

Edgar Filing: Apollo Commercial Real Estate Finance, Inc. - Form 10-Q

Apollo Commercial Real Estate Finance, Inc.  
Form 10-Q  
April 30, 2014

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

FORM 10-Q

(Mark One)

Quarterly Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934  
For the quarterly period ended March 31, 2014

Transition Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934  
For the transition period from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_  
Commission File Number: 001-34452

Apollo Commercial Real Estate Finance, Inc.  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Maryland  
(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)  
Apollo Commercial Real Estate Finance, Inc.  
c/o Apollo Global Management, LLC  
9 West 57th Street, 43rd Floor,  
New York, New York 10019  
(Address of registrant's principal executive offices)  
(212) 515-3200  
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

27-0467113  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification Number)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes  No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes  No

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

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

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes  No

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common stock, as of the latest practical date.

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As of April 29, 2014, there were 37,137,675 shares, par value \$0.01, of the registrant's common stock issued and outstanding.

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## Part I — FINANCIAL INFORMATION

## ITEM 1. Financial Statements

Apollo Commercial Real Estate Finance, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets (Unaudited)

(in thousands—except share and per share data)

|   | March 31, 2014 | December 31,<br>2013 |
|---|----------------|----------------------|
| Assets:   |                |                      |
| Cash  | \$ 126,473     | \$ 20,096            |
| Restricted cash   | 30,127         | 30,127               |
| Securities available-for-sale, at estimated fair value  | 25,477         | 33,362               |
| Securities, at estimated fair value   | 151,134        | 158,086              |
| Commercial mortgage loans, held for investment  | 185,516        | 161,099              |
| Subordinate loans, held for investment  | 484,979        | 497,484              |
| Interest receivable   | 6,220          | 6,022                |
| Deferred financing costs, net   | 5,135          | 628                  |
| Other assets  | 550            | 600                  |
| Total Assets  | \$ 1,015,611   | \$ 907,504           |
| Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity  |                |                      |
| Liabilities:  |                |                      |
| Borrowings under repurchase agreements  | \$ 166,994     | \$ 202,033           |
| Convertible senior notes, net   | 139,163        | —                    |
| Accounts payable and accrued expenses   | 2,289          | 2,660                |
| Payable to related party  | 2,565          | 2,628                |
| Dividends payable   | 16,688         | 17,227               |
| Total Liabilities   | 327,699        | 224,548              |
| Commitments and Contingencies (see Note 14)   |                |                      |
| Stockholders' Equity:   |                |                      |
| Preferred stock, \$0.01 par value, 50,000,000 shares authorized and 3,450,000 shares issued and outstanding in 2014 and 2013                          | 35             | 35                   |
| Common stock, \$0.01 par value, 450,000,000 shares authorized, 37,125,475 and 36,888,467 shares issued and outstanding in 2014 and 2013, respectively | 371            | 369                  |
| Additional paid-in-capital  | 701,797        | 697,610              |
| Retained earnings (accumulated deficit)   | (13,404        | ) (14,188            |
| Accumulated other comprehensive loss  | (887           | ) (870               |
| Total Stockholders' Equity  | 687,912        | 682,956              |
| Total Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity  | \$ 1,015,611   | \$ 907,504           |

See notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

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Apollo Commercial Real Estate Finance, Inc. and Subsidiaries  
 Condensed Consolidated Statement of Operations (Unaudited)  
 (in thousands—except share and per share data)

|  | Three months ended<br>March 31, |            |
|--|---------------------------------|------------|
|  | 2014                            | 2013       |
| Net interest income:   |                                 |            |
| Interest income from securities  | \$2,419                         | \$3,087    |
| Interest income from commercial mortgage loans   | 4,011                           | 3,592      |
| Interest income from subordinate loans   | 14,730                          | 11,454     |
| Interest income from repurchase agreements   | —                               | 2          |
| Interest expense   | (1,757                          | ) (1,068   |
| Net interest income  | 19,403                          | 17,067     |
| Operating expenses:  |                                 |            |
| General and administrative expenses (includes \$426 and \$883 of equity based compensation in 2014 and 2013, respectively) | (1,442                          | ) (1,895   |
| Management fees to related party   | (2,565                          | ) (2,160   |
| Total operating expenses   | (4,007                          | ) (4,055   |
| Unrealized gain (loss) on securities   | 2,184                           | (1,080     |
| Loss on derivative instruments (includes \$72 of unrealized gains in 2013)   | —                               | —          |
| Net income   | 17,580                          | 11,932     |
| Preferred dividends  | (1,860                          | ) (1,860   |
| Net income available to common stockholders  | \$15,720                        | \$10,072   |
| Basic and diluted net income per share of common stock   | \$0.42                          | \$0.33     |
| Basic weighted average shares of common stock outstanding  | 37,122,842                      | 30,105,939 |
| Diluted weighted average shares of common stock outstanding  | 37,341,050                      | 30,480,689 |
| Dividend declared per share of common stock  | \$0.40                          | \$0.40     |

See notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

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Apollo Commercial Real Estate Finance, Inc. and Subsidiaries  
 Condensed Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income (Unaudited)  
 (in thousands)

|   | Three months ended |           |
|---|--------------------|-----------|
|   | March 31,          |           |
|   | 2014               | 2013      |
| Net income available to common stockholders                           | \$ 15,720          | \$ 10,072 |
| Change in net unrealized gain (loss) on securities available-for-sale | (17                | ) (158    |
| Comprehensive income  | \$ 15,703          | \$ 9,914  |

See notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

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Apollo Commercial Real Estate Finance, Inc. and Subsidiaries  
 Condensed Consolidated Statement of Changes in Stockholders' Equity (Unaudited)  
 (in thousands—except share data)

|  | Preferred Stock |      | Common Stock |       | Additional<br>Paid In<br>Capital | Retained<br>Earnings<br>(Accumulated<br>Deficit) | Accumulated<br>Other<br>Comprehensive<br>Income | Total     |
|--|-----------------|------|--------------|-------|----------------------------------|--|---|-----------|
|  | Shares          | Par  | Shares       | Par   |                                  |  |   |           |
| Balance at January 1,<br>2014  | 3,450,000       | \$35 | 36,888,467   | \$369 | \$697,610                        | \$ (14,188 )                                     | \$ (870 )                                       | \$682,956 |
| Capital decrease related<br>to Equity Incentive Plan                 | —               | —    | 237,008      | 2     | (421 )                           | —  | —   | (419 )    |
| Issuance of common<br>stock  | —               | —    | —            | —     | —                                | —  | —   | —         |
| Offering costs   | —               | —    | —            | —     | (9 )                             | —  | —   | (9 )      |
| Convertible senior notes   | —               | —    | —            | —     | 4,617                            | —  | —   | 4,617     |
| Net income   | —               | —    | —            | —     | —                                | 17,580   | —   | 17,580    |
| Change in net unrealized<br>gain on securities<br>available-for-sale | —               | —    | —            | —     | —                                | —  | (17 )   | (17 )     |
| Dividends on common<br>stock   | —               | —    | —            | —     | —                                | (14,936 )  | —   | (14,936 ) |
| Dividends on preferred<br>stock                                      | —               | —    | —            | —     | —                                | (1,860 )   | —   | (1,860 )  |
| Balance at March 31,<br>2014   | 3,450,000       | \$35 | 37,125,475   | \$371 | \$701,797                        | \$ (13,404 )                                     | \$ (887 )                                       | \$687,912 |

See notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

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Apollo Commercial Real Estate Finance, Inc. and Subsidiaries  
Condensed Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows (Unaudited)  
(in thousands)

|   | Three months<br>ended March 31,<br>2014 | Three months<br>ended March 31,<br>2013 |   |
|---|---|---|---|
| Cash flows provided by operating activities:                                      |   |   |   |
| Net income  | \$17,580                                | \$11,932                                |   |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities: |   |   |   |
| Premium amortization and (discount accretion), net                                | (256                                    | ) (938                                  | ) |
| Amortization of deferred financing costs  | 190                                     | 193                                     |   |
| Equity-based compensation   | (421                                    | ) 883                                   |   |
| Unrealized (gain) loss on securities  | (2,184                                  | ) 1,080                                 |   |
| Unrealized gain on derivative instruments   | —                                       | (72                                     | ) |
| Changes in operating assets and liabilities:                                      |   |   |   |
| Accrued interest receivable, less purchased interest                              | (3,125                                  | ) (1,401                                | ) |
| Other assets  | 50                                      | 203                                     |   |
| Accounts payable and accrued expenses   | (363                                    | ) (85                                   | ) |
| Payable to related party  | (63                                     | ) 123                                   |   |
| Net cash provided by operating activities   | 11,408                                  | 11,918                                  |   |
| Cash flows used in investing activities:  |   |   |   |
| Fees received from commercial mortgage loans                                      | —                                       | 280                                     |   |
| Funding of commercial mortgage loans  | (24,178                                 | ) —                                     |   |
| Funding of subordinate loans  | —                                       | (91,297                                 | ) |
| Principal payments received on securities available-for-sale                      | 7,785                                   | 2,544                                   |   |
| Principal payments received on securities at estimated fair value                 | 9,080                                   | 12,429                                  |   |
| Principal payments received on commercial mortgage loans                          | 243                                     | 623                                     |   |
| Principal payments received on subordinate loans                                  | 15,407                                  | 52,305                                  |   |
| Principal payments received on repurchase agreements                              | —                                       | 6,598                                   |   |
| Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities                               | 8,337                                   | (16,518                                 | ) |
| Cash flows from financing activities:   |   |   |   |
| Proceeds from issuance of common stock  | —                                       | 148,804                                 |   |
| Payment of offering costs   | (117                                    | ) (308                                  | ) |
| Proceeds from repurchase agreement borrowings                                     | 12,000                                  | —                                       |   |
| Repayments of repurchase agreement borrowings                                     | (47,039                                 | ) (13,214                               | ) |
| Proceeds from issuance of convertible senior notes                                | 143,750                                 | —                                       |   |
| Payment of deferred financing costs   | (4,627                                  | ) (500                                  | ) |
| Dividends on common stock   | (15,475                                 | ) (11,218                               | ) |
| Dividends on preferred stock  | (1,860                                  | ) (1,860                                | ) |
| Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities                               | 86,632                                  | 121,704                                 |   |
| Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents                              | 106,377                                 | 117,104                                 |   |
| Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period                                    | 20,096                                  | 108,619                                 |   |
| Cash and cash equivalents, end of period  | \$126,473                               | \$225,723                               |   |
| Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:                                 |   |   |   |
| Interest paid   | \$1,958                                 | \$916                                   |   |
| Supplemental disclosure of non-cash financing activities:                         |   |   |   |
| Dividend declared, not yet paid   | \$16,688                                | \$16,616                                |   |
| Deferred financing costs, not yet paid  | \$412                                   | \$254                                   |   |
| Offering costs payable  | \$—                                     | \$395                                   |   |

See notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

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Apollo Commercial Real Estate Finance Inc. and Subsidiaries  
Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Unaudited)  
(in thousands—except share and per share data)

Note 1 – Organization

Apollo Commercial Real Estate Finance, Inc. (together with its consolidated subsidiaries, is referred to throughout this report as the “Company,” “ARI,” “we,” “us” and “our”) is a real estate investment trust (“REIT”) that primarily originates, acquires, invests in and manages performing commercial first mortgage loans, subordinate financings, commercial mortgage-backed securities (“CMBS”) and other commercial real estate-related debt investments. These asset classes are referred to as the Company’s target assets.

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Presentation

The accompanying consolidated financial statements include the Company’s accounts and those of its consolidated subsidiaries. All significant intercompany amounts have been eliminated. The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (“GAAP”) requires us to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting periods. The Company’s most significant estimates include the fair value of financial instruments and loan loss reserve. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

These unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the instructions to Form 10-Q and should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and notes thereto included in the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”). In the opinion of management, all adjustments (consisting only of normal recurring adjustments) necessary to present fairly the Company’s financial position, results of operations and cash flows have been included.

The Company currently operates in one business segment.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In June 2013, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (the “FASB”) issued guidance to change the assessment of whether an entity is an investment company by developing a new two-tiered approach that requires an entity to possess certain fundamental characteristics while allowing judgment in assessing certain typical characteristics. The fundamental characteristics that an investment company is required to have include the following: (1) it obtains funds from one or more investors and provides the investor(s) with investment management services; (2) it commits to its investor(s) that its business purpose and only substantive activities are investing the funds solely for returns from capital appreciation, investment income or both; and (3) it does not obtain returns or benefits from an investee or its affiliates that are not normally attributable to ownership interests. The typical characteristics of an investment company that an entity should consider before concluding whether it is an investment company include the following: (1) it has more than one investment; (2) it has more than one investor; (3) it has investors that are not related parties of the parent or the investment manager; (4) it has ownership interests in the form of equity or partnership interests; and (5) it manages substantially all of its investments on a fair value basis. The new approach requires an entity to assess all of the characteristics of an investment company and consider its purpose and design to determine whether it is an investment company. The guidance includes disclosure requirements about an entity’s status as an investment company and financial support provided or contractually required to be provided by an investment company to its investees. The guidance is effective for interim and annual reporting periods in fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2013. Earlier application is prohibited. The Accounting Standards Update (“ASU”) prohibits REITs from qualifying for investment company accounting under ASC 946, as such, we have determined that we will not meet the definition of an investment company under this ASU.

Note 3 – Fair Value Disclosure

GAAP establishes a hierarchy of valuation techniques based on observable inputs utilized in measuring financial instruments at fair values. Market based or observable inputs are the preferred source of values, followed by valuation models using management assumptions in the absence of market inputs. The three levels of the hierarchy are

described below:

Level I — Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.

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Level II — Prices are determined using other significant observable inputs. Observable inputs are inputs that other market participants would use in pricing a security. These may include quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds, credit risk and others.

Level III — Prices are determined using significant unobservable inputs. In situations where quoted prices or observable inputs are unavailable (for example, when there is little or no market activity for an investment at the end of the period), unobservable inputs may be used.

While the Company anticipates that its valuation methods will be appropriate and consistent with other market participants, the use of different methodologies or assumptions to determine the fair value of certain financial instruments could result in a different estimate of fair value at the reporting date. The Company will use inputs that are current as of the measurement date, which may include periods of market dislocation, during which price transparency may be reduced.

The estimated fair value of the CMBS portfolio is determined by reference to market prices provided by certain dealers who make a market in these financial instruments. Broker quotes are only indicative of fair value and may not necessarily represent what the Company would receive in an actual trade for the applicable instrument. Management performs additional analysis on prices received based on broker quotes to validate the prices and adjustments are made as deemed necessary by management to capture current market information. The estimated fair values of the Company's securities are based on observable market parameters and are classified as Level II in the fair value hierarchy.

The estimated fair values of the Company's derivative instruments are determined using a discounted cash flow analysis on the expected cash flows of each derivative. The fair values of interest rate swaps are determined using the market standard methodology of netting the discounted future fixed cash receipts (or payments) and the discounted expected variable cash payments (or receipts). The fair values of interest rate caps are determined using the market standard methodology of discounting the future expected cash receipts that would occur if variable interest rates rise above the strike rate of the caps. The variable interest rates used in the calculation of projected cash flows are based on an expectation of future interest rates derived from observable market interest rate curves and volatilities. The Company's derivative instruments are classified as Level II in the fair value hierarchy.

The following table summarizes the levels in the fair value hierarchy into which the Company's financial instruments were categorized as of March 31, 2014 and December 31, 2013:

|                              | Fair Value as of March 31, 2014 |           |           |           | Fair Value as of December 31, 2013 |           |           |           |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|                              | Level I                         | Level II  | Level III | Total     | Level I                            | Level II  | Level III | Total     |
| CMBS<br>(Available-for-Sale) | \$—                             | \$25,477  | \$—       | \$25,477  | \$—                                | \$33,362  | \$—       | \$33,362  |
| CMBS (Fair Value<br>Option)  | —                               | 151,134   | —         | 151,134   | —                                  | 158,086   | —         | 158,086   |
| Total                        | \$—                             | \$176,611 | \$—       | \$176,611 | \$—                                | \$191,448 | \$—       | \$191,448 |

## Note 4 – Debt Securities

At March 31, 2014, all of the Company's CMBS were pledged to secure borrowings under the Company's master repurchase agreements with Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. ("Wells Fargo") (the "Wells Facility") and UBS AG, London Branch ("UBS") (the "UBS Facility"). (See Note 8 for a description of these facilities).

The amortized cost and estimated fair value of the Company's debt securities at March 31, 2014 are summarized as follows:

| Security Description      | Face<br>Amount | Amortized<br>Cost | Gross<br>Unrealized<br>Gain | Gross<br>Unrealized<br>Loss | Estimated<br>Fair<br>Value |
|---------------------------|----------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| CMBS (Available-for-Sale) | \$25,281       | \$26,364          | \$—                         | \$(887)                     | \$25,477                   |
| CMBS (Fair Value Option)  | 146,497        | 146,810           | 4,432                       | (108)                       | 151,134                    |

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Total \$171,778 \$173,174 \$4,432 \$(995 ) \$176,611

The gross unrealized loss related to the available-for-sale securities results from the fair value of the securities falling below the amortized cost basis. The unrealized losses are primarily the result of market factors other than credit impairment and the Company believes the carrying value of the securities are fully recoverable over their expected holding period. Management does not intend to sell or expect to be forced to sell the securities prior to the Company recovering the amortized cost. As such, management does not believe any of the securities are other than temporarily impaired.

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The amortized cost and estimated fair value of the Company's debt securities at December 31, 2013 are summarized as follows:

| Security Description      | Face Amount | Amortized Cost | Gross Unrealized Gain | Gross Unrealized Loss | Estimated Fair Value |
|---------------------------|-------------|----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| CMBS (Available-for-Sale) | \$33,066    | \$34,232       | \$—                   | \$(870)               | ) \$33,362           |
| CMBS (Fair Value Option)  | 155,577     | 155,946        | 2,313                 | (173)                 | ) 158,086            |
| Total                     | \$188,643   | \$190,178      | \$2,313               | \$(1,043)             | ) \$191,448          |

The overall statistics for the Company's CMBS investments calculated on a weighted average basis assuming no early prepayments or defaults as of March 31, 2014 and December 31, 2013 are as follows:

|                       | March 31, 2014 | December 31, 2013 |
|-----------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| Credit Ratings *      | AAA-CCC        | AAA-CCC           |
| Coupon                | 5.8 %          | 5.8 %             |
| Yield                 | 5.4 %          | 5.3 %             |
| Weighted Average Life | 3.1 years      | 3.1 years         |

\*Ratings per Fitch Ratings, Moody's Investors Service or Standard & Poor's.

The percentage vintage, property type and location of the collateral securing the Company's CMBS investments (excluding the Hilton CMBS) calculated on a weighted average basis as of March 31, 2014 and December 31, 2013 are as follows:

|               | March 31, 2014 | December 31, 2013 |
|---------------|----------------|-------------------|
| Vintage       |                |                   |
| 2006          | 3 %            | 3 %               |
| 2007          | 97             | 97                |
| Total         | 100 %          | 100 %             |
| Property Type |                |                   |
| Office        | 36.0 %         | 35.5 %            |
| Retail        | 24.0           | 24.1              |
| Hotel         | 13.8           | 13.7              |
| Multifamily   | 12.1           | 12.7              |
| Other *       | 14.1           | 14.0              |
| Total         | 100 %          | 100 %             |

\* No other individual category comprises more than 10% of the total.

|                    | March 31, 2014 | December 31, 2013 |
|--------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| Location           |                |                   |
| South Atlantic     | 23.8 %         | 23.4 %            |
| Middle Atlantic    | 23.0           | 22.8              |
| Pacific            | 17.0           | 17.6              |
| East North Central | 10.3           | —                 |
| Other *            | 25.9           | 36.2              |
| Total              | 100 %          | 100 %             |

\* No other individual category comprises more than 10% of the total.

#### Note 5 – Commercial Mortgage Loans

The Company's commercial mortgage loan portfolio was comprised of the following at March 31, 2014:



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| Description                          | Date of Investment | Maturity Date | Original Face Amount | Current Face Amount | Carrying Value | Coupon   | Property Size   |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------|----------------------|---------------------|----------------|----------|-----------------|
| Hotel - NY, NY                       | Jan-10             | Feb-15        | \$32,000             | \$31,242            | \$31,242       | Fixed    | 151 rooms       |
| Office Condo (Headquarters) - NY, NY | Feb-10             | Feb-15        | 28,000               | 27,095              | 27,095         | Fixed    | 73,419 sq. ft.  |
| Hotel - Silver Spring, MD            | Mar-10             | Apr-15        | 26,000               | 24,853              | 24,722         | Fixed    | 263 rooms       |
| Condo Conversion – NY, NY (1)        | Dec-12             | Jan-15        | 45,000               | 45,000              | 45,002         | Floating | 119,000 sq. ft. |
| Condo Conversion – NY, NY (2)        | Aug-13             | Sept-15       | 33,000               | 33,333              | 33,220         | Floating | 40,000 sq. ft.  |
| Condo Construction - Potomac, MD (3) | Feb-14             | Sept-16       | 25,000               | 25,000              | 24,235         | Floating | 50 units        |
| Total/Weighted Average               |                    |               | \$189,000            | \$186,523           | \$185,516      | 8.83 %   |                 |

(1) This loan includes two one-year extension options subject to certain conditions and the payment of a fee for each extension.

(2) This loan includes a one-year extension option subject to certain conditions and the payment of a fee.

(3) This loan includes a six month extension option subject to certain conditions and the payment of a fee.

The Company's commercial mortgage loan portfolio was comprised of the following at December 31, 2013:

| Description                          | Date of Investment | Maturity Date | Original Face Amount | Current Face Amount | Carrying Value | Coupon   | Property Size   |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------|----------------------|---------------------|----------------|----------|-----------------|
| Hotel - NY, NY                       | Jan-10             | Feb-15        | \$32,000             | \$31,317            | \$31,317       | Fixed    | 151 rooms       |
| Office Condo (Headquarters) - NY, NY | Feb-10             | Feb-15        | 28,000               | 27,169              | 27,169         | Fixed    | 73,419 sq. ft.  |
| Hotel - Silver Spring, MD            | Mar-10             | Apr-15        | 26,000               | 24,947              | 24,785         | Fixed    | 263 rooms       |
| Condo Conversion – NY, NY (1)        | Dec-12             | Jan-15        | 45,000               | 45,000              | 44,867         | Floating | 119,000 sq. ft. |
| Condo Conversion – NY, NY (2)        | Aug-13             | Sept-15       | 33,000               | 33,167              | 32,961         | Floating | 40,000 sq. ft.  |
| Total/Weighted Average               |                    |               | \$164,000            | \$161,600           | \$161,099      | 8.82 %   |                 |

(1) This loan includes two one-year extension options subject to certain conditions and the payment of a fee for each extension.

(2) This loan includes a one-year extension option subject to certain conditions and the payment of a fee.

During March 2013, the Company consented to the transfer of the controlling ownership of the borrower under the Silver Spring, Maryland loan. In conjunction with its consent, the Company received a \$280 fee, which will be recognized over the remaining life of the loan.

The Company evaluates its loans for possible impairment on a quarterly basis. The Company regularly evaluates the extent and impact of any credit deterioration associated with the performance and/or value of the underlying collateral property as well as the financial and operating capability of the borrower/sponsor on a loan by loan basis. Specifically, a property's operating results and any cash reserves are analyzed and used to assess (i) whether cash from operations are sufficient to cover the debt service requirements currently and into the future, (ii) the ability of the borrower to refinance the loan and/or (iii) the property's liquidation value. The Company also evaluates the financial wherewithal of any loan guarantors as well as the borrower's competency in managing and operating the properties. In addition, the

Company considers the overall economic environment, real estate sector and geographic sub-market in which the borrower operates. Such loan loss analyses are completed and reviewed by asset management and finance personnel who utilize various data sources, including (i) periodic financial data such as debt service coverage ratio, property occupancy, tenant profile, rental rates, operating expenses, the borrower's exit plan, and capitalization and discount rates, (ii) site inspections and (iii) current credit spreads and discussions with market participants. An allowance for loan loss is established when it is deemed probable that the Company will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the contractual terms of the loan. The Company has determined that an allowance for loan losses was not necessary at March 31, 2014 and December 31, 2013.

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## Note 6 – Subordinate Loans

The Company's subordinate loan portfolio was comprised of the following at March 31, 2014:

| Description                         | Date of Investment | Maturity Date | Original Face Amount | Current Face Amount | Carrying Value | Coupon   |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------|----------------------|---------------------|----------------|----------|
| Office - Michigan                   | May-10             | Jun-20        | \$9,000              | \$8,849             | \$8,849        | Fixed    |
| Ski Resort - California             | Apr-11             | May-17        | 40,000               | 40,000              | 39,632         | Fixed    |
| Mixed Use – North Carolina          | Jul-12             | Jul-22        | 6,525                | 6,525               | 6,525          | Fixed    |
| Office Complex - Missouri           | Sept-12            | Oct-22        | 10,000               | 9,814               | 9,814          | Fixed    |
| Hotel Portfolio – Various (1)       | Nov-12             | Nov-15        | 50,000               | 48,271              | 48,277         | Floating |
| Condo Conversion – NY, NY (2)       | Dec-12             | Jan-15        | 35,000               | 35,000              | 34,878         | Floating |
| Condo Construction – NY, NY (1)     | Jan-13             | Jul-17        | 60,000               | 69,035              | 68,565         | Fixed    |
| Multifamily Conversion – NY, NY (1) | Jan-13             | Dec-14        | 18,000               | 18,000              | 17,932         | Floating |
| Hotel Portfolio – Rochester, MN     | Jan-13             | Feb-18        | 25,000               | 24,696              | 24,696         | Fixed    |
| Warehouse Portfolio - Various       | May-13             | May-23        | 32,000               | 32,000              | 32,000         | Fixed    |
| Multifamily Conversion – NY, NY (3) | May-13             | Jun-14        | 44,000               | 44,000              | 43,937         | Floating |
| Office Condo - NY, NY               | Jul-13             | Jul-22        | 14,000               | 14,000              | 13,572         | Fixed    |
| Condo Conversion – NY, NY (4)       | Aug-13             | Sept-15       | 294                  | 297                 | 1              | Floating |
| Mixed Use - Pittsburgh, PA (1)      | Aug-13             | Aug-16        | 22,500               | 22,500              | 22,378         | Floating |
| Healthcare Portfolio - Various      | Oct-13             | Jun-14        | 47,000               | 47,000              | 47,000         | Floating |
| Mixed Use - Florida (2)             | Nov-13             | Oct-18        | 50,000               | 50,000              | 49,611         | Floating |
| Mixed Use - Various (2)             | Dec-13             | Dec-18        | 17,000               | 17,500              | 17,312         | Fixed    |
| Total/Weighted Average              |                    |               | \$480,319            | \$487,487           | \$484,979      | 11.60 %  |

(1) Includes a one-year extension option subject to certain conditions and the payment of an extension fee.

(2) Includes two one-year extension options subject to certain conditions and the payment of a fee for each extension.

(3) Includes a three-month extension option subject to certain conditions and the payment of an extension fee.

(4) Includes a one-year extension option subject to certain conditions and the payment of an extension fee. As of March 31, 2014, the Company had \$29,106 of unfunded loan commitments related to this loan.

In January 2014, the Company received a \$15,000 principal repayment from a subordinate loan secured by a pledge of the equity interests in the owner of a New York City hotel. The Company realized a 14% IRR on this subordinate loan.

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The Company's subordinate loan portfolio was comprised of the following at December 31, 2013:

| Description                         | Date of Investment | Maturity Date | Original Face Amount | Current Face Amount | Carrying Value | Coupon   |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------|----------------------|---------------------|----------------|----------|
| Office - Michigan                   | May-10             | Jun-20        | \$9,000              | \$8,866             | \$8,866        | Fixed    |
| Ski Resort - California             | Apr-11             | May-17        | 40,000               | 40,000              | 39,781         | Fixed    |
| Hotel- New York (1)                 | Jan-12             | Feb-14        | 15,000               | 15,000              | 15,207         | Fixed    |
| Mixed Use – North Carolina          | Jul-12             | Jul-22        | 6,525                | 6,525               | 6,525          | Fixed    |
| Office Complex - Missouri           | Sept-12            | Oct-22        | 10,000               | 9,849               | 9,849          | Fixed    |
| Hotel Portfolio – Various (1)       | Nov-12             | Nov-15        | 50,000               | 48,431              | 48,397         | Floating |
| Condo Conversion – NY, NY (2)       | Dec-12             | Jan-15        | 35,000               | 35,000              | 34,734         | Floating |
| Condo Construction – NY, NY (1)     | Jan-13             | Jul-17        | 60,000               | 66,800              | 66,340         | Fixed    |
| Multifamily Conversion – NY, NY (1) | Jan-13             | Dec-14        | 18,000               | 18,000              | 17,906         | Floating |
| Hotel Portfolio – Rochester, MN     | Jan-13             | Feb-18        | 25,000               | 24,771              | 24,771         | Fixed    |
| Warehouse Portfolio - Various       | May-13             | May-23        | 32,000               | 32,000              | 32,000         | Fixed    |
| Multifamily Conversion – NY, NY (3) | May-13             | Jun-14        | 44,000               | 44,000              | 43,859         | Floating |
| Office Condo - NY, NY               | Jul-13             | Jul-22        | 14,000               | 14,000              | 13,565         | Fixed    |
| Condo Conversion – NY, NY (4)       | Aug-13             | Sept-15       | 294                  | 295                 | 2              | Floating |
| Mixed Use - Pittsburgh, PA (1)      | Aug-13             | Aug-16        | 22,500               | 22,500              | 22,342         | Floating |
| Healthcare Portfolio - Various      | Oct-13             | Jun-14        | 47,000               | 47,000              | 47,000         | Floating |
| Mixed Use - Florida (2)             | Nov-13             | Oct-18        | 50,000               | 50,000              | 49,535         | Floating |
| Mixed Use - Various (2)             | Dec-13             | Dec-18        | 17,000               | 17,000              | 16,805         | Fixed    |
| Total/Weighted Average              |                    |               | \$495,319            | \$500,037           | \$497,484      | 11.60 %  |

(1) Includes a one-year extension option subject to certain conditions and the payment of an extension fee.

(2) Includes two one-year extension options subject to certain conditions and the payment of a fee for each extension.

(3) Includes a three-month extension option subject to certain conditions and the payment of an extension fee.

(4) Includes a one-year extension option subject to certain conditions and the payment of an extension fee. As of December 31, 2013, the Company had \$29,106 of unfunded loan commitments related to this loan.

In February 2013, the Company received principal repayment on two mezzanine loans totaling \$50,000 secured by a portfolio of retail shopping centers located throughout the United States. In connection with the repayment, the Company received a yield maintenance payment totaling \$2,500. With the yield maintenance payment, the Company realized a 15% internal rate of return ("IRR") on its mezzanine loan investment. For a description of how the IRR is calculated, see "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations – Financial Condition and Results of Operations – Investments."

The Company evaluates its loans for possible impairment on a quarterly basis. See "Note 5 – Commercial Mortgage Loans" for a summary of the metrics reviewed. The Company has determined that an allowance for loan loss was not necessary at March 31, 2014 and December 31, 2013.

#### Note 7 – Repurchase Agreement

During 2011, the Company funded a \$47,439 investment structured in the form of a repurchase facility secured by a Class A-2 collateralized debt obligation ("CDO") bond. The \$47,439 of borrowings provided under the facility financed the purchase of a CDO bond with an aggregate face amount of \$68,726, representing an advance rate of 69% on the CDO bond's face amount. The CDO was comprised of 58 senior and subordinate commercial real estate debt positions and commercial real estate securities with the majority of the debt and securities underlying the CDO being first

mortgages.

The repurchase facility had an interest rate of 13.0% (10.0% current pay with a 3.0% accrual) on amounts outstanding and had an initial term of 18 months with three six-month extensions options available to the borrower. Any principal repayments that occurred prior to the 21st month were subject to a make-whole provision at the full 13.0% interest rate.

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In January 2013, the repurchase agreement was repaid in full. Upon the repayment, the Company realized a 17% IRR on its investment. For a description of how the IRR is calculated, see “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations—Financial Conditions and Results of Operations—Investments.”

## Note 8 – Borrowings Under Repurchase Agreements

At March 31, 2014 and December 31, 2013, the Company had borrowings outstanding under the Company’s master repurchase agreement with JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. (“JPMorgan”) (the “JPMorgan Facility”), the Wells Facility and the UBS Facility.

At March 31, 2014 and December 31, 2013, the Company’s borrowings had the following debt balances, weighted average maturities and interest rates:

|                              | March 31, 2014 |                                     |                       | December 31, 2013 |                                     |                       |
|------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
|                              | Debt Balance   | Weighted Average Remaining Maturity | Weighted Average Rate | Debt Balance      | Weighted Average Remaining Maturity | Weighted Average Rate |
| Wells Facility borrowings    | \$33,092       | 0.9 years                           | 1.0 %                 | \$47,751          | 0.2 years                           | * 1.2 %               |
| UBS Facility borrowings      | 133,899        | 4.5 years                           | * 2.8 %               | 133,899           | 4.7 years                           | 2.8 %                 |
| JPMorgan Facility borrowings | 3              | 0.8 years                           | 2.7 %                 | 20,383            | 1.1 years                           | 2.7 %                 |
| Total borrowings             | \$166,994      | 3.8 years                           | 2.4 %                 | \$202,033         | 3.3 years                           | 2.4 %                 |

\*Assumes extension options are exercised.

\*\*At December 31, 2013, borrowings outstanding under the Wells Facility bore interest at LIBOR plus 105 basis points. At March 31, 2014, borrowings outstanding under the Wells Facility bore interest at LIBOR plus 80 basis points.

At March 31, 2014, the Company’s borrowings had the following remaining maturities:

|                              | Less than 1 year | 1 to 3 years | 3 to 5 years | More than 5 years | Total     |
|------------------------------|------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------|-----------|
| Wells Facility borrowings    | \$33,092         | \$—          | \$—          | \$—               | \$33,092  |
| UBS Facility borrowings *    | —                | 5,004        | 128,895      | —                 | 133,899   |
| JPMorgan Facility borrowings | 3                | —            | —            | —                 | 3         |
| Total                        | \$33,095         | \$5,004      | \$128,895    | \$—               | \$166,994 |

\*Assumes extension option is exercised.

At March 31, 2014, the Company’s collateralized financings were comprised of borrowings outstanding under the JPMorgan Facility, the UBS Facility and the Wells Facility. The table below summarizes the outstanding balances at March 31, 2014, as well as the maximum and average balances for the three months ended March 31, 2014.

|                              | Balance at March 31, 2014 | For the three months ended March 31, 2014 |                           |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|---|---------------------------|
|                              |                           | Maximum Month-End Balance                 | Average Month-End Balance |
| Wells Facility borrowings    | \$33,092                  | \$47,751                                  | \$38,564                  |
| UBS Facility borrowings      | 133,899                   | 133,899                                   | 133,899                   |
| JPMorgan Facility borrowings | 3                         | 32,383                                    | 21,277                    |
| Total                        | \$166,994                 |   |                           |

During September 2013, the Company through an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary entered into the UBS Facility with UBS pursuant to which the Company may borrow up to \$133,333 in order to finance the acquisition of CMBS. The UBS Facility has a term of four years, with a one-year extension available at our option, subject to certain restrictions. Advances under the UBS Facility accrue interest at a per annum pricing rate equal to a spread of 1.55%

per annum over the rate implied by the fixed rate bid under a fixed for floating interest rate swap for the receipt of payments indexed to six-month US Dollar LIBOR. The Company borrows 100% of the estimated fair value of the collateral pledged and posts margin equal to 22.5% of that borrowing amount in cash. The margin posted is classified as restricted cash on the Company's condensed consolidated balance sheets. Additionally, beginning on the 121st day following the closing date and depending on the utilization rate of the facility, a portion of the undrawn amount may be subject to non-use fees. The UBS Facility contains customary terms and

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conditions for repurchase facilities of this type and financial covenants to be met by the Company, including a minimum net asset value covenant (which shall not be less than an amount equal to \$500,000 and a maximum total debt to consolidated tangible net worth covenant (3:1)). The Company has agreed to provide a full guarantee of the obligations of its indirect wholly-owned subsidiary under the UBS Facility. During December 2013, the UBS Facility was amended to increase the maximum amount to \$133,899.

In February 2013, the Company, through two of the Company's subsidiaries, entered into a Second Amended and Restated Master Repurchase Agreement with JPMorgan (the "Amended JPMorgan Master Repurchase Agreement"). The Amended JPMorgan Master Repurchase Agreement extended the maturity date of the JPMorgan Facility to January 31, 2014, with an option to further extend the maturity date for 364 days, subject to the Company's satisfaction of certain customary conditions. The extension option was exercised during January 2014. The interest rate on the JPMorgan Facility is LIBOR+2.5%. The Company paid JPMorgan an upfront structuring fee of 0.50% of the facility amount for the first year of the term and an extension fee of 0.25% for the January 2014 extension. The Company has agreed to provide a full guarantee of the obligations of its borrower subsidiaries under the Amended JPMorgan Master Repurchase Agreement.

In February 2013, the Company amended the Wells Facility to reduce the interest rate as follows: (i) with respect to the outstanding borrowings used to provide financing for the AAA-rated CMBS, the interest rate was reduced to LIBOR+1.05% from LIBOR+1.25%-1.50% (depending on the collateral pledged); and (ii) with respect to the outstanding borrowings used to provide financing for the Hilton CMBS, the interest rate was reduced to LIBOR+1.75% from LIBOR+2.35%. In addition, the maturity date of the Wells Facility with respect to the outstanding borrowings used to provide financing for the AAA-rated CMBS was extended to March 2014 and the Maximum Amount (as defined in the Wells Facility) was reduced to the outstanding balance of \$212,343. In February 2014, the maturity date of the Wells Facility was extended to March 2015. In addition, the Company reduced the interest rate to LIBOR plus 80 basis points from LIBOR plus 105 basis points.

The Company was in compliance with the financial covenants under its repurchase agreements at March 31, 2014 and December 31, 2013.

#### Note 9 – Convertible Senior Notes

On March 17, 2014, the Company issued \$143,750 aggregate principal amount of 5.50% Convertible Senior Notes due 2019 (the "2019 Notes"), for which the Company received net proceeds, after deducting the underwriting discount and estimated offering expense payable by the Company of approximately \$134,405. The following table summarizes the terms of the 2019 Notes.

|            | Principal Amount | Coupon Rate | Effective Rate (1) | Conversion Rate (2) | Maturity Date | Remaining Period of Amortization |
|------------|------------------|-------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------|----------------------------------|
| 2019 Notes | \$143,750        | 5.50        | %6.25              | %55.3649            | 3/15/2019     | 4.76 years                       |

(1) Effective rate includes the effect of the adjustment for the conversion option, the value of which reduced the initial liability and was recorded in additional paid-in-capital.

The Company has the option to settle any conversions in cash, shares of common stock or a combination thereof.

(2) The conversion rate represents the number of shares of common stock issuable per \$1,000 principal amount of 2019 Notes converted. The if-converted value of the 2019 Notes does not exceed their principal amount at March 31, 2014 since the closing market price of the Company's common stock of \$16.63 per share does not exceed the implicit conversion prices of \$18.06 for the 2019 Notes .

GAAP requires the liability and equity components of convertible debt instruments that may be settled in cash upon conversion (including partial cash settlement) to be separately accounted for in a manner that reflects the issuer's nonconvertible debt borrowing rate. ASC 470-20 requires that the initial proceeds from the sale of the 2019 Notes be allocated between a liability component and an equity component in a manner that reflects interest expense at the interest rate of similar nonconvertible debt that could have been issued by the Company at such time. The Company measured the fair value of the debt components of the 2019 Notes as of their issuance date based on effective interest rates of 6.25%. As a result, the Company attributed approximately \$4,617 of the proceeds to the equity component of

the 2019 Notes, which represents the excess proceeds received over the fair value of the liability component of the 2019 Notes at the date of issuance. The equity component of the 2019 Notes have been reflected within additional paid-in capital in the condensed consolidated balance sheet as of March 31, 2014. The resulting debt discount is being amortized over the period during which the 2019 Notes are expected to be outstanding (the maturity date) as additional non-cash interest expense. The additional non-cash interest expense attributable to each of the 2019 Notes will increase in subsequent reporting periods through the maturity date as the 2019 Notes accrete to their par value over the same period. The aggregate contractual interest expense was approximately \$307 for the

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three months ended March 31, 2014. With respect to the amortization of the discount on the liability component of the 2019 Notes as well as the amortization of deferred financing costs, the Company reported additional non-cash interest expense of approximately \$61 for the three months ended March 31, 2014.

As of March 31, 2014 potential shares of common stock contingently issuable upon the conversion of the 2019 Notes were excluded from the calculation of diluted income per share because we expect to settle the obligation in cash.

**Note 10 – Derivative Instruments**

The Company used interest rate swaps and caps to manage exposure to variable cash flows on portions of its borrowings under repurchase agreements. Some of the Company's repurchase agreements bear interest at a LIBOR-based variable rate and increases in LIBOR could negatively impact earnings. Interest rate swap and cap agreements allow the Company to receive a variable rate cash flow based on LIBOR and pay a fixed rate cash flow, mitigating the impact of this exposure.

All of the Company's derivative instruments matured during the third quarter of 2013. The following table summarizes the amounts recognized on the consolidated statements of operations related to the Company's derivatives for the three months ended March 31, 2014 and 2013.

|                     |   | Three months ended March 31, |         |
|---------------------|---|------------------------------|---------|
|                     | Location of Loss Recognized in Income       | 2014                         | 2013    |
| Interest rate swaps | Loss on derivative instruments – realized   | *\$—                         | \$(72 ) |
| Interest rate swaps | Gain on derivative instruments – unrealized | —                            | 72      |
| Interest rate caps  | Loss on derivative instruments - unrealized | —                            | —       |
| Total               |   | \$—                          | \$—     |

\*Realized losses represent net amounts accrued for the Company's derivative instruments during the period.

**Note 11 – Related Party Transactions****Management Agreement**

In connection with the Company's initial public offering in September 2009, the Company entered into a management agreement (the "Management Agreement") with ACREFI Management, LLC (the "Manager"), which describes the services to be provided by the Manager and its compensation for those services. The Manager is responsible for managing the Company's day-to-day operations, subject to the direction and oversight of the Company's board of directors.

Pursuant to the terms of the Management Agreement, the Manager is paid a base management fee equal to 1.5% per annum of the Company's stockholders' equity (as defined in the Management Agreement), calculated and payable (in cash) quarterly in arrears.

The current term of the Management Agreement expires on September 29, 2014 and shall be automatically renewed for successive one-year terms on each anniversary thereafter. The Management Agreement may be terminated upon expiration of the one-year extension term only upon the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the Company's independent directors, based upon (1) unsatisfactory performance by the Manager that is materially detrimental to the Company or (2) a determination that the management fee payable to the Manager is not fair, subject to the Manager's right to prevent such a termination based on unfair fees by accepting a mutually acceptable reduction of management fees agreed to by at least two-thirds of the Company's independent directors. The Manager must be provided with written notice of any such termination at least 180 days prior to the expiration of the then existing term and will be paid a termination fee equal to three times the sum of the average annual base management fee during the 24-month period immediately preceding the date of termination, calculated as of the end of the most recently completed fiscal quarter prior to the date of termination. Following a meeting by the Company's independent directors in February 2014, which included a discussion of the Manager's performance and the level of the management fees thereunder, the Company determined not to seek termination of the Management Agreement.

For the three months ended March 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively, the Company incurred approximately \$2,565 and \$2,160 in base management fees. In addition to the base management fee, the Company is also responsible for reimbursing the Manager for certain expenses paid by the Manager on behalf of the Company or for certain services provided by the Manager to the Company. For the three months ended March 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively, the Company recorded expenses totaling \$107 and \$226 related to reimbursements for certain expenses paid by the Manager on behalf of the Company. Expenses incurred by the Manager and reimbursed by the Company are reflected in the respective consolidated statement of operations expense category or the consolidated balance sheet based on the nature of the item.

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Included in payable to related party on the consolidated balance sheet at March 31, 2014 and December 31, 2013, respectively is approximately \$2,565 and \$2,628 for base management fees incurred but not yet paid.

## Note 12 – Share-Based Payments

On September 23, 2009, the Company's board of directors approved the Apollo Commercial Real Estate Finance, Inc., 2009 Equity Incentive Plan (the "LTIP"). The LTIP provides for grants of restricted common stock, restricted stock units ("RSUs") and other equity-based awards up to an aggregate of 7.5% of the issued and outstanding shares of the Company's common stock (on a fully diluted basis). The LTIP is administered by the compensation committee of the Company's board of directors (the "Compensation Committee") and all grants under the LTIP must be approved by the Compensation Committee.

The Company recognized stock-based compensation expense of \$426 and \$883 for the three months ended March 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively, related to restricted stock and RSU vesting. The following table summarizes the grants, exchanges and forfeitures of restricted common stock and RSUs during the three months ended March 31, 2014:

| Type                             | Date         | Restricted Stock | RSUs      | Estimate Fair Value on Grant Date | Initial Vesting | Final Vesting |
|----------------------------------|--------------|------------------|-----------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Outstanding at December 31, 2013 |              | 208,416          | 503,750   |                                   |                 |               |
| Canceled upon delivery           | January 2014 | —                | (288,750) | n/a                               | n/a             | n/a           |
| Outstanding at March 31, 2014    |              | 208,416          | 215,000   |                                   |                 |               |

Below is a summary of expected restricted common stock and RSU vesting dates as of March 31, 2014.

| Vesting Date  | Shares Vesting | RSU Vesting | Total Awards |
|---------------|----------------|-------------|--------------|
| April 2014    | 2,925          | 417         | 3,342        |
| July 2014     | 2,157          | —           | 2,157        |
| July 2014     | 500            | —           | 500          |
| October 2014  | 2,153          | —           | 2,153        |
| December 2014 | 6,668          | 63,332      | 70,000       |
| January 2015  | 2,160          | —           | 2,160        |
| March 2015    | —              | 6,667       | 6,667        |
| April 2015    | 2,161          | —           | 2,161        |
| July 2015     | 1,361          | —           | 1,361        |
| July 2015     | 500            | —           | 500          |
| October 2015  | 1,361          | —           | 1,361        |
| December 2015 | 6,668          | 63,341      | 70,009       |
| January 2016  | 1,360          | —           | 1,360        |
| April 2016    | 1,361          | —           | 1,361        |
| July 2016     | 417            | —           | 417          |
| October 2016  | 416            | —           | 416          |
|               | 32,168         | 133,757     | 165,925      |

At March 31, 2014, the Company had unrecognized compensation expense of approximately \$482 and \$2,135, respectively, related to the vesting of restricted stock awards and RSUs noted in the table above.

## RSU Deliveries

During the three months ended March 31, 2014, the Company delivered 237,008 shares of common stock for 288,750 vested RSUs. The Company allows RSU participants to settle their tax liabilities with a reduction of their share delivery from the originally granted and vested RSUs. The amount, when agreed to by the participant, results in a cash

payment to the

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Manager related to this tax liability and a corresponding adjustment to additional paid in capital on the consolidated statement of changes in stockholders' equity. The adjustment was \$847 for three months ended March 31, 2014, and is included as a component of the capital decrease related to the Company's equity incentive plan in the consolidated statement of changes in stockholders' equity.

## Note 13 – Stockholders' Equity

Dividends. For 2014, the Company declared the following dividends on its common stock:

| Declaration Date  | Record Date    | Payment Date   | Amount |
|-------------------|----------------|----------------|--------|
| February 26, 2014 | March 31, 2014 | April 15, 2014 | \$0.40 |

For 2014, the Company declared the following dividends on its 8.625% Series A Cumulative Redeemable Perpetual Preferred Stock (the "Series A Preferred Stock"):

| Declaration Date | Record Date    | Payment Date   | Amount   |
|------------------|----------------|----------------|----------|
| March 17, 2014   | March 31, 2014 | April 15, 2014 | \$0.5391 |

## Note 14 – Commitments and Contingencies

KBC Bank Deutschland AG. In September 2013, the Company, together with other affiliates of Apollo, reached an agreement to make an investment in an entity that has agreed to acquire a minority participation in KBC Bank Deutschland AG

("KBCD"). The Company committed to invest up to approximately \$50,000 (€38,000), representing approximately 21% of the ownership in KBCD. The acquisition is subject to antitrust and regulatory approval, which is expected to take approximately nine months. Consequently, there is no assurance that the acquisition will close.

Loan Commitments. As described in Note 6, at March 31, 2014 and December 31, 2013, respectively, the Company had \$29,106 and \$29,106 of unfunded loan commitments related to the condominium conversion loan that closed in August 2013.

## Note 15 – Fair Value of Financial Instruments

The following table presents the carrying value and estimated fair value of the Company's financial instruments not carried at fair value on the consolidated balance sheet at March 31, 2014 and December 31, 2013:

|  | March 31, 2014 |                      | December 31, 2013 |                      |
|--|----------------|----------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
|  | Carrying Value | Estimated Fair Value | Carrying Value    | Estimated Fair Value |
| Cash and cash equivalents              | \$126,473      | \$126,473            | \$20,096          | \$20,096             |
| Restricted cash                        | 30,127         | 30,127               | 30,127            | 30,127               |
| Commercial first mortgage loans        | 185,516        | 188,708              | 161,099           | 164,405              |
| Subordinate loans                      | 484,979        | 490,564              | 497,484           | 503,267              |
| Borrowings under repurchase agreements | (166,994 )     | (165,223 )           | (202,033 )        | (202,148 )           |
| Convertible senior notes, net          | (139,163 )     | (146,050 )           | —                 | —                    |

To determine estimated fair values of the financial instruments listed above, market rates of interest, which include credit assumptions, are used to discount contractual cash flows. The estimated fair values are not necessarily indicative of the amount the Company could realize on disposition of the financial instruments. The use of different market assumptions or estimation methodologies could have a material effect on the estimated fair value amounts. The Company's commercial first mortgage loans, subordinate loans and repurchase agreements are carried at amortized cost on the condensed consolidated financial statements and are classified as Level III in the fair value hierarchy.

## Note 16 – Net Income per Share

GAAP requires use of the two-class method of computing earnings per share for all periods presented for each class of common stock and participating security as if all earnings for the period had been distributed. Under the two-class method, during periods of net income, the net income is first reduced for dividends declared on all classes of securities

to arrive at

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undistributed earnings. During periods of net losses, the net loss is reduced for dividends declared on participating securities only if the security has the right to participate in the earnings of the entity and an objectively determinable contractual obligation to share in net losses of the entity.

The remaining earnings are allocated to common stockholders and participating securities to the extent that each security shares in earnings as if all of the earnings for the period had been distributed. Each total is then divided by the applicable number of shares to arrive at basic earnings per share. For the diluted earnings, the denominator includes all outstanding shares of common stock and all potential shares of common stock assumed issued if they are dilutive. The numerator is adjusted for any changes in income or loss that would result from the assumed conversion of these potential shares of common stock.

The table below presents basic and diluted net (loss) income per share of common stock using the two-class method for the three months ended March 31, 2014 and 2013:

|  | For the three<br>months ended<br>March 31, |             |
|--|--|-------------|
|  | 2014                                       | 2013        |
| Numerator:   |  |             |
| Net income   | \$ 17,580                                  | \$ 11,932   |
| Preferred dividends  | (1,860 )                                   | (1,860 )    |
| Net income available to common stockholders                                    | 15,720                                     | 10,072      |
| Dividends declared on common stock   | (14,850 )                                  | (14,748 )   |
| Dividends on participating securities  | (86 )                                      | (195 )      |
| Net income (loss) attributable to common stockholders                          | \$ 784                                     | \$ (4,871 ) |
| Denominator:   |  |             |
| Basic weighted average shares of common stock outstanding                      | 37,122,842                                 | 30,105,939  |
| Diluted weighted average shares of common stock outstanding                    | 37,341,050                                 | 30,480,689  |
| Basic and diluted net income (loss) per weighted average share of common stock |  |             |
| Distributable Earnings   | \$ 0.40                                    | \$ 0.49     |
| Undistributed income (loss)  | \$ 0.02                                    | \$ (0.16 )  |
| Basic and diluted net income per share of common stock                         | \$ 0.42                                    | \$ 0.33     |

## Note 17 – Subsequent Events

Dividends. On April 29, 2014, the Company declared a dividend of \$0.40 per share of common stock, which is payable on July 15, 2014 to common stockholders of record on June 30, 2014.

Investment Activity. During April 2014, the Company closed a \$210,000 fixed-rate, five-year first mortgage loan secured by a portfolio of 229 single-family and condominium homes located across North and Central America, the Caribbean and England. Simultaneous with closing, the Company syndicated \$104,000 of the first mortgage to other funds managed by affiliates of Apollo Global Management, LLC and retained \$106,000. The first mortgage loan has an appraised loan-to-value of approximately 49% and was underwritten to generate an IRR of approximately 8.2% on an unlevered basis. The Company anticipates financing the loan and on a levered basis, the loan was underwritten to generate an IRR of approximately 15%.

During April 2014, the Company closed a \$53,954 (£32,100) fixed rate, nine-month mezzanine loan in connection with the purchase of an existing commercial building that is expected to be re-developed into a 173,000 salable square foot residential condominium in Central London. The mezzanine loan is part of a \$126,060 (£75,000) pre-development loan comprised of a \$72,106 (£42,900) first mortgage and the Company's \$53,954 (£32,100) mezzanine loan. The Company will have the option, but not the obligation, to participate in the development financing. The Company's loan basis represents a 78% appraised loan-to-value and the mezzanine loan has been underwritten to generate an IRR of approximately 12%.

During the second quarter of 2014, the Company deployed \$24,676 of equity to acquire legacy CMBS originally rated AAA with an aggregate purchase price of \$123,378. The Company financed the CMBS utilizing \$98,702 of borrowings under a new \$100 million term repurchase facility. The CMBS have a weighted average life of 3.2 years and have been underwritten to generate an IRR of 17%.

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Repurchase agreements. During April 2014, the Company through an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary entered into a master repurchase agreement (the "DB Facility") with Deutsche Bank AG ("DB") pursuant to which the Company may borrow up to \$100,000 in order to finance the acquisition of CMBS. The DB Facility has a term of four years, subject to certain restrictions. Advances under the DB Facility accrue interest at a per annum pricing rate based on the rate implied by the fixed rate bid under a fixed for floating interest rate swap for the receipt of payments indexed to three-month US Dollar LIBOR, plus a financing spread ranging from 1.80% to 2.32% based on the rating of the collateral pledged. The Company borrows an amount equal to the product of the estimated fair value of the collateral pledged divided by a margin ratio ranging from 125.00% to 181.82% depending on the collateral pledged. Additionally, beginning on August 1, 2014 and depending on the utilization rate of the facility, a portion of the undrawn amount may be subject to non-use fees. The DB Facility contains customary terms and conditions for repurchase facilities of this type and financial covenants to be met by the Company, including minimum shareholder's equity of 50% of the gross capital proceeds of its initial public offering and any subsequent public or private offerings. On April 25, 2014, the Company, through two subsidiaries, entered into a letter agreement to temporarily waive, for a period of up to 30 days, compliance with the minimum liquidity covenant under the JPMorgan Facility that requires the Company to maintain minimum liquidity of the greater of 10% of total consolidated recourse indebtedness and \$12,500. The waiver was granted in connection with the Company's proposed funding of certain assets, to provide the parties additional time to modify the JPMorgan Facility and may be revoked by JPMorgan at any time. There can be no assurance of when or if the Company will be able to accomplish such modification, or on what terms such modification, if any, would be.

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ITEM 2. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION

The Company makes forward-looking statements herein and will make forward-looking statements in future filings with the SEC, press releases or other written or oral communications 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”). For these statements, the Company claims the protections of the safe harbor for forward-looking statements contained in such Section. Forward-looking statements are subject to substantial risks and uncertainties, many of which are difficult to predict and are generally beyond the Company’s control. These forward-looking statements include information about possible or assumed future results of the Company’s business, financial condition, liquidity, results of operations, plans and objectives. When the Company uses the words “believe,” “expect,” “anticipate,” “estimate,” “plan,” “continue,” “intend,” “should,” “may” or similar expressions, it intends to identify forward-looking statements. Statements regarding the following subjects, among others, may be forward-looking: market trends in the Company’s industry, interest rates, real estate values, the debt securities markets or the general economy or the demand for commercial real estate loans; the Company’s business and investment strategy; the Company’s operating results; actions and initiatives of the U.S. government and changes to U.S. government policies and the execution and impact of these actions, initiatives and policies; the state of the U.S. economy generally or in specific geographic regions; economic trends and economic recoveries; the Company’s ability to obtain and maintain financing arrangements, including securitizations; the anticipated shortfall of debt financing from traditional lenders; the volume of short-term loan extensions; the demand for new capital to replace maturing loans; expected leverage; general volatility of the securities markets in which the Company participates; changes in the value of the Company’s assets; the scope of the Company’s target assets; interest rate mismatches between the Company’s target assets and any borrowings used to fund such assets; changes in interest rates and the market value of the Company’s target assets; changes in prepayment rates on the Company’s target assets; effects of hedging instruments on the Company’s target assets; rates of default or decreased recovery rates on the Company’s target assets; the degree to which hedging strategies may or may not protect the Company from interest rate volatility; impact of and changes in governmental regulations, tax law and rates, accounting guidance and similar matters; the Company’s ability to maintain its qualification as a REIT for U.S. federal income tax purposes; the Company’s ability to remain excluded from registration under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended; the availability of opportunities to acquire commercial mortgage-related, real estate-related and other securities; the availability of qualified personnel; estimates relating to the Company’s ability to make distributions to its stockholders in the future; the Company’s understanding of its competition; and the closing of the Company’s investment in KBCD.

The forward-looking statements are based on the Company’s beliefs, assumptions and expectations of its future performance, taking into account all information currently available to it. Forward-looking statements are not predictions of future events. These beliefs, assumptions and expectations can change as a result of many possible events or factors, not all of which are known to the Company. See “Item 1A - Risk Factors” of the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013. These and other risks, uncertainties and factors, including those described in the annual, quarterly and current reports that the Company files with the SEC, could cause its actual results to differ materially from those included in any forward-looking statements the Company makes. All forward-looking statements speak only as of the date they are made. New risks and uncertainties arise over time and it is not possible to predict those events or how they may affect us. Except as required by law, the Company is not obligated to, and does not intend to, update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

Overview

The Company is a REIT that primarily originates, acquires, invests in and manages performing commercial first mortgage loans, subordinate financings, CMBS and other commercial real estate-related debt investments. These asset classes are referred to as the Company’s target assets.

The Company is externally managed and advised by the Manager, an indirect subsidiary of Apollo Global Management, LLC (together with its subsidiaries, “Apollo”), a leading global alternative investment manager with a contrarian and value oriented investment approach in private equity, credit and real estate with assets under

management of approximately \$161.2 billion as of December 31, 2013.

The Manager is led by an experienced team of senior real estate professionals who have significant expertise in underwriting and structuring commercial real estate financing transactions. The Company benefits from Apollo's global infrastructure and operating platform, through which the Company is able to source, evaluate and manage potential investments in the Company's target assets.

#### Market Overview

The commercial real estate lending market continues to recover from the downturn experienced as part of the correction in the global financial markets which began in mid-2007. However, as property values have recovered to peak levels according to certain metrics, the lending market has yet to fully return to levels seen during the period leading up to 2007. Based on the current market dynamics, including over \$1 trillion of commercial real estate debt scheduled to mature through 2017, there remains a compelling opportunity for the Company to invest capital in its target assets at attractive risk adjusted returns.

During and immediately following the financial crisis, due to the prevalence of lenders granting extensions across the commercial mortgage loan industry, the demand for new capital to refinance maturing commercial mortgage debt was somewhat tempered. This trend has abated to a certain extent in more recent periods as many borrowers have refinanced legacy loans and pursued new acquisitions. While the frequency of extensions and modifications had a meaningful impact on the timing of loan maturities, the Company believes the next phase will involve rising volumes of commercial mortgage lending activity which should allow lenders to capitalize on the impending maturity wall. Additionally, as the European senior lending market continues to expand and strengthen, we expect to see an increase in the number and availability of target opportunities.

With the continued tapering of its bond purchases, the Federal Reserve has demonstrated a desire to slowly reduce the amount of stimulus in the economy. While the Federal Reserve has decreased the pace of its bond purchases, the low interest rate environment is expected to persist, remain attractive to borrowers and is projected to continue to drive significant refinancing activity across all property types during 2014.

There has also been a continued growth and recovery in the CMBS market. In 2013, approximately \$86 billion of CMBS were issued in the United States, an increase of approximately 78% over 2012 and an increase of 163% over 2011. We believe the continued growth and recovery of the CMBS market is evidence that the lending market for commercial real estate has largely stabilized since the financial crisis.

However, current volumes of CMBS issuance are still moderate relative to the peak of the market, which saw more than \$229 billion in CMBS issuance in 2007. We perceive that lenders still appear to be focused on stabilized cash flowing assets with loan-to-value ratios lower than peak. As a result, we expect to continue to see opportunities to originate mezzanine and first mortgage financings with respect to those parts of the financing capital structure which are unsuitable to be sold as part of a CMBS offering.

#### Critical Accounting Policies

A summary of the Company's accounting policies is set forth in its Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013 under "Item 7 – Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations – Critical Accounting Policies and Use of Estimates."

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Financial Condition and Results of Operations  
(in thousands—except share and per share data)  
Investments

The following table sets forth certain information regarding the Company's investments at March 31, 2014:

| Description            | Face Amount | Amortized Cost | Weighted Average Yield | Remaining                     |                       | Cost of Funds | Debt Term (years) (1) | Equity at cost (2) | Current                               |                                       | Levered |  |
|------------------------|-------------|----------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|-----------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------|--|
|                        |             |                |                        | Weighted Average Life (years) | Weighted Average Debt |               |                       |                    | Weighted Average Underwritten IRR (3) | Weighted Average Underwritten IRR (4) |         |  |
| First mortgages        | \$ 186,523  | \$ 185,516     | 10.1 %                 | 1.9                           | \$3                   | 2.7 %         | 0.8                   | \$ 185,513         | 11.1 %                                | 18.8 %                                |         |  |
| Subordinate loans      | 487,487     | 484,979        | 12.4                   | 3.7                           | —                     | —             | —                     | 484,979            | 13.1                                  | 13.1                                  |         |  |
| CMBS                   | 171,778     | 173,174        | 5.4                    | 3.1                           | 166,991               | 2.4           | 3.8                   | 36,310             | 13.9                                  | 13.9                                  |         |  |
| Total/Weighted Average | \$845,788   | \$843,669      | 10.4 %                 | 3.2                           | \$ 166,994            | 2.4 %         | 3.8                   | \$706,802          | 12.6 %                                | 14.1 %                                |         |  |

(1) Assumes extension options are exercised. See “—Liquidity and Capital Resources - Borrowings Under Various Financing Arrangements” below for a discussion of the Company's repurchase agreements.

(2) Includes \$30,127 of restricted cash related to the UBS Facility.

The IRR for the investments shown in the above table reflect the returns underwritten by the Manager, calculated on a weighted average basis assuming no dispositions, early prepayments or defaults but assuming that extension options are exercised and that the cost of borrowings under the Wells Facility remains constant over the remaining terms and extension terms under this facility. With respect to certain loans, the IRR calculation assumes certain estimates with respect to the timing and magnitude of future fundings for the remaining commitments and associated loan repayments, and assumes no defaults. IRR is the annualized effective compounded return rate that accounts for the time-value of money and represents the rate of return on an investment over a holding period expressed as a percentage of the investment. It is the discount rate that makes the net present value of all cash outflows (the costs of investment) equal to the net present value of cash inflows (returns on investment). It is

(3) derived from the negative and positive cash flows resulting from or produced by each transaction (or for a transaction involving more than one investment, cash flows resulting from or produced by each of the investments), whether positive, such as investment returns, or negative, such as transaction expenses or other costs of investment, taking into account the dates on which such cash flows occurred or are expected to occur, and compounding interest accordingly. There can be no assurance that the actual IRRs will equal the underwritten IRRs shown in the table. See “Item 1A—Risk Factors—The Company may not achieve its underwritten internal rate of return on its investments which may lead to future returns that may be significantly lower than anticipated” included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013 for a discussion of some of the factors that could adversely impact the returns received by the Company from the investments shown in the table or elsewhere in this quarterly report over time.

Substantially all of the Company's borrowings under the JPMorgan Facility have been repaid as of March 31, 2014.

(4) The Company's ability to achieve its underwritten levered weighted average IRR with regard to its portfolio of first mortgage loans is additionally dependent upon the Company reborrowing approximately \$88,000 under the JPMorgan Facility or any replacement facility. Without such reborrowing, the levered weighted average underwritten IRRs will be as indicated in the current weighted average underwritten IRR column above.

#### Investment Activity

Investment activity. In February 2014, the Company provided a \$80,000, floating rate first mortgage loan (\$25,000 of which was funded at closing) for the development of a 50-unit luxury residential condominium in Montgomery County, Maryland. The Company's loan is expected to fund the first phase of a two-phase development and has a 30-month term with a 6-month extension option. On a fully funded basis, the Company expects that the first mortgage

loan will represent an underwritten loan-to-net sellout of approximately 68% and has been underwritten to generate a 15% IRR. See “—Investments” below for a discussion of IRR.

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## Net Income Available to Common Stockholders

For the three months ended March 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively, the Company's net income available to common stockholders was \$15,720, or \$0.42 per share, and \$10,072, or \$0.33 per share.

## Net Interest Income

The following table sets forth certain information regarding the Company's net investment income for the three months ended March 31, 2014 and 2013:

|                           | Three months ended March 31, |          |                    |               |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|----------|--------------------|---------------|
|                           | 2014                         | 2013     | Change<br>(amount) | Change<br>(%) |
| Interest income from:     |                              |          |                    |               |
| Securities                | \$2,419                      | \$3,087  | \$(668)            | (21.6)%       |
| Commercial mortgage loans | 4,011                        | 3,592    | 419                | 11.7%         |
| Subordinate loans         | 14,730                       | 11,454   | 3,276              | 28.6%         |
| Repurchase agreements     | —                            | 2        | (2)                | (100.0)%      |
| Interest expense          | (1,757)                      | (1,068)  | (689)              | 64.5%         |
| Net interest income       | \$19,403                     | \$17,067 | \$2,336            | 13.7%         |

Net interest income for the three months ended March 31, 2014 increased \$2,336, or 13.7%, from the same period in 2013. The increase was primarily the result of additional interest income from commercial mortgage loans and subordinate loans as well as the decline in interest expense. This increase was partially offset by a decline in interest income from securities.

The decline in interest income related to securities for the three months ended March 31, 2014 of \$668, or 21.6%, from the same period in 2013 is attributable to the repayment of some of these securities as they near maturity. This decline was partially offset by the purchase of additional CMBS during the fourth quarter of 2013.

The increase in interest income related to commercial mortgage loans for the three months ended March 31, 2014 of \$419, or 11.7%, from the same period in 2013, is primarily attributable to the funding of \$32,643 of commercial mortgage loans net of repayments of \$18,117 during 2013.

The increase in interest income related to subordinate loans for the three months ended March 31, 2014 of \$3,276, or 28.6%, from the same period in 2013 is primarily attributable to the funding of \$361,035 of subordinate loans net of repayments of \$118,771 during 2013. The increase in interest income was offset by a one-time \$2,500 prepayment penalty received upon the repayment of two mezzanine loans in February 2013.

The decrease in interest related to repurchase agreements for the three months ended March 31, 2014 of \$2, or 100.0%, from the same period in 2013 is attributable to the final repayment of the repurchase facility in January 2013. Interest expense for the three months ended March 31, 2014 increased \$689, or 64.5%, from the same period in 2013. In addition to the Company's issuance of the 2019 Notes in March 2014, the increase is primarily due to the increase in the weighted average cost of funds of 1.4% at March 31, 2013 to 2.4% at March 31, 2014 related to the borrowings under repurchase agreements. The cost of funds related to the Company's borrowings under repurchase agreements increased with the addition of the Company's fixed-rate borrowings under the UBS Facility during the fourth quarter of 2013. This increase was partially offset by the decline in the average balance of the Company's borrowings under repurchase agreements from \$216,950 for the three months ended March 31, 2013 to \$193,740 for the three months ended March 31, 2014.

## Operating Expenses

The following table sets forth the Company's operating expenses for the three months ended March 31, 2014 and 2013:

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|                                    | Three months ended March 31, |         |                    |               |   |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------|--------------------|---------------|---|
|                                    | 2014                         | 2013    | Change<br>(amount) | Change<br>(%) |   |
| General and administrative expense | \$1,016                      | \$1,012 | \$4                | 0.4           | % |
| Stock-based compensation expense   | 426                          | 883     | (457)              | (51.8)        | % |
| Management fee expense             | 2,565                        | 2,160   | 405                | 18.8          | % |
| Total operating expense            | \$4,007                      | \$4,055 | \$(48)             | (1.2)         | % |

General and administrative expense for the three months ended March 31, 2014 increased \$4, or 0.4%, from the same period in 2013. Stock-based compensation expense for the three months ended March 31, 2014 decreased \$457, or 51.8%, from the same period in 2013. The decrease is primarily attributable to final vesting of 288,750 RSUs on January 1, 2014. Share-based payments are discussed further in the accompanying consolidated financial statements, "Note 12—Share-Based Payments."

Management fee expense for the three months ended March 31, 2014 increased \$405, or 18.8%, from the same period in 2013. The increase is primarily attributable to increases in the Company's stockholders' equity (as defined in the Management Agreement) as a result of the Company's follow-on common equity offering completed in March 2013. Management fees and the relationship between the Company and the Manager are discussed further in the accompanying consolidated financial statements, "Note 11—Related Party Transactions."

**Realized and unrealized gain/loss**

The following amounts related to realized and unrealized gains (losses) on the Company's CMBS and derivative instruments are included in the Company's consolidated statement of operations for the three months ended March 31, 2014 and 2013:

|                     | Location of Gain (Loss) Recognized in Income | Three months ended March 31, |           |   |
|---------------------|--|------------------------------|-----------|---|
|                     |  | 2014                         | 2013      |   |
| Securities          | Unrealized gain (loss) on securities         | 2,184                        | (1,080)   | ) |
| Interest rate swaps | Loss on derivative instruments – realized *  | —                            | (72)      | ) |
| Interest rate swaps | Gain on derivative instruments – unrealized  | —                            | 72        | ) |
| Total               |  | \$2,184                      | \$(1,080) | ) |

\* Realized losses represent net amounts expensed related to the exchange of fixed and floating rate cash flows for the Company's derivative instruments during the period.

In order to mitigate interest rate risk resulting from the Company's floating-rate borrowings prior to 2013, the Company entered into interest rate swaps and caps which to economically hedge a portion of its floating-rate borrowings. During 2013, the all of the Company's derivative instruments matured and borrowings added in 2013 and 2014 have been primarily fixed rated.

The Company elected not to pursue hedge accounting for its derivative instruments and recorded the change in estimated fair value related to these interest rate agreements in earnings. The Company also elected to record the change in estimated fair value related to certain CMBS securing the Wells Facility in earnings by electing the fair value option. These elections allow the Company to align the change in the estimated fair value of the Wells Facility collateral and related interest rate derivatives without having to apply complex hedge accounting provisions.

For the three months ended March 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively, the Company recognized an unrealized gain (loss) on securities of \$2,184 and \$(1,080). These gains (losses) resulted from mark-to-market adjustments related to those securities for which the fair value option has been elected.

**Dividends**

Dividends. For 2014, the Company declared the following dividends on its common stock:

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| Declaration Date  | Record Date    | Payment Date   | Amount |
|-------------------|----------------|----------------|--------|
| February 26, 2014 | March 31, 2014 | April 15, 2014 | \$0.40 |

For 2014, the Company declared the following dividends on its Series A Preferred Stock:

| Declaration Date | Record Date    | Payment Date   | Amount   |
|------------------|----------------|----------------|----------|
| March 17, 2014   | March 31, 2014 | April 15, 2014 | \$0.5391 |

## Subsequent Events

**Dividends.** On April 29, 2014, the Company declared a dividend of \$0.40 per share of common stock, which is payable on July 15, 2014 to common stockholders of record on June 30, 2014.

**Investment Activity.** During April 2014, the Company closed a \$210,000 fixed-rate, five-year first mortgage loan secured by a portfolio of 229 single-family and condominium homes located across North and Central America, the Caribbean and England. Simultaneous with closing, the Company syndicated \$104,000 of the first mortgage to other funds managed by affiliates of Apollo Global Management, LLC and retained \$106,000. The first mortgage loan has an appraised loan-to-value of approximately 49% and was underwritten to generate an IRR of approximately 8.2% on an unlevered basis. The Company anticipates financing the loan and on a levered basis, the loan was underwritten to generate an IRR of approximately 15%.

During April 2014, the Company closed a \$53,954 (£32,100) fixed rate, nine-month mezzanine loan in connection with the purchase of an existing commercial building that is expected to be re-developed into a 173,000 salable square foot residential condominium in Central London. The mezzanine loan is part of a \$126,060 (£75,000) pre-development loan comprised of a \$72,106 (£42,900) first mortgage and the Company's \$53,954 (£32,100) mezzanine loan. The Company will have the option, but not the obligation, to participate in the development financing. The Company's loan basis represents a 78% appraised loan-to-value and the mezzanine loan has been underwritten to generate an IRR of approximately 12%.

During the second quarter of 2014, the Company deployed \$24,676 of equity to acquire legacy CMBS originally rated AAA with an aggregate purchase price of \$123,378. The Company financed the CMBS utilizing \$98,702 of borrowings under a new \$100 million term repurchase facility. The CMBS have a weighted average life of 3.2 years and have been underwritten to generate an IRR of 17%.

**Repurchase agreements.** During April 2014, the Company through an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary entered into the DB Facility with DB pursuant to which the Company may borrow up to \$100,000 in order to finance the acquisition of CMBS. The DB Facility has a term of four years, subject to certain restrictions. Advances under the DB Facility accrue interest at a per annum pricing rate based on the rate implied by the fixed rate bid under a fixed for floating interest rate swap for the receipt of payments indexed to three-month US Dollar LIBOR, plus a financing spread ranging from 1.80% to 2.32% based on the rating of the collateral pledged. The Company borrows an amount equal to the product of the estimated fair value of the collateral pledged divided by a margin ratio ranging from 125.00% to 181.82% depending on the collateral pledged

Additionally, beginning on August 1, 2014 and depending on the utilization rate of the facility, a portion of the undrawn amount may be subject to non-use fees. The DB Facility contains customary terms and conditions for repurchase facilities of this type and financial covenants to be met by the Company, including minimum shareholder's equity of 50% of the gross capital proceeds of its initial public offering and any subsequent public or private offerings. On April 25, 2014, the Company, through two subsidiaries, entered into a letter agreement to temporarily waive, for a period of up to 30 days, compliance with the minimum liquidity covenant under the JPMorgan Facility that requires the Company to maintain minimum liquidity of the greater of 10% of total consolidated recourse indebtedness and \$12,500. The waiver was granted in connection with the Company's proposed funding of certain assets, to provide the parties additional time to modify the JPMorgan Facility and may be revoked by JPMorgan at any time. There can be no assurance of when or if the Company will be able to accomplish such modification, or on what terms such modification, if any, would be.

## Liquidity and Capital Resources

Liquidity is a measure of the Company's ability to meet potential cash requirements, including ongoing commitments to repay borrowings, fund and maintain its assets and operations, make distributions to its stockholders and other general business needs. The Company's cash is used to purchase or originate target assets, repay principal and interest on borrowings, make distributions to stockholders and fund operations. The Company's liquidity position is closely monitored and the Company believes it has sufficient current liquidity and access to additional liquidity to meet financial obligations for at least the next 12 months. The Company's primary sources of liquidity are as follows:

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### Cash Generated from Operations

Cash from operations is generally comprised of interest income from the Company's investments, net of any associated financing expense, principal repayments from the Company's investments, net of associated financing repayments, proceeds from the sale of investments and changes in working capital balances. See "—Financial Condition and Results of Operations—Investments" above for a summary of interest rates and weighted average lives related to the Company's investment portfolio at March 31, 2014. While there are no contractual paydowns related to the Company's CMBS, periodic paydowns do occur. Repayments on the debt secured by the Company's CMBS occur in conjunction with the paydowns on the collateral pledged.

### Borrowings Under Various Financing Arrangements

#### JPMorgan Facility

In January 2010, the Company entered into the JPMorgan Facility, pursuant to which the Company may borrow up to \$100,000 in order to finance the origination and acquisition of commercial first mortgage loans and AAA-rated CMBS. Per the terms of the original agreement, amounts borrowed under the JPMorgan Facility bore interest at a spread of 3.00% over one-month LIBOR with no floor. During April 2012, the Company amended the JPMorgan Facility to reduce the interest rate spread by 50 basis points to LIBOR+2.50%. Advance rates under the JPMorgan Facility typically range from 65%-90% on the estimated fair value of the pledged collateral depending on its loan-to-value. Margin calls will occur any time the outstanding loan balance exceeds the lender's required advance in accordance with agreed upon advance rates by more than \$250. In February 2013, the Company, through two of the Company's subsidiaries, entered into the Amended Master Repurchase Agreement with JPMorgan. The Amended Master Repurchase Agreement extended the maturity date of the JPMorgan Facility to January 31, 2014, with an option to further extend the maturity date for 364 days, subject to the Company's satisfaction of certain customary conditions. The extension option was exercised during January 2014. Pricing on the JPMorgan Facility will remain at LIBOR+2.5%. The Company paid JPMorgan an upfront structuring fee of 0.50% of the facility amount for the first year of the term and an extension fee of 0.25% for the January 2014 extension. The Company has agreed to provide a full guarantee of the obligations of its borrower subsidiaries under the Amended Master Repurchase Agreement. The JPMorgan Facility contains, among others, the following restrictive covenants: (1) negative covenants relating to restrictions on the Company's operations that would cease to allow the Company to qualify as a REIT and (2) financial covenants to be met by the Company when the repurchase facility is being utilized, including a minimum consolidated tangible net worth covenant (\$125,000), maximum total debt to consolidated tangible net worth covenant (3:1), a minimum liquidity covenant (the greater of 10% of total consolidated recourse indebtedness and \$12,500) and a minimum net income covenant (\$1 during any four consecutive fiscal quarters). Additionally, beginning on the 91st day following the closing date and depending on the utilization rate of the facility, a portion of the undrawn amount may be subject to non-use fees. Subsequent to September 30, 2010, the non-use fee was waived by the lender. As of March 31, 2014, the Company had \$3 of borrowings outstanding under the JPMorgan Facility. The Company anticipates reborrowing under the JPMorgan Facility as additional capital is deployed. The Company's ability to achieve its underwritten levered weighted average IRRs discussed above under "—Financial Condition and Results of Operations-Investments," depends upon the Company reborrowing approximately \$89,000 under the JPMorgan Facility or any replacement facility.

#### Wells Facility

During August 2010, the Company, through an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary, entered into the Wells Facility, pursuant to which the Company may borrow up to \$250,000 in order to finance the acquisition of AAA-rated CMBS. The Wells Facility had a term of one year, with two one-year extensions available at the Company's option, subject to certain restrictions, and upon the payment of an extension fee equal to 25 basis points on the then outstanding balance of the facility for each one-year extension. Advances under the Wells Facility accrue interest at a per annum pricing rate equal to the sum of (i) 30 day LIBOR and (ii) a pricing margin of 1.25%. The purchase price of the CMBS is determined on a per asset basis by applying an advance rate schedule agreed upon by the Company and Wells Fargo. Advance rates under the Wells Facility typically range from 85%-90% on the face amount of the underlying collateral depending on the weighted average life of the collateral pledged. Margin calls will occur any time the outstanding loan balance exceeds the lender's required advance in accordance with agreed upon advance rates by more than \$250.

The Wells Facility contains, among others, the following restrictive covenants: (1) negative covenants intended to restrict the Company from failing to qualify as a REIT and (2) financial covenants to be met by the Company, including a minimum net asset value covenant (which shall not be less than an amount equal to (i) \$100,000, (ii) 75% of the greatest net asset value during the prior calendar quarter and (iii) 65% of the greatest net asset value during the prior calendar year), a maximum total debt to consolidated tangible net worth covenant (8:1), a minimum liquidity covenant (\$2,500) and a minimum EBITDA to interest expense covenant (1.5:1). The Company has agreed to provide a limited guarantee of up to 15%, or a maximum of \$37,500, of the obligations of its indirect wholly-owned subsidiary under the Wells Facility.

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During December 2011, the Company, through an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary, entered into an amendment letter (the "Amendment Letter") related to the Wells Facility to increase its maximum permitted borrowing under the facility from \$250,000 to \$506,000 in order to pay down its borrowings under the Term Asset-Backed Securities Loan Facility (the "TALF") program administered by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York and to finance the CMBS that had been financed under the TALF program. The Amendment Letter additionally adjusted the pricing margin for all assets financed under the Wells Facility occurring after December 22, 2011 from 1.25% to 1.50%, and added a minimum liquidity covenant, requiring the Company to maintain at all times an amount in Repo Liquidity (as generally defined under the Wells Facility to include all amounts held in the collection account established under the Wells Facility for the benefit of Wells Fargo, cash, cash equivalents, super-senior CMBS rated AAA by at least two rating agencies, and total amounts immediately and unconditionally available on an unrestricted basis under all outstanding capital commitments, subscription facilities and secured revolving credit or repurchase facilities) no less than the greater of 10% of the total consolidated recourse indebtedness of the Company and \$12,500. Advances under the Wells Facility accrue interest at a per annum pricing rate equal to the sum of (i) 30 day LIBOR and (ii) the applicable pricing margin.

The Wells Facility was further amended during the second quarter of 2012 to provide an additional \$100,000 of financing capacity for the purchase of Hilton CMBS at a rate of LIBOR plus 235 basis points with respect to borrowings secured by the Hilton CMBS. The additional \$100,000 of capacity to finance the Hilton CMBS matures in November 2014 and may be extended for an additional year upon the payment of an extension fee equal to 0.50% on the then aggregate outstanding repurchase price for all such assets. Additionally, during August 2012, the Company exercised the final one-year extension of the term of the Wells Facility and extended the maturity date to August 2013 (except with respect to \$100,000 of capacity under the facility to finance the Hilton CMBS described below).

In February 2013, the Company further amended the Wells Facility to reduce the interest rate as follows: (i) with respect to the outstanding borrowings used to provide financing for the AAA CMBS, the interest rate was reduced to LIBOR+1.05% from LIBOR+1.25%-1.50% (depending on the collateral pledged); and (ii) with respect to the outstanding borrowings used to provide financing for the Hilton CMBS, the interest rate was reduced to LIBOR+1.75% from LIBOR+2.35%. In addition, the maturity date of the Wells Facility with respect to the outstanding borrowings used to provide financing for the AAA CMBS was extended to March 2014. The Hilton CMBS and related borrowings were repaid in November 2013. In February 2014, the maturity date of the Wells Facility was extended to March 2015. In addition, the Company reduced the interest rate to LIBOR + 80 basis points from LIBOR + 105 basis points.

At March 31, 2014, the Company had \$33,092 of borrowings outstanding under the Wells Facility secured by CMBS held by the Company.

UBS Facility

During September 2013, the Company through an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary entered into the UBS Facility with UBS pursuant to which the Company may borrow up to \$133,333 in order to finance the acquisition of CMBS. The UBS Facility has a term of four years, with a one-year extension available at the Company's option, subject to certain restrictions. Advances under the UBS Facility accrue interest at a per annum pricing rate equal to a spread of 1.55% per annum over the rate implied by the fixed rate bid under a fixed-for-floating interest rate swap for the receipt of payments indexed to six-month US Dollar LIBOR. The Company borrows 100% of the estimated fair value of the collateral pledged and posts margin equal to 22.5% of that borrowing amount in cash. The margin posted is classified as restricted cash on the Company's condensed consolidated balance sheets. Additionally, beginning on the 121st day following the closing date and depending on the utilization rate of the facility, a portion of the undrawn amount may be subject to non-use fees. The UBS Facility contains customary terms and conditions for repurchase facilities of this type and financial covenants to be met by the Company, including a minimum net asset value covenant (which shall not be less than an amount equal to \$500,000 and a maximum total debt to consolidated tangible net worth covenant (3:1). The Company has agreed to provide a full guarantee of the obligations of its indirect wholly-owned subsidiary under the UBS Facility. During December 2013, the UBS Facility was amended to increase the maximum amount to \$133,899.

As of March 31, 2014, the Company had \$133,899 of borrowings outstanding under the UBS Facility secured by CMBS held by the Company.

Convertible Senior Notes

On March 17, 2014, the Company issued \$143,750 aggregate principal amount of 5.50% Convertible Senior Notes due 2019, for which the Company received net proceeds, after deducting the underwriting discount and estimated offering expenses payable by the Company, of approximately \$134,405.

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## Other Potential Sources of Financing

The Company's primary sources of cash currently consist of the \$126,473 of cash available at March 31, 2014, principal and interest payments the Company receives on its portfolio of assets, as well as available borrowings under its repurchase agreements. The Company expects its other sources of cash to consist of cash generated from operations and the possible prepayments of principal received on the Company's portfolio of assets. Such prepayments are difficult to estimate in advance. At March 31, 2014, substantially all of the \$100,000 of borrowing capacity under the JPMorgan Facility was available; however, the Company would need to acquire additional commercial first mortgage loans or AAA-rated CMBS in order to utilize all of that capacity. Depending on market conditions, the Company may utilize additional borrowings as a source of cash, which may also include additional repurchase agreements as well as other borrowings such as credit facilities.

The Company maintains policies relating to its borrowings and use of leverage. See "—Leverage policies" below. In the future, the Company may seek to raise further equity capital, issue debt securities or engage in other forms of borrowings in order to fund future investments or to refinance expiring indebtedness.

The Company generally intends to hold its target assets as long-term investments, although it may sell certain of its investments in order to manage its interest rate risk and liquidity needs, meet other operating objectives and adapt to market conditions.

To maintain its qualification as a REIT under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, the Company must distribute annually at least 90% of its taxable income. These distribution requirements limit the Company's ability to retain earnings and thereby replenish or increase capital for operations.

## Leverage policies

The Company uses leverage for the sole purpose of financing its portfolio and not for the purpose of speculating on changes in interest rates. In addition to its repurchase agreements, in the future the Company may access additional sources of borrowings. The Company's charter and bylaws do not limit the amount of indebtedness the Company can incur; however, the Company is limited by certain financial covenants under its repurchase agreements. Consistent with the Company's strategy of keeping leverage within a conservative range, the Company expects that its total borrowings on loans will be in an amount that is approximately 35% of the value of its total loan portfolio.

## Investment Guidelines

During April 2013, based on the Manager's recommendation, the Company's Board of Directors amended the Company's investment guidelines by removing certain limitations related to non-U.S. assets, undeveloped land, construction loans and for-sale residential real-estate loans. The Company's board of directors has adopted the following investment guidelines:

- no investment will be made that would cause the Company to fail to qualify as a REIT for U.S. federal income tax purposes;
- no investment will be made that would cause the Company to register as an investment company under the 1940 Act;
- investments will be predominantly in the Company's target assets;
- no more than 20% of the Company's cash equity (on a consolidated basis) will be invested in any single investment at the time of the investment;
- until appropriate investments can be identified, the Manager may invest the proceeds of any offering in interest bearing, short-term investments, including money market accounts and/or funds, that are consistent with the Company's intention to qualify as a REIT.

## Contractual obligations and commitments

The Company's contractual obligations including expected interest payments as of March 31, 2014 are summarized as follows:

|                               | Less than 1<br>year | 1 to 3<br>years | 3 to 5<br>years | More than<br>5 years | Total    |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------------|----------|
| Wells Facility borrowings *   | \$33,344            | \$—             | \$—             | \$—                  | \$33,344 |
| UBS Facility borrowings **    | 4,740               | 62,409          | 79,503          | —                    | 146,652  |
| JPMorgan Facility borrowings* | 3                   | —               | —               | —                    | 3        |

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|       |          |          |          |     |           |
|-------|----------|----------|----------|-----|-----------|
| Total | \$38,087 | \$62,409 | \$79,503 | \$— | \$179,999 |
|-------|----------|----------|----------|-----|-----------|

\* Assumes current LIBOR of 0.16% for interest payments due under the JPMorgan Facility and Wells Facility.

\*\* Assumes extension options are exercised.

KBC Bank Deutschland AG. In September 2013, the Company, together with other affiliates of Apollo, reached an agreement to make an investment in an entity that has agreed to acquire a minority participation in KBCD. The Company committed to invest up to approximately \$50,000 (€38,000), representing approximately 21% of the ownership in KBCD. The acquisition is subject to antitrust and regulatory approval, which is expected to take approximately nine months. Consequently, there is no assurance that the acquisition will close.

Loan Commitments. At March 31, 2014 and December 31, 2013, respectively, the Company had \$28,390 and \$29,106 of unfunded loan commitments related to the condominium conversion loan that closed in August 2013.

Management Agreement. On September 23, 2009, the Company entered into the Management Agreement with the Manager pursuant to which the Manager is entitled to receive a management fee and the reimbursement of certain expenses. The table above does not include amounts due under the Management Agreement as those obligations do not have fixed and

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determinable payments. Pursuant to the Management Agreement, the Manager is entitled to a base management fee calculated and payable quarterly in arrears in an amount equal to 1.5% of the Company's stockholders' equity (as defined in the Management Agreement), per annum. The Manager will use the proceeds from its management fee in part to pay compensation to its officers and personnel. The Company does not reimburse its Manager or its affiliates for the salaries and other compensation of their personnel, except for the allocable share of the compensation of (1) the Company's Chief Financial Officer based on the percentage of his time spent on the Company's affairs and (2) other corporate finance, tax, accounting, internal audit, legal, risk management, operations, compliance and other non-investment professional personnel of the Manager or its affiliates who spend all or a portion of their time managing the Company's affairs based on the percentage of time devoted by such personnel to the Company's affairs. The Company is also required to reimburse its Manager for operating expenses related to the Company incurred by its Manager, including expenses relating to legal, accounting, due diligence and other services. Expense reimbursements to the Manager are made in cash on a monthly basis following the end of each month. The Company's reimbursement obligation is not subject to any dollar limitation.

The current term of the Management Agreement expires on September 29, 2014 and shall be automatically renewed for successive one-year terms on each anniversary thereafter. The Management Agreement may be terminated upon expiration of the one-year terms only upon the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the Company's independent directors, based upon (1) unsatisfactory performance by the Manager that is materially detrimental to the Company or (2) a determination that the management fee payable to the Manager is not fair, subject to the Manager's right to prevent such a termination based on unfair fees by accepting a mutually acceptable reduction of management fees agreed to by at least two-thirds of the Company's independent directors. The Manager must be provided with written notice of any such termination at least 180 days prior to the expiration of the then existing term and will be paid a termination fee equal to three times the sum of the average annual base management fee during the 24-month period immediately preceding the date of termination, calculated as of the end of the most recently completed fiscal quarter prior to the date of termination. Amounts payable under the Company's Management Agreement are not fixed and determinable. Following a meeting by the Company's independent directors in February 2014, which included a discussion of the Manager's performance and the level of the management fees thereunder, the Company determined not to terminate the Management Agreement.

Off-balance sheet arrangements

The Company does not have any relationships with unconsolidated entities or financial partnerships, such as entities often referred to as structured investment vehicles, or special purpose or variable interest entities, established to facilitate off-balance sheet arrangements or other contractually narrow or limited purposes. Further, the Company has not guaranteed any obligations of unconsolidated entities or entered into any commitment to provide additional funding to any such entities.

Dividends

The Company intends to continue to make regular quarterly distributions to holders of its common stock. U.S. federal income tax law generally requires that a REIT distribute annually at least 90% of its REIT taxable income, without regard to the deduction for dividends paid and excluding net capital gains, and that it pay tax at regular corporate rates to the extent that it annually distributes less than 100% of its net taxable income. The Company generally intends over time to pay dividends to its stockholders in an amount equal to its net taxable income, if and to the extent authorized by its board of directors. Any distributions the Company makes will be at the discretion of its board of directors and will depend upon, among other things, its actual results of operations. These results and the Company's ability to pay distributions will be affected by various factors, including the net interest and other income from its portfolio, its operating expenses and any other expenditures. If the Company's cash available for distribution is less than its net taxable income, the Company could be required to sell assets or borrow funds to make cash distributions or the Company may make a portion of the required distribution in the form of a taxable stock distribution or distribution of debt securities.

The Company has 3,450,000 shares of Series A Preferred Stock outstanding, which entitles holders to receive dividends at an annual rate of 8.625% of the liquidation preference of \$25.00 per share, or \$2.16 per share per annum. The dividends on the Series A Preferred Stock are cumulative and payable quarterly in arrears. Except under certain

limited circumstances, the Series A Preferred Stock is generally not convertible into or exchangeable for any other property or any other securities of the Company at the election of the holders. After August 1, 2017, the Company may, at its option, redeem the shares at a redemption price of \$25.00, plus any accrued unpaid distribution through the date of the redemption.

#### Non-GAAP Financial Measures

##### Operating Earnings

For the three months ended March 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively, the Company's Operating Earnings were \$13,991, or \$0.37 per share, and \$11,963, or \$0.39 per share. Operating Earnings is a non-GAAP financial measure that is used by the Company to approximate cash available for distribution and is defined as net income available to common stockholders, computed in accordance with GAAP, adjusted for (i) equity-based compensation expense (a portion of which may become cash-based upon final vesting and settlement of awards should the holder elect net share settlement to satisfy income tax withholding), (ii) any unrealized gains or losses or other non-cash items included in net income and (iii) the non-cash amortization expense related to the reclassification of a portion of the senior convertible notes to stockholders' equity in accordance with GAAP.

In order to evaluate the effective yield of the portfolio, the Company uses Operating Earnings to reflect the net investment income of the Company's portfolio as adjusted to include the net interest expense related to the Company's derivative instruments. Operating Earnings allows the Company to isolate the net interest expense associated with the Company's swaps in order to monitor and project the Company's full cost of borrowings. The Company also believes that its investors use Operating Earnings or a comparable supplemental performance measure to evaluate and compare the performance of the Company and its peers and, as such, the Company believes that the disclosure of Operating Earnings is useful to its investors.

The primary limitation associated with Operating Earnings as a measure of the Company's financial performance over any period is that it excludes net realized and unrealized gains (losses) from investments. In addition, the Company's presentation of Operating Earnings may not be comparable to similarly-titled measures of other companies, who may use different calculations. As a result, Operating Earnings should not be considered as a substitute for the Company's GAAP net income as a measure of its financial performance or any measure of its liquidity under GAAP.

The table below summarizes the reconciliation from net income available to common stockholders to Operating Earnings:

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|   | For the three months<br>ended<br>March 31, |            |
|---|--|------------|
|   | 2014                                       | 2013       |
| Net income available to common stockholders                       | \$15,720                                   | \$10,072   |
| Adjustments:  |  |            |
| Unrealized (gain) loss on securities                              | (2,184                                     | ) 1,080    |
| Unrealized (gain) loss on derivative instruments                  | —  | (72        |
| Equity-based compensation expense                                 | 426  | 883        |
| Amortization of the 2019 Notes related to equity reclassification | 29   | —          |
| Total adjustments:  | (1,729                                     | ) 1,891    |
| Operating Earnings  | \$13,991                                   | \$11,963   |
| Basic and diluted Operating Earnings per share of common stock    | \$0.37                                     | \$0.39     |
| Basic weighted average shares of common stock outstanding         | 37,122,842                                 | 30,105,939 |
| Diluted weighted average shares of common stock outstanding       | 37,341,050                                 | 30,480,689 |

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ITEM 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk

The Company seeks to manage its risks related to the credit quality of its assets, interest rates, liquidity, prepayment speeds and market value, while, at the same time, seeking to provide an opportunity to stockholders to realize attractive risk-adjusted returns through ownership of its capital stock. While risks are inherent in any business enterprise, the Company seeks to quantify and justify risks in light of available returns and to maintain capital levels consistent with the risks the Company undertakes.

Credit risk

One of the Company's strategic focuses is acquiring assets that it believes to be of high credit quality. The Company believes this strategy will generally keep its credit losses and financing costs low. However, the Company is subject to varying degrees of credit risk in connection with its other target assets. The Company seeks to mitigate this risk by seeking to acquire high quality assets, at appropriate prices given anticipated and unanticipated losses, and by deploying a value-driven approach to underwriting and diligence, consistent with the Manager's historical investment strategy, with a focus on current cash flows and potential risks to cash flow. The Company enhances its due diligence and underwriting efforts by accessing the Manager's knowledge base and industry contacts. Nevertheless, unanticipated credit losses could occur, which could adversely impact the Company's operating results.

Interest rate risk

Interest rates are highly sensitive to many factors, including fiscal and monetary policies and domestic and international economic and political considerations, as well as other factors beyond the Company's control. The Company is subject to interest rate risk in connection with its target assets and its related financing obligations. To the extent consistent with maintaining the Company's REIT qualification, the Company seeks to manage risk exposure to protect its portfolio of financial assets against the effects of major interest rate changes. The Company generally seeks to manage this risk by:

- attempting to structure its financing agreements to have a range of different maturities, terms, amortizations and interest rate adjustment periods;
- using hedging instruments, interest rate swaps and interest rate caps; and
- to the extent available, using securitization financing to better match the maturity of the Company's financing with the duration of its assets.

At March 31, 2014, all of the Company's borrowings outstanding under the Wells Facility and the JPM Facility were floating-rate borrowings. At March 31, 2013, the Company also had floating rate loans with a face amount of \$244,401, resulting in net variable rate exposure of \$211,306. A 50 basis point increase in LIBOR would increase the net interest income related to the \$211,306 in variable rate exposure by \$264. Any such hypothetical impact on interest rates on the Company's variable rate borrowings does not consider the effect of any change in overall economic activity that could occur in a rising interest rate environment. Further, in the event of a change in interest rates of that magnitude, the Company may take actions to further mitigate the Company's exposure to such a change.

However, due to the uncertainty of the specific actions that would be taken and their possible effects, this analysis assumes no changes in the Company's financial structure.

Prepayment risk

Prepayment risk is the risk that principal will be repaid at a different rate than anticipated, causing the return on an asset to be less than expected. The Company does not anticipate facing prepayment risk on most of its portfolio of assets since the Company anticipates that most of the commercial loans held directly by the Company or securing the Company's CMBS assets will contain provisions preventing prepayment or imposing prepayment penalties in the event of loan prepayments.

Market risk

Market value risk. The Company's available-for-sale securities and securities at estimated fair value are reflected at their estimated fair value. The change in estimated fair value of securities available-for-sale is reflected in accumulated other comprehensive income while the change in estimated fair value of securities at estimated fair value is reflected as a component of net income. The estimated fair value of these securities fluctuates primarily due to changes in interest rates and other factors. Generally, in a rising interest rate environment, the estimated fair value of these securities would be expected to decrease; conversely, in a decreasing interest rate environment, the estimated

fair value of these securities would be expected to increase. As market volatility increases or liquidity decreases, the fair value of the Company's assets may be adversely impacted.

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Real estate risk. Commercial mortgage assets are subject to volatility and may be affected adversely by a number of factors, including, but not limited to, national, regional and local economic conditions (which may be adversely affected by industry slowdowns and other factors); local real estate conditions; changes or continued weakness in specific industry segments; construction quality, age and design; demographic factors; and retroactive changes to building or similar codes. In addition, decreases in property values reduce the value of the collateral and the potential proceeds available to a borrower to repay the underlying loans or loans, as the case may be, which could also cause the Company to suffer losses.

**Inflation**

Virtually all of the Company's assets and liabilities will be interest rate sensitive in nature. As a result, interest rates and other factors influence the Company's performance far more so than does inflation. Changes in interest rates do not necessarily correlate with inflation rates or changes in inflation rates. The Company's financial statements are prepared in accordance with GAAP and distributions are declared in order to distribute at least 90% of its REIT taxable income on an annual basis in order to maintain the Company's REIT qualification. In each case, the Company's activities and balance sheet are measured with reference to historical cost and/or fair market value without considering inflation.

**ITEM 4. Controls and Procedures**

The Company's Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, based on their evaluation of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Exchange Act) required by paragraph (b) of Rule 13a-15 or Rule 15d-15, have concluded that as of the end of the period covered by this report, the Company's disclosure controls and procedures were effective to give reasonable assurances to the timely collection, evaluation and disclosure of information relating to the Company that would potentially be subject to disclosure under the Exchange Act, and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder.

During the period ended March 31, 2014, there was no change in the Company's internal control over financial reporting that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, a control system, no matter how well designed and operated, can provide only reasonable, not absolute, assurance that it will detect or uncover failures within the Company to disclose material information otherwise required to be set forth in the Company's periodic reports.

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PART II — OTHER INFORMATION

ITEM 1. Legal Proceedings

From time to time, the Company may be involved in various claims and legal actions arising in the ordinary course of business. As of March 31, 2014, the Company was not involved in any material legal proceedings.

ITEM 1A. Risk Factors

See the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013. There have been no material changes to the Company's risk factors during the three months ended March 31, 2014.

ITEM 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds

None.

ITEM 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities

None.

ITEM 4. Mine Safety Disclosures

Not applicable.

ITEM 5. Other Information

None.

ITEM 6. Exhibits

| Exhibit No. | Description   |
|-------------|---|
| 3.1         | Articles of Amendment and Restatement of Apollo Commercial Real Estate Finance, Inc., incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 of the Registrant's Form S-11, as amended (Registration No. 333-160533).   |
| 3.2         | Articles Supplementary designating Apollo Commercial Real Estate Finance, Inc.'s 8.625% Series A Cumulative Redeemable Perpetual Preferred Stock, liquidation preference \$25.00 per share, par value \$0.01 per share, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.3 of the Registrant's Form 8-A filed on July 30, 2012 (File No.: 001-34452). |
| 3.3         | By-laws of Apollo Commercial Real Estate Finance, Inc., incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.2 of the Registrant's Form S-11, as amended (Registration No. 333-160533).   |
| 4.1         | Specimen Stock Certificate of Apollo Commercial Real Estate Finance, Inc., incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 of the Registrant's Form S-11, as amended (Registration No. 333-160533).  |
| 4.2         | Form of stock certificate evidencing the 8.625% Series A Cumulative Redeemable Perpetual Preferred Stock, liquidation reference \$25.00 per share, par value \$0.01 per share, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 of the Registrant's Form 8-A filed on July 30, 2012 (File No.: 001-34452).  |
| 4.3         | Indenture, dated as of March 17, 2014, between the Company and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as Trustee, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 of the Registrant's Form 8-K filed on March 21, 2014.   |
| 4.4         | First Supplemental Indenture, dated as of March 17, 2014, between the Company and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as Trustee (including the form of 5.50% Convertible Senior Note due 2019), incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.2 of the Registrant's Form 8-K filed on March 21, 2014.   |
| 31.1*       | Certification of Principal Executive Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.   |

31.2\* Certification of Principal Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

32.1\* Certification of Principal Executive Officer and Principal Financial Officer pursuant to Section 906 of 18 U.S.C. Section 1350 as adopted pursuant to the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

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|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| 101.INS * | XBRL Instance Document                        |
| 101.SCH*  | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema                |
| 101.CAL*  | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase  |
| 101.DEF*  | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase   |
| 101.LAB*  | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase        |
| 101.PRE*  | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase |

\*Filed herewith.

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SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

APOLLO COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE FINANCE, INC.

April 29, 2014

By: /s/ Stuart A. Rothstein  
Stuart A. Rothstein  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
(Principal Executive Officer)

By: /s/ Megan B. Gaul  
Megan B. Gaul  
Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer and Secretary  
(Principal Financial Officer and Principal Accounting  
Officer)

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EXHIBIT INDEX

| Exhibit No. | Description   |
|-------------|---|
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| 3.3         | By-laws of Apollo Commercial Real Estate Finance, Inc., incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.2 of the Registrant's Form S-11, as amended (Registration No. 333-160533).   |
| 4.1         | Specimen Stock Certificate of Apollo Commercial Real Estate Finance, Inc., incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 of the Registrant's Form S-11, as amended (Registration No. 333-160533).  |
| 4.2         | Form of stock certificate evidencing the 8.625% Series A Cumulative Redeemable Perpetual Preferred Stock, liquidation reference \$25.00 per share, par value \$0.01 per share, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 of the Registrant's Form 8-A filed on July 30, 2012 (File No.: 001-34452).  |
| 4.3         | Indenture, dated as of March 17, 2014, between the Company and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as Trustee, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 of the Registrant's Form 8-K filed on March 21, 2014.   |
| 4.4         | First Supplemental Indenture, dated as of March 17, 2014, between the Company and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as Trustee (including the form of 5.50% Convertible Senior Note due 2019), incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.2 of the Registrant's Form 8-K filed on March 21, 2014.   |
| 31.1*       | Certification of Principal Executive Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.   |
| 31.2*       | Certification of Principal Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.   |
| 32.1*       | Certification of Principal Executive Officer and Principal Financial Officer pursuant to Section 906 of 18 U.S.C. Section 1350 as adopted pursuant to the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.   |
| 101.INS*    | XBRL Instance Document  |
| 101.SCH*    | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema  |
| 101.CAL*    | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase  |
| 101.DEF*    | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase   |

101.LAB\* XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase

101.PRE\* XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase

\*Filed herewith.