

BIMINI MORTGAGE MANAGEMENT INC  
Form POS AM  
February 14, 2005

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As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 14, 2005

Registration No. 333-114542

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**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

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**Post-Effective  
AMENDMENT NO. 1  
TO**

**FORM S-11**

**REGISTRATION STATEMENT  
UNDER  
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933**

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**BIMINI MORTGAGE MANAGEMENT, INC.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its governing instruments)

**3305 Flamingo Drive, Vero Beach, Florida 32963  
(772) 231-1400**

(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of registrant's principal executive offices)

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**Jeffrey J. Zimmer  
Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and President  
Bimini Mortgage Management, Inc.**

**3305 Flamingo Drive, Vero Beach, Florida 32963 (772) 231-1400**

(Name, address, including zip code and telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

*copies to:*

**Robert E. King, Jr.  
Clifford Chance US LLP  
31 West 52nd Street  
New York, NY 10019  
(212) 878-8000**

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**Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public:  
From time to time after the effective date of this registration statement.**

If this Form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

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If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(d) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If delivery of the prospectus is expected to be made pursuant to Rule 434, check the following box.

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**The information in this prospectus is not complete and may be changed. We may not sell these securities until the registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission is effective. This prospectus is not an offer to sell these securities and it is not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any state where the offer or sale is not permitted.**

**SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED FEBRUARY 14, 2005**

**PROSPECTUS**

**10,654,432 Shares**

**Class A Common Stock**

The selling stockholders named in this prospectus may offer up to 10,654,432 shares of Class A Common Stock of Bimini Mortgage Management, Inc. We will not receive any portion of the proceeds from the sale of these shares. Our Class A Common Stock is subject to ownership limitations intended to preserve our status as a real estate investment trust, or REIT, for federal income tax purposes.

Our Class A Common Stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "BMM." On February 10, 2005, the last reported sale price of our Class A Common Stock was \$14.91.

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**Investing in our Class A Common Stock involves risks. See "Risk Factors" beginning on page 7 for a discussion of risks relating to our Class A Common Stock, including, among others:**

We commenced operations in December 2003 and have a limited operating history. Accordingly, you have a limited basis to evaluate our ability to operate our business and implement our operating policies and strategies successfully.

Our officers, Jeffrey J. Zimmer and Robert E. Cauley, have limited experience managing a REIT. Their lack of experience may limit their ability to successfully manage our business as a REIT.

We rely primarily on short-term borrowings to acquire mortgage related securities some of which have long-term maturities. Interest rate mismatches between our mortgage related securities and our borrowings used to fund our purchases of mortgage related securities might reduce our net income or result in a loss during periods of changing interest rates.

Increased levels of prepayments on the mortgages underlying our mortgage related securities might decrease our net interest income or result in a net loss.

We generally seek to borrow eight to 12 times the amount of our equity, which could reduce our net income and our cash available for distributions to stockholders or cause us to suffer losses. There is no limit to the amount of leverage that we may incur.

Failure to qualify or maintain our qualification as a REIT for federal income tax purposes would subject us to federal income tax on our taxable income at regular corporate rates, thereby reducing the amount of funds available for distributions to stockholders.

The selling stockholders are offering these shares of Class A Common Stock. The selling stockholders may sell all or a portion of these shares from time to time in market transactions through the NYSE or any other stock exchange or market on which our Class A Common Stock

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is listed, in negotiated transactions or otherwise, and at prices and on terms that will be determined by the then prevailing market price or at negotiated prices directly or through a broker or brokers, who may act as agent or as principal or by a combination of such methods of sale. The selling stockholders will receive all proceeds from the sale of the shares of our Class A Common Stock. For additional information on the methods of sale, you should refer to the section entitled "Plan of Distribution".

**Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.**

The date of this prospectus is \_\_\_\_\_, 2005

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We have filed for registration in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office for the marks "Bimini Mortgage Management, Inc.", "Bimini Investment Management" and "Bimini." All other brand names or trademarks appearing in this prospectus are the property of their respective holders.

## PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

*This section summarizes information contained elsewhere in this prospectus. You should read this entire prospectus carefully, including the section titled "Risk Factors" and our financial statements and related notes, before making an investment in our Class A Common Stock. As used in this prospectus, "Bimini," "company," "we," "our," and "us" refer to Bimini Mortgage Management, Inc., except where the context otherwise requires.*

### **Bimini Mortgage Management, Inc.**

#### **General**

We were formed in September 2003 to invest primarily in residential mortgage related securities issued by the Federal National Mortgage Association (more commonly known as Fannie Mae), the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (more commonly known as Freddie Mac) and the Government National Mortgage Association (more commonly known as Ginnie Mae). We will earn returns on the spread between the yield on our assets and our costs, including the interest expense on the funds we borrow. We intend to borrow between eight and 12 times the amount of our equity capital to attempt to enhance our returns to stockholders. We are self-managed and self-advised. We have elected to be taxed as a real estate investment trust, or REIT, for federal income tax purposes commencing with our taxable year ended December 31, 2003. As a REIT, we generally are not subject to federal income tax on the REIT taxable income that we distribute to our stockholders.

We commenced operations in December 2003, following an initial private placement of our Class A Common Stock. We raised aggregate net proceeds (after commissions and expenses) of approximately \$141.7 million between December 2003 and February 2004 in private placements of our Class A Common Stock. In September 2004 we completed the initial public offering of our shares of Class A Common Stock. Our Class A Common Stock trades on the New York Stock Exchange, or NYSE, under the trading symbol "BMM". We raised approximately \$75.9 million in net proceeds in our initial public offering. In December 2004, we completed a secondary public offering of our Class A Common Stock, in which we raised approximately \$66.7 million in net proceeds.

As of December 31, 2004 we had a portfolio of mortgage related securities that totaled \$3.0 billion and was comprised of 25.2% fixed-rate mortgage-backed securities, 8.4% floating rate collateralized mortgage obligations, 47.2% adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities, 16.9% hybrid adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities (securities backed by mortgages with fixed initial rates which, after a period, convert to adjustable rates) and 2.3% balloon maturity mortgage-backed securities (securities backed by mortgages where a significant portion of principal is repaid only at maturity). Of this portfolio, 63% was issued by Fannie Mae, 18% was issued by Freddie Mac and 19% was issued by Ginnie Mae.

Our portfolio had a weighted average yield of 3.44% as of December 31, 2004. Weighted average yield is the composite of the yields on our securities as determined using the yield book model published by Citigroup. Our net weighted average borrowing cost as of December 31, 2004 was 2.28%. The constant prepayment rate for the portfolio was 23.6% for December 2004, which reflects the annualized proportion of principal that was prepaid. The effective duration for the portfolio was 0.84 as of December 31, 2004. Duration measures the price sensitivity of a fixed income security to movements in interest rates. Effective duration captures both the movement in interest rates and the fact that cash flows to a mortgage related security are altered when interest rates move. An effective duration of 0.84 indicates that an interest rate increase of 1% would result in a 0.84% decline in the value of the securities in our portfolio.

Our principal offices are located at 3305 Flamingo Drive, Vero Beach, Florida 32963. Our telephone number is (772) 231-1400.

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### **Asset Acquisition Strategy**

We seek to differentiate our company from other mortgage portfolio managers through our approach to risk management. We invest in a limited universe of mortgage related securities, primarily those issued by Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac and Ginnie Mae. Payment of principal and interest underlying securities issued by Ginnie Mae is guaranteed by the U.S. Government. Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac mortgage related securities are guaranteed as to payment of principal and interest by the respective agency issuing the security. We seek to manage the risk of prepayments of the underlying mortgages by purchasing securities with prepayment characteristics that we expect to result in slower prepayments, such as pools of mortgage-backed securities collateralized by mortgages with low loan balances, mortgages originated under Fannie Mae's Expanded Approval Program or agency pools collateralized by loans against investment properties.

The primary assets in our current portfolio of mortgage related securities are fixed-rate mortgage-backed securities, floating rate collateralized mortgage obligations, adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities, hybrid adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities and balloon maturity mortgage-backed securities. The mortgage related securities we acquire are obligations issued by Ginnie Mae, a federal agency, and by Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae, which are federally chartered agencies.

We have created and will maintain a diversified portfolio in order to avoid undue loan originator, geographic and other types of concentrations. We seek to manage the effects on our income of prepayments of the mortgage loans underlying our securities, at a rate materially different than anticipated, by structuring a diversified portfolio with a variety of prepayment characteristics and investing in mortgage related securities or structures with prepayment protections.

### **Leverage Strategy**

We use leverage in an attempt to increase potential returns to our stockholders. However, the use of leverage may also have the effect of increasing losses when economic conditions are unfavorable. We generally borrow between eight to 12 times the amount of our equity, although our investment policies require no minimum or maximum leverage. We use repurchase agreements to borrow against existing mortgage related securities and use the proceeds to acquire additional mortgage related securities. As of December 31, 2004, we had 17 master repurchase agreements (and outstanding balances under 12 of these agreements) and our repurchase agreements totaled \$2.8 billion, or 9.8 times our equity capital at that date.

We seek to protect our capital base through the use of a risk-based capital methodology that is patterned on the general principles underlying the proposed risk-based capital standard for internationally active banks of the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision. We use our methodology to calculate an internally generated risk measure for each asset in our portfolio. This measure is then used to establish the amount of leverage we use. The goal of our approach is to ensure that our portfolio's leverage ratio is appropriate for the level of risk inherent in the portfolio.

### **Interest Rate Risk Management**

We believe the primary risk inherent in our investments is the effect of movements in interest rates. This arises because the changes in interest rates on our borrowings will not be perfectly coordinated with the effects of interest rate changes on the income from, or value of, our investments. We therefore follow an interest rate risk management program designed to offset the potential adverse effects resulting from the rate adjustment limitations on our mortgage related securities. We seek to minimize differences between interest rate indices and interest rate adjustment periods of our adjustable-rate securities and related borrowings by matching the terms of assets and related liabilities both as to maturity and to the underlying interest rate index used to calculate interest charges.

We may from time to time use derivative financial instruments to hedge all or a portion of the interest rate risk associated with our borrowings. We may enter into swap or cap agreements, option, put or call agreements, futures contracts, forward rate agreements or similar financial instruments to hedge indebtedness that we may incur. These contracts would be intended to more closely match the effective maturity of, and the interest received on, our assets with the effective maturity of, and the interest owed on, our liabilities. However, no assurances can be given that interest rate risk management strategies can successfully be implemented. Derivative instruments will not be used for speculative purposes.

### **Risk Factors**

An investment in our Class A Common Stock involves material risks. Each prospective purchaser of our Class A Common Stock should consider carefully the matters discussed under "Risk Factors" beginning on page 8 before investing in our Class A Common Stock. Some of the risks include:

We commenced operations in December 2003 and have a limited operating history. Accordingly, you have a limited basis to evaluate our ability to operate our business and implement our operating policies and strategies successfully.

Our officers, Jeffrey J. Zimmer and Robert E. Cauley, have limited experience managing a REIT. Their lack of experience may limit their ability to successfully manage our business as a REIT.

We rely primarily on short-term borrowings to acquire mortgage related securities, some of which have long-term maturities. Interest rate mismatches between our mortgage related securities and our borrowings used to fund our purchases of mortgage related securities might reduce our net income or result in a loss during periods of changing interest rates.

As of December 31, 2004, 27.5% of our portfolio consisted of fixed-rate and balloon maturity mortgage-backed securities. Accordingly, we may experience reduced net income or a loss during periods of rising interest rates.

Increased levels of prepayments on the mortgages underlying our mortgage related securities might decrease our net interest income or result in a net loss.

We generally seek to borrow eight to 12 times the amount of our equity, which could reduce our net income and our cash available for distributions to stockholders or cause us to suffer losses. There is no limit on the amount of leverage that we may incur.

Failure to qualify or maintain our qualification as a REIT for federal income tax purposes would subject us to federal income tax on our taxable income at regular corporate rates, thereby reducing the amount of funds available for distributions to stockholders.

Our board of directors may change our operating policies and strategies without prior notice to you or stockholder approval, and such changes could harm our business and results of operations and the value of our stock.

Our officers own shares of Class B Common Stock, which will begin to convert to shares of Class A Common Stock when stockholders' equity attributable to the Class A Common Stock is no less than \$15.00 per share. If all shares of Class B Common Stock are converted, the 319,388 shares of Class A Common Stock issued would equal approximately 1.6% of our outstanding Class A Common Stock. Our officers may take undue risks in managing our company in an attempt to increase stockholders' equity and cause a conversion of these shares.

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Competition in purchasing assets consistent with our investment objectives might prevent us from acquiring mortgage related securities at favorable yields, which would harm our results of operations.

Hedging transactions may limit our gains or result in losses. We may hedge our interest rate exposure through the use of derivative instruments. Our hedging transactions, which would be intended to limit losses, involve costs and may actually limit gains and increase our exposure to losses.

If our distributions exceed our REIT taxable income, a portion of the distribution may be deemed a return of capital for federal income tax purposes, which would reduce stockholders' basis in the underlying shares of our Class A Common Stock.

### **Management**

We are self-managed and self-advised. Our two executive officers have significant experience in the mortgage related securities market. Jeffrey Zimmer, our President, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board, has 20 years experience in the mortgage-backed securities markets, most recently as a managing director at RBS/Greenwich Capital, where he sold and researched almost every type of mortgage-backed security. Robert E. Cauley, CFA, our Secretary, Chief Investment Officer and Chief Financial Officer, has 11 years of experience in the mortgage and asset-backed securities markets. Mr. Cauley was most recently Vice President, Portfolio Manager at Federated Investment Management Company where he was also a lead portfolio manager, co-manager, or assistant portfolio manager of \$4.25 billion in mortgage and asset-backed securities funds.

### **This Offering**

This prospectus covers the resale of up to 10,654,432 shares of our Class A Common Stock. We issued and sold 10,000,000 of these shares between December 2003 and February 2004 in private offerings to qualified institutional buyers, as defined in Rule 144A under the Securities Act and institutional accredited investors, as defined in Rule 501 under the Securities Act. Of the remaining shares, 7,500 were purchased by our outside directors in October 2003, 8,156 were issued to our outside directors as compensation for their services and 638,776 are reserved for issuance upon conversion of 319,388 outstanding shares of Class B Common Stock and 319,388 outstanding shares of Class C Common Stock. See "Description of Capital Stock Conversion of the Class B Common Stock and Class C Common Stock."

### **Our Tax Status**

We have elected to be taxed as a REIT under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 as amended, or the Internal Revenue Code, commencing with our taxable year ended December 31, 2003. Provided that we qualify as a REIT, we generally will not be subject to federal income tax on our taxable income that is currently distributed to our stockholders. REITs are subject to a number of organizational and operational requirements, including a requirement that they currently distribute at least 90% of their annual REIT taxable income excluding net capital gains. We cannot assure you that we will be able to comply with such requirements in the future. Failure to qualify as a REIT in any taxable year would render us subject to federal income tax on our taxable income at regular corporate rates. Even if we qualify for taxation as a REIT, we may be subject to certain U.S. federal, state, local and foreign taxes on our income and property. In connection with our election to be taxed as a REIT, our charter prohibits any stockholder from directly or indirectly owning more than 9.8% of the outstanding shares, by value or number, whichever is more restrictive, of our common stock or of our stock in the aggregate.

### **Distributions**

To avoid U.S. federal corporate income and excise taxes and to maintain our qualification as a REIT under the Internal Revenue Code, we intend to distribute to our stockholders all or substantially all of our REIT taxable income (which does not necessarily equal net income as calculated in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, or GAAP). See "Certain Federal Income Tax Consequences Annual Distribution Requirements." All distributions will be made by us at the discretion of our board of directors and will depend on our taxable earnings, financial condition and such other factors as our board of directors deems relevant.

On April 23, 2004, we paid a dividend of \$0.39 per share of Class A Common Stock to stockholders of record as of March 10, 2004. On July 9, 2004, we paid a dividend of \$0.52 per share of Class A Common Stock to stockholders of record as of June 16, 2004. On October 8, 2004, we paid a dividend of \$0.52 per share of Class A and Class B Common Stock to stockholders of record on September 3, 2004. On December 29, 2004, we paid a dividend of \$0.54 per share of Class A and Class B Common Stock to stockholders of record on December 10, 2004.

## Summary Financial Data

The following summary financial data is derived from our audited financial statements. The summary financial data should be read in conjunction with the more detailed information contained in our financial statements and related notes and "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" included elsewhere in this prospectus.

	Year ended December 31, 2004	September 24, 2003 (inception) through December 31, 2003
<b>Statements of Operations Data:</b>		
Revenues:		
Interest income	\$ 49,633,548	\$ 71,480
Interest expense	(22,157,947)	(20,086)
Net interest income	27,475,601	51,394
Gains on sales of mortgage-backed securities	750,936	
Losses on sales of mortgage-backed securities	(655,389)	
Net gain on sales of mortgage-backed securities	95,547	
Expenses:		
Trading costs, commissions and other	1,037,625	15,583
Other direct costs	170,250	29,899
Compensation and related benefits	2,497,600	35,964
Directors' fees and other public company costs	350,649	
Start-up and organization costs		111,092
Occupancy costs	62,232	13,675
Audit, legal and other professional fees	329,514	85,340
Other administrative expenses	266,368	27,008
Total expenses	4,714,238	318,561
Net income (loss)	\$ 22,856,910	\$ (267,167)
Basic and diluted income (loss) per Class A common share	\$ 1.97	\$ (0.54)
Weighted average number of Class A common shares outstanding, used in computing per share amounts:		
Basic and diluted	11,452,258	497,859
Basic and diluted income per Class B common share	\$ 2.05	\$
Weighted average number of Class B common shares outstanding, used in computing per share amounts:		
Basic and diluted	159,694	
Dividends declared per Class A common share	\$ 1.97	\$
Dividends declared per Class B common share	\$ 1.06	\$
	<b>December 31, 2004</b>	<b>December 31, 2003</b>
<b>Balance Sheet Data:</b>		
Mortgage-backed securities, at fair value	\$ 72,074,338	\$ 27,750,602
Mortgage-backed securities pledged as collateral, at fair value	2,901,158,559	197,990,559
Total mortgage-backed securities, at fair value	2,973,232,897	225,741,161
Total assets	3,128,417,731	245,285,676
Repurchase agreements	2,771,162,957	188,841,000
Total liabilities	2,845,455,404	188,970,485
Total stockholders' equity	\$ 282,962,327	\$ 56,315,191
Class A common shares issued and outstanding	20,368,915	4,012,102

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		<u>December 31, 2004</u>		<u>December 31, 2003</u>
Book value per share of Class A Common Stock	6	\$ 13.89	\$	14.04

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## RISK FACTORS

*You should carefully consider the risks described below before making an investment decision. Our business, financial condition or results of operations could be harmed by any of these risks. Similarly, these risks could cause the market price of our Class A Common Stock to decline and you might lose all or part of your investment. Our forward-looking statements in this prospectus are subject to the following risks and uncertainties. Our actual results could differ materially from those anticipated by our forward-looking statements as a result of the risk factors below.*

### *Risks Related to Our Business*

**We have a limited operating history and might not be able to operate our business or implement our operating policies and strategies successfully.**

We began operations in December of 2003 and therefore have a limited operating history. The results of our operations will depend on many factors, including the availability of opportunities for the acquisition of mortgage related securities, the level and volatility of interest rates, readily accessible short- and long-term funding alternatives in the financial markets and economic conditions. Our lack of operating history provides you with a limited basis to evaluate the likelihood that we will successfully operate our business and implement our operating policies and strategies as described in this prospectus.

**Interest rate mismatches between our adjustable-rate securities and our borrowings used to fund our purchases of the mortgage related securities may reduce our net income or result in a loss during periods of changing interest rates.**

As of December 31, 2004, 72.5% of the mortgage-backed securities in our portfolio were subject to adjustable interest rates, and this percentage may increase as we modify the mix of securities in our portfolio. This means that the interest rates of the securities may vary over time based on changes in a short-term interest rate index, of which there are many. We finance our acquisitions of adjustable-rate securities in part with borrowings that have interest rates based on indices and repricing terms similar to, but perhaps with shorter maturities than, the interest rate indices and repricing terms of the adjustable-rate securities. Short-term interest rates are ordinarily lower than longer-term interest rates. During periods of changing interest rates, this interest rate mismatch between our assets and liabilities could reduce or eliminate our net income and dividend yield and could cause us to suffer a loss. In particular, in a period of rising interest rates, we could experience a decrease in, or elimination of, net income or a net loss because the interest rates on our borrowings adjust faster than the interest rates on our adjustable-rate securities.

Interest rate fluctuations will also cause variances in the yield curve, which may reduce our net income. The relationship between short-term and longer-term interest rates is often referred to as the "yield curve." If short-term interest rates rise disproportionately relative to longer-term interest rates (a flattening of the yield curve), our borrowing costs may increase more rapidly than the interest income earned on our assets. Because our assets may bear interest based on longer-term rates than our borrowings, a flattening of the yield curve would tend to decrease our net income and the market value of our mortgage loan assets. Additionally, to the extent cash flows from investments that return scheduled and unscheduled principal are reinvested in mortgage loans, the spread between the yields of the new investments and available borrowing rates may decline, which would likely decrease our net income. It is also possible that short-term interest rates may exceed longer-term interest rates (a yield curve inversion), in which event our borrowing costs may exceed our interest income and we could incur operating losses.

**A significant portion of our portfolio consists of fixed-rate mortgage-backed securities, which may cause us to experience reduced net income or a loss during periods of rising interest rates.**

As of December 21, 2004, 27.5% of our portfolio consisted of fixed-rate and balloon maturity mortgage-backed securities. Because the interest rate on a fixed-rate mortgage never changes, over time there can be a divergence between the interest rate on the loan and the current market interest rates. We fund our acquisition of fixed-rate mortgage-backed securities with short-term repurchase agreements and term loans. During periods of rising interest rates, our costs associated with borrowings used to fund the acquisition of fixed-rate assets are subject to increases while the income we earn from these assets remains substantially fixed. This would reduce and could eliminate the net interest spread between the fixed-rate mortgage-backed securities that we purchase and our borrowings used to purchase them, which would reduce our net interest income and could cause us to suffer a loss.

**Increased levels of prepayments on the mortgages underlying our mortgage related securities might decrease our net interest income or result in a net loss.**

Pools of mortgage loans underlie the mortgage related securities that we acquire. We generally receive payments from the payments that are made on these underlying mortgage loans. When we acquire mortgage related securities, we anticipate that the underlying mortgages will prepay at a projected rate generating an expected yield. When borrowers prepay their mortgage loans faster than expected, this results in corresponding prepayments on the mortgage related securities that are faster than expected. Faster-than-expected prepayments could potentially harm the results of our operations in various ways, including the following:

We seek to purchase some mortgage related securities that have a higher interest rate than the market interest rate at the time. In exchange for this higher interest rate, we will be required to pay a premium over the market value to acquire the security. In accordance with applicable accounting rules, we will be required to amortize this premium over the term of the mortgage related security. If the mortgage related security is prepaid in whole or in part prior to its maturity date, however, we must expense any unamortized premium that remained at the time of the prepayment.

A portion of our adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities may bear interest at rates that are lower than their fully indexed rates, which are equivalent to the applicable index rate plus a margin. If an adjustable-rate mortgage-backed security is prepaid prior to or soon after the time of adjustment to a fully-indexed rate, we will have held that mortgage related security while it was less profitable and lost the opportunity to receive interest at the fully indexed rate over the remainder of its expected life.

If we are unable to acquire new mortgage related securities to replace the prepaid mortgage related securities, our financial condition, results of operations and cash flow may suffer and we could incur losses.

Prepayment rates generally increase when interest rates fall and decrease when interest rates rise, but changes in prepayment rates are difficult to predict. Prepayment rates also may be affected by other factors, including, without limitation, conditions in the housing and financial markets, general economic conditions and the relative interest rates on adjustable-rate and fixed-rate mortgage loans. While we seek to minimize prepayment risk, we must balance prepayment risk against other risks and the potential returns of each investment when selecting investments. No strategy can completely insulate us from prepayment or other such risks.

**We may incur increased borrowing costs related to repurchase agreements that would harm our results of operations.**

Our borrowing costs under repurchase agreements are generally adjustable and correspond to short-term interest rates, such as LIBOR or a short-term Treasury index, plus or minus a margin. The margins on these borrowings over or under short-term interest rates may vary depending upon a number of factors, including, without limitation:

the movement of interest rates;

the availability of financing in the market; and

the value and liquidity of our mortgage related securities.

Most of our borrowings are collateralized borrowings in the form of repurchase agreements. If the interest rates on these repurchase agreements increase, our results of operations will be harmed and we may incur losses.

**Interest rate caps on our adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities may reduce our income or cause us to suffer a loss during periods of rising interest rates.**

Adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities are typically subject to periodic and lifetime interest rate caps. Periodic interest rate caps limit the amount an interest rate can increase during any given period. Lifetime interest rate caps limit the amount an interest rate can increase through the maturity of a mortgage-backed security. Our borrowings typically are not subject to similar restrictions. Accordingly, in a period of rapidly increasing interest rates, the interest rates paid on our borrowings could increase without limitation while caps could limit the interest rates on our adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities. This problem is magnified for adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities that are not fully indexed. Further, some adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities may be subject to periodic payment caps that result in a portion of the interest being deferred and added to the principal outstanding. As a result, we may receive less cash income on adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities than we need to pay interest on our related borrowings.

As of December 31, 2004, the floating rate collateralized mortgage obligations in our portfolio were subject to a weighted average lifetime interest rate cap of 7.9% and no periodic interest rate caps, the adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities in our portfolio were subject to a weighted average lifetime interest rate cap of 10.8% and a weighted average periodic interest rate cap of 1.4% and the hybrid adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities in our portfolio were subject to a weighted average lifetime interest rate cap of 10.3% and a weighted average periodic interest rate cap of 1.2%. Interest rate caps on our mortgage-backed securities could reduce our net interest income or cause us to suffer a net loss if interest rates were to increase beyond the level of the caps.

**We may not be able to purchase interest rate caps at favorable prices, which could cause us to suffer a loss in the event of significant changes in interest rates.**

Our policies permit us to purchase interest rate caps to help us reduce our interest rate and prepayment risks associated with our investments in mortgage related securities. This strategy potentially helps us reduce our exposure to significant changes in interest rates. A cap contract is ultimately no benefit to us unless interest rates exceed the target rate. If we purchase interest rate caps but do not experience a corresponding increase in interest rates, the costs of buying the caps would reduce our earnings. Alternatively, we may decide not to enter into a cap transaction due to its expense, and we would suffer losses if interest rates later rise substantially. Our ability to engage in interest rate hedging transactions is limited by the REIT gross income requirements. See "Legal and Tax Risks" below.

**Our leverage strategy increases the risks of our operations, which could reduce our net income and the amount available for distributions to stockholders or cause us to suffer a loss.**

We generally seek to borrow between eight and 12 times the amount of our equity, although at times our borrowings may be above or below this amount. We incur this indebtedness by borrowing against a substantial portion of the market value of our mortgage related securities. Our total indebtedness, however, is not expressly limited by our policies and will depend on our and our prospective lender's estimate of the stability of our portfolio's cash flow. As a result, there is no limit on the amount of leverage that we may incur. We face the risk that we might not be able to meet our debt service obligations or a lender's margin requirements from our income and, to the extent we cannot, we might be forced to liquidate some of our assets at unfavorable prices. Our use of leverage amplifies the risks associated with other risk factors, which could reduce our net income and the amount available for distributions to stockholders or cause us to suffer a loss. For example:

A majority of our borrowings are secured by our mortgage related securities, generally under repurchase agreements. A decline in the market value of the mortgage related securities used to secure these debt obligations could limit our ability to borrow or result in lenders requiring us to pledge additional collateral to secure our borrowings. In that situation, we could be required to sell mortgage related securities under adverse market conditions in order to obtain the additional collateral required by the lender. If these sales are made at prices lower than the carrying value of the mortgage related securities, we would experience losses.

A default under a mortgage related security that constitutes collateral for a loan could also result in an involuntary liquidation of the mortgage related security, including any cross-collateralized mortgage related securities. This would result in a loss to us of the difference between the value of the mortgage related security upon liquidation and the amount borrowed against the mortgage related security.

To the extent we are compelled to liquidate qualified REIT assets to repay debts, our compliance with the REIT rules regarding our assets and our sources of income could be negatively affected, which would jeopardize our status as a REIT. Losing our REIT status would cause us to lose tax advantages applicable to REITs and would decrease our overall profitability and distributions to our stockholders.

If we experience losses as a result of our leverage policy, such losses would reduce the amounts available for distribution to our stockholders.

**An increase in interest rates may adversely affect our book value, which may harm the value of our stock.**

Increases in interest rates may negatively affect the fair market value of our mortgage related securities. Our fixed-rate mortgage-backed securities will generally be more negatively affected by such increases. In accordance with GAAP, we will be required to reduce the carrying value of our mortgage related securities by the amount of any decrease in the fair value of our mortgage related securities compared to amortized cost. If unrealized losses in fair value occur, we will have to either reduce current earnings or reduce stockholders' equity without immediately affecting current earnings, depending on how we classify the mortgage related securities under GAAP. In either case, our net book value will decrease to the extent of any realized or unrealized losses in fair value.

**Changes in yields may harm the value of our stock.**

Our earnings will be derived primarily from the expected positive spread between the yield on our assets and the cost of our borrowings. There is no assurance that there will be a positive spread in either high interest rate environments or low interest rate environments, or that the spread will not be negative. In addition, during periods of high interest rates, our net income, and therefore the dividend

yield on our Class A Common Stock, may be less attractive compared to alternative investments of equal or lower risk. Each of these factors could harm the market value of our Class A Common Stock.

**We depend on borrowings to purchase mortgage related securities and reach our desired amount of leverage. If we fail to obtain or renew sufficient funding on favorable terms or at all, we will be limited in our ability to acquire mortgage related securities, which will harm our results of operations.**

We depend on borrowings to fund acquisitions of mortgage related securities and reach our desired amount of leverage. Accordingly, our ability to achieve our investment and leverage objectives depends on our ability to borrow money in sufficient amounts and on favorable terms. In addition, we must be able to renew or replace our maturing borrowings on a continuous basis. We depend on many lenders to provide the primary credit facilities for our purchases of mortgage related securities. If we cannot renew or replace maturing borrowings on favorable terms or at all, we may have to sell our mortgage related securities under adverse market conditions, which would harm our results of operations and may result in permanent losses.

**Possible market developments could cause our lenders to require us to pledge additional assets as collateral. If our assets are insufficient to meet the collateral requirements, we might be compelled to liquidate particular assets at inopportune times and at unfavorable prices.**

Possible market developments, including a sharp or prolonged rise in interest rates, a change in prepayment rates or increasing market concern about the value or liquidity of one or more types of mortgage related securities in which our portfolio is concentrated, might reduce the market value of our portfolio, which might cause our lenders to require additional collateral. Any requirement for additional collateral might compel us to liquidate our assets at inopportune times and at unfavorable prices, thereby harming our operating results. If we sell mortgage related securities at prices lower than the carrying value of the mortgage related securities, we would experience losses.

**Our use of repurchase agreements to borrow funds may give our lenders greater rights in the event that either we or any of our lenders file for bankruptcy, which may make it difficult for us to recover our collateral in the event of a bankruptcy filing.**

Our borrowings under repurchase agreements may qualify for special treatment under the bankruptcy code, giving our lenders the ability to avoid the automatic stay provisions of the bankruptcy code and to take possession of and liquidate our collateral under the repurchase agreements without delay if we file for bankruptcy. Furthermore, the special treatment of repurchase agreements under the bankruptcy code may make it difficult for us to recover our pledged assets in the event that our lender files for bankruptcy. Thus, the use of repurchase agreements exposes our pledged assets to risk in the event of a bankruptcy filing by either our lenders or us.

**Because the assets that we acquire might experience periods of illiquidity, we might be prevented from selling our mortgage related securities at favorable times and prices, which could cause us to suffer a loss and/or reduce our distributions to stockholders.**

Although we plan to hold our mortgage related securities until maturity, there may be circumstances in which we sell certain of these securities. Mortgage related securities generally experience periods of illiquidity. As a result, we may be unable to dispose of our mortgage related securities at advantageous times and prices or in a timely manner. The lack of liquidity might result from the absence of a willing buyer or an established market for these assets, as well as legal or contractual restrictions on resale. The illiquidity of mortgage related securities may harm our results of operations and could cause us to suffer a loss and/or reduce our distributions to stockholders.

**Our board of directors may change our operating policies and strategies without prior notice or stockholder approval and such changes could harm our business and results of operations and the value of our stock.**

Although our board of directors has no current plans to do so, it has the authority to modify or waive our current operating policies and our strategies (including our election to operate as a REIT) without prior notice to you and without your approval. Any such changes to our current operating policies and strategies may be unsuccessful and may have an adverse effect on our business, operating results and the market value of our Class A Common Stock.

**Competition might prevent us from acquiring mortgage related securities at favorable yields, which could harm our results of operations.**

Our net income largely depends on our ability to acquire mortgage related securities at favorable spreads over our borrowing costs. In acquiring mortgage related securities, we compete with other REITs, investment banking firms, savings and loan associations, banks, insurance companies, mutual funds, other lenders and other entities that purchase mortgage related securities, many of which have greater financial resources than we do. Additionally, many of our competitors are not subject to REIT tax compliance or required to maintain an exemption from the Investment Company Act. As a result, we may not be able to acquire sufficient mortgage related securities at favorable spreads over our borrowing costs, which would harm our results of operations.

**Our investment strategy involves risk of default and delays in payments, which could harm our results of operations.**

We may incur losses if there are payment defaults under our mortgage related securities. Our mortgage related securities will be government or agency certificates. Agency certificates are mortgage related securities issued by Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac and Ginnie Mae. Payment of principal and interest underlying securities issued by Ginnie Mae are guaranteed by the U.S. Government. Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac mortgage related securities are guaranteed as to payment of principal and interest by the respective agency issuing the security. It is possible that guarantees made by Freddie Mac or Fannie Mae would not be honored in the event of default on the underlying securities. Legislation may be proposed to change the relationship between certain agencies, such as Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac, and the federal government. This may have the effect of reducing the actual or perceived credit quality of mortgage related securities issued by these agencies. As a result, such legislation could increase the risk of loss on investments in Fannie Mae and/or Freddie Mac mortgage related securities. We currently intend to continue to invest in such securities, even if such agencies' relationships with the federal government changes.

**Decreases in the value of the property underlying our mortgage related securities might decrease the value of our assets.**

The mortgage related securities in which we invest are secured by underlying real property interests. To the extent that the market value of the property underlying our mortgage related securities decreases, our security might be impaired, which might decrease the value of our assets.

**If we fail to maintain relationships with AVM, L.P. and its affiliate III Associates, or if we do not establish relationships with other repurchase agreement trading, clearing and administrative service providers, we may have to reduce or delay our operations and/or increase our expenditures.**

We have engaged AVM, L.P. and its affiliate III Associates, to provide us with certain repurchase agreement trading, clearing and administrative services. See "Business Repurchase Agreement Trading, Clearing and Administrative Services." If we are unable to maintain relationships with AVM and III Associates or are unable to establish successful relationships with other repurchase agreement trading, clearing and administrative service providers, we may have to reduce or delay our operations and/or increase our expenditures and undertake the repurchase agreement trading, clearing and administrative services on our own.

**Hedging transactions may adversely affect our earnings, which could adversely affect cash available for distribution to our stockholders.**

We may enter into interest rate cap or swap agreements or pursue other hedging strategies, including the purchase of puts, calls or other options and futures contracts. Our hedging activity will vary in scope based on the level and volatility of interest rates and principal prepayments, the type of mortgage-backed securities we hold, and other changing market conditions. Hedging may fail to protect or could adversely affect us because, among other things:

hedging can be expensive, particularly during periods of rising and volatile interest rates;

available interest rate hedging may not correspond directly with the interest rate risk for which protection is sought;

the duration of the hedge may not match the duration of the related liability;

certain types of hedges may expose us to risk of loss beyond the fee paid to initiate the hedge;

the amount of income that a REIT may earn from hedging transactions is limited by federal income tax provisions governing REITs;

the credit quality of the party owing money on the hedge may be downgraded to such an extent that it impairs our ability to sell or assign our side of the hedging transaction; and

the party owing money in the hedging transaction may default on its obligation to pay.

Our hedging activity may adversely affect our earnings, which could adversely affect cash available for distribution to our stockholders.

**Terrorist attacks and other acts of violence or war may affect any market for our Class A Common Stock, the industry in which we conduct our operations, and our profitability.**

Terrorist attacks may harm our results of operations and your investment. We cannot assure you that there will not be further terrorist attacks against the United States or U.S. businesses. These attacks or armed conflicts may directly impact the property underlying our mortgage related securities or the securities markets in general. Losses resulting from these types of events are uninsurable.

More generally, any of these events could cause consumer confidence and spending to decrease or result in increased volatility in the United States and worldwide financial markets and economies. They also could result in economic uncertainty in the United States or abroad. Adverse economic conditions could harm the value of the property underlying our mortgage related securities or the securities markets in general, which could harm our operating results and revenues and may result in the volatility of the market value of our securities.

***Risks Related to Our Officers***

**Our officers have not previously managed a REIT, and we cannot assure you that their past experience will be sufficient to successfully manage our business as a REIT.**

Our officers, Jeffrey J. Zimmer and Robert E. Cauley, have not previously managed a REIT, and, prior to commencing operations of our company, did not have any experience in complying with the income, asset and other limitations imposed by the REIT provisions of the Internal Revenue Code. Those provisions are complex and the failure to comply with those provisions in a timely manner could cause us to fail to qualify as a REIT or could force us to pay unexpected taxes and penalties. In such event, our net income would be reduced, we could incur a loss, and we would have less cash available for distributions to stockholders.

**We depend primarily on two individuals to operate our business, and the loss of such persons would severely and detrimentally affect our operations.**

We depend substantially on two individuals, Jeffrey J. Zimmer, our Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and President, and Robert E. Cauley, our Chief Investment Officer and Chief Financial Officer, to manage our business. We depend on the diligence, experience and skill of Mr. Zimmer and Mr. Cauley for the selection, acquisition, structuring and monitoring of our mortgage related securities and associated borrowings. Although we have entered into employment contracts with Mr. Zimmer and Mr. Cauley, those employment contracts may not prevent either Mr. Zimmer or Mr. Cauley from leaving our company. The loss of either of them would likely have a severe negative effect on our business, financial condition, cash flow and results of operations.

**Our officers own shares of our Class B Common Stock, and may take undue risks in managing our company in order to cause a conversion of these shares.**

In connection with our formation, our founders and officers, Messrs. Zimmer and Cauley, were issued an aggregate of 319,388 shares of our Class B Common Stock. These shares of Class B Common Stock will begin to convert to shares of Class A Common Stock when stockholders' equity attributable to Class A Common Stock is no less than \$15.00 per share. Accordingly, our officers may take undue risks in managing our company in an attempt to increase stockholders' equity and cause a conversion of these shares. See "Description of Capital Stock Common Stock Conversion Rights."

#### *Legal and Tax Risks*

**If we fail to qualify as a REIT, we will be subject to federal income tax as a regular corporation and may face substantial tax liability.**

We intend to continue to operate in a manner that is intended to cause us to qualify as a REIT for U.S. federal income tax purposes. However, qualification as a REIT involves the satisfaction of numerous requirements (some on an annual or quarterly basis) established under technical and complex provisions of the Internal Revenue Code for which only a limited number of judicial or administrative interpretations exist. The determination that we qualify as a REIT requires an analysis of various factual matters and circumstances that may not be totally within our control. Accordingly, it is not certain we will be able to qualify and remain qualified as a REIT for federal income tax purposes. Even a technical or inadvertent mistake could jeopardize our REIT status. Furthermore, Congress or the Internal Revenue Service, or IRS, might change tax laws or regulations and the courts might issue new rulings, in each case potentially having retroactive effect, that could make it more difficult or impossible for us to qualify as a REIT. If we fail to qualify as a REIT in any tax year, then:

we would be taxed as a regular domestic corporation, which, among other things, means that we would be unable to deduct distributions to stockholders in computing taxable income and would be subject to federal income tax on our taxable income at regular corporate rates;

any resulting tax liability could be substantial and would reduce the amount of cash available for distribution to stockholders, and could force us to liquidate assets at inopportune times, causing lower income or higher losses than would result if these assets were not liquidated; and

unless we were entitled to relief under applicable statutory provisions, we would be disqualified from treatment as a REIT for the subsequent four taxable years following the year during which we lost our qualification, and our cash available for distribution to our stockholders therefore would be reduced for each of the years in which we do not qualify as a REIT.

Even if we remain qualified as a REIT, we may face other tax liabilities that reduce our cash flow. We may also be subject to certain federal, state and local taxes on our income and property. Any of these taxes would decrease cash available for distribution to our stockholders.

**Complying with REIT requirements may cause us to forego otherwise attractive opportunities.**

To qualify as a REIT for federal income tax purposes, we must continually satisfy tests concerning, among other things, our sources of income, the nature and diversification of our assets, the amounts we distribute to our stockholders and the ownership of our stock. We may also be required to make distributions to our stockholders at unfavorable times or when we do not have funds readily available for distribution. Thus, compliance with REIT requirements may hinder our ability to operate solely with the goal of maximizing profits.

In addition, the REIT provisions of the Internal Revenue Code impose a 100% tax on income from "prohibited transactions." Prohibited transactions generally include sales of assets that constitute inventory or other property held for sale in the ordinary course of a business, other than foreclosure property. This 100% tax could impact our desire to sell mortgage related securities at otherwise opportune times if we believe such sales could result in us being treated as engaging in prohibited transactions. However, we would not be subject to this tax if we were to sell assets through a taxable REIT subsidiary.

**Complying with REIT requirements may limit our ability to hedge effectively, which could in turn leave us more exposed to the effects of adverse changes in interest rates.**

The existing REIT provisions of the Internal Revenue Code may substantially limit our ability to hedge mortgage related securities and related borrowings by requiring us to limit our income in each year from qualified hedges, together with any other income not generated from qualified REIT real estate assets, to less than 25% of our gross income. In addition, we must limit our aggregate gross income from non-qualified hedges, fees, and certain other non-qualifying sources, to less than 5% of our annual gross income. As a result, although we will not engage in hedging transactions except the purchase of interest rate caps and forward financing agreements, we may in the future have to limit our use of these techniques or implement these hedges through a taxable REIT subsidiary. This could result in greater risks associated with changes in interest rates than we would otherwise want to incur. If we fail to satisfy the 25% or 5% limitations, unless our failure was due to reasonable cause and not due to willful neglect and we meet certain other technical requirements, we could lose our REIT status for federal income tax purposes. Even if our failure was due to reasonable cause, we may have to pay a penalty tax equal to the amount of income in excess of certain thresholds, multiplied by a fraction intended to reflect our profitability.

**Complying with REIT requirements may force us to liquidate otherwise attractive investments, which could negatively affect our profitability.**

In order to qualify as a REIT, we must ensure that at the end of each calendar quarter at least 75% of the value of our assets consists of cash, cash items, government securities and qualified REIT real estate assets. The remainder of our investment in securities generally cannot include more than 10% of the outstanding voting securities of any one issuer or more than 10% of the total value of the outstanding securities of any one issuer. In addition, generally, no more than 5% of the value of our assets can consist of the securities of any one issuer. If we fail to comply with these requirements, we must dispose of a portion of our assets within 30 days after the end of the calendar quarter in order to avoid losing our REIT status and suffering adverse tax consequences.

**Dividends paid by REITs do not qualify for the reduced tax rates under recently enacted tax legislation, which could negatively affect the value of our stock.**

Recently enacted tax legislation reduces the maximum tax rate for dividends paid to individual U.S. stockholders to 15% (through 2008). Dividends paid by REITs, however, are generally not eligible for the reduced rates. Although this legislation does not adversely affect the taxation of REITs or

dividends paid by REITs, the more favorable rates applicable to regular corporate dividends could cause stockholders who are individuals to perceive investments in REITs to be relatively less attractive than investments in the stock of non-REIT corporations that pay dividends to which more favorable rates apply, which could adversely affect the value of the stocks of REITs, including our Class A Common Stock.

**Complying with REIT requirements may force us to borrow funds on unfavorable terms or sell our securities at unfavorable prices to make distributions to our stockholders.**

As a REIT, we must distribute at least 90% of our annual REIT taxable income (excluding net capital gains) to our stockholders. To the extent that we satisfy this distribution requirement, but distribute less than 100% of our taxable income, we will be subject to federal corporate income tax on our undistributed taxable income. In addition, we will be subject to a 4% nondeductible excise tax if the actual amount that we pay out to our stockholders in a calendar year is less than a minimum amount specified under federal tax laws. From time to time, we may generate taxable income greater than our net income for financial reporting purposes from, among other things, amortization of capitalized purchase premiums, or our taxable income may be greater than our cash flow available for distribution to our stockholders. If we do not have other funds available in these situations, we could be required to borrow funds, sell a portion of our mortgage related securities at unfavorable prices or find other sources of funds in order to meet the REIT distribution requirement and to avoid corporate income tax and the 4% excise tax. These other sources could increase our costs or reduce our equity and reduce amounts available to invest in mortgage related securities.

**Failure to maintain an exemption from the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, would harm our results of operations.**

We intend to conduct our business so as not to become regulated as an investment company under the Investment Company Act. If we fail to qualify for this exemption, our ability to use leverage would be substantially reduced and we would be unable to conduct our business as described in this prospectus.

The Investment Company Act exempts entities that are primarily engaged in the business of purchasing or otherwise acquiring mortgages and other liens on, and interests in, real estate. Under the current interpretation of the SEC staff, in order to qualify for this exemption, we must maintain at least 55% of our assets directly in these qualifying real estate interests, with at least 25% of our remaining assets invested in real estate-related securities. Mortgage related securities that do not represent all of the certificates issued with respect to an underlying pool of mortgages may be treated as separate from the underlying mortgage loans and, thus, may not qualify for purposes of the 55% requirement. Therefore, our ownership of these mortgage related securities is limited by the provisions of the Investment Company Act.

As of December 31, 2004, 61.3% of our portfolio constituted qualifying interests in mortgage related securities for purposes of the Investment Company Act. In satisfying the 55% requirement under the Investment Company Act, we treat as qualifying interests mortgage related securities issued with respect to an underlying pool as to which we hold all issued certificates. If the SEC or its staff adopts a contrary interpretation of such treatment, we could be required to sell a substantial amount of our mortgage related securities under potentially adverse market conditions. Further, in order to ensure that we at all times qualify for the exemption under the Investment Company Act, we may be precluded from acquiring mortgage related securities whose yield is higher than the yield on mortgage related securities that could be purchased in a manner consistent with the exemption. These factors may lower or eliminate our net income.

**Misplaced reliance on legal opinions or statements by issuers of mortgage related securities could result in a failure to comply with REIT gross income or asset tests.**

When purchasing mortgage related securities, we may rely on opinions of counsel for the issuer or sponsor of such securities, or statements made in related offering documents, for purposes of determining whether and to what extent those securities constitute REIT real estate assets for purposes of the REIT asset tests and produce income which qualifies under the REIT gross income tests. The inaccuracy of any such opinions or statements may adversely affect our REIT qualification and result in significant corporate-level tax.

**We may be harmed by changes in various laws and regulations.**

The rules dealing with federal income taxation are constantly under review by persons involved in the legislative process and by the Internal Revenue Service and the U.S. Treasury Department. Our business may be harmed by changes to the laws and regulations affecting us, including changes to securities laws and changes to the Internal Revenue Code applicable to the taxation of REITs. New legislation may be enacted into law or new interpretations, rulings or regulations could be adopted, any of which could harm us and our stockholders, potentially with retroactive effect.

**We may realize excess inclusion income that would increase the tax liability of our stockholders.**

If we realize excess inclusion income and allocate it to stockholders, this income cannot be offset by net operating losses of the stockholders. If the stockholder is a tax-exempt entity, then this income would be fully taxable as unrelated business taxable income under Section 512 of the Internal Revenue Code. If the stockholder is a foreign person, it would be subject to federal income tax withholding on this income without reduction or exemption pursuant to any otherwise applicable income tax treaty.

Excess inclusion income could result if we hold a residual interest in a real estate mortgage investment conduit, or REMIC. Excess inclusion income also could be generated if we were to issue debt obligations with two or more maturities and the terms of the payments on these obligations bore a relationship to the payments that we received on our mortgage related securities securing those debt obligations (i.e., if we were to own an interest in a taxable mortgage pool). However, Treasury regulations have not been issued regarding the allocation of excess inclusion income to stockholders of a REIT that owns an interest in a taxable mortgage pool. We do not expect to acquire significant amounts of residual interests in REMICs, and we intend to structure our borrowing arrangements in a manner designed to avoid generating significant amounts of excess inclusion income. We do, however, expect to enter into various repurchase agreements that have differing maturity dates and afford the lender the right to sell any pledged mortgage securities if we default on our obligations.

**A portion of our distributions may be deemed a return of capital for federal income tax purposes.**

The amount of our distributions to the holders of our Class A Common Stock in a given quarter may not correspond to our REIT taxable income for such quarter. If distributions exceed our REIT taxable income, a portion of the distribution may be deemed a return of capital for federal income tax purposes. The amount of return of capital will not be taxable but will reduce stockholders' bases in the underlying shares of Class A Common Stock.

*Risks Related to this Offering*

**We have not established a minimum distribution payment level and we cannot assure you of our ability to make distributions to our stockholders in the future.**

We intend to make quarterly distributions to our stockholders in amounts such that we distribute all or substantially all of our taxable income in each year, subject to certain adjustments. This, along

with other factors, should enable us to qualify for the tax benefits accorded to a REIT under the Internal Revenue Code. We have not established a minimum distribution payment level and our ability to make distributions might be harmed by the risk factors described in this prospectus. All distributions will be made at the discretion of our board of directors and will depend on our earnings, our financial condition, maintenance of our REIT status and such other factors as our board of directors may deem relevant from time to time. We cannot assure you that we will have the ability to make distributions to our stockholders in the future.

**The payment of dividends on our Class B Common Stock and the conversion of our Class B Common Stock and Class C Common Stock will dilute the interest of a Class A Common Stockholder in our future earnings and distributions.**

The Class B Common Stock is entitled to participate in dividends on a share-for-share basis with the Class A Common Stock, and the Class B Common Stock and Class C Common Stock will be converted into Class A Common Stock when certain conditions are met. Such conversions would increase the number of shares of Class A Common Stock outstanding by 638,776 shares or 3.2% of the Class A Common Stock outstanding. The conversion of the Class C Common Stock would increase the number of shares entitled to share pro rata in our earnings and distributions by 319,388 shares, or 1.6% of the Class A Common Stock outstanding. See "Description of Capital Stock Conversion Rights."

**Restrictions on ownership of a controlling percentage of our capital stock might limit your opportunity to receive a premium on our stock.**

For the purpose of preserving our REIT qualification and for other reasons, our charter prohibits direct or constructive ownership by any person of more than 9.8% of the lesser of the total number or value of the outstanding shares of our common stock or more than 9.8% of the outstanding shares of our combined common and preferred stock. The constructive ownership rules in our charter are complex and may cause the outstanding stock owned by a group of related individuals or entities to be deemed to be constructively owned by one individual or entity. As a result, the acquisition of less than 9.8% of the outstanding stock by an individual or entity could cause that individual or entity to own constructively in excess of 9.8% of the outstanding stock, and thus be subject to the ownership limit in our charter. Any attempt to own or transfer shares of our common or preferred stock in excess of the ownership limit without the consent of our board of directors shall be void, and will result in the shares being transferred by operation of law to a charitable trust. These provisions might inhibit market activity and the resulting opportunity for our stockholders to receive a premium for their shares that might otherwise exist if any person were to attempt to assemble a block of shares of our stock in excess of the number of shares permitted under our charter and which may be in the best interests of our stockholders.

**We have implemented certain provisions that could make any change in our board of directors or in control of our company more difficult.**

Maryland law, our charter and our bylaws contain provisions, such as provisions prohibiting, without the consent of our board of directors, any single stockholder or group of affiliated stockholders from beneficially owning in excess of an ownership limit, which could make it difficult or expensive for a third party to pursue a tender offer, change in control or takeover attempt that is opposed by our management and board of directors. We also have a staggered board of directors that makes it difficult for stockholders to change the composition of our board of directors in any one year. These and other anti-takeover provisions could substantially impede the ability of stockholders to change our management and board of directors.

**Future offerings of debt securities, which would be senior to our Class A Common Stock upon liquidation, or equity securities, which would dilute our existing stockholders and may be senior to our Class A Common Stock for the purposes of distributions, may harm the value of our Class A Common Stock.**

In the future, we may attempt to increase our capital resources by making additional offerings of debt or equity securities, including commercial paper, medium-term notes, senior or subordinated notes and classes of preferred stock or Class A Common Stock, as well as warrants to purchase shares of Class A Common Stock or convertible preferred stock. Upon the liquidation of our company, holders of our debt securities and shares of preferred stock and lenders with respect to other borrowings will receive a distribution of our available assets prior to the holders of our Class A Common Stock. Additional equity offerings by us may dilute the holdings of our existing stockholders or reduce the market value of our Class A Common Stock, or both. Our preferred stock, if issued, would have a preference on distributions that could limit our ability to make distributions to the holders of our Class A Common Stock. Because our decision to issue securities in any future offering will depend on market conditions and other factors beyond our control, we cannot predict or estimate the amount, timing or nature of our future offerings. Our stockholders are therefore subject to the risk of our future securities offerings reducing the market price of our Class A Common Stock and diluting their Class A Common Stock.

**A regular trading market for our Class A Common Stock might not develop, which would harm the liquidity and value of our Class A Common Stock; trading and pricing of our Class A Common Stock may be volatile.**

Our Class A Common Stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "BMM." However, we cannot assure you that active trading of our Class A Common Stock will develop on that exchange or elsewhere or, if developed, that any active market will be sustained. Accordingly, we cannot assure you of the liquidity of any market in our Class A Common Stock, the ability of our stockholders to sell their shares of our Class A Common Stock or the prices that our stockholders may obtain for their shares of our Class A Common Stock.

**Broad market fluctuations could harm the market price of our Class A Common Stock.**

The stock market has experienced extreme price and volume fluctuations that have affected the market price of many companies in industries similar or related to ours and that have been unrelated to these companies' operating performances. These broad market fluctuations could reduce the market price of our Class A Common Stock. Furthermore, our operating results and prospects may be below the expectations of public market analysts and investors or may be lower than those of companies with comparable market capitalizations, which could harm the market price of our Class A Common Stock.

**Shares of our Class A Common Stock eligible for future sale may harm our share price.**

We cannot predict the effect, if any, of future sales of shares of our Class A Common Stock, or the availability of shares for future sales, on the market price of our Class A Common Stock. Sales of substantial amounts of these shares of our Class A Common Stock, or the perception that these sales could occur, may harm prevailing market prices for our Class A Common Stock. This prospectus covers the sale of 10,654,432 shares of our Class A Common Stock. In addition, as of December 31, 2004, 3,683,141 shares of our Class A Common Stock are reserved for issuance under our stock incentive plan and 313,600 shares of our Class A Common Stock are reserved for issuance upon exchange of phantom shares that we have issued under our stock incentive plan. If any or all of the holders of our Class A Common Stock covered by this prospectus sell a large number of securities in the public market, the sale could reduce the market price of our Class A Common Stock and could impede our ability to raise future capital.

### CAUTIONARY STATEMENTS

Certain statements in this prospectus under the captions "Summary," "Risk Factors," "Business Risk Management Approach," "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations," "Business Description of Mortgage Related Securities," and elsewhere constitute "forward-looking statements". When used in this prospectus, the words "anticipate," "believe," "estimate," "expect" and similar expressions are generally intended to identify forward-looking statements. Such forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other important factors that could cause our actual results, performance or achievements, or industry results, to differ materially from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Such risks, uncertainties and other important factors include, among others:

changes in our industry, interest rates or general economic and business conditions;

industry and market trends;

availability of investment assets;

the degree and nature of competition;

changes in business strategy or development plans;

availability, terms and deployment of capital;

availability of qualified personnel;

changes in, or the failure or inability to comply with, government laws and regulations;

the impact of technology on our operations and business; and

performance of our employees.

These forward-looking statements are based on our current beliefs, assumptions and expectations, taking into account information that we reasonably believe to be reliable. We expressly disclaim any obligation or undertaking to disseminate any updates or revisions to any forward-looking statement contained herein to reflect any change in our expectation with regard thereto or any change in events, conditions or circumstances on which any such statement is based.

### USE OF PROCEEDS

We will not receive any proceeds from the sale of shares of Class A Common Stock offered by this prospectus. The proceeds of this offering are solely for the account of the selling stockholders.

**MARKET PRICE OF AND DISTRIBUTIONS ON OUR CLASS A COMMON STOCK****Market Information**

Our Class A Common Stock is listed on the NYSE under the symbol "BMM". On February 10, 2005, the last sales price of the Class A Common Stock on the New York Stock Exchange was \$14.91 per share. The following table sets forth the high and low sale prices for our Class A Common Stock as reported on the NYSE since our initial listing on September 16, 2004.

<b>2004</b>	<b>Class A Common Stock</b>	
	<b>High</b>	<b>Low</b>
Third Quarter	\$ 16.26	\$ 14.50
Fourth Quarter	\$ 16.30	\$ 15.25
<b>2005</b>		
First Quarter (through February 10, 2005)	\$ 16.13	\$ 14.60

As of December 31, 2004, we had 20,368,915 shares of Class A Common Stock issued and outstanding, which were held by 18 holders of record. The 18 holders of record include Cede & Co., which holds shares as nominee for The Depository Trust Company, which itself holds shares on behalf of over 300 beneficial owners of the Company's Class A Common Stock.

**Distribution Policy**

The following table sets forth the cash distributions declared per share on our Class A Common Stock in the first and second quarters of 2004, and our Class A and Class B Common Stock in the third and fourth quarters of 2004:

<b>2004</b>	<b>Cash Distributions Declared Per Share</b>	
First Quarter	\$	0.39
Second Quarter	\$	0.52
Third Quarter	\$	0.52
Fourth Quarter	\$	0.54

These are the only distributions that we have declared or paid since our commencement of operations. They are not necessarily indicative of distributions that we will declare in the future. None of these distributions are expected to represent a return of capital to the holders of our Class A Common Stock. We intend to distribute all or substantially all of our REIT taxable net income (which does not ordinarily equal net income as calculated in accordance with GAAP) to our stockholders in each year. We intend to make regular quarterly distributions to our stockholders to be paid out of funds readily available for such distributions. Our distribution policy is subject to revision at the discretion of our board of directors without notice to you or stockholder approval. We have not established a minimum distribution level, and our ability to make distributions may be affected for the reasons described under the caption "Risk Factors." All distributions will be made by us at the discretion of our board of directors and will depend on our earnings and financial condition, maintenance of REIT status, applicable provisions of the Maryland general corporation law, or MGCL, and such other factors as our board of directors deems relevant.

In order to maintain our qualification as a REIT under the Internal Revenue Code, we must make distributions to our stockholders each year in an amount at least equal to:

90% of our REIT taxable net income (computed without regard to our deduction for dividends paid and our net capital gains);

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*plus* 90% of the excess of net income from foreclosure property over the tax imposed on such income by the Internal Revenue Code;

*minus* any excess non-cash income that exceeds a percentage of our income.

In general, our distributions will be applied toward these requirements if paid in the taxable year to which they relate, or in the following taxable year if the distributions are declared before we timely file our tax return for that year, the distributions are paid on or before the first regular distribution payment following the declaration, and we elect on our tax return to have a specified dollar amount of such distributions treated as if paid in the prior year. Distributions declared by us in October, November or December of one taxable year and payable to a stockholder of record on a specific date in such a month are treated as both paid by us and received by the stockholder during such taxable year, provided that the distribution is actually paid by us by January 31 of the following taxable year.

We anticipate that distributions generally will be taxable as ordinary income to our stockholders, although a portion of such distributions may be designated by us as capital gain or may constitute a return of capital. We will furnish annually to each of our stockholders a statement setting forth distributions paid during the preceding year and their characterization as ordinary income, return of capital or capital gains.

In the future, our board of directors may elect to adopt a dividend reinvestment plan.

## SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA

The following selected financial data is derived from our audited financial statements. The selected financial data should be read in conjunction with the more detailed information contained in our financial statements and related notes and "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" included elsewhere in this prospectus.

	Year ended December 31, 2004	September 24, 2003 (inception) through December 31, 2003
<b>Statements of Operations Data:</b>		
Revenues:		
Interest income	\$ 49,633,548	\$ 71,480
Interest expense	(22,157,947)	(20,086)
Net interest income	27,475,601	51,394
Gains on sales of mortgage-backed securities	750,936	
Losses on sales of mortgage-backed securities	(655,389)	
Net gain on sales of mortgage-backed securities	95,547	
Expenses:		
Trading costs, commissions and other	1,037,625	15,583
Other direct costs	170,250	29,899
Compensation and related benefits	2,497,600	35,964
Directors' fees and other public company costs	350,649	
Start-up and organization costs		111,092
Occupancy costs	62,232	13,675
Audit, legal and other professional fees	329,514	85,340
Other administrative expenses	266,368	27,008
Total expenses	4,714,238	318,561
Net income (loss)	\$ 22,856,910	\$ (267,167)
Basic and diluted income (loss) per Class A common share	\$ 1.97	\$ (0.54)
Weighted average number of Class A common shares outstanding, used in computing per share amounts:		
Basic and diluted	11,452,258	497,859
Basic and diluted income per Class B common share	\$ 2.05	\$
Weighted average number of Class B common shares outstanding, used in computing per share amounts:		
Basic and diluted	159,694	
Dividends declared per Class A common share	\$ 1.97	\$
Dividends declared per Class B common share	\$ 1.06	\$
	<b>December 31, 2004</b>	<b>December 31, 2003</b>
<b>Balance Sheet Data:</b>		
Mortgage-backed securities, at fair value	\$ 72,074,338	\$ 27,750,602
Mortgage-backed securities pledged as collateral, at fair value	2,901,158,559	197,990,559
Total mortgage-backed securities, at fair value	2,973,232,897	225,741,161
Total assets	3,128,417,731	245,285,676
Repurchase agreements	2,771,162,957	188,841,000
Total liabilities	2,845,455,404	188,970,485
Total stockholders' equity	\$ 282,962,327	\$ 56,315,191
Class A common shares issued and outstanding	20,368,915	4,012,102

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		<u>December 31, 2004</u>		<u>December 31, 2003</u>
Book value per share of Class A Common Stock		\$	13.89	\$ 14.04

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**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

The following discussion of our financial condition and results of operations should be read in conjunction with our financial statements and related notes included elsewhere in this prospectus.

**Introduction and Overview**

We were formed in September 2003 to invest primarily in residential mortgage related securities issued by the Federal National Mortgage Association (more commonly known as Fannie Mae), the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (more commonly known as Freddie Mac) and the Government National Mortgage Association (more commonly known as Ginnie Mae). We earn returns on the spread between the yield on our assets and our costs, including the interest expense on the funds we borrow. We intend to borrow between eight and 12 times the amount of equity capital to attempt to enhance our returns to stockholders. We are self-managed and self-advised. We have elected to be taxed as a real estate investment trust, or REIT, for federal income tax purposes commencing with our taxable year ended December 31, 2003. As a REIT, we generally are not subject to federal income tax on the REIT taxable income that we distribute to our stockholders. In evaluating our assets and their performance, our management team primarily evaluates these critical factors: asset performance in differing interest rate environments, duration of the security, yield to maturity, potential for prepayment of principal, and the market price of the investment.

**Financial Condition**

All of our assets at December 31, 2004 were acquired with the proceeds of our private placements and public offerings and use of leverage. We received net proceeds after offering costs of approximately \$141.7 million in our private placements, which closed on December 19, 2003, January 30, 2004 and February 17, 2004. We received net proceeds of approximately \$66.1 million in our initial public offering, which closed on September 21, 2004. On September 24, 2004 we received an additional \$9.8 million of net proceeds pursuant to the underwriters' exercise of their over-allotment option. We received net proceeds of approximately \$66.7 million in a secondary public offering of our Class A Common Stock which closed on December 21, 2004.

**Mortgage Related Securities**

At December 31, 2004, we held \$3.0 billion of mortgage related securities at fair value. Our portfolio of mortgage related securities will typically be comprised of fixed-rate mortgage-backed securities, floating rate collateralized mortgage obligations, adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities, hybrid adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities and balloon maturity mortgage-backed securities. We seek to acquire low duration assets that offer high levels of protection from mortgage prepayments. Although the duration of an individual asset can change as a result of changes in interest rates, we plan to maintain a portfolio with an effective duration of less than 2.0. The stated contractual final maturity of the mortgage loans underlying our portfolio of mortgage related securities generally ranges up to 30 years. However, the effect of prepayments of the underlying mortgage loans tends to shorten the resulting cash flows from our investments substantially. Prepayments occur for various reasons, including refinancings of underlying mortgages and payoffs associated with sales of the underlying homes as people move.

For the twelve months ended December 31, 2004, we had interest income of \$49.6 million and interest expense of \$22.2 million. As of December 31, 2004, we had a weighted average yield on assets of 3.44% and a net weighted average borrowing cost of 2.28%. Prepayments on the loans underlying our mortgage related securities can alter the timing of the cash flows from the underlying loans to the company. As a result, we gauge the interest rate sensitivity of our assets by measuring their effective duration. While modified duration measures the price sensitivity of a bond to movements in interest rates, effective duration captures both the movement in interest rates and the fact that cash flows to a

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mortgage related security are altered when interest rates move. Accordingly, when the contract interest rate on a mortgage loan is substantially above prevailing interest rates in the market, the effective duration of securities collateralized by such loans can be quite low because of expected prepayments. Although some of the fixed-rate mortgage backed securities in our portfolio are collateralized by loans with a lower propensity to prepay when the contract rate is above prevailing rates, their price movements track securities with like contract rates and therefore exhibit similar effective duration. The value of our portfolio will change as interest rates rise or fall. See "Qualitative and Quantitative Disclosures about Market Risk Interest Rate Risk Effect on Fair Value."

The following tables summarize our mortgage related securities as of December 31, 2004:

Asset Category	Market Value	Percentage of Entire Portfolio	Weighted Average Coupon	Weighted Average Maturity in Months	Longest Maturity	Weighted Average Coupon Reset in Months	Weighted Average Lifetime Cap	Weighted Average Periodic Cap
<b>Adjustable-Rate Mortgage-Backed Securities</b>	\$ 1,403,381,666	47.2%	3.8%	347	2042	4	10.8%	1.4%
<b>Fixed-Rate Mortgage-Backed Securities</b>	749,789,412	25.2	6.9	293	2034	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>CMO Floaters</b>	250,438,730	8.4	2.9	326	2034	1	7.9	n/a
<b>Hybrid Adjustable-Rate Mortgage-Backed Securities</b>	500,927,382	16.9	4.6	351	2034	29	10.3	1.2
<b>Balloon Maturity Mortgage-Backed Securities</b>	68,695,707	2.3	4.1	60	2011	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Total Portfolio</b>	<b>\$ 2,973,232,897</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>4.7%</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>2042</b>			

Agency	Market Value	Percentage of Entire Portfolio
Fannie Mae	\$ 1,879,519,970	63.2%
Freddie Mac	541,786,470	18.2
Ginnie Mae	551,926,457	18.6
<b>Total Portfolio</b>	<b>\$ 2,973,232,897</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Entire Portfolio**

Effective Duration (1)	0.84
Weighted Average Purchase Price	103.4% of par value
Weighted Average Current Price	103.4% of par value

(1) Effective duration of 0.84 indicates that an interest rate increase of 1% would be expected to cause a 0.84% decline in the value of the securities in our portfolio.

As of December 31, 2004, approximately 50.45% of our portfolio of 15 year fixed-rate coupon mortgage securities, and 31.62% of our 30 year fixed-rate coupon mortgage securities, contain only loans with principal balances of \$85,000 or less. Because of the low loan balance on these mortgages, we believe borrowers have a lower economic incentive to refinance and have historically prepaid more slowly than comparable securities.

We had approximately \$128.9 million of cash and cash equivalents as of December 31, 2004.

**Liabilities**

We have entered into repurchase agreements to finance acquisitions of mortgage related securities. None of the counterparties to these agreements are affiliates of us. These agreements are secured by our mortgage related securities and bear interest rates that have historically moved in close relationship to LIBOR. As of December 31, 2004 we had 17 master repurchase agreements with various investment banking firms and other lenders and had outstanding balances under 12 of these agreements.

At December 31, 2004, we had approximately \$2.8 billion outstanding under repurchase agreements with a net weighted average borrowing cost of 2.28%, \$797.7 million of which matures between two and 30 days, \$968.4 million of which matures between 31 and 90 days, and \$1,005.1 million of which matures in more than 90 days. It is our present intention to seek to renew

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these repurchase agreements as they mature under the then-applicable borrowing terms of the counterparties to our repurchase agreements. At December 31, 2004, the repurchase agreements were secured by mortgage related securities with an estimated fair value of \$2,901.2 million and a weighted average maturity of 325 months.

At December 31, 2004, our repurchase agreements had the following counterparties, amounts outstanding, amounts at risk and weighted average remaining maturities:

Repurchase Agreement Counterparties	Amount Outstanding (\$000)	Amount at Risk(1) (\$000)	Weighted Average Maturity of Repurchase Agreements in Days	Percent of Total Amount Outstanding
UBS Investment Bank, LLC	\$ 512,697	\$ 29,005	64	18.5%
Nomura Securities International, Inc.	463,901	26,083	99	16.7
Bank of America Securities, LLC	309,270	18,079	66	11.2
Deutsche Bank Securities, Inc.	308,645	16,246	227	11.1
Lehman Brothers	257,191	8,793	81	9.3
Bear Stearns & Co. Inc.	255,229	14,068	127	9.2
Countrywide Securities Corp	178,574	8,447	43	6.4
Morgan Stanley	119,659	352	65	4.3
Daiwa Securities America Inc	114,436	5,287	67	4.2
Goldman Sachs	107,822	1,706	37	3.9
Merrill Lynch	83,561	2,268	172	3.0
JP Morgan Securities	60,178	3,152	37	2.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,771,163</b>	<b>\$ 133,486</b>		<b>100.0%</b>

(1) Equal to the fair value of securities sold, plus accrued interest income, minus the sum of repurchase agreement liabilities, plus accrued interest expense.

### Results of Operations

#### Year Ended December 31, 2004 Compared With Year Ended December 31, 2003

Because our asset base grew substantially during the year and we had limited operations in 2003, our results are not comparable to any previous period of operations.

Our net interest income for the year ending December 31, 2004 was \$27.5 million and our expenses were \$4.7 million, net of \$0.1 million of realized gains, resulting in net income of \$22.9 million or \$1.97 per diluted Class A Common Share. Because we raised and invested substantial capital at several points this year, our operating results may not reflect results consistent with an investment of our current level of capital for longer periods.

Our company was organized on September 24, 2003 and we began substantive operations in late December 2003, after the initial closing of our private placement of Class A Common Stock. We leveraged the proceeds from the private placement with short-term borrowings under repurchase agreements to invest in a portfolio of mortgage related securities. Because of the timing of our initial investment of portfolio assets (investment activities began on December 22, 2003, and the first security purchase settled on December 26, 2003), interest income for the period from September 24, 2003 through December 31, 2003 was substantially lower than would be expected for a typical full period, both in an absolute sense and also relative to the average net invested assets for the period.

Other operating expenses were high in proportion to gross interest income and expense and to net interest income for the period from September 24, 2003 through December 31, 2003, as compared to expectations for full periods of operations, because we did not complete our first security purchase until December 26, 2003. To varying degrees, and for the same reason, operating expenses were disproportionate to net

interest income compared to a normal full period's results.

General and administrative expenses during the year ended December 31, 2004 were in line with expectations and were approximately 18 basis points of average assets on a quarterly basis. Operating expenses, which incorporate trading costs, commissions and other direct costs, were also in line with expectations and averaged approximately four basis points of average assets on a quarterly basis.

During the third quarter of 2004, we sold a portion of the mortgage related securities in our portfolio, primarily floating-rate collateralized mortgage obligations, for proceeds of \$360.1 million. In connection with these sales, we recorded net realized gains of approximately \$0.1 million. We purchased \$224.0 million of additional securities, primarily adjustable-rate mortgage related securities and hybrid adjustable-rate mortgage related securities and used the remaining \$136.1 million to reduce repurchase agreement liabilities.

We did not sell any mortgage related securities during the period from September 24, 2003 through December 31, 2003. Although we generally intend to hold our investment securities to maturity, we may determine at some time before they mature that it is in our interest to sell them and purchase securities with other characteristics. In that event, our earnings will be affected by realized gains or losses.

### **Liquidity and Capital Resources**

Our primary source of funds as of December 31, 2004 consisted of repurchase agreements totaling \$2.8 billion, with a net weighted average borrowing cost of 2.28%. We expect to continue to borrow funds in the form of repurchase agreements. At December 31, 2004, we had master repurchase agreements in place with 17 counterparties and had outstanding balances under 12 of these agreements. These master repurchase agreements have no stated expiration but can be terminated at any time at our option or at the option of the counterparty. However, once a definitive repurchase agreement under a master repurchase agreement has been entered into, it generally may not be terminated by either party. As of December 31, 2004, all of our existing repurchase agreements matured in less than one year. Increases in short-term interest rates could negatively impact the valuation of our mortgage related securities, which could limit our borrowing ability or cause our lenders to initiate margin calls.

In December 2004, the Company entered into contracts and paid commitment fees to three lenders providing for an aggregate of \$900 million in committed repurchase lines at pre-determined borrowing rates and haircuts for a 364 day period following the commencement date of each contract. The Company has no obligation to utilize these repurchase lines.

For liquidity, we will also rely on cash flow from operations, primarily monthly principal and interest payments to be received on our mortgage related securities, as well as any primary securities offerings authorized by our board of directors.

We believe that equity capital, combined with the cash flow from operations and the utilization of borrowings, will be sufficient to enable us to meet anticipated liquidity requirements. Various changes in market conditions could adversely affect our liquidity, including increases in interest rates and increases in prepayment rates substantially above our expectations. If our cash resources are at any time insufficient to satisfy our liquidity requirements, we may be required to pledge additional assets to meet margin calls, liquidate mortgage related securities or sell debt or additional equity securities. If required, the sale of mortgage related securities at prices lower than the carrying value of such assets would result in losses and reduced income.

We may in the future increase our capital resources by making additional offerings of equity and debt securities, including classes of preferred stock, common stock, commercial paper, medium-term notes, collateralized mortgage obligations and senior or subordinated notes. All debt securities, other borrowings, and classes of preferred stock will be senior to the Class A Common Stock in a liquidation of our company. Additional equity offerings may be dilutive to stockholders' equity or reduce the market price of our Class A Common Stock, or both. We are unable to estimate the amount, timing or nature of any additional offerings as they will depend upon market conditions and other factors.

**Future REIT Taxable Income Distributions**

In order to maintain our qualification as a REIT, we are required (among other provisions) to distribute dividends to our stockholders in an amount at least equal to 90% of our "REIT taxable income." "REIT taxable income" is a term that describes our operating results following taxation rules and regulations governed by various provisions of the Internal Revenue Code. REIT taxable income is computed differently from our net income as computed in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP net income"), which is reported in our audited financial statements. Depending on the number and size of the various items or transactions being accounted for differently, the differences between REIT taxable income and GAAP net income can be substantial and each item can affect several years. Generally, these items are timing or temporary differences between years; for example, an item that may be a deduction for GAAP net income in the current year is not a deduction for REIT taxable income until a later year. The Company's most significant items and transactions currently being accounted for differently include restricted stock awards and depreciation of property and equipment.

For the year 2004, the Company's REIT taxable income is \$816,602 greater than the Company's GAAP net income, and the Company therefore has declared and paid REIT distributions (dividends) based on this higher amount. The most significant portion of this amount, \$745,756, is attributable to the phantom stock awards, and the future deduction of this amount against REIT taxable income is uncertain both as to the year (as the timing of the tax impact of each restricted stock award is up to each employee who has received a grant) and as to the amount (the amount of the tax impact is measured at the fair value of the shares as of a future date, and this amount may be greater than or less than the GAAP net income deduction already taken by the Company).

Depending on the actual size of these timing or temporary differences, some of which are not entirely in the Company's control (including the impact of the restricted stock awards discussed above), future REIT distributions (dividends) may be substantially greater than or less than the Company's GAAP net income in any future fiscal reporting quarter or year. Since inception through December 31, 2004, the Company's REIT taxable income, as reported on its tax returns, is \$913,660 greater than the Company's GAAP net income as reported on its audited financial statements.

**Contractual Obligations and Commitments**

The following table provides information with respect to our contractual obligations at December 31, 2004.

Contractual Obligations	Payment due by period	
	Total	Less than 1 year
Repurchase Agreements	\$ 2,771,162,957	\$ 2,771,162,957
Total	\$ 2,771,162,957	\$ 2,771,162,957

**Critical Accounting Policies**

Our financial statements are prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). These accounting principles require us to make some complex and subjective decisions and assessments. Our most critical accounting policies involve decisions and assessments which could significantly affect our reported assets and liabilities, as well as our reported revenues and expenses. We believe that all of the decisions and assessments upon which our financial statements are

based were reasonable at the time made based upon information available to us at that time. Management has identified our most critical accounting policies to be the following:

#### **Classifications of Investment Securities**

In accordance with applicable GAAP, our investments in mortgage related securities are classified as available-for-sale securities. As a result, changes in fair value are recorded as a balance sheet adjustment to accumulated other comprehensive income (loss), which is a component of stockholders' equity, rather than through our statement of operations. If available-for-sale securities were classified as trading securities, there could be substantially greater volatility in earnings from period-to-period.

#### **Valuations of Mortgage Related Securities**

All investment securities are carried on the balance sheet at fair value. Our mortgage related securities have fair values determined by management based on the average of third-party broker quotes received and/or by independent pricing sources when available. Because the price estimates may vary to some degree between sources, management must make certain judgments and assumptions about the appropriate price to use to calculate the fair values for financial reporting purposes. Different judgments and assumptions could result in different presentations of value.

When the fair value of an available-for-sale security is less than amortized cost, management considers whether there is an other-than-temporary impairment in the value of the security (for example, whether the security will be sold prior to the recovery of fair value). If, in management's judgment, an other-than-temporary impairment exists, the cost basis of the security is written down to the then-current fair value, and this loss is realized and charged against earnings. The determination of other-than-temporary impairment is a subjective process, and different judgments and assumptions could affect the timing of loss realization.

The decline in fair value of investments held in our portfolio at December 31, 2004 is not considered to be other than temporary. Accordingly the write down to fair value is recorded in other comprehensive loss as an unrealized loss (see Note 2 to the financial statements). The factors considered in making this determination included the expected cash flow from the investment, the general quality of the mortgage related security owned, any credit protection available, current market conditions, and the magnitude and duration of the historical decline in market prices as well as the Company's ability and intention to hold such securities owned.

#### **Interest Income Recognition**

Interest income on our mortgage related securities is accrued based on the actual coupon rate and the outstanding principal amount of the underlying mortgages. Premiums and discounts are amortized or accreted into interest income over the estimated lives of the securities using the effective yield method adjusted for the effects of estimated prepayments based on Statement of Financial Accounting Standards, or SFAS, No. 91, Accounting for Nonrefundable Fees and Costs Associated with Originating or Acquiring Loans and Initial Direct Costs of Leases an amendment of FASB Statements No. 13, 60, and 65 and a rescission of FASB Statement No. 17. Adjustments are made using the retrospective method to the effective interest computation each reporting period based on the actual prepayment experiences to date and the present expectation of future prepayments of the underlying mortgages. To make assumptions as to future estimated rates of prepayments, we currently use actual market prepayment history for our securities and for similar securities that we do not own and current market conditions. If our estimate of prepayments is incorrect, we are required to make an adjustment to the amortization or accretion of premiums and discounts that would have an impact on future income.

We earned \$27.5 million of net interest income for the year ended December 31, 2004, and \$0.05 million of net interest income for the initial short period ended December 31, 2003. As measured against invested assets during each period, these net interest earnings represented an annualized net yield of approximately 1.7% for the year ended December 31, 2004 and 2.0% for the short period

ended December 31, 2003. These earnings are not representative of what can be expected for future periods, as we only began to acquire investments in late December 2003, and the funds received during the year ended December 2004 from our private placements and public offerings were not fully invested for the entire twelve-month period.

#### **Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation**

We have adopted the fair value-based method of accounting for stock-based compensation. Under this approach, we will recognize an expense for any stock-based employee compensation based on the fair value of the award, as well as for transactions with non-employees in which services are performed in exchange for equity instruments.

#### **Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements**

Since inception, we have not maintained any relationships with unconsolidated entities or financial partnerships, such as entities often referred to as structured finance or special purpose entities, established for the purpose of facilitating off-balance sheet arrangements or other contractually narrow or limited purposes. Further, we have not guaranteed any obligations of unconsolidated entities nor do we have any commitment or intent to provide additional funding to any such entities. Accordingly, we are not materially exposed to any market, credit, liquidity or financing risk that could arise if we had engaged in such relationships.

#### **Inflation**

Virtually all of our assets and liabilities are financial in nature. As a result, interest rates and other factors influence our performance far more so than does inflation. Changes in interest rates do not necessarily correlate with inflation rates or changes in inflation rates. Our financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States and our distributions are determined by our board of directors based primarily on our net income as calculated for tax purposes; in each case, our activities and balance sheet are measured with reference to historical cost and or fair market value without considering inflation.

## BUSINESS

### General

We commenced operations in December 2003 and invest primarily in residential mortgage related securities issued by Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac and Ginnie Mae. We earn returns on the spread between the yield on our assets and our costs, including the interest expense on the funds we borrow. We intend to borrow between eight and 12 times the amount of our equity capital to attempt to enhance our returns to stockholders. We are self-managed and self-advised.

We conducted private placements of our Class A Common Stock in which we raised aggregate net proceeds (after commissions and expenses) of approximately \$141.7 million between December 2003 and February 2004. In September 2004 we completed the initial public offering of our shares of Class A Common Stock. Our Class A Common Stock trades on the New York Stock Exchange, or NYSE, under the trading symbol "BMM". We raised approximately \$75.9 million in net proceeds in our initial public offering. In December 2004, we completed a secondary offering of our Class A Common Stock, in which we raised approximately \$66.7 million in net proceeds.

As of December 31, 2004 we had total assets of \$3.1 billion, substantially all of which consisted of mortgage related securities and cash and cash equivalents. On that date, our portfolio of mortgage related securities totaled \$3.0 billion and was comprised of 25.2% fixed-rate mortgage-backed securities, 8.4% floating rate collateralized mortgage obligations, 47.2% adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities, 16.9% hybrid adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities (securities backed by mortgages with fixed initial rates which, after a period, convert to adjustable rates) and 2.3% balloon maturity mortgage-backed securities (securities backed by mortgages where a significant portion of principal is repaid only at maturity). Of this portfolio, 63% was issued by Fannie Mae, 18% was issued by Freddie Mac and 19% was issued by Ginnie Mae.

Our portfolio had a weighted average yield of 3.44% as of December 31, 2004. Our net weighted average borrowing cost as of December 31, 2004 was 2.28%. The constant prepayment rate for the portfolio was 23.6% for December 2004, which reflects the annualized proportion of principal that was prepaid. The effective duration for the portfolio was 0.84 as of December 31, 2004. Duration measures the price sensitivity of a fixed income security to movements in interest rates. Effective duration captures both the movement in interest rates and the fact that cash flows to a mortgage related security are altered when interest rates move.

We have elected to be taxed as a real estate investment trust, or REIT, under the Internal Revenue Code commencing with our taxable year ended December 31, 2003. Provided we continue to qualify as a REIT, we will generally distribute to our stockholders all or substantially all of our taxable income generated from our operations. As long as we retain our REIT status, we generally will not be subject to federal income tax to the extent that we distribute our net income to our stockholders.

### Risk Management Approach

We seek to differentiate ourselves from other mortgage portfolio managers through our approach to risk management. We invest in a limited universe of mortgage related securities, primarily those issued by Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac and Ginnie Mae. Payment of principal and interest underlying securities issued by Ginnie Mae is guaranteed by the U.S. Government. Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac mortgage related securities are guaranteed as to payment of principal and interest by the respective agency issuing the security. We seek to manage the risk of prepayments of the underlying mortgages by creating a diversified portfolio with a variety of prepayment characteristics. Finally, we seek to address interest rate risks by managing the interest rate indices and borrowing periods of our debt, as well as through hedging against interest rate changes.

We have implemented a risk-based capital methodology patterned on the general principles underlying the proposed risk-based capital standards for internationally active banks of the Basel

Committee on Banking Supervision, commonly referred to as the Basel II Accord. The Basel II Accord encourages banks to develop methods for measuring the risks of their banking activities to determine the amount of capital required to support those risks. Similarly, we use our methodology to calculate an internally generated risk measure for each asset in our portfolio. This measure is then used to establish the amount of leverage we use. We expect our risk management program to reduce our need to use hedging techniques.

### **Our Investment Strategy**

Our board of directors may change our investment strategy without prior notice to you or a vote of our stockholders.

#### *Asset Acquisition Strategy*

The primary assets in our current portfolio of mortgage related securities are fixed-rate mortgage-backed securities, floating rate collateralized mortgage obligations, adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities, hybrid adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities and balloon maturity mortgage-backed securities. The mortgage related securities we acquire are obligations issued by Ginnie Mae, a federal agency, and by Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae, which are federally chartered agencies.

We seek to manage the effects on our income of prepayments of the mortgage loans underlying our securities at a rate materially different than anticipated. Our diversified portfolio includes securities with prepayment characteristics that we expect to result in slower prepayments, such as pools of mortgage-backed securities collateralized by mortgages with low loan balances, mortgages originated under Fannie Mae's Expanded Approval Program or agency pools collateralized by loans against investment properties.

Borrowers with low loan balances have a lower economic incentive to refinance and have historically prepaid at lower rates than borrowers with larger loan balances. The reduced incentive to refinance has two parts: borrowers with low loan balances will have smaller interest savings because overall interest payments are smaller on their loans; and closing costs for refinancings, which are generally not proportionate to the size of a loan, make refinancing of smaller loans less attractive as it takes a longer period of time for the interest savings to cover the cost of refinancing.

Fannie Mae's Expanded Approval Program allows borrowers with slightly impaired credit histories or loan-to-value ratios greater than 80% to qualify for conventional conforming financing. Borrowers under this program have proportionately higher delinquency rates than typical Fannie Mae borrowers, resulting in a higher than market interest rate because of the increased default and delinquency risk. Prepayment rates on these securities are lower than average because refinancing is more difficult for delinquent or recently delinquent loans.

Agency pools collateralized by loans against investment properties generally result in slower prepayments because borrowers financing investment properties are required to pay an up front premium. Payment of this premium requires a larger rate movement for the borrower to achieve the same relative level of savings upon refinancing.

We have created and will maintain a diversified portfolio to avoid undue geographic, loan originator, and other types of concentrations. By maintaining essentially all of our assets in government or government-sponsored or chartered enterprises and government or federal agencies, which may include an implied guarantee of the federal government as to payment of principal and interest, we believe we can significantly reduce our exposure to losses from credit risk. We intend to acquire assets that will enable us to be exempt from the Investment Company Act.

Legislation may be proposed to change the relationship between certain agencies, such as Fannie Mae and the federal government. This may have the effect of reducing the actual or perceived credit quality of mortgage related securities issued by these agencies. As a result, such legislation could

increase the risk of loss on investments in Fannie Mae and/or Freddie Mac mortgage-backed securities. We currently intend to continue to invest in such securities, even if such agencies' relationships with the federal government change.

### *Leverage Strategy*

We use leverage in an attempt to increase potential returns to our stockholders. However, the use of leverage may also have the effect of increasing losses when economic conditions are unfavorable. We generally borrow between eight to 12 times the amount of our equity, although our investment policies require no minimum or maximum leverage. We use repurchase agreements to borrow against existing mortgage related securities and use the proceeds to acquire additional mortgage related securities.

We seek to structure the financing in such a way as to limit the effect of fluctuations in short-term rates on our interest rate spread. In general, our borrowings are short-term and we actively manage, on an aggregate basis, both the interest rate indices and interest rate adjustment periods of our borrowings against the interest rate indices and interest rate adjustment periods on our mortgage related securities in order to limit our liquidity and interest rate related risks. We may also employ borrowings under longer term facilities.

We generally borrow at short-term rates using repurchase agreements. As of December 31, 2004, our debt to equity ratio was 9.8:1, and our repurchase agreements at that date totalled \$2.8 billion. Repurchase agreements are generally, but not always, short-term in nature. Under these repurchase agreements, we sell securities to a lender and agree to repurchase those securities in the future for a price that is higher than the original sales price. The difference between the sales price we receive and the repurchase price we pay represents interest paid to the lender. This is determined by reference to an interest rate index (such as LIBOR) plus an interest rate spread. Although structured as a sale and repurchase obligation, a repurchase agreement operates as a financing under which we effectively pledge our securities as collateral to secure a short-term loan equal in value to a specified percentage of the market value of the pledged collateral. We retain beneficial ownership of the pledged collateral, including the right to distributions. At the maturity of a repurchase agreement, we are required to repay the loan and concurrently receive our pledged collateral from the lender or, with the consent of the lender, we renew such agreement at the then prevailing financing rate. Our repurchase agreements may require us to pledge additional assets to the lender in the event the market value of the existing pledged collateral declines.

We have engaged AVM, L.P. (a securities broker-dealer) and III Associates (a registered investment adviser affiliated with AVM), to provide us with repurchase agreement trading, clearing and administrative services. III Associates acts as our agent and adviser in arranging for third parties to enter into repurchase agreements with us, executes and maintains records of our repurchase transactions and assists in managing the margin arrangements between us and our counterparties for each of our repurchase agreements.

We seek to protect our capital base through the use of a risk-based capital methodology. This methodology is patterned on the general principles underlying the Basel II Accord. These principles are intended to promote the use by internationally active banks of increasingly sophisticated internal risk management processes and measurements for purposes of allocating capital on a weighted basis. Our methodology follows this framework in that the inherent risk of an asset will create a capital allocation for the asset, which will in turn define the amount of leverage we will employ.

As with the Basel approach, we identify components of risk associated with the assets we employ. However, unlike typical bank loans, which may bear a significant degree of credit risk, the risks associated with the assets we employ are primarily related to movements in interest rates. The elements relating to interest rate risk we analyze are effective duration, convexity, expected return and the slope of the yield curve. "Effective duration" measures the sensitivity of a security's price to movements in interest rates. "Convexity" measures the sensitivity of a security's effective duration to movements in

interest rates. "Expected return" captures the market's assessment of the risk of a security. We assume markets are efficient with respect to the pricing of risk.

While these three risk components primarily address the price movement of a security, we believe the income earning potential of our portfolio as reflected in the slope of the yield curve offsets potential negative price movements. We believe the risk of our portfolio is lower when the slope of the yield curve is steep, and thus is inversely proportional to the slope of the yield curve.

We use these components of risk to arrive at a risk coefficient for each asset. The product of this coefficient and the amount of our investment represents our "risk measure" for the asset. We calculate risk measures for each asset and then aggregate them into the risk measure for the entire portfolio, which guides us to an appropriate amount of overall leverage. We analyze the portfolio's risk measures on a daily basis. The leverage ratio will rise as the risk level of the portfolio declines and will fall as the portfolio's risk level increases. The goal of our approach is to ensure that our portfolio's leverage ratio is appropriate for the level of risk inherent in the portfolio.

### ***Interest Rate Risk Management***

We believe the primary risk inherent in our investments is the effect of movements in interest rates. This arises because the changes in interest rates on our borrowings will not be perfectly coordinated with the effects of interest rate changes on the income from, or value of, our investments. We therefore follow an interest rate risk management program designed to offset the potential adverse effects resulting from the rate adjustment limitations on our mortgage related securities. We seek to minimize differences between interest rate indices and interest rate adjustment periods of our adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities and related borrowings by matching the terms of assets and related liabilities both as to maturity and to the underlying interest rate index used to calculate interest rate charges.

Our interest rate risk management program encompasses a number of procedures, including the following:

monitoring and adjusting, if necessary, the interest rate sensitivity of our mortgage related securities compared with the interest rate sensitivities of our borrowings.

attempting to structure our repurchase agreements that fund our purchases of adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities to have a range of different maturities and interest rate adjustment periods. We attempt to structure these repurchase agreements to match the reset dates on our adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities. At December 31, 2004, the weighted average months to reset of our adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities was 4.0 months and the weighted average reset on the corresponding repurchase agreements was 2.5 months; and

actively managing, on an aggregate basis, the interest rate indices and interest rate adjustment periods of our mortgage related securities compared to the interest rate indices and adjustment periods of our borrowings. Our liabilities under our repurchase agreements are all LIBOR-based, and we select our adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities to favor LIBOR indexes. As of December 31, 2004, over 29% of our adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities were LIBOR-based.

As a result, we expect to be able to adjust the average maturities and reset periods of our borrowings on an ongoing basis by changing the mix of maturities and interest rate adjustment periods as borrowings mature or are renewed. Through the use of these procedures, we attempt to reduce the risk of differences between interest rate adjustment periods of our adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities and our related borrowings.

We may from time to time use derivative financial instruments to hedge all or a portion of the interest rate risk associated with our borrowings. We may enter into swap or cap agreements, option,

put or call agreements, futures contracts, forward rate agreements or similar financial instruments to hedge indebtedness that we may incur or plan to incur. These contracts would be intended to more closely match the effective maturity of, and the interest received on, our assets with the effective maturity of, and the interest owed on, our liabilities. However, no assurances can be given that interest rate risk management strategies can successfully be implemented. Derivative instruments will not be used for speculative purposes.

We may also use derivative financial instruments in an attempt to protect us against declines in the market value of our assets that result from general trends in debt markets. The inability to match closely the maturities and interest rates of our assets and liabilities or the inability to protect adequately against declines in the market value of our assets could result in losses.

#### **Repurchase Agreement Trading, Clearing and Administrative Services**

We have engaged AVM, L.P. (a securities broker-dealer) and III Associates (a registered investment adviser affiliated with AVM), to provide us with repurchase agreement trading, clearing and administrative services. AVM acts as our clearing agent. III Associates acts as our agent and adviser in arranging for third parties to enter into repurchase agreements with us, executes and maintains records of our repurchase transactions and assists in managing the margin arrangements between us and our counterparties for each of our repurchase agreements.

AVM and III Associates receive fees for their services, and III Associates also has the opportunity to earn additional incentive fees. AVM receives a fee equal to no greater than 0.20% of the book value of our assets or a minimum annual fee of \$250,000. III Associates receives an annual consulting fee of no less than \$200,000 and is entitled to receive 45% of the amount by which the financing costs under each of our repurchase agreements secured by III Associates, calculated at an assumed hurdle rate, would exceed the actual financing costs under that repurchase agreement. For the portion of our mortgage related securities with a value up to \$3.0 billion, the applicable hurdle rate is LIBOR plus 0.02%. For the portion of our mortgage related securities with a value between \$3.0 billion and \$5.0 billion, the applicable hurdle rate is LIBOR plus 0.01%. For the portion of our mortgage related securities with a value in excess of \$5.0 billion, the applicable hurdle rate is flat LIBOR.

#### **Description of Mortgage Related Securities**

##### ***Mortgage-Backed Securities***

*Pass-Through Certificates.* We intend to invest in pass-through certificates, which are securities representing interests in pools of mortgage loans secured by residential real property in which payments of both interest and principal on the securities are generally made monthly. In effect, these securities pass through the monthly payments made by the individual borrowers on the mortgage loans that underlie the securities, net of fees paid to the issuer or guarantor of the securities. Pass-through certificates can be divided into various categories based on the characteristics of the underlying mortgages, such as the term or whether the interest rate is fixed or variable.

A key feature of most mortgage loans is the ability of the borrower to repay principal earlier than scheduled. This is called a prepayment. Prepayments arise primarily due to sale of the underlying property, refinancing, or foreclosure. Prepayments result in a return of principal to pass-through certificate holders. This may result in a lower or higher rate of return upon reinvestment of principal. This is generally referred to as prepayment uncertainty. If a security purchased at a premium prepays at a higher-than-expected rate, then the value of the premium would be eroded at a faster-than-expected rate. Similarly, if a discount mortgage prepays at a lower-than-expected rate, the amortization towards par would be accumulated at a slower-than-expected rate. The possibility of these undesirable effects is sometimes referred to as "prepayment risk."

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In general, declining interest rates tend to increase prepayments, and rising interest rates tend to slow prepayments. Like other fixed-income securities, when interest rates rise, the value of mortgage related securities generally declines. The rate of prepayments on underlying mortgages will affect the price and volatility of mortgage related securities and may shorten or extend the effective maturity of the security beyond what was anticipated at the time of purchase. If interest rates rise, our holdings of mortgage related securities may experience reduced returns if the borrowers of the underlying mortgages pay off their mortgages later than anticipated. This is generally referred to as extension risk.

Payment of principal and interest on mortgage pass-through securities issued by Ginnie Mae, although not the market value of the securities themselves, are guaranteed by the full faith and credit of the federal government. Payment of principal and interest on mortgage pass-through certificates issued by Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, although not the market value of the securities themselves, are guaranteed by the respective agency issuing the security.

The mortgage loans underlying pass-through certificates can generally be classified in the following five categories:

*Fixed-Rate Mortgages.* As of December 31, 2004, 25.2% of our portfolio consisted of fixed-rate mortgage-backed securities. Fixed-rate mortgages are those where the borrower pays an interest rate that is constant throughout the term of the loan. Traditionally, most fixed-rate mortgages have an original term of 30 years. However, shorter terms (also referred to as final maturity dates) have become common in recent years. Because the interest rate on the loan never changes, even when market interest rates change, over time there can be a divergence between the interest rate on the loan and current market interest rates. This in turn can make a fixed-rate mortgage's price sensitive to market fluctuations in interest rates. In general, the longer the remaining term on the mortgage loan, the greater the price sensitivity.

*Collateralized Mortgage Obligations.* As of December 31, 2004, 8.4% of our portfolio consisted of floating rate collateralized mortgage obligations. Collateralized mortgage obligations, or CMOs, are a type of mortgage-backed security. Interest and principal on a CMO are paid, in most cases, on a monthly basis. CMOs may be collateralized by whole mortgage loans, but are more typically collateralized by portfolios of mortgage pass-through securities issued directly by or under the auspices of Ginnie Mae, Freddie Mac or Fannie Mae. CMOs are structured into multiple classes, with each class bearing a different stated maturity. Monthly payments of principal, including prepayments, are first returned to investors holding the shortest maturity class. Investors holding the longer maturity classes receive principal only after the first class has been retired. Generally, fixed-rate mortgages are used to collateralize CMOs. However, the CMO tranches need not all have fixed-rate coupons. Some CMO tranches have floating rate coupons that adjust based on market interest rates, subject to some limitations. Such tranches, often called "CMO floaters," can have relatively low price sensitivity.

*Adjustable-Rate Mortgages.* As of December 31, 2004, 47.2% of our portfolio consisted of adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities. Adjustable-rate mortgages, or ARMs, are those for which the borrower pays an interest rate that varies over the term of the loan. The interest rate usually resets based on market interest rates, although the adjustment of such an interest rate may be subject to certain limitations. Traditionally, interest rate resets occur at regular set intervals (for example, once per year). We will refer to such ARMs as "traditional" ARMs. Because the interest rates on ARMs fluctuate based on market conditions, ARMs tend to have interest rates that do not deviate from current market rates by a large amount. This in turn can mean that ARMs have less price sensitivity to interest rates.

*Hybrid Adjustable-Rate Mortgages.* As of December 31, 2004, 16.9% of our portfolio consisted of hybrid adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities. Hybrid ARMs have a fixed-rate for the first few years of the loan, often three, five, or seven years, and thereafter reset periodically like a

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traditional ARM. Effectively such mortgages are hybrids, combining the features of a pure fixed-rate mortgage and a "traditional" ARM. Hybrid ARMs have price sensitivity to interest rates similar to that of a fixed-rate mortgage during the period when the interest rate is fixed and similar to that of an ARM when the interest rate is in its periodic reset stage. However, because many hybrid ARMs are structured with a relatively short initial time span during which the interest rate is fixed, even during that segment of its existence, the price sensitivity may be high.

*Balloon Maturity Mortgages.* As of December 31, 2004, 2.3% of our portfolio consisted of balloon maturity mortgage-backed securities. Balloon maturity mortgages are a type of fixed-rate mortgage where all or most of the principal amount is due at maturity, rather than paid down, or amortized, over the life of the loan. These mortgages have a static interest rate for the life of the loan. However, the term of the loan is usually quite short, typically less than seven years. As the balloon maturity mortgage approaches its maturity date, the price sensitivity of the mortgage declines.

Although there are a variety of other mortgage related securities, including various derivative securities, securities known as "inverse floaters," "inverse I.O.'s" and "residuals," we do not expect to invest in them.

### ***Other Investments***

We may purchase interest rate caps to hedge against quick and unexpected changes in our funding rates. The purchaser of these caps is only at risk for the fee paid. We may also enter into longer term funding arrangements with acceptable counterparties. We intend to limit these investments to less than 10% of our total assets.

We also intend to operate in a manner that will not subject us to regulation under the Investment Company Act. Although it does not anticipate any major changes at this time, our board of directors has the authority to modify or waive our current operating policies and our strategies without prior notice to you and without stockholder approval.

### **Policies With Respect to Certain Other Activities**

If our board of directors determines that additional funding is required, we may raise such funds through additional offerings of equity or debt securities or the retention of cash flow (subject to provisions in the Internal Revenue Code concerning distribution requirements and the taxability of undistributed REIT taxable income) or a combination of these methods. In the event that our board of directors determines to raise additional equity capital, it has the authority, without stockholder approval, to issue additional common stock or preferred stock in any manner and on such terms and for such consideration as it deems appropriate, at any time.

We have authority to offer our Class A Common Stock or other equity or debt securities in exchange for property and to repurchase or otherwise reacquire our shares and may engage in such activities in the future.

Subject to gross income and asset tests necessary for REIT qualification, we may invest in securities of other REITs, other entities engaged in real estate activities or securities of other issuers, including for the purpose of exercising control over such entities.

We may engage in the purchase and sale of investments. We do not underwrite the securities of other issuers.

Our board of directors may change any of these policies without prior notice to you or a vote of our stockholders.

### **Custodian Bank**

J.P. Morgan Chase & Co. is our custodian bank and entitled to fees for its services.

### **Competition**

When we invest in mortgage related securities and other investment assets, we compete with a variety of institutional investors, including other REITs, insurance companies, mutual funds, pension funds, investment banking firms, banks and other financial institutions that invest in the same types of assets. Many of these investors have greater financial resources and access to lower costs of capital than we do. The existence of these competitive entities, as well as the possibility of additional entities forming in the future, may increase the competition for the acquisition of mortgage related securities, resulting in higher prices and lower yields on assets.

### **Website Access to our Periodic SEC Reports**

The Internet address of our corporate website is [www.biminireit.com](http://www.biminireit.com). We make our periodic SEC reports (on Forms 10-K and 10-Q) and current reports (on Form 8-K), as well as the beneficial ownership reports filed by our directors, officers and 10% stockholders (on Forms 3, 4 and 5) available free of charge through our website as soon as reasonably practicable after they are filed electronically with the SEC. We may from time to time provide important disclosures to investors by posting them in the investor relations section of our website, as allowed by SEC rules. The information on our website is not a part of this prospectus.

Materials we file with the SEC may be read and copied at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549. Information on the operation of the Public Reference Room may be obtained by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. The SEC also maintains an Internet website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov) that will contain our reports, proxy and information statements, and other information regarding our company that we will file electronically with the SEC.

### **Employees**

As of December 31, 2004 we had six full-time employees.

### **Facilities**

Our principal offices are located at 3305 Flamingo Drive, Vero Beach, Florida 32963.

### **Legal Proceedings**

We are not a party to any legal proceedings.

## QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

We believe the primary risk inherent in our investments is the effect of movements in interest rates. This arises because the changes in interest rates on our borrowings will not be perfectly coordinated with the effects of interest rate changes on the income from, or value of, our investments. We therefore follow an interest rate risk management program designed to offset the potential adverse effects resulting from the rate adjustment limitations on our mortgage related securities. We seek to minimize differences between the interest rate indices and interest rate adjustment periods of our adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities and those of our related borrowings.

Our interest rate risk management program encompasses a number of procedures, including the following:

monitoring and adjusting, if necessary, the interest rate sensitivity of its mortgage related securities compared with the interest rate sensitivities of our borrowings;

attempting to structure our repurchase agreements that fund our purchases of adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities to have a range of different maturities and interest rate adjustment periods. We attempt to structure these repurchase agreements to match the reset dates on our adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities. At December 31, 2004, the weighted average months to reset of our adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities was 4.0 months and the weighted average reset on the corresponding repurchase agreements was 2.5 months; and

actively managing, on an aggregate basis, the interest rate indices and interest rate adjustment periods of our mortgage related securities compared to the interest rate indices and adjustment periods of our borrowings. Our liabilities under our repurchase agreements are all LIBOR-based, and we, among other considerations, select our adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities to favor LIBOR indexes. As of December 31, 2004, over 29% of our adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities were LIBOR-based.

As a result, we expect to be able to adjust the average maturities and reset periods of our borrowings on an ongoing basis by changing the mix of maturities and interest rate adjustment periods as borrowings mature or are renewed. Through the use of these procedures, we attempt to reduce the risk of differences between interest rate adjustment periods of our adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities and those of our related borrowings.

Because we attempt to match our assets and liabilities from an interest rate perspective and hold our assets to maturity, we expect to have limited exposure to changes in interest rates. However, we will be exposed to changes in interest rates either (i) upon refinancing borrowings that expire before the related assets are repaid or (ii) upon reinvesting (and refinancing) proceeds following the maturity of current investments, if interest rates were to rise substantially.

As a further means of protecting our portfolio against the effects of major interest rate changes we may employ a limited hedging strategy under which we purchase interest rate cap contracts (under which we would generally be entitled to payment if interest rate indices exceed the agreed rates).

### Interest Rate Risk

We are subject to interest rate risk in connection with our investments in mortgage related securities and our related debt obligations, which are generally repurchase agreements of limited duration that are periodically refinanced at current market rates.

### Effect on Net Interest Income

We fund our investments in long-term fixed-rate and hybrid adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities with short-term borrowings under repurchase agreements. During periods of rising interest

rates, the borrowing costs associated with those fixed-rate and hybrid adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities tend to increase while the income earned on such fixed-rate mortgage-backed securities and hybrid adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities (during the fixed-rate component of such securities) may remain substantially unchanged. This results in a narrowing of the net interest spread between the related assets and borrowings and may even result in losses. We may enter into interest rate cap contracts or forward funding agreements seeking to mitigate the negative impact of a rising interest rate environment. Hedging techniques will be based, in part, on assumed levels of prepayments of our fixed-rate and hybrid adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities. If prepayments are slower or faster than assumed, the life of the mortgage related securities will be longer or shorter, which would reduce the effectiveness of any hedging techniques we may utilize and may result in losses on such transactions. Hedging techniques involving the use of derivative securities are highly complex and may produce volatile returns. Our hedging activity will also be limited by the asset and sources-of-income requirements applicable to us as a REIT.

#### **Extension Risk**

We invest in fixed-rate and hybrid adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities. Hybrid adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities have interest rates that are fixed for the first few years of the loan typically three, five, seven or 10 years and thereafter their interest rates reset periodically on the same basis as adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities. As of December 31, 2004, approximately 16.9% of our investment portfolio was comprised of hybrid adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities. We compute the projected weighted average life of our fixed-rate and hybrid adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities based on the market's assumptions regarding the rate at which the borrowers will prepay the underlying mortgages. In general, when a fixed-rate or hybrid adjustable-rate mortgage-backed security is acquired with borrowings, we may, but are not required to, enter into interest rate cap contracts or forward funding agreements that effectively cap or fix our<sup>^</sup> borrowing costs for a period close to the anticipated average life of the fixed-rate portion of the related mortgage-backed security. This strategy is designed to protect us from rising interest rates because the borrowing costs are fixed for the duration of the fixed-rate portion of the related mortgage-backed security. However, if prepayment rates decrease in a rising interest rate environment, the life of the fixed-rate portion of the related mortgage-backed security could extend beyond the term of the swap agreement or other hedging instrument. This situation could negatively impact us as borrowing costs would no longer be fixed after the end of the hedging instrument, while the income earned on the fixed-rate or hybrid adjustable-rate mortgage-backed security would remain fixed. This situation may also cause the market value of our fixed-rate and hybrid adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities to decline with little or no offsetting gain from the related hedging transactions. In extreme situations, we may be forced to sell assets and incur losses to maintain adequate liquidity.

#### **Adjustable-Rate and Hybrid Adjustable-Rate Mortgage-Backed Security Interest Rate Cap Risk**

We also invest in adjustable-rate and hybrid adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities, which are based on mortgages that are typically subject to periodic and lifetime interest rate caps and floors, which limit the amount by which an adjustable-rate or hybrid adjustable-rate mortgage-backed security's interest yield may change during any given period. However, our borrowing costs pursuant to our repurchase agreements will not be subject to similar restrictions. Hence, in a period of increasing interest rates, interest rate costs on our borrowings could increase without limitation by caps, while the interest-rate yields on our adjustable-rate and hybrid adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities would effectively be limited by caps. This problem will be magnified to the extent we acquire adjustable-rate and hybrid adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities that are not based on mortgages which are fully indexed. Further, the underlying mortgages may be subject to periodic payment caps that result in some portion of the interest being deferred and added to the principal outstanding. This could result in our receipt of less cash income on our adjustable-rate and hybrid adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities

than we need in order to pay the interest cost on our related borrowings. These factors could lower our net interest income or cause a net loss during periods of rising interest rates, which would negatively impact our financial condition, cash flows and results of operations.

#### **Interest Rate Mismatch Risk**

We intend to fund a substantial portion of its acquisitions of adjustable-rate and hybrid adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities with borrowings that have interest rates based on indices and repricing terms similar to, but of somewhat shorter maturities than, the interest rate indices and repricing terms of the mortgage related securities we are financing. Thus, we anticipate that in most cases the interest rate indices and repricing terms of its mortgage related securities and our funding sources will not be identical, thereby creating an interest rate mismatch between assets and liabilities. Therefore, our cost of funds would likely rise or fall more quickly than would our earnings rate on assets. During periods of changing interest rates, such interest rate mismatches could negatively impact our financial condition, cash flows and results of operations.

#### **Prepayment Risk**

Prepayment rates for existing mortgage related securities generally increase when prevailing interest rates fall below the market rate existing when the underlying mortgages were originated. In addition, prepayment rates on adjustable-rate and hybrid adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities generally increase when the difference between long-term and short-term interest rates declines or becomes negative. Prepayments of mortgage related securities could harm our results of operations in several ways. Some adjustable-rate mortgages underlying our adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities may bear initial "teaser" interest rates that are lower than their "fully-indexed" rates, which refers to the applicable index rates plus a margin. In the event that such an adjustable-rate mortgage is prepaid prior to or soon after the time of adjustment to a fully-indexed rate, the holder of the related mortgage-backed security would have held such security while it was less profitable and lost the opportunity to receive interest at the fully-indexed rate over the expected life of the adjustable-rate mortgage-backed security. We currently own mortgage related securities that were purchased at a premium. The prepayment of such mortgage related securities at a rate faster than anticipated would result in a write-off of any remaining capitalized premium amount and a consequent reduction of our net interest income by such amount. Finally, in the event that we are unable to acquire new mortgage related securities to replace the prepaid mortgage related securities, our financial condition, cash flow and results of operations could be harmed.

#### **Effect on Fair Value**

Another component of interest rate risk is the effect changes in interest rates will have on the market value of our assets. We face the risk that the market value of our assets will increase or decrease at different rates than that of our liabilities, including our hedging instruments.

We primarily assess our interest rate risk by estimating the duration of our assets and the duration of its liabilities. Duration essentially measures the market price volatility of financial instruments as interest rates change. We generally calculate duration using various financial models and empirical data, and different models and methodologies can produce different duration numbers for the same securities.

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The following sensitivity analysis table shows the estimated impact on the fair value of our interest rate-sensitive investments at December 31, 2004, assuming rates instantaneously fall 100 basis points, rise 100 basis points and rise 200 basis points:

	<b>Interest Rates Fall 100 Basis Points</b>	<b>Interest Rates Rise 100 Basis Points</b>	<b>Interest Rates Rise 200 Basis Points</b>
<b>Adjustable-Rate Mortgage-Backed Securities</b>			
(Fair Value \$1,403,381,666)			
Change in fair value	\$ 5,473,188	\$ (5,473,188)	\$ (27,141,401)
Change as a percent of fair value	0.39%	(0.39)%	(1.93)%
<b>Fixed-Rate Mortgage-Backed Securities</b>			
(Fair Value \$749,789,412)			
Change in fair value	\$ 11,771,694	\$ (11,771,694)	\$ (47,476,666)
Change as a percent of fair value	1.57%	(1.57)%	(6.33)%
<b>CMO Floaters</b>			
(Fair Value \$250,438,730)			
Change in fair value	\$ 1,227,150	\$ (1,227,150)	\$ 788,882
Change as a percent of fair value	0.49%	(0.49)%	0.32%
<b>Hybrid Adjustable-Rate Mortgage-Backed Securities</b>			
(Fair Value \$500,927,382)			
Change in fair value	\$ 4,708,717	\$ (4,708,717)	\$ (21,084,034)
Change as a percent of fair value	0.94%	(0.94)%	(4.21)%
<b>Balloon Maturity Mortgage-Backed Securities</b>			
(Fair Value \$68,695,707)			
Change in fair value	\$ 1,538,784	\$ (1,538,784)	\$ (3,704,073)
Change as a percent of fair value	2.24%	(2.24)%	(5.39)%
<b>Cash</b>			
(Fair Value \$128,942,436)			
<b>Portfolio Total</b>			
(Fair Value \$2,973,232,897)			
Change in fair value	\$ 24,719,533	\$ (24,719,533)	\$ (98,617,292)
Change as a percent of fair value	0.83%	(0.83)%	(3.32)%

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The table below reflects the same analysis presented above but with the figures in the columns that indicate the estimated impact of a 100 basis point fall or rise adjusted to reflect the impact of convexity.

	<u>Interest Rates Fall 100 Basis Points</u>	<u>Interest Rates Rise 100 Basis Points</u>	<u>Interest Rates Rise 200 Basis Points</u>
<b>Adjustable-Rate Mortgage-Backed Securities</b>			
(Fair Value \$1,403,381,666)			
Change in fair value	\$ 2,034,903	\$ (10,174,517)	\$ (27,141,401)
Change as a percent of fair value	0.14%	(0.72)%	(1.93)%
<b>Fixed-Rate Mortgage-Backed Securities</b>			
(Fair Value \$749,789,412)			
Change in fair value	\$ 5,413,480	\$ (18,819,714)	\$ (47,476,666)
Change as a percent of fair value	0.72%	(2.51)%	(6.33)%
<b>CMO Floaters</b>			
(Fair Value \$250,438,730)			
Change in fair value	\$ (641,123)	\$ 996,746	\$ 788,882
Change as a percent of fair value	(0.26)%	0.40%	0.32%
<b>Hybrid Adjustable-Rate Mortgage-Backed Securities</b>			
(Fair Value \$500,927,382)			
Change in fair value	\$ 1,477,736	\$ (8,355,469)	\$ (21,084,034)
Change as a percent of fair value	0.30%	(1.67)%	(4.21)%
<b>Balloon Maturity Mortgage-Backed Securities</b>			
(Fair Value \$68,695,707)			
Change in fair value	\$ 1,079,210	\$ (1,777,158)	\$ (3,704,073)
Change as a percent of fair value	1.57%	(2.59)%	(5.39)%
<b>Cash</b>			
(Fair Value \$128,942,436)			
<b>Portfolio Total</b>			
(Fair Value \$2,973,232,897)			
Change in fair value	\$ 9,364,206	\$ (38,130,112)	\$ (98,617,292)
Change as a percent of fair value	0.31%	(1.28)%	(3.32)%

In addition to changes in interest rates, other factors impact the fair value of our interest rate-sensitive investments and hedging instruments, such as the shape of the yield curve, market expectations as to future interest rate changes and other market conditions. Accordingly, in the event of changes in actual interest rates, the change in the fair value of our assets would likely differ from that shown above, and such difference might be material and adverse to our stockholders.

Our liabilities, consisting primarily of repurchase agreements, are also affected by changes in interest rates. As rates rise, the value of the underlying asset, or the collateral, declines. In certain circumstances, we could be required to post additional collateral in order to maintain the repurchase agreement position. We maintain a substantial cash position, as well as unpledged assets, to cover these types of situations. As an example, if interest rates increased 200 basis points, as shown on the prior table, our collateral as of December 31, 2004 would decline in value by approximately \$98.6 million. Our cash and unpledged assets are currently sufficient to cover such shortfall. There can be no assurance, however, that we will always have sufficient cash or unpledged assets to cover shortfalls in all situations.

## MANAGEMENT OF THE COMPANY

## Our Executive Officers and Directors

The following table sets forth certain information regarding our executive officers and directors:

Name	Age	Position
Jeffrey J. Zimmer	47	Chairman of the Board, Chief Executive Officer and President
Robert E. Cauley, CFA	46	Chief Financial Officer, Chief Investment Officer, Secretary and Director
Amber K. Luedke	28	Treasurer
Kevin L. Bespolka	42	Independent Director(1)(2)(3)
Maureen A. Hendricks	53	Independent Director(1)(3)
W. Christopher Mortenson	58	Independent Director(1)(3)
Buford H. Ortale	43	Independent Director(1)(2)

- (1) Member of Audit Committee.
- (2) Member of Governance and Nominating Committee.
- (3) Member of Compensation Committee.

**Jeffrey J. Zimmer** is our Chairman, Chief Executive Officer, President and one of our founders. He was most recently a Managing Director in the Mortgage-Backed and Asset Backed Department at RBS/Greenwich Capital Markets. From 1990 through 2003, he held various positions in the mortgage-backed department at Greenwich Capital. While there, Mr. Zimmer worked closely with some of the nation's largest mortgage banks, hedge funds, and investment management firms on various mortgage-backed securities investments. He has sold and researched almost every type of mortgage-backed security in his 20 years in the mortgage business. He has negotiated terms on and participated in the completion of dozens of new underwritten public and privately placed mortgage-backed deals for customers of Greenwich Capital. Mr. Zimmer was employed at Drexel Burnham Lambert in the institutional mortgage-backed sales area from 1984 until 1990. He received his MBA in finance from Babson College in 1983 and a BA in economics and speech communication from Denison University in 1980.

**Robert E. Cauley** is our Chief Investment Officer, Chief Financial Officer, Secretary and one of our founders. He was previously Vice President, Portfolio Manager at Federated Investment Management Company in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania where from 1996 until September 2003 he was also a lead portfolio manager, co-manager, or assistant portfolio manager of \$4.25 billion (base capital, unlevered amount) in mortgage and asset backed securities funds. From 1994 to 1996, he was an associate at Lehman Brothers in the asset-backed structuring group. From 1992 to 1994 he was a credit analyst in the highly levered firms group and the aerospace group at Barclay's Bank. Mr. Cauley has invested in, researched, or structured almost every type of mortgage-backed security. Mr. Cauley, who is a CFA and a CPA, received his MBA in finance and economics from Carnegie Mellon University and his BA in accounting from California State University, Fullerton. Mr. Cauley served in the United States Marine Corps for four years.

**Amber K. Luedke** is our Treasurer. Until she joined our company in September 2004, she was a staff accountant for the public accounting firm Ahearn, Jasco + Company P.A., in Pompano Beach, Florida. While there, she performed bookkeeping, consulting and tax work for a variety of companies in a variety of industries. Through this experience she gained valuable knowledge and understanding of the mortgage-backed securities industry. Prior to joining Ahearn, Jasco in the fall of 2003 she was employed for three years as a staff accountant by Kennedy and Coe, LLC, a public accounting firm in Kansas where she specialized in taxation of the agricultural industry. Ms. Luedke received her Master of Accountancy degree in 2000 from Kansas State University and her BS in Business Administration from Kansas State University in 1999. She is licensed in Kansas and Florida as a Certified Public Accountant.

**Kevin L. Bespolka** worked at Merrill Lynch from 1991 to 1999, first as the global head of non-dollar bond option trading and European fixed income proprietary trading, then as global head of foreign exchange options and proprietary trading and finally as the global co-head of debt proprietary trading. Before joining Merrill Lynch, he worked in the Debt Capital Markets Group at Morgan Stanley, structuring public and private placements of non-standard debt securities. He is currently the Chief Financial Officer of Kidsnet, a company that provides safe internet access for children that he co-founded in 2000. Mr. Bespolka graduated *magna cum laude* from Swarthmore College in 1984.

**Maureen A. Hendricks** was most recently a Senior Advisory Director at Salomon Smith Barney from 2001 until January 2003. She was previously the Head of Global Energy and Power at Salomon Smith Barney prior to her retirement in 2001. She was also formerly the Head of Global Capital Markets, Head of Corporate Fixed Income Americas, Head of European Equities, Co-Head of Global Equity Derivatives, and Head of Structured Finance for JP Morgan Securities. She graduated *magna cum laude* from Smith College. She is chairman of the Management Development Compensation Committee, former chairman of the Audit Committee and a member of the board of directors of Millipore Corporation.

**W. Christopher Mortenson** is currently a Managing Director with Integrated Corporate Relations, a strategic investor relations firm. He worked at Deutsche Bank Alex. Brown from January 1986 to June 2002, first as the head of Software/Services Equity Research, then as a Managing Director and the firm's Global Software and Services Strategist. From 1980 to 1985 Mr. Mortenson was a senior analyst at Brean Murray Securities. From 1978 to 1980 he was the CFO of Master Design Corp., and he was a principal at Arthur Young & Company from 1970 to 1978. He has served on the boards of IQ Financial Services and Presence OnLine Pty. Mr. Mortenson graduated *cum laude* from Harvard College in 1968 and received his MBA from Stanford University in 1970.

**Buford H. Ortale** founded and was ultimately a managing director of the high yield bond group of NationsBanc Capital Markets from 1993 to 1996. Before that, he was at Merrill Lynch in the Merchant Banking Group. Mr. Ortale has been involved in numerous private equity investments, including start-ups in which he was an original shareholder. His pre-IPO investments include iPayment, Dr. Pepper/Seven Up, Ztel, Ptek, Texas Capital Bancshares, and Healthstream. He has also served on the boards of several companies including Ztel, Ptek, and Phylve Corporation. He is currently President of Sewanee Ventures, a private equity and investment banking firm that he founded in 1996. Mr. Ortale received an MBA from Vanderbilt University.

#### Other Officers

**George H. Haas IV** joined our company in April 2004 as Vice President and head of Mortgage Research. Mr. Haas worked at National City Mortgage Company from June 2002 to April 2004, most recently as Vice President of Risk Analytics in the Servicing Asset Risk Management Department. While there, Mr. Haas specialized in researching the impact of mortgage prepayments on a \$155 billion mortgage servicing portfolio. He has presented his research at conferences to other fixed income and mortgage banking professionals. Mr. Haas worked at Homeside Lending Inc. from December 2001 to May 2002, where he was a member of the Capital Markets Finance Group, specializing in mortgage servicing rights, hedging and market risk oversight. Prior to December 2001, Mr. Haas attended Oklahoma State University, where he received his MS in Economics, with an econometric and statistical analysis emphasis, and his BS in Business Economics.

#### Board Composition

Our board of directors currently consists of six members. Directors will be elected for a term of three years and hold office until their successors are elected and qualified. Our bylaws provide that except in the case of a vacancy, the majority of the members of our board of directors and of any committee of our board of directors must at all times be independent directors. The term "independent directors" refers to those directors who meet the independence requirements under the rules and

regulations of the New York Stock Exchange, as in effect from time to time. A vacancy on our board of directors resulting from the removal of a director may be filled by a vote of our directors, subject, however, to the right of our stockholders to elect a successor to fill any such vacancy resulting from the removal of a director by our stockholders. Except in the case of a removal of a director by our stockholders, vacancies occurring on our board of directors among the independent directors will be filled by the vote of a majority of the remaining directors, including the independent directors. A vacancy on our board resulting from an increase in the number of directors will be filled by the vote of a majority of the entire board of directors.

Our charter provides for three classes of directors with staggered terms of three years, with one class elected every year. Mr. Bespolka and Mr. Mortenson are Class I directors and will hold office until 2007. Mr. Cauley and Mr. Ortale are Class II directors and will hold office until our annual meeting of stockholders in 2005. Mr. Zimmer and Ms. Hendricks are Class III directors and will hold office until 2006.

Our charter provides for the indemnification of our directors and officers to the fullest extent permitted by Maryland law. Our other employees and agents may be indemnified to such extent as shall be authorized by our board of directors or our bylaws. See "Certain Provisions of Maryland Law and of Our Charter and Bylaws Limitation of Liability and Indemnification."

### **Board Committees**

We have established an audit committee, a compensation committee and a governance and nominating committee of our board of directors. Other committees may be established by our board of directors from time to time.

#### *Audit Committee*

The audit committee of our board of directors recommends the appointment of our independent auditors, reviews our internal accounting procedures and financial statements and consults with and reviews the services provided by our internal and independent auditors, including the results and scope of their audit. The audit committee currently consists of Ms. Hendricks (Chairperson and Audit Committee Financial Expert), Mr. Bespolka, Mr. Mortenson and Mr. Ortale. We believe that a majority of the members of the audit committee satisfy the audit committee membership independence requirements of the SEC and the independence and other standards of the New York Stock Exchange.

#### *Compensation Committee*

The compensation committee of our board of directors reviews and recommends to the board the compensation and benefits of all of our executive officers, administers our stock option plans and establishes and reviews general policies relating to compensation and benefits of our employees. The compensation committee currently consists of Mr. Bespolka (Chairperson), Ms. Hendricks and Mr. Mortenson.

#### *Governance and Nominating Committee*

The corporate governance and nominating committee of our board of directors identifies individuals qualified to become members of our board of directors, selects, or recommends that our board of directors select, the director nominees for each annual meeting of our stockholders and develops our corporate governance principles. The corporate governance and nominating committee currently consists of Mr. Ortale (Chairperson) and Mr. Bespolka.

#### *Compensation of Directors*

Our independent directors each receive annual compensation of \$78,000. Additionally, each independent director receives reimbursement for travel and hotel expenses associated with attending such board and committee meetings. The chairperson of each of the compensation committee and the

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governance and nominating committee is entitled to an additional annual fee of \$6,000. The chairperson of the audit committee is entitled to an additional annual fee of \$12,000. A minimum of one-half of the compensation payable to our independent directors is in the form of our Class A Common Stock and each of our independent directors has the right to elect to receive all or a portion of the balance of such compensation in the form of Class A Common Stock. The grants of stock are under our stock incentive plan, and are subject in all respects to the terms thereof. See " Stock Incentive Plan." As of December 31, 2004, all four of our independent directors had elected to receive 100% of their compensation in shares of Class A Common Stock. Directors employed directly by us are not separately compensated for their service as directors.

### Corporate Governance

#### *Lead Independent Director*

On the recommendation of the governance and nominating committee, our independent directors meet in regularly scheduled executive sessions without management. Our board of directors has established the position of lead independent director and our independent directors have elected Maureen A. Hendricks to serve in that position. In her role as lead independent director, Mrs. Hendricks' responsibilities include:

scheduling and chairing meetings of the independent directors and setting their agendas;

facilitating communications between the independent directors and management; and

acting as a point of contact for persons who wish to communicate with the independent directors.

#### *Code of Business Conduct and Ethics*

Our board of directors has established a code of business conduct and ethics, which is available on our corporate website. Among other matters, the code of business conduct and ethics is designed to deter wrongdoing and to promote:

honest and ethical conduct, including the ethical handling of actual or apparent conflicts of interest between personal and professional relationships;

full, fair, accurate, timely and understandable disclosure in our SEC reports and other public communications;

compliance with applicable governmental laws, rules and regulations;

prompt internal reporting of violations of the code to appropriate persons identified in the code; and

accountability for adherence to the code.

Waivers to the code of business conduct and ethics may be granted only by the governance and nominating committee of the board. In the event that the committee grants any waivers of the elements listed above to any of our officers, we expect to announce the waiver within five business days on the corporate governance section of our corporate website at [www.biminireit.com](http://www.biminireit.com). The information on that website is not a part of this prospectus.

#### *Public Availability of Corporate Governance Documents*

Our key corporate governance documents, including our code of business conduct and the charters of our audit committee, compensation committee and governance and nominating committee are:

available on our corporate website; and

available in print to any stockholder who requests them from our corporate secretary.

**Compensation of Executive Officers**

The following table summarizes the compensation we awarded or paid to our Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and President and to our Chief Investment Officer, Chief Financial Officer and Secretary in 2003 and 2004. We refer to the persons identified in the following table as our named executive officers.

**Summary Compensation Table**

Name and Position	Year	Annual Compensation			Long-Term Compensation			
		Salary	Bonus	Other	Awards		Payouts	
					Restricted Stock Awards	Securities Underlying Options/SARs	LTIP Payouts	All Other Compensation
Jeffrey J. Zimmer, President and Chief Executive Officer	2003	\$ 4,583(1)						
	2004	\$ 227,500	\$ 548,917(2)		\$ 2,797,500(3)			\$ 14,231(4)
Robert E. Cauley, Chief Investment Officer, Chief Financial Officer and Secretary	2003	\$ 4,583(1)						
	2004	\$ 188,854	\$ 324,278(5)		\$ 1,865,250(6)			\$ 14,224(7)

- (1) Represents salary received from commencement of operations to year end. Annual salary for a full year of operations would have been \$150,000.
- (2) Includes a one-time bonus of \$250,000 pursuant to Mr. Zimmer's employment agreement with the Company, awarded upon the effectiveness of the Company's resale registration statement.
- (3) Represents a grant of 186,500 phantom shares with dividend equivalent rights. In 2004, 22,150 of these shares vested. Provided that grantee continues his employment, additional shares vest as follows: 13,650 shares vest in February 2005, and thereafter, 13,700 shares vest each quarter through November 2007. The shares shall fully vest upon (i) Termination of Service by the Company without Cause or for Disability, (ii) Termination of Service by the Grantee for "Good Reason," within 30 days of the occurrence (or initial occurrence, in the case of a continuing condition) thereof, (iii) the Grantee's death while employed or (iv) the occurrence of a Change of Control while employed (as such terms are defined in the grantee's employment agreement).
- (4) Includes \$12,466 for health and dental insurance and \$1,745 automobile allowance.
- (5) Includes a one-time bonus of \$125,000 pursuant to Mr. Cauley's employment agreement with the Company, awarded upon the effectiveness of the Company's resale registration statement.
- (6) Represents a grant of 124,350 phantom shares with dividend equivalent rights. In 2004, 15,550 of these shares vested. Provided that grantee continues his employment, additional shares vest as follows: 9,050 shares in each quarter from February 2005 through November 2006, and thereafter, 9,100 shares vest each quarter through November 2007. The shares shall fully vest upon (i) Termination of Service by the Company without Cause or for Disability, (ii) Termination of Service by the Grantee for "Good Reason," within 30 days of the occurrence (or initial occurrence, in the case of a continuing condition) thereof, (iii) the Grantee's death while employed or (iv) the occurrence of a Change of Control while employed (as such terms are defined in the grantee's employment agreement).

(7)

Includes \$12,466 for health and dental insurance and \$1,627 automobile allowance.

### **Executive Employment Agreements**

We entered into employment agreements with Mr. Zimmer and Mr. Cauley in 2003, which were amended and restated in 2004. The employment agreements provide for Mr. Zimmer to serve as our President and Chief Executive Officer and Mr. Cauley to serve as our Chief Investment Officer and Chief Financial Officer. These employment agreements require Messrs. Zimmer and Cauley to devote substantially full-time attention and time to our affairs, but also permit them to devote time to their outside business interests. The employment agreements terminate in April 2007; provided, however, that the term shall automatically be extended for one-year periods unless, not later than six months prior to the termination of the existing term, either party provides written notice to the other party of its intent not to further extend the term. The employment agreements provide for an annual base

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salary of \$400,000 to Mr. Zimmer and \$267,500 to Mr. Cauley. Messrs. Zimmer and Cauley will be entitled to bonuses at the discretion of the compensation committee, which shall consider, among other things, whether completion of a capital raising event should result in the payment of a bonus. In addition, subject to approval by the compensation committee, Messrs. Zimmer and Cauley may participate in our employee benefit plans, including, but not limited to, the 2003 stock incentive plan. Messrs. Zimmer and Cauley are covered by medical, vision and dental insurance at our expense.

Each employment agreement also provides that, at our expense, the executive officer or his estate will be entitled to life insurance in an amount of at least \$2,500,000 for Mr. Zimmer and \$2,000,000 for Mr. Cauley and long-term disability insurance benefits, and to receive continued coverage under our group health plans for a period of three years in the event of his death or disability.

Upon the termination of an executive officer's employment either by us for "cause" or by the executive officer without "good reason" during the term of his employment agreement, such executive officer will be entitled to receive his base salary and bonus accrued through the date of termination of the executive officer's employment. All unvested equity awards will be terminated.

Upon the termination of an executive officer's employment either by us without "cause" or by the executive officer for "good reason" or by the executive officer for any reason within three months after a "change of control", the executive officer will be entitled under his employment agreement to the following severance payments and benefits, subject to his execution and non-revocation of a general release of claims:

lump-sum cash payment equal to 300% of the sum of his then-current annual base salary plus average bonus over the prior three years;

his prorated annual bonus for the year in which the termination occurs;

all stock options held by the executive officer will become fully exercisable and will continue to be exercisable for their full terms and all restricted stock held by such executive officer will become fully vested;

health benefits for three years following the executive officer's termination of employment at no cost to the executive officer, subject to reduction to the extent that the executive officer receives comparable benefits from a subsequent employer; and

outplacement services at our expense.

"Cause" under the employment agreements generally includes (i) conviction of felony or certain other crimes, (ii) willful misconduct, willful or gross neglect, fraud, misappropriation or embezzlement, (iii) repeated failure to adhere to certain directions, policies and practices or to devote required time and efforts to us, (iv) certain willful and continued failures to perform properly assigned duties, (v) material breach of certain restrictive covenants, or (vi) certain other breaches of the employment agreement. "Good reason" under the employment agreements generally includes (i) the material reduction of authority, duties and responsibilities, the failure to continue as a member of our board (or as chairman of the board, as applicable), or the assignment of duties materially inconsistent with the executive's positions, (ii) a reduction in salary, (iii) the relocation of the executive's office to more than 25 miles from Vero Beach, Florida, (iv) our failure to pay certain compensation, or (v) our material and willful breach of the employment agreement. Conditions otherwise constituting cause or good reason may be subject to specified opportunities to cure. "Change of control" under the employment agreements generally includes (i) certain acquisitions of 30% or more of the voting power or our capital stock by a person or group, (ii) certain consolidations or mergers where our stockholders do not immediately thereafter own at least 50% of the voting power of the resulting company, (iii) certain sales or other transfers of substantially all of our assets to a third party or the approval by our stockholders of a plan of our liquidation or dissolution, and (iv) certain significant changes in the composition of our board of directors.

Under the employment agreements, we have agreed to make an additional tax gross-up payment to the executive officer if any amounts paid or payable to the executive officer would be subject to the excise tax imposed on certain so-called "excess parachute payments" under Section 4999 of the Internal Revenue Code. However, if a reduction in the payments and benefits of 10% or less would avoid the excise tax, then the payments and benefits will be reduced by such amount, and we will not be required to make the gross-up payment.

Each employment agreement also contains confidentiality provisions that apply indefinitely and non-compete provisions that include covenants not to: (i) conduct, directly or indirectly, any business involving mortgage REITs without the consent of our board of directors, whether such business is conducted by him individually or as principal, partner, officer, director, consultant, employee, stockholder or manager of any person, partnership, corporation, limited liability company or any other entity; or (ii) own interests in any entity that is competitive, directly or indirectly, with any business carried on by us or our successors, subsidiaries and affiliates.

Each of Messrs. Zimmer and Cauley is bound by his non-competition covenant for so long as he is an officer of the company and for a one-year period thereafter, unless his employment is terminated by us without "cause" or by him with "good reason" (in each case, as defined in his employment agreement) or by him for any reason after a "change in control" (as defined in his employment agreement) of our company, in which case his covenant not to compete will lapse on the date of his termination. A copy of each employment agreement is filed as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part.

### **2003 Long Term Incentive Compensation Plan**

We have adopted a 2003 Long Term Incentive Compensation Plan. The purpose of the 2003 Long Term Incentive Compensation Plan is to provide us with the flexibility to use stock options and other awards as part of an overall compensation package to provide performance-based compensation to attract and retain qualified personnel. We believe that awards under the 2003 Long Term Incentive Compensation Plan may serve to broaden the equity participation of key employees and further link the long-term interests of management and stockholders. As of December 31, 2004, we had awarded 313,600 phantom shares to Messrs. Zimmer, Cauley and Haas under this plan.

#### *Administration*

The 2003 Long Term Incentive Compensation Plan is administered by the compensation committee appointed by our board of directors. The compensation committee consists of two or more non-employee directors, each of whom is intended to be, to the extent required by Rule 16b-3 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code, a non-employee director under Rule 16b-3 and an outside director under Section 162(m), or if no committee exists, the board of directors. References below to the committee include a reference to the board for those periods in which the board is acting.

The compensation committee has the full authority to administer and interpret the 2003 Long Term Incentive Compensation Plan, to authorize the granting of awards, to determine the eligibility of an employee, director or consultant to receive an award, to determine the number of shares of Class A Common Stock to be covered by each award (subject to the individual participant limitations provided in the 2003 Long Term Incentive Compensation Plan), to determine the terms, provisions and conditions of each award (which may not be inconsistent with the terms of the 2003 Long Term Incentive Compensation Plan), to prescribe the form of instruments evidencing awards and to take any other actions and make all other determinations that it deems necessary or appropriate in connection with the 2003 Long Term Incentive Compensation Plan or the administration or interpretation thereof. In the case of grants to directors, the grants shall, unless otherwise provided by the board of directors, be made and administered by the board of directors rather than the compensation committee. In

connection with this authority, the compensation committee may establish performance goals that must be met in order for awards to be granted or to vest, or for the restrictions on any such awards to lapse. The plan also provides for the possibility of a right of first refusal and certain repurchase rights.

#### *Eligibility and Types of Awards*

Key employees, directors and consultants are eligible to be granted stock options, restricted stock, phantom shares, dividend equivalent rights and other stock-based awards under the 2003 Long Term Incentive Compensation Plan.

#### *Available Shares*

Subject to adjustment upon certain corporate transactions or events, a maximum of 4,000,000 shares of our Class A Common Stock (but not more than 10% of the Class A Common Stock outstanding on the date of grant) may be subject to stock options, shares of restricted stock, phantom shares and dividend equivalent rights under the 2003 Long Term Incentive Compensation Plan. In addition, subject to adjustment upon certain corporate transactions or events, a participant may not receive options for more than 2,000,000 shares of our Class A Common Stock over the life of the 2003 Long Term Incentive Compensation Plan. Any Class A Common Stock withheld or surrendered by plan participants in connection with the payment of an option exercise price or in connection with tax withholding will not count towards the share limitation and will be available for issuance under the 2003 Long Term Incentive Compensation Plan. If an option or other award granted under the 2003 Long Term Incentive Compensation Plan expires or terminates, the shares subject to any portion of the award that expires or terminates without having been exercised or paid, as the case may be, will again become available for the issuance of additional awards. Unless previously terminated by our board of directors, no new award may be granted under the 2003 Long Term Incentive Compensation Plan after the tenth anniversary of the date that such plan was initially approved by our board of directors. Also, no award may be granted under our 2003 Long Term Incentive Compensation Plan to any person who, assuming exercise of all options and payment of all awards held by such person would own or be deemed to own more than 9.8% of the outstanding shares of our common stock.

#### *Awards Under the Plan*

*Stock Options.* The terms of specific options, including whether options shall constitute "incentive stock options" for purposes of Section 422(b) of the Internal Revenue Code, shall be determined by the compensation committee. The exercise price of an option shall be determined by the compensation committee and reflected in the applicable award agreement. The exercise price with respect to incentive stock options may not be lower than 100% (110% in the case of an incentive stock option granted to a 10% stockholder, if permitted under the plan) of the fair market value of our Class A Common Stock on the date of grant. Each option will be exercisable after the period or periods specified in the award agreement, which will generally not exceed ten years from the date of grant (or five years in the case of an incentive stock option granted to a 10% stockholder, if permitted under the plan). Options will be exercisable at such times and subject to such terms as determined by the compensation committee. Unless otherwise determined by the compensation committee at the time of grant, such stock options shall vest ratably over a five-year period beginning on the date of grant.

*Restricted Stock.* Restricted stock will be subject to restrictions (including, without limitation, any limitation on the right to vote a share of restricted stock or the right to receive any dividend or other right or property) as the compensation committee shall determine. Unless otherwise determined by the compensation committee at the time of grant, restricted stock awards shall vest over a three-year period. Unless otherwise determined by the compensation committee, provided the participant remains in our service, each award will vest in three equal annual installments and 50% of each award is subject to achieving pre-determined financial hurdles in each of those three years. Except as otherwise

determined by the compensation committee, upon a termination of employment or other service for cause or by the grantee for any reason during the applicable restriction period, all shares of restricted stock still subject to restrictions shall be forfeited to us.

*Phantom Shares.* Phantom shares will vest as provided in the agreements governing the applicable awards. A phantom share represents a right to receive the fair market value of a share of our Class A Common Stock, or, if provided by the compensation committee, the right to receive the fair market value of a share of our Class A Common Stock in excess of a base value established by the committee at the time of grant. Phantom shares are generally settled by transfer of shares of our Class A Common Stock; however, the compensation committee may determine at the time of grant that phantom shares are settled (i) in cash at the applicable fair market value, (ii) in cash or by transfer of shares at the election of the participant or (iii) in cash or by transfer of shares at our election. The committee may, in its discretion and under certain circumstances, permit a participant to receive as settlement of the phantom shares installments over a period not to exceed ten years. In addition, the compensation committee may establish a program under which distributions with respect to phantom shares may be deferred for additional periods as set forth in the preceding sentence. As of December 31, 2004 we had awarded 313,600 phantom shares under this plan, consisting of 186,500 shares to Mr. Zimmer, 124,350 shares to Mr. Cauley and 2,750 to Mr. Haas, which vest over time through November 15, 2007. Distributions in respect of phantom shares generally may be deferred at the election of the grantee.

*Dividend Equivalents.* A dividend equivalent is a right to receive (or have credited) the equivalent value (in cash or shares of common stock) of dividends declared on shares of common stock otherwise subject to an award. The compensation committee may provide that amounts payable with respect to dividend equivalents shall be converted into cash or additional shares of Class A Common Stock. The compensation committee will establish all other limitations and conditions of awards of dividend equivalents as it deems appropriate.

*Other Stock-Based Awards.* The 2003 Long Term Incentive Compensation Plan authorizes the granting of other awards based upon the Class A Common Stock (including the grant of securities convertible into Class A Common Stock and stock appreciation rights), and subject to terms and conditions established at the time of grant.

#### ***Change in Control***

Upon a change in control of us (as defined in the 2003 Long Term Incentive Compensation Plan), the compensation committee may make such adjustments as it, in its discretion, determines are necessary or appropriate in light of the change in control, but only if the compensation committee determines that the adjustments do not have an adverse economic impact on the participants (as determined at the time of the adjustments).

#### ***Amendment and Termination***

Our board of directors may amend the 2003 Long Term Incentive Compensation Plan as it deems advisable, except that it may not amend the 2003 Long Term Incentive Compensation Plan in any way that would adversely affect a participant with respect to an award previously granted unless the amendment is required in order to comply with applicable laws. In addition, our board of directors may not amend the 2003 Long Term Incentive Compensation Plan without shareholder approval if the amendment would cause the 2003 Long Term Incentive Compensation Plan to fail to comply with any requirement of applicable law in the absence of shareholder approval or applicable exchange or similar rule.

## 2004 Performance Bonus Plan

The compensation committee may grant two types of bonuses: (i) an annual supplemental bonus and (ii) a formula bonus. Unless otherwise provided for by the compensation committee, the formula bonus is only awarded if our funds from operations exceed the product of (i) 25% of (A) the annualized 10-year U.S. Treasury rate for the applicable quarterly period, as determined by the committee, plus (B) 2.25% and (ii) the weighted average book value of our company. To the extent this occurs, a certain percentage of the excess will be allocated among selected key employees as determined by the compensation committee. In addition, the fourth quarterly formula bonus for a year will be adjusted (but not to below zero) by the compensation committee so that the aggregate of the four quarterly formula bonuses for the year reflect performance as determined on a full-year basis. Notwithstanding the foregoing, formula bonuses shall never cause general and administrative expenses to exceed 18 basis points of assets, as determined by the compensation committee. The compensation committee may decide whether to grant an annual supplemental bonus, in addition to the formula bonus, based on the performance of the company as compared with its peer group and other material factors not otherwise taken into account for purposes of the formula bonus. No annual supplemental bonus shall exceed 100% of the key employee's aggregate salary for the year, except that, in the case of any employee with an employment agreement that contemplates bonus payments, as is the case with Messrs. Zimmer and Cauley, the compensation committee may provide, in its discretion, that bonuses in excess of 100% of the key employee's aggregate salary for the year may be paid to such employee. Further, in addition to the formula bonus and the annual supplemental bonus, any capital-raising bonus provided for under an employment agreement shall be payable as contemplated by the applicable employment agreement. The compensation committee may provide for partial bonus payments at target and other levels. The compensation committee may determine that bonuses shall be paid in cash or stock, or a combination thereof. Unless otherwise provided for by the compensation committee, (i) (A) formula bonuses shall, at the election of the employee, be paid in cash, stock (or other equity-based compensation) or any combination thereof, and (B) supplemental annual bonuses shall be paid 60% in cash and 40% in stock (or other equity-based compensation) and may be subject to various additional limitations, (ii) formula bonuses shall be vested as they are earned and the equity portion of the annual supplemental bonus shall vest over three years, (iii) subject to the governing plan and applicable award agreement, dividends and dividend equivalents shall be payable with respect to such stock (or other equity), and (iv) stock (or other stock-based compensation) will vest upon the occurrence of certain changes in control and certain terminations of employment. The compensation committee may provide for programs under which the payment of bonuses may be deferred at the election of the employee.

In 2004, Mr. Zimmer received an aggregate formula bonus of \$298,917 and Mr. Cauley received an aggregate formula bonus of \$199,278 under the 2004 Performance Bonus Plan.

## CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS

Buford Ortale, one of our directors, was previously a Managing Director in the Investment Banking Group at Avondale Partners, LLC, one of the placement agents for our private placement that we completed in January 2004. Mr. Ortale now has a continuing affiliation with Avondale pursuant to which he receives compensation from investment banking fees earned by Avondale on transactions referred to Avondale by Mr. Ortale. Mr. Ortale was compensated by Avondale for referring our company to Avondale in an amount equal to \$360,000.

As of December 31, 2004, our outside directors have elected to receive 100% of their directors' compensation in shares of our Class A Common Stock. Accordingly, Kevin L. Bespolka, Maureen A. Hendricks, W. Christopher Mortenson and Buford H. Ortale have received total consideration of \$174,386 as compensation for their services as directors through the issuance of a total of 11,415 shares of our Class A Common Stock. The Company's Class A Common Stock was valued at \$15.00 per share for the issuances on January 15, 2004, on April 15, 2004, on May 27, 2004 and on July 15, 2004 and at \$15.97 per share for the issuance on November 8, 2004.

## DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK

The following summary description of our capital stock contains the material terms of our capital stock and is subject to and qualified in its entirety by reference to our charter and our bylaws and any amendments thereto, copies of which are attached as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part.

### General

Our charter provides that we may issue up to 100,000,000 shares of our common stock, \$0.001 par value per share, and up to 10,000,000 shares of preferred stock, \$0.001 par value per share. Under Maryland law, stockholders generally are not liable for the corporation's debts or obligations.

### Common Stock

#### *General*

Of the 100,000,000 shares of common stock we may issue under our charter, 98,000,000 shares have been designated as Class A Common Stock, 1,000,000 shares have been designated as Class B Common Stock and 1,000,000 shares have been designated as Class C Common Stock. All shares of our Class A Common Stock offered hereby will be duly authorized and, upon our receipt of the full consideration therefor, will be fully paid and non-assessable. Holders of our shares of common stock have no sinking fund or redemption rights and have no preemptive rights to subscribe for any of our securities.

Under the MGCL, a Maryland corporation generally cannot dissolve, amend its charter, merge, sell all or substantially all of its assets, engage in a share exchange or engage in similar transactions outside the ordinary course of business unless approved by the affirmative vote of stockholders holding at least two-thirds of the shares entitled to vote on the matter, unless a lesser percentage (but not fewer than a majority of all of the votes entitled to be cast by the stockholders on the matter) is set forth in the corporation's charter. Our charter provides that any such action shall be effective and valid if taken or authorized by our stockholders by the affirmative vote of a majority of all the votes entitled to be cast on the matter, except that amendments to the provisions of our charter relating to the removal of directors must be approved by our stockholders by the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the votes entitled to be cast on the matter.

#### *Class A Common Stock*

Each outstanding share of Class A Common Stock entitles the holder to one vote on all matters submitted to a vote of stockholders, including the election of directors. Holders of shares of our Class A Common Stock are not entitled to cumulate their votes in the election of directors.

Subject to the preferential rights of any other class or series of stock and to the provisions of our charter regarding ownership limitations, holders of shares of our Class A Common Stock are entitled to receive dividends on such stock if, as and when authorized and declared by our board of directors out of assets legally available therefor.

#### *Class B Common Stock*

Of the 1,000,000 shares of our Class B Common Stock authorized for issuance under our charter, 319,388 shares were purchased by our founders, Jeffrey J. Zimmer and Robert E. Cauley, in October 2003.

Each outstanding share of Class B Common Stock entitles the holder to one vote on all matters submitted to a vote of common stockholders, including the election of directors. Holders of our shares

of Class B Common Stock are not entitled to cumulate their votes in the election of directors. Holders of our shares of Class A Common Stock and Class B Common Stock vote together as one class in all matters, except that any matters which would adversely affect the rights and preferences of Class B Common Stock as a separate class require a separate approval by holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of our Class B Common Stock.

Holders of our shares of Class B Common Stock are entitled to receive dividends on each share of Class B Common Stock in an amount equal to the dividends declared on each share of Class A Common Stock if, as and when authorized and declared by our board of directors out of assets legally available therefor.

#### ***Class C Common Stock***

Of the 1,000,000 shares of our Class C Common Stock authorized for issuance under our charter, 319,388 were purchased by Flagstone Securities, LLC in October 2003.

No dividends will be paid on the Class C Common Stock. Holders of shares of our Class C Common Stock are not entitled to vote on any matter submitted to a vote of stockholders, including the election of directors, except that any matters that would adversely affect the rights and privileges of the Class C Common Stock as a separate class require the approval of a majority of the Class C Common Stock.

#### ***Liquidation Rights***

As used herein, "Class A Per Share Preference Amount" means \$15.00, adjusted equitably for any stock splits, stock combinations, stock dividends or the like.

In the event of any voluntary or involuntary liquidation, dissolution or winding up of our company, after payment or adequate provision for all known debts, liabilities and preference amounts payable on any preferred stock outstanding, liquidation proceeds shall be allocated as follows:

(i) first, to each share of Class A Common Stock outstanding, the Class A Per Share Preference Amount;

(ii) second, (x) to each share of Class B Common Stock outstanding, its pro rata share of \$1.9 million, less the aggregate Class A Per Share Preference Amount with respect to shares of Class A Common Stock issued on conversion of Class B Common Stock (such amount being the "Class B Per Share Preference Amount") and (y) to each share of Class C Common Stock outstanding, its pro rata share of \$1.9 million, less the aggregate Class A Per Share Preference Amount with respect to shares of Class A Common Stock issued on conversion of Class C Common Stock (such amount being the "Class C Per Share Preference Amount"); and

(iii) finally, any excess pro rata on a share for share basis to holders of our common stock outstanding.

Whenever funds are insufficient to pay in full the applicable Class A Per Share Preference Amount, the available funds shall be allocated ratably among the shares of Class A Common Stock. Whenever funds are insufficient to pay in full the applicable Class B Per Share Preference Amount and the Class C Per Share Preference Amount, the available funds shall be allocated ratably in accordance with the amount owing to the shares of Class B Common Stock and Class C Common Stock under (ii) above.

#### ***Conversion of the Class B Common Stock and Class C Common Stock***

Each share of Class B Common Stock shall automatically be converted into one share of Class A Common Stock on the first day of the fiscal quarter following the fiscal quarter during which our board

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of directors shall have been notified that, as of the end of such fiscal quarter, the stockholders' equity attributable to the Class A Common Stock, calculated on a pro forma basis as if conversion of the Class B Common Stock (or portion thereof to be converted) had occurred, and otherwise determined in accordance with GAAP, equals no less than \$15.00 per share (adjusted equitably for any stock splits, stock combinations, stock dividends or the like); provided, that the number of shares of Class B Common Stock to be converted into Class A Common Stock in any quarter shall not exceed an amount that will cause the stockholders' equity attributable to the Class A Common Stock calculated as set forth above to be less than \$15.00 per share; provided further, that such conversions shall continue to occur until all shares of Class B Common Stock have been converted into shares of Class A Common Stock.

Each share of Class C Common Stock shall automatically be converted into one share of Class A Common Stock on the first day of the fiscal quarter following the fiscal quarter during which our board of directors shall have been notified that, as of the end of such fiscal quarter, the stockholders' equity attributable to the Class A Common Stock, calculated on a pro forma basis as if conversion of the Class C Common Stock had occurred and giving effect to the conversion of all of the shares of Class B Common Stock as of such date, and otherwise determined in accordance with GAAP, equals no less than \$15.00 per share (adjusted equitably for any stock splits, stock combinations, stock dividends or the like); provided, that the number of shares of Class C Common Stock to be converted into Class A Common Stock shall not exceed an amount that will cause the stockholders' equity attributable to the Class A Common Stock calculated as set forth above to be less than \$15.00 per share; and provided further, that such conversions shall continue to occur until all shares of Class C Common Stock have been converted into shares of Class A Common Stock.

Following such conversions, all authorized shares of Class B Common Stock and Class C Common Stock so converted shall be cancelled and become authorized but unissued shares of Class A Common Stock.

### **Preferred Stock**

Our charter authorizes our board of directors to classify any unissued shares of preferred stock and to reclassify any previously classified but unissued shares of any series of preferred stock previously authorized by our board of directors. Prior to issuance of shares of each class or series of preferred stock, our board is required by the MGCL and our charter to fix the terms, preferences, conversion or other rights, voting powers, restrictions, limitations as to dividends or other distributions, qualifications and terms or conditions of redemption for each such class or series. Thus, our board could authorize the issuance of shares of preferred stock with terms and conditions which could have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing a transaction or a change of control that might involve a premium price for holders of our common stock or otherwise be in their best interest. As of the closing of the offering, no shares of our preferred stock are outstanding and we have no present plans to issue any preferred stock.

### **Power to Issue Additional Shares of Common Stock and Preferred Stock**

We believe that the power of our board of directors to issue additional authorized but unissued shares of our common stock or preferred stock will provide us with increased flexibility in making investment acquisitions and in meeting other needs which might arise. The additional shares of our common stock and preferred stock are available for issuance without further action by our stockholders, unless such action is required by applicable law or the rules of any stock exchange or automated quotation system on which our securities may be listed or traded.

## Ownership Limitations

*Restrictions under our Charter.* Our charter, subject to certain exceptions, contains certain restrictions on the number of shares of our stock that a person may own. Our charter contains a stock ownership limit that prohibits any person from acquiring or holding, directly or indirectly, applying attribution rules under the Internal Revenue Code, shares of stock in excess of 9.8% of the total number or value of our common stock, whichever is more restrictive, or our stock in the aggregate. Our charter further prohibits (i) any person from beneficially or constructively owning shares of our stock that would result in us being "closely held" under Section 856(h) of the Internal Revenue Code or otherwise cause us to fail to qualify as a REIT, and (ii) any person from transferring shares of our stock if such transfer would result in shares of our stock being owned by fewer than 100 persons. Our board of directors, in its sole discretion, may exempt a person from the stock ownership limit. However, our board of directors may not grant such an exemption to any person whose ownership, direct or indirect, of in excess of 9.8% of the number or value of the outstanding shares of our stock (whichever is more restrictive) would result in us being "closely held" within the meaning of Section 856(h) of the Internal Revenue Code or otherwise would result in us failing to qualify as a REIT. The person seeking an exemption must represent to the satisfaction of our board of directors that it will not violate the aforementioned restriction. The person also must agree that any violation or attempted violation of any of the foregoing restrictions will result in the automatic transfer of the shares of stock causing such violation to the trust (as defined below). Our board of directors may require a ruling from the IRS or an opinion of counsel, in either case in form and substance satisfactory to our board of directors in its sole discretion, to determine or ensure our status as a REIT.

Any person who acquires or attempts or intends to acquire beneficial or constructive ownership of shares of our stock that will or may violate any of the foregoing restrictions on transferability and ownership, or any person who would have owned shares of our stock that resulted in a transfer of shares to the trust in the manner described below, will be required to give notice immediately to us and provide us with such other information as we may request in order to determine the effect of such transfer on us.

If any transfer of shares of our stock occurs which, if effective, would result in any person beneficially or constructively owning shares of our stock in excess or in violation of the above transfer or ownership limitations, then that number of shares of our stock the beneficial or constructive ownership of which otherwise would cause such person to violate such limitations (rounded to the nearest whole share) shall be automatically transferred to a trust for the exclusive benefit of one or more charitable beneficiaries, and the prohibited owner shall not acquire any rights in such shares. Such automatic transfer shall be deemed to be effective as of the close of business on the business day prior to the date of such violative transfer. Shares of stock held in the trust shall be issued and outstanding shares of our stock. The prohibited owner shall not benefit economically from ownership of any shares of stock held in the trust, shall have no rights to dividends and shall not possess any rights to vote or other rights attributable to the shares of stock held in the trust. The trustee of the trust shall have all voting rights and rights to dividends or other distributions with respect to shares of stock held in the trust, which rights shall be exercised for the exclusive benefit of the charitable beneficiary. Any dividend or other distribution paid prior to the discovery by us that shares of stock have been transferred to the trustee shall be paid by the recipient of such dividend or distribution to the trustee upon demand, and any dividend or other distribution authorized but unpaid shall be paid when due to the trustee. Any dividend or distribution so paid to the trustee shall be held in trust for the charitable beneficiary. The prohibited owner shall have no voting rights with respect to shares of stock held in the trust and, subject to Maryland law, effective as of the date that such shares of stock have been transferred to the trust, the trustee shall have the authority (at the trustee's sole discretion) (i) to rescind as void any vote cast by a prohibited owner prior to the discovery by us that such shares have been transferred to the trust, and (ii) to recast such vote in accordance with the desires of the trustee

acting for the benefit of the charitable beneficiary. However, if we have already taken irreversible corporate action, then the trustee shall not have the authority to rescind and recast such vote.

Within 20 days after receiving notice from us that shares of our stock have been transferred to the trust, the trustee shall sell the shares of stock held in the trust to a person, whose ownership of the shares will not violate any of the ownership limitations set forth in our charter. Upon such sale, the interest of the charitable beneficiary in the shares sold shall terminate and the trustee shall distribute the net proceeds of the sale to the prohibited owner and to the charitable beneficiary as follows. The prohibited owner shall receive the lesser of (i) the price paid by the prohibited owner for the shares or, if the prohibited owner did not give value for the shares in connection with the event causing the shares to be held in the trust (e.g., a gift, devise or other such transaction), the market price, as defined in our charter, of such shares on the day of the event causing the shares to be held in the trust and (ii) the price per share received by the trustee from the sale or other disposition of the shares held in the trust, in each case reduced by the costs incurred to enforce the ownership limits as to the shares in question. Any net sale proceeds in excess of the amount payable to the prohibited owner shall be paid immediately to the charitable beneficiary. If, prior to the discovery by us that shares of our stock have been transferred to the trust, such shares are sold by a prohibited owner, then (i) such shares shall be deemed to have been sold on behalf of the trust and (ii) to the extent that the prohibited owner received an amount for such shares that exceeds the amount that such prohibited owner was entitled to receive pursuant to the aforementioned requirement, such excess shall be paid to the trustee upon demand.

In addition, shares of our stock held in the trust shall be deemed to have been offered for sale to us, or our designee, at a price per share equal to the lesser of (i) the price per share in the transaction that resulted in such transfer to the trust (or, in the case of a devise or gift, the market price at the time of such devise or gift) and (ii) the market price on the date we, or our designee, accept such offer. We shall have the right to accept such offer until the trustee has sold the shares of stock held in the trust. Upon such a sale to us, the interest of the charitable beneficiary in the shares sold shall terminate and the trustee shall distribute the net proceeds of the sale to the prohibited owner.

All certificates representing shares of our common stock and preferred stock, if issued, will bear a legend referring to the restrictions described above.

Every record holder of 0.5% or more (or such other percentage as required by the Internal Revenue Code and the related Treasury regulations) of all classes or series of our stock, including shares of our common stock on any dividend record date during each taxable year, within 30 days after the end of the taxable year, shall be required to give written notice to us stating the name and address of such record holder, the number of shares of each class and series of our stock which the record holder beneficially owns and a description of the manner in which such shares are held. Each such record holder shall provide to us such additional information as we may request in order to determine the effect, if any, of such beneficial ownership on our status as a REIT and to ensure compliance with the stock ownership limits. In addition, each record holder shall upon demand be required to provide to us such information as we may reasonably request in order to determine our status as a REIT and to comply with the requirements of any taxing authority or governmental authority or to determine such compliance. We may request such information after every sale, disposition or transfer of our common stock prior to the date a registration statement for such stock becomes effective.

As of June 30, 2004, the Wasatch Core Growth Fund, Wasatch Small Cap Value Fund and the Wasatch Micro Cap Value Fund owned in the aggregate 1,965,000 shares of our Class A Common Stock, which equaled approximately 20% of the outstanding shares of our Class A Common Stock. Wasatch Advisors, Inc. has made representations to us regarding the beneficial ownership of these funds. In reliance on these representations, our board of directors has waived the requirement that no person may acquire or hold in excess of 9.8% of our common stock for the Wasatch Funds. This waiver

permits these holders to own up to 1,965,000 shares of our Class A Common Stock. We have determined that we are not "closely held" within the meaning of Section 856(h) of the Internal Revenue Code and will not otherwise fail to qualify as a REIT as a result of Wasatch's ownership of 1,965,000 shares of our Class A Common Stock.

These ownership limits could delay, defer or prevent a change in control or other transaction of us that might involve a premium price for the Class A Common Stock or otherwise be in the best interest of the stockholders.

**Transfer Agent and Registrar**

The transfer agent and registrar for our common stock is Continental Stock Transfer & Trust Company. Their mailing address is 17 Battery Place, New York, New York, 10004. Their telephone number is (212) 845-3200.

**CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF MARYLAND LAW AND  
OF OUR CHARTER AND BYLAWS**

The following summary of certain provisions of Maryland law and our charter and bylaws contains the material terms of our charter and our bylaws and is subject to, and qualified in its entirety by, reference to Maryland law and to our charter and bylaws.

**Classification of Board of Directors**

Our bylaws provide that the number of directors may be established, increased or decreased by our board of directors but may not be fewer than the minimum number required by the MGCL (which currently is one) nor more than fifteen. Any vacancy on our board may be filled by a majority of the remaining directors, even if such a majority constitutes less than a quorum, except that a vacancy resulting from an increase in the number of directors must be filled by a majority of the entire board of directors. Our stockholders may elect a successor to fill a vacancy on our board which results from the removal of a director. Our bylaws provide that a majority of our board of directors must be independent directors.

Pursuant to our charter, our board of directors is divided into three classes of directors. Beginning in 2004, directors of each class will be chosen for three-year terms upon the expiration of their current terms and every other year one class of our directors will be elected by our stockholders. We believe that classification of our board of directors will help to assure the continuity and stability of our business strategies and policies as determined by our board of directors. Holders of shares of our common stock will not have the right to cumulative voting in the election of directors. Consequently, at the applicable annual meeting of stockholders, the holders of a majority of the shares of our common stock entitled to vote will be able to elect all of the successors of the class of directors whose terms expire at that meeting.

The classified board provision could have the effect of making the replacement of incumbent directors more time consuming and difficult. Two separate meetings of stockholders, instead of one, will generally be required to effect a change in a majority of our board of directors. Thus, the classified board provision could increase the likelihood that incumbent directors will retain their positions. The staggered terms of directors may delay, defer or prevent a tender offer or an attempt to change control of us, even though a tender offer or change in control might be in the best interest of our stockholders.

**Removal of Directors**

Our charter provides that a director may be removed only for cause (as defined in our charter) and only by the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the votes entitled to be cast by our stockholders generally in the election of our directors. This provision, when coupled with the provision in our bylaws authorizing our board of directors to fill vacant directorships, will preclude stockholders from removing incumbent directors and filling the vacancies created by such removal with their own nominees except upon the existence of cause for removal and a substantial affirmative vote.

**Limitation of Liability and Indemnification**

The MGCL permits a Maryland corporation to include in its charter a provision limiting the liability of its directors and officers to the corporation and its stockholders for money damages except for liability resulting from (i) actual receipt of an improper benefit or profit in money, property or services, or (ii) active and deliberate dishonesty established by a final judgment as being material to the cause of action. Our charter contains such a provision which eliminates such liability to the maximum extent permitted by the MGCL.

Our charter obligates us, to the maximum extent permitted by Maryland law, to indemnify any person who is or was a party to, or is threatened to be made a party to, any threatened or pending proceeding by reason of the fact that such person is or was a director or officer of our company, or while a director or officer of our company is or was serving, at our request, as a director, officer, agent, partner or trustee of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, limited liability company, trust, real estate investment trust, employee benefit plan or other enterprise. To the maximum extent permitted by Maryland law, the indemnification provided for in our charter shall include expenses (including attorney's fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement and any such expenses may be paid or reimbursed by us in advance of the final disposition of any such proceeding. Our bylaws also permit us to indemnify and advance expenses to any person who served any of our predecessors in any of the capacities described above and to any employee or agent of us or a predecessor of us.

The MGCL requires a corporation (unless its charter provides otherwise, which our charter does not) to indemnify a director or officer who has been successful, on the merits or otherwise, in the defense of any proceeding to which he is made a party by reason of his service in that capacity. The MGCL permits a corporation to indemnify its present and former directors and officers, among others, against judgments, penalties, fines, settlements and reasonable expenses actually incurred by them in connection with any proceeding to which they may be made a party by reason of their service in those or other capacities unless it is established that (i) the act or omission of the director or officer was material to the matter giving rise to the proceeding and (a) was committed in bad faith or (b) was the result of active and deliberate dishonesty, (ii) the director or officer actually received an improper personal benefit in money, property or services, or (iii) in the case of any criminal proceeding, the director or officer had reasonable cause to believe that the act or omission was unlawful. However, under the MGCL, a Maryland corporation may not indemnify for an adverse judgment in a suit by or in the right of the corporation or for a judgment of liability on the basis that personal benefit was improperly received, unless in either case a court orders indemnification and then only for expenses. In addition, the MGCL permits a corporation to advance reasonable expenses to a director or officer upon the corporation's receipt of (1) a written affirmation by the director or officer of his good faith belief that he has met the standard of conduct necessary for indemnification by the corporation, and (2) a written undertaking by or on his behalf to repay the amount paid or reimbursed by the corporation if it shall ultimately be determined that the standard of conduct was not met.

#### **Maryland Business Combination Act**

The MGCL establishes special requirements for "business combinations" between a Maryland corporation and "interested stockholders" unless exemptions are applicable. An interested stockholder is any person who beneficially owns, directly or indirectly, 10% or more of the voting power of our then-outstanding voting stock or any affiliate or associate who beneficially owned, directly or indirectly, 10% or more of the voting power of our then-outstanding voting stock within the two year period prior to the date in question. Among other things, the law prohibits for a period of five years a merger and other similar transactions between us and an interested stockholder unless our board of directors approved the transaction prior to the party becoming an interested stockholder. The five-year period runs from the most recent date on which the interested stockholder became an interested stockholder. The law also requires a supermajority stockholder vote for these transactions after the end of the five-year period. This means that the transaction must be approved by at least:

80% of the votes entitled to be cast by holders of outstanding voting shares; and

66<sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub>% of the votes entitled to be cast by holders of outstanding voting shares other than shares held by the interested stockholder or an affiliate of the interested stockholder with whom the business combination is to be effected.

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Our charter contains a provision exempting the company from the provisions of the MGCL relating to business combinations with interested stockholders or affiliates of interested stockholders. However, such resolution can be altered or repealed, in whole or in part, by an amendment to our charter. If such provision is repealed, the business combination statute could have the effect of discouraging offers to acquire us and of increasing the difficulty of consummating these offers, even if our acquisition would be in our stockholders' best interests.

### **Maryland Control Share Acquisitions Act**

The MGCL provides that "control shares" of a Maryland corporation acquired in a "control share acquisition" have no voting rights except to the extent approved by a vote of two-thirds of the votes entitled to be cast on the matter, excluding shares of stock owned by the acquiror, by officers or by directors who are employees of the corporation. "Control shares" are voting shares of stock which, if aggregated with all other such shares of stock previously acquired by the acquiror or in respect of which the acquiror is able to exercise or direct the exercise of voting power (except solely by virtue of a revocable proxy), would entitle the acquiror to exercise voting power in electing directors within one of the following ranges of voting power: (i) one-tenth or more, but less than one-third; (ii) one-third or more, but less than a majority; or (iii) a majority or more of all voting power. Control shares do not include shares the acquiring person is then entitled to vote as a result of having previously obtained stockholder approval. A "control share acquisition" means the acquisition of control shares, subject to certain exceptions.

A person who has made or proposes to make a control share acquisition, upon satisfaction of certain conditions (including an undertaking to pay expenses), may compel our board of directors to call a special meeting of stockholders to be held within 50 days of demand to consider the voting rights of the shares. If no request for a meeting is made, we may present the question at any stockholders meeting.

If voting rights are not approved at the meeting or if the acquiring person does not deliver an acquiring person statement as required by the Maryland Control Share Acquisition Act, then, subject to certain conditions and limitations, we may redeem any or all of the control shares (except those for which voting rights have previously been approved) for fair value determined, without regard to the absence of voting rights for the control shares, as of the date of the last control share acquisition by the acquiror or of any meeting of stockholders at which the voting rights of such shares are considered and not approved. If voting rights for control shares are approved at a stockholders' meeting and the acquiror becomes entitled to vote a majority of the shares entitled to vote, all other stockholders may exercise appraisal rights. This means that you would be able to force us to redeem your stock for fair value. Under Maryland law, the fair value of the shares as determined for purposes of such appraisal rights may not be less than the highest price per share paid by the acquiror in the control share acquisition. Furthermore, certain limitations otherwise applicable to the exercise of appraisal rights would not apply in the context of a control share acquisition.

The control share acquisition statute does not apply (i) to shares acquired in a merger, consolidation or share exchange if we are a party to the transaction, or (ii) to acquisitions approved or exempted by our charter or bylaws of the corporation.

Our bylaws contain a provision exempting from the control share acquisition statute any and all acquisitions by any person of our shares of stock. We cannot assure you that such provision will not be amended or eliminated at any time in the future. If such provision is eliminated, the control share acquisition statute could have the effect of discouraging offers to acquire us and increasing the difficulty of consummating any such offers, even if our acquisition would be in our stockholders' best interests.

**Amendment to the Charter**

Except as provided below, our charter, including its provisions on classification of our board of directors, may be amended only if approved by our stockholders by the affirmative vote of not less than a majority of all of the votes entitled to be cast on the matter. Amendments to the provisions of our charter relating to the removal of directors will be required to be approved by our stockholders by the affirmative vote at least two-thirds of all votes entitled to be cast on the matter.

**Dissolution**

Our dissolution must be approved by our stockholders by the affirmative vote of not less than a majority of all of the votes entitled to be cast on the matter.

**Advance Notice of Director Nominations and New Business**

Our bylaws provide that with respect to an annual meeting of stockholders, nominations of persons for election to our board of directors and the proposal of business to be considered by stockholders may be made only (i) pursuant to our notice of the meeting, (ii) at the direction of our board of directors, or (iii) by a stockholder who is entitled to vote at the meeting and has complied with the advance notice procedures set forth in our bylaws.

**CLASS A COMMON STOCK AVAILABLE FOR FUTURE SALE**

Prior to our initial public offering on September 21, 2004, there was no public market for our Class A Common Stock. Future sales of substantial amounts of our Class A Common Stock in the public market, or the possibility of such sales occurring, could harm prevailing market prices for our Class A Common Stock or could impair our ability to raise capital through further offerings of equity securities.

As of December 31, 2004, we had outstanding 20,368,915 shares of our Class A Common Stock. We also have reserved an additional 3,683,141 shares of our Class A Common Stock for issuance under our 2003 Long Term Incentive Compensation Plan, 313,600 shares for issuance upon exchange of phantom shares that we have issued under our 2003 Long Term Incentive Compensation Plan and 638,776 shares for issuance upon conversion of Class B and Class C Common Stock. All of the 5,750,000 shares of our Class A Common Stock sold in our initial public offering and 4,600,000 shares sold in our secondary offering are freely tradable without restriction under the Securities Act. We have filed a registration statement on Form S-8 under the Securities Act covering all shares of our Class A Common Stock issued, reserved for issuance or subject to outstanding options under our 2003 Long Term Incentive Compensation Plan. All 20,368,915 outstanding shares of our Class A Common Stock are available for sale in the public market, subject to the contractual restrictions described below.

Each of our directors and officers have entered into lock-up agreements in connection with our initial public offering. These lock-up agreements provide that our directors and officers will not offer, sell, contract to sell, pledge, sell any option or contract to purchase, purchase any option or contract to sell, grant any option for the sale of, or otherwise transfer or dispose of any shares of our Class A Common Stock or any securities convertible into or exercisable or exchangeable for any shares of our Class A Common Stock until March 21, 2005.

The transfer restrictions referenced above do not apply to shares of our Class A Common Stock purchased in the secondary market following our initial public offering. Flagstone Securities, LLC, the representative of the underwriters in our initial public offering, may, in its sole discretion and at any time without prior notice, release all or any portion of the shares subject to these lock-up agreements.

**PRINCIPAL STOCKHOLDERS**

The following table presents information known to the Company regarding the beneficial ownership of the Company's common stock. In accordance with SEC rules, each listed person's beneficial ownership includes:

all shares the investor actually owns (of record or beneficially);

all shares over which the investor has or shares voting or dispositive control (such as in the capacity as a general partner of an investment fund); and

all shares the investor has the right to acquire within 60 days (such as upon exercise of options that are currently vested or which are scheduled to vest within 60 days).

Except as otherwise noted, information is given as of December 31, 2004. The table presents information regarding:

each of the Company's named executive officers;

each director of the Company;

all of the Company's directors and executive officers as a group; and

each stockholder known to the Company to own beneficially more than 5% of the Company's common stock.

Except as otherwise noted, the beneficial owners named in the following table have sole voting and investment power with respect to all shares of the Company's common stock shown throughout as beneficially owned by them, subject to community property laws, where applicable.

	<b>Beneficial ownership</b>	
	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent(1)</b>
<b>5% Stockholders</b>		
Wasatch Advisors, Inc.(2)	2,135,900(3)	10.32%
Wellington Management Company, LLP(4)	1,425,700(5)	6.89
<b>Directors and Officers(6)</b>		
Jeffrey J. Zimmer(7)	286,984	1.39
Robert E. Cauley(8)	122,286	*
Buford H. Ortale(9)	115,599	*
Kevin L. Bespolka(10)	36,266	*
Maureen A. Hendricks(11)	40,059	*
W. Christopher Mortenson	2,972	*
All directors and officers as a group (7 persons)	604,166	2.92

\* Holdings represent less than 1% of all shares outstanding.

(1) Calculated using 20,688,303 shares of Class A and Class B Common Stock outstanding as of December 31, 2004 plus.

(2)

Wasatch Advisors, Inc. is the investment advisor to Wasatch Funds, Inc., a registered investment company comprised of a series of funds under the Investment Company Act of 1940, which are the beneficial owners of our stock. Wasatch Funds, Inc. has represented to us that it holds our stock solely for investment purposes, with no intent to control our business or affairs. As of November 29, 2004 1,251,075 shares were held by Wasatch Core Growth Fund, 642,325 shares were held by Wasatch Small Cap Value Fund, 157,150 shares were held by Wasatch Micro Cap Fund, 71,600 shares were held by Wasatch Micro Cap Value Fund, 2,600 shares were held by

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O'Malley Seidler Partners Small Cap Growth Fund L.P. and 11,150 shares were held by various separate accounts. These are "look-through" entities for federal income tax purposes. Wasatch Advisors, Inc.'s address is 150 Social Hall Avenue, 4th Floor, Salt Lake City, Utah 84111.

- (3) Information as to the ownership of our Class A Common Stock by Wasatch Advisors, Inc. is given as of November 29, 2004.
- (4) Wellington Management Company, LLP, as a registered investment adviser under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended, may be deemed to have beneficial ownership of the securities held by its investment advisory client accounts. Wellington Management shares investment discretion and voting control with Bay Pond Partners, L.P. with respect to 813,300 shares and Bay Pond Investors (Bermuda) L.P. with respect to 74,800 shares and investment discretion with First Financial Fund, Inc. and no voting control with respect to 537,600 shares. Wellington Management Company, LLP's address is 75 State Street, Boston, Massachusetts, 02109.
- (5) Information as to the ownership of our Class A Common Stock by Wellington Management Company, LLP is given as of December 3, 2004.
- (6) The address of each of our officers and directors is c/o Bimini Mortgage Management, Inc., 3305 Flamingo Drive, Vero Beach, Florida 32963.
- (7) Includes 8,949 shares owned by members of Mr. Zimmer's immediate family, 1,623 shares held by Mr. Zimmer's IRA and 207,602 shares of Class B Common Stock, which votes together as a class with Class A Common Stock.
- (8) Includes 500 shares held by Mr. Cauley's IRA and 111,786 shares of Class B Common Stock, which votes together as a class with Class A Common Stock.
- (9) Includes 10,000 shares owned by the Ortale Family Foundation.
- (10) Includes 6,667 shares owned by members of Mr. Bespolka's immediate family and 8,000 shares held in Mr. Bespolka's IRA.
- (11) Includes 8,367 shares owned by John K. Hendricks Revocable Trust Dated July 9, 2003, 8,367 shares owned by Maureen A. Hendricks Revocable Trust Dated July 9, 2003 and 17,580 shares held by members of Mrs. Hendricks' immediate family.

### SELLING STOCKHOLDERS

The following table shows information as of December 31, 2004, with respect to the beneficial ownership of our Class A Common Stock by the selling stockholders that may be offered from time to time under this prospectus by the selling stockholders. The percentage of all shares of our Class A and Class B Common Stock beneficially owned by the selling stockholders is based on 20,688,303 shares of our Class A and Class B Common Stock outstanding as of December 31, 2004. The Securities and Exchange Commission has defined "beneficial" ownership of a security to mean the possession, directly or indirectly, of voting power and/or investment power. A stockholder is also deemed to be, as of any date, the beneficial owner of all securities that the stockholder has the right to acquire within 60 days after that date through (a) the exercise of any option, warrant or right, (b) the conversion of a security, (c) the power to revoke a trust, discretionary account or similar arrangement, or (d) the automatic termination of a trust, discretionary account or similar arrangement. The selling stockholders may offer all, a portion or none of the shares of our Class A Common Stock owned by them. Shares may also be sold by donees, pledgees or other transferees or successors in interest of the selling stockholders and the term "selling stockholder" refers to all such transferees or successors.

Unless described below, to our knowledge, none of the selling stockholders has had a material relationship with us or any of our affiliates within the past three years.

Selling Stockholder	Beneficial ownership	
	Number	Percent
Akin, Thomas B. IRA	160,000	*
Alpha US Sub Fund I, LLC(1)	60,622	*
American Physicians Assurance Corp.	10,000	*
Andrews, Daniel and Barbara	3,400	*
Axia Offshore Partners, Ltd.(2)	47,101	*
Axia Partners, LP(3)	78,592	*
Axia Partners Qualified, LP(4)	147,018	*
Becker, Deborah S.	3,000	*
Becker, Jack	2,000	*
Behrens, Diane	3,350	*
Benchmark Partners LP(5)	70,000	*
Ben-David, Aliza and Roni	20,000	*
Bespolka, Kevin L.(6)	20,784	*
Bespolka, Kevin L. IRA(6)	8,000	
Bespolka, Lars C.	6,667	*
Boston Partners Asset Management, LLC(7)	315,000	1.52%
Brady, Eubel	341,660	1.65%
Calev, Beatrice	3,000	*
Callender, Robert L.	4,000	*
Cauley, Robert E.(8)	118,786(9)	*
Chase, Saul and Ingrid (JtWros)	15,000	*
Cohen, Renee D.	1,000	*
Coventry Mfg. Co. Inc. Retirement Trust & Profit Sharing Plan DTD 7/5/02	3,500	*
Czernik, Edward J.	3,350	*
Davis, George A.	3,000	*
Davis, Malcolm	1,700	*
Davis, Sarah R. UGMA/CT(10)	3,000	*

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Dinkin, Larry and Jane (JtWros)	8,000	*
DiPaolo, Lorraine and Gordon	20,000	*
Dolphin Offshore Partners, L.P.(11)	66,666	*
Dvorak, James	3,500	*
Dynex Capital, Inc.	200,000	*
EBS Asset Management	63,410	*
Eidelman, David R. and Rachel R.	4,000	*
Fagan Capital Inc.	1,000,000	4.83%
Ferrari, Frank M. IRA	3,000	*
First Commonwealth Mortgage Trust(12)	10,000	*
Five Corners Partners, L.P.(13)	25,000	*
Flagstone Securities, LLC(14)	469,388(15)	2.27%
Frager, Norman Revocable Trust U/A 1/9/97	5,000	*
Fraser, John B. STD IRA	20,000	*
Gallo, Ray E.	720	*
Garfinkel, Barry	7,000	*
Global Reit L.P.(16)	10,000	*
Golding, Jay H.	3,333	*
Griffin, Charles W.	3,000	*
Haveson, Stephen PC Retirement Plan 11/1/79	7,000	*
Hendricks, John K. Revocable Trust	6,667	*
Hendricks, Maureen(17)	8,284	*
Hendricks, Maureen Revocable Trust(17)	6,667	*
Hershaft, Judith	3,700	*
Holender, Zeev	10,000	*
HG Holdings, Ltd.(18)	477,775	2.31%
Hunter Global Investors Fund I LP(18)	192,125	*
HG Holdings II Ltd.(18)	55,100	*
Kaplan, Philip G. and Judith A.	3,000	*
Karam, Edmund and Barbara	3,000	*
Karam, Lawrence and Karen	1,700	*
Kensington Investment Group(19)	655,000	3.17%
Kerr, Douglas and Walter, Joan	3,000	*
Klebanoff, Howard M. Sep IRA	5,000	*
Klebanoff, Sandra IRA/RO	5,000	*
Kogan, Stanley J. PC Profit Sharing Plan	4,000	*
Kornfeld, William F. Jr.	10,000	*
Kranzberg, Kenneth IRA	3,500	*
Kranzberg, Kenneth Trust U/A 2/10/1989	3,500	*
Krivitsky, David	5,000	*
L&R Sales Assoc. Pension Plan(20)	2,000	*
L&R Sales Assoc. Inc. Profit Sharing Plan(21)	2,000	*
L&S Partners I, LLC(22)	66,667	*
Long, George A.	10,000	*
Mallery, Stephany S. IRA	2,000	*

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Mallery, William H. IRA	3,000	*
Marciano Financial Holdings II, LLC(23)	67,000	*
McDonnell, Jeffrey Revocable Trust	6,666	*
Mittler, Elliot H.	7,000	*
Mittler, Rosalind	3,000	*
Montgomery, Cary and Karen	15,000	*
Mortenson, W. Christopher(24)	1,204	*
Mutual Financial Services Fund	599,667	2.90%
Mykytyn, Eve Z. IRA	10,000	*
Mykytyn, Dennis J.	10,000	*
Nachman, Wendy	3,000	*
North American Communities Foundation Inc.	10,000	*
Ortale, Buford H.(25)	104,784	*
Ortale Family Foundation(25)	10,000	
Pall, Olivia M.	7,000	*
Pedowitz, Mark	1,600	*
Pluard, Anna	3,334	*
Powers, Christopher L.	3,000	*
Present, Daniel H. and Chapman, Mark L. Target Benefit Plan Dtd 1/1/98	7,000	*
Present, Daniel H. and Chapman, Mark L. PC P/SIP & Trust Dtd 1/1/98	10,000	
Putnam, Sarah R.	17,000	*
Rapp, Fred P. Trust A U/A Dated 12/21/77	7,000	*
Rapp, Fred P. Trust B U/A Dated 12/21/77	21,000	
RDV Capital Management LP	158,343	*
Redmond, Sanford	10,000	*
Refowitz, Ellen MacDonald	2,000	*
Refowitz, Robert M.	5,000	*
Refowitz, Robert M. IRA	5,000	
Resnikoff, Sheila	7,000	*
Rubin, Leonard and Rommie	2,000	*
Rubin, Peter H.	6,000	*
Schnipper, Jeffrey	14,000	*
Schwartz Family Trust(26)	2,000	*
Scroope, John and Elizabeth JtWros	2,000	*
Scroope, John F. P/S/P Dtd 9/18/91	5,000	*
Seidman, Maynard J.	1,667	*
Sexton, Kevin W.	10,000	*
Siderow, Neil H.	2,000	*
Silver Capital Management, LLC(27)	25,000	*
Simcha, Laden	3,000	*
Simon, Moshe J. Hasida	1,700	*
Simon, Sigalit and Nevat	1,700	*
Sloman, Jr., James	10,000	*
Smith, William G.	1,700	*
Smith II, Robert B.	6,666	*

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Stone, Robert S.	4,000	*
Sunderland, Ronald IRA	7,000	*
Swartz Family Holdings(28)	2,000	*
Talkot Crossover Fund, L.P.(29)	330,000	1.60%
TIAA/CREF	270,000	1.31%
Wasatch Advisors, Inc.(30)	1,965,000	9.50%
Weingart Family Trust(31)	10,000	*
Weingarten, Morris	3,200	*
Weisler, Nathaniel & Janice JtWros	8,000	*
The Weitz Funds-Value Fund(32)		
The Weitz Funds-Hickory Fund(32)		
Wellington Management Company, LLP(33)	965,000	4.66%
Willis, Jack	3,300	*
Zimmer, Carolyn M. U.G.M.A.-Acc't(34)	2,700	*
Zimmer, Isabella L. U.G.M.A.-Acc't(34)	2,700	*
Zimmer, Jeffrey J.(35)	274,602(36)	1.33%
Zorn Foundation(37)	7,000	*
Richard L. Zorn IRA	7,000	*
Zukowski, Gerald S.	6,667	*
Totals	10,654,432	51.50%

\*

Less than one percent (1%).

- (1) Raymond Garea, as the Chief Executive Officer of Axia Capital Management LLC, controls the shares held by Alpha US Sub Fund I, LLC.
- (2) Raymond Garea, as the Chief Executive Officer of Axia Capital Management LLC, controls the shares held by Axia Offshore Partners Ltd.
- (3) Raymond Garea, as the Chief Executive Officer of Axia Capital Management LLC, controls the shares held by Axia Partners, LP.
- (4) Raymond Garea, as the Chief Executive Officer of Axia Capital Management LLC, controls the shares held by Axia Partners Qualified LP.
- (5) Lorraine DiPaolo and Richard Whitman control the shares held by Benchmark Partners, LP.
- (6) Mr. Bespolka is a member of our board of directors.
- (7) David M. Dabora, as portfolio manager, controls the shares held by Boston Partners Asset Management, LLC.
- (8) Mr. Cauley is our chief financial officer and a member of our board of directors.
- (9) Includes 111,786 shares of Class A Common Stock receivable upon conversion of Class B Common Stock when certain conditions are met. See "Description of Capital Stock Conversion of the Class B Common Stock and Class C Common Stock."
- (10) George A. Davis control the shares held by the Sarah R. Davis UGMA/CT.
- (11) Dolphin Offshore Partners, L.P. is an unregistered private investment Delaware investment partnership, the sole managing partner of which is Dolphin Management, Inc. Peter E. Salas, as



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the President and controlling partner of Dolphin Management, Inc., controls the shares held by Dolphine Offshore Partners, L.P.

- (12) Ken McGraw, as Chairman and President, and Robert Messer, as Executive Vice President of First Commonwealth Mortgage Trust, control the shares held by First Commonwealth Mortgage Trust.
- (13) Five Corners Partners is a subsidiary of Hoefer and Arnett Capital Management. Kevin Daly, as the manager of Five Corner Partners, controls the shares held by Five Corners Partners.
- (14) This selling stockholder had a material relationship with us within the past year; it was the placement agent in our private placements and was the managing underwriter of our initial public offering. Flagstone Securities, LLC is registered under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 as a broker-dealer. Flagstone Securities, LLC is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Flagstone Capital, LLC. John Webb, as managing member of Flagstone Capital, LLC, controls the shares held by Flagstone Securities, LLC.
- (15) Includes 319,388 shares of Class A Common Stock receivable upon conversion of Class C Common Stock when certain conditions are met. See "Description of Capital Stock Conversion of the Class B Common Stock and Class C Common Stock."
- (16) Rob Scharar, as the President of Global Reit L.P., controls the shares held by Global Reit L.P.
- (17) Ms. Hendricks is a member of our board of directors.
- (18) Duke Buchan III, the President and Chief Investment Officer of Hunter Global Investors, has voting and investment power over the shares beneficially owned by HG Holdings, Ltd., Hunter Global Investors Fund I LP and HG Holdings II Ltd. The foregoing should not be construed in and of itself as an admission by Mr. Buchan of beneficial ownership of the shares.
- (19) Represents 17,500 shares held by Archon Partners LP; 26,800 shares held by Condor Partners LP; and 30,700 shares held by Kensington Realty Income Fund LP. Kensington Investment Group acts as the advisor and Paul Gray is the portfolio manager of Archon Partners LP, Condor Partners LP and Kensington Realty Income Fund LP. Also represents 580,000 shares held by Kensington Strategic Realty Fund which has represented to us that it is a public reporting entity.
- (20) Leonard Rubin, as trustee, controls the shares held by the L&R Sales Assoc. Pension Plan.
- (21) Leonard Rubin, as trustee, controls the shares held by the L&R Sales Assoc. Inc. Profit Sharing Plan.
- (22) A. Michael Lipper and Zuheir Sofia control the shares held in L&S Partners I, LLC:
- (23) Both Maurice Marciano and Paul Marciano control the shares held by Marciano Financial Holdings II, LLC.
- (24) Mr Mortenson is a member of our board of directors.
- (25) Mr. Ortale is a member of our board of directors and controls the shares held by the Ortale Family Foundation.
- (26) Martin Schwartz controls the shares held by the Schwartz Family Trust.
- (27) Silver Capital Management LLC is an investment company registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940.
- (28)

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Inez Swartz controls the shares held by Swartz Family Holdings.

(29)

Talkot Crossover Fund, L.P., is an investment partnership managed by Talkot Capital, LLC. Thomas B. Akin as the Managing General Partner of the Talkot Crossover Fund, L.P. and Managing Director of Talkot Capital, LLC, controls the shares held by Talkot Crossover Fund, L.P.

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- (30) Represents 1,251,075 shares held by Wasatch Core Growth Fund, 642,325 shares held by Wasatch Small Cap Value Fund and 71,600 shares held by Wasatch Micro Cap Value Fund, all of which are investment companies registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940.
- (31) John B. and Ellen L. Weingart control the shares held by the Weingart Family Trust.
- (32) The Weitz Funds are investment companies registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940.
- (33) Wellington Management Company, LLP is an investment adviser registered under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended.
- (34) Jeffrey J. Zimmer controls the shares held by the Carolyn M. Zimmer U.G.M.A.-Account and the Isabella L. Zimmer U.G.M.A.-Account. Mr. Zimmer is our president, chief executive officer and chairman of our board of directors.
- (35) Mr. Zimmer is our president, chief executive officer and chairman of our board of directors.
- (36) Includes 207,602 shares of Class A Common Stock receivable upon conversion of Class B Common Stock when certain conditions are met. See "Description of Capital Stock Conversion of the Class B Common Stock and Class C Common Stock."
- (37) Richard L. Zorn controls the shares held by the Zorn Foundation.

Information concerning the selling stockholders may change from time to time, and any changed information will be set forth in post-effective amendments to the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part or in prospectus supplements if and when required.

## MATERIAL FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES

The following discussion summarizes the material federal income tax considerations regarding our qualification and taxation as a REIT and the material federal income tax consequences resulting from the acquisition, ownership and disposition of our common stock. The following discussion is not exhaustive of all possible tax considerations. This summary neither gives a detailed discussion of any state, local or foreign tax considerations nor discusses all of the aspects of federal income taxation that may be relevant to a holder of our common stock in light of the stockholder's particular circumstances or, except to the extent discussed under the headings " Taxation of Tax-Exempt Stockholders," and " Taxation of Non-United States Stockholders" below, to particular types of stockholders which are subject to special tax rules, including, among others, expatriates, partnerships, grantor trusts, insurance companies, tax-exempt entities, financial institutions or broker-dealers, persons who are not citizens or residents of the United States, stockholders that hold our stock as a hedge, part of a straddle, conversion transaction or other arrangement involving more than one position, or stockholders whose functional currency is not the U.S. dollar. This discussion assumes that you will hold our common stock as a "capital asset," generally property held for investment under the Internal Revenue Code.

The information in this summary is based on the Internal Revenue Code, current, temporary and proposed Treasury regulations promulgated under the Internal Revenue Code, the legislative history of the Internal Revenue Code, current administrative interpretations and practices of the IRS and court decisions, all as of the date of this prospectus. The administrative interpretations and practices of the IRS upon which this summary is based include its practices and policies as expressed in private letter rulings which are not binding on the IRS, except with respect to the taxpayers who requested and received such rulings. No assurance can be given that future legislation, Treasury regulations, administrative interpretations and practices and court decisions will not significantly change current law, or adversely affect existing interpretations of existing law, on which the information in this summary is based. Even if there is no change in applicable law, no assurance can be provided that the statements made in the following summary will not be challenged by the IRS or will be sustained by a court if so challenged, and we will not seek a ruling with respect to any part of the information discussed in this summary. This summary is qualified in its entirety by the applicable Internal Revenue Code provisions, Treasury regulations, and administrative and judicial interpretations of the Code.

**YOU ARE ADVISED TO CONSULT WITH YOUR OWN TAX ADVISOR TO DETERMINE THE IMPACT OF YOUR PERSONAL TAX SITUATION ON THE ANTICIPATED TAX CONSEQUENCES OF THE ACQUISITION, OWNERSHIP AND DISPOSITION OF OUR CLASS A COMMON STOCK. THIS INCLUDES THE U.S. FEDERAL, STATE, LOCAL, FOREIGN AND OTHER TAX CONSEQUENCES OF THE ACQUISITION, OWNERSHIP AND DISPOSITION OF OUR CLASS A COMMON STOCK AND THE POTENTIAL CHANGES IN APPLICABLE TAX LAWS.**

### General

We have elected to be taxed as a REIT under the Internal Revenue Code commencing with our taxable year ended December 31, 2003. We believe that we have been organized and have operated, and intend to continue to be organized and operate in a manner so as to, qualify as a REIT. However, no assurance can be given that we in fact qualify or will remain qualified as a REIT. In connection with this offering, we have received the opinion of our legal counsel, Clifford Chance US LLP, that commencing with our taxable year ended December 31, 2003, we have been organized and operated in conformity with the requirements for qualification and taxation as a REIT under the Internal Revenue Code, and our current and proposed method of operation will enable us to continue to meet the requirements for qualification and taxation as a REIT under the Internal Revenue Code. It must be emphasized that this opinion is not binding on the IRS or any court. In addition, the opinion of our counsel is based on various assumptions and is conditioned upon certain representations made by us as to factual matters, including factual representations concerning our business and assets as set forth in

this prospectus, and assumes that the actions described in this prospectus are completed in a timely fashion. Our qualification and taxation as a REIT depend on our ability to meet, through actual annual operating results, distribution levels, diversity of stock ownership, and the various other qualification tests imposed under the Internal Revenue Code discussed below, the results of which will not be reviewed by Clifford Chance US LLP. No assurance can be given that our actual results for any particular taxable year will satisfy these requirements. See " Failure to Qualify as a REIT." In addition, qualification as a REIT depends on future transactions and events that cannot be known at this time.

So long as we qualify for taxation as a REIT, we generally will be permitted a deduction for dividends we currently distribute to our stockholders. As a result, we generally will not be required to pay federal income taxes on our net income that is currently distributed to our stockholders. This treatment substantially eliminates the "double taxation" that ordinarily results from investment in a corporation.

Double taxation means taxation once at the corporate level when income is earned and once again at the stockholder level when this income is distributed. Even as a REIT, however, we will be required to pay U.S. federal tax, as follows.

We will be required to pay tax at regular corporate rates on any undistributed REIT taxable income, including undistributed net capital gain.

We may be subject to the "alternative minimum tax" on our items of tax preference, if any.

If we have (i) net income from the sale or other disposition of "foreclosure property" which is held primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of business or (ii) other non-qualifying income from foreclosure property, we will be required to pay tax at the highest corporate rate on this income. Foreclosure property is generally defined as property acquired through foreclosure or after a default on a loan secured by the property or on a lease of the property.

We will be required to pay a 100% tax on any net income from prohibited transactions. Prohibited transactions are, in general, sales or other taxable dispositions of property, other than foreclosure property, held primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of business. Under existing law, whether property is held as inventory or primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of a trade or business depends on all the facts and circumstances surrounding the particular transaction.

If we fail to satisfy the 75% gross income test or the 95% gross income test discussed below, but nonetheless maintain our qualification as a REIT because certain other requirements are met, we will be subject to a tax equal to the greater of (i) the amount by which 75% of our gross income exceeds the amount qualifying under the 75% gross income test described below, and (ii) the amount by which 90% (95% for taxable years commencing with our taxable year beginning on January 1, 2005) of our gross income exceeds the amount qualifying under the 95% gross income test described below, multiplied by a fraction intended to reflect our profitability.

Pursuant to the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004 (the "Act") commencing with our taxable year beginning on January 1, 2005, if we fail to satisfy any of the REIT asset tests, as described below, by more than a *de minimis* amount, due to reasonable cause and we nonetheless maintain our REIT qualification because of specified cure provisions, we will be required to pay a tax equal to the greater of \$50,000 or the highest corporate tax rate multiplied by the net income generated by the nonqualifying assets.

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Pursuant to the Act, commencing with our taxable year beginning on January 1, 2005, if we fail to satisfy any provision of the Internal Revenue Code that would result in our failure to qualify as a REIT (other than a violation of the REIT gross income or asset tests described below) and the violation is due to reasonable cause, we may retain our REIT qualification but we will be required to pay a penalty of \$50,000 for each such failure.

We will be required to pay a 4% excise tax on the excess of the required distribution over the amounts actually distributed if we fail to distribute during each calendar year at least the sum of (i) 85% of our REIT ordinary income for the year; (ii) 95% of our REIT capital gain net income for the year; and (iii) any undistributed taxable income from prior periods. This distribution requirement is in addition to, and different from, the distribution requirements discussed below in the section entitled " Annual Distribution Requirements."

If we acquire any asset from a corporation which is or has been taxed as a C corporation under the Internal Revenue Code in a transaction in which the basis of the asset in our hands is determined by reference to the basis of the asset in the hands of the C corporation, and we subsequently recognize gain on the disposition of the asset during the 10-year period beginning on the date on which we acquired the asset, then we will be required to pay tax at the highest regular corporate tax rate on this gain to the extent of the excess of (i) the fair market value of the asset, over (ii) our adjusted basis in the asset, in each case determined as of the date on which we acquired the asset. The results described in this paragraph with respect to the recognition of gain will apply unless an election under Treasury regulation Section 1.337(d)-7(c) is made to cause the C corporation to recognize all of the gain inherent in the property at the time of acquisition of the asset.

We will generally be subject to tax on the portion of any excess inclusion income derived from an investment in residual interests in REMICs to the extent our stock is held by specified tax-exempt organizations not subject to tax on unrelated business taxable income.

We could be subject to a 100% excise tax if our dealings with any taxable REIT subsidiaries are not at arm's length.

### Requirements for Qualification as a REIT

The Internal Revenue Code defines a REIT as a corporation, trust or association:

- (i) that is managed by one or more trustees or directors;
- (ii) that issues transferable shares or transferable certificates to evidence beneficial ownership;
- (iii) that would be taxable as a domestic corporation but for Sections 856 through 859 of the Internal Revenue Code;
- (iv) that is not a financial institution or an insurance company within the meaning of the Internal Revenue Code;
- (v) that is beneficially owned by 100 or more persons;
- (vi) not more than 50% in value of the outstanding stock of which is owned, actually or constructively, by five or fewer individuals, including specified entities, during the last half of each taxable year; and
- (vii) that meets other tests, described below, regarding the nature of its income and assets and the amount of its distributions.

The Internal Revenue Code provides that all of the first four conditions stated above must be met during the entire taxable year and that the fifth condition must be met during at least 335 days of a



taxable year of 12 months, or during a proportionate part of a taxable year of less than 12 months. The fifth and sixth conditions do not apply until after the first taxable year for which an election is made to be taxed as a REIT.

Our stock must be beneficially held by at least 100 persons, the "100 stockholder rule," and no more than 50% of the value of our stock may be owned, directly or indirectly, by five or fewer individuals at any time during the last half of the taxable year, the "5/50 rule." In determining whether five or fewer individuals hold our shares, certain attribution rules of the Internal Revenue Code apply. For purposes of the 5/50 rule, pension trusts and other specific tax-exempt entities generally are treated as individuals, except that certain tax-qualified pension funds are not considered individuals and beneficiaries of such trusts are treated as holding shares of a REIT in proportion to their actuarial interests in the trust for purposes of the 5/50 rule. Our charter provides for restrictions regarding ownership and transfer of our stock. These restrictions are intended to assist us in satisfying the 100 stockholder rule and the fr 5/50 rule. These restrictions, however, may not ensure that we will, in all cases, be able to satisfy the stock ownership rules. If we fail to satisfy any of these stock ownership rules, our status as a REIT may terminate. If, however, we complied with the rules contained in the applicable Treasury regulations that require a REIT to determine the actual ownership of its stock, as discussed below, and we do not know, or would not have known through the exercise of reasonable diligence, that we failed to meet the requirement of the 5/50 rule, we would not be disqualified as a REIT.

To monitor our compliance with the stock ownership tests, we are required to maintain records regarding the actual ownership of our shares of stock. To do so, we are required to demand written statements each year from the record holders of certain percentages of our shares of stock in which the record holders are to disclose the actual owners of the shares (i.e., the persons required to include our dividends in gross income). A list of those persons failing or refusing to comply with this demand must be maintained as part of our records. A record holder who fails or refuses to comply with the demand must submit a statement with his tax return disclosing the actual ownership of the shares of stock and certain other information.

In addition, a corporation generally may not elect to become a REIT unless its taxable year is the calendar year. Our taxable year is the calendar year.

#### **Effect of Subsidiary Entities**

As of the date of this prospectus, we do not own stock in another corporation. However, we may in the future own stock in another corporation, provided that such ownership is consistent with our qualification as a REIT. If we own all of the outstanding stock of a corporation, such corporation will be treated as a "qualified REIT subsidiary" and will not be treated as a separate corporation from us. Additionally, all of such corporation's assets and liabilities as well as items of income, gain, loss, deduction and credit will be treated as our assets, liabilities and items of income, gain, loss, deduction and credit for federal income tax purposes and for the REIT gross income and asset tests.

We may make an election, together with a corporation we own stock in, to treat such corporation as our "taxable REIT subsidiary." A taxable REIT subsidiary may earn income that would be nonqualifying income if earned directly by a REIT and is generally subject to full corporate level tax. A REIT may own up to 100% of all outstanding stock of a taxable REIT subsidiary. However, no more than 20% of a REIT's assets may consist of the securities of taxable REIT subsidiaries. Any dividends that a REIT receives from a taxable REIT subsidiary will generally be eligible to be taxed at the preferential rates applicable to qualified dividend income and, for purposes of REIT gross income tests, will be qualifying income for purposes of the 95% gross income test but not the 75% gross income test. Certain restrictions imposed on taxable REIT subsidiaries are intended to ensure that such entities will be subject to appropriate levels of federal income taxation. First, a taxable REIT subsidiary may not

deduct interest payments made in any year to an affiliated REIT to the extent that such payments exceed, generally, 50% of the taxable REIT subsidiary's adjusted taxable income for that year (although the taxable REIT subsidiary may carry forward to, and deduct in, a succeeding year the disallowed interest amount if the 50% test is satisfied in that year). Additionally, if a taxable REIT subsidiary pays interest, rent or another amount to a REIT that exceeds the amount that would be paid to an unrelated party in an arm's length transaction, an excise tax equal to 100% of such excess will be imposed.

An unincorporated domestic entity, such as a partnership or limited liability company, that has a single owner, generally is not treated as an entity separate from its parent for federal income tax purposes. If we own 100% of the interests of such an entity, we will be treated as owning its assets and receiving its income directly. An unincorporated domestic entity with two or more owners generally is treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes. In the case of a REIT that is a partner in a partnership that has other partners, the REIT is treated as owning its proportionate share of the assets of the partnership and as earning its proportionate share of the gross income of the partnership, based on percentage capital interests, for the purposes of the applicable REIT qualification tests. Pursuant to the Act, commencing with our taxable year beginning on January 1, 2005, this rule will be modified for purposes of the 10% value test described below. Under the Act, for purposes of the 10% value test only, the determination of a REIT's interest in partnership assets will be based on the REIT's proportionate interest in any securities issued by the partnership, excluding for these purposes, certain excluded securities as described in the Internal Revenue Code. Thus, our proportionate share of the assets, liabilities and items of income of any partnership, joint venture or limited liability company that is treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes in which we acquire an interest directly or indirectly will be treated as our assets and gross income for purposes of applying the various REIT qualification requirements.

### **Income Tests**

We must satisfy two gross income requirements annually to maintain our qualification as a REIT: