1 FENNEMORE CRAIG, P.C. Cathy L. Reece (005932) Keith L. Hendricks (012750) 2 3003 N. Central Ave., Suite 2600 3 Phoenix, Arizona 85012 Telephone: (602) 916-5343 4 Facsimile: (602) 916-5543 Email: creece@fclaw.com khendric@fclaw.com 5 Attorneys for ML Manager LLC 6 7 FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA 8 In re 9 MORTGAGES LTD., 10 Debtor. 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22

IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT

Chapter 11 Case No. 2:08-bk-07465-RJH MOTION TO APPROVE SETTLEMENTS WITH GRACE ENTITIES Hearing Date: TBD Hearing Time: TBD

ML Manager LLC ("ML Manager"), as manager for six Loan LLCs1 and as agent for the non-transferring pass-through investors who are fractional note and deed of trust holders in the six Grace Entity loans, requests that the Court enter an order approving the settlements and authorizing ML Manager to enter into and implement the settlements with the Grace Entities<sup>2</sup> borrowers as presented in the attached Settlement Agreements that are marked collectively as Exhibit "A" hereto. 3

The entities described herein as the "Grace Entities" are Central & Monroe, LLC; Osborn III Partners, LLC; Portales Place Property, LLC; 70th Street Property, LLC; and 44th & Camelback Property, LLC

All of the statements in this Motion and the Motion itself are being presented purely for

the purpose of settlement. If the settlement is not approved by the Court and/or the other conditions and contingencies are not satisfied, nothing contained in the Motion or Settlement Agreements can or may be used against any party and nothing therein shall have any admissive or evidentiary effect. ML Manager and the Grace Entities reserve all of their arguments and positions in the event the settlement is not approved or the

conditions and contingencies are not satisfied.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The entities described herein as the "6 Loan LLCs" are C&M Loan LLC; Osborn III Loan LLC; PPP Loan LLC; 70 SP Loan LLC; 44 CP Loan I LLC; and 44 CP Loan II

## Jurisdiction and Reason for Court Involvement

As the Court may recall, pursuant to paragraph V of the Plan Confirmation Order entered by the Court on May 20, 2009 (Docket No. 1755), the Grace Entities and ML Manager were required under the confirmed plan herein to mediate, and if mediation failed, to arbitrate all legal issues<sup>4</sup> that existed between the Grace Entities, the Grace Guarantors<sup>5</sup> and the ML Investors<sup>6</sup>, including but not limited to lender liability claims, offsets against the notes and deeds of trust, foreclosure of the deeds of trust, deficiencies on the notes, liability of the guarantors, among other issues. As a result of mediation that formally began on August 26, 2009, with the assistance of mediator Gary L. Birnbaum of Mariscal, Weeks, McIntyre & Friedlander, P.C., the Grace Entities and ML Manager reached a settlement eight months later on all six of the loans, as documented in the five

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5. "Grace Dispute" means all Claims and Causes of Action against ML held by one or more of the Grace Entities, and all Claims and Causes of Action against the Grace Entities and/or the Grace Guarantors held by ML or the ML Investors, including but not limited to any and all Claims and Causes of Action that have been or may be asserted by and between the aforementioned parties, all Claims and Causes of Action arising under the loan documents entered into by and between ML and the Grace Entities, all guarantees in connection therewith, all counterclaims in connection therewith, any Claims or Causes of Action arising out of or related in any way to ML's failure to timely and fully fund its loans to the Grace Entities, and all Claims and Causes of Action arising out of ML's conduct regarding these loans.

Plan Confirmation Order, ¶ V at 13:7-12.

<sup>5</sup> The Plan Confirmation Order defined the "Grace Guarantors" as "all guarantors of any loan made by ML to any one of the Grace Entities." Plan Confirmation Order, ¶ V at 13:2-3.

<sup>6</sup> The Official Committee of Investors' First Amended Plan of Reorganization Dated March 12, 2009 (the "Plan") defined "Investors" as "all Persons holding fractional or participating interest in the ML Loans or in the MP Funds which hold fractional or participating interests in the ML Loans, whether as a pass-through investor or an investor under the MP Funds, excluding the Debtor." Plan, Article 2.40 at 8:17-20.

Specifically, the Plan Confirmation Order defined the scope of the "Grace Dispute" to be mediated by the Grace Entities and ML Manager as follows:

settlement agreements attached as Exhibit A hereto.<sup>7</sup>

The Bankruptcy Court specifically retained jurisdiction over the mediation process between the Grace Entities and ML Manager. Further, ML Manager asserts that the Bankruptcy Court retained jurisdiction to approve this Motion pursuant to Article 9.1(j)<sup>8</sup> of the Plan, among other sections, and Section 105 of the Bankruptcy Code, among other sections, as an order in aid of implementation of the Plan.

## **Procedure being Followed**

ML Manager has filed this Motion and will serve it along with the Notice of Hearing on the parties on the electronic service list and will mail a copy to each of the non-transferring Pass-Through Investors in each of the six Grace Entity loans.

For the investors and the nine MP Funds investors in those six loans, these settlements constitute a "Major Decision", as defined in each Loan LLC's operating agreement. Therefore, ML Manager will be sending out a ballot to each investor in the Loan LLCs and the MP Funds asking them to agree or disagree with the ML Manager's recommendation to approve the settlements. Approval of the investors in the Loan LLCs of the settlement must be obtained by a majority of the investors dollars voting. If the Settlement hearing is accelerated to May 27, 2010 as requested, the voting process will be completed after the hearing on this Motion. The results of the voting will not be known to

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The reason this Motion references six loans and six Loan LLCs but only five Grace Entities is because one of the Grace Entities, 44th & Camelback Property LLC, obtained two separate loans from Mortgages Ltd., resulting in two Loan LLCs (44 CP Loan I LLC and 44 CP Loan II LLC) associated with that borrower and its loans.

8 Article 9.1(j) of the Plan provides:

<sup>9.1</sup> Jurisdiction of the Bankruptcy Court. After the Effective Date, the Bankruptcy Court shall retain jurisdiction of the Chapter 11 Case pursuant to and for the purposes of §§105(a) and 1127 of the Bankruptcy Code and for the following purposes, among others:

<sup>(</sup>j) To determine the Borrowers' Claims against the Debtor, the Estate, the Investors, RBLLC and the Loan LLCs;

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ML Manager at the time of the Settlement hearing. ML manager will file a notice with the Court once the vote is conducted indicating the results. So long as the settlements are subsequently approved by the Loan LLCs and MP Fund investors, ML Manager asserts it has the authority and ability to go forward with the settlements.

ML Manager asserts that the non-transferring Pass-Through Investors are subject to the Mortgages Ltd. Agency Agreement that has been assigned to ML Manager. Some of the non-transferring Pass-Through Investors are part of the Rev Op Group and some of them have asserted or attempted to terminate their Agency Agreement. It is not known at this time whether they will object to this Motion and the settlements. ML Manager will give notice to the non-transferring Pass-Through Investors of this Motion and the hearing hereon. Once they have had a chance to study the terms of the five settlement agreement, they may not have any objection to this Motion.

As an agent with power of attorney coupled with an interest to do so, ML Manager has the sole discretion to make this decision concerning the settlement agreements on behalf of the non-transferring Pass-Through Investors, and intends to execute the settlement documents (and any other documents necessary to effectuate the settlements' terms) on their behalf. Due to certain allegations made by other Pass-Through Investors about the Agency Agreement, the title company may request that the non-transferring Pass-Through Investors be required to execute documents necessary to effectuate the Court's order and the settlement. In that event, ML Manager will request that the Order of the Court approving this Motion include such directive to the non-transferring Pass-Through Investors, and/or that the Order include such other language required by the title company authorizing ML Manager to execute any and all such documents on behalf of the non-transferring Pass-Through Investors.

## The 6 Grace Entities Loans

For Mortgages Ltd. loan number 868606, the Grace Entity borrower is Central &

Monroe, LLC, and the associated Loan LLC is C&M Loan LLC. The principal owed is \$27,313,178.50 plus accrued interest and fees. The loan is in default. The collateral for this loan is a historical high rise building in downtown Phoenix which was being renovated by the borrower into a hotel to be known as the "Hotel Monroe." The address is 15 E. Monroe, Phoenix, Arizona. The loan was a construction loan to refurbish the building. The building is not complete and there are alleged mechanics liens by unpaid contractors, and suppliers. The Grace Entities contend that Mortgages Ltd. defaulted by underfunding the loan by more than \$40,000,000, therefore preventing the project from being completed and giving rise to damages. ML Manager has disputed this allegation and disagrees with the alleged claim amount. Under the proposed settlement, ML Manager will be permitted to conduct a deed of trust sale to foreclose on the property, among other things outlined below.

For Mortgages Ltd. loan number 851106, the Grace Entity borrower is Osborn III Partners, LLC, and the associated Loan LLC is Osborn III Loan LLC. The principal owed is \$40,288,601 plus accrued interest and fees. The loan is in default. The collateral for the loan is a 4-story luxury condominium project in downtown Scottsdale. The property is located west of Scottsdale Road on Osborn Rd., with a street address of 7116 and 7126 E. Osborn Rd, Scottsdale, Arizona. The building is near completion and there are alleged mechanics liens by unpaid contractors and suppliers. The Grace Entities contend that Mortgages Ltd. defaulted by failing to fully and timely fund the loan. ML Manager has disputed this allegation and disagrees with the alleged claim amount. Under the proposed settlement, ML Manager will be permitted to conduct a deed of trust sale to foreclose on the property, among other things outlined below.

For Mortgages Ltd. loan number 852606, the Grace Entity borrower is Portales Place Property, LLC, and the associated Loan LLC is PPP Loan LLC. The principal owed is \$32,000,000 plus accrued interest and fees. The loan is in default. The collateral for

the loan is approximately 9.7 net acres of land directly north of Scottsdale Fashion Square. The property is zoned for condominiums with a condominium plat overlay but no construction is underway. The Grace Entities contend that Mortgages Ltd. defaulted by failing to fully and timely fund the loan. ML Manager has disputed this allegation and disagrees with the alleged claim amount. Under the proposed settlement, ML Manager will be permitted to conduct a deed of trust sale to foreclose on the property, among other things outlined below.

For Mortgages Ltd. loan number 861706, the Grace Entity borrower is 70th Street Property, LLC, and the associated Loan LLC is 70 SP Loan LLC. The principal owed is \$10,870,000 plus accrued interest and fees. The loan is in default. The collateral for the loan is an approximately 1.58-acre assemblage of vacant land and residential acreage, located on 70<sup>th</sup> Street in downtown Scottsdale between Goldwater Blvd. and Osborn Rd. There are no known mechanics lien claims on the property. The Grace Entities contend that Mortgages Ltd. defaulted by failing to fully and timely fund the loan. ML Manager has disputed this allegation and disagrees with the alleged claim amount. Under the proposed settlement, ML Manager can either request that 70th Street Property LLC provide it with a deed-in-lieu or foreclosure, or conduct a deed of trust sale to foreclose on the property, among other things outlined below.

For Mortgages Ltd. loan numbers 849606 and 852406, the Borrower is 44th & Camelback Property, LLC, and the associated Loan LLCs are 44 CP Loan I LLC and 44 CP Loan II LLC. The principal due on the loans, respectively, is \$5,828,477.31 and \$5,031,791.58, plus accrued interest and fees. The loans are in default. The loans share the same collateral which is an assemblage of properties consisting of approximately 3.03 acres of commercial and residential property located at 44<sup>th</sup> Street and Camelback in Phoenix, Arizona. There is a senior lien in favor of Parkway Bank for \$18 million on the properties. There are no known mechanics lien claims on the properties. However,

because of Parkway Bank's senior lien, there may be no equity left to secure or pay the two loans held by 44 CP Loan I LLC and 44 CP Loan II LLC. Under the proposed settlement, 44th & Camelback Property, LLC will retain the properties, and ML Manager will continue to hold the liens on the properties with their current priority and retain its rights under the loan documents subject to the terms of the settlement agreement, among other things outlined below.

Limited guaranties were obtained by Mortgages Ltd. on each of the six loans from Jonathon and Lori Vento, Donald and Shirley Zeleznak, and each of their respective family trusts. The guaranties are crossed between the loans and in some cases are limited and capped in dollar amount. Under the terms of the proposed settlements, ML Manager will receive updated certified personal financial statements from each of the guarantors, and will engage a forensic accountant to review them. ML Manager will need to determine in its sole and absolute discretion whether ML Manager is satisfied with the financial condition of the Guarantors. The details are outlined below.

# The Dispute with the Grace Entities

The Grace Entities are a related group of separate entities whose principals are Jonathon Vento and Donald Zeleznak, among others. At the time of those filings, there were six outstanding loans to the Grace Entities on five separate projects.

Prior to the bankruptcy, a dispute had arisen between the Grace Entities and Mortgages Ltd. arising out of, among other things, Mortgages Ltd's alleged failure to timely and fully fund the loans to Osborn III Partners and Central & Monroe, LLC. Mortgages Ltd. disputed these allegations of failure to fund asserted by the Grace Entities. Indeed, those Grace Entities were two of the three petitioning creditors of the involuntary Chapter 7 bankruptcy petitions that were filed on June 20, 2008, commencing this bankruptcy case which Mortgages Ltd. converted to a voluntary Chapter 11 case four days later on June 24, 2008.

At the time of the bankruptcy, the loans to 70th Street Property, LLC, Portales Place Property, LLC and 44th & Camelback Property, LLC were fully funded.

All five Grace Entities alleged that Mortgages Ltd. engaged in conduct prior to the bankruptcy cases that gave rise to significant damages. During the bankruptcy proceedings, the Grace Entities filed amended proofs of claims against Mortgages Ltd. arising out of those lender liability-type allegations and asserted offsets on behalf of Central & Monroe, LLC for approximately \$110,266,000; on behalf of Osborn III Partners, LLC for approximately \$25,400,00; on behalf of 44th & Camelback Property, LLC for approximately \$4,650,000; on behalf of 70th Street Property, LLC for approximately \$3,100,000; and on behalf of Portales Place Property, LLC for approximately \$24,400,000. Objections to the claims were filed by the Investors Committee. ML Manager disputes these claims in the mediation and arbitration.

The Grace Entities have consistently taken the position from the outset of Mortgages Ltd.'s bankruptcy case that the six loans were part of a common development scheme or business and that Mortgages Ltd. treated them as such. Specifically, the Grace Entities have alleged that Mortgages Ltd. and its former principal routinely took money out of impound accounts for one Grace Entity project in order to fund draws on other Grace Entity projects, and conditioned Mortgages Ltd.'s release of funding it was obligated to make on one Grace Entity project upon receipt of payment from a different Grace Entity on its loan. The Grace Entities also alleged that Mortgages Ltd.'s default and underfunding of Central & Monroe, LLC's "Hotel Monroe" project and Osborn III Partners, LLC's "Ten Wine Lofts" project, in particular, damaged the Grace Entities and their principals' ability to develop and complete all of the projects. For these and other reasons, they asserted substantial "lender liability" claims against Mortgages Ltd., and took the position that the six loans and the five Grace Entities were interrelated and inseparable from one another. On the other hand, ML Manager dis putes the Grace

Entities' contentions. Throughout Mortgages Ltd.'s bankruptcy case, with respect to the Grace Entities, this was referred to as the "Bundling Issue." Had the disputes not been settled during mediation on the terms set forth in the attached settlement agreements, and the disputes proceeded to arbitration, the first stage of that bifurcated arbitration would have been devoted to resolving the "Bundling Issue."

The validity and priority of Mortgages Ltd.'s notes and deeds of trust, and the validity of the Grace Entities' claims and defenses were not litigated during the bankruptcy or determined as part of the Plan that was confirmed by the Bankruptcy Court through the Plan Confirmation Order entered on May 20, 2009. Prior to confirmation, the Grace Entities had objected to confirmation of the Plan. However, through negotiations with the Official Committee of Investors (the "Investors Committee"), the Grace Entities and the Investors Committee agreed to the *process* of mediation (and if necessary, arbitration) to resolve the competing claims. Consequently, the Grace Entities agreed to withdraw their objection to confirmation of the Plan conditioned expressly upon the inclusion of Paragraph V in the Plan Confirmation Order which set forth the terms of the alternative dispute resolution through which the proposed settlements were reached. Had the parties not agreed to a mediated settlement, the Plan Confirmation Order obligated the parties to proceed to binding arbitration. The proposed settlements will obviate the need for that settlement, and eliminate the costs and uncertainty that would have been

<sup>9</sup> In this regard, the Plan Confirmation Order provides as follows:

The first stage of arbitration shall be devoted to the issue of whether ML's loans to the Grace Entities and the parties' intent and conduct was such that the dispute between ML and all of the Grace Entities should be arbitrated in a single arbitration in which the Grace Entities are entitled to assert claims or defenses from one loan in connection with other loans or claims, or whether each of the Grace Entities and their loans are separate and distinct, and thus should be arbitrated separately. The parties have referred to this as the issue of whether the loans are bundled together (the "Bundling Issue").

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Pursuant to the Plan Confirmation Order, ML Manager and representatives of the Grace Entities, along with their respective counsel, participated in several mediation sessions, both collectively and separately, with Gary L. Birnbaum, a well-respected real estate litigator with the law firm of Mariscal, Weeks, Weeks, McIntyre & Friedlander, P.C. In addition to those sessions, counsel for ML Manager and the Grace Entities spent hours negotiating the terms contained in the attached settlement agreements. As part of these negotiations, the Grace Entities represented to ML Manager that other than the property securing the six loans, none of the entities, nor any of their principals, had any money or assets to satisfy any judgment that might be obtained due to the Grace Entities' and their guarantors' alleged defaults on their loans and guarantees. Accordingly, the only source of money to repay the loans are the five properties at issue. The Grace Entities had also incurred substantial obligations to third parties in connection with their developments, which they contend was a result of Mortgages Ltd.'s conduct and breach of its obligations under the loan documents. In order to reach a settlement of these lender liability-type claims and allow the properties to be recovered for the benefit of the investors, ML Manager has agreed to permit a relatively small amount (compared to the amount of the loans and alleged damages) to be paid to some of the Grace Entities' creditors out of the proceeds of Central & Monroe, LLC's and Osborn III Partners, LLC's collateral when those properties are sold after foreclosure.

### The Settlement Terms

The proposed settlements resolve all of the six loans described above and are described in five separate settlement agreements, each of which only becomes effective if certain Conditions Precedent occur as described below, at which time the settlement agreements will become effective and binding on the Loan LLCs, ML Manager and the non-transferring Pass-Through Investors in the Loans ("Lender Parties") and on each of

the Grace Entities (the "Borrowers") and their guarantors (the "Guarantors") (together the Borrowers and the Guarantors are called the "Borrower Parties") The settlement of the two loans to 44th & Camelback Property, LLC ("44th & Camelback Loans") is different from the others for the reasons set forth below. The settlements of the other four loans to the other four Grace Entities (Central & Monroe, LLC; Osborn III Partners, LLC; 70th Street Property, LLC; and Portales Place Property, LLC) have the following similar features:

- 1. The settlements do not become effective and binding until the following conditions precedent ("Conditions Precedent") have been met:
  - a. Consent of the Exit Financing Lender has been obtained;
- b. The members of each of the Loan LLCs have approved the settlements as required under the Loan LLC operating agreements;
- c. The Bankruptcy Court (i) approves the settlements and the entry into the settlement agreements by ML Manager acting as Manager of the Loan LLCs and as agent for the non-transferring Pass-Through Investors; and (ii) enters an Order authorizing ML Manager to conduct Trustee's Sales with respect to the four properties on behalf of the Loan LLCs and their respective non-transferring Pass-Through investors. The Order must be a final non-appealable order, or if an appeal has been filed, no stay pending appeal shall have been ordered;
- d. No Bankruptcy Action has occurred with respect to any of the Borrower Parties (the definition of Bankruptcy Action is quite broad, but essentially means a voluntary or involuntary bankruptcy filing by or against a Borrower Party.);
- e. Borrowers shall have delivered to ML Manager copies of the articles or organization and their operating agreements to confirm their members and authority;
- f. None of the Borrower Parties shall be in default under the particular settlement agreement;

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and correct in all material respects as of the date of the settlement agreement. The Guarantors shall also provide such other financial data as ML Manager may request in order to satisfy ML Manager "in its sole and absolute discretion" as to the Guarantors' financial condition. To this end, ML Manager will engage a forensic accountant to review the information provided by the Guarantors and report their conclusions to ML Manager; and All of the foregoing Conditions Precedent shall have occurred by h.

returns and financial statements, and shall certify that their financial statements are true

Each of the Guarantors shall have delivered to ML Manager their tax

- July 31, 2010.
- Assuming that all of the foregoing Conditions Precedent are met, the 2. settlement agreements will become effective and binding on the Lender Parties and the Borrower Parties, and ML Manager will conclude Trustee's Sales on each of the four properties as quickly as possible (or in the case of 70th Street Property, LLC and Portales Place Property, LLC, request a deed-in-lieu of foreclosure). Trustee's Sale dates have already been noticed and will be continued from time to time until the Conditions Precedent have been met and the settlement agreements have become effective, at which time the Lender Parties will be released of all liabilities and claims against them. On the Release Date, which is a date 91 days after a Trustee's Sale has been held on a specific property (or a deed-in-lieu of foreclosure has been provided) without any Bankruptcy Action having occurred as to any Borrower Party, the Borrower Parties will be released under the Loan Documents and the guarantees with respect to the loan on that property.

The settlement agreement on the two loans to 44th & Camelback Property, LLC has the same Conditions Precedent to the effectiveness of the settlement agreement on that property but is different from the other four settlements in that the two loans by Mortgages Ltd. were and are subordinated to a senior loan by Parkway Bank ("Parkway

Loan"). Prior to the bankruptcy cases, Mortgages Ltd. entered into a Subordination Agreement with Parkway Bank which granted Parkway Bank senior priority for its lien, and precluded Mortgages Ltd. from foreclosing its interest in the property or taking any enforcement action without Parkway Bank's consent. ML Manager believes Parkway Bank is owed more money than the properties securing its loan are worth, which effectively means there is no equity in the collateral that secures the two loans Mortgages Ltd. made. As a result, ML Manager has agreed that 44 CP Loan I LLC and 44 CP Loan II LLC shall not request Parkway Bank's permission to foreclose those two loans (since that would cause Parkway Bank to foreclose its loan, thus wiping out all junior interests), but instead will remain in place behind the Parkway Loan, with all other rights under their loan documents, and will wait to see if 44th & Camelback Property LLC can salvage the project or is foreclosed out by Parkway Bank. If Parkway Bank forecloses on the properties, there will likely be no recovery for the holders of the two loans from 44th & Camelback Property LLC and the Guarantors will be released on the Release Date, which is 91 days after any foreclosure by Parkway Bank is complete. As indicated below, ML Manager believes that the Guarantors are insolvent and no recovery can be obtained from them, so the release of the Guarantors after foreclosure of the project by Parkway Bank, which was required by the Grace Entities in order to obtain a settlement on all matters, will not result in any loss of a possible recovery by the holders of those loans.

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The settlements with Osborn III Partners, LLC and Central & Monroe, LLC have an additional feature not present in the other three settlements. The settlement agreement with Osborn III Partners, LLC requires payment upon any sale or refinancing of the property of the sums of \$510,000 to the Grace Entities' counsel, Snell & Wilmer L.L.P., and an additional \$365,000 to Osborn III Partners, LLC or its designee. Similarly, the settlement agreement with Central & Monroe, LLC requires payment upon any "Capital Event" (as defined in the settlement agreement) of three separate sums in the amounts of

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\$230,000, \$260,000 and \$125,000 to Central & Monroe, LLC or its designee(s). A Capital Event is, generally, a sale or all or a portion of the property, a refinancing of the property where any proceeds are to be distributed to the holders of CM Loan LLC, or the admission of any new members in CM Loan LLC if any money is contributed which is paid to the existing members of CM Loan LLC. Each of the obligations on both properties is evidenced by a promissory note and secured by a single deed of trust on the associated property.

ML Manager believes based on representations made by the Grace Entities during the mediation that such amounts will be use to pay creditors of the Grace Entities and their guarantors to stop them from pursuing the Grace Entities and the guarantors, and potentially forcing them into bankruptcy, which would further delay ML Manager's efforts to realize on the properties for the benefit of the investors. Based upon the Guarantors' financial statements and tax returns, it appears to ML Manager that the Guarantors are totally insolvent. ML Manager however needs to complete its review of their financial condition. If this is accurate, it is the business judgment of ML Manager that holders of these loans are best served by obtaining possession of the properties and obtaining title through trustee's sales (or in the case of 70th Street Property, LLC and Portales Place Property, LLC, deeds-in-lieu of foreclosure) so that the properties may be resold to produce proceeds for investors, rather than pursuing actions against the Grace Entities and/or the Guarantors, all of whom appear to be insolvent. Proceeding against either the Borrowers or the Guarantors without the proposed settlements would, in ML Manager's judgment, likely result in protracted, expensive litigation and/or bankruptcies by the Grace Entities and/or the Guarantors, which would likely tie up the properties for a substantial period of time.

As indicated above, the proposed settlements represent a compromise of the significant and complex claims of both sides, reached only after months of negotiations

with the assistance of the mediator. Given the unlikely recovery against the Grace Entities and the Guarantors, ML Manager believes that the settlements are in the best interest of the investors and are a valid exercise of its business judgment.

WHEREFORE, ML Manager requests that the Court enter an order authorizing and approving the settlements described above, authorizing ML Manager to enter into the five settlement agreements attached collectively as Exhibit A hereto, and for such other and further relief as is just and proper under the circumstances.

DATED: May 18, 2010

### FENNEMORE CRAIG, P.C.

/s/ Cathy L. Reece Cathy L. Reece Keith L. Hendricks Attorneys for ML Manager LLC

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