UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, DC 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT
Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the
Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): September 11, 2014

THE HOWARD HUGHES CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)

001-34856

(Commission File Number)

36-4673192 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

One Galleria Tower 13355 Noel Road, 22nd Floor Dallas, Texas 75240 (Address of principal executive offices)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (214) 741-7744

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:					
	Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)				
	Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)				
	Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))				
	Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))				

Item 5.02 Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangement of

On September 11, 2014, the Compensation Committee (the "Compensation Committee") of the Board of Directors of The Howard Hughes Corporation (the "Company") approved the form of The Howard Hughes Corporation Deferred Compensation Plan (the "Plan"). The Plan will become effective on January 1, 2015.

The Plan is an unfunded, nonqualified deferred compensation plan designed to allow a select group of management or highly compensated employees of the Company, including the named executive officers of the Company (each, a "Participant" and collectively, the "Participants), to save for retirement on a tax-deferred basis. The eligibility of each Participant will be determined by a committee appointed by the Compensation Committee to manage, operate and administer the Plan. The Plan is intended to comply with the requirements of 409A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

Participants in the Plan will be offered the opportunity to defer receipt of up to 90% of their annual base salary and up to 100% of their cash incentive compensation awards granted under The Howard Hughes Corporation Amended and Restated 2010 Incentive Plan and other compensation earned for the respective calendar year during which services are performed for the Company by the Participant. Amounts deferred by a Participant under the Plan will be credited to a bookkeeping entry that will be used to determine the amount to be paid to the Participant under the Plan. The bookkeeping entry will be credited or debited periodically based on the performance of hypothetical investments selected by a Participant. The bookkeeping entry represents an unfunded, unsecured promise by the Company to pay such amount in the future, and does not represent ownership, or any ownership interest in, any particular assets of the Company. Participants will at all times be fully vested in all deferred compensation.

The amounts payable under the Plan are payable upon a Participant's separation of service, unforeseen emergency or death, or on a date or dates selected by a Participant in accordance with the terms of the Plan. The amounts payable will be paid in the form of a lump sum distribution or in installments, in each case, based upon an election of the Participant made in accordance with the terms of the Plan.

The funds held under the Plan will remain available to satisfy claims of the Company's general creditors in the event of the Company's insolvency or bankruptcy.

The Compensation Committee may amend or terminate the Plan at any time; provided, however, that no such action shall affect a Participant's right to receive the full amount of his or her bookkeeping entry.

This summary is not intended to be complete and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the Plan, the form of which is filed hereto as Exhibit 10.1.

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Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits

Exhibit No. Description

10.1 Form of The Howard Hughes Corporation Deferred Compensation Plan

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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 hereunto duly authorized.

THE HOWARD HUGHES CORPORATION

By: /s/ Peter F. Riley

Peter F. Riley Senior Vice President, Secretary and General Counsel

Date: September 17, 2014

THE HOWARD HUGHES CORPORATION

DEFERRED COMPENSATION PLAN

Effective Date January 1, 2015

The Howard Hughes Corporation Deferred Compensation Plan

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ARTICLE I

Establishment and Purpose

The Howard Hughes Corporation (the "Company") hereby adopts the The Howard Hughes Corporation Deferred Compensation Plan (the "Plan"), effective January 1, 2015.

The purpose of the Plan is to assist the operating subsidiaries of the Company to attract and retain key employees by providing an opportunity to defer receipt of a portion of their salary, bonus, and other specified compensation. The Plan is not intended to meet the qualification requirements of Code Section 401(a), but is intended to meet the requirements of Code Section 409A, and shall be operated and interpreted consistent with that intent.

The Plan constitutes an unsecured promise by the Company to pay benefits in the future. Participants in the Plan shall have the status of general unsecured creditors of the Company. The Company (or one or more of its wholly owned subsidiaries) is solely responsible for paying benefits to its Employees and their Beneficiaries. The Plan is unfunded for federal tax purposes and is intended to be an unfunded arrangement for Eligible Employees. Any amounts set aside to finance Plan liabilities are subject to the claims of the Company's creditors.

ARTICLE II

Definitions

2.1 <u>Account.</u> Account means a bookkeeping account maintained by the Committee to record a Participating Employer's obligation to a Participant as determined under the terms of the Plan. The Committee may maintain an Account to record the total obligation to a Participant and component

Accounts to reflect amounts payable to such Participant at different times and/or in different forms or amounts that vest at different times. Reference to an Account means any such Account, as the context requires. Accounts are intended to constitute unfunded obligations within the meaning of Sections 201(2), 301(a)(3) and 401(a)(1) of ERISA.

- 2.2 <u>Affiliate.</u> Affiliate means a corporation, trade or business that, together with the Company, is treated as a single employer under Code Section 414(b) or (c).
- 2.3 Balance. Balance means the total payment obligation owed to a Participant from an Account as of the most recent Valuation Date.
- 2.4 <u>Beneficiary.</u> Beneficiary means a natural person, estate, or trust designated by a Participant to receive payments upon the Participant's death. The Participant's spouse, if living, otherwise the Participant's estate, shall be the Beneficiary if: (i) the Participant has failed to properly designate a Beneficiary, or (ii) all designated Beneficiaries have predeceased the Participant.

A spouse shall cease to be a Beneficiary upon dissolution of marriage unless subsequently designated as a Beneficiary. Nothing in this Section 2.4 shall preclude a

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former spouse from receiving payments under a domestic relations order as provided in Section 6.3.

- Business Day. Business Day means each day on which the New York Stock Exchange is open for business.
- 2.6 <u>Change in Control</u>. Change in Control means, with respect to a Participating Employer that is organized as a corporation, any of the following events: (i) a change in the ownership of the Participating Employer, (ii) a change in the effective control of the Participating Employer, or (iii) a change in the ownership of a substantial portion of the assets of the Participating Employer.

For purposes of this Section, a change in the ownership of the Company occurs on the date on which any one person, or more than one person acting as a group, acquires ownership of stock of the Company that, together with stock held by such person or group constitutes more than 50% of the total fair market value or total voting power of the stock of the Company. A change in the effective control of the Company occurs on the date on which either: (i) a person, or more than one person acting as a group, acquires ownership of stock of the Company possessing 30% or more of the total voting power of the stock of the Company, taking into account all such stock acquired during the 12-month period ending on the date of the most recent acquisition, or (ii) a majority of the members of the Company's Board of Directors is replaced during any 12-month period by directors whose appointment or election is not endorsed by a majority of the members of such Board of Directors prior to the date of the appointment or election. A change in the ownership of a substantial portion of assets occurs on the date on which any one person, or more than one person acting as a group, other than a person or group of persons that is related to the Company, acquires assets from the Company that have a total gross fair market value equal to or more than 40% of the total gross fair market value of all of the assets of the Company immediately prior to such acquisition or acquisitions, taking into account all such assets acquired during the 12-month period ending on the date of the most recent acquisition.

An event constitutes a Change in Control with respect to a Participant only if the Participant is performing services for the Company or an Affiliate of the Company at the time the Company experiences the Change in Control, or the Participant's relationship to the affected Participating Employer otherwise satisfies the requirements of Treasury Regulation Section 1.409A-3(i)(5)(ii).

The determination as to the occurrence of a Change in Control shall be based on objective facts and in accordance with the requirements of Code Section 409A.

2.7 <u>Claimant.</u> Claimant means a Participant or Beneficiary filing a claim under Article XII of this Plan.

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- 2.8 Code. Code means the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended from time to time.
- 2.9 <u>Code Section 409A.</u> Code Section 409A means section 409A of the Code and the regulations and other guidance issued by the Treasury Department and Internal Revenue Service thereunder.
- 2.10 <u>Committee.</u> Committee means the committee appointed by the Board of Directors of the Company (or the appropriate committee of such board) to administer the Plan. If no designation is made, the Chief Executive Officer of the Company or his delegate shall have and exercise the powers of the Committee.
- 2.11 <u>Company.</u> Company means The Howard Hughes Corporation.

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- 2.12 <u>Company Contribution.</u> Company Contribution means a credit by a Participating Employer to a Participant's Account(s) in accordance with the provisions of Article V of the Plan. Unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, a reference to Company Contribution shall include Earnings attributable to such contribution.
- 2.13 <u>Compensation.</u> Compensation means a Participant's base salary, bonus, commission and such other cash compensation (if any) approved by the Committee as Compensation that may be deferred under this Plan. Compensation shall not include any compensation that has been previously deferred under this Plan or any other arrangement subject to Code Section 409A.
- 2.14 <u>Compensation Deferral Agreement.</u> Compensation Deferral Agreement means an agreement between a Participant and the Company (on behalf of the applicable Participating Employer) that specifies: (i) the amount of each component of Compensation that the Participant has elected to defer to the Plan in accordance with the provisions of Article IV, and (ii) the Payment Schedule applicable to one or more Accounts. The Committee may permit different deferral amounts for each component of Compensation and may establish a minimum or maximum deferral percentage for each such

component. Unless otherwise specified by the Committee in the Compensation Deferral Agreement, Participants may defer up to 90% of their base salary and up to 100% of other types of Compensation for a Plan Year. A Compensation Deferral Agreement may also specify the investment allocation described in Section 8.4.

- 2.15 <u>Death Benefit.</u> Death Benefit means the benefit payable to a Participant's Beneficiary(ies) upon the Participant's death as provided in Section 6.1 of the Plan.
- 2.16 <u>Deferral.</u> Deferral means a credit to a Participant's Account(s) that records that portion of the Participant's Compensation that the Participant has elected to defer to the Plan in accordance with the provisions of Article IV. Unless the context of the Plan clearly indicates otherwise, a reference to Deferrals includes Earnings attributable to such Deferrals.

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Deferrals shall be calculated with respect to the gross cash Compensation payable to the Participant prior to any deductions or withholdings, but shall be reduced by the Committee as necessary so that it does not exceed 100% of the cash Compensation of the Participant remaining after deduction of all employment taxes and income taxes thereon, 401(k) and other employee benefit deductions, and other deductions required by law. Changes to payroll withholdings that affect the amount of Compensation being deferred to the Plan shall be allowed only to the extent permissible under Code Section 409A.

- 2.17 <u>Disabled.</u> Disabled means that a Participant is, by reason of any medically-determinable physical or mental impairment which can be expected to result in death or can be expected to last for a continuous period of not less than 12 months: (i) unable to engage in any substantial gainful activity, or (ii) receiving income replacement benefits for a period of not less than three months under an accident and health plan covering employees of the Participant's employer. The Committee shall determine whether a Participant is Disabled in accordance with Code Section 409A provided, however, that a Participant shall be deemed to be Disabled if determined to be totally disabled by the Social Security Administration.
- 2.18 <u>Earnings.</u> Earnings means a positive or negative adjustment to the value of an Account, based upon the allocation of the Account by the Participant among deemed investment options in accordance with Article VIII.
- 2.19 <u>Effective Date.</u> Effective Date means January 1, 2015.
- 2.20 <u>Eligible Employee.</u> Eligible Employee means a member of a "select group of management or highly compensated employees" of a Participating Employer within the meaning of Sections 201(2), 301(a)(3) and 401(a)(1) of ERISA, as determined by the Committee from time to time in its sole discretion.
- 2.21 <u>Employee.</u> Employee means a common-law employee of an Employer.
- 2.22 <u>Employer.</u> Employer means, with respect to Employees it employs, each Affiliate of the Company.
- 2.23 ERISA. ERISA means the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended from time to time.
- 2.24 <u>Fiscal Year Compensation.</u> Fiscal Year Compensation means Compensation earned during one or more consecutive fiscal years of a Participating Employer, all of which is paid after the last day of such fiscal year or years.
- 2.25 <u>Participant.</u> Participant means an Eligible Employee who has received notification of his or her eligibility to defer Compensation under the Plan under Section 3.1 and any other person with an Account Balance greater than zero, regardless of whether such individual continues to be an Eligible Employee. A Participant's continued participation in the Plan shall be governed by Section 3.2 of the Plan.

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- 2.26 <u>Participating Employer.</u> Participating Employer means the Company and any Affiliate of the Company that has adopted the Plan.
- 2.27 <u>Payment Schedule.</u> Payment Schedule means the date as of which payment of an Account under the Plan will commence and the form in which payment of such Account will be made.
- 2.28 <u>Performance-Based Compensation.</u> Performance-Based Compensation means Compensation where the amount of, or entitlement to, the Compensation is contingent on the satisfaction of pre-established organizational or individual performance criteria relating to a performance period of at least 12 consecutive months. Organizational or individual performance criteria are considered pre-established if established in writing within 90 days after the commencement of the period of service to which the criteria relate, provided that the attainment of performance objectives is substantially uncertain at the time the criteria are established. The determination of whether Compensation qualifies as "Performance-Based Compensation" will be made in accordance with Treas. Reg. Section 1.409A-1(e) and subsequent guidance.
- 2.29 <u>Plan.</u> Generally, the term Plan means the "The Howard Hughes Corporation Deferred Compensation Plan" as documented herein and as may be amended from time to time hereafter. However, to the extent permitted or required under Code Section 409A, the term Plan may in the appropriate context also mean a portion of the Plan that is treated as a single plan under Treas. Reg. Section 1.409A-1(c), or the Plan or portion of the Plan and any other nonqualified deferred compensation plan or portion thereof that is treated as a single plan under such section.
- 2.30 <u>Plan Year.</u> Plan Year means January 1 through December 31.
- 2.31 <u>Separation Account.</u> Separation Account means an Account established by the Committee to record the amounts payable to a Participant upon Separation from Service. Unless the Participant has established a Specified Date Account, all Deferrals and Company Contributions shall be allocated to a Separation Account on behalf of the Participant.

- 2.32 <u>Separation Benefit.</u> Separation Benefit means the benefit payable to a Participant under the Plan following the Participant's Separation from Service prior to Retirement.
- 2.33 <u>Separation from Service.</u> Separation from Service means an Employee's termination of employment with the Employer. Whether a Separation from Service has occurred shall be determined by the Committee in accordance with Code Section 409A.

Except in the case of an Employee on a bona fide leave of absence as provided below, an Employee is deemed to have incurred a Separation from Service if the Employer and the Employee reasonably anticipate that the level of services to be performed by the Employee after a date certain would be reduced to 20% or less of the average services

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rendered by the Employee during the immediately preceding 36-month period (or the total period of employment, if less than 36 months), disregarding periods during which the Employee was on a bona fide leave of absence.

An Employee who is absent from work due to military leave, sick leave, or other bona fide leave of absence shall incur a Separation from Service on the first date immediately following the later of: (i) the six month anniversary of the commencement of the leave, or (ii) the expiration of the Employee's right, if any, to reemployment under statute or contract.

For purposes of determining whether a Separation from Service has occurred, the Employer means the Employer as defined in Section 2.22 of the Plan, except that in applying Code sections 1563(a)(1), (2) and (3) for purposes of determining whether another organization is an Affiliate of the Company under Code Section 414(b), and in applying Treasury Regulation Section 1.414(c)-2 for purposes of determining whether another organization is an Affiliate of the Company under Code Section 414(c), "at least 50 percent" shall be used instead of "at least 80 percent" each place it appears in those sections.

The Committee specifically reserves the right to determine whether a sale or other disposition of substantial assets to an unrelated party constitutes a Separation from Service with respect to a Participant providing services to the seller immediately prior to the transaction and providing services to the buyer after the transaction. Such determination shall be made in accordance with the requirements of Code Section 409A.

- 2.34 Specified Date Account. Specified Date Account means an Account established by the Committee to record the amounts payable at a future date as specified in the Participant's Compensation Deferral Agreement. Unless otherwise determined by the Committee, a Participant may maintain no more than five Specified Date Accounts. A Specified Date Account may be identified in enrollment materials as an "In-Service Account" or such other name as established by the Committee without affecting the meaning thereof.
- 2.35 <u>Specified Date Benefit.</u> Specified Date Benefit means the benefit payable to a Participant under the Plan in accordance with Section 6.1(c).
- 2.36 <u>Specified Employee.</u> Specified Employee means an Employee who, as of the date of his or her Separation from Service, is a "key employee" of the Company or any Affiliate, any stock of which is actively traded on an established securities market or otherwise.

An Employee is a key employee if he or she meets the requirements of Code Section 416(i)(1)(A)(i), (ii), or (iii) (applied in accordance with applicable regulations thereunder and without regard to Code Section 416(i)(5)) at any time during the 12-month period ending on the Specified Employee Identification Date. Such Employee shall be treated as a key employee for the entire 12-month period beginning on the Specified Employee Effective Date.

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For purposes of determining whether an Employee is a Specified Employee, the compensation of the Employee shall be determined in accordance with the definition of compensation provided under Treas. Reg. Section 1.415(c)-2(d)(3) (wages within the meaning of Code section 3401(a) for purposes of income tax withholding at the source, plus amounts excludible from gross income under section 125(a), 132(f)(4), 402(e)(3), 402(h)(1) (B), 402(k) or 457(b), without regard to rules that limit the remuneration included in wages based on the nature or location of the employment or the services performed); provided, however, that, with respect to a nonresident alien who is not a Participant in the Plan, compensation shall not include compensation that is not includible in the gross income of the Employee under Code Sections 872, 893, 894, 911, 931 and 933, provided such compensation is not effectively connected with the conduct of a trade or business within the United States.

Notwithstanding anything in this paragraph to the contrary: (i) if a different definition of compensation has been designated by the Company with respect to another nonqualified deferred compensation plan in which a key employee participates, the definition of compensation shall be the definition provided in Treas. Reg. Section 1.409A-1(i)(2), and (ii) the Company may through action that is legally binding with respect to all nonqualified deferred compensation plans maintained by the Company, elect to use a different definition of compensation.

In the event of corporate transactions described in Treas. Reg. Section 1.409A-1(i)6), the identification of Specified Employees shall be determined in accordance with the default rules described therein, unless the Employer elects to utilize the available alternative methodology through designations made within the timeframes specified therein.

- 2.37 <u>Specified Employee Identification Date.</u> Specified Employee Identification Date means December 31, unless the Employer has elected a different date through action that is legally binding with respect to all nonqualified deferred compensation plans maintained by the Employer.
- 2.38 <u>Specified Employee Effective Date.</u> Specified Employee Effective Date means the first day of the fourth month following the Specified Employee Identification Date, or such earlier date as is selected by the Committee.
- 2.39 Substantial Risk of Forfeiture. Substantial Risk of Forfeiture means the description specified in Treas. Reg. Section 1.409A-1(d).

2.40 <u>Unforeseeable Emergency.</u> Unforeseeable Emergency means a severe financial hardship to the Participant resulting from an illness or accident of the Participant, the Participant's spouse, the Participant's dependent (as defined in Code section 152, without regard to section 152(b)(1), (b)(2), and (d) (1)(B)), or a Beneficiary; loss of the Participant's property due to casualty (including the need to rebuild a home following damage to a home not otherwise covered by insurance, for example, as a result of a natural disaster); or other similar extraordinary and unforeseeable circumstances arising as a result of

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events beyond the control of the Participant. The types of events which may qualify as an Unforeseeable Emergency may be limited by the Committee.

2.41 <u>Valuation Date.</u> Valuation Date means each Business Day.

ARTICLE III

Eligibility and Participation

- 3.1 <u>Eligibility and Participation.</u> An Eligible Employee becomes a Participant upon the earlier to occur of: (i) a credit of Company Contributions under Article V, or (ii) receipt of notification of eligibility to participate.
- 3.2 <u>Duration.</u> A Participant shall be eligible to defer Compensation and receive allocations of Company Contributions, subject to the terms of the Plan, for as long as such Participant remains an Eligible Employee. A Participant who is no longer an Eligible Employee but has not incurred a Separation from Service may not defer Compensation under the Plan beyond the Plan Year in which he or she became ineligible but may otherwise exercise all of the rights of a Participant under the Plan with respect to his or her Account(s). On and after a Separation from Service, a Participant shall remain a Participant as long as his or her Account Balance is greater than zero (0), and during such time may continue to make allocation elections as provided in Section 8.4. An individual shall cease being a Participant in the Plan when all benefits under the Plan to which he or she is entitled have been paid.

ARTICLE IV

Deferrals

- 4.1 <u>Deferral Elections, Generally.</u>
 - (a) A Participant may elect to defer Compensation by submitting a Compensation Deferral Agreement at the time and in the manner specified by the Committee, but in any event in accordance with Section 4.2.
 - (b) A Compensation Deferral Agreement becomes irrevocable with respect to a component of Compensation after the latest submission deadline specified in Section 4.2 that applies to such component of Compensation. For example, if a Participant elects to defer Compensation under Section 4.2(b), but may also defer a portion of such Compensation under Section 4.2(c) as Performance-Based Compensation, his Compensation Deferral Agreement will become irrevocable with respect to the Performance-Based Compensation after the deadline specified in Section 4.2(c). The Committee may modify (and may permit a Participant to modify) a Compensation Deferral Agreement with respect to a component of Compensation at any time prior to the latest applicable submission deadline under Section 4.2. A Compensation Deferral Agreement or modification to a

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Compensation Deferral Agreement (other than a modification that meets the requirements of Article VII) that is not timely filed under any of the rules set forth in Section 4.2 with respect to a component of Compensation shall be considered void with respect to such Compensation. In the case of an untimely modification, the Compensation Deferral Agreement in effect prior to modification shall apply.

(c) The Participant shall specify on his or her Compensation Deferral Agreement the amount of Deferrals and whether to allocate Deferrals to a Separation Account or to a Specified Date Account. If no designation is made, Deferrals shall be allocated to the Separation Account. A Participant may also specify in his or her Compensation Deferral Agreement the Payment Schedule applicable to his or her Plan Accounts. If the Payment Schedule is not specified in a Compensation Deferral Agreement, the Payment Schedule shall be the Payment Schedule specified in Section 6.2.

4.2 <u>Timing Requirements for Compensation Deferral Agreements.</u>

- (a) *First Year of Eligibility.* An Eligible Employee may submit a Compensation Deferral Agreement within 30 days following notification from the Committee of his or her initial eligibility to participate in the Plan. The determination of whether an Eligible Employee may file a Compensation Deferral Agreement under this paragraph shall be determined in accordance with the rules of Code Section 409A, including the provisions of Treas. Reg. Section 1.409A-2(a)(7).
- (b) *Prior Year Election.* Eligible Employees may defer Compensation by filing a Compensation Deferral Agreement no later than December 31 prior to the year in which the Compensation to be deferred is earned.
- (c) *Performance-Based Compensation*. Participants may file a Compensation Deferral Agreement with respect to Performance-Based Compensation before such Compensation becomes readily ascertainable and not later than the date that is six months before the end of the performance period, provided that the Participant performs services continuously from the later of the beginning of the performance period or the date the criteria are established through the date the Compensation Deferral Agreement is submitted.

Any election to defer Performance-Based Compensation that is made in accordance with this paragraph and that becomes payable as a result of the Participant's death or disability (as defined in Treas. Reg. Section 1.409A-1(e)) or upon a Change in Control (as defined in

Treas. Reg. Section 1.409A-3(i)(5)) prior to the satisfaction of the performance criteria, will be void.

(d) Fiscal Year Compensation. A Participant may defer Fiscal Year Compensation by filing a Compensation Deferral Agreement prior to the first day of the fiscal year or years in which such Fiscal Year Compensation is earned.

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- (e) *Certain Forfeitable Rights*. With respect to a legally binding right to a payment in a subsequent year that is subject to a forfeiture condition requiring the Participant's continued services for a period of at least 12 months from the date the Participant obtains the legally binding right, an election to defer such Compensation may be made on or before the 30th day after the Participant obtains the legally binding right to the Compensation, provided that the election is made at least 12 months in advance of the earliest date at which the forfeiture condition could lapse. If the forfeiture condition applicable to the payment lapses before the end of the required service period as a result of the Participant's death or disability (as defined in Treas. Reg. Section 1.409A-3(i)(4)) or upon a Change in Control (as defined in Treas. Reg. Section 1.409A-3(i)(5)), an election made in accordance with this paragraph shall be considered void with respect to such Compensation.
- (f) "Evergreen" Deferral Elections. The Committee, in its discretion, may provide in the Compensation Deferral Agreement that such Compensation Deferral Agreement will continue in effect for each subsequent year or performance period. Such "evergreen" Compensation Deferral Agreements will become effective with respect to an item of Compensation on the date such election becomes irrevocable under this Section 4.2. An evergreen Compensation Deferral Agreement may be terminated or modified prospectively with respect to Compensation for which such election remains revocable under this Section 4.2. A Participant whose Compensation Deferral Agreement is cancelled in accordance with Section 4.6 will be required to file a new Compensation Deferral Agreement under this Article IV in order to recommence Deferrals under the Plan.
- 4.3 <u>Allocation of Deferrals.</u> A Compensation Deferral Agreement may allocate Deferrals to one or more Specified Date Accounts and/or to the Separation Account. The Committee may, in its discretion, establish a minimum deferral period for the establishment of a Specified Date Account (for example, the third Plan Year following the year Compensation is first allocated to such accounts).
- 4.4 <u>Vesting.</u> Participant Deferrals shall be 100% vested at all times.
- 4.5 <u>Cancellation of Deferrals.</u> The Committee may cancel a Participant's Deferrals: (i) for the balance of the Plan Year in which an Unforeseeable Emergency occurs, (ii) if the Participant receives a hardship distribution under the Employer's qualified 401(k) plan, through the end of the Plan Year in which the six month anniversary of the hardship distribution falls, and (iii) during periods in which the Participant is unable to perform the duties of his or her position or any substantially similar position due to a mental or physical impairment that can be expected to result in death or last for a continuous period of at least six months, provided cancellation occurs by the later of the end of the taxable year of the Participant or the 15th day of the third month following the date the Participant incurs the disability (as defined in this paragraph).

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ARTICLE V

Company Contributions

- 5.1 <u>Discretionary Company Contributions.</u> The Participating Employer may, from time to time in its sole and absolute discretion, credit Company Contributions to any Participant in any amount determined by the Participating Employer. Such contributions will be credited to a Participant's Separation Account.
- 5.2 <u>Vesting.</u> Company Contributions described in Section 5.1 above, and the Earnings thereon, shall vest in accordance with the vesting schedule(s) established by the Committee at the time that the Company Contribution is made. All Company Contributions shall become 100% vested upon the death or Disability of the Participant while actively employed by an Employer. The Participating Employer may, at any time, in its sole discretion, increase a Participant's vested interest in a Company Contribution. The portion of a Participant's Accounts that remains unvested upon his or her Separation from Service after the application of the terms of this Section 5.2 shall be forfeited.

ARTICLE VI

Benefits

- 6.1 <u>Benefits, Generally.</u> A Participant shall be entitled to receive his or her Accounts on the first to occur of the following:
 - (a) Separation from Service. Upon the Participant's Separation from Service (other than death), he or she shall be entitled to a Separation Benefit. The Separation Benefit shall be equal to (i) the vested Separation Account and (ii) Specified Date Accounts with specified dates occurring after the Participants Separation from Service. The Separation Benefit shall be based on Account Balances as of the end of the month in which Separation from Service occurs and paid the following month; provided, however, that with respect to a Participant who is a Specified Employee as of the date such Participant incurs a Separation from Service, payment will be made or commence no earlier than the seventh month following the month in which such Separation from Service occurs. If payment is delayed because the Participant is a Specified Employee or under circumstances described under Treas. Reg. 1.409A-3(d), the Committee may credit Participant Accounts with interest at 120% of the Applicable Federal Rate for short-term obligations.
 - (b) Specified Date. A Participant who has not incurred a Separation from Service is entitled to payment from a Specified Date Account as of the month and year specified in the Compensation Deferral Agreement that established such Account. Specified Date Accounts are valued on the last day of such month and paid the following month. If payment is delayed under circumstances described under Treas. Reg. 1.409A-3(d), the Committee may credit Participant Accounts with interest at 120% of the Applicable Federal Rate for short-term obligations.

- (c) *Death.* In the event of the Participant's death, his or her designated Beneficiary(ies) shall be entitled to a Death Benefit. In the event of death prior to Separation from Service, the Death Benefit shall be based on the Account Balance as of the end of the month in which death occurred, with payment made in the following month. If payment is delayed under circumstances described under Treas. Reg. 1.409A-3(d), the Committee may credit Participant Accounts with interest at 120% of the Applicable Federal Rate for short-term obligations.
- (d) Unforeseeable Emergency Payments. A Participant who experiences an Unforeseeable Emergency may submit a written request to the Committee to receive payment of all or any portion of his or her vested Accounts. Whether a Participant or Beneficiary is faced with an Unforeseeable Emergency permitting an emergency payment shall be determined by the Committee based on the relevant facts and circumstances of each case, but, in any case, a distribution on account of Unforeseeable Emergency may not be made to the extent that such emergency is or may be reimbursed through insurance or otherwise, by liquidation of the Participant's assets, to the extent the liquidation of such assets would not cause severe financial hardship, or by cessation of Deferrals under this Plan. If an emergency payment is approved by the Committee, the amount of the payment shall not exceed the amount reasonably necessary to satisfy the need, taking into account the additional compensation that is available to the Participant as the result of cancellation of deferrals to the Plan, including amounts necessary to pay any taxes or penalties that the Participant reasonably anticipates will result from the payment. The amount of the emergency payment shall be subtracted first from the vested portion of the Participant's Separation Account until depleted and then from the vested Specified Date Accounts, beginning with the Specified Date Account with the latest payment commencement date. Emergency payments shall be paid in a single lump sum within the 90-day period following the date the payment is approved by the Committee.

6.2 <u>Form of Payment.</u>

- (a) Separation Benefit. A Participant who is entitled to receive a Separation Benefit shall receive payment of such benefit in a single lump sum, unless the Participant elects on his or her initial Compensation Deferral Agreement to have such benefit paid in one of the following alternative forms of payment (i) substantially equal annual installments over a period of two (2) to fifteen (15) years, as elected by the Participant, or (ii) a lump sum payment of a percentage of the balance in the Separation Account, with the balance paid in substantially equal annual installments over a period of two (2) to fifteen (15) years, as elected by the Participant. A Participant's elected Payment Schedule under this paragraph remains subject to Section 6.2(c), (d) and (e).
- (b) *Specified Date Benefit.* The Specified Date Benefit shall be paid in a single lump sum, unless the Participant elects on the Compensation Deferral Agreement with which the account was established to have the Specified Date Account paid in

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- substantially equal annual installments over a period of two (2) to five (5) years, as elected by the Participant. A Participant's elected Payment Schedule under this paragraph remains subject to Section 6.2(c), (d) and (e).
- (c) *Death Benefit.* A designated Beneficiary who is entitled to receive a Death Benefit shall receive payment of such benefit in a single lump sum. If a Participant dies after Separation from Service, his or her Beneficiary(ies) will continue to receive the Participant's Separation Benefit and any Specified Date Benefits as elected.
- (d) *Change in Control.* A Participant will receive his or her entire Account Balance in a single lump sum payment if Separation from Service occurs within 24 months following a Change in Control.
 - A Participant or Beneficiary receiving installment payments when a Change in Control occurs will receive the remaining Account Balance in a single lump sum within 90 days following the Change in Control.
- (e) *Small Account Balances*. Notwithstanding any Participant election or other provisions of the Plan, a Participant's Accounts will be paid in a single lump sum upon Separation from Service if the combined value of his or her Accounts is not greater than \$50,000.
- (f) Rules Applicable to Installment Payments. If a Payment Schedule specifies installment payments, annual payments will be made beginning as of the payment commencement date for such installments and shall continue on each anniversary thereof until the number of installment payments specified in the Payment Schedule has been paid. If installments are paid to a Specified Employee as a Separation Benefit, annual payments will be paid on the anniversary of the date the initial installment was made. The amount of each installment payment shall be determined by dividing (a) by (b), where (a) equals the Account Balance as of the Valuation Date and (b) equals the remaining number of installment payments.
 - For purposes of Article VII, installment payments will be treated as a single form of payment. If a lump sum equal to less than 100% of the Separation Account is paid, the payment commencement date for the installment form of payment will be the first anniversary of the payment of the lump sum.
- Acceleration of or Delay in Payments. The Committee, in its sole and absolute discretion, may elect to accelerate the time or form of payment of a benefit owed to the Participant hereunder, provided such acceleration is permitted under Treas. Reg. Section 1.409A-3(j)(4). The Committee may also, in its sole and absolute discretion, delay the time for payment of a benefit owed to the Participant hereunder, to the extent permitted under Treas. Reg. Section 1.409A-2(b)(7). If the Plan receives a domestic relations order (within the meaning of Code Section 414(p)(1)(B)) directing that all or a portion of a

ARTICLE VII

Modifications to Payment Schedules

- 7.1 <u>Participant's Right to Modify.</u> A Participant may modify any or all of the alternative Payment Schedules with respect to an Account, consistent with the permissible Payment Schedules available under the Plan, provided such modification complies with the requirements of this Article VII.
- 7.2 <u>Time of Election.</u> The date on which a modification election is submitted to the Committee must be at least 12 months prior to the date on which payment is scheduled to commence under the Payment Schedule in effect prior to the modification.
- 7.3 <u>Date of Payment under Modified Payment Schedule.</u> Except with respect to modifications that relate to the payment of a Death Benefit or a Disability Benefit, the date payments are to commence under the modified Payment Schedule must be no earlier than five years after the date payment would have commenced under the original Payment Schedule. Under no circumstances may a modification election result in an acceleration of payments in violation of Code Section 409A.
- 7.4 <u>Effective Date.</u> A modification election submitted in accordance with this Article VII is irrevocable upon receipt by the Committee and becomes effective 12 months after such date.
- 7.5 <u>Effect on Accounts.</u> An election to modify a Payment Schedule is specific to the Account or payment event to which it applies, and shall not be construed to affect the Payment Schedules of any other Accounts.

ARTICLE VIII

Valuation of Account Balances; Investments

- 8.1 <u>Valuation.</u> Deferrals shall be credited to appropriate Accounts on the date such Compensation would have been paid to the Participant absent the Compensation Deferral Agreement. Company Contributions shall be credited to the Separation Account at the times determined by the Committee. Valuation of Accounts shall be performed under procedures approved by the Committee.
- 8.2 Adjustment for Earnings. Each Account will be adjusted to reflect Earnings on each Business Day. Adjustments shall reflect the net earnings, gains, losses, expenses, appreciation and depreciation associated with an investment option for each portion of the Account allocated to such option ("investment allocation").

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- 8.3 <u>Investment Options</u>. Investment options will be determined by the Committee. The Committee, in its sole discretion, shall be permitted to add or remove investment options from the Plan menu from time to time, provided that any such additions or removals of investment options shall not be effective with respect to any period prior to the effective date of such change.
- 8.4 <u>Investment Allocations.</u> A Participant's investment allocation constitutes a deemed, not actual, investment among the investment options comprising the investment menu. At no time shall a Participant have any real or beneficial ownership in any investment option included in the investment menu, nor shall the Participating Employer or any trustee acting on its behalf have any obligation to purchase actual securities as a result of a Participant's investment allocation. A Participant's investment allocation shall be used solely for purposes of adjusting the value of a Participant's Account Balances.

A Participant shall specify an investment allocation for each of his or her Accounts in accordance with procedures established by the Committee. Allocation among the investment options must be designated in increments of 1%. The Participant's investment allocation will become effective on the same Business Day or, in the case of investment allocations received after a time specified by the Committee, the next Business Day.

A Participant may change an investment allocation on any Business Day, both with respect to future credits to the Plan and with respect to existing Account Balances, in accordance with procedures adopted by the Committee. Changes shall become effective on the same Business Day or, in the case of investment allocations received after a time specified by the Committee, the next Business Day, and shall be applied prospectively.

8.5 <u>Unallocated Deferrals and Accounts.</u> If the Participant fails to make an investment allocation with respect to an Account, such Account shall be invested in an investment option, the primary objective of which is the preservation of capital, as determined by the Committee.

ARTICLE IX

Administration

- 9.1 <u>Plan Administration</u>. This Plan shall be administered by the Committee which shall have discretionary authority to make, amend, interpret and enforce all appropriate rules and regulations for the administration of this Plan and to utilize its discretion to decide or resolve any and all questions, including but not limited to eligibility for benefits and interpretations of this Plan and its terms, as may arise in connection with the Plan. Claims for benefits shall be filed with the Committee and resolved in accordance with the claims procedures in Article XII.
- 9.2 <u>Administration Upon Change in Control.</u> Upon a Change in Control, the Committee, as constituted immediately prior to such Change in Control, shall continue to act as the Committee. The individual who was the Chief Executive Officer of the Company (or if

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such person is unable or unwilling to act, the next highest ranking officer) prior to the Change in Control shall have the authority (but shall not be obligated) to appoint an independent third party to act as the Committee.

Upon such Change in Control, the Company may not remove the Committee, unless 2/3rds of the members of the Board of Directors of the Company (or an appropriate committee of such board) and a majority of Participants and Beneficiaries with Account Balances consent to the

removal and replacement of the Committee. Notwithstanding the foregoing, neither the Committee nor the officer described above shall have authority to direct investment of trust assets under any rabbi trust described in Section 11.2.

The Participating Employer shall, with respect to the Committee identified under this Section: (i) pay all reasonable expenses and fees of the Committee, (ii) indemnify the Committee (including individuals serving as Committee members) against any costs, expenses and liabilities including, without limitation, attorneys' fees and expenses arising in connection with the performance of the Committee's duties hereunder, except with respect to matters resulting from the Committee's gross negligence or willful misconduct, and (iii) supply full and timely information to the Committee on all matters related to the Plan, any rabbi trust, Participants, Beneficiaries and Accounts as the Committee may reasonably require.

- 9.3 <u>Withholding.</u> The Participating Employer shall have the right to withhold from any payment due under the Plan (or with respect to any amounts credited to the Plan) any taxes required by law to be withheld in respect of such payment (or credit). Withholdings with respect to amounts credited to the Plan shall be deducted from Compensation that has not been deferred to the Plan.
- 9.4 Indemnification. The Participating Employers shall indemnify and hold harmless each employee, officer, director, agent or organization, to whom or to which are delegated duties, responsibilities, and authority under the Plan or otherwise with respect to administration of the Plan, including, without limitation, the Committee and its agents, against all claims, liabilities, fines and penalties, and all expenses reasonably incurred by or imposed upon him or her or it (including but not limited to reasonable attorneys' fees) which arise as a result of his or her or its actions or failure to act in connection with the operation and administration of the Plan to the extent lawfully allowable and to the extent that such claim, liability, fine, penalty, or expense is not paid for by liability insurance purchased or paid for by the Participating Employer. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Participating Employer shall not indemnify any person or organization if his or her or its actions or failure to act are due to gross negligence or willful misconduct or for any such amount incurred through any settlement or compromise of any action unless the Participating Employer consents in writing to such settlement or compromise.
- 9.5 <u>Delegation of Authority.</u> In the administration of this Plan, the Committee may, from time to time, employ agents and delegate to them such administrative duties as it sees fit, and may from time to time consult with legal counsel who shall be legal counsel to the Company.

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9.6 <u>Binding Decisions or Actions.</u> The decision or action of the Committee in respect of any question arising out of or in connection with the administration, interpretation and application of the Plan and the rules and regulations thereunder shall be final and conclusive and binding upon all persons having any interest in the Plan.

ARTICLE X

Amendment and Termination

- 10.1 <u>Amendment and Termination.</u> The Company may at any time and from time to time amend the Plan or may terminate the Plan as provided in this Article X. Each Participating Employer may also terminate its participation in the Plan.
- Amendments. The Company, by action taken by its Board of Directors of the Company (or an appropriate committee of such board), may amend the Plan at any time and for any reason, provided that any such amendment shall not reduce the vested Account Balances of any Participant accrued as of the date of any such amendment or restatement (as if the Participant had incurred a voluntary Separation from Service on such date) or reduce any rights of a Participant under the Plan or other Plan features with respect to Deferrals made prior to the date of any such amendment or restatement without the consent of the Participant. The Board of Directors of the Company (or an appropriate committee of such board) may delegate to the Committee the authority to amend the Plan without the consent of the Board of Directors of the Company (or an appropriate committee of such board) for the purpose of: (i) conforming the Plan to the requirements of law; (ii) facilitating the administration of the Plan; (iii) clarifying provisions based on the Committee's interpretation of the document; and (iv) making such other amendments as the Board of Directors of the Company (or an appropriate committee of such board) may authorize.
- 10.3 <u>Termination.</u> The Company, by action taken by its Board of Directors (or an appropriate committee of such board), may terminate the Plan and pay Participants and Beneficiaries their Account Balances in a single lump sum at any time, to the extent and in accordance with Treas. Reg. Section 1.409A-3(j)(4)(ix). If a Participating Employer terminates its participation in the Plan, the benefits of affected Employees shall be paid at the time provided in Article VI.
- Accounts Taxable Under Code Section 409A. The Plan is intended to constitute a plan of deferred compensation that meets the requirements for deferral of income taxation under Code Section 409A. The Committee, pursuant to its authority to interpret the Plan, may sever from the Plan or any Compensation Deferral Agreement any provision or exercise of a right that otherwise would result in a violation of Code Section 409A.

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ARTICLE XI

Informal Funding

- General Assets. Obligations established under the terms of the Plan may be satisfied from the general funds of the Participating Employers, or a trust described in this Article XI. No Participant, spouse or Beneficiary shall have any right, title or interest whatever in assets of the Participating Employers. Nothing contained in this Plan, and no action taken pursuant to its provisions, shall create or be construed to create a trust of any kind, or a fiduciary relationship, between the Participating Employers and any Employee, spouse, or Beneficiary. To the extent that any person acquires a right to receive payments hereunder, such rights are no greater than the right of an unsecured general creditor of the Participating Employer.
- 1.1.2 Rabbi Trust. A Participating Employer may, in its sole discretion, establish a grantor trust, commonly known as a rabbi trust, as a vehicle for accumulating assets to pay benefits under the Plan. Payments under the Plan may be paid from the general assets of the Participating Employer or from the assets of any such rabbi trust. Payment from any such source shall reduce the obligation owed to the Participant or Beneficiary under the Plan.

If a rabbi trust is in existence upon the occurrence of a "change in control", as defined in such trust, the Participating Employer shall, upon such change in control, and on each anniversary of the change in control, contribute in cash or liquid securities such amounts as are necessary so that the value of assets after making the contributions equal or exceed the total value of all Account Balances multiplied by 125%.

ARTICLE XII

Claims

- 12.1 <u>Filing a Claim.</u> Any controversy or claim arising out of or relating to the Plan shall be filed in writing with the Committee which shall make all determinations concerning such claim. Any claim filed with the Committee and any decision by the Committee denying such claim shall be in writing and shall be delivered to the Participant or Beneficiary filing the claim (the "Claimant").
 - (a) In General. Notice of a denial of benefits will be provided within 90 days of the Committee's receipt of the Claimant's claim for benefits. If the Committee determines that it needs additional time to review the claim, the Committee will provide the Claimant with a notice of the extension before the end of the initial 90-day period. The extension will not be more than 90 days from the end of the initial 90-day period and the notice of extension will explain the special circumstances that require the extension and the date by which the Committee expects to make a decision.

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- (b) Contents of Notice. If a claim for benefits is completely or partially denied, notice of such denial shall be in writing and shall set forth the reasons for denial in plain language. The notice shall: (i) cite the pertinent provisions of the Plan document, and (ii) explain, where appropriate, how the Claimant can perfect the claim, including a description of any additional material or information necessary to complete the claim and why such material or information is necessary. The claim denial also shall include an explanation of the claims review procedures and the time limits applicable to such procedures, including a statement of the Claimant's right to bring a civil action under Section 502(a) of ERISA following an adverse decision on review.
- Appeal of Denied Claims. A Claimant whose claim has been completely or partially denied shall be entitled to appeal the claim denial by filing a written appeal with a committee designated to hear such appeals (the "Appeals Committee"). A Claimant who timely requests a review of the denied claim (or his or her authorized representative) may review, upon request and free of charge, copies of all documents, records and other information relevant to the denial and may submit written comments, documents, records and other information relevant to the claim to the Appeals Committee. All written comments, documents, records, and other information shall be considered "relevant" if the information: (i) was relied upon in making a benefits determination, (ii) was submitted, considered or generated in the course of making a benefits decision regardless of whether it was relied upon to make the decision, or (iii) demonstrates compliance with administrative processes and safeguards established for making benefit decisions. The Appeals Committee may, in its sole discretion and if it deems appropriate or necessary, decide to hold a hearing with respect to the claim appeal.
 - (a) In General. Appeal of a denied benefits claim must be filed in writing with the Appeals Committee no later than 60 days after receipt of the written notification of such claim denial. The Appeals Committee shall make its decision regarding the merits of the denied claim within 60 days following receipt of the appeal (or within 120 days after such receipt, in a case where there are special circumstances requiring extension of time for reviewing the appealed claim). If an extension of time for reviewing the appeal is required because of special circumstances, written notice of the extension shall be furnished to the Claimant prior to the commencement of the extension. The notice will indicate the special circumstances requiring the extension of time and the date by which the Appeals Committee expects to render the determination on review. The review will take into account comments, documents, records and other information submitted by the Claimant relating to the claim without regard to whether such information was submitted or considered in the initial benefit determination.
 - (b) *Contents of Notice*. If a benefits claim is completely or partially denied on review, notice of such denial shall be in writing and shall set forth the reasons for denial in plain language.

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The decision on review shall set forth: (i) the specific reason or reasons for the denial, (ii) specific references to the pertinent Plan provisions on which the denial is based, (iii) a statement that the Claimant is entitled to receive, upon request and free of charge, reasonable access to and copies of all documents, records, or other information relevant (as defined above) to the Claimant's claim, and (iv) a statement describing any voluntary appeal procedures offered by the plan and a statement of the Claimant's right to bring an action under Section 502(a) of ERISA.

12.3 <u>Claims Appeals Upon Change in Control.</u> Upon a Change in Control, the Appeals Committee, as constituted immediately prior to such Change in Control, shall continue to act as the Appeals Committee. Upon such Change in Control, the Company may not remove any member of the Appeals Committee, but may replace resigning members if 2/3rds of the members of the Board of Directors of the Company and a majority of Participants and Beneficiaries with Account Balances consent to the replacement.

The Appeals Committee shall have the exclusive authority at the appeals stage to interpret the terms of the Plan and resolve appeals under the Claims Procedure.

Each Participating Employer shall, with respect to the Committee identified under this Section: (i) pay its proportionate share of all reasonable expenses and fees of the Appeals Committee, (ii) indemnify the Appeals Committee (including individual committee members) against any costs, expenses and liabilities including, without limitation, attorneys' fees and expenses arising in connection with the performance of the Appeals Committee hereunder, except with respect to matters resulting from the Appeals Committee's gross negligence or willful misconduct, and (iii) supply full and timely information to the Appeals Committee on all matters related to the Plan, any rabbi trust, Participants, Beneficiaries and Accounts as the Appeals Committee may reasonably require.

12.4 <u>Legal Action.</u> A Claimant may not bring any legal action, including commencement of any arbitration, relating to a claim for benefits under the Plan unless and until the Claimant has followed the claims procedures under the Plan and exhausted his or her administrative remedies under such claims procedures. Any such legal action must be commenced not later than the earlier of (i) one year of a final determination hereunder with respect to such claim and (ii) two years after the occurrence of the event upon which the claim is based.

If a Participant or Beneficiary prevails in a legal proceeding brought under the Plan to enforce the rights of such Participant or any other similarly situated Participant or Beneficiary, in whole or in part, the Participating Employer shall reimburse such Participant or Beneficiary for all legal costs, expenses, attorneys' fees and such other liabilities incurred as a result of such proceedings. If the legal proceeding is brought in connection with a Change in Control, or a "change in control" as defined in a rabbi trust described in Section 11.2, the Participant or Beneficiary may file a claim directly with the trustee for reimbursement of such costs, expenses and fees. For purposes of the preceding

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sentence, the amount of the claim shall be treated as if it were an addition to the Participant's or Beneficiary's Account Balance and will be included in determining the Participating Employer's trust funding obligation under Section 11.2.

12.5 <u>Discretion of Appeals Committee.</u> All interpretations, determinations and decisions of the Appeals Committee with respect to any claim shall be made in its sole discretion, and shall be final and conclusive.

12.6 Arbitration.

(a) *Prior to Change in Control*. If, prior to a Change in Control, any claim or controversy between a Participating Employer and a Participant or Beneficiary is not resolved through the claims procedure set forth in Article XII, such claim shall be submitted to and resolved exclusively by expedited binding arbitration by a single arbitrator. Arbitration shall be conducted in accordance with the following procedures:

The complaining party shall promptly send written notice to the other party identifying the matter in dispute and the proposed remedy. Following the giving of such notice, the parties shall meet and attempt in good faith to resolve the matter. In the event the parties are unable to resolve the matter within 21 days, the parties shall meet and attempt in good faith to select a single arbitrator acceptable to both parties. If a single arbitrator is not selected by mutual consent within ten Business Days following the giving of the written notice of dispute, an arbitrator shall be selected from a list of nine persons each of whom shall be an attorney who is either engaged in the active practice of law or recognized arbitrator and who, in either event, is experienced in serving as an arbitrator in disputes between employers and employees, which list shall be provided by the main office of either JAMS, the American Arbitration Association ("AAA") or the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service. If, within three Business Days of the parties' receipt of such list, the parties are unable to agree on an arbitrator from the list, then the parties shall each strike names alternatively from the list, with the first to strike being determined by the flip of a coin. After each party has had four strikes, the remaining name on the list shall be the arbitrator. If such person is unable to serve for any reason, the parties shall repeat this process until an arbitrator is selected.

Unless the parties agree otherwise, within 60 days of the selection of the arbitrator, a hearing shall be conducted before such arbitrator at a time and a place agreed upon by the parties. In the event the parties are unable to agree upon the time or place of the arbitration, the time and place shall be designated by the arbitrator after consultation with the parties. Within 30 days of the conclusion of the arbitration hearing, the arbitrator shall issue an award, accompanied by a written decision explaining the basis for the arbitrator's award.

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In any arbitration hereunder, the Participating Employer shall pay all administrative fees of the arbitration and all fees of the arbitrator, except that the Participant or Beneficiary may, if he/she/it wishes, pay up to one-half of those amounts. Each party shall pay its own attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses, unless the arbitrator orders otherwise. The prevailing party in such arbitration, as determined by the arbitrator, and in any enforcement or other court proceedings, shall be entitled, to the extent permitted by law, to reimbursement from the other party for all of the prevailing party's costs (including but not limited to the arbitrator's compensation), expenses, and attorneys' fees. The arbitrator shall have no authority to add to or to modify this Plan, shall apply all applicable law, and shall have no lesser and no greater remedial authority than would a court of law resolving the same claim or controversy. The arbitrator shall, upon an appropriate motion, dismiss any claim without an evidentiary hearing if the party bringing the motion establishes that it would be entitled to summary judgment if the matter had been pursued in court litigation.

The parties shall be entitled to discovery as follows: Each party may take no more than three depositions. The Participating Employer may depose the Participant or Beneficiary plus two other witnesses, and the Participant or Beneficiary may depose the Participating Employer, pursuant to Rule 30(b)(6) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, plus two other witnesses. Each party may make such reasonable document discovery requests as are allowed in the discretion of the arbitrator.

The decision of the arbitrator shall be final, binding, and non-appealable, and may be enforced as a final judgment in any court of competent jurisdiction.

This arbitration provision of the Plan shall extend to claims against any parent, subsidiary, or affiliate of each party, and, when acting within such capacity, any officer, director, shareholder, Participant, Beneficiary, or agent of any party, or of any of the above, and shall apply as well to claims arising out of state and federal statutes and local ordinances as well as to claims arising under the common law or under this Plan.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, and unless otherwise agreed between the parties, either party may apply to a court for provisional relief, including a temporary restraining order or preliminary injunction, on the ground that the arbitration award to which the applicant may be entitled may be rendered ineffectual without provisional relief.

If any of the provisions of this Section 12.6(a) are determined to be unlawful or otherwise unenforceable, in the whole part, such determination shall not affect the validity of the remainder of this section and this section shall be reformed to the extent necessary to carry out its provisions to the greatest extent possible and to insure that the resolution of all conflicts between the parties, including those arising out of statutory claims, shall be resolved by neutral, binding arbitration. If a court should find that the provisions of this Section 12.6(a) are not absolutely binding, then the parties intend any arbitration decision and award to be fully admissible in evidence in any subsequent action, given great weight by any finder of fact and treated as determinative to the maximum extent permitted by law.

The parties do not agree to arbitrate any putative class action or any other representative action. The parties agree to arbitrate only the claims(s) of a single Participant or Beneficiary.

(b) *Upon Change in Control.* If, upon the occurrence of a Change in Control, any dispute, controversy or claim arises between a Participant or Beneficiary and the Participating Employer out of or relating to or concerning the provisions of the Plan, such dispute, controversy or claim shall be finally settled by a court of competent jurisdiction which, notwithstanding any other provision of the Plan, shall apply a de novo standard of review to any determination made by the Company or its Board of Directors, a Participating Employer, the Committee, or the Appeals Committee.

ARTICLE XIII

General Provisions

- Assignment. No interest of any Participant, spouse or Beneficiary under this Plan and no benefit payable hereunder shall be assigned as security for a loan, and any such purported assignment shall be null, void and of no effect, nor shall any such interest or any such benefit be subject in any manner, either voluntarily or involuntarily, to anticipation, sale, transfer, assignment or encumbrance by or through any Participant, spouse or Beneficiary. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, however, the Committee has the discretion to make payments to an alternate payee in accordance with the terms of a domestic relations order (as defined in Code Section 414(p)(1)(B)).
 - A Participating Employer may assign any or all of its liabilities under this Plan in connection with any restructuring, recapitalization, sale of assets or other similar transactions affecting such Participating Employer without the consent of the Participant.
- 13.2 <u>No Legal or Equitable Rights or Interest.</u> No Participant or other person shall have any legal or equitable rights or interest in this Plan that are not expressly granted in this Plan. Participation in this Plan does not give any person any right to be retained in the service of the Participating Employer. The right and power of a Participating Employer to dismiss or discharge an Employee is expressly reserved. The Participating Employers

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- make no representations or warranties as to the tax consequences to a Participant or a Participant's beneficiaries resulting from a deferral of income pursuant to the Plan.
- 13.3 <u>No Employment Contract.</u> Nothing contained herein shall be construed to constitute a contract of employment between an Employee and a Participating Employer.
- 13.4 <u>Notice.</u> Any notice or filing required or permitted to be delivered to the Committee under this Plan shall be delivered in writing, in person, or through such electronic means as is established by the Committee. Notice shall be deemed given as of the date of delivery or, if delivery is made by mail, as of the date shown on the postmark on the receipt for registration or certification. Written transmission shall be sent by certified mail to:

THE HOWARD HUGHES CORPORATION ATTN: DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES 13355 NOEL ROAD, 22ND FLOOR DALLAS, TX 75240

Any notice or filing required or permitted to be given to a Participant under this Plan shall be sufficient if in writing or hand-delivered, or sent by mail to the last known address of the Participant.

- 13.5 <u>Headings.</u> The headings of Sections are included solely for convenience of reference, and if there is any conflict between such headings and the text of this Plan, the text shall control.
- 13.6 <u>Invalid or Unenforceable Provisions.</u> If any provision of this Plan shall be held invalid or unenforceable, such invalidity or unenforceability shall not affect any other provisions hereof and the Committee may elect in its sole discretion to construe such invalid or unenforceable provisions in a manner that conforms to applicable law or as if such provisions, to the extent invalid or unenforceable, had not been included.
- 13.7 <u>Lost Participants or Beneficiaries.</u> Any Participant or Beneficiary who is entitled to a benefit from the Plan has the duty to keep the Committee advised of his or her current mailing address. If benefit payments are returned to the Plan or are not presented for payment after a reasonable amount of time, the Committee shall presume that the payee is missing. The Committee, after making such efforts as in its discretion it deems reasonable and appropriate to locate the payee, shall stop payment on any uncashed checks and may discontinue making future payments until contact with the payee is restored.
- 13.8 <u>Facility of Payment to a Minor.</u> If a distribution is to be made to a minor, or to a person who is otherwise incompetent, then the Committee may, in its discretion, make such distribution: (i) to the legal guardian, or if none, to a parent of a minor payee with whom the payee maintains his or her

residence, or (ii) to the conservator or committee or, if none,		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
residence or till to the conservator or committee or it none	to the nerson naving clistody of an	incompetent payee. Any such distribution spail
residence, or (ii) to the conservator or committee or, ir none,	, to the person having custody of the	medinpetent payee, rany sacir distribution shair

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fully discharge the Committee, the Company, and the Plan from further liability on account thereof.

13.9 <u>Governing Law.</u> To the extent not preempted by ERISA, the laws of the State of Texas shall govern the construction and administration of the Plan.

IN WI	TNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned executed this Plan as of the	day of	2014, to be effective as of the Effective Date.
The H	oward Hughes Corporation		
By:	(Print Name)		
Its:	(Title)		
		(Signature)	
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