*		:	*	*
All executive officers and directors (9 persons)	549,681	1.9 %	79,460	75.1	% 2.9	%

\*

Less than one percent.

Based on 22,860,922 shares of Class A common stock outstanding as of March 31, 2015. Holders of shares of Class A common stock are entitled to one vote per share. Shares of Class A common stock subject to options or

- (1) other awards currently exercisable, or exercisable within 60 days of March 31, 2015, are deemed outstanding for computing the percentage of the class owned by the person holding such options, but are not deemed outstanding for computing the percentage of the class owned by any other person.
  Based on 105,869 shares of Class B common stock outstanding as of March 31, 2015. Holders of shares of Class B common stock are entitled to three votes per share. Shares of Class B common stock subject to options currently
- (2) exercisable, or exercisable within 60 days of March 31, 2015, are deemed outstanding for computing the percentage of the class owned by the person holding such options, but are not deemed outstanding for computing the percentage of the class owned by any other person.

Total voting power represents the combined voting power of our outstanding Class A and Class B common stock. (3)Holders of shares of Class A and Class B common stock vote together on all matters submitted to a vote of our

shareholders. The number of shares of Class A common stock shown as beneficially owned by Mr. Billings in the table above includes: (i) 65 shares held by the Eric and Marianne Billings Charitable Foundation, as to which Mr. Billings disclaims beneficial ownership; (ii) 11,000 shares held in irrevocable trusts for the benefit of each child of Jonathan

- (4) Billings, the brother of Mr. Billings, for which Mr. Billings serves as the trustee and over which shares Mr. Billings exercises sole voting and investment power but as to which shares he disclaims beneficial ownership; and (iii) 114,152 shares held by Mr. Billings, over which Mr. Billings exercises sole voting and investment power (114,141 of these shares have been pledged by Mr. Billings as collateral for a line of credit with Wells Fargo & Company). The number of shares of Class B common stock shown as beneficially owned by Mr. Billings in the table above includes an aggregate of 4,612 shares held in irrevocable trusts for the benefit of each child of Jonathan Billings, (5) the brother of D is D Different Company).
- (5) the brother of Eric F. Billings. Mr. Eric F. Billings serves as the trustee and exercises sole voting and investment power over these shares but disclaims beneficial ownership of these shares.

The number of shares of Class B common stock shown as beneficially owned by Mr. Tonkel in the table above (6) excludes 2,500 shares held in an irrevocable family trust. Mr. Tonkel does not exercise voting or investment power

(6) over these 2,500 shares and disclaims beneficial ownership of these shares except to the extent of his pecuniary interest in the family trust.

The number of shares of Class A common stock shown as beneficially owned by each of our directors and director nominees in the table above includes vested RSUs that we have awarded to our directors under our 2014 Long-Term Incentive Plan, 2011 Long-Term Incentive Plan and the Prior Plans, in the following amounts: Mr. Altobello 36,434 RSUs; Mr. Berce 14,683 RSUs; Mr. Faeder 5,793 RSUs; Mr. Gallagher 32,831 RSUs; Mr.

(7)Michael 33,170 RSUs and Mr. Nader 800. Vested RSUs are converted to shares of Class A common stock upon the director ceasing to be a member of our Board of Directors. See Information on our Board of Directors, its Committees and Corporate Governance Director Compensation for 2014 Annual Grant of RSUs to Non-Employee Directors. RSUs do not have any voting rights but are entitled to cash dividend equivalent payments.

#### **EQUITY COMPENSATION PLAN INFORMATION**

The following table sets forth, as of December 31, 2014, information with respect to compensation plans under which equity securities are authorized for issuance:

Plan Category	Number of Securities to be Issued Upon Exercise of Outstanding Options, Warrants and Rights	Weighted Average Exercise Price of Outstandin Options, Warrants and Rights	Under Equity Compensation
Equity Compensation Plans Approved by Shareholders	545,568.5 (1)	\$	1,998,774 (2)
Equity Compensation Plans Not Approved by Shareholders Total	545,568.5	\$	1,998,774

Consists of awards granted under the 2014 Long-Term Incentive Plan, the 2011 Long-Term Incentive Plan and the Prior Plans. This amount includes 122,911 RSUs and 422,657.5 performance share units ( PSUs ), which represent (1) the maximum number of Book Value PSUs and TSR PSUs, excluding dividend reinvestments, that are potentially (1) issuable. There is not a weighted-average exercise price for these RSUs and PSUs. The 2011 Long-Term Incentive Plan and the Prior Plans have been replaced by the 2014 Long-Term Incentive Plan, but the terms of awards previously granted pursuant to the 2011 Long-Term Incentive Plan and the Prior Plans remain the same. Consists of shares of Class A common stock available for issuance under the 2014 Long-Term Incentive Plan, which may be subject to awards of stock options, stock appreciation rights, shares of restricted stock, RSUs and performance-based awards. Shares covered by outstanding awards granted pursuant to the 2014 Long-Term Incentive Plan, the 2011 Long-Term Incentive Plan or any Prior Plan become available for future grants under the 2014 Long-Term Incentive Plan if the award is canceled, terminated, forfeited or otherwise settled without the issuance of shares subject to such award. As of December 31, 2014, a maximum of 422,657.5 shares of Class A common stock, excluding dividend reinvestments, may be issuable under certain circumstances upon vesting of outstanding PSUs. Under the 2011 Long-Term Incentive Plan, 308,934 shares of Class A common stock may be issuable upon vesting of a portion of these PSUs, leaving 113,723.5 shares that may be issuable under the 2014 Long-Term Incentive Plan upon the vesting of the remaining outstanding PSUs. If the maximum awards are earned under these PSUs, excluding dividend reinvestments, the Company would have 1,885,050.5 shares available to grant under the 2014 Long-Term Incentive Plan.

#### SECTION 16(a) BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP REPORTING COMPLIANCE

Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act requires directors, executive officers and greater-than-10% beneficial owners to file reports of ownership and changes in ownership of our securities with the SEC. Based solely upon our review of the copies of such reports furnished to us and written representations from certain of our executive officers and directors that no other such reports were required, we believe that during the period from January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014, all Section 16(a) filing requirements applicable to our officers, directors and greater-than-10% beneficial

owners were complied with on a timely basis.

### CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND TRANSACTIONS WITH RELATED PERSONS

#### Review, Approval or Ratification of Transactions With Related Persons

Our policy and practice is not to enter into any related party transaction with any of our executive officers or directors (or transactions not in the ordinary course of business or not performed on standard market terms with shareholders known to beneficially own over 5% of a class of our voting securities or their related persons), unless the transaction is approved by a majority of our disinterested directors. Pursuant to its charter, the Audit Committee is responsible for reviewing and approving all transactions between our Company and any related person that are required to be disclosed pursuant to Item 404 of SEC Regulation S-K. In addition, pursuant to its charter, the Nominating and Governance Committee periodically reviews our conflict of interest policies as set forth in our Statement of Business Principles concerning directors and executive officers, and reviews with management our procedures for implementing and monitoring compliance with the conflict of interest policies.

# **COMPENSATION DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

#### Introduction

This Compensation Discussion and Analysis describes our compensation strategy, policies, programs and practices for 2014 for our named executive officers that served during the year ended December 31, 2014. Our named executive officers for the year ended December 31, 2014 were J. Rock Tonkel, Jr., President and Chief Executive Officer, Eric F. Billings, Executive Chairman of the Board, and Kurt R. Harrington, Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer.

The primary purpose of the Compensation Committee is to assist the Board in discharging its responsibilities relating to compensation of the Company s directors and officers. In furtherance of this role, the Committee seeks to attract and retain high-quality leadership and ensure that the Company s executive compensation strategy supports the Company s objectives and shareholder interests. In this Compensation Discussion and Analysis, we sometimes refer to the Compensation Committee as the Committee.

## **Executive Summary**

#### Key 2014 Financial and Strategic Accomplishments

During 2014, the Company continued its strategic initiatives designed to strengthen its financial and operational positions to maximize the returns to its shareholders and increase shareholder value. Key accomplishments in 2014 include:

We generated an Adjusted ROE, defined below, of 24.3%.

We produced a total shareholder return (the Company s Class A common stock price appreciation plus dividends) of 14%, including payment of a tax-advantaged (as compared to real estate investment trusts) quarterly dividend that equaled \$3.50 per share for the year ended December 31, 2014.

During 2014, we also completed two public offerings of Class A common stock for net proceeds of approximately \$167 million.

#### **Summary of Total Direct Compensation Program Elements**

In 2014, the Compensation Committee continued its approach to executive compensation with the overarching goals of linking pay to performance, aligning the interests of management with those of shareholders and retaining top management talent. Our executive compensation program was designed to include three direct compensation components: base salary, annual cash incentive and long-term incentive compensation opportunities for each executive. Summarized below is a description of the three components and their principal contribution to our compensation objectives, as well as highlights of the key actions and decisions made with respect to each component for 2014.

Compensation Component	Description and Principal Contribution to Compensation Objectives	2014 Highlights
Base Salary	Minimum level of fixed cash compensation. Salaries are set based on a variety of factors, including competitive market data, scope of the individual s role in the organization, the individual s level of experience and individual performance and potential.	Base salary for Mr. Billings remained unchanged in 2014 as compared to 2013. Base salaries for Messrs. Harrington and Tonkel increased. Mr. Harrington received an increase to better align his salary with market competitive practices, and Mr. Tonkel received an increase when he was promoted to the position of Chief Executive Officer.
Annual Cash Incentive	Executives were eligible to earn between 0% and 200% of their target bonus opportunities, which were 100% of base salary, based on performance achievements relative to specific metrics and goals.	Adjusted ROE in 2014 was 24.3%, resulting in bonuses for Messrs. Billings, Tonkel and Harrington of 200% of target for 50% of the bonus opportunity.
	For 2014, 50% of the annual bonus opportunity was based on the achievement of specific return on equity ( Adjusted ROE ) goals, defined as pre-tax GAAP income, plus accrued NEO compensation, employee and director non-cash compensation, legacy litigation expenses, non-cash other-than-temporary impairment and non-recurring expenses, less non-cash net premium accretion and discount amortization on our mortgage-backed securities ( MBS ) portfol while adjusting out net non-cash mark-to-market gains and losses on our MBS trading portfolio and hedging instruments and realized gains and losses related to our 10-year swap futures that we use to hedge our MBS portfolio, divided by Average Shareholders Equity, defined as shareholders equity at December 31, 2013 (excluding deferred tax assets), plus the pro-rata portion of new investor equity added during the year 2014. Adjusted ROE was selected because it measures both our profitability and our efficient use of equity capital. The Adjusted ROE goals for 2014 were 11%, 13% and 15% at threshold, target and maximum, respectively.	Based on the executives leadership and ability to continue to implement the Company s strategy that was designed to strengthen its financial and operational positions to maximize the returns to its shareholders and increase shareholder value, as shown by its overall performance during 2014, the Committee determined that, based upon its subjective assessment and evaluation of specific predetermined measurement criteria, Messrs. Billings, Tonkel and Harrington warranted payment at 200% of target for the remaining 50% of the bonus opportunity for 2014.

The remaining 50% of the annual bonus opportunity was based on a subjective assessment of the executives performance as well as a predetermined set of measurement criteria established by the Committee for the 2014 performance year.

Compensation Component	Description and Principal Contribution to Compensation Objectives	2014 Highlights
Long-Term Incentives	Our performance-based long-term incentive program (the PSU Program ) consists of grants two types of PSUs. The PSU Program is designed to provide an incentive compensation opportunity that balances the Company s interna financial objectives and external market performance.	with an aggregate grant date fair value equal to 100% of each awardee s base
	Each grant of PSUs provides the participant the opportunity to earn between 0 and 250% of the target number of PSUs based on achievement of pre-determined performance goals.	Each grant of PSUs awarded in 2014 has a three-year performance period from July 1, 2014 through July 1, 2017.
	The first type of PSU, which we refer to as Boo Value PSUs, will be eligible to vest based on th compound annualized growth in the Company s book value per share (i.e., book value change plus dividends on a reinvested basis) during the applicable performance period.	eawarded Mr. Tonkel 36,102 restricted
	The other type of PSU, which we refer to as TS PSUs, will be eligible to vest based on the Company s compound annualized total shareholder return (i.e., share price change plus dividends on a reinvested basis) during the applicable performance period.	Ro Mr. Tonkel s continued employment, as follows: (a) with respect to one-half of the Restricted Shares, on June 11, 2017; and (b) with respect to the other one-half of the Restricted Shares, on June 11, 2018. Mr. Tonkel will be entitled to
		dividends and voting rights with respect to all of the Restricted Shares.

#### **Compensation Policies**

Our executive compensation programs and policies reflect a number of governance best practices, including the following:

Management regularly, and at least annually, conducts a risk assessment of our compensation policies and practices and reports the results to the Committee. Based on the most recent analysis, the Committee concluded that our compensation policies and practices for fiscal 2014 did not create risks that are reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on the Company. See Compensation Risk Analysis on page 33.

The Board has adopted stock ownership guidelines for executive officers that seek to ensure each named executive

officer has a meaningful ownership interest in the Company. See Stock Ownership Guidelines on page 31. The Board has adopted a clawback policy under which we can recover any cash bonus paid during the prior fiscal year to an executive officer whose intentional misconduct causes us to restate our financial statements. See Compensation Clawback Policy on pages 31 and 32.

We do not have employment contracts or post-termination compensation agreements with any of our named executive officers, and we do not have contractual provisions or other arrangements with any of our named executive officers that provide for payments by us to a named executive officer at, following or in connection with the resignation, severance, retirement or other termination (including constructive termination). We do not provide excise tax gross-ups for excess parachute payments.

We do not provide unique perquisites or any special benefits to our named executive officers, other than in 2013 and 2014 when we made reimbursements to Mr. Tonkel for legal fees incurred in connection with the negotiation of his compensation arrangements related to his promotion to Chief Executive Officer. Named executive officers are eligible to participate in the same benefits programs as all other employees.

As part of our policy of maintaining performance-based compensation plans, we do not provide defined benefit plans or other retirement benefits to our named executive officers, other than a tax-qualified defined contribution savings plan available to all of our employees pursuant to Section 401(k) of the Internal Revenue Code.

#### Consideration of Shareholder Advisory Vote on Executive Compensation

At our 2014 annual meeting of shareholders, we asked our shareholders to vote, on an advisory basis, on the compensation of our named executive officers as disclosed in our 2014 proxy statement, commonly referred to as a say-on-pay advisory vote. Our shareholders overwhelmingly approved the compensation of our named executive officers, with over 92% of the votes cast voting in favor of our executive compensation program. The Committee took into consideration the results of the say-on-pay advisory vote in its review of our compensation program and determined to continue our general approach to executive compensation for 2015. We believe our programs are effectively designed and working well, in alignment with the interests of our shareholders and instrumental in achieving our business strategy. The Committee will continue to consider shareholder concerns and feedback in the future. In determining the frequency of our shareholder say-on-pay advisory vote, the Board took into consideration our shareholders preference for a vote every three years, and determined that we will hold our shareholder say-on-pay advisory vote to be held at our 2017 annual meeting of shareholders.

### **Compensation Philosophy and Objectives**

Our overall compensation program seeks to align executive compensation with the achievement of our company s business objectives and with individual performance towards these objectives. It also seeks to enable the Company to attract, retain and reward executive officers and other key employees who contribute to our success and to incentivize them to enhance long-term shareholder value. In reviewing the components of compensation for each named executive officer, the Committee considers pay for performance on both an annual and long-term basis. To implement this philosophy, the total compensation program is designed to be competitive with the programs of other companies with which the Company competes for executives, and to be fair and equitable to both the Company and the executives. Consideration is given to each executive s overall responsibilities, professional qualifications, length of service, business experience, historical job performance and competitive employment opportunities.

Our compensation program for the named executive officers for 2014 was designed to meet the following objectives:

*Attract and Retain Talented Executives.* Given the highly competitive nature of our business, the mobility of skilled and experienced executives and the competitive importance of compensation in our industry, our 2014 executive compensation program was designed to motivate, reward and retain highly-qualified individuals. Our executive compensation program was also designed to provide compensation that is competitive with compensation provided by other companies to executive officers who provide comparable services, taking into account the size and characteristics of our Company, as well as other factors, including business experience, past contributions, overall

responsibilities and individual performance.

*Pay-for-Performance*. Our executive compensation program was designed to create a compensation structure under which a meaningful portion of the total compensation paid or awarded is based on

corporate performance as measured by the Compensation Committee. As discussed further below, the 2014 annual cash bonus program provided each executive the opportunity to earn a cash bonus dependent on the Company s Adjusted ROE performance as well as the individual performance of each named executive officer. In addition, the PSU Program should provide additional incentives to both grow the Company s book value and provide an attractive total shareholder return over a multi-year period.

*Alignment of Interests with Shareholders.* Our executive compensation program and related policies are designed to encourage the aggregation and maintenance of meaningful equity ownership, and alignment of executive and shareholder interests.

### **Compensation Committee Responsibilities and Authority**

Our Compensation Committee reviews our executive compensation and makes recommendations to our Board of Directors with respect to our compensation structure and policies. Generally, the Committee is responsible for reviewing existing compensation and benefits policies, including reviewing and approving incentive program and equity-based compensation plans. Specifically, with regard to its discretionary power to determine short- and long-term incentive awards, the Committee has the duty to evaluate the performance of our named executive officers, as well as to review and approve corporate goals and objectives relevant to the compensation of our Chief Executive officer and, in consultation with our Chief Executive Officer, our other executive officers.

Since December 2009, the Compensation Committee has engaged Frederic W. Cook & Co., Inc. ( Cook & Co. ) as its independent compensation consultant to provide advice and assistance on the design and structure of the Company s executive compensation programs, including the 2014 compensation program. Cook & Co. reports directly to the Compensation Committee, works with management only under the direction of the Compensation Committee, and does not provide any other advice or consulting services to the Company. The Committee assessed the independence factors in accordance with applicable SEC rules and NYSE Listing Standards and other facts and circumstances and concluded that Cook & Co. s work for the Compensation Committee did not raise any conflicts of interest.

### **Setting Compensation**

Developing recommendations for our Board of Directors regarding our compensation programs and the specific elements and levels of compensation for our named executive officers is central to the role of the Compensation Committee. The Committee does not have a specific allocation goal between cash and equity-based compensation or between annual and long-term incentive compensation. Instead, the Committee relies upon its collective business judgment as applied to the challenges confronting our Company, together with regular peer group analyses, evaluations of internal equity considerations and the recommendations of management. The Committee also considers advice and data from independent consultants, including Cook & Co., and information provided by our employees. The Committee additionally utilizes subjective information when considering the compensation to be paid or awarded to each of our named executive officers, including the executive s overall responsibilities, professional qualifications, length of service, experience, historical job performance and competitive employment opportunities. We believe the variety of inputs considered by the Committee provides a basis for the Committee to make informed decisions on the design of our executive compensation program and the elements and amounts of compensation paid or awarded to our named executive officers.

### **Peer Group Analysis**

In structuring the 2014 executive compensation program, the Compensation Committee considered the competitive analysis conducted by Cook & Co. in 2014, which analyzed compensation practices of companies in a comparative peer group of organizations. The peer group was approved by the Committee with input from Cook & Co. and the

Company s management. The peer group includes companies that are competitors either in our industry or for executive talent, or that have similar financial characteristics. The peer group used in the 2014 competitive analysis and referenced by the Committee when structuring our 2014 compensation program consisted of the following companies: American Capital, Ltd., Arbor Realty Trust, Inc., Capstead Mortgage Corporation, Dynex Capital, Inc., Hercules Technology Growth Capital, Inc., KCAP Financial Inc.,

Main Street Capital Corporation, MCG Capital Corporation, NewStar Financial, Inc., NorthStar Realty Finance Corp., RAIT Financial Trust, Redwood Trust, Inc., Resource America, Inc., and Triangle Capital Corporation.

#### Role of Executive Officers in Determining Executive Compensation for Named Executive Officers

The recommendations of our Executive Chairman and our President and Chief Executive Officer also play a role in the compensation decision making process. Our Executive Chairman and our President and Chief Executive Officer provide the Committee with an assessment of our achievements and performance, their evaluation of individual performance and their recommendations for direct report base salary, short-term bonus and long-term incentive awards. The Committee has the discretion to accept, reject or modify these recommendations.

#### **Elements of Executive Compensation**

Our 2014 executive compensation program was designed to consist of the following direct compensation elements, each of which are described in more detail below:

Base Salary;

Annual Performance-Based Cash Bonus Opportunities; and Long-Term Equity Incentive Awards.

#### 2014 Base Salaries

Base salary provides our executives with a minimum amount of cash compensation that is not variable, or at risk. The Compensation Committee seeks to pay our named executive officers a competitive base salary in recognition of their job responsibilities for a publicly-held company and has generally reviewed base salaries for our executives on an annual basis by considering several factors, including competitive factors within our industry, past contributions and individual performance. As discussed above, in setting base salaries, the Committee is mindful of the total compensation paid to each individual and the overall goal of keeping the amount of cash compensation that is provided in the form of base salary substantially lower than the amount of bonus opportunity that is available, assuming that performance targets are met or exceeded. The Committee also takes into account compensation provided to the named executive officers in past years, including any recent adjustments to their respective base salaries. As illustrated by the table below, the base salary for Mr. Billings remained unchanged in 2014 as compared to 2013. Base salaries for Messrs. Harrington and Tonkel were increased. Mr. Harrington received an increase, effective January 1, 2014, to better align his salary with market competitive practices, and Mr. Tonkel received an increase when he was promoted to the position of Chief Executive Officer, effective June 11, 2014.

Named Executive Officer	2014	2013
Named Executive Officer	Base Salary	Base Salary
Eric F. Billings	\$ 800,000	\$ 800,000
J. Rock Tonkel, Jr.	\$ 800,000 (1)	\$ 750,000
Kurt R. Harrington	\$ 315,000 (2)	\$ 300,000

(1) Mr. Tonkel s 2014 base salary was \$750,000 until June 11, 2014, at which time he was appointed CEO and his salary increased to \$800,000.

(2) Mr. Harrington s 2014 base salary was adjusted from \$300,000 in 2013 to \$315,000, effective January 1, 2014, to better align his salary with market competitive practices.

Role of Executive Officers in Determining Executive Compensation for Named Executive Officers

#### 2014 Annual Performance-Based Cash Bonus Opportunities

Annual performance-based cash bonuses for our named executive officers are administered under our 2014 Long-Term Incentive Plan, which was approved by shareholders at our 2014 annual meeting. For 2014, these short-term incentives were targeted at 100% of base salary for each named executive officer, with actual earnings opportunities ranging from 50% of target for threshold performance to a maximum of 200% of target for superior performance. Performance below threshold levels would not be rewarded with a payout. Due to his appointment as Chief Executive Officer and the corresponding mid-year increase in base salary, Mr. Tonkel s annual cash incentive bonus for the year ending December 31, 2014 was paid on a prorated basis based on the base salaries paid to Mr. Tonkel during the year.

The Committee believes that the target bonus opportunities, when combined with base salaries and long-term incentives, position target total direct compensation near the median of competitive practices for target performance, while providing appropriate downside risk and upside opportunity for each executive.

In order for any short-term incentive to be paid, our Adjusted ROE (as defined above) must have equaled or exceeded 8%. Our actual Adjusted ROE for 2014 was 24.3%, resulting in full initial funding of short-term incentives for the named executive officers.

After determining that the minimum Adjusted ROE had been satisfied, the Compensation Committee examined our performance under the Adjusted ROE objectives (weighted 50%), and each executive s individual performance on a subjective basis (weighted 50%) to determine actual bonus payments to named executive officers by potentially reducing (but not increasing) the amounts funded through achievement of the Adjusted ROE threshold. Using this construct, short-term incentive payments to our executive officers under the Plan are intended to be performance-based, as defined under Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code, and therefore fully deductible for federal income tax purposes.

As described above, 50% of the annual performance-based cash bonus was based on the achievement of corporate performance criteria based on Adjusted ROE. For the Adjusted ROE component of the incentives, the following table summarizes the performance goals and corresponding payouts as a percentage of target, which were decreased from the 2013 performance goals by the Committee based on the Committee s consideration, with input from Cook & Co. and the Company s management, of macroeconomic and general market conditions, independent industry analyst earnings expectations of companies with similar financial characteristics, as well as other factors.

	Bonus				
Adjusted ROE Achievement	Payout				
	(% of Target)				
<11%	0 %				
11%	50 %				
13%	100 %				
15%	200 %				

Our actual Adjusted ROE for 2014 was 24.3%, which resulted in the maximum payout of 200% of target for the corporate performance component representing 50% of the total annual cash bonus opportunity. The remaining 50% of the annual performance-based cash bonus was based on the Committee s subjective assessment and evaluation of specific predetermined measurement criteria of the executives performance during 2014. The Committee conducted a thorough review of the executives performance as well as the overall performance of the Company for 2014. Based on their leadership and ability to continue to implement the Company s strategy that was designed to strengthen its financial and operational positions to maximize the returns to its shareholders and increase shareholder value, as shown by its overall performance during 2014, the Committee determined that based upon its subjective assessment and the accomplishment of specific predetermined measurement criteria that was tied to the Company s strategic priorities and individual performance, Messrs. Billings, Tonkel and Harrington warranted payment at 200% of target for the remaining 50% of the cash bonus opportunity for 2014.

Bonuses were awarded and paid in cash to Messrs. Billings, Tonkel and Harrington in 2015 for performance in 2014. Actual bonuses for Messrs. Billings, Tonkel and Harrington were \$1,600,000, \$1,558,333 and \$630,000, as illustrated

in the Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation column of the Summary Compensation Table.

#### **2014 Long-Term Equity Incentive Awards**

The long-term incentive component of our total compensation program is designed to align further the long-term interests of our named executive officers with those of our shareholders, reward long-term shareholder value creation, serve as a retention tool, provide the appropriate balance with the short-term annual bonus program and help ensure management focuses on the long-term impact of short-term decisions.

In furtherance of these objectives, on August 13, 2012, the Committee adopted a performance-based long-term incentive program (the PSU Program ) that provides for the issuance of two types of PSUs: Book Value PSUs and TSR PSUs. The Book Value PSUs are eligible to vest based on the compound annualized growth in the Company s book value per share (*i.e.*, book value change plus dividends on a reinvested basis) over a three-year performance period. The TSR PSUs are eligible to vest based on the Company s compound annualized total shareholder return (*i.e.*, share price change plus dividends on a reinvested basis) over a three-year performance period.

PSUs do not have any voting rights. No dividends are paid on outstanding PSUs during the applicable performance period. Instead, dividend equivalents are accrued on outstanding PSUs during the applicable performance period, are deemed invested in shares of Class A common stock and are paid out in shares of Class A common stock at the end of the performance period to the extent that the underlying PSUs vest. Upon settlement, vested PSUs are converted into shares of the Company s Class A common stock on a one-for-one basis. The PSUs and dividend equivalents are settled in whole shares of Class A common stock with a cash payment in lieu of any fractional share.

For the 2014 grant, the Committee awarded PSUs with an aggregate grant date fair value equal to 100% of the awardee s base salary, with 50% of the total grant date fair value represented by Book Value PSUs and 50% of the total grant date fair value represented by TSR PSUs.

The actual number of shares of Class A common stock that will be issued to each participant at the end of the applicable performance period will vary between 0% and 250% of the target number of PSUs granted, depending on performance results. If the threshold level of performance is not achieved, no PSUs are earned. If the initial performance threshold is met, participants earn 50% of the granted PSUs for Company performance at the threshold level, 100% of the granted PSUs for Company performance at the target level and 250% of the granted PSUs for Company performance at the maximum level, with linear interpolation for achievement falling between the performance levels.

The performance goals and payout schedule applicable to the Book Value PSUs and TSR PSUs for the 2014 PSUs are set forth below:

Book Valu	e PSUs			TSR PSUs			
Compound Annualized Book Value Share Growth	l	Percent of Target PSUs Earned		Compound Annualized Total Share Return	l	Percent of Target PSUs Earned	
<6.0	%	0	%	<6.0	%	0	%
6.0	%	50	%	6.0	%	50	%
10.0	%	100	%	10.0	%	100	%
>=15.0	%	250	%	>=15.0	%	250	%

In accordance with the Company s 2014 Long-Term Incentive Plan, the Committee will determine the degree to which any applicable performance goal has been achieved.

### **PSU Grants**

The threshold, target and maximum share awards for the PSUs granted to the Company s named executive officers on July 1, 2014 are as follows:

	Book V	alue PSUs	8	TSR PSU	s	
Name and Title	Thresho	offlarget <sup>(1)</sup>	Maximun	n Threshold	lTarget <sup>(2)</sup>	Maximum
Eric F. Billings, <i>Executive Chairman</i>	7,337	14,674	36,685	7,434.5	14,869	37,172.5
J. Rock Tonkel, Jr., President and Chief Executive	7,337	14,674	36,685	7,434.5	14,869	37,172.5
<i>Officer</i> Kurt R. Harrington <sup>(3)</sup> ,						
<i>Executive Vice President, Chief Financial</i> <i>Officer and Treasurer</i>	2,889	5,778	14,445	2,927.5	5,855	14,637.5

To determine the number of Book Value PSUs to grant to each named executive officer, the Committee identified (1) a target grant date fair value for the award equal to 50% of the officer s 2014 base salary, then divided the target (1) a target grant date fair value for the award equal to 50% of the officer s 2014 base salary, then divided the target (1) a target grant date fair value for the award equal to 50% of the officer s 2014 base salary, then divided the target (1) a target grant date fair value for the award equal to 50% of the officer s 2014 base salary, then divided the target (1) a target grant date fair value for the award equal to 50% of the officer s 2014 base salary, then divided the target (1) a target grant date fair value for the award equal to 50% of the officer s 2014 base salary, then divided the target (1) a target grant date fair value for the award equal to 50% of the officer s 2014 base salary, then divided the target (1) a target grant date fair value for the award equal to 50% of the officer s 2014 base salary, then divided the target (1) a target grant date fair value for the award equal to 50% of the officer s 2014 base salary, then divided the target (1) a target grant date fair value for the award equal to 50% of the officer s 2014 base salary, then divided the target (1) a target grant date fair value for the award equal to 50% of the officer s 2014 base salary, then divided the target (1) a target grant date fair value for the award equal target grant date fair value for the award equal target grant date fair value for the award equal target grant date fair value for the award equal target grant date fair value fair value

<sup>(1)</sup> grant date fair value by \$27.26, the last reported sale price of the Company s Class A common stock on the New York Stock Exchange on the grant date.

To determine the number of TSR PSUs to grant to each named executive officer, the Committee identified a target (2)grant date fair value for the award equal to 50% of the officer s 2014 base salary, then divided that amount by \$26.90, the fair value of a unit award calculated using a Monte Carlo simulation model.

On March 10, 2015, the Company s Board of Directors accepted Mr. Harrington s retirement, effective April 30, 2015. The PSUs awarded to Mr. Harrington in 2014 will be pro-rated based on his retirement that occurred before the first anniversary of the grant date. Mr. Harrington s total 2014 PSUs earned under the performance targets will

(3) the first anniversary of the grant date. Mr. Harrington s total 2014 PSUs earned under the performance targets will be pro-rated based on the number of days he worked during the year prior to the first anniversary of the grant date. The maximum pro-rated PSUs that Mr. Harrington will be eligible to earn are shown in Outstanding Equity Awards at 2014 Fiscal Year-End.

The right to receive shares of Class A common stock upon vesting of PSUs at the end of the applicable performance period is subject to both continued employment and the achievement of the Company performance goals established by the Compensation Committee. The employment requirement, but not the performance requirement, is waived in the event the awardee dies, becomes disabled or retires; provided, however, that if the awardee dies, becomes disabled or retires; provided, however, that are earned under the performance targets are pro-rated based on the number of days the awardee worked during the year. If an awardee is terminated without cause, the Compensation Committee, in the exercise of its discretion, determines whether any of the PSUs have been earned, provided that the Compensation Committee may not approve a payout that exceeds the number of PSUs earned under the performance targets. In the event of a change of control, the number of PSUs that are earned for each performance period are determined immediately prior to the change of control based on actual performance and will vest subject to continued employment for the remainder of the original performance period, subject to accelerated vesting in certain circumstances.

accelerated vesting in certain circumstances.

Except as described above or as the Committee at any time may otherwise determine, an awardee will forfeit the right to any PSUs if he or she terminates employment before the payment date.

## **Stock Ownership Guidelines**

The Board of Directors has adopted stock ownership guidelines for our executive officers. Under the ownership guidelines, each executive officer is required to retain 25% of any equity awards made to such executive officer from and after February 9, 2011 until the earlier of (i) the date on which the executive officer is no longer an executive officer of the Company or (ii) the executive officer s achievement of the following ownership levels of the Company s stock as of the date of the grant:

Eric F. Billings\$4,000,000J. Rock Tonkel, Jr.\$3,000,000

As of March 31, 2015, the named executive officers beneficially owned approximately 1.8% of our outstanding Class A common stock in aggregate. As of March 31, 2015, Messrs. Billings and Tonkel also collectively beneficially owned approximately 75.1% of our outstanding Class B common stock. The Committee believes that the current equity holdings of the named executive officers closely align their interests with those of our shareholders.

#### **Compensation Clawback Policy**

On February 9, 2011, the Board of Directors adopted a compensation clawback policy for the recovery of compensation from our executive officers under certain circumstances. Pursuant to the clawback policy, we have the right to recover any cash bonus awarded to an executive officer (i) in the event of an accounting restatement due to material noncompliance by our Company with the financial reporting requirements of the federal securities laws with respect to financial statements filed by our Company within twelve (12) months after the date of such award and (ii) where such noncompliance was the result of intentional misconduct by that executive officer. Under the policy, the executive officer must reimburse us for the difference between the

amount of the original bonus received by that executive officer and the amount of the bonus such officer would have received had the bonus amount been calculated based on the restated financial statements. As adopted, the clawback policy applies to the award of any cash bonus to an executive officer from and after February 9, 2011.

### **Perquisites and Other Personal Benefits**

Given the focus on cash and equity-based compensation in our industry as well as following executive compensation best practices, we do not believe that it is necessary to provide perquisites and other personal benefits as part of the total compensation of our named executive officers. Other than in unique circumstances, we do not provide to our named executive officers perquisites such as personal financial planning services, tax advice, income tax preparation fees, housing or other living expenses, personal use of corporate aircraft or other personal travel, car allowances, commuting expenses or payment of uninsured medical costs. We do not provide tax gross up payments or other tax reimbursement payments to our named executive officers.

Our named executive officers are eligible to participate in our group health insurance, life insurance benefit, 401(k) match and other programs on the same terms as our other employees.

#### Post-Termination Compensation; Potential Payments Upon a Change of Control

We do not have employment contracts or post-termination compensation agreements with any of our named executive officers, and we do not have contractual provisions or other arrangements with any of the named executive officers that provide for payments by us to a named executive officer at, following or in connection with the resignation, severance, retirement or other termination (including constructive termination) of a named executive officer. The Board of Directors retains discretion to provide severance in a particular case, although we are under no obligation to do so. Unvested stock options, restricted stock awards, and PSUs held by grantees, including those held by named executive officers, may vest upon a change of control or following a change of control as provided under the terms of our 2014 Long-Term Incentive Plan and individual grant agreements.

### **Retirement Benefits**

We do not provide defined benefit plans, nonqualified deferred compensation plans or other retirement benefits to our named executive officers, other than a tax-qualified defined contribution savings plan available to all of our employees pursuant to Section 401(k) of the Internal Revenue Code.

### **Tax Deductibility of Certain Compensation**

Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code limits the ability of a public company to deduct for tax purposes compensation in excess of \$1.0 million paid annually to each of the Chief Executive Officer and other named executive officers named in the Summary Compensation Table (other than our Chief Financial Officer). There are exceptions to this limit, including an exception for compensation that is based on the attainment of performance goals that are established by the Committee that are stated with reference to performance measures and approved by our shareholders. It is our intention to pay compensation that is fully tax deductible, pursuant to Section 162(m), when that is practicable. However, the Committee is of the view that there are circumstances in which the provision of compensation that is not fully deductible may be more consistent with the compensation philosophy and objectives of the Committee, as discussed above, and in the best interests of our company and our shareholders. The Committee s

ability to exercise discretion and to retain flexibility in this regard may, in certain circumstances, outweigh the advantages of qualifying all compensation as tax deductible under Section 162(m). The Committee has administered the 2014 annual bonus and designed the terms of the PSUs such that they are intended to qualify as performance-based compensation that is fully tax-deductible under Section 162(m).

#### **Compensation Risk Analysis**

The Committee regularly monitors the risks and rewards associated with our compensation programs. The Committee also establishes our compensation programs with the intent to align our interests with shareholders and to help prevent unnecessary or excessive risk taking. We believe that our compensation policies and practices are well balanced and designed to avoid creating compensation incentives that encourage unnecessary or excessive risks that could potentially have a material adverse effect on our Company. The Compensation Discussion and Analysis section above describes our general compensation for all of our named executive officers, with a focus on performance. We provide a balance between short-term and long-term, cash and equity incentive compensation to ensure management focuses on the long-term impact of short-term decisions and that management s interests are aligned with those of our shareholders. As an additional safeguard against unnecessary or excessive risk taking, even if pre-established performance metrics are satisfied, the Committee retains the right to reduce overall and individual awards. The Committee continually assesses our executive compensation programs and has implemented additional policies and practices that we believe have further mitigated compensation driven risk. Some of these policies and practices include limits on executive bonuses, the adoption of a clawback policy and the adoption of executive officer stock ownership guidelines, as previously described in more detail in this proxy statement.

## **EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION TABLES**

#### **Summary Compensation Table for 2014**

In accordance with the rules of the SEC, the following table contains compensation information for each of our named executive officers for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012.

Name and Principal Position	Year	Salary	Stock Awards <sup>(1)</sup>	Non-Equity Incentive Plan Comp. <sup>(2)</sup>	All Other Comp. <sup>(3)</sup>	Total
Eria E. Dillinga	2014	\$800,000	\$800,000	\$1,600,000	\$12,217	\$3,212,217
Eric F. Billings	2013	\$800,000	\$800,000	\$1,600,000	\$12,017	\$3,212,017
Executive Chairman	2012	\$800,000	\$600,000	\$2,000,000	\$11,817	\$3,411,817
J. Rock Tonkel, Jr.	2014	\$775,577	\$1,800,025 <sup>(4)</sup>	\$1,558,333	\$13,718	\$4,147,653
Chief Executive Officer and	2013	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$1,500,000	\$44,058	\$3,044,058
President	2012	\$750,000	\$562,500	\$1,875,000	\$11,638	\$3,199,138
Kurt R. Harrington	2014	\$315,000	\$315,000 (5)	\$630,000	\$13,807	\$1,273,807
Executive Vice President,	2013	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$600,000	\$13,607	\$1,213,607
Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer	2012	\$300,000	\$225,000	\$750,000	\$13,407	\$1,288,407

Represents the aggregate grant date fair value of the PSU awards made in 2012, 2013 and 2014 as computed in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718. These amounts do not correspond to the actual value that may be recognized by each named executive officer. The assumptions used in determining the grant date fair values of the equity awards are set forth in Note 8 to our consolidated financial statements, which are included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014. The amounts reported under this column include both the Book Value PSUs and TSR PSUs, which are described in the Compensation Discussion & Analysis under the heading 2014 Long-Term Equity Incentive Awards. Details regarding 2014 PSU awards can be found in the table Grants of Plan-Based Awards. Details regarding outstanding stock awards can be found in the table Outstanding

- (1) Equity Awards At Fiscal Year End. The values reported for the PSUs are based on the probable outcome of each of the performance and market conditions being achieved. For the 2014 performance year, the grant date fair value of the PSUs assuming that the highest level of performance, excluding dividend reinvestments, will be achieved would be as follows for each of the named executive officers: Mr. Billings \$2,000,000; Mr. Tonkel \$2,000,000; and Harrington \$787,500. For the 2013 performance year, the grant date fair value of the PSUs assuming that the highest level of performance, excluding dividend reinvestments, will be achieved would be as follows for each of the named executive officers: Mr. Billings \$2,000,000; Ar. Tonkel \$1,875,000; and Harrington \$750,000. For the 2012 performance year, the grant date fair value of the PSUs assuming that the highest level of performance, excluding dividend reinvestments, will be achieved would be as follows for each of the named executive officers: Mr. Billings \$2,000,000; Mr. Tonkel \$1,875,000; and Harrington \$750,000. For the 2012 performance year, the grant date fair value of the PSUs assuming that the highest level of performance, excluding dividend reinvestments, will be achieved would be as follows for each of the named executive officers: Mr. Billings \$1,200,000; Mr. Tonkel \$1,125,000; and Harrington \$450,000.
- (2) For the 2014 performance year, Messrs. Billings, Tonkel and Harrington received annual performance-based cash bonuses in the amount of \$1,600,000, \$1,558,333 and \$630,000, respectively, in relation to our achievement of the pre-determined Adjusted ROE goal as well as each executive s individual performance for 2014. For the 2013 performance year, Messrs. Billings, Tonkel and Harrington received annual performance-based cash bonuses in the amount of \$1,600,000, \$1,500,000 and \$600,000, respectively, in relation to our achievement of the pre-determined Adjusted ROE goal as well as each executive s individual performance for 2013. For the 2012 performance year, Messre and Search executive s individual performance for 2013. For the 2012 performance year, Messre and Search executive s individual performance for 2013. For the 2012 performance year, Messre and Search executive s individual performance for 2013. For the 2012 performance year, Messre and Search executive s individual performance for 2014.

Messrs. Billings, Tonkel and Harrington received annual performance-based cash bonuses in the amount of \$2,000,000, \$1,875,000 and \$750,000, respectively, in relation to our achievement of the pre-determined corporate profitability goal as well as each executive s individual performance for 2012.

Amounts in this column represent (i) the employer matching contributions under the Company s 401(k) Plan in the amount of (a) \$10,400 in respect of 2014, (b) \$10,200 in respect of 2013 and (c) \$10,000 in respect of 2012, in each case credited to each of the Named Executive Officer. (ii) life insurance premiums paid by the Company for

(3) each case credited to each of the Named Executive Officer, (ii) life insurance premiums paid by the Company for 2014, 2013 and 2012 and (iii) solely with respect to Mr. Tonkel \$32,220 in legal fee reimbursements in 2013 and \$1,680 in legal fee reimbursements in 2014 for fees incurred in connection with the negotiation of his compensation arrangements related to his promotion to Chief Executive Officer.

Amount includes PSU awards made to Mr. Tonkel in 2014, as defined in footnote 1 above, in addition to 36,102
(4) unvested Restricted Shares granted to Mr. Tonkel on June 11, 2014 pursuant to the Company s 2011 Long-Term Incentive Plan when he was promoted to the position of Chief Executive Officer.

- Due to Mr. Harrington s retirement, his 2014 PSUs earned under the performance targets will be pro-rated based on the number of days he worked during the year prior to the first anniversary of the grant date. The
- (5) based on the number of days he worked during the year prior to the first aninversary of the grant date. The maximum pro-rated PSUs that Mr. Harrington will be eligible to earn are shown in Outstanding Equity Awards at 2014 Fiscal Year-End.

#### **Grants of Plan-Based Awards for 2014**

Messrs. Billings, Tonkel and Harrington received performance-based non-equity incentive plan awards and equity incentive plan awards for their performance in 2014. Our non-equity incentive plan consists of the annual cash bonus program and our equity incentive plan consists of two types of PSUs: Book Value PSUs and TSR PSUs, both described in this proxy statement under the heading Compensation Discussion and Analysis Elements of Executive Compensation 2014 Annual Performance-Based Cash Bonus Opportunities and 2014 Long-Term Equity Incentive Awards.

The table below summarizes the non-equity incentive plan awards and the equity incentive plan awards granted to our named executive officers in 2014.

Name	Grant Date	Estimated Future Payouts Under Non-Equity Incentive Plan Awards <sup>(1)</sup>			Estimated Future Payouts Under Equity Incentive Plan Awards			Grant-Date Fair Value of
- Nume	Shant Date	Threshold (\$)	Target (\$)	Maximum (\$)	Threshol (#)	dTarget (#)	Maximum (#)	Stock and Option Awards
Eric F. Billings		\$400,000	\$800,000	\$2,000,000				
	7/1/2014 <sup>(2)</sup>				7,337	14,674	36,685	\$400,000
	7/1/2014 <sup>(3)</sup>				7,434.5	14,869	37,172.5	\$400,000
J. Rock Tonkel, Jr.		\$400,000	\$800,000	\$2,000,000				
	7/1/2014 <sup>(2)</sup>				7,337	14,674	36,685	\$400,000
	7/1/2014 <sup>(3)</sup>				7,434.5	14,869	37,172.5	\$400,000
Kurt R. Harrington <sup>(4)</sup>		\$157,500	\$315,000	\$787,500				
2	7/1/2014 <sup>(2)</sup> 7/1/2014 <sup>(3)</sup>				2,889 2,927.5	5,778 5,855	14,445 14,637.5	\$157,500 \$157,500

- (1) Represents the range of potential awards granted pursuant to our annual performance-based cash bonus program for 2014. Actual awards granted are shown in the Summary Compensation Table for 2014 on page 34. Represents grants of Book Value PSUs, excluding dividend reinvestments, pursuant to 2014 Long-Term Incentive
- (2) Plan. These PSUs are eligible to vest based on the compound annualized growth in the Company's book value per share (*i.e.*, book value change plus dividends on a reinvested basis) during the relevant performance period. The Book Value PSUs have a three-year performance period.

Represents grants of TSR PSUs, excluding dividend reinvestments, pursuant to 2014 Long-Term Incentive Plan. These PSUs are eligible to vest based on the Company s compound annualized total shareholder return (*i.e.*, share

(3)price change plus dividends on a reinvested basis) during the applicable performance period. The TSR PSUs have a three-year performance period. The grant-date fair value of the TSR PSUs was calculated using a Monte Carlo simulation model.

Due to Mr. Harrington s retirement, his 2014 PSUs earned under the performance targets will be pro-rated based on the number of days he worked during the year prior to the first anniversary of the grant date. The

(4) based on the number of days he worked during the year prior to the first anniversary of the grant date. The maximum pro-rated PSUs that Mr. Harrington will be eligible to earn are shown in Outstanding Equity Awards at 2014 Fiscal Year-End.

#### **Outstanding Equity Awards at 2014 Fiscal Year-End**

	Stock Awards	
	Equity Incentive	
	Plan	
	Awards: Number	Equity Incentive Plan
	of	Awards: Market or
Name	Unearned	Payout Value of
Inallie	Shares, Units	Unearned Shares, Units
	or Other Rights	or Other Rights That
	That	Have Not Vested <sup>(2)</sup>
	Have Not	
	Vested <sup>(1)</sup>	
Eric F. Billings	180,174.5	\$ 4,794,443
J. Rock Tonkel, Jr.	209,635.5 <sup>(3)</sup>	\$ 5,578,400
Kurt R. Harrington	64,089.1 <sup>(4)</sup>	\$ 1,705,411

(1) Represents the maximum number of Book Value PSUs and TSR PSUs, excluding dividend reinvestments, that are potentially issuable. These PSUs vest based on performance according to the following schedule:

Name	PSU Type	Maximum Number of Shares	Vesting Date
Eric F. Billings	2012 Book Value PSUs	13,048	8/13/2015
C	2012 TSR PSUs	18,904	8/13/2015
	2013 Book Value PSUs	36,995	7/1/2016
	2013 TSR PSUs	37,370	7/1/2016
	2014 Book Value PSUs	36,685	7/1/2017
	2014 TSR PSUs	37,172.5	7/1/2017
J. Rock Tonkel, Jr.	2012 Book Value PSUs	12,234	8/13/2015
	2012 TSR PSUs	17,722	8/13/2015
	2013 Book Value PSUs	34,685	7/1/2016
	2013 TSR PSUs	35,035	7/1/2016
	2014 Book Value PSUs	36,685	7/1/2017
	2014 TSR PSUs	37,172.5	7/1/2017
Kurt R. Harrington <sup>(4)</sup>	2012 Book Value PSUs	4,894	8/13/2015
C C	2012 TSR PSUs	7,088	8/13/2015
	2013 Book Value PSUs	13,872.5	7/1/2016
	2013 TSR PSUs	14,012.5	7/1/2016
	2014 Book Value PSUs	12,030.9	7/1/2017
	2014 TSR PSUs	12,191.2	7/1/2017
<u> </u>			

(2) Calculated using a share price of \$26.61, the last sale price on the NYSE on December 31, 2014.
 (3) Includes 36,102 unvested Restricted Shares granted to Mr. Tonkel on June 11, 2014 pursuant to the Company s
 (3) 2011 Long-Term Incentive Plan when he was promoted to the position of Chief Executive Officer.

(4) The PSUs awarded to Mr. Harrington in 2012 and 2013 will continue to vest based on the achievement of the Company performance targets established by the Compensation Committee. Due to Mr. Harrington s retirement, the

PSUs awarded to him in 2014 are shown on pro-rated basis based on the number of days he will work during the year prior to the first anniversary of the grant date.

#### **Option Exercises and Stock Vested**

The following table sets forth certain information regarding the vesting of stock awards during the year ended December 31, 2014. No stock options to purchase Class A or Class B common stock were exercised by the named executive officers in 2014.

	Stock Awards Number of		
Name	Shares	Value Realized	
Ivalle	Acquired on	on Vesting <sup>(2)</sup>	
	Vesting <sup>(1)</sup>		
Eric F. Billings	38,984	\$ 1,058,016	
J. Rock Tonkel, Jr.	36,547	\$ 991,895	
Kurt R. Harrington	14,618	\$ 396,728	

Represents shares of Class A common stock, including dividend reinvestments, issued upon vesting of a portion of the PSUs awarded to our named executive officers on August 13, 2012 pursuant to our 2011 Long-Term Incentive Plan. PSUs represent the right to receive shares of the Company s Class A common stock subject to the achievement of certain performance goals at the end of the applicable performance period. One-half of the PSUs

- (1) awarded on August 13, 2012 were eligible for vesting at the end of the second year following the grant date, and one-half of the PSUs are eligible for vesting at the end of the third year following the grant date. The number of shares acquired on vesting shown above includes 19,843, 18,603 and 5,168 shares that were withheld by the Company on behalf of Messrs. Billings, Tonkel and Harrington, respectively, to satisfy a tax withholding obligation by each person in connection with the vesting of the PSUs.
- (2) Calculated using a share price of \$27.14, the last sale price on the NYSE on August 13, 2014, which was the vesting date.

## **COMPENSATION COMMITTEE REPORT**

The Compensation Committee oversees the Company s compensation program on behalf of the Board of Directors. In fulfilling its oversight duties, the Compensation Committee reviewed and discussed with management the Compensation Discussion and Analysis set forth in this proxy statement.

Based on the review and discussions referred to above, the Compensation Committee recommended to the Board that the Compensation Discussion and Analysis be included in the Company s proxy statement and Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014.

Respectfully submitted, THE COMPENSATION COMMITTEE

> Daniel E. Berce, Chairman Peter A. Gallagher Ralph S. Michael, III

> > April 9, 2015

### AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

The Audit Committee assists the Board of Directors in monitoring the Company s financial reporting process. The Company has primary responsibility for the financial statements and the reporting process, including the system of internal controls. The Company s independent registered public accounting firm, PwC, is responsible for expressing an opinion on the Company s consolidated financial statements and on its internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2014, and on its 2014, 2013 and 2012 consolidated financial statements in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). In accordance with its charter, the Audit Committee met quarterly with PwC and with senior financial management to review their work and the financial results reported for the quarter, and otherwise complied with all provisions of such charter.

In fulfilling its responsibilities, the Audit Committee has reviewed and discussed the audited financial statements contained in the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014 with the Company s management and PwC. The Audit Committee has discussed with PwC the matters required to be discussed by the statement on Auditing Standards No. 61, as amended (AICPA, *Professional Standards*, Vol. 1. AU Section 380), as adopted by the Public Accounting Oversight Board in Rule 3200T. In addition, the Audit Committee has received the written disclosures and the letter from PwC as required by the applicable requirements of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board regarding PwC s communications with the Audit Committee concerning independence, and has discussed with PwC its independence.

Based on the review and discussions referred to above, the Audit Committee recommended to the Board of Directors the inclusion of the audited financial statements in the Company s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014, for filing with the SEC.

Respectfully submitted, THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

Ralph S. Michael, III, Chairman Daniel E. Berce David W. Faeder Peter A. Gallagher

April 9, 2015

### **OTHER MATTERS**

The Board of Directors is not aware of any matters to be presented for action at the annual meeting other than as set forth in this proxy statement. However, if any other matters properly come before the annual meeting, or any adjournment or postponement thereof, the person or persons voting the proxies will vote them in accordance with their best judgment, as permitted under our Bylaws and Virginia law.

By Order of the Board of Directors

D. Scott Parish

April 20, 2015

**Corporate Secretary**