Grubb & Ellis Healthcare REIT, Inc. Form 424B3 August 19, 2009

#### Filed Pursuant to Rule 424(b)(3) Registration No. 333-133652

#### GRUBB & ELLIS HEALTHCARE REIT, INC. (To be renamed Healthcare Trust of America, Inc.) SUPPLEMENT NO. 9 DATED AUGUST 19, 2009 TO THE PROSPECTUS DATED DECEMBER 3, 2008

This document supplements, and should be read in conjunction with, our prospectus dated December 3, 2008, as supplemented by Supplement No. 4 dated April 21, 2009, Supplement No. 5 dated May 27, 2009, Supplement No. 6 dated July 10, 2009, Supplement No. 7 dated July 17, 2009, and Supplement No. 8 dated August 5, 2009, relating to our offering of 221,052,632 shares of our common stock. The purpose of this Supplement No. 9 is to: disclose the status of our initial public offering; and

include our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended June 30, 2009.

#### **Status of our Initial Public Offering**

As of August 14, 2009, we had received and accepted subscriptions in our initial public offering for 119,844,426 shares of our common stock, or approximately \$1,195,481,773, excluding shares issued under our distribution reinvestment plan. As of August 14, 2009, approximately 80,155,574 shares remained available for sale to the public under our initial public offering, excluding shares available under our distribution reinvestment plan. This offering will expire upon the earlier of September 20, 2009, or the date on which the maximum offering has been sold, unless extended pursuant to SEC Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, for up to an additional 180 days.

#### Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the Period Ended June 30, 2009

On August 14, 2009, we filed our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended June 30, 2009 with the Securities and Exchange Commission. This Quarterly Report (excluding the exhibits thereto) is attached as Annex A to this Supplement No. 9.

**EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934** 

### TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES

For the quarterly period ended June 30, 2009

**EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934** For the transition period from to

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#### **Commission File Number: 000-53206** Grubb & Ellis Healthcare REIT, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

(To be named Healthcare Trust of America, Inc.)

Maryland

20-4738467 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

16427 N. Scottsdale Road, Suite 440, Scottsdale, Arizona

(Address of principal executive offices)

#### (480) 998-3478

(Registrant s telephone number, including area code)

N/A

(Former name, former address and former fiscal year, if changed since last report)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Sections 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.

b Yes o No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§ 232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files).

o Yes o No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See definition of large accelerated filer, accelerated filer and smaller reporting company in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

	Accelerated		Smaller reporting
Large accelerated filer o	filer o	Non-accelerated filer þ	company o
		(Do not check if a smaller reporting	
		company)	

#### ANNEX A

#### UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549 **FORM 10-0**

Or

**QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES** 

85254

(Zip Code)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).

As of July 31, 2009, there were 121,964,169 shares of common stock of Grubb & Ellis Healthcare REIT, Inc. outstanding.

o Yes þ No

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#### PART I FINANCIAL INFORMATION

#### Item 1. Financial Statements.

#### Grubb & Ellis Healthcare REIT, Inc. CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS As of June 30, 2009 and December 31, 2008 (Unaudited)

	June 30, 2009	1	December 31, 2008
ASSETS	June 50, 2007		2000
Real estate investments:			
Operating properties, net	\$ 862,627,000	\$	810,920,000
Real estate note receivables, net	16,033,000		15,360,000
Cash and cash equivalents	390,479,000		128,331,000
Accounts and other receivables, net	6,932,000		5,428,000
Restricted cash	8,457,000		7,747,000
Identified intangible assets, net	136,840,000		134,623,000
Other assets, net	15,276,000		11,514,000
Total assets	\$ 1,436,644,000	\$	1,113,923,000
LIABILITIES AND EQU	TY		
Liabilities:			
Mortgage loan payables, net	\$ 452,955,000	\$	460,762,000
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	28,849,000		21,919,000
Accounts payable due to affiliates, net	4,300,000		3,063,000
Derivative financial instruments	10,907,000		14,198,000
Security deposits, prepaid rent and other liabilities	4,681,000		4,582,000
Identified intangible liabilities, net	7,210,000		8,128,000
Total liabilities	508,902,000		512,652,000
Commitments and contingencies (Note 11)			
Redeemable noncontrolling interest of limited partners (Note 13)	2,295,000		1,951,000
Equity:			
Stockholders equity:			
Preferred stock, \$0.01 par value; 200,000,000 shares authorized; none			
issued and outstanding			
Common stock, \$0.01 par value; 1,000,000,000 shares authorized;			
116,714,610 and 75,465,437 shares issued and outstanding as of	1 1 (7 000		755 000
June 30, 2009 and December 31, 2008, respectively	1,167,000		755,000
Additional paid-in capital	1,044,297,000		673,351,000
Accumulated deficit	(120,017,000)		(74,786,000)
Total stockholders equity	925,447,000		599,320,000
Total liabilities and equity	\$ 1,436,644,000	\$	1,113,923,000

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed consolidated financial statements.

#### Grubb & Ellis Healthcare REIT, Inc. CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS For the Three and Six Months Ended June 30, 2009 and 2008 (Unaudited)

D	Three Months E 2009	Ended June 30, 2008	Six Months Er 2009	ded June 30, 2008		
<b>Revenues:</b> Rental income Interest income from real estate note	\$ 29,838,000	\$16,273,000	\$ 59,028,000	\$ 29,390,000		
receivables, net	640,000		1,266,000			
Total revenues Expenses:	30,478,000	16,273,000	60,294,000	29,390,000		
Rental expenses	10,560,000	5,444,000	22,361,000	9,912,000		
General and administrative	5,786,000	2,195,000	10,860,000	4,043,000		
Depreciation and amortization	12,645,000	7,439,000	25,944,000	13,692,000		
Total expenses	28,991,000	15,078,000	59,165,000	27,647,000		
<b>Income before other income (expense)</b> Other income (expense): Interest expense (including amortization of deferred financing costs and debt discount): Interest expense related to note payable to	1,487,000	1,195,000	1,129,000	1,743,000		
affiliate Interest expense related to mortgage loan		(1,000)	0) (1,000)			
payables and line of credit Gain (loss) on derivative financial	(7,428,000)	(4,132,000)	(14,928,000)	(7,844,000)		
instruments	2,362,000	3,432,000	3,292,000	(104,000)		
Interest and dividend income	44,000	20,000	172,000	31,000		
Net (loss) income	(3,535,000)	514,000	(10,335,000)	(6,175,000)		
Less: Net (income) loss attributable to noncontrolling interest of limited partners	(102,000)	(188,000)	(172,000)	(109,000)		
Net (loss) income attributable to controlling interest	\$ (3,637,000)	\$ 326,000	\$ (10,507,000)	\$ (6,284,000)		
Net (loss) income per share attributable to controlling interest basic and diluted	\$ (0.03)	\$ 0.01	\$ (0.11)	\$ (0.22)		
Weighted average number of shares outstanding Basic	106,265,880	33,164,866	95,530,594	28,714,736		
Diluted	106,265,880	33,165,015	95,530,594	28,714,736		

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed consolidated financial statements.

#### Grubb & Ellis Healthcare REIT, Inc. CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF EQUITY For the Six Months Ended June 30, 2009 and 2008 (Unaudited)

Stockholders Equity									
	Common Stock Number of		Additional Paid-In		Preferred Accumulated			Total	
	Shares	1	Amount		Capital	Stock		Deficit	Equity
BALANCE - December 31, 2007 Issuance of common	21,449,451	\$	214,000	\$	190,534,000	\$	\$	(15,158,000)	\$ 175,590,000
stock Issuance vested and nonvested restricted	17,517,227		175,000		174,829,000				175,004,000
common stock Offering costs Amortization of nonvested common	12,500				25,000 (19,113,000)	1			25,000 (19,113,000)
stock compensation Issuance of common stock under the					38,000				38,000
DRIP Repurchase of	456,255		5,000		4,330,000				4,335,000
common stock Distributions Net loss attributable to controlling	(32,270)				(322,000)			(10,458,000)	(322,000) (10,458,000)
interest								(6,284,000)	(6,284,000)
BALANCE - June 30, 2008	39,403,163	\$	394,000	\$	350,321,000	\$	\$	(31,900,000)	\$ 318,815,000
BALANCE December 31, 2008 Issuance of common	75,465,437	\$	755,000	\$	673,351,000	\$	\$	(74,786,000)	\$ 599,320,000
stock Offering costs Amortization of nonvested common stock compensation Issuance of common stock under the	39,994,229		400,000		399,244,000 (39,989,000)	1			399,644,000 (39,989,000)
					117,000				117,000
DRIP Repurchase of	1,661,329		16,000		15,766,000				15,782,000
common stock Distributions	(406,385)		(4,000)		(3,848,000)	1		(34,724,000)	(3,852,000) (34,724,000)

Adjustment to redeemable noncontrolling interests Net loss attributable to controlling			(344,000)			(344,000)
interest					(10,507,000)	(10,507,000)
BALANCE June 30, 2009	116,714,610	\$ 1,167,000	\$ 1,044,297,000	\$	\$ (120,017,000)	\$ 925,447,000
The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed consolidated financial statements. 4						

#### Grubb & Ellis Healthcare REIT, Inc. CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS For the Six Months Ended June 30, 2009 and 2008 (Unaudited)

	Six Months Ended June 30, 2009 2008		
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Net loss	\$ (10,335,000)	\$ (6,175,000)	
Adjustments to reconcile net loss to net cash provided by operating			
activities:			
Depreciation and amortization (including deferred financing costs,			
above/below market leases, debt discount, leasehold interests, deferred rent			
receivable, note receivable closing costs and discount and lease			
inducements)	24,111,000	12,794,000	
Stock based compensation, net of forfeitures	117,000	63,000	
Loss on property insurance settlements	5,000		
Bad debt expense	928,000	230,000	
Change in fair value of derivative financial instruments	(3,292,000)	104,000	
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:			
Accounts and other receivables, net	(2,023,000)	(3,312,000)	
Other assets	(2,414,000)	(32,000)	
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	7,674,000	3,021,000	
Accounts payable due to affiliates, net	349,000	88,000	
Security deposits, prepaid rent and other liabilities	(870,000)	260,000	
Net cash provided by operating activities	14,250,000	7,041,000	
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Acquisition of real estate operating properties	(78,988,000)	(351,027,000)	
Capital expenditures	(4,079,000)	(1,248,000)	
Restricted cash	(710,000)	(2,937,000)	
Proceeds from insurance settlement	299,000		
Net cash used in investing activities	(83,478,000)	(355,212,000)	
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Borrowings on mortgage loan payables	1,696,000	174,292,000	
Borrowings on unsecured note payables to affiliate		6,000,000	
Borrowings under the line of credit, net		22,806,000	
Payments on mortgage loan payables	(9,642,000)	(628,000)	
Proceeds from issuance of common stock	398,887,000	177,525,000	
Deferred financing costs	(60,000)	(2,606,000)	
Security deposits	89,000	(1,000)	
Repurchase of common stock	(3,852,000)	(322,000)	
Payment of offering costs	(39,101,000)	(17,344,000)	
Distributions	(16,469,000)	(5,130,000)	
Distributions to noncontrolling interest limited partner	(172,000)	(129,000)	

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Net cash provided by financing activities		331,376,000		354,463,000			
NET CHANGE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - Beginning of period		262,148,000 128,331,000		6,292,000 5,467,000			
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - End of period	\$	390,479,000	\$	11,759,000			
SUPPLEMENTAL DISCLOSURE OF CASH FLOW INFORMATION: Cash paid for:							
Interest	\$	13,801,000	\$	6,811,000			
Income taxes SUPPLEMENTAL DISCLOSURE OF NONCASH ACTIVITIES:	\$	44,000	\$				
Investing Activities:							
Accrued capital expenditures	\$	2,211,000	\$	645,000			
The following represents the increase in certain assets and liabilities in	Ψ	2,211,000	Ψ	015,000			
connection with our acquisitions of operating properties :							
Other assets, net	\$	17,000	\$	182,000			
Mortgage loan payables, net	\$		\$	34,221,000			
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$	13,000	\$	4,081,000			
Accounts payable due to affiliates, net	\$	-	\$	7,000			
Security deposits, prepaid rent and other liabilities	\$	589,000	\$	1,469,000			
Financing Activities:							
Issuance of common stock under the DRIP	\$	15,782,000	\$	4,335,000			
Distributions declared but not paid	\$	6,864,000	\$	2,249,000			
Accrued offering costs	\$	2,806,000	\$	2,880,000			
Payable for issuance of common stock	\$		\$	2,412,000			
Accrued deferred financing costs	\$	14,000	\$	23,000			
Adjustment to redeemable noncontrolling interests	\$	344,000	\$				
The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed consolidated financial statements.							

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#### Grubb & Ellis Healthcare REIT, Inc. NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) For the Three and Six Months Ended June 30, 2009 and 2008

The use of the words we, us or our refers to Grubb & Ellis Healthcare REIT, Inc. and its subsidiaries, including Grubb & Ellis Healthcare REIT Holdings, L.P., except where the context otherwise requires. **1. Organization and Description of Business** 

Grubb & Ellis Healthcare REIT, Inc., (to be named Healthcare Trust of America, Inc. by August 28, 2009) a Maryland corporation, was incorporated on April 20, 2006. We were initially capitalized on April 28, 2006 and therefore we consider that our date of inception. We provide stockholders the potential for income and growth through investment in a diversified portfolio of real estate properties, focusing primarily on medical office buildings and healthcare-related facilities. We have also invested to a limited extent in commercial office properties and other real estate related assets. However, we do not presently intend to invest more than 15.0% of our total assets in other real estate related assets. We focus primarily on investments that produce recurring income. We have qualified and elected to be taxed as a real estate investment trust, or REIT, for federal income tax purposes and we intend to continue to be taxed as a REIT.

We are conducting a best efforts initial public offering, or our initial offering, in which we are offering up to 200,000,000 shares of our common stock for \$10.00 per share and up to 21,052,632 shares of our common stock pursuant to our distribution reinvestment plan, or the DRIP, at \$9.50 per share, aggregating up to \$2,200,000,000. The initial offering is currently scheduled to expire upon the earlier of September 20, 2009, or the date on which the maximum offering has been sold. As of June 30, 2009, we had received and accepted subscriptions in our initial offering for 113,819,038 shares of our common stock, or \$1,137,042,000, excluding shares of our common stock issued under the DRIP.

On April 6, 2009, we filed a Registration Statement on Form S-11 with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC, with respect to a proposed follow-on public offering, or our follow-on offering, of up to 221,052,632 shares of our common stock. Our follow-on offering would include up to 200,000,000 shares of our common stock to be offered for sale at \$10.00 per share and up to 21,052,632 shares of our common stock to be offered for sale at \$9.50 per share. We have not issued any shares under this registration statement as it has not been declared effective by the SEC. To help ensure that there is no gap between our initial offering and our follow-on offering, we intend to extend the term of our initial offering for up to an additional 180 days if the registration statement for our follow-on offering is not declared effective by the SEC on or prior to September 20, 2009, as permitted pursuant to SEC Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

We conduct substantially all of our operations through Grubb & Ellis Healthcare REIT Holdings, L.P., (to be named Healthcare Trust of America Holdings, LP by August 28, 2009), or our operating partnership. Our internal management team manages our day-to-day operations and oversees and supervises our employees and outside service providers. Grubb & Ellis Healthcare REIT Advisor, LLC, or our advisor, provides certain asset management, acquisition and other services to us pursuant to an advisory agreement, as amended and restated on November 14, 2008 and effective as of October 24, 2008, or the Advisory Agreement, between us, our advisor and Grubb & Ellis Realty Investors, LLC, or Grubb & Ellis Realty Investors, who is the managing member of our advisor. Effective July 24, 2009, our advisor no longer provides accounting services to us.

Our advisor engages affiliated entities, including but not limited to Triple Net Properties Realty, Inc., or Realty, and Grubb & Ellis Management Services, Inc. to provide various services to us, including but not limited to property management and leasing services. On July 2, 2009, we provided notice, on behalf of our wholly-owned subsidiaries, or a REIT Subsidiary, to Realty pursuant to each property management agreement entered into between a REIT Subsidiary and Realty, or Management Agreement, that each REIT Subsidiary elects to terminate its Management Agreement with Realty and proceed with a property management transition program under which Realty will cease to serve as the property manager effective as of September 1, 2009. See Note 20, Subsequent Events, for additional disclosures.

Our main objectives in amending the Advisory Agreement were to reduce acquisition and asset management fees, eliminate internalization fees, as discussed below, and to set the framework for our transition to self-management. We

started our transition to self-management in the fourth quarter of 2008. This transition is effectively completed and we consider ourselves to be self-managed. The role of our advisor has been and continues to be reduced as a result of our self-management program and our reduced need for outside advisory services. As

#### Grubb & Ellis Healthcare REIT, Inc.

#### NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) (Continued)

part of this transition, we are conducting an ongoing review of advisory services and dealer manager services, to ensure that such services have been performed consistent with applicable agreements and standards. The Advisory Agreement will expire or terminate no later than September 20, 2009.

As part of and consistent with our self-management program, we and our advisor no longer have any common officers, and none of our officers own any indirect equity interests in our advisor. Consequently, we are no longer affiliated with our advisor.

Self-management is a corporate model based on internal management rather than external management. In general, non-traded REIT s are externally managed. With external management, a REIT is dependent upon an external advisor. An externally-managed REIT typically pays acquisition fees, asset management fees, property management fees and other fees to its advisor for services provided. In contrast, under our self-management program, we are managed internally by our management team led by Scott D. Peters, our Chief Executive Officer, President and Chairman of the board of directors, under the direction of our board of directors. With a self-managed REIT, fees paid to third parties are expected to be substantially reduced. By implementing self-management, we have effectively eliminated the potential need for us to pay any fee to our advisor in the future to internalize certain of the functions that they currently provide to us.

We anticipate that the various costs of self-management will also be mitigated by the substantial reduction of the acquisition fees and the asset management fees payable to our advisor under the Advisory Agreement, as amended November 14, 2008.

As of June 30, 2009, we had purchased 43 geographically diverse properties comprising 5,487,000 square feet of gross leasable area, or GLA, and one real estate related asset, for an aggregate purchase price of \$1,043,920,000.

Our principal executive offices are located at 16427 N. Scottsdale Road, Suite 440, Scottsdale, Arizona, 85254 and the telephone number is (480) 998-3478. For investor services, please contact DST Systems, Inc, by telephone at (888) 801-0107.

#### 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The summary of significant accounting policies presented below is designed to assist in understanding our interim consolidated financial statements. Such interim consolidated financial statements and the accompanying notes thereto are the representations of our management, who are responsible for their integrity and objectivity. These accounting policies conform to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, or GAAP, in all material respects, and have been consistently applied in preparing our accompanying interim consolidated financial statements.

#### **Basis of Presentation**

Our accompanying interim consolidated financial statements include our accounts and those of our operating partnership, the wholly-owned subsidiaries of our operating partnership and any variable interest entities, as defined in Financial Accounting Standards Board Interpretation, or FIN, No. 46, *Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities, an Interpretation of Accounting Research Bulletin No. 51*, as revised, or FIN No. 46(R), that we have concluded should be consolidated. We operate in an umbrella partnership REIT structure in which wholly-owned subsidiaries of our operating partnership own all of the properties acquired on our behalf. We are the sole general partner of our operating partnership and as of June 30, 2009 and December 31, 2008, we owned greater than a 99.99% general partnership interest in our operating partnership. Our advisor is a limited partner of our operating partnership and as of June 30, 2009 and December 31, 2008, we are the sole general partnership and as of June 30, 2009 and December 31, 2008, we owned greater than a 99.99% general partnership. Our advisor may be entitled to certain subordinated distribution rights under the partnership agreement for our operating partnership, subject to a number of conditions. Because we are the sole general partner of our operating partnership and have unilateral control over its management and major operating partnership are consolidated in our consolidated financial statements. All intercompany accounts of our operating partnership are consolidated in our consolidated financial statements. All intercompany accounts and transactions are eliminated in consolidation. *Interim Unaudited Financial Data* 

Our accompanying interim consolidated financial statements have been prepared by us in accordance with GAAP in conjunction with the rules and regulations of the SEC. Certain information and footnote disclosures required for annual financial statements have been condensed or excluded pursuant to SEC rules and regulations. Accordingly, our accompanying interim consolidated financial statements do not include all of the information and

#### Grubb & Ellis Healthcare REIT, Inc.

#### NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) (Continued)

footnotes required by GAAP for complete financial statements. Our accompanying interim consolidated financial statements reflect all adjustments, which are, in our opinion, of a normal recurring nature and necessary for a fair presentation of our financial position, results of operations and cash flows for the interim period. Interim results of operations are not necessarily indicative of the results to be expected for the full year; such results may be less favorable. Our accompanying interim consolidated financial statements should be read in conjunction with our audited consolidated financial statements and the notes thereto included in our 2008 Annual Report on Form 10-K, as filed with the SEC on March 27, 2009.

#### Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents consist of all highly liquid investments with a maturity of three months or less when purchased. Cash and cash equivalents of \$390,479,000 and \$128,331,000, includes approximately \$358,722,000 and \$0 in short-term U.S. Treasury bills as of June 30, 2009 and December 31, 2008, respectively. We account for short-term investments in accordance with the Financial Accounting Standards Board, or the FASB, Statement of Financial Accounting Standards, or SFAS, No. 115, *Accounting for Certain Investments in Debt and Equity Securities*. We determine the appropriate classification of all short-term investments as held-to-maturity, available-for-sale, or trading at the time of purchase and re-evaluate such classification as of each balance sheet date. The U.S. Treasury bills are considered held-to-maturity as of June 30, 2009 and matured in July 2009. *Segment Disclosure* 

The FASB issued SFAS No. 131, *Disclosures about Segments of an Enterprise and Related Information*, which establishes standards for reporting financial and descriptive information about an enterprise s reportable segments. We have determined that we have one reportable segment, with activities related to investing in medical office buildings, healthcare-related facilities, commercial office properties and other real estate related assets. Our investments in real estate and other real estate related assets are geographically diversified and our chief operating decision maker, Scott D. Peters, Chief Executive Officer and President, evaluates operating performance on an individual asset level. As each of our assets has similar economic characteristics, tenants, and products and services, our assets have been aggregated into one reportable segment.

#### **Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements**

In September 2006, the FASB issued SFAS No. 157, Fair Value Measurements, or SFAS No. 157. SFAS No. 157, which has been applied to other accounting pronouncements that require or permit fair value measurements, defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value in generally accepted accounting principles and provides for expanded disclosure about fair value measurements. SFAS No. 157 was issued to increase consistency and comparability in fair value measurements and to expand disclosures about fair value measurements. In February 2008, the FASB issued FASB Staff Position, or FSP, SFAS No. 157-1, Application of FASB Statement No. 157 to FASB Statement No. 13 and Other Accounting Pronouncements That Address Fair Value Measurements for Purposes of Lease Classification or Measurement Under Statement 13, or FSP SFAS No. 157-1. FSP SFAS No. 157-1 excludes from the scope of SFAS No. 157 certain leasing transactions accounted for under SFAS No. 13, Accounting for Leases. In February 2008, the FASB also issued FSP SFAS No. 157-2, Effective Date of FASB Statement No. 157, or FSP SFAS No. 157-2, FSP SFAS No. 157-2 defers the effective date of SFAS No. 157 for all non-financial assets and non-financial liabilities, except those that are recognized or disclosed at fair value in the financial statements on a recurring basis, to fiscal years beginning after November 1, 2008. In October 2008, the FASB issued FSP SFAS No. 157-3, Determining the Fair Value of a Financial Asset When the Market for That Asset Is Not Active, or FSP SFAS No. 157-3. FSP SFAS No. 157-3 amends SFAS No. 157 by providing an example to illustrate key considerations and the emphasis on measurement principles when applying SFAS No. 157 to financial assets when the market for those financial assets is not active. We adopted SFAS No. 157 and FSP SFAS No. 157-1 on a prospective basis on January 1, 2008. The adoption of SFAS No. 157 and FSP SFAS No. 157-1 did not have a material impact on our consolidated financial statements except with regards to enhanced disclosures (see Note 8, Derivative Financial Instruments). We adopted FSP SFAS No. 157-2 on a prospective basis on January 1, 2009. The implementation of FSP SFAS No. 157-2 did not have a material effect on the methods or processes we use to value these non-financial

assets and non-financial liabilities or information disclosed. We adopted FSP SFAS No. 157-3 upon issuance, which did not have a material impact on our consolidated financial statements.

FSP FAS No. 157-4, Determining Fair Value When the Volume and Level of Activity for the Asset or Liability Have Significantly Decreased and Identifying Transactions That Are Not Orderly, relates to determining fair values

#### Grubb & Ellis Healthcare REIT, Inc.

#### NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) (Continued)

when there is no active market or where the price inputs being used represent distressed sales. It reaffirms what SFAS No. 157 states is the objective of fair value measurement to reflect how much an asset would be sold for in an orderly transaction (as opposed to a distressed or forced transaction) at the date of the financial statements under current market conditions. Specifically, it reaffirms the need to use judgment to ascertain if a formerly active market has become inactive and in determining fair values when markets have become inactive. We have adopted this guidance in making our fair value measurements as of January 1, 2009, and it did not have a significant impact on those measurements.

In December 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 141(R), Business Combinations, or SFAS No. 141(R), and SFAS No. 160, Noncontrolling Interests in Consolidated Financial Statements An Amendment of ARB No. 51, or SFAS No. 160. SFAS No. 141(R) and SFAS No. 160 significantly changed the accounting for, and reporting of, business combination transactions and noncontrolling (minority) interests in consolidated financial statements. SFAS No. 141(R) requires an acquiring entity to recognize acquired assets and liabilities assumed in a transaction at fair value as of the acquisition date, changes the disclosure requirements for business combination transactions and changes the accounting treatment for certain items, including contingent consideration agreements which are required to be recorded at acquisition date fair value and acquisition costs which are required to be expensed as incurred. SFAS No. 160 requires that noncontrolling interests be presented as a component of consolidated stockholders equity, eliminates minority interest accounting such that the amount of net income attributable to the noncontrolling interests are presented as part of consolidated net income in our accompanying consolidated statements of operations and not as a separate component of income and expense, and requires that upon any changes in ownership that result in the loss of control of the subsidiary, the noncontrolling interest be re-measured at fair value with the resultant gain or loss recorded in net income. SFAS No. 141(R) and SFAS No. 160 require simultaneous adoption and are to be applied prospectively for the first annual reporting period beginning on or after December 15, 2008. Early adoption of either standard is prohibited. We have adopted SFAS No. 141(R) on a prospective basis on January 1, 2009. The adoption of SFAS No. 141(R) has a material impact on our results of operations when we acquire real estate properties. We have adopted SFAS No. 160 on a prospective basis on January 1, 2009, except for the presentation and disclosure requirements which were applied retrospectively for all periods presented. The adoption of SFAS No. 160 had an impact on the presentation and disclosure of noncontrolling (minority) interests in our condensed consolidated financial statements. As a result of the retrospective presentation and disclosure requirements of SFAS No. 160, we are required to reflect the change in presentation and disclosure for all periods presented. The principal effect on the consolidated balance sheet as of December 31, 2008 related to the adoption of SFAS No. 160 was the change in presentation of the mezzanine section of the minority interest of limited partner in operating partnership of \$1,000 and the minority interest of limited partner of \$1,950,000, as previously reported, to redeemable noncontrolling interest of limited partners of \$1,951,000, as reported herein. Additionally, the adoption of SFAS No. 160 had the effect of reclassifying (income) loss attributable to noncontrolling interest in the consolidated statements of operations from minority interest to separate line items. SFAS No. 160 also requires that net income (loss) be adjusted to include the net income attributable to the noncontrolling interest, and a new line item for net income attributable to controlling interest be presented in the condensed consolidated statements of operations. Thus, after adoption of SFAS No. 160 net income for the three months ended June 30, 2008 of \$326,000, as previously reported, changed to net income of \$514,000, as reported herein, and net income attributable to controlld interest rates as certain of our borrowings, including borrowings under our term loan facilities are at variable rates;

making it more difficult for us to make payments on our indebtedness;

restricting us from making strategic acquisitions or causing us to make non-strategic divestitures;

subjecting us to restrictive covenants that may limit our flexibility in operating our business; and

limiting our ability to obtain additional financing for working capital, capital expenditures, debt service requirements and general corporate or other purposes.

# If our cash from operations is not sufficient to meet our current or future operating needs, expenditures and debt service obligations, our business, financial condition and results of operations may be materially adversely affected.

Our ability to generate cash to meet our operating needs, expenditures and debt service obligations will depend on our future performance and financial condition, which will be affected by financial, business, economic legislative, regulatory and other factors, including potential changes in costs, pricing, the success of product innovation and marketing, competitive pressure and consumer preferences. If our cash flow and capital resources are insufficient to fund our debt service obligations and other cash needs, we could face substantial liquidity problems and could be forced to reduce or delay investments and capital expenditures or to dispose of material assets or operations, seek additional debt or equity capital or restructure or refinance our indebtedness. Our revolving credit facility and our term loan facilities restrict our ability to take these actions and we may not be able to affect any such alternative measures on commercially reasonable terms or at all. If we cannot make scheduled payments on our debt, the lenders under our senior secured credit facilities can terminate their commitments to loan money, can declare all outstanding principal and interest to be due and payable and foreclose against the assets securing their borrowings and we could be forced into bankruptcy or liquidation. In addition, any downgrade of our debt ratings by any of the major rating agencies, which could result from our financial performance, acquisitions or other factors, would also negatively impact our access to additional debt financing (including leasing) or refinancing on favorable terms, or at all. Even if we are successful in taking any such alternative actions, such actions may not allow us to meet our scheduled debt service obligations and, as a result, our business, financial condition and results of operations may be materially adversely affected.

## Failure to protect our intellectual property could harm our competitive position or require us to incur significant expenses to enforce our rights.

Our trademarks such as Blue Buffalo, LifeSource Bits, Life Protection Formula, BLUE Wilderness, BLUE Basice BLUE Freedom, BLUE Naturally Fresh, and BLUE Natural Veterinary Diet along with the BLUE shield logo, the Blue Buffalo figure logo and the tag line Love them like family. Feed them like family. are valuable assets that support our brand and consumers perception of our products. We rely on trademark, copyright, trade secret, patent and other intellectual property laws, as well as nondisclosure and confidentiality agreements and other methods, to protect our trademarks, trade names, proprietary information, technologies and processes. Our non-disclosure agreements and confidentiality agreements may not effectively

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prevent disclosure of our proprietary information, technologies and processes and may not provide an adequate remedy in the event of unauthorized disclosure of such information, which could harm our competitive position. In addition, effective patent, copyright, trademark and trade secret protection may be unavailable or limited for some of our trademarks, inventions and other proprietary information and patents in some foreign countries. We may need to engage in litigation or similar activities to enforce our intellectual property rights, to protect our trade secrets or to determine the validity and scope of proprietary rights of others. Further, third parties may also engage in litigation or similar activities to expend significant resources and divert the efforts and attention of our management and other personnel from our business operations. If we fail to protect our intellectual property, our business, financial condition and results of operations may be materially adversely affected.

## We may be subject to intellectual property infringement claims or other allegations, which could result in substantial damages and diversion of management s efforts and attention.

We have obligations with respect to the non-use and non-disclosure of third-party intellectual property. The steps we take to prevent misappropriation, infringement or other violation of the intellectual property of others may not be successful. From time to time, third parties have asserted intellectual property infringement claims against us and our customers and may continue to do so in the future. While we believe that our products do not infringe in any material respect upon proprietary rights of other parties and/or that meritorious defenses would exist with respect to any assertions to the contrary, we may from time to time be found to infringe on the proprietary rights of others. For example, patent applications in the United States and some foreign countries are generally not publicly disclosed until the patent is issued or published and we may not be aware of currently filed patent applications that relate to our products or processes. If patents later issue on these applications, we may be found liable for subsequent infringement.

Any claims that our products or processes infringe these rights, regardless of their merit or resolution, could be costly and may divert the efforts and attention of our management and technical personnel. We may not prevail in such proceedings given the complex technical issues and inherent uncertainties in intellectual property litigation. If such proceedings result in an adverse outcome, we could, among other things, be required to:

pay substantial damages (potentially treble damages in the United States);

cease the manufacture, use or sale of the infringing products;

discontinue the use of the infringing processes;

expend significant resources to develop non-infringing processes; and

enter into licensing arrangements from the third party claiming infringement, which may not be available on commercially reasonable terms, or may not be available at all.

If any of the foregoing occurs, our ability to compete could be affected or our business, financial condition and results of operations may be materially adversely affected.

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## A failure of one or more key information technology systems, networks, or processes may materially adversely affect our ability to conduct our business.

The efficient operation of our business depends on our information technology systems. We rely on our information technology systems to effectively manage our sales and marketing, accounting and financial and legal and compliance functions, engineering and product development tasks, research and development data, communications, supply chain, order entry and fulfillment and other business processes. The failure of our information technology systems to perform as we anticipate could disrupt our business and could result in transaction errors, processing inefficiencies and the loss of sales and customers, causing our business and results of operations to suffer. In addition, our information technology systems may be vulnerable to damage or interruption from circumstances beyond our control, including fire, natural disasters, power outages, systems

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failures, security breaches, cyber-attacks and computer viruses. The failure of our information technology systems to perform as we anticipate or our failure to effectively implement new systems could disrupt our entire operation and could result in decreased sales, increased overhead costs, excess inventory and product shortages and a loss of important information. Further, to the extent that we may have customer information in our databases, any unauthorized disclosure of, or access to, such information could result in claims under data protection laws and regulations. If any of these risks materialize, our reputation and our ability to conduct our business may be materially adversely affected.

## We are subject to extensive governmental regulation and we may incur material costs in order to comply with existing or future laws and regulation, and our failure to comply may result in enforcement, recalls and other adverse actions.

We are subject to a broad range of federal, state and local laws and regulations intended to protect public health, natural resources and the environment. See Business Government Regulation in our Annual Report and incorporated by reference into this prospectus. Our operations are subject to regulation by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, the FDA, the Department of Agriculture, or USDA, and by various state, local and foreign authorities regarding the processing, packaging, storage, distribution, advertising, labeling and export of our products, including food safety standards.

Among other regulatory requirements, the FDA reviews the inclusion of specific claims in pet food labeling, such as claims regarding hairball control. We currently produce pet food products, such as cat food with hairball management claims, which undergo FDA pre-market review. These products, as well as other of our products, such as those in our BLUE Natural Veterinary Diet line, provide all or most of the nutrients in support of an animal s total daily nutrient needs but are also labeled and marketed with claims that may suggest that they are intended to treat or prevent disease, thereby potentially meeting the statutory definitions of both a food and a drug. The FDA recently issued guidance containing a list of specific factors it will consider in determining whether to initiate enforcement action against such products if they do not comply with the regulatory requirements applicable to drugs. These factors include, among other things, whether the product is only made available through or under the direction of a veterinarian and does not present a known safety risk when used as labeled. While we believe that we market our products in compliance with the policy articulated in FDA s guidance and in other claim-specific guidance, the FDA may disagree or may classify some of our products differently than we do, and may impose more stringent regulations which could lead to alleged regulatory violations, enforcement actions and product recalls. For example, a manufacturer of animal drugs must comply with the FDA s Good Manufacturing Practices, or GMPs, for the manufacture of pharmaceutical products and is subject to FDA inspection to confirm its compliance. In addition, we may produce more products that may be subject to FDA pre-market review, including new products we introduce to the Therapeutic market segment.

The FDA Food Safety Modernization Act provides direct recall authority to the FDA and includes a number of other provisions designed to enhance food safety, including increased inspections by the FDA of domestic and foreign food facilities and increased review of food products imported into the United States. In addition to periodic government agency inspections affecting our operations generally, our operations, which produce meat and poultry products, are subject to mandatory continuous on-site inspections by the USDA. The FSMA also mandates that the FDA adopt preventative controls to be implemented by pet food facilities in order to minimize or prevent hazards to food safety. Under the FSMA, the FDA finalized the Current Good Manufacturing Practice, Hazard Analysis, and Risk-Based Preventive Controls for Food for Animals on September 17, 2015. The final rule has staggered compliance dates based on the business size. There are two components of the final rule with different compliance dates including CGMP requirements and the Preventive Controls. Blue Buffalo must be in compliance with the CGMP by September 2016 and with the Preventive Controls by September 2017. The FDA has also finalized the Foreign Supplier Verification Program (FSVP) on November 27, 2015. The compliance date is July 2017. The third relevant regulation

recently finalized is the Sanitary Transportation of Human and Animal Food. We believe we are prepared and expect to be in compliance for all three regulations as they come into force.

Complying with government regulation can be costly or may otherwise adversely affect our business. Our business is also affected by import and export controls and similar laws and regulations, both in the United States and elsewhere. Issues such as national security or health and safety, which may slow or otherwise restrict imports or exports, may adversely affect our business. Violations of or liability under any of these laws and regulations may result in administrative, civil or criminal penalties against us, revocation or modification of applicable permits, environmental investigations or remedial activities, voluntary or involuntary product recalls, warning or untitled letters or cease and desist orders against operations that are not in compliance, among other things. These laws and regulations may change in the future and we may incur (directly, or indirectly through our contract manufacturers) material costs to comply with current or future laws and regulatory requirements, including compliance with the environmental, health and safety laws and regulations administered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, or the EPA, state environmental regulatory agencies (including the Missouri Department of Natural Resources) and the National Labor Relations Board. Such laws and regulations generally have become more stringent over time and may become more so in the future. Costs of compliance, and the impacts on us of any non-compliance, with any such laws and regulations could materially adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations.

There is no single U.S. government regulated definition of the term natural for use in the pet food industry. On November 10, 2015, the FDA requested public comments on the use of the term natural in the labeling of human food products. Comments were due on or before May 10, 2016. It is unclear whether FDA will engage in rulemaking after the close of the comment period and, if so, whether any resulting regulation would impact the pet food industry.

Currently, many states in the United States have adopted the AAFCO definition of the term natural with respect to the pet food industry, which means no synthetic additives or synthetic processing except vitamins, minerals or certain trace nutrients, and only ingredients that are derived solely from plant, animal or mined sources. Certain groups and individuals have proposed requiring pet food labeling to disclose the presence or use of genetically modified organisms, or GMOs. We may incur material costs to comply with any new GMO-labeling requirements, and could be subject to liabilities if we fail to timely comply. If any of these changes materialize, our reputation, business, financial condition and results of operations may be materially adversely affected.

Our operations are also subject to the laws of, and regulation by governmental authorities in, Canada, including the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, and provincial and local regulations; Mexico, including the Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fisheries and Food; and Japan, including the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries and the Ministry of the Environment.

## Adverse litigation judgments or settlements resulting from legal proceedings relating to our business operations could materially adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations.

From time to time, we are subject to allegations, and may be party to legal claims and regulatory proceedings, relating to our business operations. Such allegations, claims and proceedings may be brought by third parties, including our customers, employees, governmental or regulatory bodies or competitors. Defending against such claims and proceedings is costly and time consuming and may divert management s attention and personnel resources from our normal business operations, and the outcome of many of these claims and proceedings cannot be predicted. If any of these claims or proceedings were to be determined adversely to us, a judgment, a fine or a settlement involving a payment of a material sum of money were to occur, or injunctive relief were issued against us, our business, financial condition and results of operations could be materially adversely affected. For example, in December 2015, we entered into a settlement agreement with respect to the U.S. consumer class action lawsuits related to the Nestlé Purina proceedings and agreed to pay \$32.0 million into a settlement fund to resolve all such class action lawsuits.

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## Our success depends on our ability to attract and retain key employees and the succession of senior management as well as team members within stores.

Our continued growth and success requires us to hire, retain and develop our leadership bench. If we are unable to attract and retain talented, highly qualified senior management and other key executives, as well as provide for the succession of senior management, our growth and results of operations may be adversely impacted.

Our success also depends on our ability to continue to attract, motivate and retain employees who understand and appreciate our culture and are able to represent our brand effectively, including our Pet Detectives who interact with consumers in stores. If we are unable to attract, train and retain new employees and new team members to act as Pet Detectives, this could delay or prevent the implementation of our business strategy and in turn, lead to fewer sales of our products. In addition, we have in the past been a defendant in a purported class action by former and current Pet Detectives, which alleged certain violations of wage and labor laws in California and Oregon, and we may be subject to other claims in the future.

#### Risks Related to this Offering and Ownership of our Common Stock

## We are a controlled company within the meaning of NASDAQ rules and, as a result, qualify for exemptions from certain corporate governance requirements.

Together, our Sponsor and The Bishop Family Limited Partnership constitute a group that controls, and, after completion of this offering, will continue to control a majority of the voting power of our outstanding common stock. Under NASDAQ rules a listed company of which more than 50% of the voting power for the election of directors is held by another person or group of persons acting together is a controlled company and such a company may elect not to comply with certain NASDAQ corporate governance requirements, including the requirement (1) that a majority of the Board of Directors consist of independent directors, (2) to have a compensation committee that is composed entirely of independent director with a written charter addressing the committee s purpose and responsibilities and (3) that our director nominations be made, or recommended to the full Board of Directors and that we adopt a written charter or board resolution addressing the nominations process. We have elected to be treated as a controlled company. Accordingly, our stockholders may not have the same protections afforded to stockholders of companies that are subject to all of the NASDAQ corporate governance requirements.

## Our Sponsor controls us and, after consummation of this offering, will continue to effectively control us, and its interests may conflict with yours in the future.

Immediately following this offering, our Sponsor will beneficially own approximately 44.5% of our common stock. Our Sponsor will effectively control us and will effectively be able to control the election and removal of our directors and thereby determine our corporate and management policies, including potential mergers or acquisitions, payment of dividends, asset sales, amendment of our amended and restated certificate of incorporation or amended and restated bylaws and other significant corporate transactions for so long as our Sponsor and its affiliates retain significant ownership of us. This concentration of our ownership may delay or deter possible changes in control of the Company, which may reduce the value of an investment in our common stock. So long as our Sponsor continues to own a significant amount of our combined voting power, our Sponsor will continue to be able to strongly influence or effectively control our decisions and, so long as our Sponsor and its affiliates collectively own at least 5% of all outstanding shares of our stock entitled to vote generally in the election of directors, it will be able to appoint individuals to our Board of Directors under the amended and restated investor rights agreement we have entered into with the Sponsor. See the section entitled Certain Relationships and Related Party Transactions in our Definitive

Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A, filed with the SEC on April 19, 2016 (File No. 001-37510) (the Proxy Statement ), which section is incorporated by reference

into this prospectus. The interests of our Sponsor may not coincide with the interests of other holders of our common stock.

In the ordinary course of their business activities, our Sponsor and its affiliates may engage in activities where their interests conflict with our interests or those of our stockholders. Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation provides that none of our Sponsor, any of its affiliates or any director who is not employed by us (including any non-employee director who serves as one of our officers in both his director and officer capacities) or his or her affiliates will have any duty to refrain from engaging, directly or indirectly, in the same business activities or similar business activities or lines of business in which we operate. Our Sponsor also may pursue acquisition opportunities that may be complementary to our business and, as a result, those acquisition opportunities may not be available to us. In addition, our Sponsor may have an interest in pursuing acquisitions, divestitures and other transactions that, in its judgment, could enhance its investment, even though such transactions might involve risks to you.

## We have incurred and will continue to incur increased costs, and are subject to additional regulations and requirements as a result of being a public company, and our management will be required to devote substantial time to new compliance matters, which could lower our profits or make it more difficult to run our business.

As a public company, we have incurred and will continue to incur significant legal, accounting and other expenses that we did not incur as a private company, including costs associated with public company reporting requirements and costs of recruiting and retaining non-executive directors. We also have incurred and will incur costs associated with the Sarbanes-Oxley Act and related rules implemented by the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC, and NASDAQ. The expenses incurred by public companies generally for reporting and corporate governance purposes have been increasing. These rules and regulations have increased, and will continue to increase, our legal and financial compliance costs and make some activities more time-consuming and costly. Our management will need to devote a substantial amount of time to ensure that we comply with all of these requirements. These laws and regulations also could make it more difficult or costly for us to obtain certain types of insurance, including director and officer liability insurance, and we may be forced to accept reduced policy limits and coverage or incur substantially higher costs to obtain the same or similar coverage. These laws and regulations could also make it more difficult for us to attract and retain qualified persons to serve on our Board of Directors, our board committees or as our executive officers. Furthermore, if we are unable to satisfy our obligations as a public company, we could be subject to delisting of our common stock, fines, sanctions and other regulatory action and potentially civil litigation.

## The market price of shares or our common stock may be volatile, which could cause the value of your investment to decline.

The trading price of our common stock has been, and may continue to be, volatile. Securities markets worldwide experience significant price and volume fluctuations. This market volatility, as well as general economic, market or political conditions, could reduce the market price of shares of our common stock in spite of our operating performance. In addition, our results of operations could be below the expectations of public market analysts and investors due to a number of potential factors, including variations in our quarterly results of operations, additions or departures of key management personnel, failure to meet analysts earnings estimates, publication of research reports about our industry, litigation and government investigations, changes or proposed changes in laws or regulations or differing interpretations or enforcement thereof affecting our business, adverse market reaction to any indebtedness we may incur or securities we may issue in the future, changes in market valuations of similar companies or speculation in the press or investment community, announcements by our competitors of significant contracts, acquisitions, dispositions, strategic partnerships, joint ventures or capital commitments, adverse publicity about our industry or individual scandals, and in response the market price of shares of our common stock could decrease significantly. You may be unable to resell your shares of common stock at or above the public offering price.

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In the past few years, stock markets have experienced extreme price and volume fluctuations. In the past, following periods of volatility in the overall market and the market price of a company s securities, securities class action litigation has often been instituted against these companies. This litigation, if instituted against us, could result in substantial costs and a diversion of our management s attention and resources, or at all.

# If we are unable to implement and maintain effective internal control over financial reporting in the future, investors may lose confidence in the accuracy and completeness of our financial reports and the market price of our common stock may be negatively affected.

As a public company, we are required to maintain internal controls over financial reporting and to report any material weaknesses in such internal controls. In addition, beginning with our annual report on Form 10-K for 2016, we will be required to furnish a report by management on the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting pursuant to Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act and our independent registered public accountants will be required to attest to the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting, pursuant to Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act and our independent registered public accountants will be required to attest to the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting, pursuant to Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act. At such time, our independent registered public accounting firm may issue a report that is adverse in the event it is not satisfied with the level at which our internal control over financial reporting is documented, designed or operating.

The process of designing, implementing, and testing the internal control over financial reporting required to comply with this obligation is time-consuming, costly, and complicated. If we identify material weaknesses in our internal control over financial reporting, if we are unable to comply with the requirements of Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act in a timely manner or to assert that our internal control over financial reporting is effective, or if our independent registered public accounting firm is unable to express an opinion as to the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting, investors may lose confidence in the accuracy and completeness of our financial reports and the market price of our common stock could be negatively affected, and we could become subject to investigations by the NASDAQ, the SEC, or other regulatory authorities, which could require additional financial and management resources.

## Because we have no current plans to pay cash dividends on our common stock, you may not receive any return on investment unless you sell your common stock for a price greater than that which you paid for it.

We have no current plans to pay cash dividends on our common stock. The declaration, amount and payment of any future dividends will be at the sole discretion of our Board of Directors. Our Board of Directors may take into account general and economic conditions, our financial condition and results of operations, our available cash and current and anticipated cash needs, capital requirements, contractual, legal, tax and regulatory restrictions and implications on the payment of dividends by us to our stockholders or by our subsidiaries to us, including restrictions under our senior secured credit facilities and other indebtedness we may incur, and such other factors as our Board of Directors may deem relevant.

## Blue Buffalo Pet Products, Inc. is a holding company with no operations of its own and, as such, it depends on its subsidiaries for cash to fund all of its operations and expenses, including future dividend payments, if any.

Our operations are conducted almost entirely through our subsidiaries and our ability to generate cash to meet our debt service obligations or to make future dividend payments, if any, is highly dependent on the earnings and the receipt of funds from our subsidiaries via dividends or intercompany loans. We do not currently expect to declare or pay dividends on our common stock for the foreseeable future; however, to the extent that we determine in the future to pay dividends on our common stock, the credit agreement governing our revolving credit facility significantly restricts the ability of our subsidiaries to pay dividends or otherwise transfer assets to us. In addition, Delaware law may

impose requirements that may restrict our ability to pay dividends to holders of our common stock.

## You may be diluted by the future issuance of additional common stock in connection with our incentive plans, acquisitions or otherwise.

As of September 6, 2016 we had approximately 1,304 million shares of common stock authorized but unissued. Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation authorizes us to issue these shares of common stock and options relating to common stock for the consideration and on the terms and conditions established by our Board of Directors in its sole discretion, whether in connection with acquisitions or otherwise. We have reserved shares for issuance under the 2012 Plan and the 2015 Plan. See the section entitled Executive Compensation in our Proxy Statement, which section is incorporated by reference into this prospectus. Any common stock that we issue, including under the 2012 Plan, the 2015 Plan or other equity incentive plans that we may adopt in the future, would dilute the percentage ownership held by the investors who purchase common stock in this offering.

### Future sales, or the perception of future sales, by us or our existing stockholders in the public market following this offering could cause the market price for our common stock to decline.

The sale of a substantial number of shares of our common stock in the public market, or the perception that such sales could occur, including sales by our Sponsor, could harm the prevailing market price of shares of our common stock. These sales, or the possibility that these sales may occur, also might make it more difficult for us to sell equity securities in the future at a time and at a price that we deem appropriate. Upon completion of this offering we will have a total of 196,494,867 shares of our common stock outstanding. After the expiration or earlier waiver or termination of the lockup periods described below, a significant portion of outstanding shares will be freely tradable without restriction or further registration under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or Securities Act, except that any shares held by our affiliates, as that term is defined under Rule 144 of the Securities Act, may be sold only in compliance with the limitations set forth in Rule 144 of the Securities Act.

In connection with this offering, we, our executive officers, directors and the selling stockholders, who, immediately after this offering, will collectively hold 103,689,856 shares of common stock (including options exercisable within 60 days of September 6, 2016), will sign lock-up agreements with the underwriter that will, subject to certain customary exceptions, restrict the sale of the shares of our common stock and certain other securities held by them for 60 days following the date of this prospectus. may, in its sole discretion and at any time without notice, release all or any portion of the shares or securities subject to any such lock-up agreements. See Underwriting for a description of these lock-up agreements.

Upon the expiration of the lock-up agreements described above, all of such 103,689,856 shares (including options exercisable within 60 days of September 6, 2016) will be eligible for resale in a public market, subject, in the case of shares held by our affiliates, to volume, manner of sale and other limitations under Rule 144. We expect that our Sponsor will continue to be considered an affiliate 60 days after this offering based on their expected share ownership (consisting of 87,460,875 shares), as well as their board nomination rights. Certain other of our stockholders may also be considered affiliates at that time. In addition, pursuant to an amended and restated investor rights agreement, we have granted our Sponsor the right, subject to certain conditions, to require us to register the sale of its shares of our common stock under the Securities Act. See the section entitled Certain Relationships and Related Party Transactions in our Proxy Statement, which section is incorporated by reference into this prospectus. Prior to this offering, our Sponsor owned 99,972,999 shares of our common stock and, immediately after this offering, will own 87,460,875 shares.

As of September 6, 2016, 4,554,423 shares of our common stock were issuable upon exercise or settlement of equity awards under the 2012 Plan and the 2015 Plan, and an aggregate of 7,932,110 shares of our common stock were made available for future issuance under such plans. We have filed a registration statement on Form S-8 under the Securities

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Act to register shares of our common stock or securities convertible into or exchangeable for shares of our common stock issued pursuant to the 2012 Plan and the 2015 Plan. All shares registered under such registration statements will be available for sale in the open market.

As restrictions on resale ends or if our Sponsor exercises its registration rights, the market price of our shares of common stock could drop significantly if the holders of these restricted shares sell them or are perceived by the market as intending to sell them. These factors could also make it more difficult for us to raise additional funds through future offerings of our shares of common stock or other securities.

## Anti-takeover provisions in our organizational documents and Delaware law might discourage or delay acquisition attempts for us that you might consider favorable.

Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and amended and restated bylaws contain provisions that may make the merger or acquisition of the Company more difficult without the approval of our Board of Directors. Among other things:

although we do not have a stockholder rights plan, these provisions allow us to authorize the issuance of undesignated preferred stock in connection with a stockholder rights plan or otherwise, the terms of which may be established and the shares of which may be issued without stockholder approval, and which may include super voting, special approval, dividend, or other rights or preferences superior to the rights of the holders of common stock;

these provisions provide for a classified Board of Directors with staggered three-year terms;

these provisions require advance notice for nominations of directors by stockholders and for stockholders to include matters to be considered at our annual meetings;

these provisions prohibit stockholder action by written consent from and after the date on which our Sponsor, The Bishop Family Limited Partnership, or The Bishop Family Partnership, and their affiliates beneficially own, in the aggregate, less than 40% of our outstanding shares of common stock;

these provisions provide for the removal of directors only for cause and only upon affirmative vote of holders of at least 66 2/3% of the shares of common stock entitled to vote generally in the election of directors if our Sponsor, The Bishop Family Partnership and their affiliates beneficially own, in the aggregate, less than 40% of our outstanding shares of common stock; and

these provisions require the amendment of certain provisions only by the affirmative vote of at least 66 2/3% of the shares of common stock entitled to vote generally in the election of directors if our Sponsor, The Bishop Family Partnership and their affiliates beneficially own, in the aggregate, less than 40% of our outstanding shares of common stock.

Further, as a Delaware corporation, we are also subject to provisions of Delaware law, which may impair a takeover attempt that our stockholders may find beneficial. These anti-takeover provisions and other provisions under Delaware law could discourage, delay or prevent a transaction involving a change in control of the Company, including actions that our stockholders may deem advantageous, or negatively affect the trading price of our common stock. These provisions could also discourage proxy contests and make it more difficult for you and other stockholders to elect

directors of your choosing and to cause us to take other corporate actions you desire.

# Our Board of Directors is authorized to issue and designate shares of our preferred stock in additional series without stockholder approval.

Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation authorizes our Board of Directors, without the approval of our stockholders, to issue 150 million shares of our preferred stock, subject to limitations prescribed by applicable law, rules and regulations and the provisions of our amended and restated certificate of incorporation, as shares of preferred stock in series, to establish from time to time the number of shares to be included in each such series and to fix the designation, powers, preferences and rights of the shares of each such series and the qualifications, limitations or restrictions thereof. The powers, preferences and rights of these additional series of preferred stock may be senior to or on parity with our common stock, which may reduce its value.

### SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus includes or incorporates by reference forward-looking statements that reflect our current views with respect to, among other things, our operations and financial performance. These forward-looking statements are included or incorporated by reference throughout this prospectus, and relate to matters such as our industry, business strategy, goals and expectations concerning our market position, future operations, margins, profitability, capital expenditures, liquidity and capital resources and other financial and operating information. We have used the words believe. expect, anticipate, assume, continue, could, estimate, intend. may, plan, potential, seek. foreseeable and similar terms and phrases to identify forward-looking statements in this prospectus.

The forward-looking statements contained in, or incorporated by reference into, this prospectus are based on management s current expectations and are subject to uncertainty and changes in circumstances. We cannot assure you that future developments affecting us will be those that we have anticipated. Actual results may differ materially from these expectations due to changes in global, regional or local economic, business, competitive, market, regulatory and other factors, many of which are beyond our control. We believe that these factors include but are not limited to those described under Risk Factors, including the following:

We may not be able to successfully implement our growth strategy on a timely basis or at all;

The growth of our business depends on our ability to accurately predict consumer trends and demand and successfully introduce new products and product line extensions, improve existing products and offer our products at attractive price points;

Any damage to our reputation or our brand could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, and results of operations;

Our growth and business are dependent on trends that may change or not continue, and our historical growth may not be indicative of our future growth;

There may be decreased spending on pets in a challenging economic climate;

Our business depends, in part, on the sufficiency and effectiveness of our marketing and trade promotion programs;

If we are unable to maintain or increase prices, our margins may decrease;

We are dependent on a relatively limited number of customers for a significant portion of our sales;

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We rely upon a limited number of contract manufacturers to provide a significant portion of our supply of products; and

We are involved in litigation with Nestlé Purina PetCare Company, including false advertising claims relating to the ingredients contained in our pet food. Regardless of whether we are successful in our defense of these claims or in our counter claims, this litigation may adversely affect our brand, reputation, business, financial condition and results of operations.

These factors should not be construed as exhaustive and should be read in conjunction with the other cautionary statements that are included or incorporated by reference into this prospectus. Should one or more of these risks or uncertainties materialize, or should any of our assumptions prove incorrect, our actual results may vary in material respects from those projected in these forward-looking statements.

Any forward-looking statement made by us in this prospectus or incorporated by reference into this prospectus speaks only as of the date of this prospectus. Factors or events that could cause our actual results to differ may emerge from time to time, and it is not possible for us to predict all of them. We may not actually achieve the plans, intentions or expectations disclosed in our forward-looking statements and you should not place undue reliance on our forward-looking statements. Our forward-looking statements do not reflect the

potential impact of any future acquisitions, mergers, dispositions, joint ventures, investments or other strategic transactions we may make. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or review any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future developments or otherwise, except as may be required by any applicable securities laws.

## **USE OF PROCEEDS**

The selling stockholders are selling 14,300,000 shares of our common stock in this offering. See Selling Stockholders and Underwriting. We will not receive any proceeds from the sale of shares of our common stock in this offering by the selling stockholders. However, we will pay certain expenses, other than underwriting discounts and commissions, associated with this offering pursuant to the registration rights provisions contained in the Investor Rights Agreement. See the section entitled Certain Relationships and Related Party Transactions included in our Proxy Statement, which section is incorporated by reference into this prospectus.

## PRICE RANGE OF COMMON STOCK

Our common stock began trading publicly on the NASDAQ under the symbol BUFF on July 22, 2015. Prior to that date, there was no public trading market for our common stock.

The following table sets forth the high and low sale prices per share of our common stock on the NASDAQ for the periods indicated:

	High	Low
2015		
Third Quarter (from July 22, 2015, date of initial trading)	\$28.80	\$17.61
Fourth Quarter	\$ 20.96	\$16.22
<u>2016</u>		
First Quarter	\$ 25.98	\$15.19
Second Quarter	\$27.37	\$22.51
Third Quarter (through September 9, 2016)	\$27.50	\$23.16

On September 9, 2016, the last reported sale price of our common stock on the NASDAQ was \$25.49 per share. As of September 9, 2016, there were 78 holders of record of our common stock. This stockholder figure does not include a substantially greater number of holders whose shares are held of record by banks, brokers and other financial institutions.

## **DIVIDEND POLICY**

Although we have paid cash dividends on our capital stock prior to becoming a public company, we currently expect to retain all future earnings for use in the operation and expansion of our business and have no current plans to pay dividends. The declaration, amount and payment of any future dividends will be at the sole discretion of our Board of Directors. Our Board of Directors may take into account general and economic conditions, our financial condition and results of operations, our available cash and current and anticipated cash needs, capital requirements, contractual, legal, tax and regulatory restrictions and implications on the payment of dividends by us to our stockholders or by our subsidiaries to us, including restrictions under our senior secured credit facilities and other indebtedness we may incur, and such other factors as our Board of Directors may deem relevant. In addition, because we are a holding company and have no direct operations, we will only be able to pay dividends from funds we receive from our subsidiaries.

## SELLING STOCKHOLDERS

The following table contains information with respect to the beneficial ownership of each selling stockholder of our common stock as of September 6, 2016, (1) immediately prior to the consummation of this offering and (2) as adjusted to reflect the sale of shares of our common stock offered by this prospectus.

The selling stockholders are selling 14,300,000 shares of common stock in this offering. On an individual basis, Invus, L.P. is selling 12,512,124 shares, The Bishop Family Limited Partnership is selling 1,737,876 shares and our Chief Executive Officer, Kurt T. Schmidt, is selling 50,000 shares.

Our calculation of the percentage of beneficial ownership prior to the offering is based on 196,444,867 shares of common stock outstanding as of September 6, 2016.

Beneficial ownership and percentage ownership are determined in accordance with the rules and regulations of the SEC and include voting or investment power with respect to shares of stock. This information does not necessarily indicate beneficial ownership for any other purpose. In computing the number of shares beneficially owned by a person and the percentage ownership of that person, shares of common stock subject to restrictions, options or warrants held by that person that are currently exercisable or exercisable within 60 days of the date of this prospectus are deemed outstanding. Such shares, however, are not deemed outstanding for the purposes of computing the percentage ownership of any other person. Except as indicated in the footnotes to the following table or pursuant to applicable community property laws, we believe that each shareholder named in the table has sole voting and investment power with respect to the shares set forth opposite such shareholder s name.

For further information regarding material transactions between us and certain of our shareholders, see Certain Relationships and Related Party Transactions included in our Proxy Statement, which section is incorporated by reference into this prospectus.

	Shares bend owned prio offerii	r to the	Shares bend owned aft offerii	er the
Name of Beneficial Owner	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Invus, L.P. (1)	99,972,999	50.9%	87,460,875	44.5%
The Bishop Family Limited Partnership (2)	13,885,790	7.1%	12,147,914	6.2%
Kurt T Schmidt (3)	1,418,334	*	1,368,334	*

\* Less than 1%

(1) Invus Advisors, L.L.C., or Invus Advisors, is the general partner of Invus, L.P. Artal International S.C.A. is the managing member of Invus Advisors. Artal International Management S.A. is the managing partner of Artal International S.C.A. Artal Group S.A. is the sole stockholder of Artal International Management S.A. Westend S.A. is the sole stockholder of Artal Group S.A. Stichting Administratiekantoor Westend, or the Stichting, is the sole stockholder of Westend S.A. Pascal Minne is the sole member of the board of the Stichting. Accordingly, each of Invus Advisors, Artal International S.C.A., Artal Group S.A., Westend S.A., the Stichting and Pascal Minne may be deemed to beneficially own the shares of common stock

held of record by Invus, L.P. The address of Invus, L.P. and Invus Advisors is c/o The Invus Group, LLC, 750 Lexington Avenue, 30th Floor, New York, NY 10022. The address of Artal International S.C.A., Artal International Management S.A., Artal Group S.A. and Westend S.A. is 10-12 avenue Pasteur, L-2310, Luxembourg, Luxembourg. The address of the Stichting is De Boelelaan 7, NL-1083 HJ Amsterdam, The Netherlands. The address of Pascal Minne is Place Ste. Gudule, 19, B-1000, Bruxelles, Belgium.

(2) Stephen Saft is the sole trustee of the Bishop Trust, which is the general partner of The Bishop Family Limited Partnership. Accordingly, Stephen Saft may be deemed to possess beneficial ownership of the shares of common stock held by The Bishop Family Limited Partnership. Stephen Saft disclaims beneficial

ownership of the shares of common stock held by The Bishop Family Limited Partnership. William W. Bishop, Jr. and Christopher T. Bishop are the primary beneficiaries of the Bishop Trust and they collectively have the ability to remove and replace the trustee of the Bishop Trust. As a result, William W. Bishop, Jr. and Christopher T. Bishop may be deemed to possess beneficial ownership of the shares of common stock held by The Bishop Family Limited Partnership. William W. Bishop, Jr. and Christopher T. Bishop each disclaim beneficial ownership of the shares of common stock held by The Bishop Family Limited Partnership. William W. Bishop, Jr. and Christopher T. Bishop each disclaim beneficial ownership of the shares of common stock held by The Bishop Family Limited Partnership. The address of The Bishop Family Limited Partnership is c/o Blue Buffalo Pet Products, Inc., 11 River Road, Wilton, Connecticut 06897.

(3) Includes 1,364,763 shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of stock options held by Mr. Schmidt that may be exercised within 60 days of September 6, 2016 (including 50,000 shares of common stock to be sold in this offering).

# CERTAIN UNITED STATES FEDERAL INCOME AND ESTATE TAX CONSEQUENCES

## **TO NON-U.S. HOLDERS**

The following is a summary of certain United States federal income and estate tax consequences to a non-U.S. Holder (as defined below) of the purchase, ownership and disposition of our common stock as of the date hereof. Except where noted, this summary deals only with common stock that is held as capital asset.

A non-U.S. Holder means a beneficial owner of our common stock (other than an entity treated as a partnership for United States federal income tax purposes) that is not for United States federal income tax purposes any of the following:

an individual citizen or resident of the United States;

a corporation (or any other entity treated as a corporation for United States federal income tax purposes) created or organized in, or under the laws of, the United States, any state thereof or the District of Columbia;

an estate, the income of which is subject to United States federal income taxation regardless of its source; and

a trust, if it (1) is subject to the primary supervision of a court within the United States and one or more U.S. persons have the authority to control all substantial decisions of the trust or (2) has a valid election in effect under applicable United States Treasury regulations to be treated as a U.S. person.

This summary is based upon provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or the Code, and regulations, rulings and judicial decisions as of the date hereof. Those authorities may be changed, perhaps retroactively, so as to result in United States federal income and estate tax consequences different from those summarized below. This summary does not address all aspects of United States federal income and estate taxes and does not deal with foreign, state, local or other tax considerations that may be relevant to non-U.S. Holders in light of their personal circumstances, including the impact of the alternative minimum tax and the Medicare contribution tax on net investment income. In addition, it does not represent a detailed description of the United States federal income consequences applicable to you if you are subject to special treatment under United States federal income tax laws (including if you are a United States expatriate, a controlled foreign corporation , a passive foreign investment company or a partnership or other pass-through entity for United States federal income tax purposes (and investors therein)). We cannot assure you that a change in law will not alter significantly the tax considerations that we describe in this summary.

If a partnership (or an entity or arrangement classified as a partnership for United States federal income tax purposes) holds our common stock, the tax treatment of a partner will generally depend upon the status of the partner and the activities of the partnership. If you are a partner of a partnership holding our common stock, you should consult your tax advisor.

# IF YOU ARE CONSIDERING THE PURCHASE OF OUR COMMON STOCK, YOU SHOULD CONSULT YOUR OWN TAX ADVISORS CONCERNING THE PARTICULAR UNITED STATES FEDERAL AND

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## ESTATE TAX CONSEQUENCES TO YOU OF THE OWNERSHIP OF OUR COMMON STOCK, AS WELL AS THE CONSEQUENCES TO YOU ARISING UNDER THE LAWS OF ANY OTHER TAXING JURISDICTION.

# Dividends

As described in the section entitled Dividend Policy, we have no current plans to pay dividends. However, if we do make distributions of cash or property on our common stock (other than certain distributions of our common stock), such distributions will constitute dividends for United States federal income tax purposes to the extent paid from our current or accumulated earnings and profits, as determined under United States federal

income tax principles. Amounts not treated as dividends for United States federal income tax purposes will constitute a return of capital and first be applied against and reduce a non-U.S. Holder s adjusted tax basis in its common stock, but not below zero. Any excess will be treated as capital gain and will be treated as described below under Gain on Disposition of Common Stock.

Dividends paid to a non-U.S. Holder of our common stock generally will be subject to withholding of United States federal income tax at a 30% rate or such lower rate as may be specified by an applicable income tax treaty. However, dividends that are effectively connected with the conduct of a trade or business by the non-U.S. Holder within the United States (and, if required by an applicable income tax treaty, are attributable to a United States permanent establishment) are not subject to the withholding tax, provided certain certification and disclosure requirements are satisfied. Instead, such dividends are subject to United States federal income tax on a net income basis generally in the same manner as if the non-U.S. Holder were a United States person as defined under the Code. Any such effectively connected dividends received by a foreign corporation may be subject to an additional branch profits tax at a 30% rate or such lower rate as may be specified by an applicable income tax treaty.

A non-U.S. Holder of our common stock who wishes to claim the benefit of an applicable income tax treaty rate and avoid backup withholding, as discussed below, for dividends will be required (a) to complete the applicable Internal Revenue Service Form W-8 and certify under penalty of perjury that such holder is not a United States person as defined under the Code and is eligible for treaty benefits or (b) if our common stock is held through certain foreign intermediaries, to satisfy the relevant certification requirements of applicable United States Treasury regulations. Special certification and other requirements apply to certain non-U.S. Holders that are pass-through entities rather than corporations or individuals.

A non-U.S. Holder of our common stock eligible for a reduced rate of United States federal withholding tax pursuant to an income tax treaty may obtain a refund of any excess amounts withheld by timely filing an appropriate claim for a refund with the Internal Revenue Service.

## Gain on Disposition of Common Stock

Subject to the discussion of backup withholding and FATCA below, any gain realized on the sale or other disposition of our common stock generally will not be subject to United States federal income tax unless:

the gain is effectively connected with a trade or business of the non-U.S. Holder in the United States (and, if required by an applicable income tax treaty, is attributable to a United States permanent establishment of the non-U.S. Holder);

the non-U.S. Holder is an individual who is present in the United States for 183 days or more in the taxable year of that disposition, and certain other conditions are met; or

we are or have been a United States real property holding corporation for United States federal income tax purposes during a specific period and certain other conditions are met.

A non-U.S. Holder described in the first bullet point immediately above will be subject to tax on the net gain derived from the sale or other disposition under regular graduated United States federal income tax rates. In addition, if any non-U.S. Holder described in the first bullet point immediately above is a foreign corporation, the gain realized by

such non-U.S. Holder may be subject to an additional branch profits tax equal to 30% (or such lower rate as may be specified by an applicable income tax treaty). An individual non-U.S. Holder described in the second bullet point immediately above will be subject to a flat 30% tax on the gain derived from the sale or other disposition, which may be offset by certain United States source capital losses, even though the individual is not considered a resident of the United States.

Generally, a corporation is a United States real property holding corporation if the fair market value of its United States real property interests equals or exceeds 50% of the sum of the fair market value of its worldwide

real property interests and its other assets used or held for use in a trade or business (all as determined for United States federal income tax purposes). We believe we are not and do not anticipate becoming a United States real property holding corporation for United States federal income tax purposes.

# **U.S. Federal Estate Tax**

Common stock held by an individual holder who is neither a citizen or resident of the United States (as specifically defined for estate tax purposes) at the time of death will be included in such holder s gross estate for United States federal estate tax purposes, unless an applicable tax treaty provides otherwise.

# Information Reporting and Backup Withholding Requirements

Distributions paid to a non-U.S. Holder and the amount of any tax withheld with respect to such distributions generally will be reported to the Internal Revenue Service. Copies of the information returns reporting such distributions and any withholding may also be made available to the tax authorities in the country in which the non-U.S. Holder resides under the provisions of an applicable income tax treaty.

A non-U.S. Holder will be subject to backup withholding for dividends paid to such holder unless such holder certifies under penalty of perjury that it is a non-U.S. Holder (and the payor does not have actual knowledge or reason to know that such holder is a United States person as defined under the Code), or such holder otherwise establishes an exemption.

Information reporting and, depending on the circumstances, backup withholding will apply to the proceeds of a sale or other distribution of our common stock made within the United States or conducted through certain United States-related financial intermediaries, unless the beneficial owner certifies under penalty of perjury that it is a non-U.S. Holder (and the payor does not have actual knowledge or reason to know that the beneficial owner is a United States person as defined under the Code), or such owner otherwise establishes an exemption.

Backup withholding is not an additional tax. Any amounts withheld under the backup withholding rules may be allowed as a refund or a credit against a non-U.S. Holder s United States federal income tax liability provided the required information is timely furnished to the Internal Revenue Service.

# **Additional Withholding Requirements**

Under Sections 1471 through 1474 of the Code (such Sections commonly referred to as FATCA ), a 30% United States federal withholding tax may apply to any dividends paid on our common stock and, for a disposition of our common stock occurring after December 31, 2018, the gross proceeds from such disposition, in each case paid to (i) a foreign financial institution (as specifically defined in the Code) which does not provide sufficient documentation, typically on IRS Form W-8BEN-E, evidencing either (x) an exemption from FATCA, or (y) its compliance (or deemed compliance) with FATCA (which may alternatively be in the form of compliance with an intergovernmental agreement with the United States) in a manner which avoids withholding, or (ii) a non-financial foreign entity (as specifically defined in the Code) which does not provide sufficient documentation regarding certain W-8BEN-E, evidencing either (x) an exemption from FATCA, or (y) adequate information regarding certain substantial United States beneficial owners of such entity (if any). If a dividend payment is subject both to withholding under FATCA and to the withholding tax discussed above under Dividends, the withholding under FATCA may be credited against, and therefore reduce, such other withholding tax. You should consult your own tax advisors regarding these requirements and whether they may be relevant to your ownership and disposition of our common stock.

The preceding discussion of United States federal income and estate tax considerations is for general information only. It is not tax advice. Each prospective investor should consult its own tax advisor regarding the particular United States federal, state, local and non-United States tax consequences of purchasing, holding and disposing of our common stock, including the consequences of any proposed change in applicable laws.

# UNDERWRITING

is acting as the underwriter of the offering. Subject to the terms and conditions set forth in an underwriting agreement among us, the selling stockholders and the underwriter, the selling stockholders have agreed to sell to the underwriter, and the underwriter has agreed to purchase from the selling stockholders, 14,300,000 shares of common stock.

Subject to the terms and conditions set forth in the underwriting agreement, the underwriter has agreed to purchase all of the shares sold under the underwriting agreement if any of these shares are purchased.

We and the selling stockholders have agreed to indemnify the underwriter against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act, or to contribute to payments the underwriter may be required to make in respect of those liabilities.

The underwriter is offering the shares, subject to prior sale, when, as and if issued to and accepted by them, subject to approval of legal matters by their counsel, including the validity of the shares, and other conditions contained in the underwriting agreement, such as the receipt by the underwriter of officer s certificates and legal opinions. The underwriter reserves the right to withdraw, cancel or modify offers to the public and to reject orders in whole or in part.

The underwriter is purchasing the shares of common stock from the selling stockholders at \$ per share. The shares may be offered by the underwriter from time to time to purchasers directly or through agents, or through brokers in brokerage transaction on the NASDAQ, or to dealers in negotiated transactions or in a combination of such methods of sale, at a fixed price or prices, which may be changed, or at market prices prevailing at the time of sale, at prices related to such prevailing market prices or at negotiated prices.

The expenses of the offering, including expenses incurred by the selling stockholders but not including the underwriting discount, are estimated at \$ and are payable by us. We have also agreed to reimburse the underwriter for certain of their expenses in connection with this offering in an amount up to \$90,000.

# Lock-up

We will agree that we will not, subject to certain exceptions, (1) offer, pledge, announce the intention to sell, sell, contract to sell, sell any option or contract to purchase, purchase any option or contract to sell, grant any option, right or warrant to purchase, or otherwise transfer or dispose of, directly or indirectly, or file with the SEC a registration statement under the Securities Act relating to, any shares of our common stock or securities convertible into or exchangeable or exercisable for any shares of our common stock, or publicly disclose the intention to make any offer, sale, pledge, disposition or filing, or (2) enter into any swap or other arrangement that transfers all or a portion of the economic consequences associated with the ownership of any shares of common stock or any such other securities (regardless of whether any of these transactions are to be settled by the delivery of shares of common stock or such other securities, in cash or otherwise), in each case without the prior written consent of for a period of 60 days after the date of this prospectus, other than the shares of our common stock to be sold or issued hereunder and any shares of our common stock issued upon the exercise of options granted under our existing equity incentive plans.

Our executive officers, directors and the selling stockholders will enter into lock-up agreements with the underwriter prior to the commencement of this offering pursuant to which each of these persons or entities, for a period of 60 days after the date of this prospectus, may not, without the prior written consent of , subject to certain exceptions, (1) offer, pledge, announce the intention to sell, sell, contract to sell, sell any option or contract to

purchase, purchase any option or contract to sell, grant any option, right or warrant to purchase, or otherwise transfer or dispose of, directly or indirectly, any shares of our common stock or any securities convertible into or exercisable or exchangeable for our common stock (including, without limitation, common stock or such other securities which may be deemed to be beneficially owned by such directors, executive

officers, managers and members in accordance with the rules and regulations of the SEC and securities which may be issued upon exercise of a stock option or warrant), (2) enter into any swap or other agreement that transfers, in whole or in part, any of the economic consequences of ownership of the common stock or such other securities, whether any such transaction described in clause (1) or (2) above is to be settled by delivery of common stock or such other securities, in cash or otherwise, or (3) make any demand for or exercise any right with respect to the registration of any shares of our common stock or any security convertible into or exercisable or exchangeable for our common stock, other than the shares sold or issued in this offering.

# Listing

Our common stock is listed on NASDAQ under the symbol BUFF.

# **Price Stabilization and Short Positions**

In connection with this offering, the underwriter may engage in stabilizing transactions, which involves making bids for, purchasing and selling shares of common stock in the open market for the purpose of preventing or retarding a decline in the market price of the common stock while this offering is in progress. These stabilizing transactions may include making short sales of the common stock, which involves the sale by the underwriter of a greater number of shares of common stock than they are required to purchase in this offering, and purchasing shares of common stock on the open market to cover positions created by short sales. The underwriter may close out any covered short position by purchasing shares in the open market.

These activities may have the effect of raising or maintaining the market price of the common stock or preventing or retarding a decline in the market price of the common stock, and, as a result, the price of the common stock may be higher than the price that otherwise might exist in the open market. If the underwriter commences these activities, it may discontinue them at any time. The underwriter may carry out these transactions on NASDAQ, in the over-the-counter market or otherwise.

In addition, in connection with this offering the underwriter may engage in passive market making transactions in our common stock on The Nasdaq Global Select Market prior to the pricing and completion of this offering. Passive market making consists of displaying bids on The Nasdaq Global Select Market no higher than the bid prices of independent market makers and making purchases at prices no higher than these independent bids and effected in response to order flow. Net purchases by a passive market maker on each day are generally limited to a specified percentage of the passive market maker s average daily trading volume in the common stock during a specified period and must be discontinued when such limit is reached. Passive market making may cause the price of our common stock to be higher than the price that otherwise would exist in the open market in the absence of these transactions. If passive market making is commenced, it may be discontinued at any time.

# **Electronic Distribution**

In connection with the offering, the underwriter or securities dealers may distribute prospectuses by electronic means, such as e-mail.

# **New Issue of Securities**

Other than in the United States, no action has been taken by us or the underwriter that would permit a public offering of the securities offered by this prospectus in any jurisdiction where action for that purpose is required. The securities offered by this prospectus may not be offered or sold, directly or indirectly, nor may this prospectus or any other

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offering material or advertisements in connection with the offer and sale of any such securities be distributed or published in any jurisdiction, except under circumstances that will result in compliance with the applicable rules and regulations of that jurisdiction. Persons into whose possession this prospectus comes are advised to inform themselves about and to observe any restrictions relating to the offering

and the distribution of this prospectus. This prospectus does not constitute an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy any securities offered by this prospectus in any jurisdiction in which such an offer or a solicitation is unlawful.

The underwriter has informed us that it does not expect to sell more than 5% of the common stock in the aggregate to accounts over which it exercises discretionary authority.

### Notice to Prospective Investors in Canada

The shares of common stock may be sold only to purchasers purchasing, or deemed to be purchasing, as principal that are accredited investors, as defined in National Instrument 45-106 *Prospectus Exemptions* or subsection 73.3(1) of the *Securities Act* (Ontario), and are permitted clients, as defined in National Instrument 31-103 *Registration Requirements, Exemptions and Ongoing Registrant Obligations*. Any resale of the shares of common stock must be made in accordance with an exemption from, or in a transaction not subject to, the prospectus requirements of applicable securities laws.

Securities legislation in certain provinces or territories of Canada may provide a purchaser with remedies for rescission or damages if this prospectus (including any amendment thereto) contains a misrepresentation, provided that the remedies for rescission or damages are exercised by the purchaser within the time limit prescribed by the securities legislation of the purchaser s province or territory. The purchaser should refer to any applicable provisions of the securities legislation of the purchaser s province or territory for particulars of these rights or consult with a legal advisor.

Pursuant to section 3A.3 (or, in the case of securities issued or guaranteed by the government of a non-Canadian jurisdiction, section 3A.4) of National Instrument 33-105 Underwriting Conflicts (NI 33-105), the underwriter is not required to comply with the disclosure requirements of NI 33-105 regarding underwriter conflicts of interest in connection with this offering.

## Notice to Prospective Investors in the United Kingdom

This document is only being distributed to and is only directed at (1) persons who are outside the United Kingdom, (2) to investment professionals falling within Article 19(5) of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Financial Promotion) Order 2005, or Order, or (3) high net worth entities, and other persons to whom it may lawfully be communicated, falling with Article 49(2)(a) to (d) of the Order (all such persons together being referred to as relevant persons ). The securities are only available to, and any invitation, offer or agreement to subscribe, purchase or otherwise acquire such securities will be engaged in only with, relevant persons. Any person who is not a relevant person should not act or rely on this document or any of its contents.

#### Notice to Prospective Investors in the European Economic Area

In relation to each Member State of the European Economic Area which has implemented the Prospectus Directive (each, a Relevant Member State ), from and including the date on which the European Union Prospectus Directive (the

EU Prospectus Directive ) was implemented in that Relevant Member State (the Relevant Implementation Date ) an offer of securities described in this prospectus may not be made to the public in that Relevant Member State prior to the publication of a prospectus in relation to the shares which has been approved by the competent authority in that Relevant Member State or, where appropriate, approved in another Relevant Member State and notified to the competent authority in that Relevant Member State, all in accordance with the EU Prospectus Directive, except that, with effect from and including the Relevant Implementation Date, an offer of securities described in this prospectus may be made to the public in that Relevant Member State at any time:

to any legal entity which is a qualified investor as defined under the EU Prospectus Directive;

to fewer than 150 natural or legal persons (other than qualified investors as defined in the EU Prospectus Directive); or

in any other circumstances falling within Article 3(2) of the EU Prospectus Directive, provided that no such offer of securities described in this prospectus shall result in a requirement for the publication by us of a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the EU Prospectus Directive.

For the purposes of this provision, the expression an offer of securities to the public in relation to any securities in any Relevant Member State means the communication in any form and by any means of sufficient information on the terms of the offer and the securities to be offered so as to enable an investor to decide to purchase or subscribe for the securities, as the same may be varied in that Member State by any measure implementing the EU Prospectus Directive in that Member State. The expression EU Prospectus Directive means Directive 2003/71/EC (as amended, including by Directive 2010/73/EU) and includes any relevant implementing measure in the Relevant Member State.

#### Notice to Prospective Investors in France

Neither this prospectus nor any other offering material relating to the shares described in this prospectus has been submitted to the clearance procedures of the *Autorité des Marchés Financiers* or of the competent authority of another member state of the European Economic Area and notified to the *Autorité des Marchés Financiers*. The shares have not been offered or sold and will not be offered or sold, directly or indirectly, to the public in France. Neither this prospectus nor any other offering material relating to the shares has been or will be:

released, issued, distributed or caused to be released, issued or distributed to the public in France; or

used in connection with any offer for subscription or sale of the shares to the public in France. Such offers, sales and distributions will be made in France only:

to qualified investors (*investisseurs qualifiés*) and/or to a restricted circle of investors (*cercle restreint d investisseurs*), in each case investing for their own account, all as defined in, and in accordance with, articles L.411-2, D.411-1, D.411-2, D.734-1, D.744-1, D.754-1 and D.764-1 of the French *Code monétaire et financier*;

to investment services providers authorized to engage in portfolio management on behalf of third parties; or

in a transaction that, in accordance with article L.411-2-II-1°-or-2°-or 3° of the French *Code monétaire et financier* and article 211-2 of the General Regulations (*Règlement Général*) of the *Autorité des Marchés Financiers*, does not constitute a public offer (*appel public à l épargne*).

The shares may be resold directly or indirectly, only in compliance with articles L.411-1, L.411-2, L.412-1 and L.621-8 through L.621-8-3 of the French *Code monétaire et financier*.

## Notice to Prospective Investors in Hong Kong

The shares may not be offered or sold in Hong Kong by means of any document other than (i) in circumstances which do not constitute an offer to the public within the meaning of the Companies Ordinance (Cap. 32, Laws of Hong Kong), (ii) to professional investors within the meaning of the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Cap. 571, Laws of

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Hong Kong) and any rules made thereunder or (iii) in other circumstances which do not result in the document being a prospectus within the meaning of the Companies Ordinance (Cap. 32, Laws of Hong Kong) and no advertisement, invitation or document relating to the shares may be issued or may be in the possession of any person for the purpose of issue (in each case whether in Hong Kong or elsewhere), which is directed at, or the contents of which are likely to be accessed or read by, the public in Hong Kong (except if permitted to do so under the laws of Hong Kong) other than with respect to shares which are or are intended to be disposed of only to persons outside Hong Kong or only to professional investors within the meaning of the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Cap. 571, Laws of Hong Kong) and any rules made thereunder.

## Notice to Prospective Investors in Japan

The shares offered in this prospectus have not been registered under the Securities and Exchange Law of Japan. Shares have not been offered or sold and will not be offered or sold, directly or indirectly, in Japan or to or for the account of any resident of Japan, except (i) pursuant to an exemption from the registration requirements of the Securities and Exchange Law and (ii) in compliance with any other applicable requirements of Japanese law.

## Notice to Prospective Investors in Singapore

This prospectus has not been registered as a prospectus with the Monetary Authority of Singapore. Accordingly, this prospectus and any other document or material in connection with the offer or sale, or invitation for subscription or purchase, of the shares may not be circulated or distributed, nor may the shares be offered or sold, or be made the subject of an invitation for subscription or purchase, whether directly or indirectly, to persons in Singapore other than (i) to an institutional investor under Section 274 of the Securities and Futures Act, Chapter 289 of Singapore (the

SFA ), (ii) to a relevant person pursuant to Section 275(1), or any person pursuant to Section 275(1A), and in accordance with the conditions specified in Section 275 of the SFA or (iii) otherwise pursuant to, and in accordance with the conditions of, any other applicable provision of the SFA, in each case subject to compliance with conditions set forth in the SFA.

Where the shares are subscribed or purchased under Section 275 of the SFA by a relevant person which is:

a corporation (which is not an accredited investor (as defined in Section 4A of the SFA)) the sole business of which is to hold investments and the entire share capital of which is owned by one or more individuals, each of whom is an accredited investor; or

a trust (where the trustee is not an accredited investor) whose sole purpose is to hold investments and each beneficiary of the trust is an individual who is an accredited investor,

shares, debentures and units of shares and debentures of that corporation or the beneficiaries rights and interest (howsoever described) in that trust shall not be transferred within six months after that corporation or that trust has acquired the shares pursuant to an offer made under Section 275 of the SFA except:

to an institutional investor (for corporations, under Section 274 of the SFA) or to a relevant person defined in Section 275(2) of the SFA, or to any person pursuant to an offer that is made on terms that such shares, debentures and units of shares and debentures of that corporation or such rights and interest in that trust are acquired at a consideration of not less than S\$200,000 (or its equivalent in a foreign currency) for each transaction, whether such amount is to be paid for in cash or by exchange of securities or other assets, and further for corporations, in accordance with the conditions specified in Section 275 of the SFA;

where no consideration is or will be given for the transfer; or

where the transfer is by operation of law.

## Notice to Prospective Investors in Australia

No prospectus or other disclosure document (as defined in the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth) of Australia ( Corporations Act )) in relation to the common stock has been or will be lodged with the Australian Securities & Investments Commission ( ASIC ). This document has not been lodged with ASIC and is only directed to certain categories of exempt persons. Accordingly, if you receive this document in Australia:

- (a) you confirm and warrant that you are either:
  - (i) a sophisticated investor under section 708(8)(a) or (b) of the Corporations Act;
  - (ii) a sophisticated investor under section 708(8)(c) or (d) of the Corporations Act and that you have provided an accountant s certificate to us which complies with the requirements of section 708(8)(c)(i) or (ii) of the Corporations Act and related regulations before the offer has been made;

- (iii) a person associated with the company under section 708(12) of the Corporations Act; or
- (iv) a professional investor within the meaning of section 708(11)(a) or (b) of the Corporations Act, and to the extent that you are unable to confirm or warrant that you are an exempt sophisticated investor, associated person or professional investor under the Corporations Act any offer made to you under this document is void and incapable of acceptance; and
- (b) you warrant and agree that you will not offer any of the common stock for resale in Australia within 12 months of that common stock being issued unless any such resale offer is exempt from the requirement to issue a disclosure document under section 708 of the Corporations Act.

## **Other Relationships**

The underwriter and its affiliates have provided in the past to us and our affiliates and may provide from time to time in the future certain commercial banking, financial advisory, investment banking and other services for us and such affiliates in the ordinary course of their business, for which they have received and may continue to receive customary fees and commissions. For instance, affiliates of the underwriter may be lenders, and in some cases agents or managers for the lenders under our senior secured credit facilities. In addition, from time to time, the underwriter and its affiliates may effect transactions for their own account or the account of customers, and hold on behalf of themselves or their customers, long or short positions in our debt or equity securities or loans, and may do so in the future.

## LEGAL MATTERS

The validity of the shares of common stock offered hereby will be passed upon for Blue Buffalo Pet Products, Inc. by Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP, New York, New York. Certain legal matters relating to this offering will be passed upon for the underwriter by Latham & Watkins LLP, New York, New York.

## EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements as of December 31, 2015 and 2014 and for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2015 incorporated by reference in this prospectus and registration statement have been audited by KPMG LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as set forth in their report thereon incorporated by reference herein, and are incorporated by reference in reliance upon such report given on the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

## WHERE YOU CAN FIND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

We have filed with the SEC a registration statement on Form S-3 under the Securities Act with respect to the shares of common stock offered by this prospectus. This prospectus does not contain all of the information set forth in the registration statement and its exhibits, certain portions of which are omitted as permitted by the rules and regulations of the SEC. For further information pertaining to us and our common stock, we refer you to the registration statement, including its exhibits and the financial statements, notes and schedules filed as a part of, or incorporated by reference into, that registration statement. Statements contained in, or incorporated by reference into, this prospectus regarding the contents of any contract or other document referred to in those documents are not necessarily complete, and in each instance we refer you to the copy of the contract or other document filed or incorporated by reference as an exhibit to the registration statement or other document. Each of these statements is qualified in all respects by this reference.

You may read and copy the registration statement and its exhibits and schedules at the SEC s public reference room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. You also may obtain information on the operation of the public reference room by calling the commission at 1-800-SEC-0330. The SEC maintains a web site at www.sec.gov that contains reports, proxy and information statements and other information regarding registrants, such as Blue Buffalo Pet Products, Inc., that file electronically with the SEC.

We are subject to the information and reporting requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and, in accordance with this law, file periodic reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. These periodic reports, proxy statements and other information are available for inspection and copying at the SEC s public reference facilities and the website of the SEC referred to above. We also maintain a website at www.bluebuffalo.com. You may access these materials free of charge as soon as reasonably practicable after they are electronically filed with, or furnished to, the SEC. Information contained on our website is not a part of this prospectus, nor is it incorporated by reference herein, and the inclusion of our website address in this prospectus is an inactive textual reference only.

## **INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE**

The rules of the SEC allow us to incorporate information into this prospectus by reference. This means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to another document. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be part of this prospectus, and information that we file later with the SEC will automatically update and supersede the information in this prospectus or incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference into this prospectus.

We incorporate by reference the documents listed below and any future filings we make with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act (but excluding any portions thereof that are furnished and not filed) to and including the date of this prospectus:

our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015;

our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended March 31, 2016 and June 30, 2016;

our Current Reports on Form 8-K filed on June 3, 2016 and June 27, 2016;

the portions of our Definitive Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A, filed on April 19, 2016, that are incorporated by reference into our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015; and

our Registration Statement on Form 8-A filed on July 22, 2015, including any amendments or supplements thereto.

We will deliver, without charge to the requester, to anyone receiving this prospectus including any beneficial owner, upon written or oral request, a copy of any or all of the information incorporated by reference into this prospectus but not delivered with this prospectus, but the exhibits to those documents will not be delivered unless they have been specifically incorporated by reference. Requests for these documents should be made to:

Blue Buffalo Pet Products, Inc.

11 River Road

Wilton, CT 06897

Attention: Investor Relations

Phone: (203) 762-9751

You should rely only on the information incorporated by reference into or provided in this prospectus. We have not authorized anyone else to provide you with different information.

Blue Buffalo Pet Products, Inc.

14,300,000 shares

# PART II

## INFORMATION NOT REQUIRED IN PROSPECTUS

## ITEM 14. OTHER EXPENSES OF ISSUANCE AND DISTRIBUTION.

The following table sets forth the expenses payable by the Registrant expected to be incurred in connection with the issuance and distribution of the shares of common stock being registered hereby (other than underwriting discounts and commissions). All of such expenses are estimates, other than the filing and listing fees payable to the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc.

SEC Registration Fee	\$	*
FINRA Filing Fee	225,	,500
Legal Fees	250,	,000
Printing Expenses	15,	,000
Accounting Expenses	175,	,000
Transfer Agent and Registrar s Fees	20,	,000
Miscellaneous Expenses	10,	,000
Total	\$ 695,	,500

\* Deferred in accordance with Rule 456(b) and Rule 457(c) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

# ITEM 15. INDEMNIFICATION OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS.

Section 102(b)(7) of the Delaware General Corporation Law, or DGCL, allows a corporation to provide in its certificate of incorporation that a director of the corporation will not be personally liable to the corporation or its stockholders for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duty as a director, except where the director breached the duty of loyalty, failed to act in good faith, engaged in intentional misconduct or knowingly violated a law, authorized the payment of a dividend or approved a stock repurchase in violation of Delaware corporate law or obtained an improper personal benefit. Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation will provide for this limitation of liability.

Section 145 of the DGCL, or Section 145, provides, among other things, that a Delaware corporation may indemnify any person who was, is or is threatened to be made, party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative (other than an action by or in the right of such corporation), by reason of the fact that such person is or was an officer, director, employee or agent of such corporation or is or was serving at the request of such corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation or enterprise. The indemnity may include expenses (including attorneys fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by such person in connection with such action, suit or proceeding, provided such person acted in good faith and in a manner he or she reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the corporation s best interests and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe that his or her conduct was illegal. A Delaware corporation may indemnify any persons who were or are a party to any threatened, pending or completed action or suit by or in the right of the corporation by reason of the

fact that such person is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation or enterprise. The indemnity may include expenses (including attorneys fees) actually and reasonably incurred by such person in connection with the defense or settlement of such action or suit, provided such person acted in good faith and in a manner he or she reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the corporation s best interests, provided further that no indemnification is permitted without judicial approval if the officer, director, employee or agent is adjudged to be liable to the corporation. Where an officer or director is successful on the merits or otherwise in the defense of any action referred to above, the corporation must indemnify him against the expenses which such officer or director has actually and reasonably incurred.

Section 145 further authorizes a corporation to purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any person who is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation or is or was serving at the request of the

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corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation or enterprise, against any liability asserted against him and incurred by him in any such capacity, or arising out of his or her status as such, whether or not the corporation would otherwise have the power to indemnify him or her under Section 145.

Our amended and restated bylaws provide that we must indemnify our directors and officers to the fullest extent authorized by the DGCL and must also pay expenses incurred in defending any such proceeding in advance of its final disposition upon delivery of an undertaking, by or on behalf of an indemnified person, to repay all amounts so advanced if it should be determined ultimately that such person is not entitled to be indemnified under this section or otherwise. Notwithstanding the foregoing, we shall not be obligated to indemnify a director or officer in respect of a proceeding (or part thereof) instituted by such director or officer, unless such proceeding (or part thereof) has been authorized by the Board of Directors pursuant to the applicable procedure outlined in the amended and restated bylaws.

Section 174 of the DGCL provides, among other things, that a director, who willfully or negligently approves of an unlawful payment of dividends or an unlawful stock purchase or redemption, may be held jointly and severally liable for such actions. A director who was either absent when the unlawful actions were approved or dissented at the time may avoid liability by causing his or her dissent to such actions to be entered in the books containing the minutes of the meetings of the board of directors at the time such action occurred or immediately after such absent director receives notice of the unlawful acts.

The indemnification rights set forth above shall not be exclusive of any other right which an indemnified person may have or hereafter acquire under any statute, provision of our amended and restated certificate of incorporation, our amended and restated bylaws, agreement, vote of stockholders or disinterested directors or otherwise.

We maintain standard policies of insurance that provide coverage (1) to our directors and officers against losses arising from claims made by reason of breach of duty or other wrongful act and (2) to us with respect to indemnification payments that we may make to such directors and officers.

The proposed form of Underwriting Agreement to be filed as Exhibit 1.1 to this Registration Statement provides for indemnification to us, our directors and officers and the selling stockholders by the underwriter, and to the underwriter by us and the selling stockholders, against certain liabilities.

# ITEM 16. EXHIBITS.

Exhibits Number	Exhibit Description
1.1*	Form of Underwriting Agreement
5.1	Opinion of Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP
23.1	Consent of KPMG LLP
23.2	Consent of Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP (included in exhibit 5.1)
24.1	Power of Attorney (included in the signature page to this Registration Statement)

\* To be filed, if necessary, by amendment or as an exhibit to a Current Report on Form 8-K and incorporated by reference herein.

# ITEM 17. UNDERTAKINGS

- (1) The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes:
  - (A) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this registration statement:
    - (i) To include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act of 1933;
    - (ii) To reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the registration statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the registration statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high end of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of prospectus filed with the SEC pursuant to Rule 424(b) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than a 20% change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the Calculation of Registration Fee table in the effective registration statement; and

(iii) To include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the registration statement or any material change to such information in the registration statement; *provided, however*, that paragraphs (1)(A)(i), (1)(A)(ii) and (1)(A)(iii) do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in reports filed with or furnished to the SEC by the registrant pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that are incorporated by reference in the registration statement, or is contained in a form of prospectus filed pursuant to Rule 424(b) that is part of the registration statement.

- (B) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.
- (C) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.
- (D) That, for the purpose of determining liability under the Securities Act of 1933 to any purchaser:
  - (i) Each prospectus filed by the registrant pursuant to Rule 424(b)(3) shall be deemed to be part of the registration statement as of the date the filed prospectus was deemed part of and included in the

registration statement; and

(ii) Each prospectus required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424(b)(2), (b)(5), or (b)(7) as part of a registration statement in reliance on Rule 430B relating to an offering made pursuant to Rule 415(a)(1)(i), (vii), or (x) for the purpose of providing the information required by section 10(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 shall be deemed to be part of and included in the registration statement as of the earlier of the date such form of prospectus is first used after effectiveness or the date of the first contract of sale of securities in the offering described in the prospectus. As provided in Rule 430B, for liability purposes of the issuer and any person that is at that date an underwriter, such date shall be deemed to be a new effective date of the registration statement relating to the securities in the registration statement to which that prospectus relates, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof. Provided,

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however, that no statement made in a registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement or made in a document incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference into the registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement will, as to a purchaser with a time of contract of sale prior to such effective date, supersede or modify any statement that was made in the registration statement or prospectus that was part of the registration statement or made in any such document immediately prior to such effective date.

(E) That, for the purpose of determining liability of the registrant under the Securities Act of 1933 to any purchaser in the initial distribution of the securities:

The undersigned registrant undertakes that in a primary offering of securities of the undersigned registrant pursuant to this registration statement, regardless of the underwriting method used to sell the securities to the purchaser, if the securities are offered or sold to such purchaser by means of any of the following communications, the undersigned registrant will be a seller to the purchaser and will be considered to offer or sell such securities to such purchaser:

- (i) Any preliminary prospectus or prospectus of the undersigned registrant relating to the offering required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424;
- (ii) Any free writing prospectus relating to the offering prepared by or on behalf of the undersigned registrant or used or referred to by the undersigned registrant;
- (iii) The portion of any other free writing prospectus relating to the offering containing material information about the undersigned registrant or its securities provided by or on behalf of the undersigned registrant; and
- (iv) Any other communication that is an offer in the offering made by the undersigned registrant to the purchaser.
- (2) The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each filing of the registrant s annual report pursuant to section 13(a) or section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan s annual report pursuant to section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) that is incorporated by reference in the registration statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.
- (3) Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933 may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act of 1933 and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or

proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act of 1933 and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

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## SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, Blue Buffalo Pet Products, Inc. certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-3 and has duly caused this registration statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in Wilton, State of Connecticut, on the 12th day of September, 2016.

Blue Buffalo Pet Products, Inc.

By: /s/ Kurt Schmidt Name: Kurt Schmidt Title: Chief Executive Officer

## **POWER OF ATTORNEY**

Know all men by these presents, that each person whose signature appears below hereby constitutes and appoints Larry Miller and Karen McCarthy, and each of them, any of whom may act without joinder of the other, the individual s true and lawful attorneys-in-fact and agents, with full power of substitution and resubstitution, for the person and in his or her name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to sign this Registration Statement and any or all amendments, including post-effective amendments to the Registration Statement, and all other documents in connection therewith to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, granting unto said attorneys-in-fact and agents, and each of them, full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in and about the premises, as fully to all intents and purposes as he or she might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorneys-in-fact as agents or any of them, or their substitute or substitutes, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, this Registration Statement or amendment thereto has been signed by the following persons in the capacities indicated on the 12th day of September, 2016.

Signature /s/ Kurt Schmidt	<b>Title</b> Chief Executive Officer and Director
Kurt Schmidt	(Principal Executive Officer)
/s/ William W. Bishop. Jr. William W. Bishop. Jr.	President and Chief Operating Officer
/s/ Michael Nathenson	Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer
Michael Nathenson	and Treasurer (Principal Finance and Accounting Officer)
/s/ William Bishop William Bishop	Chairman and Director
/s/ Raymond Debbane	Director

# Raymond Debbane

/s/ Philippe Amouyal Philippe Amouyal	Director
/s/ Evren Bilimer Evren Bilimer	Director

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/s/ Aflalo Guimaraes Aflalo Guimaraes	Director
/s/ Michael A. Eck Michael A. Eck	Director
/s/ Frances Frei Frances Frei	Director
/s/ Amy Schulman Amy Schulman	Director

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