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

# FORM S-3

# **REGISTRATION STATEMENT**

UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

# **MERITAGE HOMES CORPORATION**

Co-registrants are listed on the following page (Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Maryland

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

86-0611231 (IRS Employer Identification Number)

18655 North Claret Drive, Suite 400 Scottsdale, Arizona 85255

(480) 515-8100

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

Hilla Sferruzza Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer 18655 North Claret Drive, Suite 400 Scottsdale, Arizona 85255 (480) 515-8100

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

With a copy to:

Jeffrey E. Beck Snell & Wilmer L.L.P. One East Washington Street Phoenix, Arizona 85004 (602) 382-6000

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

If the only securities being registered on this form are being offered pursuant to dividend or interest reinvestment plans, please check the following box: 🗆

If any of the securities being registered on this form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, other than securities offered only in connection with dividend or interest reinvestment plans, check the following box:

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

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

If this form is a registration statement pursuant to General Instruction I.D. or a post-effective amendment thereto that shall become effective upon filing with the Commission pursuant to Rule 462(e) under the Securities Act, check the following box:

If this form is a post-effective amendment to a registration statement filed pursuant to General Instruction I.D. filed to register additional securities or additional classes of securities pursuant to Rule 413(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box:

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

 Large accelerated filer
 Accelerated filer

 Non-accelerated filer
 Smaller reporting company

 Emerging growth company
 Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 7(a)(2)(B) of the Securities Act.

# Table of Co-Registrants

The following direct and indirect 100% owned subsidiaries of Meritage Homes Corporation may issue the debt securities and/or guarantee the debt securities and are co-registrants under this registration statement. The address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of each co-registrant is 18655 North Claret Drive, Suite 400, Scottsdale, Arizona 85255, (480) 515-8100.

	State or Other Jurisdiction of	
	Incorporation	IRS Employer
	or	Identification
Name of Each Co-Registrant as Specified in Its Charter (1)	Organization	Number
Meritage Paseo Crossing, LLC	Arizona	86-1006497
Meritage Paseo Construction, LLC	Arizona	86-0863537
Meritage Homes of Arizona, Inc.	Arizona	86-1028848
Meritage Homes Construction, Inc.	Arizona	86-1028847
Meritage Homes of California, Inc.	California	86-0917765
Meritage Homes of Nevada, Inc.	Arizona	43-1976353
Meritage Holdings, L.L.C.	Texas	42-1732552
Meritage Homes of Texas Holding, Inc.	Arizona	86-0875147
Meritage Homes of Texas Joint Venture Holding Company, LLC	Texas	75-2771799
Meritage Homes of Texas, LLC	Arizona	65-1308131
Meritage Homes Operating Company, LLC	Arizona	65-1308133
MTH-Cavalier, LLC	Arizona	86-0863537
MTH Golf, LLC	Arizona	56-2379206
Meritage Homes of Colorado, Inc.	Arizona	20-1091787
Meritage Homes of Florida, Inc.	Florida	59-1107583
California Urban Homes, LLC	California	20-2707345
WW Project Seller, LLC	Arizona	86-1006497
Meritage Homes of the Carolinas, Inc.	Arizona	27-5411983
Carefree Title Agency, Inc.	Texas	45-3742536
M&M Fort Myers Holdings, LLC	Delaware	26-3996740
Meritage Homes of Florida Realty LLC	Florida	59-1107583
Meritage Homes of Georgia Realty, LLC	Arizona	47-1171110
Meritage Homes of Georgia, Inc.	Arizona	47-1171110
Meritage Homes of South Carolina, Inc.	Arizona	46-5709345
Meritage Homes of Tennessee, Inc.	Arizona	46-3409691
MLC Holdings, Inc. dba MLC Land Holdings, Inc.	Arizona	47-1967950
MTH GA Realty LLC	Arizona	47-1171110
MTH Realty LLC	Arizona	86-1006497
MTH SC Realty LLC	Arizona	46-5709345
MTH Financial Holdings, Inc.	Arizona	83-0631642
Meritage Homes Insurance Agency, Inc.	Arizona	84-1853295
Meritage Services Company, Inc.	Arizona	85-3650648
Meritage Homes of Utah, Inc.	Arizona	85-3059335

(1) Each Co-Registrant guarantor subsidiary is wholly owned directly or indirectly by Meritage Homes Corporation. The guarantees are expected to be full and unconditional and joint and several. In the event that a guarantor sells or disposes of all or substantially all of such guarantor's assets, or in the event that we sell or dispose of all of the equity interests in a guarantor, by way of merger, consolidation or otherwise, in each case in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the applicable indenture, then such guarantor will be released and relieved of any obligations under its note guarantee. **Table of Contents** 

**PROSPECTUS** 



Debt Securities Guarantees of Debt Securities Common Stock Preferred Stock Warrants Depositary Shares Rights Stock Purchase Contracts Stock Purchase Units

This prospectus may not be used to consummate sales of securities unless accompanied by a prospectus supplement. This prospectus describes some of the general terms that may apply to these securities. We will provide specific terms of these securities in supplements to this prospectus at the time we offer or sell any of these securities. You should read this prospectus and any supplement to this prospectus carefully before you invest in these securities. The prospectus supplement may also supplement or update information contained in this prospectus.

Our common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "MTH."

Our principal executive offices are located at 18655 North Claret Drive, Suite 400, Scottsdale, Arizona 85255. Our telephone number is (480) 515-8100.

Investing in our securities involves a high degree of risk. See "<u>Risk Factors</u>" on page 3 of this prospectus, our Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission and the applicable prospectus supplement for a discussion of certain factors that should be considered in evaluating an investment in our securities.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or passed upon the adequacy or accuracy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The date of this prospectus is April 30, 2024.

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If you are in a jurisdiction where offers to sell, or solicitations of offers to purchase, the securities offered by this document are unlawful, or if you are a person to whom it is unlawful to direct these types of activities, then the offer presented in this prospectus does not extend to you.

We have not authorized anyone to give any information or make any representation about us that is different from or in addition to, that contained in this prospectus, including in any of the materials that we have incorporated by reference into this prospectus, any accompanying prospectus supplement, and any free writing prospectus prepared or authorized by us. Therefore, if anyone does give you information of this sort, you should not rely on it as authorized by us. Neither the delivery of this prospectus, nor any sale made hereunder, shall under any circumstances create any implication that there has been no change in our affairs since the date hereof or that the information incorporated by reference herein is correct as of any time subsequent to the date of such information. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since those dates.

# ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

# **Types of Securities**

This prospectus is part of a registration statement we filed with the SEC using a "shelf" registration process. Under this shelf process, we may, from time to time, offer any combination of the securities described in this prospectus in one or more offerings.

The types of securities that we may offer and sell from time to time by this prospectus are:

- debt securities of Meritage Homes Corporation, which may include full and unconditional, joint and several guarantees of the debt securities by certain of our direct and indirect subsidiaries;
- common stock of Meritage Homes Corporation;
- preferred stock of Meritage Homes Corporation;
- warrants to purchase common stock, preferred stock or debt securities of Meritage Homes Corporation;
- depositary shares of Meritage Homes Corporation;
- rights to purchase common stock of Meritage Homes Corporation or other securities being registered;
- stock purchase contracts issued by Meritage Homes Corporation;
- stock purchase units issued by Meritage Homes Corporation; and
- units consisting of any of the above securities.

This prospectus provides a general description of the securities we may offer hereunder. Each time we sell securities hereunder, we will describe in a prospectus supplement, which we will deliver with this prospectus, specific information about the offering and the terms of the particular securities offered. In addition, the prospectus supplement may also add, update or change the information contained in this prospectus.

When we sell securities, we will determine the amounts of securities we will sell and the prices and other terms on which we will sell them. We may sell securities to or through underwriters, through agents or dealers or directly to purchasers.

#### **Additional Information**

We will describe in a prospectus supplement or supplements, which we will deliver with this prospectus, the terms of particular securities that we may offer in the future. In each prospectus supplement we will include the following information:

- the type and amount of securities that we propose to sell;
- the initial public offering price of the securities;
- the names of the underwriters, agents or dealers, if any, through or to which we will sell the securities;
- the compensation, if any, of those underwriters, agents or dealers;
- · if applicable, information about securities exchanges or automated quotation systems on which the securities will be listed or traded;

- material United States federal income tax considerations applicable to the securities;
- · any material risk factors associated with the securities; and
- any other material information about the offering and sale of the securities.

In addition, the prospectus supplement or supplements may also add, update or change the information contained in the prospectus.

Unless otherwise indicated in this prospectus, the terms "Meritage," "Meritage Homes," the "Company," "we," "our" and "us" refer to Meritage Homes Corporation and its subsidiaries and predecessors as a combined entity.

# **RISK FACTORS**

Before making an investment decision, you should carefully consider the risks described in the applicable prospectus supplement and in our then most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K, and in any subsequent updates to those risk factors in our Quarterly Reports on Form10-Q or Current Reports on Form 8-K, together with all of the other information appearing in this prospectus or incorporated by reference into this prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement, in light of your particular investment objectives and financial circumstances. In addition to those risk factors, there may be additional risks and uncertainties of which management is not aware or focused on or that management deems immaterial. Our business, financial condition or results of operations could be materially adversely affected by any of these risks. The trading price of our securities could decline due to any of these risks, and you may lose all or part of your investment.

## FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Certain of the matters discussed in this prospectus or incorporated herein constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"). In general, "forward-looking statements" can be identified by use of words such as "expect," "believe," "estimate," "project," "forecast," "anticipate," "plan," "intend," "may," "will," "could," and "should" and similar expressions.

Forward-looking statements express expectations of future events. All forward-looking statements are inherently uncertain as they are based on various expectations and assumptions concerning future events and they are subject to numerous known and unknown risks and uncertainties which could cause actual events or results to differ materially from those projected. Our past performance or past or present economic conditions in our housing markets are not indicative of future performance or conditions. Due to these inherent uncertainties, current or potential investors in our securities are urged not to place undue reliance on forward-looking statements. In addition, we undertake no obligation to update or revise forward- looking statements to reflect changed assumptions, the occurrence of anticipated or unanticipated events or changes to projections over time. As a result of these and other factors, the prices of our securities may fluctuate dramatically.

Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those in forward-looking statements, and that could negatively affect our business include, but are not limited to, the following: increases in interest rates or decreases in mortgage availability, and the cost and use of rate locks and buy-downs; inflation in the cost of materials used to develop communities and construct homes; cancellation rates; supply chain and labor constraints; the ability of our potential buyers to sell their existing homes; our ability to acquire and develop lots may be negatively impacted if we are unable to obtain performance and surety bonds; the adverse effect of slow absorption rates; legislation related to tariffs; impairments of our real estate inventory; competition; home warranty and construction defect claims; failures in health and safety performance; fluctuations in quarterly operating results; our level of indebtedness; our ability to obtain financing if our credit ratings are downgraded; our exposure to and impacts from natural disasters or severe weather conditions; the availability and cost of finished lots and undeveloped land; the success of our strategy to offer and market entry-level and first move-up homes; a change to the feasibility of projects under option or contract that could result in the write-down or write-off of earnest money or option deposits; our limited geographic diversification; shortages in the availability and cost of subcontract labor; the replication of our energy-efficient technologies by our competitors; the impact on our reputation from our commitment and disclosures related to environmental, social and governance matters; our exposure to information technology failures and security breaches and the impact thereof; the loss of key personnel; changes in tax laws that adversely impact us or our homebuyers; our inability to prevail on contested tax positions; failure of our employees and representatives to comply with laws and regulations; our compliance with government regulations; liabilities and restrictions from regulations applicable to our financial services operations; negative publicity that affects our reputation; potential disruptions to our business by an epidemic or pandemic, and measures that federal, state and local governments and/or health authorities implement to address it; and other factors identified in documents filed by the company with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"), including those set forth in our Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2023 under the caption "Risk Factors," which can be found on our website.

# WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

## Available Information

Meritage Homes Corporation files annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. The SEC maintains a web site that contains reports, proxy and information statements and other information about issuers, like us, who file electronically with the SEC. The address of that web site is www.sec.gov. You can also inspect reports, proxy statements and other information about us at the offices of the New York Stock Exchange, Inc., 20 Broad Street, New York, New York 10005. You may also find the reports, proxy statements and other information we file with the SEC on our website at www.meritagehomes.com.

#### **Incorporation by Reference**

The SEC allows us to "incorporate by reference" information into this prospectus. This means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to another document filed separately with the SEC. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be part of this prospectus, except for any information that is superseded by information that is included directly in this or another document.

This prospectus incorporates by reference the documents listed below that we have previously filed with the SEC and that are not included in or delivered with this document. They contain important information about our business, prospects and financial condition.

Filing	Date Filed
Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2023	February 14, 2024
Selected portions of our Definitive Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A for our 2024 Annual Meeting of Stockholders that are	
incorporated by reference in Part III of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2023	<u>April 1, 2024</u>
Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2024	April 26, 2024
Current Report on Form 8-K	January 10, 2024
Current Report on Form 8-K	March 15, 2024

We incorporate by reference the description of Meritage Homes Corporation's capital stock contained in Exhibit 4.2 to our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2019.

We also incorporate by reference any future filings we make with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act between the date of this prospectus and the date of the closing of each offering, including all such documents we may file with the SEC after the date of this prospectus. These documents include periodic reports, such as Annual Reports on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and Current Reports on Form 8-K (other than information furnished under Item 2.02 and 7.01, which is deemed not to be incorporated by reference in this prospectus), as well as proxy statements (other than information identified therein as not incorporated by reference). You should review these filings as they may disclose changes in our business, products or financial condition or other affairs after the date of this prospectus. The information that we file later with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act and before the closing of each offering will automatically supersede previous information included or incorporated by reference in the prospectus.

You can obtain any of the documents incorporated by reference in this document from us without charge, excluding any exhibits to those documents unless the exhibit is specifically incorporated by reference in this prospectus. You can obtain documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus by requesting them in writing or by telephone from us at the following address:

Meritage Homes Corporation 18655 North Claret Drive, Suite 400 Scottsdale, Arizona 85255 Attn: Investor Relations (480) 515-8100

The information in this prospectus speaks only as of the date of this prospectus, unless the information specifically indicates that another date applies.

# MERITAGE HOMES CORPORATION

Meritage Homes is a leading designer and builder of single-family attached and detached homes. We primarily build in historically high-growth regions of the United States and offer a variety of entry-level and first move-up homes. We have operations in three regions: West, Central and East, which are comprised of ten states: Arizona, California, Colorado, Utah, Texas, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee. These three regions are our principal homebuilding reporting segments. We also operate a financial services reporting segment. In this segment, we offer title and escrow, mortgage, and insurance services. Carefree Title Agency, Inc., our wholly owned title company, provides title insurance and closing/settlement services to our homebuyers in certain states. Managing our own title operations allows us greater control over the entire escrow and closing cycles in addition to generating additional revenue. Meritage Homes Insurance Agency, Inc., our wholly owned insurance broker, works in collaboration with insurance companies nationwide to offer homeowners insurance and other insurance products to our homebuyers. Our financial services operations also provide mortgage services to our homebuyers through an unconsolidated joint venture.

Our homebuilding activities are conducted under the name of Meritage Homes in each of our homebuilding markets. At March 31, 2024, we were actively selling homes in 275 communities, with base prices ranging from approximately \$203,000 to \$1,074,000. Our average sales price on home closings and orders was approximately \$433,400 and \$430,200, respectively, for the year ended December 31, 2023.

We commenced our homebuilding operations in 1985 through our predecessor company, Monterey Homes. Meritage Homes Corporation was incorporated in the state of Maryland in 1988 under the name of Emerald Mortgage Investments Corporation. We changed our name to Homeplex Mortgage Investments Corporation in 1990 and merged with Monterey Homes in 1996, at which time our name was changed to Monterey Homes Corporation and later ultimately to Meritage Homes Corporation. Since that time, we have engaged in homebuilding and related activities. Meritage Homes Corporation operates as a holding company and has no independent assets or operations. Our homebuilding construction, development and sales activities are conducted through its subsidiaries.

Our principal executive office is located at 18655 North Claret Drive, Suite 400, Scottsdale, Arizona 85255. Our telephone number is (480) 515-8100.

# **USE OF PROCEEDS**

Unless we otherwise specify in the applicable prospectus supplement, the net proceeds we receive from the sale of the securities offered by this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement will be used for general corporate purposes. General corporate purposes may include providing additional working capital, the development of new residential properties, the repayment, redemption, repurchase or retirement of existing debt, land acquisitions and possible acquisitions of other homebuilders, and the repurchase of our common stock. The net proceeds may be invested temporarily or applied to repay short-term debt until they are used for their stated purpose.

## DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES AND GUARANTEES OF DEBT SECURITIES

This prospectus describes certain general terms and provisions of our debt securities. When we offer to sell a particular series of debt securities, we will describe the specific terms of the series in a supplement to this prospectus. We will also indicate in the applicable prospectus supplement whether the general terms and provisions described in this prospectus apply to a particular series of debt securities.

The debt securities will be issued under an indenture between us and Regions Bank, as trustee, or another trustee chosen by us, qualified to act as such under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended (the "Trust Indenture Act"), and appointed in a supplemental indenture with respect to a particular series. The indenture is governed by the Trust Indenture Act. We have summarized select portions of the indenture below. This summary is not complete. The indenture has been filed as an exhibit to the registration statement and we urge you to read the indenture. Capitalized terms used in the summary have the meaning specified in the indenture.

When we refer to "we," "our," "us," the "Company" and "Meritage" in this section, we mean Meritage Homes Corporation unless the context otherwise requires or as otherwise expressly stated.

#### General

The terms of each series of debt securities will be established by or pursuant to a resolution of our board of directors and set forth or determined in the manner provided in an officers' certificate or by a supplemental indenture. The particular terms of each series of debt securities will be described in a prospectus supplement relating to that series.

Unless otherwise specified in a supplement to this prospectus, the debt securities will be the direct, unsecured obligations of Meritage Homes Corporation and will rank equally with all of its other unsecured and unsubordinated indebtedness. Meritage Homes Corporation's payment obligations under any series of debt securities may be guaranteed by one or more co-registrants.

We may issue an unlimited amount of debt securities under the indenture that may be in one or more series with the same or various maturities, at par, at a premium or at a discount. We will set forth in a prospectus supplement, relating to any series of debt securities being offered, the aggregate principal amount and the following terms of the debt securities:

- the title of the debt securities, whether the debt securities rank as senior debt securities, senior subordinated debt securities or subordinated debt securities, or any combination thereof;
- the price or prices (expressed as a percentage of the principal amount) at which we will sell the debt securities;
- the aggregate principal amount of the debt securities and any limit on the aggregate principal amount of the debt securities;
- the date or dates on which we will pay the principal on the debt securities and the amount of principal that will be payable;
- the rate or rates (which may be fixed or variable) at which the debt securities will bear interest, if any, as well as the dates from which interest will accrue, the dates on which interest will be payable and the record date for the interest payable on any payment date;
- the form and terms of any guarantee, including the terms of subordination, if any, of any debt securities;
- any depositories, interest rate calculation agents or other agents with respect to the debt securities;
- the right, if any, of holders of the debt securities to convert them into our common stock or other securities, including any provisions intended to prevent dilution of the conversion rights;

- the place or places where principal, premium, if any, and interest, if any, on the debt securities will be payable and where debt securities which are in registered form can be presented for registration of transfer or exchange and the identification of any depositary or depositaries for any global debt securities;
- any provisions regarding our right to redeem or purchase debt securities or the right of holders to require us to redeem or purchase debt securities;
- any provision requiring or permitting us to make payments to a sinking fund to be used to redeem debt securities or a purchase fund to be used to purchase debt securities;
- the denominations in which the debt securities will be issued, if other than denominations of \$2,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof;
- the percentage of the principal amount at which debt securities will be issued and, if other than the full principal amount thereof, the
  percentage of the principal amount of the debt securities which is payable if maturity of the debt securities is accelerated because of a default;
- the currency or currencies in which principal, premium, if any, and interest, if any, will be payable;
- if payments of principal of, premium or interest on the debt securities will be made in one or more currencies other than that or those in which the debt securities are denominated, the manner in which the exchange rate with respect to these payments will be determined;
- the manner in which the amounts of payment of principal of, or premium or interest on the debt securities will be determined, if these
  amounts may be determined by reference to an index based on a currency or currencies other than that in which the debt securities are
  denominated or designated to be payable;
- any provisions relating to any security provided for the debt securities;
- any addition to or change in the events of default with respect to the debt securities and any change in the right of the trustee or the requisite holders of the debt securities to declare the principal amount thereof due and payable upon the occurrence of an Event of Default;
- the trustee, registrar or paying agent for the debt securities, if different than Regions Bank;
- if applicable, that the debt securities, in whole or in specific part, shall be defeasible and, if other than by a board resolution, the manner in which any election by the Company to defease such debt securities shall be evidenced;
- any addition to, change in or deletion from, the covenants described in this prospectus or in the indenture with respect to the debt securities; and
- any other material terms of the debt securities, which may modify, supplement or delete any provision of the indenture as it applies to that series.

In addition, the indenture does not limit our ability to issue subordinated debt securities. Any subordination provisions of a particular series of debt securities will be set forth in the officers' certificate or supplemental indenture related to that series of debt securities and will be described in the relevant prospectus supplement.

We will provide you with information on the material United States federal income tax considerations and other special considerations applicable to any of these debt securities in the applicable prospectus supplement.

## **Transfer and Exchange**

A holder will be able to transfer or exchange debt securities only in accordance with the indenture. The registrar may require a holder, among other things, to furnish appropriate endorsements and transfer documents and to pay taxes and fees required by law or permitted by the indenture.

#### **Change of Control**

Unless we state otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement, the debt securities will not contain any provisions that may afford holders of the debt securities protection in the event we undergo a change in control or in the event of a highly leveraged transaction (whether or not such transaction results in a change in control) that could adversely affect holders of debt securities.

#### Covenants

The indenture will contain certain covenants that require us and our subsidiaries to:

- maintain the properties used in our business in good condition, repair and working order, reasonable wear and tear excepted;
- maintain insurance customary in the industry;
- comply with laws, if non-compliance would materially adversely affect our and our subsidiaries' business, properties or financial condition, taken as a whole; and
- maintain our existence, subject to certain exceptions provided in the indenture, and any rights, licenses and franchises unless, taken as a whole, the loss thereof is not adverse in any material respect to the Holders.

We will set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement any additional restrictive covenants applicable to any issue of debt securities.

#### **Consolidation, Merger and Sale of Assets**

We may not consolidate with or merge with or into, or convey, transfer or lease all or substantially all of our and our subsidiaries' properties and assets to, any person, which we refer to as a successor person, unless:

- we are the surviving corporation or the successor person (if other than Meritage Homes Corporation) expressly assumes our obligations on the debt securities and under the indenture;
- immediately after giving effect to the transaction, no event of default, and no event which, after notice or lapse of time, or both, would become an event of default, shall have occurred and be continuing under the indenture; and
- certain other conditions are satisfied, including any that may be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement.

#### **Events of Default**

Unless otherwise stated in the prospectus supplement, an event of default with respect to any series of debt securities will be defined in the indenture or applicable supplemental indenture as being:

- our default in the payment of principal of or premium, if any, on any of the debt securities of such series when due and payable at maturity, upon redemption or otherwise;
- our default in the payment of any interest upon any debt security of such series when it becomes due and payable, and continuance of that default for a period of 30 days;
- an event of default as defined in the debt securities of that series or our failure to comply with any of our other agreements in the debt securities of such series or the indenture with respect to such series, which default continues uncured for a period of 60 days after we receive written notice from the trustee or we and the trustee receive written notice from the holders of at least 25% in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series as provided in the indenture;
- · certain events involving bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization of the Company; and

any other event of default provided with respect to debt securities of that series which is described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

No event of default with respect to a particular series of debt securities (except as to certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization) necessarily constitutes an event of default with respect to any other series of debt securities.

If an event of default (other than an event of default resulting from certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization) with respect to debt securities of any series at the time outstanding occurs and is continuing, then the trustee or the holders of at least 25% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series may, by a notice in writing to us (and to the trustee if given by the holders) and subject to any prior notice requirements set forth in any supplemental indenture, declare to be due and payable immediately the principal of and accrued and unpaid interest, if any, on all debt securities of that series (or any amount that by the terms of such Securities is payable if maturity of such Securities is accelerated because of a default). In the case of an event of default resulting from certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization, the principal (or such specified amount) of and accrued and unpaid interest, if any, on all outstanding debt securities will become and be immediately due and payable without any declaration or other act on the part of the trustee or any holder of outstanding debt securities. At any time after a declaration of acceleration with respect to debt securities of that series has been made, but before a judgment or decree for payment of the money due has been obtained by the trustee, the holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series may rescind the acceleration if the rescission would not conflict with any judgement or decree and all events of default, other than the non-payment of accelerated principal and interest, if any, with respect to debt securities of that series, have been cured or waived as provided in the indenture.

The indenture provides that the trustee will be under no obligation to exercise any of its rights or powers under the indenture at the request of any holder of outstanding debt securities, unless the trustee receives indemnity satisfactory to it against any loss, liability or expense. Subject to certain rights of the trustee and certain other limitations, the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of any series will have the right to direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the trustee or exercising any trust or power conferred on the trustee with respect to the debt securities of that series.

Unless stated otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement, no holder of any debt security of any series will have any right to institute any proceeding, judicial or otherwise, with respect to the indenture or for the appointment of a receiver or trustee, or for any remedy under the indenture, unless:

- · that holder has previously given to the trustee written notice of a continuing event of default with respect to debt securities of that series; and
- the holders of at least 25% in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series have made written request, and offered
  indemnity satisfactory to the trustee to institute the proceeding as trustee, and the trustee has not received from the holders of a majority in
  principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series a direction inconsistent with that request and has failed to institute the
  proceeding within 60 days.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the holder of any debt security will have an absolute and unconditional right to receive payment of the principal of, premium and any interest on that debt security on or after the due dates expressed in that debt security and to institute suit for the enforcement of payment.

The indenture requires us, within 90 days after the end of our fiscal year, to furnish to the trustee a statement as to compliance with the indenture. The indenture provides that the trustee may withhold notice to the holders of debt securities of any series of any default or event of default (except in payment on any debt securities of that series) with respect to debt securities of that series if it in good faith determines that withholding notice is in the interest of the holders of those debt securities.

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## **Modification and Waiver**

We may modify and amend the indenture or any series without notice to or the consent of the holders to:

- create one or more additional series and establish its or their terms;
- cure any ambiguity, defect or inconsistency;
- evidence the assumption of a successor corporation of our obligations under the indenture;
- comply with any requirements of the SEC in connection with the qualification of the indenture under the Trust Indenture Act;
- provide for uncertificated securities in addition to or in place of certificated securities;
- add, change or eliminate any other provisions of the indenture so long as that change (i) does not apply to any then existing series of debt securities or modify the rights of the holder of any such security with respect to that provision or (ii) only becomes effective when there is no outstanding security of any series created prior to such supplemental indenture and entitled to the benefit of such provision;
- make any change that does not adversely affect in any material respect the interests of the securityholders of any series;
- to evidence and provide for the acceptance of appointment by a successor trustee or a separate trustee with respect to the debt securities of
  one or more series and to add to or change any of the provisions of the indenture as shall be necessary to provide for or facilitate the
  administration of the trusts by more than one trustee; and
- add guarantors.

Subject to certain exceptions, we may amend the indenture or any series with the consent (which may include consents obtained in connection with a tender offer or exchange offer for that series of securities) of the holders of at least a majority in aggregate principal amount of the series of the securities then outstanding, and any existing default under, or compliance with any provision of, the indenture may be waived (other than any continuing default in the payment of the principal of or interest on the securities) with the consent (which may include consents obtained in connection with a tender offer or exchange offer for that series of securities) of the holders of a majority in principal amount of the securities of that series then outstanding; provided that without the consent of each holder affected, we may not:

- (1) change the stated maturity of any security;
- (2) reduce the amount, extend the due date or otherwise affect the terms of any scheduled payment of interest on or principal of the securities;
- (3) reduce any premium payable upon optional redemption of the securities, change the date on which any securities are subject to redemption or otherwise alter the provisions with respect to the redemption of the securities;
- (4) make any security payable in money or currency other than that stated in the securities;
- (5) modify or change any provision of the indenture or the related definitions to affect the ranking of the securities or any security guarantee in a manner that adversely affects the holders;
- (6) reduce the percentage of holders necessary to consent to an amendment or waiver to the indenture or the securities;
- (7) impair the rights of holders to receive payments of principal of or interest on the securities;
- (8) release any guarantor from any of its obligations under its security guarantee or the indenture, except as permitted by the indenture; or
- (9) make any change in these amendment and waiver provisions.

Except for certain specified provisions, the holders of at least a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of any series may on behalf of the holders of all debt securities of that series waive our compliance with provisions of the indenture. The holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of any series may on behalf of the holders of all the debt securities of such series waive any past default under the indenture with respect to that series and its consequences, except a default in the payment of the principal of or any interest on any debt security of that series or in respect of a covenant or provision which cannot be modified or amended without the consent of the holder of each outstanding debt security of the series affected; provided, however, that, subject to certain limitations, the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of any series may rescind an acceleration and its consequences, including any related payment default that resulted from the acceleration.

### Defeasance of Debt Securities and Certain Covenants in Certain Circumstances Legal Defeasance

Legal Defeasance. The indenture provides that, if so provided by the terms of the applicable series of debt securities, we may be discharged from any and all obligations in respect of the debt securities of any series (except for certain obligations, including obligations to register the transfer or exchange of debt securities of such series, to replace stolen, lost or mutilated debt securities of such series, and to maintain paying agencies and certain provisions relating to the treatment of funds held by paying agents and the rights, duties and immunities of and obligations to the trustee). We will be so discharged upon the deposit with the trustee, in trust, of money and/or non-callable U.S. government obligations, that, through the payment of interest and principal in accordance with their terms, will provide money in an amount sufficient in the opinion of a nationally recognized firm of independent public accountants to pay the principal, premium and interest on the debt securities of that series on the stated date of payment thereof or the applicable redemption date, as the case may be.

This discharge may occur only if, among other things, we have delivered to the trustee an opinion of counsel stating that we have received from, or there has been published by, the United States Internal Revenue Service a ruling or, since the date of execution of the indenture, there has been a change in the applicable United States federal income tax law, in either case to the effect that, and based thereon such opinion shall confirm that, the holders of the debt securities of that series will not recognize income, gain or loss for United States federal income tax purposes as a result of the deposit, defeasance and discharge and will be subject to United States federal income tax on the same amounts and in the same manner and at the same times as would have been the case if the deposit, defeasance and discharge had not occurred.

Defeasance of Certain Covenants. The indenture provides that, if so provided by the terms of the applicable series of debt securities, upon compliance with certain conditions:

- we may omit to comply with the covenant described under the heading "Consolidation, Merger and Sale of Assets" and certain other covenants set forth in the indenture, as well as any additional covenants which may be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement; and
- any omission to comply with those covenants will not constitute a default or an event of default with respect to the debt securities of that series, or covenant defeasance.

#### The conditions include:

- irrevocably depositing with the trustee, in trust, for the benefit of the holders, (i) cash in United States dollars, or(ii) non-callable U.S.
   Government Obligations, or a combination of cash and such non-callable U.S. Government Obligations, in such amounts as will be sufficient in the opinion of a nationally recognized firm of independent public accountants (as to defeasance under clause (ii)), to pay the principal of, premium and interest on the outstanding debt securities of that series on the stated maturity of those payments or on the applicable redemption date, as the case may be, in accordance with the terms of the indenture and those debt securities; and
- delivering to the trustee an opinion of counsel to the effect that the holders of the debt securities of that series will not recognize income, gain or loss for United States federal income tax purposes as a result

of the deposit and related covenant defeasance and will be subject to United States federal income tax on the same amounts and in the same manner and at the same times as would have been the case if the deposit and related covenant defeasance had not occurred.

*Covenant Defeasance and Events of Default.* In the event we exercise our option to effect covenant defeasance with respect to any series of debt securities and the debt securities of that series are declared due and payable because of the occurrence of any event of default, the amount of money and/or U.S. government obligations or foreign government obligations on deposit with the trustee will be sufficient to pay amounts due on the debt securities of that series at the time of their stated maturity but may not be sufficient to pay amounts due on the debt securities of that series at the time of the event of default. However, we shall remain liable for those payments.

#### Guarantees

Our payment obligations under any series of debt securities may be guaranteed by one or more of the or registrants. The terms of any such guarantee will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement.

#### **Global Securities**

Some or all of the debt securities of any series may be represented, in whole or in part, by one or more global securities, which will have an aggregate principal amount equal to that of the debt securities they represent. We will register each global security in the name of a depositary or nominee identified in a prospectus supplement and deposit the global security with the depositary or nominee. Each global security will bear a legend regarding the restrictions on exchanges and registration of transfer referred to below and other matters specified in the indenture or supplemental indenture.

No global security may be exchanged for debt securities registered, and no transfer of a global security may be registered, in the name of any person other than the depositary for the global security or any nominee of the depositary, unless:

- the depositary has notified us that it is unwilling or unable to continue as depositary for the global security or has ceased to be a clearing agency registered under the Exchange Act;
- we execute and deliver to the trustee an officer's certificate to the effect that the global security shall be so exchangeable; or
- any other circumstances exist that may be described in the indenture or supplemental indenture and prospectus supplement.

We will register all securities issued in exchange for a global security or any portion of a global security in the names specified by the depositary.

As long as the depositary or its nominee is the registered holder of a global security, the depositary or nominee will be considered the sole owner and holder of the global security and the debt securities that it represents. Except in the limited circumstances referred to above, owners of beneficial interests in a global security will not:

- be entitled to have the global security or debt securities registered in their names;
- receive or be entitled to receive physical delivery of certificated debt securities in exchange for a global security; and
- be considered to be the owners or holders of the global security or any debt securities for any purpose under the Indenture.

We will make all payments of principal, premium, and interest on a global security to the depositary or its nominee.

The indenture will authorize the Company, the trustee and the paying agent to act in accordance with the applicable procedures of the Depository Trust Company ("DTC") or such other depositary for the debt securities. Ownership of beneficial interests in a global security will be limited to institutions that have accounts with the depositary or its nominee, referred to as "participants," and to persons that may hold beneficial interests through participants. In connection with the issuance of any global security, the depositary will credit, on its book-entry registration and transfer system, the respective principal amounts of debt securities represented by the global security to the accounts of its participants. Ownership of beneficial interests in a global security will only be shown on records maintained by the depositary or the participant. Likewise, the transfer of ownership interests will be effected only through the same records. Payments, transfers, exchanges, and other matters relating to beneficial interests in a global security or any aspect of the depositary's or any participant's records relating to, or for payments made on account of, beneficial interests in a global security, or for maintaining, supervising, or reviewing any records relating to the beneficial interests.

#### **Concerning the Trustee**

In the ordinary course of its business, Regions Bank, the trustee, has provided, and may in the future provide, investment banking, commercial lending, financial advisory and other services for us. The indenture contains, or will contain, limitations on the right of the trustee, should it become our creditor, to obtain payment of claims in specified cases or to realize on property received in respect of any such claim as security or otherwise. The indenture permits, or will permit, the trustee to engage in other transactions; however, if it acquires any conflicting interest, it must eliminate such conflict or resign.

The indenture provides, or will provide, that in case an event of default occurs and is not cured, the trustee will be required, in the exercise of its power, to use the degree of care of a prudent person in similar circumstances in the conduct of such person's own affairs. The trustee may refuse to perform any duty or exercise any right or power under the indenture, unless it receives indemnity satisfactory to it against any loss, liability or expense.

#### Governing Law

The laws of the State of New York govern, or will govern, the indenture, the debt securities and the guarantees of debt securities and each holder of debt securities under the indenture submits (by their acceptance of the debt securities) to the nonexclusive jurisdiction of the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York and of any New York State Court sitting in New York City for purposes of all legal proceedings arising out of or relating to the indenture, the debt securities or any guarantee thereof.

## DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK

This following information describes the general terms and provisions of our capital stock. This description is only a summary. Our restated articles of incorporation, as amended (the "charter"), and our amended and restated bylaws (the "bylaws") have been filed as exhibits to the registration statement.

#### **Common Stock**

We are authorized to issue up to 125,000,000 shares of common stock, \$0.01 par value per share, of which 36,319,014 shares were outstanding as of April 22, 2024.

Holders of shares of common stock are entitled to participate equally and ratably in dividends and in distributions available for the common stock on liquidation. Future cash dividends, if any, will depend upon our financial condition, results of operations, capital requirements, compliance with debt covenants of existing and future indebtedness and credit facilities, as well as other factors considered relevant by our board of directors. Each share is entitled to one vote for the election of directors and upon all other matters on which the common stockholders vote. Holders of common stock do not have preemptive rights and are not entitled to cumulative votes in the election of directors.

Our common stock is listed under the symbol "MTH" on the New York Stock Exchange. The transfer agent and registrar for our common stock is Computershare, Inc.

## Preferred Stock

We are authorized to issue up to 10,000,000 shares of preferred stock, \$0.01 par value per share, of which no shares were outstanding as of the date of this prospectus. The board of directors has the authority to determine the terms of our preferred stock without further stockholder approval. We may issue shares of preferred stock from time to time, in one or more series, as authorized by our board of directors without stockholder approval. Prior to issuance of shares of each series, the board of directors is required by the Maryland General Corporation Law (the "MGCL") and our charter to fix for each series, as permitted by Maryland law, the preferences, conversion or other rights, voting powers, restrictions, limitations as to dividends or other distributions, qualifications and terms or conditions of redemption.

If we issue preferred stock with voting rights, it could make it more difficult for a third party to acquire control of us and could adversely affect the rights of holders of common stock. Preferred stockholders typically are entitled to satisfaction in full of specified dividend and liquidation rights before any payment of dividends or distribution of assets on liquidation can be made to holders of common stock. Also, any voting rights granted to our preferred stock may dilute the voting rights of our common stock. Under some circumstances, control of us could shift from the holders of common stock to the holders of preferred stock with voting rights. Certain fundamental matters requiring stockholder approval (such as mergers, sale of assets and certain amendments to our charter) may require approval by the separate vote of the holders of preferred stock in addition to any required vote of the common stock.

## Certain Provisions of Maryland Law

We are incorporated in Maryland and are subject to the provisions of the MGCL, certain of which provisions are discussed below.

Business Combinations. Under the Maryland Business Combination Act, "business combinations" between a Maryland corporation and an interested stockholder or an affiliate of an interested stockholder are prohibited for five years after the most recent date on which the interested stockholder becomes an interested stockholder.

These business combinations include certain mergers, consolidations, share exchanges or asset transfers, loans, transfers or issuances or reclassifications of equity securities. An interested stockholder is defined as:

- · any person who beneficially owns, directly or indirectly, 10% or more of the voting power of the corporation's shares; or
- an affiliate or associate of the corporation who, at any time within thetwo-year period prior to the date in question, was the beneficial owner, directly or indirectly, of 10% or more of the voting power of the then outstanding voting stock of the corporation.

A person is not an interested stockholder under the MGCL if the board of directors approved in advance the transaction by which the stockholder otherwise would have become an interested stockholder.

After the five-year prohibition, any business combination between the Maryland corporation and an interested stockholder generally must be recommended by the board of directors of the corporation and approved by the affirmative vote of at least:

- 80% of the votes entitled to be cast by the outstanding shares of voting stock of the corporation voting together as a single voting group; and
- two-thirds of the votes entitled to be cast by the holders of voting stock of the corporation other than shares held by the interested stockholder with whom or with whose affiliate the business combination is to be effected or held by an affiliate or associate of the interested stockholder voting together as a single voting group.

These super-majority vote requirements do not apply to certain business combinations if the corporation's stockholders receive a minimum price, as defined under Maryland law, for their shares in the form of cash or other consideration in the same form as previously paid by the interested stockholder for its shares and the corporation and interested stockholder meet certain other requirements.

The MGCL provides for various exemptions from its provisions, including business combinations that are exempted by resolution of the board of directors prior to the time that the interested stockholder becomes an interested stockholder.

The business combination statute could have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing a transaction or a change in control that might involve a premium price for holders of our common stock or otherwise be in their best interest.

A Maryland corporation may opt out of the statute by provision in its charter or by resolution of its board of directors. No such charter provision or board resolution has been adopted by us.

*Control Share Acquisitions.* The Maryland Control Share Acquisition Act provides that "control shares" (defined as shares which, when aggregated with other shares controlled by the stockholder, entitle the stockholder to exercise one of three increasing ranges of voting power in electing directors) of a Maryland corporation acquired in a "control share acquisition" (defined as the direct or indirect acquisition of ownership or control of outstanding control shares) have no voting rights, except to the extent approved by our stockholders by the affirmative vote of at least two thirds of the votes entitled to be cast on the matter, excluding all interested shares. Our bylaws contain a provision exempting from the control share acquisition statute any and all acquisitions by any person of our shares of common stock. We cannot give any assurance that such provision will not be amended or eliminated at any time in the future.

#### Certain Provisions of our Charter and Bylaws

Our charter and bylaws include provisions that could make a change in control more difficult. These provisions are intended to preserve the continuity and stability of our board of directors and the policies

formulated by our board of directors, as well as avoid unintended ownership changes and preserve the value of our tax benefits for future utilization. The following is a summary of the provisions or our charter and bylaws that we consider material, but does not purport to be complete and is subject to, and qualified in its entirety by reference to, the provisions of our charter and bylaws.

Classified Board. As provided in our charter, our directors are divided into two classes serving staggered terms expiring at the second annual meeting following the election. This could make it more difficult to change the composition of the board, since not all members are up for election at the same time.

*NOL Protective Amendment.* In 2009, we amended Article VIII of our charter to preserve the long-term value of our accumulated net operating losses ("NOLs," and such mechanism to preserve our NOLs, the "NOL Protective Amendment"). The benefit of our NOLs would be significantly reduced if we were to experience an "ownership change" as defined in Section 382 ("Section 382") of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. Under Section 382, calculating whether an "ownership change" has occurred is subject to inherent uncertainty. This uncertainty results from the complexity and ambiguity of the Section 382 provisions, as well as limitations on the knowledge that any publicly-traded company can have about the ownership of and transactions in its securities. In the event of an "ownership change," we would only be allowed to use a limited amount of NOLs to offset our taxable income subsequent to the "ownership change." The NOL Protective Amendment was adopted to combat that possible situation and ensure an ownership change does not occur.

Article VIII could be deemed to have an "anti-takeover" effect because, among other things, it restricts the ability of a person, entity or group to accumulate 4.9% or more of our common stock and the ability of persons, entities or groups now owning 4.9% or more of common stock from acquiring additional shares of common stock, without the approval of the board of directors or a duly authorized committee thereof. Accordingly, any direct or indirect transfer attempted in violation of the restrictions in the charter would be void as of the date of the purported transfer as to the purported transferee (or, in the case of an indirect transfer, the ownership of the direct owner of common stock would terminate simultaneously with the transfer), and the purported transferee (or in the case of any indirect transfer, the direct owner) would not be recognized as the owner of the shares owned in violation of the restrictions for any purposes, including for purposes of voting and receiving dividends or other distributions in respect of such common stock, or in the case of options, receiving common stock in respect of their exercise. The board of directors has the discretion to approve a transfer of common stock that would otherwise violate the transfer restrictions if it determines that such transfer is in our best interests.

Stockholder Special Meeting Procedures. Our bylaws provide that a special meeting may be called by stockholders holding at least 50% of the votes entitled to be cast. In addition, our bylaws limit the matters that can be acted upon at a stockholders meeting to those included in the notice for such meeting or brought before the meeting by the board of directors or the chief executive officer ("CEO").

Advance Notice Procedures. Our bylaws establish an advance notice procedure for stockholders to make nominations of candidates for election as directors or to bring other business before an annual meeting. These stockholder notice procedures provide that nominations of individuals for election as directors and proposals of other business may only be made (a) by or at the direction of the board of directors; (b) pursuant to the notice of meeting; or (c) by a stockholder who was a stockholder at the time of giving notice, the record date for the meeting and the time of the annual meeting, and has given timely written notice to our secretary before the meeting at which directors are to be elected. To be timely, a stockholder's nomination or notice must be delivered to or mailed and received by our secretary at our principle executive offices not earlier than the 150th day nor later than 5:00 p.m., Eastern Time, on the 120th day prior to the first anniversary date of the proxy statement for the preceding year's annual meeting, notice by the stockholder to be timely must be so delivered not earlier than the 150th day prior to the date of such annual meeting and not later than 5:00 p.m., Eastern Time, on the later of the 120th day prior to the date of such annual meeting and not later than 5:00 p.m., Eastern Time, on the later of the 120th day prior to the date of such annual meeting and not later than 5:00 p.m., Eastern Time, on the later of the 120th day prior to the date of such annual meeting and not later than 5:00 p.m., Eastern Time, on the later of the 120th day prior to the date of such annual meeting or the tenth day following the date on which public announcement of the date of such annual meeting is first made.

In addition, under these stockholder notice procedures, a stockholder's notice to us proposing to nominate a person for election as a director or relating to the conduct of business other than the nomination of directors will be required to contain specified information and a stockholder must comply with all applicable laws in proposing business and in nominating directors. If the chairman of a meeting determines that an individual was not nominated, or other business was not brought before the meeting, in accordance with our stockholder notice procedure, the individual will not be eligible for election as a director, or the business will not be transacted at the meeting, as the case may be.

Other provisions of the MGCL and our charter and bylaws may also have the effect of delaying or preventing a change of control, even where the stockholders may consider it to be favorable. These provisions could also prevent or hinder an attempt by stockholders to replace our current directors and include: (i) a classified board of directors; (ii) a provision that directors may only be removed for cause; (iii) a limitation on the maximum number of directors; and (iv) the ability of the board of directors to designate and cause us to issue shares of our preferred stock.

## **DESCRIPTION OF WARRANTS**

We may issue warrants for the purchase of common stock, preferred stock or debt securities or two or more of these types of securities. Warrants may be issued independently or together with our common stock, preferred stock or debt securities and may be attached to or separate from any offered securities. Each series of warrants will be issued under a separate warrant agreement to be entered into between us and a bank or trust company, as warrant agent. The warrant agent will act solely as our agent in connection with the warrants and will not have any obligation or relationship of agency or trust for or with any holders or beneficial owners of warrants. A copy of the warrant agreement will be filed with the SEC in connection with any offering of warrants.

The prospectus supplement relating to a particular issue of warrants to purchase common stock, preferred stock or debt securities will describe the terms of those warrants, including the following:

- the title of the warrants;
- the offering price for the warrants, if any;
- the aggregate number of the warrants;
- the designation and terms of the common stock, preferred stock or debt securities that may be purchased upon exercise of the warrants;
- if applicable, the designation and terms of the securities that the warrants are issued with and the number of warrants issued with each security;
- if applicable, the date from and after which the warrants and any securities issued with them will be separately transferable;
- if applicable, the principal amount of debt securities that may be purchased upon exercise of a warrant and the price at which the debt securities may be purchased upon exercise;
- if applicable, the number of shares of common stock or preferred stock that may be purchased upon exercise of a warrant and the price at which the shares may be purchased upon exercise;
- the dates on which the right to exercise the warrants will commence and expire;
- if applicable, the minimum or maximum amount of the warrants that may be exercised at any one time;
- whether the warrants represented by the warrant certificates or debt securities that may be issued upon exercise of the warrants will be issued in registered or bearer form;
- information relating to book-entry procedures, if any;
- the currency or currency units in which the offering price, if any, and the exercise price are payable;
- if applicable, a discussion of material United States federal income tax considerations;
- anti-dilution provisions of the warrants, if any;
- redemption or call provisions applicable to the warrants, if any;
- · any additional terms of the warrants, including terms, procedures and limitations relating to the exchange and exercise of the warrants; and
- any other information we think is important about the warrants.

# DESCRIPTION OF OTHER SECURITIES

We will set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement a description of any depositary shares, rights, stock purchase contracts or stock purchase units that may be offered pursuant to this prospectus.

# PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

The securities that may be offered by this prospectus may be sold:

- through agents;
- to or through underwriters;
- to or through broker-dealers (acting as agent or principal);
- in "at the market offerings" within the meaning of Rule 415(a)(4) of the Securities Act, to or through a market maker or into an existing trading market, on an exchange, or otherwise;
- · directly to purchasers, through a specific bidding or auction process or otherwise;
- through a combination of any such methods of sale; or
- through other methods described in a prospectus supplement.

Agents, underwriters or broker-dealers may be paid compensation for offering and selling the securities. That compensation may be in the form of discounts, concessions or commissions to be received from us, from the purchasers of the securities or from both us and the purchasers. The compensation received may be in excess of customary discounts, concessions or commissions. Any underwriters, dealers, agents or other investors participating in the distribution of the securities may be deemed to be "underwriters," as that term is defined in the Securities Act, and compensation and profits received by them on sale of the securities may be deemed to be underwriting commissions, as that term is defined in the rules promulgated under the Securities Act.

Each time the securities are offered by this prospectus, the prospectus supplement, if and to the extent required, will set forth:

- the name of any underwriter, dealer or agent involved in the offer and sale of the securities;
- the terms of the offering;
- any discounts concessions or commissions and other items constituting compensation received by the underwriters, broker-dealers or agents;
- any over-allotment option under which any underwriters may purchase additional securities from us;
- any initial public offering price;
- any discounts or concessions allowed or reallowed or paid to dealers;
- · any securities exchanges on which the securities may be listed; and
- the anticipated date of delivery of the securities.

The securities may be sold at a fixed price or prices, which may be changed, at market prices prevailing at the time of sale, at prices relating to the prevailing market prices or at negotiated prices. The distribution of securities may be effected from time to time in one or more transactions, by means of one or more of the following transactions, which may include crosses or block trades:

- · exchange offers or other transactions on the New York Stock Exchange or any other organized market where the securities may be traded;
- in the over-the-counter market;
- in negotiated transactions;
- through put or call option transactions relating to the securities;
- under delayed delivery contracts or other contractual commitments; or
- a combination of such methods of sale.

If underwriters are used in a sale, securities will be acquired by the underwriters for their own account and may be resold from time to time in one or more transactions. Securities may be offered to the public either through underwriting syndicates represented by one or more managing underwriters or directly by one or more firms acting as underwriters. If an underwriter or underwriters are used in the sale of securities, an underwriting agreement will be executed with the underwriter or underwriters at the time an agreement for the sale is reached. This prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement will be used by the underwriters to resell the securities.

To comply with the securities laws of certain states, if applicable, the securities offered by this prospectus will be offered and sold in those states only through registered or licensed brokers or dealers.

Agents, underwriters and dealers may be entitled under agreements entered into with us to indemnification by us against specified liabilities, including liabilities incurred under the Securities Act, or to contribution by us to payments they may be required to make in respect of such liabilities. The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the terms and conditions of such indemnification or contribution. Some of the agents, underwriters or dealers, or their respective affiliates may be customers of, engage in transactions with or perform services for us in the ordinary course of business. We will describe in the prospectus supplement naming the underwriter the nature of any such relationship.

Our common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange. Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, each other class or series of securities issued will be a new issue with no established trading market. We may elect to list any other class or series of securities on any exchange, but we are not currently obligated to do so. It is possible that one or more underwriters, if any, may make a market in a class or series of securities, but the underwriters will not be obligated to do so and may discontinue any market making at any time without notice. We cannot give any assurance as to the liquidity of the trading market for any of the securities.

Certain persons participating in the offering may engage in over-allotment, stabilizing transactions, short-covering transactions and penalty bids in accordance with Regulation M under the Exchange Act. We make no representation or prediction as to the direction or magnitude of any effect that such transactions may have on the price of the securities. For a description of these activities, see the information under the heading "Underwriting" in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Concurrently with any offering of debt securities that are convertible into or exercisable or exchangeable for our common stock, we may offer from time to time our common stock by means of a separate prospectus supplement. In addition, we may agree to loan common stock to affiliates of the underwriters, dealers or agents for such debt securities or common stock, which affiliates we refer to as the "share borrowers," pursuant to a share lending agreement to be described in the applicable prospectus supplement. Such share borrowers may use the borrowed shares or the proceeds therefrom to facilitate transactions by which investors in our debt securities may hedge their investments in such debt securities. In connection with facilitating those transactions, the share borrowers and their affiliates may receive customary, negotiated fees from investors.

In connection with any offering of debt securities that are convertible into or exercisable or exchangeable for our common stock, we may enter into convertible debt security hedge transactions with affiliates of the underwriters. Such convertible debt security hedge transactions may reduce the potential dilution to us upon conversion of such debt securities. We may apply a portion of the net proceeds from the sale of the debt securities to pay the cost of such convertible debt security hedge transactions.

In connection with establishing an initial hedge of these transactions, the hedge counterparty or its affiliates may enter into various derivative transactions with respect to our common stock, concurrently with or shortly after the pricing of such debt securities. These activities could have the effect of increasing or preventing a decline in the price of our common stock concurrently with or shortly after the pricing of such debt securities.

In addition, the hedge counterparty or its affiliates will likely modify its hedge position following the pricing of such debt securities from time to time by entering into or unwinding various derivative transactions and/or purchasing or selling our common stock in secondary market transactions prior to the maturity of such debt securities (including during any settlement period in respect of any conversion of such debt securities). The effect, if any, of any of these transactions and activities on the market price of our common stock or such debt securities will depend in part on market conditions and cannot be ascertained at this time. Any of these activities could impact the price of our common stock and the value of such debt securities and, as a result, the value of the consideration and the number of shares, if any, that an investor would receive upon conversion of such debt securities and, under certain circumstances, such investor's ability to convert such debt securities.

# LEGAL MATTERS

Snell & Wilmer L.L.P., Phoenix, Arizona and Venable LLP, Baltimore, Maryland have issued opinions regarding the validity of the securities being offered by this prospectus. In rendering its opinion, Snell & Wilmer L.L.P. will rely upon the opinion of Venable LLP as to all matters governed by the laws of the State of Maryland. We have filed the opinions as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is part. If counsel for any underwriters passes on legal matters in connection with an offering made by this prospectus, we will name that counsel in the prospectus supplement relating to that offering.

# EXPERTS

The financial statements of Meritage Homes Corporation incorporated by reference in this prospectus and the effectiveness of Meritage Homes Corporation's internal control over financial reporting have been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their reports. Such financial statements are incorporated by reference in reliance upon the reports of such firm, given their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.



Prospectus

Debt Securities Guarantees of Debt Securities Common Stock Preferred Stock Warrants Depositary Shares Rights Stock Purchase Contracts Stock Purchase Units

#### PART II

#### INFORMATION NOT REQUIRED IN PROSPECTUS

#### Item 14. Other Expenses of Issuance and Distribution.

The following table sets forth the estimated expenses, other than underwriting discounts and other expenses associated with offerings of particular securities, in connection with the issuance and distribution of the securities being registered.

	Amount
SEC registration fee	\$ (1)
Legal fees	(2)
Accounting fees	(2)
Trustees' fees	(2)
Printing fees	(2)
Miscellaneous	(2)
Total	<u>\$(1)</u>

(1) Because an indeterminate amount of securities are covered by this Registration Statement, we are deferring payment of the registration fee pursuant to Rules 456(b) and 457(r) under the Securities Act.

(2) Because an indeterminate amount of securities are covered by this Registration Statement and the number of offerings is indeterminable, the expenses in connection with the issuance and distribution of the securities are not currently determinable.

## Item 15. Indemnification of Directors and Officers.

#### Meritage Homes Corporation

Under the provisions of the Maryland General Corporation Law (the "MGCL"), a corporation's charter may, with certain exceptions, include any provision expanding or limiting the liability of its directors and officers to the corporation or its stockholders for money damages, but may not include any provision that restricts or limits the liability of its directors or officers to the corporation or its stockholders to the extent that (1) it is proved that the person actually received an improper benefit or profit in money, property, or services for the amount of the benefit or profit in money, property, or services actually received or (2) a judgment or other final adjudication adverse to the person is entered in a proceeding based on a finding in the proceeding. Meritage's charter contains a provision limiting the personal liability of officers and directors to Meritage and its stockholders to the fullest extent permitted under Maryland law.

In addition, the provisions of the MGCL permit a corporation to indemnify its present and former directors and officers, among others, against liability incurred, unless it is established that (1) the act or omission of the director or officer was material to the matter giving rise to the proceeding and was committed in bad faith or was the result of active and deliberate dishonesty, (2) the director or officer actually received an improper personal benefit in money, property, or services, or (3) in the case of any criminal proceeding, the director or officer had reasonable cause to believe that the act or omission was unlawful. However, under the MGCL, a Maryland corporation may not indemnify for an adverse judgment in a suit by or in the right of the corporation or for a judgment of liability on the basis that personal benefit was improperly received, unless in either case a court orders indemnification and then only for expenses. In addition, the MGCL permits a corporation to advance reasonable expenses to a director or officer upon the corporation's receipt of (a) a written affirmation by the director or of his good faith belief that he has met the standard of conduct necessary for indemnification by the corporation and (b) a written undertaking by him or on his behalf to repay the amount paid or reimbursed by the corporation if it shall ultimately be determined that the standard of conduct was not met. Meritage's charter provides that it will indemnify and advance expenses to its directors, officers and others so designated by the board of directors to the full extent permitted under Maryland law.

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Meritage Homes Corporation also maintains, for the benefit of its and its subsidiaries' directors and officers, insurance against certain asserted or incurred liabilities, including certain liabilities under the Securities Act.

In addition to the indemnification provided for in our charter and under Maryland law, Meritage Homes Corporation has entered into indemnification agreements with its directors and certain officers. These indemnification agreements may require us, among other things, to indemnify our directors and certain officers for expenses, including attorneys' fees, judgments, penalties, fines and settlement amounts incurred by a director or officer in any action or proceeding arising out of his or her service as one of our directors or officers, or any of our subsidiaries or any other company or enterprise to which the person provides services at our request.

#### Subsidiary Guarantors

#### Arizona Corporate Guarantors

Arizona Revised Statutes ("ARS") § 10-851 allows a corporation, in certain circumstances, to indemnify its directors against costs and expenses (including attorneys' fees) reasonably incurred in connection with threatened, pending or completed civil, criminal, administrative or investigative actions, suits or proceedings, in which such persons were or are parties, or are threatened to be made parties, by reason of the fact that they were or are directors of the corporation, if such persons acted in good faith and either (1) in a manner they reasonably believed to be in the best interests of the corporation (if acting in an official capacity), or (2) in a manner they reasonably believed was at least not opposed to the corporation's best interests (in all other cases). A corporation may indemnify its directors with respect to any criminal action or proceeding if, in addition to the above conditions being met, the individual had no reasonable cause to believe his or her conduct was unlawful. Directors may not be indemnified under ARS § 10-851 in connection with a proceeding improper financial benefit to the director, whether or not involving action in the director's official capacity, in which the director was adjudged liable to the corporation or in connection with any other proceeding charging improper financial benefit was improperly received by the director. In addition, under ARS § 10-202(B), a corporation's articles of incorporation may indemnify a director for conduct for which broader indemnification has been made permissible or mandatory under other ARS provisions.

ARS § 10-202 provides that the articles of incorporation may set forth a provision eliminating or limiting the liability of a director to the corporation or its shareholders for money damages, and permitting or making obligatory indemnification of a director, for liability to any person, for any action taken or any failure to take any action as a director, except liability for any of the following: (1) the amount of a financial benefit received by a director to which the director is not entitled, (2) an intentional infliction of harm on the corporation or the shareholders, (3) unlawful distributions and (4) an intentional violation of criminal law.

ARS § 10-850 defines a director as an individual who is or was a director of a corporation or an individual who, while a director of a corporation, is or was serving at the corporation's request as a director, officer, partner, trustee, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust, employee benefit plan or other entity. Director includes the estate or personal representative of a director.

ARS § 10-852 provides for mandatory indemnification in certain situations such that, unless limited by its articles of incorporation, a corporation shall indemnify a director who was the prevailing party, on the merits or otherwise, in the defense of any proceeding to which the director was a party because the director is or was a director of the corporation against reasonable expenses incurred by the director in connection with the proceeding.

ARS § 10-856 provides that a corporation may indemnify its officers against costs and expenses (including attorneys' fees) reasonably incurred in connection with threatened, pending or completed civil, criminal,

administrative or investigative actions, suits or proceedings, in which such persons were or are parties, or are threatened to be made parties because the individual is or was an officer of the corporation to the same extent as a director. If the individual is an officer but not a director (or is both but is made a party to the proceeding solely because of an act or omission as an officer), a corporation may indemnify and advance expenses to the further extent as may be provided by the articles of incorporation, the bylaws, a resolution of the board of directors or contract except for (1) liability in connection with a proceeding by or in the right of the corporation other than for reasonable expenses incurred in connection with the proceeding or (2) liability arising out of conduct that constitutes (a) receipt by the officer of a financial benefit to which the officer is not entitled, (b) an intentional infliction of harm on the corporation or the shareholders or (c) an intentional violation of criminal law. An officer of a corporation who is not a director is entitled to mandatory indemnification as a prevailing party under ARS § 10-852.

ARS § 10-857 provides that a corporation may purchase and maintain insurance, including retrospectively rated and self-insured programs, on behalf of an individual who is or was a director or officer of the corporation or who, while a director or officer of the corporation, is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, partner, trustee, employee or agent of another foreign or domestic corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust, employee benefit plan or other entity, against liability asserted against or incurred by the individual in that capacity or arising from the individual's status as a director or officer, whether or not the corporation would have power to indemnify or advance expenses to the individual against the same liability under Arizona law.

The articles of incorporation of Meritage Homes of Arizona, Inc., Meritage Homes Construction, Inc., Meritage Homes of Nevada, Inc., Meritage Homes of Colorado, Inc., Meritage Homes of Texas Holding, Inc., Meritage Homes of the Carolinas, Inc., Meritage Homes of Texas Holding, Inc., Meritage Homes of the Carolinas, Inc., Meritage Homes of Texas Holding, Inc., MTH Shelf Co., Inc. and MLC Holdings, Inc. dba MLC Land Holdings, Inc., each of which is an Arizona corporation, provide that the liability of a director or former director to the corporation or its shareholders shall be eliminated to the fullest extent permitted by Arizona law. In addition, the articles of incorporation of each of these corporations, other than Meritage Homes of Texas Holding, Inc., provide that the corporation shall indemnify any and all of its existing and former directors and officers to the fullest extent permitted by Arizona law.

#### Arizona Limited Liability Company Guarantors

ARS § 29-3408(B) provides that an Arizona limited liability company shall indemnify a person with respect to any claim or demand against the person and any debt, obligation or other liability incurred by such person by reason of the person's former or present capacity as a member or manager, if the claim or liability does not arise from the person's breach of the operating agreement or ARS §§ 29-3405, 29-3407 or 29-3409, in each case as modified by the operating agreement. ARS § 29-3408(D) allows an Arizona limited liability company to reimburse and indemnify a present or former member of a member-managed company or manager of a manager-managed company for any payment and with respect to a claim, demand, debt, obligation or other liability. In addition, by unanimous consent of the members after disclosure of all material facts, the limited liability company may reimburse and indemnify a person for any act, omission or transaction that violate the operating agreement or §§ 29-3405, 29-3407 or 29-3409, in each case as modified by the operating agreement.

ARS § 29-3105(A)(3) provides in the event of a conflict between a provision of the operating agreement and the Arizona Limited Liability Company Act, the provision of the operating agreement governs. The operating agreement for each of MTH-Cavalier, LLC and MTH Golf, LLC provides that its members and their respective affiliates will be indemnified and held harmless, to the extent of the applicable company's assets, for, from, and against any liability, damage, cost, expense, loss, claim, or judgment incurred arising out of any claim based upon acts performed or omitted to be performed by in connection with the business of the applicable company. However, the operating agreement for each of MTH-Cavalier, LLC and MTH Golf, LLC further provides that, notwithstanding the foregoing, no such person shall be indemnified or held harmless for claims based upon acts

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or omissions in breach of the operating agreement or that constitute fraud, gross negligence, or willful misconduct. In addition, the operating agreement for each of MTH-Cavalier, LLC and MTH Golf, LLC provides that no members or their respective affiliates shall be personally liable, responsible, or accountable in damages or otherwise to the applicable company for any act or omission performed or omitted in connection with the applicable company or its business, and that any member's liability for the debts and obligations of the applicable company shall be limited as set forth under applicable law.

#### California Corporate Guarantor

Section 317 of the California General Corporation Law (the "CGCL") allows a corporation, in certain circumstances, to indemnify its directors and officers against certain expenses (including attorneys' fees and certain expenses of establishing a right to indemnification), judgments, fines, settlements and other amounts actually and reasonably incurred in connection with threatened, pending or completed civil, criminal, administrative or investigative actions, suits or proceedings (other than an action by or in the right of the corporation), in which such persons were or are parties, or are threatened to be made parties, by reason of the fact that they were or are directors or officers of the corporation, if such persons acted in good faith and in a manner they reasonably believed to be in the best interests of the corporation, and with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe their conduct was unlawful. In addition, a corporation is, in certain circumstances, permitted to indemnify its directors and officers against certain expenses incurred in connection with the defense or settlement of a threatened, pending or completed action by or in the right of the corporation, and against amounts paid in settlement of any such action, if such persons acted in good faith and in a manner they corporation and its shareholders, provided that the specified court approval is obtained. Furthermore, a corporation may purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any agent of the corporation against any liability asserted against or incurred by the agent against such liability under California law.

Section 204(a)(10) of the CGCL allows a corporation to include a provision in its articles of incorporation eliminating or limiting the personal liability of a director for monetary damages in an action brought by or in the right of the corporation for breach of the director's duties to the corporation and its shareholders, except for the liability of a director resulting from (1) acts or omissions involving intentional misconduct or a knowing and culpable violation of law, (2) any transaction from which a director derived an improper personal benefit, (3) acts or omissions that a director believes to be contrary to the best interests of the corporation or its shareholders or that involve the absence of good faith on the part of the director, (4) acts or omissions showing a reckless disregard for the director's duty to the corporation or its shareholders in circumstances in which a director was aware, or should have been aware, in the ordinary course of performing his or her duties of the risk of serious injury to the corporation or its shareholders, (5) acts or omissions constituting an unexcused pattern of inattention to the director's duty amounting to abdication of such director's duties, (6) liability under California law relating to related party transactions or (7) the making of an illegal distribution or loan to shareholders.

The articles of incorporation of Meritage Homes of California, Inc., which is a California corporation, provides that the liability of directors for monetary damages shall be eliminated to the fullest extent permissible under California law and that the corporation is authorized to provide indemnification of its officers and directors through bylaw provisions, agreements with officers and directors, vote of shareholders or disinterested directors or otherwise, in excess of the indemnification otherwise permitted by Section 317 of the CGCL, subject only to the applicable limits set forth in Section 204 of the CGCL. The bylaws of Meritage Homes of California, Inc. provide that the corporation shall indemnify each of its directors and officers to the maximum extent and in the manner permitted by the CGCL.

## California Limited Liability Company Guarantor

Although the Beverly-Killea Limited Liability Company Act found at California Code, Title 25 Sections 17000 through 17656, as amended from time to time, was repealed and replaced with the California Revised
Uniform Limited Liability Company Act, effective January 1, 2014, Sections 17713.04(a) and (b) of the California Revised Uniform Limited Liability Company Act provide that the Beverly-Killea Limited Liability Company Act governs operating agreements entered into by a limited liability company prior to January 1, 2014 but that the California Uniform Limited Liability Company Act shall nonetheless apply to all actions taken by the managers of a limited liability company on or after January 1, 2014.

Section 17155 of the California Beverly-Killea Limited Liability Company Act provides that, except for a breach of a manager's fiduciary duties of loyalty and care owed to the limited liability company and to its members, the articles of organization or written operating agreement of a California limited liability company may provide for indemnification of any person, including, without limitation, any manager, member, officer, employee, or agent of the limited liability company, against judgments, settlements, penalties, fines, or expenses of any kind incurred as a result of acting in that capacity, while Section 17704.08 of the California Revised Uniform Limited Liability Company Act similarly permits a California limited liability company to provide for indemnification of harm on the limited liability company or a member, or an intentional violation of criminal infliction of harm on the limited liability company or a member, or an intentional violation of criminal law. Section 17704.08 of the California Revised Uniform Limited Liability Company Act also requires a California limited liability company to indemnify for any debt, obligation, or other liability incurred by a member of a member-managed limited liability company or the manager of a manager managed limited liability company in the course of the member's or manager's activities on behalf of the limited liability company, if, in making the payment or incurring the debt, obligation, or other liability, the member or manager complied with its fiduciary duties to the limited liability company.

Section 17155 of the California Beverly-Killea Limited Liability Company Act and Section 17704.08 of the California Revised Uniform Limited Liability Company Act further provide that a California limited liability company shall have power to purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any manager, member, officer, employee, or agent of the limited liability company against any liability asserted against or incurred by the person in that capacity or arising out of the person's status as a manager, member, officer, employee, or agent of the limited.

The operating agreement for California Urban Homes, LLC, which is a California limited liability company, provides that neither the company's member nor its manager shall be liable, responsible, or accountable in damages or otherwise to the company or to its member or its members' assignees for any loss, damage, cost, liability or expense incurred by reason of or caused by any act or omission performed or omitted by such member or manager, whether alleged to be based upon or arising from errors in judgment, negligence or breach of duty (including alleged breach of any duty of care or duty of loyalty or other fiduciary duty), except for (1) acts or omissions the member or manager knew at the time of the acts or omissions were clearly in conflict with the interest of the company, or (2) any transaction from which the member or manager derived an improper personal benefit, (3) a willful breach of the company's operating agreement, or (4) gross negligence, recklessness, willful misconduct, or knowing violation of law. In addition, the operating agreement provides that, without limiting the foregoing, neither the manager under the terms of the operating agreement or (b) any mistake, misconduct, negligence, dishonesty or bad faith on the part of any employee or other agent of the company appointed in good faith by the manager.

#### Delaware Limited Liability Company Guarantor

M&M Fort Myers Holdings, LLC is a Delaware limited liability company and is subject to Section 18-108 of the Delaware Limited Liability Company Act, which provides that, subject to such standards and restrictions, if any, as are set forth in its limited liability company agreement, a limited liability company may, and shall have the power to, indemnify and hold harmless any member or manager or other person from and against any and all claims and demands whatsoever.

The limited liability company agreement of M&M Fort Myers Holdings, LLC provides that it shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless the member and manager (and their respective affiliates) (each, an "Actor") to the extent of M&M Fort Myers Holdings, LLC's assets for, from and against any Losses (as defined in the operating agreement) stemming from actions taken in good faith in connection with M&M Fort Myers Holdings, LLC or its business; provided that the Actor will remain liable for acts in breach of the operating agreement or that constitute bad faith, fraud, willful misconduct or gross negligence. The limited liability company agreement of M&M Fort Myers Holdings, LLC also provides that Actor shall not be liable for any actions taken in good faith in connection with M&M Fort Myers Holdings, LLC or its business; provided that the Actor will remain liable for acts in breach of the operating agreement or that constitute bad faith, fraud, willful misconduct or gross negligence.

### Texas Corporate Guarantor

Section 8.101 of the Texas Business Organizations Code (the "TBOC") provides that, subject to certain limitations and in addition to other provisions, a Texas corporation may indemnify a person who was, is, or is threatened to be made a named defendant or respondent in a proceeding because the person is or was a director only if it is determined in accordance with certain requirements that: the person: (A) acted in good faith; (B) reasonably believed: (i) in the case of conduct in the person's official capacity, that the person's conduct was in the enterprise's best interests; and (ii) in any other case, that the person's conduct was not opposed to the enterprise's best interests; and (C) in the case of a criminal proceeding, did not have a reasonable cause to believe the person's conduct was unlawful.

Section 8.051 of the TBOC also provides that a Texas corporation shall indemnify a director against reasonable expenses actually incurred by the director in connection with a proceeding in which the director is a named defendant or respondent because he or she is or was a director if the director is wholly successful, on the merits or otherwise, in the defense of the proceeding. In addition, Section 8.052 of the TBOC requires indemnification by a Texas corporation to the fullest extent that a court so orders.

The certificate of formation for Carefree Title Agency, Inc. provides that the liability of a director or former director to the corporation and its shareholders shall be eliminated to the fullest extent permitted under the TBOC. The certificate of formation for Carefree Title Agency, Inc. also provides that the corporation shall indemnify any and all existing and former directors and officers to the fullest extent permitted under Texas law. If the TBOC is amended to authorize corporate action further eliminating or limiting the liability of directors, or if Texas law is amended to authorize the corporation to broaden its ability to indemnify its directors and officers, the liability of a director shall be eliminated or limited, and the ability of the corporation to indemnify its directors and officers shall be expanded, to the fullest extent permitted under the TBOC and Texas law, as amended, respectively.

## Texas Limited Liability Company Guarantors

Section 101.402 of the TBOC provides that a Texas limited liability company may (1) indemnify a person; (2) pay in advance or reimburse expenses incurred by a person; and (3) purchase or procure or establish and maintain insurance or another arrangement to indemnify or hold harmless a person. For the purposes of Section 101.402 of the TBOC, a person includes a member, manager, or officer of a limited liability company or an assignee of a membership interest in the company. In addition, Section 101.401 of the TBOC provides that the company agreement of a limited liability company may expand or restrict any duties, including fiduciary duties, and related liabilities that a member, manager, officer, or other person has to the company or a member or manager of the company. Therefore, under the TBOC, indemnification of the governing persons of a Texas limited liability company is a contractual matter to be governed by the entity's company agreement or other constituent documents, as applicable, and subject to any common law established by the courts.

The regulations for Meritage Holdings, L.L.C. provide that each member shall be indemnified against any and all liability and reasonable expense that may be incurred by or in connection with or resulting from (1) any

threatened, pending, or completed action, suit, or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative, arbitrative, or investigative, (2) an appeal in such an event, or (3) any inquiry or investigation that could lead to such an event, all to the full extent permitted by applicable law. The regulations for Meritage Holdings, L.L.C. further provide that, upon a determination by the member to do so, Meritage Holdings, L.L.C. may indemnify its current and past officers and agents in their capacities as such and, if serving at the request of Meritage Holdings, L.L.C. as a director, manager, officer, trustee, employee, agent, or similar functionary of another foreign or domestic corporation, limited liability company, trust, partnership, joint venture, sole proprietorship, employee benefit plan, or other enterprise, in each of those capacities, against any and all liability and reasonable expense that may be incurred by them in connection with or resulting from the events listed in (1), (2), and (3) of this paragraph, all to the full extent permitted by applicable law.

The Amended and Restated Company Agreement of Meritage Homes of Texas Joint Venture Holding Company, LLC provides that each person who was or is a member or officer of Meritage Homes of Texas Joint Venture Holding Company, LLC, both in their capacities as such and, if serving at the request of Meritage Homes of Texas Joint Venture Holding Company, LLC as a director, manager, officer, trustee, employee, agent, or similar functionary of another foreign or domestic limited liability company, corporation, trust, partnership, joint venture, sole proprietorship, employee benefit plan, or other enterprise, in each of those capacities shall be indemnified against any and all liability and reasonable expense that may be incurred by them in connection with or resulting from (1) any threatened, pending, or completed action, suit, or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative, arbitrative, or investigative (2) an appeal in such an event, (3) any inquiry or investigation that could lead to such an event, or (4) all loss, damage, expense (including without limitation fees and expenses of attorneys and other advisors and any court costs incurred by any such person) or liability by reason of anything any such person does or refrains from doing for, or in connection with the business or affairs of, Meritage Homes of Texas Joint Venture Holding Company, LLC, all to the fullest extent permitted by applicable law.

### Florida Corporate Guarantor

Section 607.0851 of the Florida Business Corporation Act ("FBCA") permits, subject to certain exclusions, a corporation to indemnify its directors and officers against certain expenses and liabilities incurred as a party to any proceeding brought against such person by reason of the fact that such person is or was a director or officer. With respect to proceedings, other than an action by, or in the right of the corporation, such indemnification is permitted if such person acted in good faith and in a manner such person reasonably believed to be in, or not opposed to, the best interests of the corporation, and with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, if such person had no reasonable cause to believe his or her conduct was unlawful. Unless under a court order, a corporation may not indemnify a director or an officer in connection with a proceeding by or in the right of the corporation except for expenses and amounts paid in settlement not exceeding, in the judgment of the board of directors, the estimated expense of litigating the proceeding to conclusion, actually and reasonably incurred in connection with the defense or settlement of such proceeding, including any appeal thereof, where such person acted in good faith and in a manner he or she reasonably believed to be in, or not opposed to, the best interests of the corporation.

Section 607.0852 of the FBCA requires a corporation to indemnify an individual who is or was a director or officer who was wholly successful, on the merits or otherwise, in the defense of any proceeding to which the individual was a party because he or she is or was a director or officer of the corporation against expenses incurred by the individual in connection with the proceeding.

Section 607.0857 of the FBCA also contains a provision authorizing corporations to purchase and maintain liability insurance on behalf of its directors and officers.

The bylaws of Meritage Homes of Florida, Inc., which is a Florida corporation, provide that the corporation is authorized to provide indemnification of its directors, officers, employees, or agents, or any person serving at its request in any such capacity to the maximum extent permitted by the FBCA.

## Florida Limited Liability Company Guarantor

Section 605.0408 of the Florida Revised Limited Liability Company Act provides that a Florida limited liability company may indemnify and hold harmless a person with respect to a claim or demand against the person and a debt, obligation, or other liability incurred by the person by reason of the person's former or present capacity as a member or manager if the claim, demand, debt, obligation, or other liability does not arise from: (1) a distribution made by the company where after the distribution either (a) the company would not be able to pay its debts as they become due in the ordinary course of the company's activities and affairs, or (b) the company's total assets would be less than the sum of its total liabilities, plus the amount that would be needed to satisfy certain preferential distribution rights; (2) a breach of the rights of members to manage the company; (3) an improper delegation of rights and powers to manage and control the business and affairs of the company; (4) a breach of the rules and requirements for the selection, terms, and removal of managers in a manager limited liability company; (5) a breach relating to the voting rights of members and managers; (6) a breach relating to the agency rights of members and managers in a limited liability company; or (7) a breach of the standards of conduct for members and managers, including the fiduciary duties of care and loyalty and the obligations of good faith and fair dealing.

The operating agreement of Meritage Homes of Florida Realty LLC, which is a Florida limited liability company, provides that no manager, nor any member, nor any of their respective affiliates shall be liable to the company for actions taken in good faith by such persons in connection with the company or its business; provided that such persons shall in all instances remain liable for acts in breach of the operating agreement or that constitute bad faith, fraud, willful misconduct, or gross negligence. The company, its receiver or trustee shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless such persons, to the extent of the company's assets (without any obligation or any member to make contributions to the company to fulfill such indemnify), for, from, and against any losses, costs, and expenses incurred by such persons arising out of any claim based upon acts performed or omitted to be performed by such persons in connection with the business of the company; provided that such persons shall not be indemnified for claims based upon acts performed or omitted in material breach of the operating agreement or that constitute bad faith, fraud, willful misconduct, or gross negligence.

## Item 16. Exhibits.

Exhibit Number	Description	Page or Method of Filing
1.1	Form of underwriting or distribution agreement	To be filed by amendment hereto or pursuant to a Current Report on Form 8-K to be incorporated herein by reference.
2.1	Agreement and Plan of Reorganization, dated as of September 13, 1996, by and among Homeplex, the Monterey Merging Companies and the Monterey Stockholders	Incorporated by reference to Appendix A of FormS-4 Registration Statement No. 333-15937.
3.1	Restated Articles of Incorporation of Meritage Homes Corporation	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3 of Form8-K dated June 20, 2002.
3.1.1	Amendment to Articles of Incorporation of Meritage Homes Corporation	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 of Form10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 1998.
3.1.2	Amendment to Articles of Incorporation of Meritage Homes Corporation	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 of Form8-K dated September 15, 2004.
3.1.3	Amendment to Articles of Incorporation of Meritage Homes Corporation	Incorporated by reference to Appendix A of the Definitive Proxy Statement for the 2006 Annual Meeting of Stockholders filed on April 10, 2006.

Exhibit Number	Description	Page or Method of Filing
3.1.4	Amendment to Articles of Incorporation of Meritage Homes Corporation	Incorporated by reference to Appendix B of the Definitive Proxy Statement for the 2008 Annual Meeting of Stockholders filed on April 1, 2008.
3.1.5	Amendment to Articles of Incorporation of Meritage Homes Corporation	Incorporated by reference to Appendix A of the Definitive Proxy Statement on January 9, 2009.
3.2	Meritage Homes Corporation Amended and Restated Bylaws	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 of Form8-K dated June 14, 2023.
4.1	Form of Indenture by and among the Company, the subsidiaries signatory thereto and Regions Bank	Filed herewith.
4.2	Form of debt security	To be filed by amendment hereto or pursuant to a Current Report on Form 8-K to be incorporated herein by reference.
4.3	Form of specimen of common stock certificate	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 of Form10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007.
4.4	Form of specimen preferred share certificate	To be filed by amendment hereto or pursuant to a Current Report on Form 8-K to be incorporated herein by reference.
4.5	Form of warrant agreement	To be filed by amendment hereto or pursuant to a Current Report on Form 8-K to be incorporated herein by reference.
4.6	Form of warrant	To be filed by amendment hereto or pursuant to a Current Report on Form 8-K to be incorporated herein by reference.
4.7	Form deposit agreement	To be filed by amendment hereto or pursuant to a Current Report on Form 8-K to be incorporated herein by reference.
4.8	Form of depositary agreement	To be filed by amendment hereto or pursuant to a Current Report on Form 8-K to be incorporated herein by reference.
4.9	Form of rights agent agreement	To be filed by amendment hereto or pursuant to a Current Report on Form 8-K to be incorporated herein by reference.
4.10	Form of rights certificate	To be filed by amendment hereto or pursuant to a Current Report on Form 8-K to be incorporated herein by reference.
4.11	Form of stock purchase contract	To be filed by amendment hereto or pursuant to a Current Report on Form 8-K to be incorporated herein by reference.
4.12	Form of stock purchase unit agreement	To be filed by amendment hereto or pursuant to a Current Report on Form 8-K to be incorporated herein by reference.
5.1	Opinion of Snell & Wilmer L.L.P.	Filed herewith.
5.2	Opinion of Venable LLP	Filed herewith.
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Exhibit Number	Description	Page or Method of Filing
22.1	List of Guarantor Subsidiaries	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 22 to Form10-K for the year ended December 31, 2022.
23.1	Consent of Deloitte & Touche LLP	Filed herewith.
23.2	Consent of Snell & Wilmer L.L.P. (included in Exhibit 5.1)	Filed herewith.
23.3	Consent of Venable LLP (included in Exhibit 5.2)	Filed herewith.
24.1	Powers of Attorney	Included in Signature Pages.
25.1	Statement of Eligibility under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939 on Form T-1 of Regions Bank	Filed herewith.
107	<u>Filing Fee Table</u>	Filed herewith.

# Item 17. Undertakings.

a) The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes:

(1) 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 Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than 20% change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the "Calculation of Filing Fee Tables" or "Calculation of Registration Fee" table, as applicable, 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 (a)(1)(i), (ii), and (iii) of this section do not apply if the registration statement is on FormS-1, Form S-3, Form SF-3 or Form F-3 and the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in reports filed with or furnished to the Commission 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, as to a registration statement on Form S-3, Form SF-3 or Form F-3, is contained in a form of prospectus filed pursuant to Rule 424(b) that is part of the registration statement.

(2) 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.

(3) 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.

(4) That, for the purpose of determining liability under the Securities Act of 1933 to any purchaser:

- (A) 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
- (B) 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 ime shall be deemed to be the initial *bona fide* offering thereof. *Provided*, *however*, that no statement made in a 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.

(5) 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:

- Any preliminary prospectus or prospectus of the undersigned registrant relating to the offering required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424;
- 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.

(6) 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.

b) 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 Act 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 Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

# SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the registrant 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 the City of Scottsdale, State of Arizona, on April 30, 2024.

# MERITAGE HOMES CORPORATION

By: <u>/s/ HILLA SFERRUZZA</u> Hilla Sferruzza

Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer

The following direct and indirect subsidiaries of the registrant will guarantee the notes and are co-registrants under this registration statement.

## Name of Co-Registrant

California Urban Homes, LLC (1) Meritage Holdings, L.L.C. (2) Meritage Homes Construction, Inc. Meritage Homes of Arizona, Inc. Meritage Homes of California, Inc. Meritage Homes of Colorado, Inc. Meritage Homes of Florida, Inc. Meritage Homes of Nevada, Inc. Meritage Homes of Texas Holding, Inc. Meritage Homes of Texas Joint Venture Holding Company, LLC (3) Meritage Homes of Texas, LLC (2) Meritage Homes Operating Company, LLC (4) Meritage Paseo Construction, LLC (5) Meritage Paseo Crossing, LLC (6) MTH-Cavalier, LLC (5) MTH Golf, LLC (5) WW Project Seller, LLC (7) Meritage Homes of the Carolinas, Inc. Carefree Title Agency, Inc. M&M Fort Myers Holdings, LLC (7) Meritage Homes of Florida Realty LLC (8) Meritage Homes of Georgia Realty, LLC (9) Meritage Homes of Georgia, Inc. Meritage Homes of South Carolina, Inc. Meritage Homes of Tennessee, Inc. MLC Holdings, Inc. MTH GA Realty LLC (9) MTH Realty LLC (7) MTH SC Realty LLC (10) MTH Financial Holdings, Inc. Meritage Homes Insurance Agency, Inc. Meritage Services Company, Inc. Meritage Homes of Utah, Inc.

# as CO-REGISTRANTS

By: /s/ HILLA SFERRUZZA

Hilla Sferruzza

Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Director of each co- registrant that is a corporation and Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Director of the corporate member or manager or sole member of each co-registrant that is a limited liability company.

<sup>(1)</sup> Executed by Meritage Homes of California, Inc., as sole member and manager

<sup>(2)</sup> Executed by Meritage Homes of Texas Holding, Inc., as sole member

<sup>(3)</sup> Executed by Meritage Homes of Texas Holding, Inc., as sole member of Meritage Homes of Texas, LLC, which is the sole member of this co-registrant

<sup>(4)</sup> Executed by Meritage Homes of Texas Holding, Inc., as sole member of Meritage Holdings, L.L.C., which is the manager of this co-registrant

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- Executed by Meritage Homes Construction, Inc., as sole member Executed by Meritage Homes of Arizona, Inc., as sole member (5)
- (6)
- Executed by Meritage Homes of Arizona, Inc., as the sole member of Meritage Paseo Crossing, LLC, which is the sole member of thisco-registrant (7)
- Executed by Meritage Homes of Florida, Inc., as manager and sole member (8)
- (9) Executed by Meritage Homes of Georgia, Inc., as manager and sole member
- (10) Executed by Meritage Homes of South Carolina, Inc., as manager and sole member

# POWER OF ATTORNEY

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS, that each person whose signature appears below does hereby constitute and appoint Phillippe Lord and Hilla Sferruzza, and each of them, with full power of substitution and full power to act without the other, his or her true and lawful attorney-in-fact and agent to act for him or her in his or her name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to sign any and all amendments (including post-effective amendments) to this registration statement, and to file this registration statement, with all exhibits thereto, and other documents in connection therewith, 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 order to effectuate the same as fully, to all intents and purposes, as they, he or she might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorneys-in-fact and agents, or any of them, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this registration statement has been signed by the following persons in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

ON BEHALF OF MERITAGE HOMES CORPORATION:

By:	Signature /s/ PHILLIPPE LORD Phillippe Lord	<u>Title</u> Chief Executive Officer (Principal Executive Officer)	<u>Date</u> April 30, 2024
By:	/s/ HILLA SFERRUZZA Hilla Sferruzza	Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial Officer)	April 30, 2024
By:	/s/ ALISON SASSER Alison Sasser	Senior Vice President, Chief Accounting Officer (Principal Accounting Officer)	April 30, 2024
By:	/s/ STEVEN J. HILTON Steven J. Hilton	Executive Chairman	April 30, 2024
By:	/s/ PETER L. AX Peter L. Ax	Director	April 30, 2024
By:	Raymond Oppel	Director	
By:	/s/ DANA BRADFORD Dana Bradford	Director	April 30, 2024
By:	/s/ MICHAEL R. ODELL Michael R. Odell	Director	April 30, 2024
By:	/s/ DEBORAH ANN HENRETTA Deborah Ann Henretta	Director	April 30, 2024
By:	/s/ JOSEPH KEOUGH Joseph Keough	Director	April 30, 2024
By:	/s/ P. KELLY MOONEY P. Kelly Mooney	Director	April 30, 2024

	Signature	Title	Date
By:	/s/ LOUIS E. CALDERA Louis E. Caldera	Director	April 30, 2024
By:	/s/ DENNIS ARRIOLA Dennis Arriola	Director	April 30, 2024

# ON BEHALF OF THE FOLLOWING INCORPORATED CO-REGISTRANTS:

# Name of Co-Registrant

Meritage Homes Construction, Inc. Meritage Homes of Arizona, Inc. Meritage Homes of California, Inc. Meritage Homes of Colorado, Inc. Meritage Homes of Florida, Inc. Meritage Homes of Nevada, Inc. Meritage Homes of Texas Holding, Inc. Meritage Homes of the Carolinas, Inc. Carefree Title Agency, Inc. Meritage Homes of Georgia, Inc. Meritage Homes of South Carolina, Inc. Meritage Homes of Tennessee, Inc. MLC Holdings, Inc. MTH Financial Holdings, Inc. Meritage Homes Insurance Agency, Inc. Meritage Services Company, Inc. Meritage Homes of Utah, Inc.

	Signature	Title	Date
By:	/s/ PHILLIPPE LORD	Chief Executive Officer and Director	April 30, 2024
	Phillippe Lord	(Principal Executive Officer)	
By:	/s/ HILLA SFERRUZZA	Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Director (Principal	April 30, 2024
	Hilla Sferruzza	Financial Officer)	
By:	/s/ ALISON SASSER	Senior Vice President, Chief Accounting Officer (Principal Accounting	April 30, 2024
	Alison Sasser	Officer)	

ON BEHALF OF THE FOLLOWING INCORPORATED CO-REGISTRANT:

## Name of Co-Registrant

Meritage Homes of Florida, Inc.

By:	/s/ CLINT SZUBINSKI	Director	April 30, 2024
	Clint Szubinski		

# ON BEHALF OF THE FOLLOWING LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY CO-REGISTRANTS:

## Name of Co-Registrant

California Urban Homes, LLC Meritage Holdings, L.L.C. Meritage Homes of Texas Joint Venture Holding Company, LLC Meritage Homes of Texas, LLC Meritage Homes Operating Company, LLC Meritage Paseo Construction, LLC Meritage Paseo Crossing, LLC MTH-Cavalier, LLC MTH Golf, LLC WW Project Seller, LLC M&M Fort Myers Holdings, LLC Meritage Homes of Florida Realty LLC Meritage Homes of Georgia Realty, LLC MTH GA Realty LLC MTH SC Realty LLC MTH Realty LLC

## Sole Member or Manager of Co-Registrants

Meritage Homes of California, Inc., which is the sole member and manager of California Urban Homes, LLC

Meritage Homes of Texas Holding, Inc., which is the sole member of Meritage Holdings, L.L.C. (which in turn is the manager of Meritage Homes Operating Company, LLC) and Meritage Homes of Texas, LLC (which in turn is the sole member of Meritage Homes of Texas Joint Venture Holding Company, LLC)

Meritage Homes Construction, Inc., which is the sole member of Meritage Paseo Construction, LLC, MTH-Cavalier, LLC and MTH Golf, LLC

Meritage Homes of Arizona, Inc., which is the sole member of Meritage Paseo Crossing, LLC (which in turn is the sole member of WW Project Seller, LLC, M&M Fort Myers Holdings, LLC and MTH Realty LLC)

Meritage Homes of Florida, Inc., which is the manager and sole member of Meritage Homes of Florida Realty, LLC

Meritage Homes of Georgia, Inc., which is manager and sole member of Meritage Homes of Georgia Realty, LLC and MTH GA Realty LLC

Meritage Homes of South Carolina, Inc., which is the manager and sole member of MTH SC Realty LLC

	Signature	Title	Date
By:	/s/ PHILLIPPE LORD Phillippe Lord	Chief Executive Officer and Director of each of: Meritage Homes Construction, Inc., Meritage Homes of Arizona, Inc., Meritage Homes of California, Inc., Meritage Homes of Texas Holding, Inc., Meritage Homes of Florida, Inc., Meritage Homes of Georgia, Inc., and Meritage Homes of South Carolina, Inc. (Principal Executive Officer)	April 30, 2024
By:	/s/ HILLA SFERRUZZA Hilla Sferruzza	Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Director of each of: Meritage Homes Construction, Inc., Meritage Homes of Arizona, Inc., Meritage Homes of California, Inc., Meritage Homes of Texas Holding, Inc. Meritage Homes of Florida, Inc., Meritage Homes of Georgia, Inc., and Meritage Homes of South Carolina, Inc. (Principal Financial Officer)	April 30, 2024
By:	/s/ ALISON SASSER Alison Sasser	Senior Vice President, Chief Accounting Officer (Principal Accounting Officer) Meritage Homes Construction, Inc., Meritage Homes of Arizona, Inc., Meritage Homes of California, Inc., Meritage Homes of Texas Holding, Inc., Meritage Homes of Florida, Inc., Meritage Homes of Georgia, Inc., and Meritage Homes of South Carolina, Inc.	April 30, 2024
By:	/s/ CLINT SZUBINSKI Clint Szubinski	Director Meritage Homes of Florida, Inc.	April 30, 2024

# MERITAGE HOMES CORPORATION

AND

# **REGIONS BANK**

## AS TRUSTEE

# GUARANTEED TO THE EXTENT SET FORTH THEREIN BY THE GUARANTORS NAMED HEREIN.

INDENTURE

DATED AS OF []

# **CROSS REFERENCE SHEET\***

Provisions of the Trust Indenture Act of 1939 and the Indenture (the "Indenture"), dated as of [], by and among Meritage Homes Corporation, a Maryland corporation, the guarantors listed on Schedule 1 to the Indenture, and Regions Bank, as Trustee:

TIA Section	Indenture Section
310(a)(1)	7.10
310(a)(2)	7.10
310(a)(3)	Not applicable
310(a)(4)	Not applicable
310(a)(5)	Not applicable
310(b)	7.03; 7.08; 7.10
310(b)(1)	7.10
311(a)	7.03; 7.11
311(b)	7.03; 7.11
312(a)	2.05
312(b)	11.03
312(c)	11.03
313(a)	7.06
313(b)(1)	11.01
313(b)(2)	7.06
313(c)	7.06; 11.02
313(d)	7.06
314(a)	4.03; 4.04; 11.02
314(b)	11.01
314(c)(1)	11.04(a)
314(c)(2)	11.04(b)
314(c)(3)	Not applicable
314(d)	11.01
314(e)	11.05
314(f)	Not applicable
315(a)	7.01(b)
315(b)	7.05; 11.02
315(c)	7.01(a)
315(d)	7.01(c)
315(e)	6.12
316(a)(1)(A)	6.05
316(a)(1)(B)	6.04
316(a)(2)	Not applicable
316(a) (last sentence)	2.16
316(b)	6.08
316(c)	2.12(b)
317(a)(1)	6.09
317(a)(2)	6.10
317(b)	2.04; 7.12
318(a)	11.01

\* This cross reference sheet shall not, for any purpose, be deemed to be a part of the Indenture.

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INDENTURE dated as of [] by and among Meritage Homes Corporation, a Maryland corporation, (the "Issuer"), the entities listed on Schedule 1 hereto and Regions Bank, an Alabama state bank, as Trustee (the "Trustee").

The Issuer has duly authorized the execution and delivery of this Indenture to provide for the issuance from time to time of its debentures, notes or other evidences of indebtedness to be issued in one or more series (the "Securities"), as herein provided, up to such principal amount as may from time to time be authorized in or pursuant to one or more resolutions of the Board of Directors or by supplemental indenture.

Each party agrees as follows for the benefit of the other parties and for the equal and ratable benefit of the Holders of each series of the Securities:

### ARTICLE 1 DEFINITIONS AND INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE

SECTION 1.01 Certain Definitions.

"<u>Affiliate</u>" of any person means any other person which directly or indirectly controls or is controlled by, or is under direct or indirect common control with, the referent person. For purposes of this definition, "control" of a person shall mean the power to direct the management and policies of such person, directly or indirectly, whether through the ownership of voting securities, by contract or otherwise.

"Agent" means any Registrar, Paying Agent, authenticating agent or co-Registrar.

"asset" means any asset or property.

"Board of Directors" means, with respect to any Person, the board of directors of such Person (or, if such Person is a limited liability company, the board of managers of such Person) or similar governing body or any authorized committee thereof.

"Board Resolution" means a copy of a resolution certified by the secretary or an assistant secretary of the Issuer to have been duly adopted by the Board of Directors or pursuant to authorization by the Board of Directors and to be in full force and effect on the date of such certification (and delivered to the Trustee, if appropriate).

"Business Day" means any day other than a Legal Holiday.

"Closing Date" means the date on which the Securities of a particular series were originally issued under this Indenture.

"Commission" means the Securities and Exchange Commission.

"Corporate Trust Office" shall mean a corporate trust office of the Trustee at which at any particular time its corporate trust business related to this Indenture shall be principally administered, which shall initially be Regions Bank, 10245 Centurion Parkway, 2nd Floor, Jacksonville, FL 32256.

"Default" means any event that is, or with the passage of time or the giving of notice or both would be, an Event of Default.

"Depositary" means, with respect to the Securities of any series issuable or issued in whole or in part in the form of one or more Global Securities, the person designated as Depositary for such series by the Issuer, which Depositary shall be a clearing agency registered under the Exchange Act; and if at any time there is more than one such person, "Depositary" as used with respect to the Securities of any series shall mean the Depositary with respect to the Securities of such series.

"Exchange Act" means the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended from time to time.

"GAAP" means generally accepted accounting principles set forth in the opinions and pronouncements of the Accounting Principles Board of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and statements and pronouncements of the Financial Accounting Standards Board or in such other statements by such other entity as have been approved by a significant segment of the accounting profession, which are applicable to the circumstances as of the applicable measurement date.

"Global Security" shall mean a Security issued to evidence all or a part of any series of Securities that is executed by the Issuer and authenticated and delivered by the Trustee to a Depositary or pursuant to such Depositary's instructions, all in accordance with this Indenture and pursuant to Section 2.01, which shall be registered as to principal and interest in the name of such Depositary or its nominee.

"Guarantor" means from and after the date that any series of Securities is guaranteed in accordance with Article 10 of this Indenture (the "Guarantee Date") (a) the entities listed on Schedule 1 hereto, except as provided below and (b) each entity that subsequently becomes a guarantor at such time as any series of Securities is so guaranteed or otherwise in accordance with this Indenture. In the event that any such entity or Guarantor sells or disposes of all or substantially all of its assets, or in the event that the Issuer or any Subsidiary of the Issuer sells or disposes of all of the equity interests in an entity or Guarantor, by way of merger, consolidation or otherwise, in each case in accordance with the terms and conditions hereof, then such entity or Guarantor will be released and relieved of any obligations under this Indenture or its guarantee.

"Holder" or "Securityholder" means a Person in whose name a Security is registered in the register of Securities kept by the Registrar.

"Indenture" means this Indenture, as amended or supplemented from time to time.

"Issuer" means the party named as such above until a successor replaces it pursuant to this Indenture and thereafter means the successor.

"Issuer Order" means a written order signed in the name of the Issuer by two Officers, one of whom must be the Issuer's principal executive officer, principal financial officer, treasurer, principal accounting officer or vice president and delivered to the Trustee.

"maturity" when used with respect to any Security, means the date on which the principal of such Security or an installment of principal becomes due and payable as therein or herein provided, whether at stated maturity or by declaration of acceleration, call for redemption or otherwise.

"Officer" means, with respect to any Person, a chairman of the board, a chief executive officer, a president, the chief financial officer, any vicepresident (whether or not designated by a number or numbers or word or words added before or after the title "vice president"), the treasurer, the controller, the secretary, any assistant treasurer or any assistant secretary of such Person.

"Officers' Certificate" means a certificate signed by two or more Officers, one of whom must be the principal executive officer, principal financial officer or principal accounting officer of the Issuer that meets the requirements of Section 11.05 hereof.

"Opinion of Counsel" means an opinion from legal counsel who is reasonably acceptable to the Trustee that meets the requirements of Section 11.05 hereof. The counsel may be an employee of or counsel to the Issuer or the Trustee.

"Person" means any individual, corporation, partnership, joint venture, association, limited liability company, joint stock company, trust, unincorporated organization or government or any agency or political subdivision thereof.

"principal" of a Security means the principal amount due on the stated maturity of the Security plus the premium, if any, on the Security.

"Securities" means the Securities authenticated and delivered under this Indenture.

"Securities Act" means the Securities Act of 1933, as amended from time to time.

"stated maturity" when used with respect to any Security or any installment of interest thereon, means the date specified in such Security as the fixed date on which the principal of such Security or such installment of interest is due and payable.

### "Subsidiary" means, with respect to any Person:

(1) any corporation, limited liability company, association or other business entity of which more than 50% of the total voting power of the equity interests entitled (without regard to the occurrence of any contingency) to vote in the election of the Board of Directors thereof are at the time owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by such Person or one or more of the other Subsidiaries of that Person (or a combination thereof); and

(2) any partnership (a) the sole general partner or the managing general partner of which is such Person or a Subsidiary of such Person or (b) the only general partners of which are such Person or one or more Subsidiaries of such Person (or any combination thereof).

Unless otherwise specified, "Subsidiary" refers to a Subsidiary of the Issuer.

"<u>TIA</u>" means the Trust Indenture Act of 1939 (15 U.S.C. Sections 77aaa-77bbbb) as in effect on the date on which this Indenture is qualified under the TIA; provided, however, that in the event the TIA is amended after such date, "TIA" means, to the extent required by such amendment, the Trust Indenture Act, as amended.

"Trust Officer" when used with respect to the Trustee, means any officer within the Corporate Trust Office of the Trustee with direct responsibility for the administration of this Indenture and also means, with respect to a particular corporate trust matter, any other officer to whom such matter is referred because of his knowledge of and familiarity with the particular subject and, in each case, who shall have direct responsibility for the administration of this Indenture.

"Trustee" means the party named as such above until a successor becomes such pursuant to this Indenture and thereafter means or includes each party who is then a trustee hereunder, and if at any time there is more than one such party, "Trustee" as used with respect to the Securities of any series means the Trustee with respect to Securities of that series, which shall be appointed pursuant to supplemental indenture. If Trustees with respect to different series of Securities are trustees under this Indenture, nothing herein shall constitute the Trustees co-trustees of the same trust, and each Trustee shall be the trustee of a trust separate and apart from any trust administered by any other Trustee with respect to a different series of Securities.

"U.S. Government Obligations" means securities that are (i) direct obligations of the United States of America for the payment of which its full faith and credit is pledged, (ii) obligations of a person controlled or supervised by and acting as an agency or instrumentality of the United States of America, the payment of which is unconditionally guaranteed as a full faith and credit obligation by the United States of America that is not callable or redeemable at the option of the issuer thereof, and shall also include a depository receipt issued by a bank or trust company as custodian with respect to any such U.S. Government Obligation or a specific payment of interest on or principal of any such U.S. Government Obligation held by such custodian for the account of the holder of a depository receipt, provided that (except as required by law) such custodian is not authorized to make any deduction from the amount payable to the holder of such depository receipt from any amount received by the custodian in respect of the U.S. Government Obligation evidenced by such depository receipt or (iii) money market funds that invest solely in securities described in clauses (i) and (ii).

## SECTION 1.02 Other Definitions.

Term	Defined in Section
"Act"	2.17
"Bankruptcy Law"	6.01
"Custodian"	6.01
"Event of Default"	6.01
"Legal Holiday"	11.07
"Paying Agent"	2.03
"Place of Payment"	2.01
"redemption price"	3.03
"Registrar"	2.03

## SECTION 1.03 Incorporation by Reference of Trust Indenture Act.

Whenever this Indenture refers to a provision of the TIA, the provision is incorporated by reference in and made a part of this Indenture. The following TIA terms used in this Indenture have the following meanings:

"default" means Event of Default.

"indenture securities" means the Securities.

"indenture securityholder" means a Securityholder.

"indenture to be qualified" means this Indenture.

"indenture trustee" or "institutional trustee" means the Trustee.

"obligor" on the Securities means the Issuer and any Guarantor and any successor obligor on the Securities.

All other terms used in this Indenture that are defined by the TIA, defined by TIA reference to another statute or defined by Commission rule under the TIA have the meanings so assigned to them.

# SECTION 1.04 Rules of Construction.

Unless the context otherwise requires:

(i) a term has the meaning assigned to it;

(ii) an accounting term not otherwise defined has the meaning assigned to it in accordance with GAAP;

(iii) "or" is not exclusive;

(iv) words in the singular include the plural, and in the plural include the singular;

(v) provisions apply to successive events and transactions; and

(vi) references to sections of or rules under the Securities Act shall be deemed to include substitute, replacement of successor sections or rules adopted by the Commission from time to time.

## ARTICLE 2 THE SECURITIES

#### SECTION 2.01 Unlimited in Amount, Issuable in Series, Form and Dating

The aggregate principal amount of Securities that may be authenticated and delivered under this Indenture is unlimited. The Securities may be issued in one or more series.

There shall be established in or pursuant to a Board Resolution or an Officers' Certificate pursuant to authority granted under a Board Resolution or established in one or more indentures supplemental hereto authorized by a Board Resolution, prior to the issuance of Securities of any series:

(a) the title of the Securities of the series, whether the Securities rank as senior Securities, senior subordinated Securities or subordinated Securities, or any combination thereof;

(b) the price or prices (expressed as a percentage of the principal amount thereof) at which the Securities of the series will be issued;

(c) the aggregate principal amount of the Securities of such series and any limit upon the aggregate principal amount of the Securities of such series that may be authenticated and delivered under this Indenture (except for Securities authenticated and delivered upon registration of transfer of, or in exchange for, or in lieu of, other Securities of the series pursuant to this Article 2);

(d) the date or dates on which the principal on the Securities will be payable and the amount of principal that will be payable;

(e) the rate or rates (which may be fixed or variable) at which the Securities of the series will bear interest, if any, as well as the dates from which interest will accrue, the dates on which the interest will be payable and the record date for the interest payable on any payment date;

(f) the form and terms of any guarantee of the Securities, including the terms of subordination, if any, of the series;

(g) any depositories, interest rate calculation agents or other agents with respect to Securities of such series if other than those appointed herein;

(h) the right, if any, of Holders of the Securities to convert them into common stock or other securities of the Issuer, including any provisions to prevent dilution of such conversion rights;

(i) the place or places where the principal, premium, if any, and interest, if any, on the Securities of the series will be payable and where the Securities which are in registered form can be presented for registration of transfer or exchange and the identification of any depositary or depositaries for any Global Securities;

(j) the provisions, if any, regarding the Issuer's right to redeem, repay or purchase Securities of the series, in whole or in part, or the right of the Holders to require the Issuer to redeem, repay or purchase Securities of the series, in whole or in part;

(k) the provisions, if any, requiring or permitting the Issuer to make payments in a sinking fund or analogous provision to be used to redeem the Securities of the series or a purchase fund or analogous provision to purchase the Securities of the series;

(1) if other than denominations of \$2,000 and any integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof, the denominations in which Securities of the series shall be issuable;

(m) the percentage of the principal amount at which the Securities of the series will be issued and, if other than the full principal amount thereof, the percentage of the principal amount of the Securities of the series which is payable if maturity of such Securities is accelerated because of a Default;

(n) the currency or currencies in which principal, premium, if any, and interest, if any, of the Securities of the series will be payable;

(o) if payments of principal of, premium or interest on the Securities of the series will be made in one or more currencies other than that or those in which the Securities of the series are denominated, the manner in which the exchange rate with respect to such payments will be determined;

(p) the manner in which the amounts of payment of principal of, or premium or interest on the Securities of the series will be determined, if these amounts may be determined by reference to an index based on a currency or currency other than that in which the Securities of the series are denominated or designated to be payable;

(q) the provisions, if any, relating to any security provided for the Securities of the series;

(r) any addition to or change in the Events of Default with respect to the Securities of a particular series and any change in the right of the Trustee or the requisite Holders of such Securities to declare the principal amount thereof due and payable pursuant to Section 6.02 hereof;

(s) any addition to, change in or deletion from, the covenants set forth in Articles 4 or 5 that applies to Securities of the series;

(t) the Trustee, Registrar or Paying Agent for the series of Securities, if different than Regions Bank;

(u) if applicable, that the Securities of the series, in whole or in specific part, shall be defeasible pursuant to Sections 8.03 and 8.04 and, if other than by a Board Resolution, the manner in which any election by the Company to defease such Securities shall be evidenced;

(v) any other terms of the series (which terms may modify, supplement or delete any provision of this Indenture with respect to such series; provided, however, that no such term may modify or delete any provision hereof if imposed by the TIA; and provided, further, that any modification or deletion of the rights, duties or immunities of the Trustee hereunder shall have been consented to in writing by the Trustee).

All Securities of any series shall be substantially identical except as to denomination and except as may otherwise be provided in or pursuant to such Board Resolution or Officers' Certificate or in any such indenture supplemental hereto.

The principal of and any interest on the Securities shall be payable at the office or agency of the Issuer designated in the form of Security for the series (each such place herein called the "<u>Place of Payment</u>"); provided, however, that payment of interest may be made at the option of the Issuer by check mailed to the address of the Person entitled thereto as such address shall appear in the register of Securities referred to in Section 2.03 hereof.

Each Security shall be in one of the forms approved from time to time by or pursuant to a Board Resolution or Officers' Certificate, or established in one or more indentures supplemental hereto. Prior to the delivery of a Security to the Trustee for authentication in any form approved by or pursuant to a Board Resolution or Officers' Certificate, the Issuer shall deliver to the Trustee the Board Resolution or Officers' Certificate by or pursuant to which such form of Security has been approved, which Board Resolution or Officers' Certificate shall have attached thereto a true and correct copy of the form of Security that has been approved by or pursuant thereto. The Issuer shall also deliver to the Trustee an Officers' Certificate and an Opinion of Counsel complying with Section 11.04.

The Securities may have notations, legends or endorsements required by law, stock exchange rule or usage. Each Security shall be dated the date of its authentication.

### SECTION 2.02 Execution and Authentication.

One or more Officers shall sign the Securities for the Issuer by manual, electronic or facsimile signature.

If an Officer whose signature is on a Security no longer holds that office at the time the Security is authenticated, the Security shall nevertheless be valid.

A Security shall not be valid until authenticated by the manual signature of the Trustee. The signature shall be conclusive evidence that the Security has been authenticated under this Indenture.

The Trustee shall authenticate Securities for original issue upon receipt of an Issuer Order. The Trustee shall have the right to decline to authenticate and deliver any Securities of such series: (a) if the Trustee, being advised by counsel, reasonably determines that such action may not be taken lawfully; or (b) if the Trustee in good faith by its board of directors or trustees, executive committee or a trust committee of directors and/or vice- presidents or a committee of Trust Officers shall reasonably determine that such action would expose the Trustee to personal liability to Holders of any then outstanding series of Securities.

The Trustee may appoint an authenticating agent acceptable to the Issuer to authenticate Securities. An authenticating agent may authenticate Securities whenever the Trustee may do so. Each reference in this Indenture to authentication by the Trustee includes authentication by such agent. An authenticating agent has the same rights as an Agent to deal with the Issuer or an Affiliate of the Issuer.

## SECTION 2.03 Registrar and Paying Agent.

The Issuer shall maintain an office or agency (which, unless otherwise set forth in a Board Resolution or one or more indentures supplemental hereto, shall be located in the United States) where Securities of a particular series may be presented for registration of transfer or for exchange (the "<u>Registrar</u>") and an office or agency where Securities of that series may be presented for payment (a <u>Paying Agent</u>"). The Registrar for a particular series of Securities shall keep a register of the Securities of that series and of their registration of transfer and exchange. The Issuer may appoint one or more co-Registrars and one or more additional paying agents for each series of Securities. The term "Paying Agent" includes any additional Paying Agent. The Issuer may change any Paying Agent, Registrar or co-Registrar without prior notice to any Securityholder. The Issuer shall notify the Trustee in writing of the name and address of any Agent not a party to this Indenture.

If the Issuer fails to maintain a Registrar or Paying Agent for any series of Securities, the Trustee shall act as such. The Issuer or any of its Affiliates may act as Paying Agent, Registrar or co-Registrar.

The Issuer hereby appoints the Trustee the initial Registrar and Paying Agent for each series of Securities unless another Registrar or Paying Agent, as the case may be, is appointed prior to the time Securities of that series are first issued.

### SECTION 2.04 Paying Agent to Hold Money in Trust

Whenever the Issuer has one or more Paying Agents it will, prior to each due date of the principal of or interest on, any Securities, deposit with a Paying Agent a sum sufficient to pay the principal or interest so becoming due, such sum to be held in trust for the benefit of the Persons entitled to such principal or interest, and (unless such Paying Agent is the Trustee) the Issuer will promptly notify the Trustee of its action or failure so to act.

The Issuer shall require each Paying Agent other than the Trustee to agree in writing that such Paying Agent will hold in trust for the benefit of the Securityholders of the particular series for which it is acting, or the Trustee, all money held by the Paying Agent for the payment of principal or interest on the Securities of such series, and that such Paying Agent will notify the Trustee of any Default by the Issuer or any other obligor of the series of Securities in making any such payment and at any time during the continuance of any such Default, upon the written request of the Trustee, forthwith pay to the Trustee all sums so held in trust by such Paying Agent. If the Issuer or an Affiliate acts as Paying Agent, it shall segregate and hold in a separate trust fund for the benefit of the Securityholders of the particular series for which it is acting all money held by it as Paying Agent. The Issuer at any time may require a Paying Agent to pay all money held by it to the Trustee. Upon so doing, the Paying Agent (if other than the Issuer or an Affiliate of the Issuer) shall have no further liability for such money. Upon any bankruptcy or reorganization proceedings relating to the Issuer, the Trustee shall serve as Paying Agent for the Securities.

### SECTION 2.05 Securityholder Lists.

The Trustee shall preserve in as current a form as is reasonably practicable the most recent list available to it of the names and addresses of Securityholders, separately by series, and shall otherwise comply with TIA Section 312(a). If the Trustee is not the Registrar, the Issuer shall comply with TIA Section 312(a) and furnish to the Trustee as of the relevant record date and at such other times as the Trustee may request in writing, a list in such form and as of such date as the Trustee may reasonably require of the names and addresses of Securityholders, separately by series, relating to such interest payment date or request, as the case may be.

### SECTION 2.06 Transfer and Exchange.

Where Securities of a series are presented to the Registrar or a co-Registrar with a request to register a transfer or to exchange them for an equal principal amount of Securities of the same series of other authorized denominations, the Registrar shall register the transfer or make the exchange if its requirements for such transactions are met. To permit registrations of transfers and exchanges, the Issuer shall issue and the Trustee shall authenticate Securities at the Registrar's request.

No service charge shall be made for any registration of transfer or exchange, but the Issuer may require payment of a sum sufficient to cover any transfer tax or similar governmental charge payable in connection therewith (other than any such transfer tax or similar governmental charge payable upon exchanges pursuant to Sections 2.09, 2.13, 3.06 or 9.05).

The Issuer need not issue, and the Registrar or co-Registrar need not register the transfer or exchange of, (i) any Security of a particular series during a period beginning at the opening of business 15 days before the day of any selection of Securities of that series for redemption under Section 3.02 and ending at the close of business on the day of selection, or (ii) any Security so selected for redemption in whole or in part, except the unredeemed portion of any Security of that series being redeemed in part.

Any Holder of a Global Security shall, by acceptance of such Global Security, agree that transfers of the beneficial interests in such Global Security may be effected only through a book entry system maintained by the Issuer of such Global Security (or its agent), and that ownership of a beneficial interest in the Global Security shall be required to be reflected in a book entry.

Notwithstanding anything contained herein to the contrary, neither the Trustee nor the Registrar shall be responsible for ascertaining whether any transfer complies with the registration provisions of or exemptions from the Securities Act, applicable state securities laws, or other applicable law

## SECTION 2.07 Replacement Securities.

If a mutilated Security is surrendered to the Trustee or if the Holder of a Security claims that the Security has been lost, destroyed or wrongfully taken, the Issuer shall issue and, upon receipt of an Issuer Order, the Trustee shall authenticate a replacement Security of same series if the Issuer's and the Trustee's requirements are met. The Trustee or the Issuer may require an indemnity bond to be furnished which is sufficient in the judgment of both to protect the Issuer, the Trustee, and any Agent from any loss which any of them may suffer if a Security is replaced. The Issuer or the Trustee may charge such Holder for its expenses in replacing a Security.

Every replacement Security is an obligation of the Issuer and shall be entitled to all the benefit of the Indenture equally and proportionately with any and all other Securities of the same series.

## SECTION 2.08 Outstanding Securities.

Subject to Section 8.03 and Section 8.04, the Securities of any series outstanding at any time are all the Securities of that series authenticated by the Trustee except for those canceled by it, those delivered to it for cancellation, and those described in this Section as not outstanding.

If a Security is replaced pursuant to Section 2.07, it ceases to be outstanding unless the Trustee receives proof satisfactory to it that the replaced Security is held by a protected purchaser.

If Securities are considered paid under Section 4.01, they cease to be outstanding and interest on them ceases to accrue.

Except as set forth in Section 2.16 hereof, a Security does not cease to be outstanding because the Issuer or an Affiliate holds the Security.

#### SECTION 2.09 Temporary Securities.

Until definitive Securities are ready for delivery, the Issuer may prepare and the Trustee shall authenticate temporary Securities upon an Issuer Order. Temporary Securities shall be substantially in the form of definitive Securities but may have variations that the Issuer considers appropriate for temporary Securities. Without unreasonable delay, the Issuer shall prepare and the Trustee shall, upon receipt of an Issuer Order, authenticate definitive Securities in exchange for temporary Securities.

Holders of temporary Securities shall be entitled to all of the benefits of this Indenture.

### SECTION 2.10 Cancellation.

The Issuer at any time may deliver Securities to the Trustee for cancellation. The Registrar and Paying Agent shall forward to the Trustee any Securities surrendered to them for registration of transfer, exchange or payment. The Trustee shall cancel all Securities surrendered for registration of transfer, exchange, payment, replacement or cancellation in accordance with its standard procedures and provide evidence of such canceled Securities to the Issuer at the Issuer's written request. The Issuer may not issue new Securities to replace Securities that it has paid or that have been delivered to the Trustee for cancellation.

#### SECTION 2.11 Defaulted Interest.

If the Issuer fails to make a payment of interest on any series of Securities, the Issuer shall pay such defaulted interest plus (to the extent lawful) any interest payable on the defaulted interest, in any lawful manner. It may elect to pay such defaulted interest, plus any such interest payable on it, to the Persons who are Holders of such Securities on which the interest is due on a subsequent special record date. The Issuer shall notify the Trustee in writing of the amount of defaulted interest proposed to be paid on each such Security and the date of the proposed payment. The Issuer shall fix or cause to be fixed any such record date and payment date for such defaulted interest. At least 15 days before any such record date, the Issuer shall mail to Securityholders affected thereby (with a copy to the Trustee) a notice that states the record date, and amount of such interest to be paid.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, any interest which is paid prior to the expiration of the 30 day period set forth in Section 6.01(1) shall be paid to Holders as of the record date for the interest payment date for which interest has not been paid.

### SECTION 2.12 Special Record Dates.

(a) The Issuer may, but shall not be obligated to, set a record date for the purpose of determining the identity of Holders of any series entitled to consent to any supplement, amendment or waiver permitted by this Indenture. If a record date is fixed, the Holders of Securities of that series outstanding on such record date, and no other Holders, shall be entitled to consent to such supplement, amendment or waiver or revoke any consent previously given, whether or not such Holders remain Holders after such record date. No consent shall be valid or effective for more than 90 days after such record date unless consents from Holders of the principal amount of Securities of that series required hereunder for such amendment or waiver to be effective shall have also been given and not revoked within such 90-day period.

(b) The Issuer may, but shall not be obligated to, fix any day as a record date for the purpose of determining the Holders of any series of Securities entitled to join in the giving or making of any notice of Default, any declaration of acceleration, any request to institute proceedings or any other similar direction. If a record date is fixed, the Holders of Securities of that series outstanding on such record date, and no other Holders, shall be entitled to join in such notice, declaration, request or direction, whether or not such Holders remain Holders after such record date; provided, however, that no such action shall be effective hereunder unless taken on or prior to the date 90 days after such record date. In setting such record date, the provisions of the last sentence of TIA Section 316(c) shall not apply.

### SECTION 2.13 Global Securities.

(a) Terms of Securities. A Board Resolution, a supplemental indenture hereto or an Officers' Certificate shall establish whether the Securities of a series shall be issued in whole or in part in the form of one or more Global Securities and the Depositary for such Global Security or Securities. The Issuer and each of the Guarantors, the Trustee and each Agent are hereby authorized to act in accordance with the applicable procedures of The Depository Trust Company ("DTC") or such other Depository for a series of Securities as in effect from time to time.

(b) Transfer and Exchange. Notwithstanding any provisions to the contrary contained in Section 2.06 of this Indenture and in addition thereto, any Global Security shall be exchangeable pursuant to Section 2.06 of this Indenture for securities registered in the names of Holders other than the Depositary for such Security or its nominee only if (i) such Depositary notifies the Issuer that it is unwilling or unable to continue as Depositary for such Global Security or if at any time such Depositary ceases to be a clearing agency registered under the Exchange Act, and, in either case, the Issuer fails to appoint a successor Depositary within 90 days of such event or (ii) the Issuer executes and delivers to the Trustee an Officers' Certificate to the effect that such Global Security shall be so exchangeable. Any Global Security that is exchangeable pursuant to the preceding sentence shall be exchangeable for Securities registered in such names as the Depositary shall direct in writing in an aggregate principal amount equal to the principal amount of the Global Security with like tenor and terms.

Except as provided in this paragraph (b) of this Section, a Global Security may not be transferred except as a whole by the Depositary with respect to such Global Security to a nominee of such Depositary, by a nominee of such Depositary to such Depositary or another nominee of such Depositary or by the Depositary or any such nominee to a successor Depositary or a nominee of such a successor Depositary.

(c) Members of, or participants in, the Depositary shall have no rights under this Indenture with respect to any Global Security held on their behalf by the Depositary, or the Trustee as its custodian, or under the Global Security, and the Depositary may be treated by the Issuer, the Trustee and any agent of the Issuer or the Trustee as the absolute owner of the Global Security for all purposes whatsoever. Notwithstanding the foregoing, nothing herein shall prevent the Issuer, the Trustee or any agent of the Issuer or the Trustee from giving effect to any written certification, proxy or other authorization furnished by the Depositary or impair, as between the Depositary and participants, the operation of customary practices governing the exercise of the rights of a Holder of any Security.

(d) Neither the Issuer nor the Trustee is responsible or liable for the actions or inactions or the procedures of the Depositary.

(e) Legend. Any Global Security issued hereunder for which the Depository is DTC shall bear a legend in substantially the following form or as otherwise required by the applicable procedures of DTC at the time:

"Unless this certificate is presented by an authorized representative of The Depository Trust Company, a New York corporation ("DTC"), New York, New York, to the issuer or its agent for registration of transfer, exchange or payment, and any certificate issued is registered in the name of Cede & Co. or such other name as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC (and any payment is made to Cede & Co. or such other entity as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC), ANY TRANSFER, PLEDGE OR OTHER USE HEREOF FOR VALUE OR OTHERWISE BY OR TO ANY PERSON IS WRONGFUL inasmuch as the registered owner hereof, Cede & Co. has an interest herein."

"Transfer of this Global Security shall be limited to transfers in whole, but not in part, to nominees of DTC or to a successor thereof or such successor's nominee and limited to transfers made in accordance with the restrictions set forth in the Indenture referred to herein."

(f) Acts of Holders. The Depositary, as a Holder, may appoint agents and otherwise authorize participants to give or take any request, demand, authorization, direction, notice, consent, waiver or other action which a Holder is entitled to give or take under this Indenture.

(g) Payments. Notwithstanding the other provisions of this Indenture, unless otherwise specified as contemplated by Section 2.01 hereof, payment of the principal of and interest, if any, on any Global Security shall be made to the Person specified therein.

(h) Consents, Declaration and Directions. Except as provided in paragraph (f) of this Section, the Issuer, the Trustee and any Agent shall treat a Person as the Holder of such principal amount of outstanding Securities of such series represented by a Global Security as shall be specified in a written statement of the Depositary with respect to such Global Security, for purposes of obtaining any consents, declarations or directions required to be given by the Holders pursuant to this Indenture.

### SECTION 2.14 CUSIP Numbers.

The Issuer in issuing any series of Securities may use "CUSIP" numbers (if then generally in use), and, if so, the Trustee shall use "CUSIP" numbers in notices as a convenience to Holders; provided, however, the Trustee shall have no liability for any defect in the CUSIP number as they appear on any Securities, notice or elsewhere, that any such notice may state that no representation is made as to the correctness of such numbers either as printed on such Securities or as contained in any notice and that reliance may be placed only on the other identification numbers printed on such Securities, and any such action relating to such notice shall not be affected by any defect in or omission of such numbers in such notice. The Issuer shall promptly notify the Trustee of any change in the "CUSIP" numbers.

### SECTION 2.15 Computation of Interest.

Unless otherwise set forth in a Board Resolution or one or more indentures supplemental hereto, interest on the Securities will be computed on the basis of a 360-day year of twelve 30-day months.

### SECTION 2.16 Treasury Notes.

In determining whether the Holders of the required principal amount of Securities have concurred in any declaration of acceleration or notice of default or direction, waiver or consent or any amendment, modification or other change to this Indenture, Securities owned by the Issuer or any Guarantor or any other Affiliate of the Issuer or any Guarantor shall be disregarded as though they were not outstanding, except that for the purposes of determining whether the Trustee shall be protected in relying on any such direction, waiver or consent or any amendment, modification or other change to this Indenture, only Securities as to which a Trust Officer of the Trustee knows are so owned based on the register of Securities maintained pursuant to Section 2.03 of this Indenture or has received an Officers' Certificate stating that such Securities are so owned shall be so disregarded. Securities so owned which have been pledged in good faith shall not be disregarded if the pledgee established to the satisfaction of the Trustee the pledgee's right so to act with respect to the Securities and that the pledgee is not the Issuer, a Guarantor, any other obligor on the Securities or any of their respective Affiliates.

#### SECTION 2.17 Acts of Holders.

(a) Any request, demand, authorization, direction, notice, consent, waiver or other action provided by this Indenture to be given or taken by Holders may be embodied in and evidenced by one or more instruments of substantially similar tenor signed by such Holders in person or by agents duly appointed in writing; and, except as herein otherwise expressly provided, such action shall become effective when such instrument or instruments are delivered to the Trustee and, where it is hereby expressly required, to the Issuer. Such instrument or instruments (and the action embodied therein and evidenced thereby) are herein sometimes referred to as the "Act" of the Holders signing such instrument or instruments. Proof of execution of any such instrument or of a writing appointing any such agent shall be sufficient for any purpose of this Indenture and conclusive in favor of the Trustee and the Issuer, if made in the manner provided in this Section 2.17.

(b) The fact and date of the execution by any Person of any such instrument or writing may be proved by the affidavit of a witness of such execution or by a certificate of a notary public or other officer authorized by law to take acknowledgments of deeds, certifying that the individual signing such instrument or writing acknowledged to such officer the execution thereof. Where such execution is by a signer acting in a capacity other than such signer's individual capacity, such certificate or affidavit shall also constitute sufficient proof of such signer's authority. The fact and date of the execution of any such instrument or writing, or the authority of the Person executing the same, may also be proved in any other manner which the Trustee deems sufficient.

(c) The principal amount and serial numbers of Securities held by any Person, and the date of holding the same, shall be proved by the register kept by the Registrar.

(d) Any request, demand, authorization, direction, notice, consent, waiver or other Act of the Holder of any security shall bind every future Holder of the same security and the holder of every security issued upon the registration of transfer thereof or in exchange therefor or in lieu thereof in respect of anything done, omitted or suffered to be done by the Trustee or the Issuer in reliance thereon, whether or not notation of such action is made upon such security.

(e) If the Issuer shall solicit from the Holders any request, demand, authorization, direction, notice, consent, waiver or other Act, the Issuer may, at its option, by or pursuant to a Board Resolution, fix in advance a record date for the determination of Holders entitled to give such request, demand, authorization, direction, notice, consent, waiver or other Act, but the Issuer shall have no obligation to do so. If such a record date is fixed, such request, demand, authorization, direction, notice, consent, waiver or other Act may be given before or after such record date, but only the Holders of record at the close of business on such record date shall be deemed to be Holders for the purposes of determining whether Holders of the requisite proportion of outstanding Securities (as described in Section 2.08) have authorized or agreed or consented to such request, demand, authorization, direction, notice, consent, waiver or other Act, and for that purpose the outstanding Securities (as described in Section 2.08) shall be computed as of such record date; provided that no such authorization, agreement or consent by the Holders on such record date shall be deemed effective unless it shall become effective pursuant to the provisions of this Indenture not later than 90 days after the record date.

## ARTICLE 3 REDEMPTION

### SECTION 3.01 Notices to Trustee.

If the Issuer elects to redeem Securities of any series pursuant to any optional redemption provisions thereof, it shall furnish to the Trustee at least 45 days (unless a shorter period is satisfactory to the Trustee), but not more than 60 days before a redemption date (except in the circumstances allowing notice to Holders to be mailed more than 60 days prior to a redemption date under Section 3.03 hereof), an Officers' Certificate which shall specify (i) the provisions of such Security or this Indenture pursuant to which the redemption shall occur, (ii) the redemption date, (iii) the principal amount of Securities of that series to be redeemed and (iv) the redemption price (or, if not then known, the method of calculation thereof).

If the Issuer elects to reduce the principal amount of Securities of any series to be redeemed pursuant to mandatory redemption provisions thereof, it shall notify the Trustee of the amount of, and the basis for, any such reduction. If the Issuer elects to credit against any such mandatory redemption Securities that it has not previously delivered to the Trustee for cancellation, it shall deliver such Securities with such notice.

### SECTION 3.02 Selection of Securities to be Redeemed

If less than all the Securities of any series are to be redeemed, or purchased in an offer to purchase at any time, the Trustee shall select the Securities of that series to be redeemed or purchased as follows: (1) if the Securities of such series are listed on any national securities exchange, in compliance with the requirements of the principal national securities exchange on which the Securities of that series are listed or (2) if the Securities of that series are not listed on a national securities exchange, pro rata, by lot or by such other method as may be required by DTC's or any other Depository's applicable procedures. In the event of a partial redemption or purchase by lot, the particular Securities to be redeemed or purchased will be selected by the Trustee from Securities of that series outstanding and not previously called for redemption.

The Trustee shall notify the Issuer promptly in writing of the Securities or portions of Securities to be called for redemption or purchased and, in the case of any Securities selected for partial redemption or purchase, the principal amount thereof to be redeemed or purchased. Except as otherwise provided as to any particular series of Securities, Securities and portions thereof that the Trustee selects shall be in amounts equal to the minimum authorized denomination for Securities of the series to be redeemed or purchased or any integral multiple thereof, except that if all of the Securities of the series are to be redeemed or purchased, the entire outstanding amount of the Securities of the series hall be redeemed or purchased. Provisions of this Indenture that apply to Securities called for redemption also apply to portions of Securities called for redemption. The Issuer may acquire Securities by means other than redemption, whether pursuant to an Issuer tender offer, open market purchase or otherwise provided such acquisition does not otherwise violate the other terms of this Indenture.

### SECTION 3.03 Notice of Redemption.

Except as otherwise provided as to any particular series of Securities, at least 30 days but not more than 60 days before a redemption date, the Issuer shall mail a notice of redemption to each Holder whose Securities are to be redeemed; provided that redemption notices may be mailed more than 60 days prior to a redemption date if such notice is issued in connection with a legal or covenant defeasance or a satisfaction and discharge of this Indenture pursuant to Article 8 hereof and provided further that any conditional notice of redemption may be mailed or sent more than 60 days prior to the applicable redemption date.

The notice shall identify the Securities of the series to be redeemed and shall state:

(1) the redemption date and whether the redemption is subject to any conditions, which shall be stated in reasonable detail;

(2) the redemption price fixed in accordance with the terms of the Securities of the series to be redeemed (or, if not then known, the method of calculation thereof), plus accrued interest, if any, to the date fixed for redemption (the "redemption price");

(3) if any Security is being redeemed in part, the portion of the principal amount of such Security to be redeemed and that, after the redemption date, upon surrender of such Security, a new Security or Securities in principal amount equal to the unredeemed portion will be issued upon cancellation of the original Securities;

(4) the name and address of the Paying Agent;

(5) that Securities called for redemption must be surrendered to the Paying Agent to collect the redemption price;

(6) that, unless the Issuer defaults in payment of the redemption price, interest on Securities called for redemption ceases to accrue on and after the redemption date;

(7) the CUSIP number, if any, of the Securities to be redeemed;

(8) the paragraph of the Securities and/or the section of the Indenture pursuant to which the Securities called for redemption are being redeemed; and

(9) that no representation is made as to the correctness or accuracy of the CUSIP number, if any, listed in such notice or printed on the Securities.

Any notice of redemption may, at the Issuer's discretion, be subject to the satisfaction of one or more conditions precedent (including, in the case of a redemption in connection with a specified transaction, the consummation of such transaction). If a notice of redemption is subject to satisfaction of one or more conditions precedent, (i) such notice shall describe each such condition, and if applicable, shall state that, in the Issuer's discretion, the redemption date may be delayed until such time (including more than 60 days after the date the notice of redemption was mailed or sent) as any or all such conditions shall be satisfied (or such redemption date, or by the redemption date as so delayed, or (B) at any time in the Issuer's discretion if in the good faith judgment of the Issuers any or all of such conditions will not be satisfied. If a notice of the same to the Trustee prior to the close of business two Business Days prior to the redemption date (or such shorter period as may be acceptable to the Trustee), and upon receipt the Trustee shall provide such notice to each Holder of the Securities to be redeemed in the same manner in which the notice of redemption was given.

At the Issuer's request, the Trustee shall give the notice of redemption in the Issuer's name and at its expense, provided, however, that the Issuer shall have delivered to the Trustee, at least six Business Days (unless a shorter period is satisfactory to the Trustee) prior to the date on which notice is to be given, an Officers' Certificate requesting that the Trustee give such notice and setting forth the information to be stated in such notice as provided in the preceding paragraph. The notice mailed in the manner herein provided shall be conclusively presumed to have been duly given whether or not the Holder receives such notice. In any case, failure to give such notice by mail or any defect in the notice of the Holder of any Security shall not affect the validity of the proceeding for the redemption of any other Security.

### SECTION 3.04 Effect of Notice of Redemption.

Subject to the subordination provisions of any series of Securities and subject to any conditions applicable to such redemption, once notice of redemption is mailed in accordance with Section 3.03 hereof, Securities called for redemption become due and payable on the redemption date for the redemption price. Upon surrender to the Paying Agent, such Securities will be paid at the redemption price.

## SECTION 3.05 Deposit of Redemption Price.

On or before 10:00 a.m., New York City time, on the redemption or purchase date, the Issuer shall deposit with the Trustee or Paying Agent (or, if the Issuer or any Affiliate is the Paying Agent, shall segregate and hold in trust) money sufficient to pay the redemption or purchase price of all Securities called for redemption on that date other than Securities that have previously been delivered by the Issuer to the Trustee for cancellation. The Paying Agent shall return to the Issuer any money not required for that purpose.

If the Issuer complies with the provisions of the preceding paragraph, on and after the redemption or purchase date, interest shall cease to accrue on the Securities (or the portions thereof) called for redemption or purchase. If a Security is redeemed or purchased on or after an interest record date but on or prior to the related interest payment date, then any accrued and unpaid interest to, but not including the redemption date, shall be paid to the Person in whose name such Securities were registered at the close of business on such record date. If any Securities called for redemption or purchase shall not be so paid upon surrender for redemption because of the failure of the Issuer to comply with the preceding paragraph, interest shall be paid on the unpaid principal, from the redemption or purchase date until such principal is paid, and to the extent lawful on any interest not paid on such unpaid principal, in each case at the rate provided in accordance with the terms of the Securities of the series to be redeemed.

### SECTION 3.06 Securities Redeemed or Purchased in Part.

Upon surrender of a Security that is redeemed or purchased in part, the Issuer shall issue and the Trustee shall, upon receipt of an Issuer Order, authenticate for the Holder at the expense of the Issuer a new Security of same series equal in principal amount to the unredeemed or unpurchased portion of the Security surrendered.

### SECTION 4.01 Payment of Securities.

The Issuer shall pay or cause to be paid the principal of, premium, if any, and interest on the Securities on the dates and in the manner provided in this Indenture and the Securities. Principal, premium, if any, and interest shall be considered paid on the date due if the Paying Agent, if other than the Issuer or an Affiliate, holds as of 10:00 a.m., New York City time, on that date immediately available funds designated for and sufficient to pay all principal, premium, if any, and interest then due.

To the extent lawful, the Issuer shall pay interest on overdue principal and overdue installments of interest at the rate per annum borne by the applicable series of Securities.

### SECTION 4.02 Maintenance of Office or Agency.

The Issuer shall maintain in the United States an office or agency (which may be an office of the Trustee or an Affiliate of the Trustee or Registrar) where Securities may be surrendered for registration of transfer or exchange and where notices and demands to or upon the Issuer in respect of the Securities and this Indenture may be served. The Issuer shall give prompt written notice to the Trustee of the location, and any change in the location, of such office or agency. If at any time the Issuer shall fail to maintain any such required office or agency or shall fail to furnish the Trustee with the address thereof, such presentations, surrenders, notices and demands may be made or served at the Corporate Trust Office of the Trustee.

The Issuer may also from time to time designate one or more other offices or agencies where the Securities may be presented or surrendered for any or all such purposes and may from time to time rescind such designations; provided, however, that no such designation or rescission shall in any manner relieve the Issuer of its obligation to maintain an office or agency in the United States for such purposes. The Issuer shall give prompt written notice to the Trustee of any such designation or rescission and of any change in the location of any such other office or agency.

The Issuer hereby designates the Corporate Trust Office of the Trustee as one such office or agency of the Issuer in accordance with Section 2.03.

#### SECTION 4.03 Reports.

The Issuer shall deliver to the Trustee within 15 days after it files them with the Commission copies of the annual reports and of the information, documents and other reports (or copies of such portions of any of the foregoing as the Commission may by rules and regulations prescribe) that the Issuer is required to file with the Commission pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act; provided, however, the Issuer shall not be required to deliver to the Trustee any materials for which the Issuer has sought and received confidential treatment by the Commission. Reports, information and documents filed with the Commission via the EDGAR system will be deemed to be delivered to the Trustee as of the time of such filing for purposes of this Section 4.03; provided that the Trustee shall have no obligation to confirm whether the Company has delivered any such report or information via filing. The Issuer also shall comply with the other provisions of TIA Section 314(a). For the avoidance of doubt, nothing in this Section 4.03 shall require the Issuer to file any such reports, information or documents with the Commission.

Delivery of such reports, information and documents to the Trustee is for informational purposes only and the Trustee's receipt of such shall not constitute actual or constructive notice of any information contained therein or determinable from information contained therein, including the Issuer's compliance with any of its covenants hereunder (as to which the Trustee is entitled to rely exclusively on Officers' Certificates).
#### SECTION 4.04 Compliance Certificate.

(a) The Issuer and the Guarantors shall deliver to the Trustee, within 90 days after the end of each fiscal year of the Issuer, an Officers' Certificate stating that a review of the activities of the Issuer and its Subsidiaries during the preceding fiscal year (which ends December 31) has been made under the supervision of the signing Officers (one of whom shall be the principal executive officer, principal financial officer or principal accounting officer of the Issuer) with a view to determining whether the Issuer and each Guarantor has kept, observed, performed and fulfilled its obligations under this Indenture, and further stating, as to each such Officer signing such certificate, that to the best of his or her knowledge the Issuer and each Guarantor has kept, observed, performed and fulfilled each and every covenant contained in this Indenture and is not in default in the performance or observance of any of the terms, provisions and conditions of this Indenture (or, if a Default or Event of Default shall have occurred, describing all such Defaults or Events of Default of which he or she may have knowledge and what action the Issuer is taking or proposes to take with respect thereto) and that to the best of his or her knowledge no event has occurred and remains in existence by reason of which payments on account of the principal of or interest, if any, on the Securities is prohibited or if such event has occurred, a description of the event and what action the Issuer is taking or proposes to take with respect thereto.

(b) The Issuer shall, so long as any of the Securities are outstanding, deliver to the Trustee, forthwith upon becoming aware of any Default or Event of Default, an Officers' Certificate specifying such Default or Event of Default and what action the Issuer is taking or proposes to take with respect thereto.

#### SECTION 4.05 Taxes.

The Issuer shall pay prior to delinquency, all material taxes, assessments and governmental levies except such as are contested in good faith by appropriate proceedings or where the failure to effect such payment is not adverse in any material respect to the Holders of any Securities.

## SECTION 4.06 Stay, Extension and Usury Laws.

The Issuer and any Guarantors covenant (to the extent that they may lawfully do so) that they shall not at any time insist upon, plead, or in any manner whatsoever claim or take the benefit or advantage of, any stay, extension or usury law wherever enacted, now or at any time hereafter in force, that may affect the covenants or the performance of this Indenture; and the Issuer and each Guarantor (to the extent that they may lawfully do so) hereby expressly waive all benefits or advantages of any such law, and covenant that they shall not, by resort to any such law, hinder, delay or impede the execution of any power herein granted to the Trustee, but shall suffer and permit the execution of every such power as though no such law has been enacted.

#### SECTION 4.07 Maintenance of Properties; Insurance; Compliance with Law.

(a) The Issuer shall, and shall cause each of the Guarantors to, at all times cause all properties used or useful in the conduct of its business to be maintained and kept in good condition, repair and working order (reasonable wear and tear excepted) and supplied with all necessary equipment, and shall cause to be made all necessary repairs, renewals, replacements, necessary betterments and necessary improvements thereto.

(b) The Issuer shall maintain, and shall cause to be maintained for each of the Guarantors, insurance covering such risks as are usually and customarily insured against by corporations similarly situated in the markets where the Issuer and the Guarantors conduct homebuilding operations, in such amounts as shall be customary for corporations similarly situated and with such deductibles and by such methods as shall be customary and reasonably consistent with past practice.

(c) The Issuer shall, and shall cause each of its Subsidiaries to, comply with all statutes, laws, ordinances or government rules and regulations to which they are subject, non-compliance with which would materially adversely affect the business, earnings, properties, assets or financial condition of the Issuer and its Subsidiaries taken as a whole.

#### SECTION 4.08 Payments for Consent.

The Issuer shall not, and shall not cause or permit any of its Subsidiaries to, directly or indirectly, pay or cause to be paid any consideration, whether by way of interest, fee or otherwise, to any Holder of any Securities for or as an inducement to any consent, waiver or amendment of any of the terms or provisions of this Indenture or the Securities unless such consideration is offered to be paid or agreed to be paid to all Holders which so consent, waive or agree to amend in the time frame set forth in solicitation documents relating to such consent, waiver or agreement.

#### SECTION 4.09 Legal Existence.

Subject to Article 5 and the provisions of this Indenture that allow the release of any Guarantor, the Issuer shall do or cause to be done all things necessary to preserve and keep in full force and effect (i) its legal existence, and the corporate, partnership or other existence of each Guarantor, in accordance with the respective organizational documents (as the same may be amended from time to time) of each Guarantor and the rights (charter and statutory), licenses and franchises of the Issuer and its Subsidiaries; provided that the Issuer shall not be required to preserve any such right, license or franchise if, taken as a whole, the loss thereof is not adverse in any material respect to the Holders.

#### ARTICLE 5 SUCCESSORS

#### SECTION 5.01 When The Issuer May Merge, Etc.

In addition to provisions applicable to a particular series of Securities, the Issuer shall not directly or indirectly: (i) consolidate or merge with or into another Person (whether or not the Issuer is the surviving Person), or (ii) sell, lease, assign, transfer, convey or otherwise dispose of all or substantially all of the properties or assets of the Issuer and its Subsidiaries in one or more related transactions to any Person unless:

#### (1) either:

(a) the Issuer is the surviving Person; or

(b) the Person formed by or surviving any such consolidation or merger (if other than the Issuer) or to which such sale, lease, assignment, transfer, conveyance or other disposition shall have been made assumes (by supplemental indenture) all the obligations of the Issuer under the Securities and this Indenture;

## and

(2) immediately after the transaction no Default or Event of Default exists.

The Issuer shall deliver to the Trustee on or prior to the consummation of a transaction proposal pursuant to clause 1(b) above an Officers' Certificate to the foregoing effect and an Opinion of Counsel stating that the proposed transaction and such supplemental indenture comply with this Indenture and constitute the legal, valid and binding obligations of the issuer, enforceable against it in accordance with its terms.

#### SECTION 5.02 Successor Person Substituted.

Upon any consolidation or merger, or any sale, assignment, transfer, conveyance or other disposition (other than by lease) of all or substantially all of the assets of the Issuer in accordance with Section 5.01 hereof, the successor Person formed by such consolidation or into which the Issuer is merged or to which such sale, assignment, transfer, conveyance or other disposition is made shall succeed to, and be substituted for (so that from and after the date of such consolidation, merger, sale, conveyance or other disposition, the provisions of this Indenture referring to the "Issuer" shall refer instead to the successor Person had been named as the Issuer herein; provided, however, that the predecessor Issuer shall not be relieved from the obligation to pay principal of, and interest on, any Securities except in the case of a sale, assignment, transfer, conveyance or other disposition to fall of the Issuer's assets that meets the requirements of Section 5.01 hereof.

## ARTICLE 6 DEFAULTS AND REMEDIES

## SECTION 6.01 Events of Default.

Unless otherwise provided in the establishing Board Resolution, Officers' Certificate or supplemental indenture hereto, an "Event of Default" occurs with respect to Securities of any particular series if:

(1) the Issuer defaults in the payment of interest on any Security of that series when the same becomes due and payable and the Default continues for a period of 30 days;

(2) the Issuer defaults in the payment, when due, of the principal of, or premium, if any, on any Security of that series when the same becomes due and payable at maturity, upon redemption (including in connection with any offer to purchase under the terms of such Securities) or otherwise;

(3) an Event of Default, as defined in the Securities of that series, occurs and is continuing, or the Issuer fails to comply with any of its other agreements in the Securities of that series or in this Indenture with respect to that series and the Default continues for the period and after the notice specified below;

(4) the Issuer pursuant to or within the meaning of any Bankruptcy Law:

(A) commences a voluntary case;

(B) consents to the entry of an order for relief against it in an involuntary case;

(C) consents to the appointment of a Custodian of it or for all or substantially all of its property;

(D) makes a general assignment for the benefit of its creditors; or

(E) admits in writing its inability generally to pay its debts as the same become due.

(5) a court of competent jurisdiction enters an order or decree under any Bankruptcy Law that:

(A) is for relief against the Issuer in an involuntary case;

(B) appoints a Custodian of the Issuer or for all or substantially all of its property; or

(C) orders the liquidation of the Issuer; and, in any such case, the order or decree remains unstayed and in effect for 60 days.

(6) any other Event of Default provided with respect to Securities of that series which is specified in a Board Resolution, Officers' Certificate or supplemental indenture establishing the series of Securities.

The term "Bankruptcy Law" means Title 11, U.S. Code or any similar federal or state law for the relief of debtors. The term "Custodian" means any receiver, trustee, assignee, liquidator or similar official under any Bankruptcy Law.

A Default under clause (3) above is not an Event of Default with respect to a particular series of Securities until the Trustee or the Holders of at least 25% in principal amount of the then outstanding Securities of that series notify the Issuer of the Default and the Issuer does not cure the Default within 60 days after receipt of the notice. The notice must specify the Default, demand that it be remedied and state that the notice is a "Notice of Default." Such notice shall be given by the Trustee if so requested in writing by the Holders of 25% of the principal amount of the then outstanding Securities of that series.

## SECTION 6.02 Acceleration.

If an Event of Default with respect to Securities of any series (other than an Event of Default specified in clauses (4) and (5) of Section 6.01) occurs and is continuing, the Trustee by written notice to the Issuer, or the Holders of at least 25% in principal amount of the then outstanding Securities of that series by written notice to the Issuer and the Trustee, may, subject to any prior notice requirements set forth in any supplemental indenture, declare

the unpaid principal of and any accrued interest on all the Securities of that series (or any amount that by the terms of such Securities is payable if the maturity of such Securities is accelerated upon the occurrence of any Event of Default) to be due and payable on the Securities of that series. Upon such declaration the principal (or such lesser amount) and interest shall be due and payable immediately. If an Event of Default specified in clause (4) or (5) of Section 6.01 occurs, all of such amount shall become and be immediately due and payable without any declaration or other act on the part of the Trustee or any Holder. The Holders of a majority in principal amount of the then outstanding Securities of that series by written notice to the Trustee may rescind an acceleration and its consequences if the rescission would not conflict with any judgment or decree and if all existing Events of Default with respect to that series have been cured or waived except nonpayment of principal (or such lesser amount) or interest that has become due solely because of the acceleration.

# SECTION 6.03 Other Remedies.

If an Event of Default with respect to Securities of any series occurs and is continuing, the Trustee may pursue any available remedy to collect the payment of principal or interest on the Securities of that series or to enforce the performance of any provision of the Securities of that series or this Indenture.

The Trustee may maintain a proceeding even if it does not possess any of the Securities or does not produce any of them in the proceeding. A delay or omission by the Trustee or any Securityholder in exercising any right or remedy accruing upon an Event of Default shall not impair the right or remedy or constitute a waiver of or acquiescence in the Event of Default. All remedies are cumulative to the extent permitted by law.

#### SECTION 6.04 Waiver of Past Defaults.

Subject to Sections 6.02, 6.08 and 9.02, the Holders of not less than a majority in aggregate principal amount of the then outstanding Securities of any series, by notice to the Trustee, may on behalf of the Holders of the Securities of that series, waive an existing Default or Event of Default with respect to that series and its consequences except a continuing Default or Event of Default in the payment of the principal (including any mandatory sinking fund or like payment) of, premium, if any, or interest on any Security of that series (including in connection with an offer to purchase); provided, however, that the Holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding Securities of any series may rescind an acceleration and its consequences, including any related payment default that resulted from such acceleration and its consequences. Upon any such waiver, such Default shall cease to exist, and any Event of Default arising therefrom shall be deemed to have been cured for every purpose of this Indenture; but no such waiver shall extend to any subsequent or other Default or impair any right consequent thereon.

## SECTION 6.05 Control by Majority.

Except as provided in Sections 6.02, 6.06 and 6.08, the Holders of a majority in principal amount of the then outstanding Securities of any series may direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for exercising any remedy with respect to that series available to the Trustee or exercising any trust or power conferred on it. However, the Trustee may refuse to follow any direction that conflicts with law or this Indenture, that the Trustee determines may be unduly prejudicial to the rights of other Holders of Securities of that series (it being understood that the Trustee has no duty to determine if any directed action is prejudicial to any Holder), or that may involve the Trustee in personal liability. The Trustee may take any other action which it deems proper that is not inconsistent with any such direction. Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary in this Indenture, the Trustee shall not be obligated to take any action with respect to the provisions of the Section 6.02 unless directed to do so pursuant to this Section 6.05.

## SECTION 6.06 Limitation on Suits.

A Holder of Securities of any series may not pursue a remedy with respect to this Indenture or the Securities unless:

(1) the Holder gives to the Trustee written notice of a continuing Event of Default with respect to that series;

(2) the Holders of at least 25% in principal amount of the then outstanding Securities of that series make a written request to the Trustee to pursue the remedy;

(3) such Holder or Holders offer, and, if requested, provide to the Trustee indemnity satisfactory to the Trustee against any loss, liability or expense;

(4) the Trustee does not comply with the request within 60 days after receipt of the request and the offer and, if requested, the provision of indemnity; and

(5) during such 60-day period the Holders of a majority in principal amount of the then outstanding Securities of that series do not give the Trustee a direction inconsistent with the request.

No Holder of any series of Securities may use this Indenture to prejudice the rights of another Holder of Securities of that series or to obtain a preference or priority over another Holder of Securities of that series.

#### SECTION 6.07 No Personal Liability of Directors, Officers, Employees and Stockholders.

No director, officer, employee, incorporator or stockholder of the Issuer will have any liability for any obligations of the Issuer under the Securities or this Indenture or of any Guarantor under any guarantee of any Security or this Indenture or for any claim based on, in respect of, or by reason of, such obligations or their creation. Each Holder by accepting a Security waives and releases all such liability. The waiver and release are part of the consideration for issuance of the Securities and any related Security guarantees.

## SECTION 6.08 Rights of Holders to Receive Payment.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Indenture, the right of any Holder of a Security to receive payment of principal, premium, if any, and interest on the Security, on or after the respective due dates expressed in the Security (including in connection with any offer to purchase), or to bring suit for the enforcement of any such payment on or after such respective dates, shall not, except as provided in the subordination provisions, if any, applicable to such Security, be impaired or affected without the consent of the Holder.

#### SECTION 6.09 Collection Suit by Trustee.

If an Event of Default specified in Section 6.01(1) or (2) hereof occurs and is continuing with respect to Securities of any series, the Trustee may recover judgment in its own name and as trustee of an express trust against the Issuer for the whole amount of principal (or such portion of the principal as may be specified as due upon acceleration at that time in the terms of that series of Securities), premium, if any, and interest, remaining unpaid on the Securities of that series then outstanding, together with (to the extent lawful) interest on overdue principal and interest, and such further amount as shall be sufficient to cover the costs and, to the extent lawful, expenses of collection, including the reasonable compensation, expenses, disbursements and advances of the Trustee, its agents and counsel and any other amounts due the Trustee under Section 7.07 hereof.

## SECTION 6.10 Trustee May File Proofs of Claim.

The Trustee may file such proofs of claim and other papers or documents as may be necessary or advisable in order to have the claims of the Trustee (including any claim for the reasonable compensation, expenses, disbursements and advances of the Trustee, its agents and counsel and any other amounts due to the Trustee under Section 7.07 hereof) and the Securityholders allowed in any judicial proceedings relative to the Issuer (or any other obligor on the Securities), its creditors or its property and shall be entitled to and empowered to collect, receive and distribute any money or other property payable or deliverable on any such claims, and any custodian in any such judicial proceedings is hereby authorized by each Holder to make such payments to the Trustee and, in the event that the Trustee shall consent to the making of such payments directly to the Holders, to pay to the Trustee any amount due to it for the reasonable compensation, expenses, disbursements and advances of the Trustee, its agent and

counsel, and any other amounts due the Trustee under Section 7.07 hereof. Nothing contained herein shall be deemed to authorize the Trustee to authorize or consent to or accept or adopt on behalf of any Securityholder any plan of reorganization, arrangement, adjustment or composition affecting the Securities or the rights of any Holder thereof, or to authorize the Trustee to vote in respect of the claim of any Securityholder in any such proceeding.

#### SECTION 6.11 Priorities.

If the Trustee collects any money with respect to Securities of any series pursuant to this Article, it shall pay out the money in the following order:

First: to the Trustee, its agents and attorneys for amounts due under Section 7.07 hereof, including payment of all compensation, expenses, fees, indemnities and liabilities incurred, and all advances made, by the Trustee and the costs and expenses of collection;

Second: to Securityholders for amounts due and unpaid on the Securities of such series for principal, premium, if any, and interest, ratably, without preference or priority of any kind, according to the amounts due and payable on the Securities of such series for principal, premium, if any, and interest, respectively and in accordance with the subordination provisions, if any, of the Securities of such series; and

Third: to the Issuer or to such party as a court of competent jurisdiction shall direct.

If monies are not allocated to the Securities for any particular series, such monies will be distributed ratably to the Holders of all Securities. The Trustee may fix a record date and payment date for any payment to Holders of Securities of any series pursuant to this Section. The Trustee shall notify the Issuer in writing reasonably in advance of any such record date and payment date.

## SECTION 6.12 Undertaking for Costs.

In any suit for the enforcement of any right or remedy under this Indenture or in any suit against the Trustee for any action taken or omitted by it as a Trustee, a court in its discretion may require the filing by any party litigant in the suit of an undertaking to pay the costs of the suit, and the court in its discretion may assess reasonable costs, including reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses, against any party litigant in the suit, having due regard to the merits and good faith of the claims or defense made by the party litigant. This Section does not apply to a suit by the Trustee, a suit by a Holder pursuant to Section 6.08 hereof or a suit by Holders of more than 10% in principal amount of the then outstanding Securities of any series.

#### ARTICLE 7 TRUSTEE

#### SECTION 7.01 Duties of Trustee.

(a) If an Event of Default has occurred and is continuing, the Trustee shall exercise such of the rights and powers vested in it by this Indenture, and use the same degree of care and skill in their exercise, as a prudent person would exercise or use under the circumstances in the conduct of his or her own affairs.

(b) Except during the continuance of an Event of Default known to the Trustee:

(i) the duties of the Trustee shall be determined solely by the express provisions of this Indenture or the TIA and the Trustee need perform only those duties that are specifically set forth in this Indenture or the TIA and no others, and no implied covenants or obligations shall be read into this Indenture against the Trustee; and

(ii) in the absence of bad faith on its part, the Trustee may conclusively rely, as to the truth of the statements and the correctness of the opinions expressed therein, upon certificates or opinions furnished to the Trustee and conforming to the requirements of this Indenture. However, in the case of any certificates or opinions which by any provision hereof are specifically required to be furnished to the Trustee, the Trustee shall examine the certificates and opinions to determine whether or not they conform to the requirements of this Indenture (but need not confirm or investigate the accuracy of mathematical calculations or other facts stated therein).

(c) The Trustee may not be relieved from liabilities for its own negligent action, its own negligent failure to act, or its own willful misconduct, except that:

(i) this paragraph does not limit the effect of paragraph (b) of this Section;

(ii) the Trustee shall not be liable for any error of judgment made in good faith by a responsible officer of the Trustee, unless it is proved that the Trustee was negligent in ascertaining the pertinent facts; and

(iii) the Trustee shall not be liable with respect to any action it takes or omits to take in good faith in accordance with a direction received by it pursuant to Section 6.05 hereof.

(d) Whether or not therein expressly so provided, every provision of this Indenture that in any way relates to the Trustee is subject to this Section 7.01 and Section 7.02.

(e) No provision of this Indenture shall require the Trustee to expend or risk its own funds or incur any liability. The Trustee may refuse to perform any duty or exercise any right or power, including without limitation, the provisions of Section 6.05 hereof or at the request or direction of any of the Holders, unless it receives security and indemnity satisfactory to it against any loss, liability or expense which might be incurred by it in compliance with such performance.

(f) The Trustee shall not be liable for interest on any money received by it, or for any loss which may result from any investment or sale of investment made upon instruction of the Issuer, except as the Trustee may agree in writing with the Issuer. Absent written instruction from the Issuer, the Trustee shall not be required to invest any such money. Money held in trust by the Trustee need not be segregated from other funds except to the extent required by law.

(g) In no event shall the Trustee be responsible or liable for special, indirect, incidental, punitive or consequential loss or damage of any kind whatsoever (including, but not limited to, loss of profit) irrespective of whether the Trustee has been advised of the likelihood of such loss or damage and regardless of the form of action.

## SECTION 7.02 Rights of Trustee.

Subject to TIA Section 315(a) through (d) and Section 7.01 of this Indenture:

(a) The Trustee may conclusively rely on any document believed by it to be genuine and to have been signed or presented by the proper person. The Trustee shall not be bound to make any investigation into the facts or matters stated in any resolution, certificate, statement, instrument, opinion, report, notice, request, direction, consent, order, judgment, bond, debenture, note, other evidence of indebtedness or other paper or document, but the Trustee, in its discretion, may make such further inquiry or investigation into such facts or matters as it may see fit.

(b) Before the Trustee acts or refrains from acting, it shall be entitled to receive an Officers' Certificate and an Opinion of Counsel. The Trustee shall not be liable for any action it takes or omits to take in good faith in reliance on such Officers' Certificate or Opinion of Counsel.

(c) The Trustee may act through agents and shall not be responsible for the misconduct or negligence of any agent appointed with due care.

(d) The Trustee shall not be liable for any action it takes or omits to take in good faith which it believes to be authorized or within its rights or powers under the Indenture, unless the Trustee's conduct constitutes negligence.

(e) Unless otherwise specifically provided in this Indenture, any demand, request, direction or notice from the Issuer shall be sufficient if signed by an Officer of the Issuer.

(f) The Trustee may consult with counsel of its selection and may rely upon the advice of such counsel or any Opinion of Counsel.

(g) The Trustee shall not be deemed to have notice of any Default or Event of Default unless a Trust Officer of the Trustee has actual knowledge thereof or unless written notice of any event that is in fact such a Default is received by the Trustee at the Corporate Trust Office of the Trustee, and such notice references the Securities generally or the Securities of a particular series, as the case may be, and this Indenture and states that it is a "Notice of Default";

(h) The permissive rights of the Trustee to do things enumerated in this Indenture shall not be construed as duties. Order.

(i) Any request or direction of the Company mentioned herein shall be sufficiently evidenced by an Issuer

(j) The rights, privileges, protections, immunities and benefits given to the Trustee, including, without limitation, its right to be indemnified, are extended to, and shall be enforceable by, the Trustee in each of its capacities hereunder, and each agent, custodian and other Person employed to act hereunder.

(k) The Trustee may request that the Issuer deliver an Officers' Certificate setting forth the names of individuals and/or titles of officers authorized at such time to take specified actions pursuant to this Indenture, which Officers' Certificate may be signed by any Person authorized to sign an Officers' Certificate, including any Person specified as so authorized in any such certificate previously delivered and not superseded.

(1) Any action to be taken, or omitted to be taken, by the Trustee in good faith pursuant to this Indenture upon the request or authority or consent of any person who, at the time of making such request or giving such authority or consent, is the holder of any Security shall be conclusive and binding upon future holders of Securities, and upon Securities executed and delivered in exchange therefor or in place thereof.

(m) Except as required pursuant to this Indenture or the TIA, the Trustee is not responsible for monitoring the performance of other persons or for failure of others to perform their duties.

(n) The Trustee shall not be required to give any bond or surety in respect of the performance of its powers and duties hereunder.

#### SECTION 7.03 Individual Rights of Trustee.

The Trustee in its individual or any other capacity may become the owner or pledgee of Securities and may otherwise deal with the Issuer or an Affiliate with the same rights it would have if it were not Trustee. Any Agent may do the same with like rights. However, the Trustee is subject to TIA Sections 310(b) and 311.

## SECTION 7.04 Trustee's Disclaimer.

The Trustee makes no representation as to the validity or adequacy of this Indenture or the Securities, it shall not be accountable for the Issuer's use of the proceeds from the Securities, and it shall not be responsible for any statement in the Securities other than its certificate of authentication.

## SECTION 7.05 Notice of Defaults.

If as described in Section 7.02 (g) hereof a Default or Event of Default with respect to the Securities of any series occurs and is continuing and if it is actually known to a Trust Officer of the Trustee, the Trustee shall mail to all Holders of Securities of that series a notice of the Default or Event of Default within 90 days after it occurs. Except in the case of a Default or Event of Default in payment on any such Security, the Trustee may withhold the notice if and so long as the board of directors, executive committee, or a trust committee of directors and/or responsible officers of the Trustee in good faith determines that withholding the notice is in the interests of such Securityholders.

## SECTION 7.06 Reports by Trustee to Holders.

Within 60 days after January 1 of any year (commencing []), the Trustee with respect to any series of Securities shall mail to Holders of Securities of that series as provided in TIA Section 313(c) a brief report dated as of such January 1 that complies with TIA Section 313(a) (if such report is required by TIA Section 313(a)). The Trustee shall also comply with TIA Section 313(b)(2).

A copy of each report at the time of its mailing to Securityholders shall be mailed to the Issuer and filed with the Commission and each stock exchange on which any of the Securities are listed, as required by TIA Section 313(d). The Issuer shall notify the Trustee when the Securities are listed on any stock exchange, and of any delisting thereof.

# SECTION 7.07 Compensation and Indemnity.

The Issuer shall pay to the Trustee from time to time such compensation as shall be agreed upon in writing for its services hereunder (which compensation shall not be limited by any provision of law in regard to compensation of a trustee of an express trust). The Issuer shall reimburse the Trustee upon written request for all reasonable out-of-pocket expenses incurred by it. Such expenses shall include the reasonable compensation andout- of-pocket expenses of the Trustee's agents and counsel.

The Issuer and the Guarantors, jointly and severally, shall indemnify and hold harmless each of the Trustee or any predecessor Trustee and each of their directors, officers, employees and agents for any loss, liability, damage, claims or expenses, including taxes (other than taxes based upon, measured by or determined by the income of the Trustee) incurred by it, without negligence or willful misconduct on its part, in connection with the acceptance or administration of this Indenture and its duties hereunder including the costs of defending itself (including reasonable attorney's fees) against any claim (whether asserted by the Company or any Holder or any other Person) or in connection with enforcing the provisions of this Section. The Trustee shall notify the Issuer promptly of any claim for which it may seek indemnity. However, the failure by the Trustee to so notify the Issuer shall not relieve the Issuer of its obligations hereunder except to the extent the Issuer is prejudiced thereby. The Trustee may have separate counsel and the Issuer shall pay the reasonable fees and expenses of such counsel. The Issuer need not pay for any settlement made without its consent (such consent not to be unreasonably withheld).

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Issuer and the Guarantors need not reimburse the Trustee for any expense or indemnify it against any loss or liability incurred by the Trustee through its negligence or willful misconduct as determined by a final, non-appealable decision of a court of a competent jurisdiction. To secure the Issuer's payment obligations in this Section, the Trustee shall have a lien prior to the Securities on all money or property held or collected by the Trustee in its capacity as Trustee, except money or property held in trust to pay principal and interest on particular Securities. Such lien will survive the satisfaction and discharge of this Indenture and the resignation or removal of the Trustee. If the Trustee incurs expenses or renders services after an Event of Default specified in Section 6.01(4) or (5) hereof occurs, the expenses and the compensation for the services will be intended to constitute administrative expenses for purposes of priority under any applicable Bankruptcy Law.

This Section 7.07 shall survive the resignation or renewal of the Trustee and the termination of this Indenture.

#### SECTION 7.08 Replacement of Trustee.

A resignation or removal of the Trustee with respect to one or more or all series of Securities and appointment of a successor Trustee shall become effective only upon the successor Trustee's acceptance of appointment as provided in this Section.

The Trustee may resign at any time with respect to one or more or all series of Securities by so notifying the Issuer in writing. The Holders of a majority in principal amount of the then outstanding Securities of any series may remove the Trustee as to that series by so notifying the Trustee upon 30 days' prior notice in writing and may appoint a successor Trustee with the Issuer's consent. The Issuer may remove the Trustee with respect to one or more or all series of Securities if:

(1) the Trustee fails to comply with Section 7.10 hereof;

(2) the Trustee is adjudged a bankrupt or an insolvent;

- (3) a receiver or other public officer takes charge of the Trustee or its property; or
- (4) the Trustee becomes incapable of acting.

If, as to any series of Securities, the Trustee resigns or is removed or if a vacancy exists in the office of Trustee for any reason, the Issuer shall promptly appoint a successor Trustee for that series. Within one year after the successor Trustee with respect to any series takes office, the Holders of a majority in principal amount of the then outstanding Securities of that series may appoint a successor Trustee to replace the successor Trustee appointed by the Issuer. If a successor Trustee as to a particular series does not take office within 30 days after the retiring Trustee resigns or is removed, the retiring Trustee (at the expense of the Issuer), the Issuer or the Holders of at least 10% in principal amount of the then outstanding Securities of that series may petition any court of competent jurisdiction for the appointment of a successor Trustee.

If the Trustee fails to comply with Section 7.10 hereof with respect to any series, any Holder of Securities of that series who satisfies the requirements of TIA Section 310(b) may petition any court of competent jurisdiction for the removal of the Trustee and the appointment of a successor Trustee for that series.

A successor Trustee as to any series of Securities shall deliver a written acceptance of its appointment to the retiring Trustee and to the Issuer. Immediately after that, the retiring Trustee shall promptly transfer all property held by it as Trustee to the successor Trustee (subject to the lien provided for in Section 7.07 hereof), the resignation or removal of the retiring Trustee shall become effective, and the successor Trustee shall have all the rights, powers and duties of the Trustee under this Indenture as to that series. The successor Trustee shall mail a notice of its succession to the Holders of Securities of that series.

Notwithstanding replacement of the Trustee pursuant to this Section 7.08, the Issuer's obligations under Section 7.07 hereof shall continue for the benefit of the retiring trustee.

In case of the appointment hereunder of a successor Trustee with respect to the Securities of one or more (but not all) series, the Issuer, the retiring Trustee and each successor Trustee with respect to the Securities of one or more series shall execute and deliver an indenture supplemental hereto or any such other documentation as the retiring Trustee shall require wherein each successor Trustee shall accept such appointment and that (1) shall contain such provisions as shall be necessary or desirable to transfer and confirm to, and to vest in, each successor Trustee all the rights, powers, trusts and duties of the retiring Trustee with respect to the Securities of that or those series to which the appointment of such successor Trustee relates, (2) shall contain such provisions as shall be necessary or desirable to confirm that all the rights, powers, trusts and duties of the retiring Trustee with respect to the Securities of that or those series to which the appointment of such successor Trustee relates, (2) shall contain such provisions as shall be necessary or desirable to confirm that all the rights, powers, trusts and duties of the retiring Trustee with respect to the Securities of that or those series to which the appointment of such successor Trustee relates, (2) shall contain such provisions as shall be necessary or desirable to confirm that all the rights, powers, trusts and duties of the retiring Trustee with respect to the Securities of that or those series as to which the retiring Trustee is not retiring shall continue to be vested in the retiring Trustee with respect to the Securities of the rotivide for or facilitate the administration of the trusts hereunder by more than one Trustee; provided, however, that nothing herein or in such supplemental Indenture shall constitute such Trustee co-trustees of the same trust and that each such Trustee shall be trustee of a trust hereunder separate and apart from any trust hereunder administered by any other such Trustee.

Upon the execution and delivery of such supplemental Indenture the resignation or removal of the retiring Trustee shall become effective to the extent provided therein and each such successor Trustee, without any further act, deed or conveyance, shall become vested with all the rights, powers, trusts and duties of the retiring Trustee with respect to the Securities of that or those series to which the appointment of such successor Trustee relates

#### SECTION 7.09 Successor Trustee by Merger, Etc.

If the Trustee as to any series of Securities consolidates, merges or converts into, or transfers all or substantially all of its corporate trust business to, another corporation, the successor corporation without any further act shall be the successor Trustee as to that series.

## SECTION 7.10 Eligibility; Disqualification.

Each series of Securities shall always have a Trustee who satisfies the requirements of TIA Section 310(a)(1) and (2). The Trustee as to any series of Securities shall always have a combined capital and surplus of at least 100,000,000 as set forth in its most recent published annual report of condition. The Trustee is subject to TIA Section 310(b), including, but not limited to, the provision in Section 310(b)(1).

## SECTION 7.11 Preferential Collection of Claims Against the Issuer.

The Trustee shall comply with TIA Section 311(a), excluding any creditor relationship listed in TIA Section 311(b). A Trustee who has resigned or been removed shall be subject to TIA Section 311(a) to the extent indicated therein.

#### SECTION 7.12 Paying Agents.

The Issuer shall cause each Paying Agent other than the Trustee to execute and deliver to it and the Trustee an instrument in which such agent shall agree with the Trustee, subject to the provisions of this Section 7.12:

(a) that it will hold all sums held by it as agent for the payment of principal of, or premium, if any, or interest on, the Securities (whether such sums have been paid to it by the Issuer or by any obligor on the Securities) in trust for the benefit of Holders or the Trustee;

(b) that it will at any time during the continuance of any Default, upon written request from the Trustee, deliver to the Trustee all sums so held in trust by it together with a full accounting thereof; and

(c) that it will give the Trustee written notice within three (3) Business Days of any failure of the Issuer (or by any obligor on the Securities) in the payment of any installment of the principal of, premium, if any, or interest on, the Securities when the same shall be due and payable.

## ARTICLE 8 SATISFACTION AND DISCHARGE; DEFEASANCE

## SECTION 8.01 Satisfaction and Discharge

This Indenture will be discharged and will cease to be of further effect with respect to any series of Securities issued hereunder, when either:

(1) all Securities of such series that have been authenticated (except lost, stolen or destroyed Securities that have been replaced or paid and Securities for whose payment money has theretofore been deposited in trust and thereafter repaid to the Issuer pursuant to Section 8.07 of this Indenture) have been delivered to the Trustee for cancellation; or

(2) (a) all Securities of such series that have not been delivered to the Trustee for cancellation have become due and payable by reason of the making of a notice of redemption or otherwise or will become due and payable within one year and the Issuer or any Guarantor has irrevocably deposited or caused to be deposited with the Trustee as trust funds in trust solely for the benefit of the Holders, cash in U.S. dollars, non-callable U.S. Government Obligations, or a combination thereof, in such amounts as will be sufficient without consideration of any reinvestment of interest, to pay and discharge the entire indebtedness on the Securities not delivered to the Trustee for cancellation for principal, premium and accrued interest to the date of maturity or redemption,

(b) no Default or Event of Default with respect to such series of Securities shall have occurred and be continuing on the date of such deposit or shall occur as a result of such deposit and such deposit will not result in a breach or violation of, or constitute a default under, any other material instrument to which the Issuer or any Guarantor is a party to or by which the Issuer or any Guarantor is bound;

(c) the Issuer or any Guarantor has paid or caused to be paid all sums payable by it under this Indenture with respect to such series of Securities; and

(d) the Issuer has delivered irrevocable instructions to the Trustee under this Indenture to apply the deposited money toward the payment of the Securities of such series at maturity or the redemption date, as the case may be.

In addition, the Issuer must deliver an Officers' Certificate and an Opinion of Counsel to the Trustee stating that all conditions precedent to satisfaction and discharge have been satisfied.

Notwithstanding, the satisfaction and discharge of this Indenture with respect to a series of Securities, if money shall have been deposited with the Trustee pursuant to subclause (a) of clause (2) of this Section, the provisions of Section 8.06 shall survive.

## SECTION 8.02 Option to Effect Legal Defeasance or Covenant Defeasance.

Unless Section 8.03 or 8.04 is otherwise specified to be inapplicable to Securities of a series, the Issuer may, at the option of its Board of Directors evidenced by a resolution set forth in an Officers' Certificate, at any time, elect to have either Section 8.03 or 8.04 hereof be applied to all outstanding Securities of any such series upon compliance with the conditions set forth below in this Article Eight.

## SECTION 8.03 Legal Defeasance and Discharge.

Upon the Issuer's exercise under Section 8.02 hereof of the option applicable to this Section 8.03, the Issuer and any Guarantor shall, subject to the satisfaction of the conditions set forth in Section 8.05 hereof, be deemed to have been discharged from their respective obligations with respect to all outstanding Securities of any series on the date the conditions set forth below are satisfied (hereinafter, "Legal Defeasance"). For this purpose, Legal Defeasance means that the Issuer and any Guarantor shall be deemed to have paid and discharged the entire Indebtedness represented by the outstanding Securities of a series, which shall thereafter be deemed to be "outstanding" only for the purposes of Section 8.06 hereof and the other Sections of this Indenture referred to in (a) and (b) below, and to have satisfied all its other obligations under such Securities and this Indenture (and the Trustee, on demand of and at the expense of the Issuer, shall execute proper instruments acknowledging the same), except for the following provisions which shall survive until otherwise terminated or discharged hereunder: (a) the rights of Holders of outstanding Securities to receive solely from the trust fund described in Section 8.05 hereof, and as more fully set forth in such Section, payments in respect of the principal of, premium and interest on such Securities when such payments are due, (b) the Issuer's obligations with respect to such Securities under Article 2 hereof, (c) the rights, powers, trusts, duties and immunities of the Trustee hereunder and the Issuer's obligations under this Section 8.03 notwithstanding the prior exercise of its option under Section 8.04 hereof.

#### SECTION 8.04 Covenant Defeasance.

Upon the Issuer's exercise under Section 8.02 hereof of the option applicable to this Section 8.04, the Issuer or any Guarantors shall, subject to the satisfaction of the conditions set forth in Section 8.05 hereof, be released from their respective obligations under the covenants contained in Sections 4.03, 4.04, 4.05, 4.06, 4.07 and 4.08, and Section 5.01 hereof with respect to the outstanding Securities of any series on and after the date the conditions set forth in Section 8.05 are satisfied (hereinafter, "Covenant Defeasance"), and the Securities of such series shall thereafter be deemed not "outstanding" for the purposes of any direction, waiver, consent or declaration or act of Holders (and the consequences of any thereof) in connection with such covenants, but shall continue to be deemed "outstanding" for all other purposes hereunder (it being understood that such Securities of any series, the Issuer or any Guarantors may omit to comply with and shall have no liability in respect of any term, condition or limitation set forth in any such covenant, whether directly or indirectly, by reason of any reference elsewhere herein to any such covenant or by reason of any reference in any such covenant to any other porvision herein or in any other document and such omission to comply shall not constitute a Default or an Event of Default under Section 6.01 hereof, but, except as specified above, the remainder of this Indenture and such Securities shall be unaffected thereby. In addition, upon the Issuer's exercise under Section 8.02 hereof of the option applicable to this Section 8.04 hereof, subject to the satisfaction of the conditions set forth in Section 8.05 hereof, but except as the condition applicable to this Section 8.04 hereof, subject to the satisfaction of the conditions set forth in Section 8.05 hereof, but except as the condition applicable to this Section 8.04 hereof, subject to the satisfaction of the conditions set forth in Section 8.05 hereof, Sections 8.01 hereof of the option applicable to this

#### SECTION 8.05 Conditions to Legal or Covenant Defeasance.

The following shall be the conditions to the application of either Section 8.03 or 8.04 hereof to the outstanding Securities of any series. In order to exercise either Legal Defeasance or Covenant Defeasance:

(a) the Issuer must irrevocably deposit with the Trustee, in trust, for the benefit of the Holders, (i) cash in United States dollars, or (ii) non-callable U.S. Government Obligations, or a combination of cash and such non-callable U.S. Government Obligations, in such amounts as will be sufficient, in the opinion of a nationally recognized firm of independent public accountants (as to a defeasance under clause (ii)), to pay the principal of, premium and interest on the outstanding Securities on the stated date for payment thereof or on the applicable redemption date, as the case may be;

(b) in the case of an election under Section 8.03 hereof, the Issuer shall have delivered to the Trustee an Opinion of Counsel in the United States reasonably acceptable to the Trustee confirming that (A) the Issuer has received from, or there has been published by, the Internal Revenue Service a ruling or (B) since the date hereof, there has been a change in the applicable federal income tax law, in either case to the effect that, and based thereon such Opinion of Counsel shall confirm that, the Holders of the outstanding Securities will not recognize income, gain or loss for federal income tax purposes as a result of such Legal Defeasance and will be subject to federal income tax on the same amounts, in the same manner and at the same times as would have been the case if such Legal Defeasance had not occurred;

(c) in the case of an election under Section 8.04 hereof, the Issuer shall have delivered to the Trustee an Opinion of Counsel in the United States reasonably acceptable to the Trustee confirming that the Holders of the outstanding Securities will not recognize income, gain or loss for federal income tax purposes as a result of such Covenant Defeasance and will be subject to federal income tax on the same amounts, in the same manner and at the same times as would have been the case if such Covenant Defeasance had not occurred;

(d) no Default or Event of Default shall have occurred and be continuing on the date of such deposit (other than a Default or Event of Default resulting from the incurrence of Indebtedness all or a portion of the proceeds of which will be used to defease the Securities pursuant to this Article Eight concurrently with such incurrence) or insofar as Sections 6.01(4) or 6.01(5) hereof is concerned, at any time in the period ending on the 91st day after the date of deposit;

(e) such Legal Defeasance or Covenant Defeasance shall not result in a breach or violation of, or constitute a default under, any material agreement or instrument (other than this Indenture) to which the Issuer or any of its Subsidiaries is a party or by which the Issuer or any of its Subsidiaries is bound;

(f) the Issuer shall have delivered to the Trustee an Officers' Certificate stating that the deposit was not made by the Issuer with the intent of preferring the Holders over any other creditors of the Issuer or with the intent of defeating, hindering, delaying or defrauding any other creditors of the Issuer; and

(g) the Issuer shall have delivered to the Trustee an Officers' Certificate and an Opinion of Counsel, each stating that all conditions precedent provided for or relating to the Legal Defeasance or the Covenant Defeasance have been complied with.

#### SECTION 8.06 Deposited Money and Government Securities to be Held in Trust; Other Miscellaneous Provisions

Subject to Section 8.07 hereof, all money and non-callable U.S. Government Obligations (including the proceeds thereof) deposited with the Trustee (or other qualifying trustee, collectively for purposes of this Section 8.06, the "Trustee") pursuant to Section 8.01 or Section 8.05 hereof in respect of the outstanding Securities shall be held in trust and applied by the Trustee, in accordance with the provisions of such Securities and this Indenture, to the payment, either directly or through any Paying Agent (including the Issuer acting as Paying Agent) as the Trustee may determine, to the Holders of such Securities of all sums due and to become due thereon in respect of principal, premium, if any, and interest, but such money need not be segregated from other funds except to the extent required by law.

The Issuer shall pay and indemnify the Trustee against any tax, fee or other charge imposed on or assessed against the cash ornon-callable U.S. Government Obligations deposited pursuant to Section 8.05 hereof or the principal and interest received in respect thereof other than any such tax, fee or other charge which by law is for the account of the Holders of the outstanding Securities.

Anything in this Article Eight to the contrary notwithstanding, the Trustee shall deliver or pay to the Issuer from time to time upon the request of the Issuer any money or non-callable U.S. Government Obligations held by it as provided in Section 8.05 hereof which, in the opinion of a nationally recognized firm of independent public accountants expressed in a written certification thereof delivered to the Trustee (which may be the opinion delivered under Section 8.05(a) hereof), are in excess of the amount thereof that would then be required to be deposited to effect an equivalent Legal Defeasance or Covenant Defeasance.

## SECTION 8.07 Repayment to the Issuer.

Subject to applicable abandoned property law, any money deposited with the Trustee or any Paying Agent, or then held by the Issuer, in trust for the payment of the principal of, premium, if any, or interest on any Securities and remaining unclaimed for two years after such principal, and premium, if any, or interest has become due and payable shall be paid to the Issuer on its request or (if then held by the Issuer) shall be discharged from such trust; and the Holder of such Securities shall thereafter look only to the Issuer for payment thereof, and all liability of the Trustee or such Paying Agent with respect to such trust money, and all liability of the Issuer as trustee thereof, shall thereupon cease; provided, however, that the Trustee or such Paying Agent, before being required to make any such repayment, may at the expense of the Issuer cause to be published once, in the New York Times and The Wall Street Journal (national edition), notice that such money remains unclaimed and that, after a date specified therein, which shall not be less than 30 days from the date of such notification or publication, any unclaimed balance of such money then remaining will be repaid to the Issuer.

#### SECTION 8.08 Reinstatement.

If the Trustee or Paying Agent is unable to apply any United States dollars ornon-callable U.S. Government Securities in accordance with Sections 8.01, 8.03 or 8.04 hereof, as the case may be, by reason of any order or judgment of any court or governmental authority enjoining, restraining or otherwise prohibiting such application, then the Issuer's obligations under this Indenture and the Securities shall be revived and reinstated as though no deposit had occurred pursuant to Sections 8.01, 8.03 or 8.04 hereof until such time as the Trustee or Paying Agent is permitted to apply all such money in accordance with Sections 8.01, 8.03 or 8.04 hereof, as the case may be; provided, however, that, if the Issuer makes any payment of principal of, premium, or interest on any Securities following the reinstatement of its obligations, the Issuer shall be subrogated to the rights of the Holders of such Securities to receive such payment from the money held by the Trustee or Paying Agent.

## ARTICLE 9 SUPPLEMENTS, AMENDMENTS AND WAIVERS

#### SECTION 9.01 Without Consent of Holders.

The Issuer and the Trustee as to any series of Securities may supplement or amend this Indenture or the Securities without notice to or the consent of any Securityholder:

(1) to cure any ambiguity, defect or inconsistency;

- (2) to comply with Article 5;
- (3) to comply with any requirements of the Commission in connection with the qualification of this Indenture under the TIA;
- (4) to provide for uncertificated Securities in addition to or in place of certificated Securities;

(5) to add to, change or eliminate any of the provisions of this Indenture in respect of one or more series of Securities; provided, however, that any such addition, change or elimination (A) shall neither (i) apply to any Security of any series created prior to the execution of such supplemental indenture and entitled to the benefit of such provision nor (ii) modify the rights of the Holder of any such Security with respect to such provision or (B) shall become effective only when there is no outstanding Security of any series created prior to the execution of such supplemental indenture and entitled to the benefit of such provision;

(6) to make any change that does not adversely affect in any material respect the interests of the Securityholders of any series;

(7) to evidence and provide for the acceptance of appointment by a successor Trustee or a separate Trustee with respect to the Securities of one or more series and to add to or change any of the provisions of this Indenture as shall be necessary to provide for or facilitate the administration of the trusts hereunder by more than one Trustee;

(8) to establish additional series of Securities as permitted by Section 2.01 hereof; or

(9) to add a Guarantor.

# SECTION 9.02 With Consent of Holders.

This Indenture or any series of Securities may be amended with the consent (which may include consents obtained in connection with a tender offer or exchange offer for that series of Securities) of the Holders of at least a majority in aggregate principal amount of the series of the Securities then outstanding, and any existing Default under, or compliance with any provision of, this Indenture may be waived (other than any continuing Default in the payment of the principal of or interest on the Securities) with the consent (which may include consents obtained in connection with a tender offer or exchange offer for that series of Securities) of the Holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the Securities of that series then outstanding; provided that without the consent of each Holder affected, the Issuer and the Trustee may not:

(1) change the stated maturity of any Security;

(2) reduce the amount, extend the due date or otherwise affect the terms of any scheduled payment of interest on or principal of the Securities;

(3) reduce any premium payable upon optional redemption of the Securities, change the date on which any Securities are subject to redemption or otherwise alter the provisions with respect to the redemption of the Securities;

(4) make any Security payable in money or currency other than that stated in the Securities;

(5) modify or change any provision of this Indenture or the related definitions to affect the ranking of the Securities or any Security guarantee in a manner that adversely affects the Holders;

- (6) reduce the percentage of Holders necessary to consent to an amendment or waiver to this Indenture or the Securities;
- (7) impair the rights of Holders to receive payments of principal of or interest on the Securities;
- (8) release any Guarantor from any of its obligations under its Security guarantee or this Indenture, except as permitted by this Indenture; or
- (9) make any change in this Section 9.02.

After an amendment, supplement or waiver under this Section 9.02 becomes effective, the Issuer shall mail to the Holders a notice briefly describing the amendment, supplement or waiver.

Upon the written request of the Issuer, accompanied by a Board Resolution authorizing the execution of any such supplemental indenture, and upon the receipt by the Trustee of evidence reasonably satisfactory to the Trustee of the consent of the Holders as aforesaid and upon receipt by the Trustee of the documents described in Section 9.06, the Trustee shall join with the Issuer and the Guarantors in the execution of such supplemental indenture unless such supplemental indenture affects the Trustee's own rights, duties or immunities under this Indenture, in which case the Trustee may, but shall not be obligated to, enter into such supplemental indenture. It shall not be necessary for the consent of the Holders under this Section to approve the particular form of any proposed amendment, supplement or waiver, but it shall be sufficient if such consent approves the substance thereof.

#### SECTION 9.03 Compliance with the Trust Indenture Act.

Every amendment or supplement to this Indenture or the Securities shall comply with the TIA.

#### SECTION 9.04 Revocation and Effect of Consents.

Until an amendment or waiver becomes effective, a consent to it by a Holder of a Security is a continuing consent by the Holder and every subsequent Holder of a Security or portion of a Security that evidences the same debt as the consenting Holder's Security, even if notation of the consent is not made on any Security; provided, however, any such Holder or subsequent Holder may revoke the consent as to his Security or portion of a Security if the Trustee receives the written notice of revocation before the date on which the amendment, supplement or waiver becomes effective. An amendment, supplement or waiver shall become effective in accordance with its terms and thereafter shall bind every Holder of Securities of that series.

#### SECTION 9.05 Notation on or Exchange of Securities.

If an amendment, supplement or waiver changes the terms of a Security: (a) the Trustee may require the Holder of the Security to deliver it to the Trustee, the Trustee may, at the written direction of the Issuer and at the Issuer's expense, place an appropriate notation on the Security about the changed terms and return it to the Holder and the Trustee may place an appropriate notation on any Security thereafter authenticated; or (b) if the Issuer or the Trustee so determines, the Issuer in exchange for the Security shall issue and the Trustee shall authenticate a new Security that reflects the changed terms.

Failure to make the appropriate notation or issue a new Security shall not affect the validity and effect of such amendment, supplement or waiver.

## SECTION 9.06 Trustee to Sign Amendments, Etc.

Subject to the preceding sentence, the Trustee shall sign any amendment or supplemental Indenture if the same does not adversely affect the rights, duties, liabilities or immunities of the Trustee. The Trustee may, but shall not be obligated to, execute any such amendment or supplement that affects the Trustee's own rights, duties or immunities under this Indenture. The Issuer may not sign an amendment or supplemental Indenture until the Board of Directors approves it. In executing any amended or supplemental Indenture, the Trustee shall be entitled to receive and (subject to Section 7.01) shall be fully protected in relying upon, in addition to the documents required by Section 11.04 hereof, an Officers' Certificate and an Opinion of Counsel stating that the execution of such amended or supplemental Indenture is authorized or permitted by this Indenture and constitutes the legal, valid and binding obligation of the issuer, enforceable against it in accordance with its terms.

## ARTICLE 10 GUARANTEES

# SECTION 10.01 Guarantee.

Any series of Securities may be guaranteed by one or more of the Guarantors. The terms and the form of any such guarantee will be established in the manner contemplated by Section 2.01 for that particular series of Securities.

## ARTICLE 11 MISCELLANEOUS

#### SECTION 11.01 Trust Indenture Act Controls.

If any provision of this Indenture limits, qualifies or conflicts with another provision which is required to be included in this Indenture by the TIA, the required provision shall control. If any provision of this Indenture modifies any TIA provision that may be so modified, such TIA provision shall be deemed to apply to this Indenture as so modified. If any provision of this Indenture excludes any TIA provision that may be so excluded, such TIA provision shall be excluded from this Indenture.

The provision of TIA Sections 310 through 317 that impose duties on any Person (including the provisions automatically deemed included unless expressly excluded by this Indenture) are a part of and govern this Indenture, whether or not physically contained herein. Without limitation of the foregoing, in the event that any series of Securities is secured pursuant to the provisions of Section 2.01(q) of this Indenture, the Trustee, Issuer and each Guarantor shall comply with TIA Section 313(b)(1), Section 314(b) and Section 314(d) to the extent required thereby.

#### SECTION 11.02 Notices.

Any notice or communication is duly given if in writing and delivered in person or sent by first-class mail (registered or certified, return receipt requested), email, telecopier or overnight air courier guaranteeing next-day delivery, addressed as follows:

If to the Issuer and/or any Guarantor:

MERITAGE HOMES CORPORATION

18655 North Claret Drive Suite 400 Scottsdale, AZ 85255 Attention: Chief Financial Officer and General Counsel Fax Number: (480)627-5022 Email: Hilla.Sferruzza@meritagehomes.com and Malissia.Clinton@meritagehomes.com

with a copy to:

SNELL & WILMER L.L.P. One East Washington Street Suite 2700 Phoenix, AZ 85004 Attention: Jeffrey Beck, Esq. Fax Number: (602) 382-6070 Email: jbeck@swlaw.com

If to the Trustee:

REGIONS BANK 10245 Centurion Parkway, 2nd Floor Jacksonville, FL 32256 Attention: Craig Kaye Email: Craig.Kaye@Regions.com

with a copy to:

ALSTON & BIRD LLP 1120 South Tryon Street, Suite 300 Charlotte, NC 28230-6818 Attention: Adam Smith, Esq. Email: Adam.Smith@Alston.com

The Issuer or the Trustee by notice to the other may designate additional or different addresses for subsequent notices or communications.

All notices and communications (other than those sent to Holders) shall be deemed to have been duly given: at the time delivered by hand, if personally delivered; five Business Days after being deposited in the mail, postage prepaid, if mailed; when received, if emailed or telecopied; and the next business day after timely delivery to the courier, if sent by overnight air courier guaranteeing next-day delivery.

Any notice or communication to a Securityholder shall be mailed by first-class mail, certified or registered, return receipt requested, or by overnight air courier guaranteeing next day delivery to his address shown on the register kept by the Registrar. Failure to mail a notice or communication to a Security holder or any defect in it shall not affect its sufficiency with respect to other Securityholders. If the Issuer mails a notice or communication to Securityholders, it shall mail a copy to the Trustee at the same time. Any notice or communication shall also be mailed to any Person described in TIA Section 313(c), to the extent required by the TIA.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Indenture or any Security, where this Indenture or any Security provides for notice of any event (including notice of redemption) to a Holder of a Global Security (whether by mail or otherwise), such notice shall be sufficiently given when delivered to the Depositary for such Security (or its designee) pursuant to the customary procedures of such Depositary.

If a notice or communication is mailed in the manner provided above within the time prescribed, it is duly given, whether or not the addressee receives it.

## SECTION 11.03 Communication by Holders With Other Holders.

Holders may communicate pursuant to TIA Section 312(b) with other Holders with respect to their rights under this Indenture or the Securities and the Trustee shall comply with the requirements of said TIA Section 312(b). The Issuer, the Trustee, the Registrar and anyone else shall have the protection of TIA Section 312(c).

## SECTION 11.04 Certificate and Opinion as to Conditions Precedent.

Upon any request or application by the Issuer to the Trustee to take any action under this Indenture, the Issuer shall furnish to the Trustee:

(a) an Officers' Certificate, in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to the Trustee (which shall include the statements set forth in Section 11.05 hereof) stating that, in the opinion of the signers, all covenants and conditions precedent, if any, provided for in this Indenture relating to the proposed action have been complied with; and

(b) an Opinion of Counsel, in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to the Trustee (which shall include the statements set forth in Section 11.05 hereof) stating that, in the opinion of such counsel, such action is authorized or permitted by this Indenture and that all such covenants and conditions precedent have been complied with.

#### SECTION 11.05 Statements Required in Certificate or Opinion.

Each certificate or opinion with respect to compliance with a condition or covenant provided for in this Indenture (other than the certificate provided pursuant to TIA Section 314(a)(4)) shall include:

(1) a statement that the Person making such certificate or opinion has read such covenant or condition precedent provided for in this Indenture relating to the proposed action;

(2) a brief statement as to the nature and scope of the examination or investigation upon which the statements or opinions contained in such certificate or opinion are based;

(3) a statement that, in the opinion of such Person, he or she has made such examination or investigation as is necessary to enable him or her to express an informed opinion as to whether or not such covenant or conditions precedent have been complied with; and

(4) a statement as to whether or not, in the opinion of such Person, all conditions precedent or covenants have been complied with; provided, however, that with respect to matters of fact an Opinion of Counsel may rely on an officers' certificate or certificates of public officials.

#### SECTION 11.06 Rules by Trustee and Agents.

The Trustee as to Securities of any series may make reasonable rules for action by or at a meeting of Holders of Securities of that series. The Registrar and any Paying Agent or Authenticating Agent may make reasonable rules and set reasonable requirements for their functions.

## SECTION 11.07 Legal Holidays.

A "Legal Holiday" is a Saturday, a Sunday or a day on which banking institutions in the City of New York, New York or at a place of payment are authorized by law, regulation or executive order to remain closed. If a payment date is a Legal Holiday at a place of payment, payment may be made at that place on the next succeeding day that is not a Legal Holiday, and no interest shall accrue for the intervening period.

#### SECTION 11.08 No Recourse Against Others.

No past, present or future director, officer, employee, manager, securityholder or incorporator, as such, of the Issuer or any successor Person shall have any liability for any obligations of the Issuer or any Guarantor under any series of Securities, any guarantees thereof, or the Indenture or for any claim based on, in respect of, or by reason of such obligations or their creation. Each Securityholder by accepting a Security waives and releases all such liability. The waiver and release are part of the consideration of issuance of the Securities.

#### SECTION 11.09 Counterparts and Electronic Records.

This Indenture may be executed by the parties hereto in separate counterparts, each of which when so executed shall be deemed to be an original and all of which taken together shall constitute one and the same agreement. The exchange of copies of this Indenture and of signature pages by facsimile or PDF or other electronic transmission shall constitute effective execution and delivery of this Indenture as to the parties hereto and may be used in lieu of the original Indenture for all purposes. Signatures of the parties hereto transmitted by facsimile or PDF shall be deemed to be their original signatures for all purposes. Unless otherwise provided in this Indenture or in any Security, the words "execute", "execution", "signed", and "signature" and words of similar import used in or related to any document to be signed in connection with this Indenture, any Security or any of the transactions contemplated hereby (including amendments, waivers, consents and other modifications) shall be deemed to include electronic signatures and the keeping of records in electronic form, each of which shall be of the same legal effect, validity or enforceability as a manually executed signature in ink or the use of a paperbased recordkeeping system, as applicable, to the fullest extent and as pro-vided for in any applicable law, including the Federal Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act, the New York State Electronic Signatures and Records Act, and any other similar state laws based on the Uniform Electronic signatures in any form or format unless expressly agreed to by the Trustee pursuant to procedures approved by the Trustee.

# SECTION 11.10 Governing Law.

The internal laws of the State of New York shall govern and be used to construe this Indenture and the Securities (including any guarantees thereof), without giving effect to the applicable principles of conflicts of laws to the extent that the application of the laws of another jurisdiction would be required thereby.

## SECTION 11.11 Submission to Jurisdiction; Service of Process; Waiver of Jury Trial

Each party hereto and each Holder (by their acceptance of the Securities) hereby submits to the nonexclusive jurisdiction of the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York and of any New York State Court sitting in New York City for purposes of all legal proceedings arising out of or relating to this Indenture, the Securities (including any guarantee thereof) or the transactions contemplated hereby and thereby. **EACH PARTY HERETO IRREVOCABLY WAIVES, TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW, ANY OBJECTION WHICH IT MAY NOW OR HEREAFTER HAVE TO THE LAYING OF THE VENUE OF ANY SUCH PROCEEDING BROUGHT IN SUCH A COURT AND ANY CLAIM THAT ANY SUCH PROCEEDING BROUGHT IN SUCH A COURT HAS BEEN BROUGHT IN AN INCONVENIENT FORUM.** Process in any such suit, action or proceeding may be served on any party anywhere in the world, whether within or without the State of New York. Without limiting the foregoing, the parties agree that service of process upon such party at the address referred to in Section 11.02, together with written notice of such service to such party, shall be deemed effective service of process upon such party. **EACH OF THE PARTIES HERETO IRREVOCABLY WAIVES ANY AND ALL RIGHTS TO TRIAL BY JURY IN ANY LEGAL PROCEEDING ARISING OUT OF OR RELATING TO THIS INDENTURE, THE SECURITIES (INCLUDING ANY GUARANTEE THEREOF) OR THE TRANSACTIONS <b>CONTEMPLATED HEREBY AND THEREBY.** 

#### SECTION 11.12 Severability.

In case any provision in this Indenture or in the Securities shall be invalid, illegal or unenforceable, the validity, legality and enforceability of the remaining provisions shall not in any way be affected or impaired thereby.

## SECTION 11.13 Effect of Headings, Table of Contents, Etc.

The Article and Section headings herein and the table of contents are for convenience only and shall not affect the construction hereof.

#### SECTION 11.14 Successors and Assigns.

All covenants and agreements of the Issuer in this Indenture and the Securities shall bind its successors and assigns. All agreements of the Trustee in this Indenture shall bind its successors. All agreements of any Guarantor in this Indenture shall bind its successors, except as otherwise provided by the terms hereof.

#### SECTION 11.15 No Interpretation of Other Agreements.

This Indenture may not be used to interpret another indenture, loan or debt agreement of the Issuer or any subsidiary or of any Person. Any such indenture, loan or debt agreement may not be used to interpret this Indenture.

## SECTION 11.16 U.S.A. Patriot Act.

The parties hereto acknowledge that in accordance with Section 326 of the U.S.A. Patriot Act, the Trustee, like all financial institutions and in order to help fight the funding of terrorism and money laundering, is required to obtain, verify, and record information that identifies each person or legal entity that establishes a relationship or opens an account with the Trustee. The parties to this Indenture agree that they will provide the Trustee with such information as it may request in order for the Trustee to satisfy the requirements of the U.S.A. Patriot Act.

#### SECTION 11.17 Force Majeure.

In no event shall the Trustee be responsible or liable for any failure or delay in the performance of its obligations hereunder arising out of or caused by, directly or indirectly, forces beyond its control, including, without limitation, strikes, work stoppages, accidents, acts of war or terrorism, civil or military disturbances, nuclear or natural catastrophes or acts of God, and interruptions, loss or malfunctions of utilities, communications or computer (software and hardware) services and the unavailability of the federal Reserve Bank wire or telex or other wire communication facility; it being understood that the Trustee shall use reasonable efforts which are consistent with accepted practices in the banking industry to resume performance as soon as practicable under the circumstances.

## SECTION 11.18 Entire Agreement.

This Indenture and the exhibits hereto set forth the entire agreement and understanding of the parties related to this transaction and supersedes all prior agreements and understandings, oral or written.

#### [Signature Page Follows]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this Indenture to be duly executed, all as of the date first above written.

## MERITAGE HOMES CORPORATION

## By:

Name: Hilla Sferruzza Title: Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer

## MERITAGE PASEO CROSSING, LLC

- By: Meritage Homes of Arizona, Inc.
- Its: Sole Member

By:

Name: Hilla Sferruzza

Title: Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer

## MERITAGE PASEO CONSTRUCTION, LLC

- By: Meritage Homes Construction, Inc.
- Its: Sole Member

By:

Name: Hilla Sferruzza Title: Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer

# MERITAGE HOMES OF ARIZONA, INC.

By:

Name: Hilla Sferruzza Title: Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer

MERITAGE HOMES CONSTRUCTION, INC.

## By:

## MERITAGE HOMES OF TEXAS HOLDING, INC.

# By:

Name: Hilla Sferruzza Title: Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer

MERITAGE HOMES OF CALIFORNIA, INC.

# Ву:

Name: Hilla Sferruzza Title: Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer

MERITAGE HOMES OF TEXAS JOINT VENTURE HOLDING COMPANY, LLC

- By: Meritage Homes of Texas, LLC
- Its: Sole Member
- By: Meritage Homes of Texas Holding, Inc. Its: Sole Member

By:

Name: Hilla Sferruzza Title: Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer

MERITAGE HOLDINGS, L.L.C.

By: Meritage Homes of Texas Holding, Inc.

Its: Sole Member

By:

Name: Hilla Sferruzza Title: Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer

MERITAGE HOMES OF NEVADA, INC.

By:

## MTH-CAVALIER, LLC

- By: Meritage Homes Construction, Inc. Its: Sole Member

By:

Name: Hilla Sferruzza Title: Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer

# MTH GOLF, LLC

- By: Meritage Homes Construction, Inc.
- Its: Sole Member

By:

Name: Hilla Sferruzza Title: Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer

MERITAGE HOMES OF COLORADO, INC.

By:

Name: Hilla Sferruzza Title: Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer

MERITAGE HOMES OF FLORIDA, INC.

By:

Name: Hilla Sferruzza Title: Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer

CALIFORNIA URBAN HOMES, LLC

- By: Meritage Homes of California, Inc.
- Its: Sole Member and Manager

By:

## MERITAGE HOMES OF TEXAS, LLC

- By: Meritage Homes of Texas Holding, Inc. Its: Sole Member

By:

Name: Hilla Sferruzza Title: Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer

# MERITAGE HOMES OPERATING COMPANY, LLC

- By: Meritage Holdings, L.L.C.
- Its: Manager
- By: Meritage Homes of Texas Holding, Inc.
- Its: Sole Member
- By:

Name: Hilla Sferruzza Title: Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer

WW PROJECT SELLER, LLC

- By: Meritage Paseo Crossing, LLC
- Its: Sole Member
- By: Meritage Homes of Arizona, Inc.
- Its: Sole Member
- By:

Name: Hilla Sferruzza Title: Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer

MERITAGE HOMES OF THE CAROLINAS, INC.

By:

## CAREFREE TITLE AGENCY, INC.

# By:

Name: Hilla Sferruzza Title: Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer

#### M&M FORT MYERS HOLDINGS, LLC

- By: Meritage Paseo Crossing, LLC Its: Sole Member and Manager
- By: Meritage Homes of Arizona, Inc.
- Its: Sole Member

## By:

Name: Hilla Sferruzza Title: Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer

## MERITAGE HOMES OF FLORIDA REALTY LLC

- By: Meritage Homes of Florida, Inc.
- Its: Manager and Sole Member

By:

Name: Hilla Sferruzza Title: Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer

# MERITAGE HOMES OF TENNESSEE, INC.

#### By:

Name: Hilla Sferruzza Title: Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer

## MERITAGE HOMES OF SOUTH CAROLINA, INC.

## By:

## MTH REALTY LLC

- By: Meritage Paseo Crossing, LLC
- Its: Manager and Sole Member
- By: Meritage Homes of Arizona, Inc.
- Its: Sole Member

By:

Name: Hilla Sferruzza Title: Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer

### MERITAGE HOMES OF GEORGIA, INC.

By:

Name: Hilla Sferruzza Title: Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer

#### MTH GA REALTY LLC

- By: Meritage Homes of Georgia, Inc.
- Its: Manager and Sole Member

By:

Name: Hilla Sferruzza Title: Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer

# MTH SC REALTY LLC

- By: Meritage Homes of South Carolina, Inc.
- Its: Manager and Sole Member

By:

## MTH FINANCIAL HOLDINGS, INC.

# By:

Name: Hilla Sferruzza Title: Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer

MLC HOLDINGS, INC. DBA MLC LAND HOLDINGS, INC.

By:

- Name: Hilla Sferruzza Title: Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer

## MERITAGE HOMES OF GEORGIA REALTY, LLC

- By: Meritage Homes of Georgia, Inc.
- Its: Manager and Sole Member

By:

Name: Hilla Sferruzza Title: Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer

MERITAGE HOMES INSURANCE AGENCY, INC.

By:

Name: Hilla Sferruzza Title: Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer

MERITAGE SERVICES COMPANY, INC.

# By:

# MERITAGE HOMES OF UTAH, INC.

REGIONS BANK, as Trustee

By:

Name: Title:

# SCHEDULE 1 GUARANTORS

- 1. Meritage Paseo Crossing, LLC
- 2. Meritage Paseo Construction, LLC
- 3. Meritage Homes of Arizona, Inc.
- 4. Meritage Homes Construction, Inc.
- 5. Meritage Homes of California, Inc.
- Meritage Homes of Nevada, Inc.
   Meritage Holdings, L.L.C.
- Meritage Holdings, L.L.C.
   Meritage Homes of Texas Holding, Inc.
- 9. Meritage Homes of Texas Joint Venture Holding Company, LLC
- 10. Meritage Homes of Texas, LLC
- 11. Meritage Homes Operating Company, LLC
- 12. MTH-Cavalier, LLC
- 13. MTH Golf, LLC
- 14. Meritage Homes of Colorado, Inc.
- 15. Meritage Homes of Florida, Inc.
- 16. California Urban Homes, LLC
- 17. WW Project Seller, LLC
- 18. Meritage Homes of the Carolinas, Inc.
- 19. Carefree Title Agency, Inc.
- 20. M&M Fort Myers Holdings, LLC
- 21. Meritage Homes of Florida Realty LLC
- 22. Meritage Homes of Georgia Realty, LLC
- 23. Meritage Homes of Georgia, Inc.
- 24. Meritage Homes of South Carolina, Inc.
- 25. Meritage Homes of Tennessee, Inc.
- 26. MLC Holdings, Inc. dba MLC Land Holdings, Inc.
- 27. MTH GA Realty LLC
- 28. MTH Realty LLC
- 29. MTH SC Realty LLC
- 30. MTH Financial Holdings, Inc.
- 31. Meritage Homes Insurance Agency, Inc.
- 32. Meritage Services Company, Inc.
- 33. Meritage Homes of Utah, Inc.

Snell & Wilmer

ONE EAST WASHINGTON STREET SUITE 2700 PHOENIX, AZ 85004-2556 602.382.6000 P 602.382.6070 F

April 30, 2024

Meritage Homes Corporation 18655 North Claret Drive, Suite 400 Scottsdale, Arizona 85255

Each of the subsidiaries of Meritage Homes Corporation listed on Appendix A attached hereto c/o Meritage Homes Corporation 18655 North Claret Drive, Suite 400 Scottsdale, Arizona 85255

Re: Registration Statement on Form S-3

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We have acted as counsel to Meritage Homes Corporation, a Maryland corporation (the "<u>Company</u>"), and its subsidiaries listed on Appendix A hereto (the "<u>Guarantors</u>"), in connection with the preparation and filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the <u>'Commission</u>") of a Registration Statement on Form S-3 (the <u>'Registration Statement</u>") under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the <u>'Securities Act</u>"), relating to the registration under the Securities Act and the proposed issuance and sale from time to time pursuant to Rule 415 of the General Rules and Regulations of the Commission promulgated under the Securities Act, as set forth in the Registration Statement, the prospectus contained therein (the <u>'Prospectus</u>") and the supplements to the prospectus referred to therein (each a <u>'Prospectus Supplement</u>"), together or separately and in one or more series (if applicable) of:

- (A) the Company's debt securities, which may either be senior debt securities, senior subordinated debt securities or subordinated debt securities (collectively, the "<u>Debt Securities</u>");
- (B) guarantees of the Debt Securities by the Guarantors (the "Debt Securities Guarantees");
- (C) shares of the Company's common stock, \$0.01 par value per share (the 'Common Stock'');
- (D) shares of the Company's preferred stock, \$0.01 par value per share (the 'Preferred Stock'');
- (E) warrants for the purchase of Common Stock, Preferred Stock, Debt Securities or any combination thereof (the 'Warrants'');

ALBUQUERQUE BOISE DENVER LAS VEGAS LOS ANGELES LOS CABOS ORANGE COUNTY PHOENIX PORTLAND RENO SALT LAKE CITY SAN DIEGO SEATTLE TUCSON WASHINGTON, D.C.

# Snell & Wilmer Meritage Homes Corporation April 30, 2024 Page 2

- (F) depositary shares representing fractional interests in shares of Preferred Stock (the <u>Depositary Shares</u>");
- (G) rights to purchase Common Stock or other Securities (as defined below) (the '<u>Rights</u>");
- (H) stock purchase contracts (the "Stock Purchase Contracts"); and
- (I) stock purchase units (the 'Stock Purchase Units").

This opinion is being furnished in accordance with the requirements of Item 601(b)(5) of RegulationS-K under the Securities Act.

The Common Stock, the Preferred Stock, the Debt Securities, the Debt Securities Guarantees, the Warrants, the Depositary Shares, the Rights, the Stock Purchase Contracts and the Stock Purchase Units are collectively referred to herein as the "Securities." The Securities are to be sold from time to time as set forth in the Registration Statement, the Prospectus and the Prospectus Supplements. The Debt Securities are to be issued under an indenture (the "Indenture") between the Company and Regions Bank, as trustee (the "Trustee"), a form of which has been filed as an exhibit to the Registration Statement. The Securities are to be sold pursuant to a purchase, underwriting, subscription, placement agent, depositary or similar agreement in substantially the form to be filed under a Current Report on Form 8-K. The Debt Securities and Debt Securities are to be issued in the form to be set forth in the Indenture. The Indenture may be supplemented in connection with the issuance of each such series of Debt Securities and Debt Securities Guarantees, by a supplemental indenture or other appropriate action of the Company creating such series of Debt Securities and Debt Securities Guarantees.

In rendering the opinions stated herein, we have examined and relied upon the following:

- the Registration Statement, together with the exhibits filed as part thereof or incorporated therein by reference, and the Prospectus;
- · copies of the governing charter documents of the Company and each Guarantor, as amended to date;
- copies of the bylaws or the operating agreement (or similar document) of the Company and each Guarantor certified by an officer of the Company and each respective Guarantor, as currently in effect;
- the form of Indenture relating to the Debt Securities and the Debt Securities Guarantees filed as an exhibit to the Registration Statement; and
- copies of the resolutions of the Board of Directors (the "Board") of the Company and the resolutions of the Guarantors, relating to the
  registration of the Securities and related matters.

# Snell & Wilmer Meritage Homes Corporation April 30, 2024 Page 3

We have also examined instruments, documents, certificates and records that we have deemed relevant and necessary for the basis of our opinions hereinafter expressed. In such examination, we have assumed: (i) the authenticity of original documents and the genuineness of all signatures; (ii) the conformity to the originals of all documents submitted to us as copies; (iii) the truth, accuracy and completeness of the information, representations and warranties contained in the instruments, documents, certificates and records we have reviewed; (iv) that the Registration Statement, and any amendments thereto (including post-effective amendments), will have become effective under the Securities Act; (v) that a Prospectus Supplement will have been filed with the Commission describing the Securities offered thereby; (vi) that the Securities and sold in compliance with applicable U.S. federal and state securities laws and in the manner stated in the Registration Statement and the applicable Prospectus Supplement; (vii) that a definitive purchase, underwriting, subscription, placement agent, depositary or similar agreement with respect to any Securities offered will have been duly authorized and validly executed and delivered by the Company and the other parties thereto; (viii) that any Securities issuable upon conversion, exchange, redemption or exercise; and (ix) the legal capacity of all natural persons. As to any facts material to the opinions expressed herein that were not independently established or verified, we have relied upon oral or written statements and representations of officers and other representatives of the Company.

#### Based on such examination, we are of the opinion that:

1. With respect to the Debt Securities and the Debt Security Guarantees, when: (a) the Trustee has duly executed and delivered the Indenture; (b) the Indenture has been duly authorized and validly executed and delivered by the Company and the Guarantors, to the Trustee; (c) the Indenture has been duly qualified under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended; (d) the Board and, as applicable, the directors, managers, stockholders or members of each Guarantor, have taken all necessary action to approve the issuance and terms of such Debt Securities, any Debt Securities Guarantees and related matters; and (e) such Debt Securities and any Debt Securities Guarantees have been duly executed, authenticated, issued and delivered in accordance with the provisions of the Indenture and the applicable definitive purchase, underwriting, placement agent or similar agreement approved by the Board and, as applicable, the directors, managers, stockholders or members of each Guarantor, we upon the consideration therefor provided for therein, such Debt Securities and Debt Securities to purchase Debt Securities, upon payment of the Company and the Guarantors, respectively, enforceable against the Company and the Guarantors in accordance with their terms, and entitled to the benefits of the Indenture.

# Snell & Wilmer Meritage Homes Corporation April 30, 2024 Page 4

2. With respect to the Warrants, when both: (a) the Board has taken all necessary corporate action to approve the issuance and terms of the Warrants and related matters; and (b) the Warrants have been duly executed and delivered upon payment of the consideration therefor, pursuant to the applicable warrant or similar agreement duly authorized, executed and delivered by the Company and a warrant agent, and the certificates for the Warrants have been duly executed and delivered by the Company and a warrant agent, and the certificates for the Warrants have been duly executed and delivered by the Company and such warrant agent, then the Warrants will constitute valid and binding obligations of the Company, enforceable against the Company in accordance with their terms.

3. With respect to the Depositary Shares, when: (a) the Board has taken all necessary corporate action to approve the issuance and terms of the Depositary Shares and related matters; (b) the Depositary Shares have been duly executed and delivered upon payment of the consideration therefor, pursuant to the applicable depositary or similar agreement duly authorized, executed and delivered by the Company and any applicable bank, trust company or other agent and (c) the depositary receipts representing the Depositary Shares have been duly executed and countersigned (in the case of certificated Depositary Shares), registered and delivered in accordance with the related depositary or similar agreement, then the depositary receipts evidencing the Depositary Shares will constitute valid and binding obligations of the Company, enforceable against the Company in accordance with their terms.

4. With respect to the Rights, when both: (a) the Board has taken all necessary corporate action to approve the issuance and terms of the Rights and related matters; and (b) the Rights have been duly executed and delivered upon payment of the consideration therefor, pursuant to the applicable subscription or similar agreement duly authorized, executed and delivered by the Company and any applicable subscription or other agent, then the Rights will constitute valid and binding obligations of the Company, enforceable against the Company in accordance with their terms.

5. With respect to the Stock Purchase Contracts, when both: (a) the Board has taken all necessary corporate action to approve the issuance and terms of the Stock Purchase Contracts and related matters; and (b) the Stock Purchase Contracts have been duly executed and delivered upon payment of the consideration therefor, pursuant to the applicable definitive purchase, underwriting, placement agent or similar agreement duly authorized, executed and delivered by the Company and any applicable agent, then the Stock Purchase Contracts will constitute valid and binding obligations of the Company, enforceable against the Company in accordance with their terms.

6. With respect to the Stock Purchase Units, when both: (a) the Board has taken all necessary corporate action to approve the issuance and terms of the Stock Purchase Units (including the applicable Stock Purchase Contracts and other Securities underlying the Stock Purchase Units) and related matters; and (b) the Stock Purchase Units (and the applicable Securities underlying the Stock Purchase Units) have been duly executed and delivered upon payment of the consideration therefor, pursuant to the applicable definitive purchase, underwriting, placement agent or similar agreement duly authorized, executed and delivered by the Company and any applicable agent, then the Stock Purchase Units will constitute valid and binding obligations of the Company, enforceable against the Company in accordance with their terms.

Our opinion that any document is valid and binding is qualified as to:

- limitations imposed by bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, arrangement, fraudulent conveyance, moratorium or other laws relating to or affecting the rights of creditors generally;
- (b) rights to indemnification, exculpation and contribution, which may be limited by applicable law or equitable principles;
- (c) general principles of equity, including without limitation concepts of materiality, reasonableness, good faith and fair dealing, and the possible unavailability of specific performance or injunctive relief and limitation of rights of acceleration, regardless of whether such enforceability is considered in a proceeding in equity or at law;
- (d) any waiver of stay, extension or usury laws or of unknown future rights; and
- (e) any purported fraudulent transfer "savings" clause.

Insofar as the opinion expressed herein relates to or is dependent upon matters governed by the laws of the State of Maryland, we have relied upon the opinion of Venable LLP, dated the date hereof and our opinion is subject to the qualifications, assumptions, limitations and exceptions set forth therein.

You have informed us that the Securities may be issued and/or sold from time to time on a delayed or continuous basis, and this opinion is limited to the laws referred to above as in effect on the date hereof. We understand that prior to the issuance or sale of the Securities pursuant to the Registration Statement (i) you will advise us in writing of the terms thereof and (ii) you will afford us an opportunity to (y) review the operative documents pursuant to which such Securities are to be issued or sold and (z) file such supplement or amendment to this opinion (if any) as we may reasonably consider necessary or appropriate.

We hereby consent to the filing of this opinion letter as an exhibit to the above-referenced Registration Statement and to the use of our name wherever it appears in the Registration Statement, the Prospectus, any Prospectus Supplement, and in any amendment or supplement thereto. In giving such consent, we do not believe that we are "experts" within the meaning of such term as used in the Securities Act or the rules and regulations of the Commission issued thereunder with respect to any part of the Registration Statement, including this opinion letter as an exhibit. In giving such consent, we do not thereby concede that we are included in the category of persons whose consent is required under Section 7 of the Securities Act or the rules and regulations of the Commission promulgated thereunder.
# Snell & Wilmer Meritage Homes Corporation April 30, 2024 Page 6

This opinion letter is given as of the date hereof, and we express no opinion as to the effect of subsequent events or changes in law occurring or becoming effective after the date hereof. We assume no obligation to update this opinion letter or otherwise advise you with respect to any facts or circumstances or changes in law that may hereafter occur or come to our attention (even though the change may affect the legal conclusions stated in this opinion letter).

Very truly yours,

/s/ Snell &Wilmer L.L.P.

# <u>APPENDIX A</u>

# **GUARANTORS**

SubsidiaryFormation1.Meritage Paseo Construction, LLCArizona2.Meritage Paseo Construction, LLCArizona3.Meritage Homes of Arizona, Inc.Arizona4.Meritage Homes construction, Inc.Arizona5.Meritage Homes of Texas Holding, Inc.Arizona6.Meritage Homes of Texas Joint Venture Holding Company, LLCTexas7.Meritage Homes of Texas Joint Venture Holding Company, LLCTexas8.Meritage Homes of Nevada, Inc.Texas9.Meritage Homes of Colorado, Inc.Arizona11.MTH Golf, LLCArizona12.Meritage Homes of Colorado, Inc.Arizona13.Meritage Homes of Colorado, Inc.Arizona14.California Urban Homes, LLCArizona15.Meritage Homes of Florida, Inc.California16.Meritage Homes of Porating Company, LLCArizona17.WW Project Seller, LLCArizona18.Meritage Homes of the Carolinas, Inc.Arizona19.Carefree Title Agency, Inc.Arizona19.Meritage Homes of Florida Realty LLCFlorida21.Meritage Homes of South Carolina, Inc.Arizona23.Meritage Homes of South Carolina, Inc.Arizona24.Meritage Homes of South Carolina, Inc.Arizona25.Meritage Homes of South Carolina, Inc.Arizona26.Meritage Homes of South Carolina, Inc.Arizona27.Meritage Homes of Georgia, Inc.Arizona <th></th> <th></th> <th>Jurisdiction of Incorporation or</th>			Jurisdiction of Incorporation or
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28. MTH Financial Holdings, Inc. Arizona	26.	MTH GA Realty LLC	Arizona
	27.	MTH SC Realty LLC	Arizona
29. MLC Holdings, Inc. dba MLC Land Holdings, Inc. Arizona	28.	MTH Financial Holdings, Inc.	Arizona
	29.	MLC Holdings, Inc. dba MLC Land Holdings, Inc.	Arizona

- Subsidiary
  30. Meritage Homes of Georgia Realty, LLC
  31. Meritage Homes Insurance Agency, Inc.
  32. Meritage Services Company, Inc.
  33. Meritage Homes of Utah, Inc.

Jurisdiction of Incorporation or Formation Arizona Arizona Arizona Arizona



750 E. PRATT STREET SUITE 900 BALTIMORE, MD 21202 T 410.244,7400 F 410.244,7742 www.Venable.com

April 30, 2024

Meritage Homes Corporation 18655 North Claret Drive Suite 400 Scottsdale, Arizona 85255

#### Re: Registration Statement on Form S-3

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We have served as Maryland counsel to Meritage Homes Corporation, a Maryland corporation (the "Company"), in connection with certain matters of Maryland law arising out of the registration of the following securities of the Company (collectively, the "Securities"): (i) debt securities ("Debt Securities"); (ii) shares of common stock, \$.01 par value per share ("Common Shares"); (iii) shares of preferred stock, \$.01 par value per share ("Preferred Shares"); (iv) warrants to purchase Debt Securities, Common Shares or Preferred Shares, or two or more of these types of securities ("Warrants"); (v) depositary shares representing whole or fractional interests in Preferred Shares ("Depositary Shares"); (vi) rights to purchase Common Shares or other Securities ("Rights"); (vii) stock purchase contracts ("Stock Purchase Contracts"); (viii) stock purchase units ("Stock Purchase Units"); and (ix) guarantees by the Company of the obligations under the debt securities issued by one or more direct or indirect subsidiaries of the Company ("Guarantees"), covered by the above-referenced Registration Statement, and all amendments thereto (the "Registration Statement"), to be filed by the Company with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "1933 Act"), on or about the date hereof. Capitalized terms used but not defined herein shall have the meanings given to them in the Registration Statement.

In connection with our representation of the Company, and as a basis for the opinion hereinafter set forth, we have examined originals, or copies certified or otherwise identified to our satisfaction, of the following documents (collectively, the "Documents"):

1. The Registration Statement and the related form of prospectus included therein;

2. The charter of the Company (the "Charter"), certified by the State Department of Assessments and Taxation of Maryland (the "SDAT");

3. The Bylaws of the Company (the "Bylaws"), certified as of the date hereof by an officer of the Company;

4. A certificate of the SDAT as to the good standing of the Company, dated as of a recent date;



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5. Resolutions (the "Resolutions") adopted by the Board of Directors of the Company (the "Board") relating to the registration of the Securities, certified as of the date hereof by an officer of the Company;

6. A certificate executed by an officer of the Company, dated as of the date hereof; and

7. Such other documents and matters as we have deemed necessary or appropriate to express the opinion set forth below, subject to the assumptions, limitations and qualifications stated herein.

In expressing the opinion set forth below, we have assumed the following:

1. Each individual executing any of the Documents, whether on behalf of such individual or another person, is legally competent to do so.

2. Each individual executing any of the Documents on behalf of a party (other than the Company) is duly authorized to do so.

3. Each of the parties (other than the Company) executing any of the Documents has duly and validly executed and delivered each of the Documents to which such party is a signatory, and such party's obligations set forth therein are legal, valid and binding and are enforceable in accordance with all stated terms.

4. All Documents submitted to us as originals are authentic. The form and content of all Documents submitted to us as unexecuted drafts do not differ in any respect relevant to this opinion from the form and content of such Documents as executed and delivered. All Documents submitted to us as certified or photostatic copies conform to the original documents. All signatures on all such Documents are genuine. All public records reviewed or relied upon by us or on our behalf are true and complete. All representations, warranties, statements and information contained in the Documents are true and complete. There has been no oral or written modification of or amendment to any of the Documents, and there has been no waiver of any provision of any of the Documents, by action or omission of the parties or otherwise.

5. The issuance of, and certain terms of, the Securities to be issued by the Company from time to time will be approved by the Board, or a duly authorized committee thereof, in accordance with the Maryland General Corporation Law, the Charter, the Bylaws and the Resolutions (such approval referred to herein as the "Corporate Proceedings").

6. Articles Supplementary creating and designating the number of shares and the terms of any class or series of Preferred Shares to be issued by the Company will be filed with and accepted for record by the SDAT prior to the issuance of such Preferred Shares.



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7. Upon the issuance of any Securities that are Common Shares ("Common Securities"), including Common Securities which may be issued upon conversion or exercise of any other Securities convertible into or exercisable for Common Securities, the total number of Common Shares issued and outstanding will not exceed the total number of Common Shares that the Company is then authorized to issue under the Charter.

8. Upon the issuance of any Securities that are Preferred Shares ("Preferred Securities"), including Preferred Securities which may be issued upon conversion or exercise of any other Securities convertible into or exercisable for Preferred Securities, the total number of Preferred Shares issued and outstanding, and the total number of issued and outstanding shares of the applicable class or series of Preferred Shares designated pursuant to the Charter, will not exceed the total number of Preferred Shares or the number of shares of such class or series of Preferred Shares that the Company is then authorized to issue under the Charter.

9. The Securities will not be issued or transferred in violation of any restriction or limitation contained in Article VIII (Restrictions on Transfer and Ownership of Shares) of the Charter.

Based upon the foregoing, and subject to the assumptions, limitations and qualifications stated herein, it is our opinion that:

1. The Company is a corporation duly incorporated and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Maryland and is in good standing with the SDAT.

2. Upon the completion of all Corporate Proceedings relating to the Securities that are Debt Securities, the issuance of the Debt Securities will be duly authorized.

3. Upon the completion of all Corporate Proceedings relating to the Preferred Securities, the issuance of the Preferred Securities will be duly authorized and, when and if issued and delivered against payment therefor in accordance with the Resolutions and the Corporate Proceedings, the Preferred Securities will be validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable.

4. Upon the completion of all Corporate Proceedings relating to the Common Securities, the issuance of the Common Securities will be duly authorized and, when and if issued and delivered against payment therefor in accordance with the Resolutions and the Corporate Proceedings, the Common Securities will be validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable.

5. Upon the completion of all Corporate Proceedings relating to the Securities that are Warrants, the issuance of the Warrants will be duly authorized.



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6. Upon the completion of all Corporate Proceedings relating to the Securities that are Rights, the issuance of the Rights will be duly authorized.

7. Upon the completion of all Corporate Proceedings relating to the Securities that are Depositary Shares, the issuance of the Depositary Shares will be duly authorized.

8. Upon the completion of all Corporate Proceedings relating to the Securities that are Stock Purchase Contracts, the issuance of the Stock Purchase Contracts will be duly authorized.

9. Upon the completion of all Corporate Proceedings relating to the Securities that are Stock Purchase Units, the issuance of the Stock Purchase Units will be duly authorized.

10. Upon the completion of all Corporate Proceedings relating to the Securities that are Guarantees, the issuance of the Guarantees will be duly authorized.

The foregoing opinion is limited to the laws of the State of Maryland and we do not express any opinion herein concerning any other law. We express no opinion as to compliance with, or the applicability of, federal or state securities laws, including the securities laws of the State of Maryland. To the extent that any matter as to which our opinion is expressed herein would be governed by the laws of any jurisdiction other than the State of Maryland, we do not express any opinion on such matter. The opinion expressed herein is subject to the effect of any judicial decision which may permit the introduction of parol evidence to modify the terms or the interpretation of agreements.

The opinion expressed herein is limited to the matters specifically set forth herein and no other opinion shall be inferred beyond the matters expressly stated. We assume no obligation to supplement this opinion if any applicable law changes after the date hereof or if we become aware of any fact that might change the opinion expressed herein after the date hereof.

This opinion is being furnished to you for submission to the Commission as an exhibit to the Registration Statement. We hereby consent to the filing of this opinion as an exhibit to the Registration Statement and to the use of the name of our firm therein. In giving this consent, we do not admit that we are within the category of persons whose consent is required by Section 7 of the 1933 Act. This opinion may be relied upon by Snell & Wilmer L.L.P. for the purpose of giving its legal opinion in connection with the Registration Statement.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Venable LLP

# CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

We consent to the incorporation by reference in this Registration Statement on FormS-3 of our reports dated February 14, 2024 relating to the financial statements of Meritage Homes Corporation and the effectiveness of Meritage Homes Corporation's internal control over financial reporting, appearing in the Annual Report on Form 10-K of Meritage Homes Corporation for the year ended December 31, 2023. We also consent to the reference to us under the heading "Experts" in such Registration Statement.

/s/ DELOITTE & TOUCHE LLP

Tempe, Arizona April 30, 2024

# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

# FORM T-1

STATEMENT OF ELIGIBILITY UNDER THE TRUST INDENTURE ACT OF 1939 OF A CORPORATION DESIGNATED TO ACT AS TRUSTEE

□ CHECK IF AN APPLICATION TO DETERMINE ELIGIBILITY OF A TRUSTEE PURSUANT TO SECTION 305(b) (2)

# **REGIONS BANK**

(Exact name of trustee as specified in its charter)

Alabama (Jurisdiction of incorporation or organization if not a U.S. national bank)

1900 Fifth Avenue North Birmingham, AL (Address of principal executive offices) 63-0371391 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

> 35203 (Zip code)

Regions Bank 10245 Centurion Parkway, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Jacksonville, FL 32256 (904) 998-4995 (Name, address and telephone number of agent for service)

MERITAGE HOMES CORPORATION<sup>1</sup> (Exact name of obligor as specified in its charter)

Maryland (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

18655 North Claret Drive, Suite 400, Scottsdale, Arizona (Address of principal executive offices) 86-0611231 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

> 85255 (Zip code)

**Debt Securities** (Titles of the indenture securities)

See Table of Additional Obligors

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# TABLE OF ADDITIONAL OBLIGORS<sup>2</sup>

Exact Name of Obligor as Specified in its Charter (or Other Organizational Document)	State or other Jurisdiction of Incorporation or Organization	IRS Employer Identification Number (if none write N/A)
Meritage Paseo Crossing, LLC	Arizona	86-1006497
Meritage Paseo Construction, LLC	Arizona	86-0863537
Meritage Homes of Arizona, Inc.	Arizona	86-1028848
Meritage Homes Construction, Inc.	Arizona	86-1028847
Meritage Homes of California, Inc.	California	86-0917765
Meritage Homes of Nevada, Inc.	Arizona	43-1976353
Meritage Holdings, L.L.C.	Texas	42-1732552
Meritage Homes of Texas Holding, Inc.	Arizona	86-0875147
Meritage Homes of Texas Joint Venture Holding Company, LLC	Texas	75-2771799
Meritage Homes of Texas, LLC	Arizona	65-1308131
Meritage Homes Operating Company, LLC	Arizona	65-1308133
MTH-Cavalier, LLC	Arizona	86-0863537
MTH Golf, LLC	Arizona	56-2379206
Meritage Homes of Colorado, Inc.	Arizona	20-1091787
Meritage Homes of Florida, Inc.	Florida	59-1107583
California Urban Homes, LLC	California	20-2707345
WW Project Seller, LLC	Arizona	86-1006497
Meritage Homes of the Carolinas, Inc.	Arizona	27-5411983
Carefree Title Agency, Inc.	Texas	45-3742536
M&M Fort Myers Holdings, LLC	Delaware	26-3996740
Meritage Homes of Florida Realty LLC	Florida	59-1107583
Meritage Homes of Georgia Realty, LLC	Arizona	47-1171110
Meritage Homes of Georgia, Inc.	Arizona	47-1171110
Meritage Homes of South Carolina, Inc.	Arizona	46-5709345
Meritage Homes of Tennessee, Inc.	Arizona	46-3409691
MLC Holdings, Inc. dba MLC Land Holdings, Inc.	Arizona	47-1967950
MTH GA Realty LLC	Arizona	47-1171110
MTH Realty LLC	Arizona	86-1006497
MTH SC Realty LLC	Arizona	46-5709345
MTH Financial Holdings, Inc.	Arizona	83-0631642
Meritage Homes Insurance Agency, Inc.	Arizona	84-1853295
Meritage Services Company, Inc.	Arizona	85-3650648
Meritage Homes of Utah, Inc.	Arizona	85-3059335

<sup>2</sup> The address, including zip code, of each obligor's principal executive offices is 18655 North Claret Drive, Suite 400, Scottsdale, Arizona 85255.

Item 1. General Information. Furnish the following information as to the trustee:

(a) Name and address of each examining or supervising authority to which it is subject.

State of Alabama State Banking Department PO Box 4600 Montgomery, AL 36103-4600 Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

Washington, D.C. Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta

Atlanta, Georgia 30309

(b) Whether it is authorized to exercise corporate trust powers. Yes.

Item 2. Affiliations with Obligor. If the obligor is an affiliate of the trustee, describe each such affiliation.

None with respect to the trustee.

Items 3-15. No responses are included for Items 3 through 15. Responses to those Items are not required because, as provided in General Instruction B the obligor is not in default on any securities issued under indentures under which Regions Bank is a trustee.

Item 16. List of Exhibits. List below all exhibits filed as a part of this Statement of Eligibility.

Exhibit 1. A copy of the Articles of Incorporation of the trustee now in effect.

- Exhibit 2. The authority of Regions Bank to commence business was granted under the Articles of Incorporation for Regions Bank, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 1 of Form T-1.
- Exhibit 3. The authorization to exercise corporate trust powers was granted under the Articles of Incorporation for Regions Bank, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 1 of Form T-1.
- Exhibit 4. A copy of the bylaws of the trustee as now in effect.
- Exhibit 5. Not applicable.
- Exhibit 6. The consent of the trustee required by Section 321(b) of the Act.
- Exhibit 7. A copy of the latest report of condition of the trustee published pursuant to law or the requirements of its supervising or examining authority.
- Exhibit 8. Not applicable.
- Exhibit 9. Not applicable.

# SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended, the trustee, Regions Bank, a state chartered bank under the laws of Alabama, has duly caused this statement of eligibility to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, all in the City of Jacksonville and State of Florida on April 30, 2024.

# REGIONS BANK

/s/ Craig Kaye Craig Kaye Vice President

#### EXHIBIT 1

#### ARTICLES OF AMENDMENT TO THE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF REGIONS BANK

# an Alabama banking corporation

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 10A-1-3.13 and Sections 10A-2-10.01 through 10A-2-10.09 of the Alabama Business and Nonprofit Entities Code, as amended, (the "Law"), the undersigned banking corporation adopts the following Articles of Amendment to its Articles of Incorporation:

FIRST: The name of the banking corporation is Regions Bank (the "Bank").

SECOND: The Bank is an Alabama banking corporation.

**THIRD:** The Restated Articles of Incorporation of the Bank were filed with the Office of the Judge of Probate of Jefferson County, Alabama on October 28, 2014. The Alabama Entity ID Number of the Bank is 006-854.

FOURTH: The Second Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation, attached hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by this reference, is hereby adopted as the articles of incorporation of the Bank.

**FIFTH:** The Second Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation was adopted and approved by the Board of Directors of the Bank at a meeting duly called and held on July 22, 2020 and by the sole shareholder of the Bank pursuant to an action by written consent dated as of July 22, 2020.

SIXTH: The designation, number of outstanding shares, and number of votes entitled to be cast by the sole shareholder on the Second Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation were as follows:

Shares	Outstanding	Entitled to Vote
Common Stock, par value \$5.00	21,546	21,546

SEVENTH: The number of shares entitled to vote on the Second Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation that voted FOR the Second Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation and the number of shares entitled to vote on the Second Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation that voted AGAINST the Second Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation were as follows:

	Total Voted	<b>Total Voted</b>
Shares	FOR	AGAINST
Common Stock	21,546	0

**EIGHTH:** The number of shares that voted FOR the Second Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation was sufficient for approval thereof by the sole shareholder of the Bank, as required by the Law and the Articles of Incorporation.

NINTH: The original written approval issued by the Superintendent of the Alabama State Banking Department with respect to the Second Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation is attached hereto as Exhibit B and recorded herewith.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Bank has caused these Articles of Amendment to the Articles of Incorporation of the Bank to be executed in its name and on its behalf as of August 6, 2020.

### BANK:

REGIONS BANK an Alabama banking corporation

By: /s/ Hope D. Mehlman

Hope D. Mehlman Executive Vice President, Corporate Secretary, Chief Governance Officer, and Deputy General Counsel

This instrument prepared by:

Andrew S. Nix Maynard, Cooper & Gale, P.C. 1901 Sixth Avenue North 2400 Regions/Harbert Plaza Birmingham, AL 35203 (205) 254-1000

# <u>EXHIBIT A</u>

# Second Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation

(attached)

# SECOND AMENDED AND RESTATED CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION

#### OF REGIONS BANK

- 1. The name of this corporation shall be Regions Bank. The corporation is a domestic banking corporation.
- 2. The principal place of business of the corporation shall be 1900 Fifth Avenue North, Birmingham, Alabama 35203. The general business of Regions Bank (the "Bank") shall be conducted at its main office and its branches and other facilities.
- 3. The Bank shall have the following objects, purposes and powers:
  - a. To be and serve as an Alabama banking corporation pursuant to the Alabama Banking Code, Section 5-1A-1 *et seq.* of the Code of Alabama 1975, as amended (together with any act amendatory thereof, supplementary thereto or substituted therefor, hereinafter referred to as the "Banking Code"), with all the power and authority that may be exercised by an Alabama banking corporation.
  - b. To engage in any lawful business, act or activity for which a banking corporation may be organized under Alabama law, it being the purpose and intent of this section to invest the Bank with the broadest objects, purposes and powers lawfully permitted an Alabama banking corporation.
  - c. To engage in any lawful business, act or activity for which a corporation may be organized under the Alabama Business Corporation Law of 2019, Section 10A-2A1.01 *et seq.* of the Code of Alabama 1975, as amended (together with any act amendatory thereof, supplementary thereto or substituted therefor, hereinafter referred to as the "ABCL"), to the extent not inconsistent with the provisions of the Banking Code or any other regulation of a banking corporation in the State of Alabama.
  - d. Without limiting the scope and generality of the foregoing, the Bank shall have the following specific objects, purposes and powers:
    - i. To conduct a general banking business through such means and at such places as the Board of Directors may deem proper.
    - ii. To sue and be sued, complain and defend, in its corporate name.
    - iii. To have a corporate seal which may be altered at pleasure, and to use the same by causing it, or a facsimile thereof, to be impressed or affixed or in any other manner reproduced.

- iv. To purchase, take, receive, lease or otherwise acquire, own, hold, improve, use and otherwise deal in and with, real or personal property, or any interest therein, wherever situated.
- v. To sell, convey, mortgage, pledge, lease, exchange, transfer and otherwise dispose of all or any part of its property and assets, subject to the limitations hereinafter prescribed.
- vi. To lend money and use its credit to assist its employees.
- vii. To purchase, take, receive, subscribe for or otherwise acquire, own, hold, vote, use, employ, sell, mortgage, lend, pledge or otherwise dispose of, and otherwise use and deal in and with, shares or other interests in, or obligations of, other domestic or foreign corporations, associations, partnerships or individuals, or direct or indirect obligations of the United States or of any other government, state, territory, governmental district or municipality or of any instrumentality thereof as may be permitted by law or appropriate regulations.
- viii. To make contracts, guarantees and indemnity agreements and incur liabilities, borrow money at such rates of interest as the corporation may determine, issue its notes, bonds and other obligations, and secure any of its obligations by mortgage, pledge of or creation of security interests in, all or any of its property, franchises or income, or any interest therein.
- ix. To lend money for its corporate purposes, invest and reinvest its funds and take and hold real and personal property as security for the payment of funds so loaned or invested.
- x. To conduct its business, carry on its operations and have offices and exercise the powers granted by this section, within or without the State of Alabama.
- xi. To elect or appoint and remove officers and agents of the Bank, define their duties and fix their compensation.
- xii. To make and alter by its board of directorsby-laws not inconsistent with its certificate of incorporation or with the laws of the State of Alabama for the administration and regulation of the affairs of the Bank.
- xiii. To make donations for the public welfare or for charitable, scientific or educational purposes.
- xiv. To transact any lawful business which the board of directors shall find will be in aid of governmental policy.

- xv. To pay pensions and establish pension plans, pension trusts, profit sharing plans, stock bonus plans, stock option plans and other incentive plans for any or all of its directors, officers and employees.
- xvi. To be a promoter, incorporator, partner, member, trustee, associate or manager of any domestic or foreign corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise.
- xvii. To consolidate or merge, before or after the completion of its works, with any other foreign or domestic corporation or corporations engaged in the business of banking or trust companies doing a banking business.
- xviii. To discount bills, notes or other evidences of debt.
- xix. To receive and pay out deposits, with or without interest, pay checks and impose charges for any services.
- xx. To receive on special deposit money, bullion or foreign coins or bonds or other securities.
- xxi. To buy and sell foreign and domestic exchanges, gold and silver bullion or foreign coins, bonds, bills of exchange, notes and other negotiable paper.
- xxii. To lend money on personal security or upon pledges of bonds, stocks or other negotiable securities.
- xxiii. To take and receive security by mortgage, security or otherwise on property, real and personal.
- xxiv. To become trustee for any purpose and be appointed and act as executor, administrator, guardian, receiver or fiduciary.
- xxv. To lease real and personal property upon specific request of a customer, provided that it complies with any applicable laws of the State of Alabama regulating leasing real property or improvements thereon to others.
- xxvi. To perform computer, management and travel agency services for others.
- xxvii. To subscribe to the capital stock and become a member of the Federal Reserve System and comply with rules and regulations thereof

xxviii.To do business and exercise directly or through operating subsidiaries any powers incident to the business of banks.

4. The duration of the corporation shall be perpetual.

- 5. The Board of Directors is expressly authorized from time to time to fix the number of Directors which shall constitute the entire Board, subject to the following:
  - a. The number of Directors constituting the entire Board shall be fixed from time to time by vote of a majority of the entire Board; provided, however, that the number of Directors shall not be reduced so as to shorten the term of any Director at the time in office; provided further, that the number of Directors shall not be less than five (5) nor more than twenty-five (25). Each Director shall be the record owner of the requisite number of shares of common stock of the Bank's parent bank holding company fixed by the appropriate regulatory authorities.
  - b. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Second Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation or the by-laws of the Bank (and notwithstanding the fact that some lesser percentage may be specified by law, this Second Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation or the by-laws of the Bank), any Director or the entire Board of Directors of the Bank may be removed at any time, with or without cause, by the affirmative vote of the holder(s) of ninety percent (90%) or more of the outstanding shares of capital stock of the Bank entitled to vote generally in the election of directors (considered for this purpose as one class) cast at a meeting of stockholders called for that purpose.
- 6. The aggregate number of shares of capital stock which the Bank shall have authority to issue is thirty thousand five hundredforty-six (30,546) shares, which shall be common stock, par value five dollars (\$5.00) per share (the "Common Stock"). The Bank shall not issue fractional shares of stock, but shall pay in cash the fair value of fractions of a share as of the time when those otherwise entitled to receive such fractions are determined.
  - a. Stockholders shall not have pre-emptive rights to purchase shares of any class of capital stock of the Bank. The Bank, at any time and from time to time, may authorize and issue debt obligations, whether or not subordinated, without the approval of the stockholders.
  - b. Authority is hereby expressly granted to the Board of Directors from time to time to issue any authorized but unissued shares of Common Stock for such consideration and on such terms as it may determine. Every share of Common Stock of the Bank shall have one vote at any meeting of stockholders and may be voted by the stockholders of record either in person or by proxy.
  - c. In the event of any liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the Bank, or upon the distribution of the assets of the Bank, the assets of the Bank remaining after satisfaction of all obligations and liabilities shall be divided and distributed ratably among the holders of the Common Stock. Neither the merger nor the consolidation of the Bank with another corporation, nor the sale or lease of all or substantially all of the assets of the Bank, shall be deemed to be a liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the Bank or a distribution of its assets.

- 7. The Chief Executive Officer, Secretary, Board of Directors or holder(s) of at least 90% of the issued and outstanding voting stock of the Bank may call a special meeting of stockholders at any time. The Bank shall notify stockholders of the place, if any, date and time of each annual and special meeting of stockholders no fewer than ten (10) nor more than sixty (60) days before the meeting date, such notice to be delivered to each stockholder of record at the address as shown upon the stock transfer book of the Bank. Notice of a special meeting of stockholders shall include a description of the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called.
- 8. The Bank reserves the right to amend, alter, change or repeal any provision contained in this Second Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation, in the manner now or hereafter provided by law, at any regular or special meeting of stockholders, and all rights conferred upon officers, directors and stockholders of the Bank hereby are granted subject to this reservation.
- 9. The Bank shall indemnify its officers, directors, employees and agents in accordance with the indemnification provisions set forth in they-laws of the Bank, as may be amended from time to time, and in all cases in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.
- 10. To the extent not inconsistent with the provisions of the Banking Code or the rules, regulations or orders of the Superintendent of the Alabama State Banking Department, and pursuant to Section 10A-2A-17.01 of the ABCL, the Bank hereby elects to be governed by the provisions of the ABCL, and all references in this Second Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation to the ABCL shall mean the Alabama Business Corporation Law of 2019.

[Signature Page Follows]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned hereby certifies that, in accordance with applicable law, this Second Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation has been adopted by the Bank as of the  $6^{th}$  day of August, 2020.

By: <u>/s/ Hope D. Mehlman</u>

Hope D. Mehlman Executive Vice President, Corporate Secretary, Chief Governance Officer, and Deputy General Counsel

# EXHIBIT B

# Approval of Superintendent of the Alabama State Banking Department

(attached)

# STATE OF ALABAMA MONTGOMERY COUNTY

I, Mike Hill, as Superintendent of Banks for the State of Alabama, do hereby certify that I have fully and duly examined the foregoing Second Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation whereby the shareholder of Regions Bank, a banking corporation located at Birmingham, Alabama, proposes to Amend and Restate the Certificate of Incorporation.

See attached Articles of Amendment which Amend and Restate the Certificate of Incorporation of Regions Bank.

I do hereby certify that said Second Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation appear to be in substantial conformity with the requirements of law and they are hereby approved. Upon the filing of the same, together with this Certificate of Approval, with the proper agency as required by law, the Second Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of said bank shall be effective.

Given under my hand and seal of office this the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of August, 2020.

By: /s/ Mike Hill

Mike Hill Superintendent of Banks

#### EXHIBIT 4

#### AMENDED AND RESTATED BY-LAWS OF REGIONS BANK

Effective July 21, 2021

#### **ARTICLE I. OFFICES**

#### Section 1. Registered Office.

The registered office of Regions Bank (the "Bank") shall be maintained at the office of the Corporation Service Company, Inc., in the City of Montgomery, in the County of Montgomery, in the State of Alabama, or such other location as may be designated by the Board of Directors. Corporation Service Company, Inc. shall be the registered agent of the Bank unless and until a successor registered agent is appointed by the Board of Directors.

#### Section 2. Other Offices.

The Bank may have other offices at such places as the Board of Directors may from time to time appoint or the business of the Bank may require.

#### Section 3. Principal Place of Business.

The principal place of business of the Bank shall be in Birmingham, Alabama.

#### ARTICLE II. MEETINGS OF STOCKHOLDERS

#### Section 1. Annual Meeting.

Annual meetings of stockholders for the election of members of the Board of Directors ("Directors") and for such other business as the Board of Directors may determine, shall be held at such place, time and date as the Board of Directors, by resolution, shall determine.

#### Section 2. Special Meetings.

The Chief Executive Officer, Secretary, Board of Directors or holder (s) of at least ninety percent (90%) of the issued and outstanding voting stock of the Bank may call a special meeting of stockholders at any time. Special meetings of stockholders may be held at such place, time and date as shall be stated in the notice of the meeting.

#### Section 3. Voting.

The vote of a majority of the votes cast by the shares entitled to vote on any matter at a meeting of stockholders at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the stockholders on that matter, except as otherwise required by law or by the Certificate of Incorporation of the Bank.

#### Section 4. Quorum.

At each meeting of stockholders, except where otherwise provided by applicable law, the Certificate of Incorporation or theseBy-Laws, the holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of the Bank entitled to vote on a matter at the meeting, represented in person or by proxy, shall constitute a quorum. If less than a majority of the outstanding shares are represented, a majority of the shares so represented may adjourn the meeting from time to time without further notice, but until a quorum is secured no other business may be transacted. The stockholders present at a duly organized meeting may continue to transact business until an adjournment notwithstanding the withdrawal of enough stockholders to leave less than a quorum.

#### Section 5. Notice of Meeting.

Written or printed notice stating the place, day and time of the meeting and, in case of a special meeting of stockholders, the purpose or purposes of the meeting, shall be delivered not less than ten (10) nor more than sixty (60) days before the date of the meeting to each stockholder of record entitled to vote at such meeting. The notice

shall also include the record date for determining the stockholders entitled to vote at the meeting, if that date is different from the record date for determining stockholders entitled to notice of the meeting. Such notice may be communicated in person, by telephone, teletype, telecopier, facsimile transmission or other form of electronic communication, or by mail or private carrier. The notice shall be deemed to have been delivered (i) if mailed postage prepaid and correctly addressed to a stockholder, upon deposit in the United States mail; (ii) if mailed by United States mail postage prepaid and correctly addressed to a stockholder, the earliest of when it is actually received or (A) if sent by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, the date shown on the return receipt signed by or on behalf of the addressee or (B) five (5) days after it is deposited in the United States mail; (ii) if an electronic transmission, when (A) it enters an information processing system that the recipient has designated or uses for the purposes of receiving electronic transmissions or information of the type sent, and from which the recipient is able to retrieve the electronic transmission and (B) it is in a form capable of being processed by that system. The attendance of a stockholder at a meeting, shall constitute a waiver of any objection to the consideration of a particular matter that is not within the purpose or purposes described in the notice, unless the stockholder objects to considering the matter before action is taken thereon.

### Section 6. Informal Action by Stockholders.

Any action required or permitted to be taken at any meeting of stockholders may be taken without a meeting, and without prior notice, if one or more consents in writing setting forth the action so taken are signed by the holders of outstanding stock having not less than the minimum number of votes that would be required to authorize or take the action at a meeting at which all shares of stock entitled to vote on the action were present and voted. The action must be evidenced by one or more written consents describing the action taken, signed by the stockholders approving the action and delivered to the Bank for filing by the Bank with the minutes or corporate records. No written consent shall be effective to take the corporate action referred to therein unless, within sixty (60) days of the earliest date on which a consent is delivered to the Bank as required by this section, written consents signed by sufficient stockholders to take the action have been delivered to the Bank. A written consent may be revoked by a writing to that effect delivered to the Bank before unrevoked written consents sufficient in number to take the corporate action have been delivered to the Bank.

A consent signed pursuant to the provisions of this section has the effect of a vote taken at a meeting and may be described as such in any document. The action taken by written consent shall be effective when written consents signed by sufficient stockholders to take the action have been delivered to the Bank.

If action is taken by less than unanimous written consent of the stockholders, the Bank shall give its nonconsenting stockholders written notice of the action not more than ten (10) days after written consents sufficient to take the action have been delivered to the Bank. The notice must reasonably describe the action taken and contain or be accompanied by the same material that would have been required to be sent to stockholders in a notice of a meeting at which the action would have been submitted to the stockholders for action.

#### ARTICLE III. DIRECTORS

#### Section 1. Number and Term.

The number of Directors that shall constitute the whole Board of Directors shall be fixed, from time to time, by resolutions adopted by the Board of Directors, but shall not be less than five (5) persons or more than twenty-five (25) persons. The number of Directors shall not be reduced so as to shorten the term of any Director in office at the time.

Directors elected at each annual or special meeting or appointed pursuant to Article III, Section 4 of theseBy-Laws shall hold office until the next annual meeting and until his or her successor shall have been elected and qualified, or until his or her earlier retirement, death, resignation or removal. Directors need not be residents of Alabama.

#### Section 2. Chair of the Board and Lead Independent Director

The Board of Directors shall by majority vote designate from time to time from among its members a Chair of the Board of Directors. The Chair of the Board of Directors shall preside at all meetings of the stockholders and of the Board of Directors. He or she shall have and perform such duties as prescribed by these By-Laws and by the Board of Directors. The position of Chair of the Board of Directors is a Board position; provided, however, the position of Chair of the Board of Directors may be held by a person who is also an officer of the Bank.

In the absence of the Chair of the Board of Directors, or in the case he or she is unable to preside, the Lead Independent Director, if at the time a Director of the Bank has been designated by the Board of Directors as such, shall have and exercise all powers and duties of the Chair of the Board of Directors and shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors. If at any Board of Directors meeting neither of such persons is present or able to act, the Board of Directors shall select one of its members as acting chair of the meeting or any portion thereof.

#### Section 3. Resignations.

Any Director may resign at any time. All resignations shall be made in writing, and shall take effect at the time of receipt by the Chair of the Board of Directors, Chief Executive Officer, President or Secretary or at such other time as may be specified therein. The acceptance of a resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective.

#### Section 4. Vacancies.

If the office of any Director becomes vacant, including by reason of resignation or removal, or the size of the Board of Directors is increased, the remaining Directors in office, even if less than a quorum, by a majority vote, may appoint any qualified person to fill such vacancy or new position, and such person shall hold office for the unexpired term and until his or her successor shall be duly chosen.

#### Section 5. Removal.

Any Director may be removed at any time, with or without cause, by the affirmative vote of the holders of ninety percent (90%) or more of the outstanding shares of capital stock of the Bank entitled to vote generally in the election of directors (considered for this purpose as one class) cast at a meeting of stockholders called for that purpose.

#### Section 6. Powers.

The business and affairs of the Bank shall be managed by or under the direction of the Board of Directors, except as may be otherwise provided by applicable law, the Certificate of Incorporation of the Bank or pursuant to these By-Laws.

#### Section 7. Meetings.

Regular meetings of the Board of Directors may be held without notice at such places and times as shall be determined from time to time by the Board of Directors; provided, however, that such regular meetings shall be held at intervals in compliance with the Alabama Banking Code, Section 5-1A-1 *et seq.* of the Code of Alabama 1975, as amended (together with any act amendatory thereof, supplementary thereto or substituted therefor, hereinafter referred to as the "Banking Code").

Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the Chair of the Board of Directors, Lead Independent Director, Chief Executive Officer or President, or Secretary on the request of any two members of the Board of Directors, on at least two (2) days' notice to each Director and shall be held at such place or places as may be determined by the Board of Directors, or as shall be stated in the notice of such meeting.

Unless otherwise restricted by the Certificate of Incorporation or these By-Laws, members of the Board of Directors, or any committee designated by the Board of Directors, may participate in a meeting of the Board of Directors, or any committee, by means of conference telephone, video or similar communications equipment by means of which all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other, and such participation in a meeting shall constitute presence in person at the meeting. Notice of any special meeting of the Board of Directors need not be given personally, and may be given by United States mail, postage prepaid or by any form of electronic communication, and shall be deemed to have been given on the date such notice is transmitted by the Bank (which, if notice is mailed, shall be the date when such notice is deposited in the United States mail, postage prepaid, directed to the applicable Director at such Director's address as it appears on the records of the Bank).

#### Section 8. Quorum; Vote Required for Action.

A majority of the Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. If at any meeting of the Board of Directors there shall be less than a quorum present, a majority of those present may adjourn the meeting from time to time until a quorum is obtained, and no further notice thereof need be given other than by announcement at the meeting which shall be so adjourned. The vote of a majority of the Directors present at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the Board of Directors unless the Certificate of Incorporation or these By-Laws shall require a vote of a greater number.

#### Section 9. Compensation.

Unless otherwise restricted by the Certificate of Incorporation or these By-Laws, the Board of Directors shall have the authority to fix the compensation of Directors. Nothing herein contained shall be construed to preclude any Director from serving the Bank in any other capacity as an officer, agent or otherwise, and receiving compensation therefor.

#### Section 10. Action Without Meeting.

Any action required or permitted to be taken at any meeting of the Board of Directors, or of any committee thereof, may be taken without a meeting, if prior to such action a written consent thereto is signed by all members of the Board of Directors, or of such committee as the case may be, and such written consent is filed with the minutes of proceedings of the Board of Directors or committee. Action taken under this section is the act of the Board of Directors when one or more consents signed by all of the Directors are delivered to the Bank. The consent may specify a later time as the time at which the action taken is to be effective. A Director's consent may be withdrawn by a revocation signed by the Director and delivered to the Bank before delivery to the Bank of unrevoked written consents signed by all of the Directors. A consent signed under this section has the effect of action taken at a meeting of the Board of Directors and may be described as such in any document.

#### Section 11. Committees.

A majority of the Board of Directors shall have the authority to designate one or more committees, each committee to consist of one or more of the Directors of the Bank. The Board of Directors may designate one or more Directors as alternate members of any committee, who may replace any absent or disqualified member at any meeting of the committee. Any committee of the Board of Directors, to the extent provided in the resolutions of the Board of Directors or in these By-Laws, shall have and may exercise the powers of the Board of Directors in the management of the business and affairs of the Bank and may authorize the seal of the Bank to be affixed to all papers that may require it, in each case to the fullest extent permitted by applicable law. In the absence or disqualification of any member of a committee from voting at any meeting of such committee, the remaining member or members thereof present at such meeting and not disqualified from voting, whether or not the remaining member or members constitute a quorum, may unanimously appoint another member of the Board of Directors to act at such meeting in the place of any such absent or disqualified member.

#### Section 12. Eligibility.

No person shall be eligible to serve as Director of the Bank unless such person shall be the owner of shares of stock of the parent holding company of the number and held in the manner sufficient to meet the requirements of any applicable law or regulation in effect requiring the ownership of Directors' qualifying shares.

#### Section 13. Directors Protected.

In accordance with the Alabama Business Corporation Law, Chapter 2A of Title 10A of the Code of Alabama (1975), or any statute amendatory or supplemental thereof (the "Corporation Law") and specifically Section 10A-2A-8.30, each Director shall, in the performance of his or her duties, be fully protected in relying in good faith upon information, opinions, reports or statements, including financial statements and other financial data, made to the Directors by the officers or employees of the Bank; legal counsel, public accountants, certified public accountants or other persons as to matters the Director reasonably believes are within the person's professional or expert competence; or a committee of the Board of Directors of which he or she is not a member if the Director reasonably believes the committee merits confidence, or in relying in good faith upon other records or books of account of the Bank.

#### ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS

#### Section 1. Officers, Elections, Terms.

The officers of the Bank shall be a Chief Executive Officer; a President; one or more vice presidents or directors (referring in this context to service in an officer capacity), who may be designated Senior Executive Vice Presidents, Executive Vice Presidents, Executive Managing Directors, Senior Vice Presidents, Managing Directors, Vice Presidents, Directors, and Assistant Vice Presidents; a Secretary; one or more Assistant Secretaries; a Chief Financial Officer; a Controller; an Auditor; and such other officers as may be deemed appropriate. All of such officers shall be appointed annually by the Board of Directors to serve for a term of one (1) year and until their respective successors are appointed and qualified or until such officer's earlier death, resignation, retirement or removal, except that the Board of Directors may delegate the authority to appoint officers holding the position of Senior Executive Vice President and below in accordance with procedures established or modified by the Board from time to time. None of the officers of the Bank need be Directors. More than one office may be held by the same person. The conduct of the business and affairs of the Bank by the officers shall be subject to the oversight of the Board of Directors and of any committee of the Board of Directors having authority over the subject matter.

#### Section 2. Chief Executive Officer.

The Board of Directors shall appoint a Chief Executive Officer of the Bank. The Chief Executive Officer is the most senior executive officer of the Bank, and shall be vested with authority to act for the Bank in all matters and shall have general supervision of the Bank and of its business affairs, including authority over the detailed operations of the Bank and over its personnel, with full power and authority during intervals between sessions of the Board of Directors to do and perform in the name of the Bank all acts and deeds necessary or proper, in his or her opinion, to be done and performed and to execute for and in the name of the Bank all instruments, agreements and deeds that may be authorized to be executed on behalf of the Bank or may be required by law. The Chief Executive Officer may, but need not, also hold the office of President.

#### Section 3. President.

The President shall have, and may exercise, the authority to act for the Bank in all ordinary matters and perform other such duties as directed by the By-Laws, the Board of Directors or the Chief Executive Officer. Among the officers of the Bank, the President is subordinate to only the Chief Executive Officer and is senior to the other officers of the Bank. The authority of the President shall include authority over the detailed operations of the Bank and over its personnel with full power and authority during intervals between sessions of the Board of Directors to do and perform in the name of the Bank all acts and deeds necessary or proper, in his or her opinion, to be done and performed and to execute for and in the name of the Bank all instruments, agreements and deeds that may be authorized to be executed on behalf of the Bank or may be required by law.

#### Section 4. Vice Presidents.

The vice presidents or directors, who may be designated as Senior Executive Vice Presidents, Executive Vice Presidents, Executive Managing Directors, Senior Vice Presidents, Managing Directors, Vice Presidents, Directors, and Assistant Vice Presidents, shall, subject to the control of the Chief Executive Officer or the President, have and may exercise the authority vested in them in all proper matters, including authority over the detailed operations of the Bank and over its personnel.

#### Section 5. Chief Financial Officer.

The Chief Financial Officer, or his or her designee, shall have and perform such duties as are incident to the office of Chief Financial Officer and such other duties as may from time to time be assigned to him or her by the Board of Directors, the Chief Executive Officer or the President.

#### Section 6. Secretary and Assistant Secretary.

The Secretary shall keep minutes of all meetings of the stockholders and the Board of Directors unless otherwise directed by either of those bodies. The Secretary, or in his or her absence, any Assistant Secretary, shall attend to the giving and serving of all notices of the Bank. The Secretary shall perform all of the duties incident to the office of Secretary and shall do and perform such other duties as may from time to time be assigned by the Board of Directors, the Chair of the Board of Directors, the Chief Executive Officer or the President.

#### Section 7. Controller.

The Controller shall, under the direction of the Chief Executive Officer, the President, the Chief Financial Officer or other more senior officer, have general supervision and authority over all reports required of the Bank by law or by any public body or officer or regulatory authority pertaining to the condition of the Bank and its assets and liabilities. The Controller shall have general supervision of the books and accounts of the Bank and its methods and systems of recording and keeping accounts of its business transactions and of its assets and liabilities. The Controller shall be responsible for preparing statements showing the financial condition of the Bank and shall furnish such reports and financial records as may be required of him or her by the Board of Directors or by the Chief Executive Officer, the President, the Chief Financial Officer or other more senior officer.

#### Section 8. Auditor.

The Auditor's office may be filled by an employee of the Bank or his or her duties may be performed by an employee or committee of the parent company of the Bank. The Auditor shall have general supervision of the auditing of the books and accounts of the Bank, and shall continuously and from time to time check and verify the Bank's transactions, its assets and liabilities, and the accounts and doings of the officers, agents and employees of the Bank with respect thereto. The Auditor, whether an employee of the Bank or of its parent, shall be directly accountable to and under the jurisdiction of the Board of Directors and, if applicable, its designated committee, acting independently of all officers, agents and employees of the Bank. The Auditor shall render reports covering matters in his or her charge regularly and upon request to the Board and, if applicable, its designated committee.

#### Section 9. Other Officers and Agents.

The Board of Directors may appoint such other officers and agents as it may deem advisable, such as General Counsel, who shall exercise such powers and perform such duties as shall be determined from time to time by the Board of Directors. The functions of a cashier of the Bank may be performed by the Controller or any other officer of the Bank whose area of responsibility includes the function to be performed.

#### Section 10. Management Policymaking Committee.

Pursuant to the By-Laws of Regions Financial Corporation, the Chief Executive Officer shall establish and name (and may rename from time to time) an executive management committee to develop, publish and implement policies and procedures for the operation of Regions Financial Corporation and its subsidiaries and affiliates, including the Bank.

#### Section 11. Officer in Charge of Wealth Management.

The officer in charge of Wealth Management shall be designated as such by the Board of Directors and shall exercise general supervision and management over the affairs of Private Wealth Management, Institutional Services and Wealth Management Middle Office, which groups are responsible for exercise of the Bank's trust powers. Such officer is hereby empowered to appoint all necessary agents or attorneys; also to make, execute and acknowledge all checks, bonds, certificates, deeds, mortgages, notes, releases, leases, agreements, contracts, bills of sale, assignments, transfers, powers of attorney or of substitution, proxies to vote stock, or any other instrument in writing that may be necessary in the purchase, sale, mortgage, lease, assignment, transfer, management or handling, in any way of any property of any description held or controlled by the Bank in any fiduciary capacity. Said officer shall have such other duties and powers as shall be designated by the Board of Directors.

#### Section 12. Other Officers in Private Wealth Management, Institutional Services, and Wealth Management Middle Office.

The officer in charge of Wealth Management shall appoint officers responsible for the activities of Private Wealth Management, Institutional Services and Wealth Management Middle Office. Various other officers as designated by the officers responsible for the activities of Private Wealth Management, Institutional Services and Wealth Management Middle Office are empowered and authorized to make, execute and acknowledge all checks, bonds, certificates, deeds, mortgages, notes, releases, leases, agreements, contracts, bills of sale, assignments, transfers, powers of attorney or substitution, proxies to vote stock or any other instrument in writing that may be necessary to the purchase, sale, mortgage, lease, assignments, transfer, management or handling in any way, of any property of any description held or controlled by the Bank in any fiduciary capacity.

#### Section 13. Removal and Resignation of Officers.

At its pleasure, the Board of Directors may remove any officer from office at any time by a majority vote of the Board of Directors; provided, however, that the terms of any employment or compensation contract shall be honored according to its terms. An individual's status as an officer will terminate without the necessity of any other action or ratification immediately upon termination for any reason of the individual's employment by the Bank. Any officer may resign at any time by delivering notice (whether written or verbal) to the Bank. Such resignation shall be effective immediately unless the notice of resignation specifies a later effective date.

#### ARTICLE V. MISCELLANEOUS

#### Section 1. Certificates of Stock.

Certificates of stock of the Bank shall be signed by the President and the Secretary of the Bank, which signatures may be represented by a facsimile signature. The certificate may be sealed with the seal of the Bank or an engraved or printed facsimile thereof. The certificate represents the number of shares of stock registered in certificate form owned by such holder.

#### Section 2. Lost Certificates.

In case of the loss or destruction of any certificate of stock, the holder or owner of same shall give notice thereof to the Chief Executive Officer, the President, any Senior Executive Vice President or the Secretary of the Bank and, if such holder or owner shall desire the issue of a new certificate in the place of the one lost or destroyed, he or she shall make an affidavit of such loss or destruction and deliver the same to any one of said officers and accompany the same with a bond with surety satisfactory to the Bank to indemnify the Bank and save it harmless against any loss, cost or damage in case such certificate should thereafter be presented to the Bank, which affidavit and bond shall be, at the discretion of the deciding party listed in this Section 2, unless so ordered by a court having jurisdiction over the matter, approved or rejected by the Board of Directors, the Chief Executive Officer, the President or a Senior Executive Vice President before the issue of any new certificate.

#### Section 3. Transfer of Shares.

Title to a certificate and to the shares represented thereby can be transferred only by delivery of the certificate endorsed either in blank or to a specified person by the person appearing by the certificate to be the owner of the shares represented thereby, or by delivery of the certificate and a separate document containing a written assignment of the certificate or a power of attorney to sell, assign, or transfer the same or the shares represented thereby, signed by the person appearing by the certificate to be the owner of the shares represented thereby. Such assignment or power of attorney may be either in blank or to a specified person.

#### Section 4. Fractional Shares.

No fractional part of a share of stock shall be issued by the Bank.

#### Section 5. Stockholders Record Date.

In order that the Bank may determine the stockholders entitled to notice of or to vote at any meeting of stockholders or any adjournment thereof, or entitled to receive any rights in respect of any change, conversion or exchange of stock or for any other lawful action, the Board of Directors may fix, in advance, a record date, which shall not be more than sixty (60) nor less than ten (10) days before the date of such meeting, nor more than sixty (60) days prior to any other action. A determination of stockholders of record entitled to notice of or to vote at a meeting of stockholders shall apply to adjournment of the meeting; provided, however, that the Board of Directors may fix a new record date for the adjourned meeting.

#### Section 6. Dividends.

Subject to the provisions of the Certificate of Incorporation, at any regular or special meeting the Board of Directors may, out of funds legally available therefor, declare dividends upon the capital stock of the Bank as and when it deems expedient. Before declaring any dividend, there may be set apart out of any fund of the Bank available for dividends, such sum or sums as the Directors, from time to time in their discretion, deem proper for working capital; as a reserve fund to meet contingencies; for equalizing dividends; or for such other purposes as the Directors shall deem conducive to the interests of the Bank. No dividends shall be declared that exceed the amounts authorized by applicable laws and regulations or are otherwise contrary to law.

#### Section 7. Seal

The Bank may have a corporate seal, which shall have the name of the Bank inscribed thereon and shall be in such form as prescribed by the Board of Directors from time to time. The seal may also include appropriate descriptors, such as the words: "An Alabama Banking Corporation." The Secretary of the Bank shall have custody of the seal and is authorized to affix the same to instruments, documents and papers as required by law or as customary or appropriate in the Secretary's judgment and discretion. Without limiting the general authority of the Board of Directors of the Bank to name, appoint, remove and define the duties of officers of the Bank, the Secretary is further authorized to cause reproductions of the seal to be made, distributed to and used by officers and employees of the Bank whose duties and responsibilities involve the execution and delivery of instruments, documents and papers bearing the seal of the Bank. In this regard, the Secretary is further authorized to establish, implement, interpret and enforce policies and procedures governing the use of the seal and the authorization by the Secretary of officers and employees of the Bank, if such appointment would, in the Secretary's judgment, be convenient with respect to such employee's custody and use of a seal and/or (ii) the right of the Secretary to authorize Bank employees to have and use seals as delegates of the Secretary without appointing such employees as Assistant Secretaries of the Bank.

#### Section 8. Fiscal Year.

The fiscal year of the Bank shall be the calendar year.

#### Section 9. Checks, Drafts, Transfers, Services, etc.

The Chief Executive Officer, the President, any vice president or director, any Assistant Vice President, any Branch Manager, any Financial Relationship Specialist, any Financial Relationship Consultant or any other employee designated by the Board of Directors is authorized and empowered on behalf of the Bank and in its name to sign and endorse checks and warrants; to execute and deliver any and all documents that are necessary or desirable in connection with the opening of customer deposit accounts with the Bank, including, without limitation, documents associated with establishing treasury management services in connection with deposit accounts; documents requested or required by a third party in connection with the opening or rollover of individual retirement accounts to the Bank or otherwise; draw drafts; issue and sign cashier's checks; guarantee signatures; give receipts for money due and payable to the Bank; and sign such other papers and do such other acts as are necessary in the performance of his or her duties. The authority conveyed to any employee designated by the Board of Directors may be limited by general or specific resolution of the Board of Directors.

#### Section 10. Notice and Waiver of Notice.

Whenever any notice whatever is required to be given under the provisions of any law or under the provisions of the Certificate of Incorporation of the Bank or these By-Laws, a waiver thereof in writing, signed by the person or persons entitled to notice, whether before or after the time stated therein, shall be deemed equivalent thereto. Attendance of a person at a meeting shall constitute a waiver of notice of such meeting, except when the person attends a meeting for the express purpose of objecting, at the beginning of the meeting, to the transaction of business at the meeting because the meeting is not lawfully called or convened.

#### Section 11. Right of Indemnity.

To the full extent provided for and in accordance with the Corporation Law, and specificallySection 10A-2A-8.50 *et seq.*, the Bank shall indemnify and hold harmless each Director and each officer now or hereafter serving the Bank against any loss and reasonable expenses actually and necessarily incurred by him or her in connection with the defense of any claim, or any action, suit or proceeding against him or her or in which he or she is made a party, by reason of him or her being or having been a Director or officer of the Bank, or who, while a Director or officer of the Bank, is or was serving at the Bank's request as a director, officer, partner, trustee, employee or agent of another foreign or domestic corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust, employee benefit plan or other enterprise. Such right of indemnity shall not be deemed exclusive of any other rights to which such Director or officer may be entitled under any statute, article of incorporation, rule of law, other bylaw, agreement, vote of stockholders or directors, or otherwise. Nor shall anything herein contained restrict the right of the Bank to indemnify or reimburse any officer or Director in any proper case even though not specifically provided for herein.

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, the Bank shall not make or agree to make any indemnification payment to a Director or officer or any other institution-affiliated party (as such term is defined in 12 CFR § 359.1) with respect to (i) any civil money penalty or judgment resulting from any administrative or civil action instituted by any federal banking agency, except in full compliance with 12 CFR Part 359, (ii) any assessment, order of restitution, penalty or similar liability imposed under authority of the Banking Code, or (iii) any liability for violation of Section 10A-2A-8.32 of the Corporation Law.

In advance of final disposition, the Bank may, but is not required to, pay for or reimburse the reasonable expenses incurred by a person who may become eligible for indemnification under this Article V, Section 11, provided the conditions set forth in Section 10A-2A-8.53 of the Corporation Law (and, if applicable, 12 CFR § 359.5) shall have been satisfied.

The Bank may purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of said Directors or officers against liability asserted against or incurred by a Director or officer acting in such capacity as described in these By-Laws. Such insurance coverage shall not be used to pay or reimburse a person for the cost of (i) any judgment or civil money penalty assessed against such person in an administrative proceeding or civil action commenced by any federal banking agency or (ii) any assessment or penalty imposed under authority of the Banking Code. Such insurance coverage may be used to pay any legal or professional expenses incurred in connection with such proceeding or action or the amount of any restitution to the Bank. Any insurance coverage of legal or professional expenses will be coordinated with the Bank's determination whether to advance expenses in advance of final disposition, taking into account the terms and conditions of the coverage and the requirements of Section 10A-2A-8.53 of the Corporation Law.

#### Section 12. Execution of Instruments and Documents.

The Chief Executive Officer; the President; any Senior Executive Vice President, Executive Vice President, Senior Vice President or Vice President; or any officer holding the title of Executive Managing Director, Managing Director or Director is authorized, in his or her discretion, to do and perform any and all corporate and official acts in carrying on the business of the Bank, including, but not limited to, the authority to make, execute, acknowledge, accept and deliver any and all deeds, mortgages, releases, bills of sale, assignments, transfers, leases (as lessor or lessee), powers of attorney or of substitution, servicing or sub-servicing agreements, vendor agreements, contracts, proxies to vote stock or any other instrument in writing that may be necessary in the purchase, sale, lease, assignment, transfer, discount, management or handling in any way of any property of any description held, controlled or used by Bank, either in its own or in its fiduciary capacity and including the authority from time to time to open bank accounts with the Bank or any other institution; to borrow money in such amounts for such lengths of time, at such rates of interest and upon such terms and conditions as any said officer may deem proper and to evidence the indebtedness thereby created by executing and delivering in the name of the Bank promissory notes or other appropriate evidences of indebtedness; and to guarantee the obligations of any subsidiary or affiliate of the Bank. The enumeration herein of particular powers shall not restrict in any way the general powers and authority of said officers.

By way of example and not limitation, such officers of the Bank are authorized to execute, accept, deliver and issue, on behalf of the Bank and as binding obligations of the Bank, such agreements and instruments as may be within the officer's area of responsibility, including, as applicable, agreements and related documents (such as schedules, confirmations, transfers, assignments, acknowledgments and other documents) relating to derivative transactions, loan or letter of credit transactions, syndications, participations, trades, purchase and sale or discount transactions, transfers and assignments, servicing and sub-servicing agreements, vendor agreements, contracts, securitizations and transactions of whatever kind or description arising in the conduct of the Bank's business.

The authority to execute and deliver documents, instruments and agreements may be limited by resolution of the Board of Directors or a committee of the Board of Directors, by the Chief Executive Officer or by the President, by reference to subject matter, category, amount, geographical location or any other criteria and may be made subject to such policies, procedures and levels of approval as may be adopted or amended from time to time.

#### Section 13. Voting Bank's Securities.

Unless otherwise ordered by the Board of Directors, the Chief Executive Officer, the President, any Executive Vice President or Executive Managing Director or above, the Controller, the Bank's General Counsel and any other officer as may be designated by the Board of Directors shall have full power and authority on behalf of the Bank (i) to attend and to act and vote or (ii) to execute a proxy or proxies empowering others to attend and to act and vote, at any meetings of security holders of any of the corporations, partnerships, limited liability companies or other entities in which the Bank may hold securities and, at such meetings, such officer shall possess and may exercise any and all rights and powers incident to the ownership of such securities which, as the owner thereof, the Bank might have possessed and exercised, if present.

#### Section 14. Bonds of Officers and Employees.

The Board of Directors shall, pursuant to the Banking Code, designate the officers and employees who shall be required to give bond and fix the amounts thereof.

#### Section 15. Satisfaction of Loans.

On payment of sums lent, for which security shall have been taken either by way of mortgage or other lien on real or personal property or by the pledge of collateral, whether said loans have been made from funds of the Bank or from funds held in fiduciary capacity, any officer of the Bank shall have the power and authority to sign or execute any and all collateral release documents that may be necessary or desirable for the purpose of releasing property or property rights held by the Bank as collateral for obligations to the Bank that are paid in full or otherwise satisfied or settled and enter the fact of payment or satisfaction on the margin of the record of any such security or in any other legal manner to cancel such indebtedness and to release said security, and the Chief Executive Officer, the President or any Vice President or Director of the Bank shall have power and authority to execute a power of attorney authorizing the cancellation, release or satisfaction of any mortgage or other security given to the Bank in its corporate or fiduciary capacity, by such person as he or she may in his or her discretion appoint.

#### ARTICLE VI. AMENDMENTS

Except as otherwise provided herein or in the Certificate of Incorporation of the Bank, these By-Laws may be amended or repealed by the affirmative vote of a majority of the Directors then holding office at any regular or special meeting of the Board of Directors, and the stockholders may make, alter or repeal any By-Laws, whether or not adopted by them.

#### ARTICLE VII. EMERGENCY BY-LAWS

#### Section 1. Emergency By-Laws.

This Article VII shall be operative if a quorum of the Bank's Directors cannot readily be assembled because of some catastrophic event (an "emergency"), notwithstanding any different or conflicting provisions in these By-Laws, the Certificate of Incorporation or the Code of Alabama. To the extent not inconsistent with the provisions of this Article VII, the By-Laws provided in the other Articles of these By-Laws and the provisions of the Certificate of Incorporation shall remain in effect during such emergency, and upon termination of such emergency, the provisions of this Article VII shall cease to be operative.

#### Section 2. Meetings.

During any emergency, a meeting of the Board of Directors, or any committee thereof, may be called by any member of the Board of Directors, the President, a Senior Executive Vice President, the Secretary or an Assistant Secretary. Notice of the time and place of the meeting shall be given by any available means of communication by the individual calling the meeting to such of the Directors and/or Designated Officers, as defined in Section 3 of this Article VII, as it may be feasible to reach. Such notice shall be given at such time in advance of the meeting as, in the judgment of the individual calling the meeting, circumstances permit. As a result of such emergency, the Board of Directors may determine that a meeting of stockholders not be held at any place, but instead be held solely by means of remote communication in accordance with the Corporation Law.

#### Section 3. Quorum.

At any meeting of the Board, or any committee thereof, called in accordance with Section 2 of this Article VII, the presence or participation of two Directors or one Director and a Designated Officer shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. In the event that no Directors are able to attend the meeting of the Board of Directors, then the Designated Officers in attendance shall serve as directors for the meeting, without any additional quorum requirement and will have full powers to act as directors of the Bank.

The Board of Directors or the committees thereof, as the case may be, shall, from time to time but in any event prior to such time or times as an emergency may have occurred, designate the officers of the Bank in a numbered list (the "Designated Officers") who shall be deemed, in the order in which they appear on such list, directors of the Bank for purposes of obtaining a quorum during an emergency, if a quorum of Directors cannot otherwise be obtained.

#### Section 4. By-Laws.

At any meeting called in accordance with Section 2 of this Article VII, the Board of Directors or a committee thereof, as the case may be, may modify, amend or add to the provisions of this Article VII so as to make any provision that may be practical or necessary for the circumstances of the emergency.

#### Section 5. Liability.

No officer, Director or employee of the Bank acting in accordance with the provisions of this Article VII shall be liable except for willful misconduct.

#### Section 6. Repeal or Change.

The provisions of this Article VII shall be subject to repeal or change by further action of the Board of Directors or by action of the stockholders, but no such repeal or change shall modify the provisions of Section 5 of this Article VII with regard to action taken prior to the time of such repeal or change.

#### Section 7. Continued Operations.

In the event of an emergency declared by the President of the United States or the person performing his or her functions, the officers and employees of the Bank will continue to conduct the affairs of the Bank under such guidance from the Directors as may be available except as to matters which by statute require specific approval of the Board of Directors and subject to conformance with any governmental directives or directives of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation during the emergency.

April 30, 2024

Securities and Exchange Commission Washington, D.C. 20549

Ladies and Gentlemen:

In accordance with Section 321(b) of the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended, the undersigned hereby consents that reports of examination of the undersigned made by Federal, State, Territorial, or District authorities authorized to make such examination may be furnished by such authorities to the Securities and Exchange Commission upon its request therefor.

Very truly yours,

REGIONS BANK

/s/ Craig Kaye Craig Kaye

# EXHIBIT 7

# Consolidated Report of Condition for Insured Banks and Savings Associations

# **REGIONS BANK**

# As of the close of business on December 31, 2023:

ASSETS	Thousands of Dollars
Cash and balances due from depository institutions:	7,735,000
Securities:	29,462,000
Federal funds sold and securities purchased under agreement to resell:	0
Loans and leases held for sale:	383,000
Loans and leases net of unearned income and allowance:	96,803,000
Trading Assets:	17,000
Premises and fixed assets:	2,134,000
Other real estate owned:	14,000
Investments in unconsolidated subsidiaries and associated companies:	165,000
Direct and indirect investments in real estate ventures:	0
Intangible assets:	6,395,000
Other assets:	8,206,000
Total Assets:	151,314,000
LIABILITIES	Thousands of Dollars
Deposits	130,154,000
Federal funds purchased and securities sold under agreements to repurchase	0
Trading liabilities:	0
Other borrowed money:	11,000
Subordinated notes and debentures:	496.000
Other Liabilities:	4,253,000
Total Liabilities	134,914,000
EQUITY CAPITAL	Thousands of Dollars
Common Stock	Thousands of Donars
Surplus Detained Formings	16,399,000
Retained Earnings	2,750,000 -2,813,000
Accumulated other comprehensive income	
Total Equity Capital Total Liabilities and Equity Capital	16,400,000 <b>151,314,000</b>
Total Liabilities and Equity Capital	151,314,000

#### **Calculation of Filing Fee Table**

# Form S-3

# (Form Type)

# Meritage Homes Corporation

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

### Table 1: Newly Registered Securities and Carry Forward Securities

	Security Type	Security Class Title	Fee Calculation or Carry Forward Rule	Amount Registered	Proposed Maximum Offering Price Per Unit	Maximum Aggregate Offering Price	Fee Rate	Amount of Registration Fee	Carry Forward Form Type	Carry Forward File Number	Carry Forward Initial effective date	Filing Fee Previously Paid in Connection with Unsold Securities to be Carried Forward
					istered Sec							
Fees to be	Debt	Debt Securities	Rule 457(r)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(2)	(2)				
Paid	Debt	Guarantees of Debt Securities (3)	Rule 457(r)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(2)	(2)				
	Equity	Common Stock	Rule 457(r)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(2)	(2)				
	Equity	Preferred Stock	Rule 457(r)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(2)	(2)				
	Other	Warrants	Rule 457(r)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(2)	(2)				
	Equity	Depository Shares	Rule 457(r)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(2)	(2)				
	Other	Rights	Rule 457(r)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(2)	(2)				
	Other	Stock Purchase Contracts	Rule 457(r)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(2)	(2)				
	Other	Stock Purchase Units	Rule 457(r)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(2)	(2)				
Fees Previously Paid		—	—									
				Carry For	ward Secu	ırities						
Carry Forward Securities	_	—	—	_		_			_	_	_	—
	Total Offering Amounts				_		_					
	Total Fees Previously Paid							_				
	Total Fee Offsets							_				
	Net Fee Due							_				

 An indeterminate aggregate initial offering price or number of the securities of each identified class is being registered as may from time to time be offered at indeterminate prices. Separate consideration may or may not be received for securities that are issuable upon exercise, conversion or exchange of other securities (including any securities issuable upon stock splits and similar transactions pursuant to Rule 416 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act")).

2) In accordance with Rules 456(b) and 457(r) under the Securities Act, the registrants are deferring payment of the registration fee required in connection with this registration statement and will pay such fees on a pay-as-you-go basis. The registrants will calculate the registration fee applicable to an offer of securities pursuant to this registration statement based on the fee payment rate in effect on the date of such fee payment.

3) The guarantees of debt securities will be issued by one or more registrants identified in the "Table of Co-Registrants" of the registration statement.