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Attorneys for ML Manager LLC IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONAIn re

MORTGAGES LTD.,

Debtor.

Chapter 11

Case No. 2:08-bk-07465-RJH

ORDER REGARDING DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEEDS

On January 11, 2011, the Court heard argument on ML Manager's (1) Notice of Intent to Distribute Proceeds in accordance with Allocation Model, and (2) Motion to Approve Treatment of Distribution of Disputed Proceeds (Docket No. 3017) (the "Distribution Motion"). The Distribution Motion is related to or based on the implementation of the "Allocation Model" as referenced this Court's minute entry Docket 2959) "approving the allocation formula proposed by ML Manager in the Allocation Brief filed on September 1, 2010 [Docket No. 2913]." ML Manager has now resolved or liquidated six of the loans, collateral, or the properties (collectively, the "Loans") included in the loans defined as "ML Loans" in the Plan of Reorganization confirmed in this matter (the "Plan"). These six Loans include (1) Chateaux on Central see Sale Order, Docket No. 2676); (2) the Newman I Loan, (3) the Newman II Loan, (4) Zacher Missouri (see Sale Order, Docket No. 2892), (5) City Lofts (see Sale Order, Docket No. 2887), and (6) Osborne III (sometimes known as Ten Wine Lofts) (see Sale

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There were no sale orders with the two Newman loans as the borrower paid them in full.

Order, Docket No. 2976).

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appearing,

FOLLOWS:

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Two Objections to the Distribution Motion were filed. The Rev-Op Group

(defined below) filed an Objection to the Distribution Motion and requested, among other

things, that the Motion be denied. (Docket No. 3028). The ML Liquidating Trust (the

"Trust") filed an Objection, but only requested that distributions to individuals who were

the subject of pending litigation, preference claims, or avoidance actions be escrowed

pending final resolution of those claims. (Docket No. 3030). Having considered all

briefing of the Parties, oral argument, prior rulings and briefings, and for good cause

make the distributions contemplated therein except as otherwise provided herein.

must pay their proportionate share of costs from distributions from the proceeds of the

ML Loans. (See Docket No. 2323) (the "Motion for Clarification Ruling"). That ruling

is currently pending an appeal to the United States District Court for the District of

Arizona. This Court does not have jurisdiction to modify or reconsider the Motion for

Model provides, among other things, that all Investors in the ML Loans where there is a

distribution must pay their proportionate share of "General Costs" including pre-

confirmation expenses, and post confirmation general expenses, as well as "Loan

Specific Costs" incurred after the confirmation of the plan of reorganization in this

Clarification Ruling, nor does it find any reason to do so.

THE COURT CONCLUDES, FINDS, AJUDICATES AND ORDERS AS

The Distribution Motion is granted and ML Manager is authorized to

The Court has already ruled with regard to the obligation that all Investors

The Plan and the Motion for Clarification Ruling provide Allocation

matter (the "Plan"). ML Manager is responsible for establishing and has established the Allocation Model to allocate the General Costs and the Loan Specific Costs.

- D. The appropriate standard of review to consider ML Manager's allocation decisions is the business judgment standard. The treatment set forth in the Allocation Model is consistent with and fulfills ML Manager's duty under the business judgment rule as well as any fiduciary duty given the agency coupled with an interest that exits and ML Manager's role as contemplated and established by the confirmed Plan.
- E. At the hearing on September 21, 2010, the Court approved the allocation formula proposed by ML Manager in the Allocation Brief filed on September 1, 2010 [Docket No. 2913] (the "Allocation Model"), and its approval is hereby reaffirmed.
- F. The treatment in the Allocation Model of the obligations incurred by the Debtor, Mortgages Ltd., the administrative expenses, and other pre-confirmation costs and expenses as General Costs is approved, appropriate, and consistent with ML Manager's business judgment obligations—and consistent with and in fulfillment of its fiduciary duties.
- G. The treatment of costs that will be reimbursed by the Trust pursuant to the terms of the Plan if and when the Trust recovers sufficient money is approved, appropriate, and consistent with ML Manager's business judgment obligations and consistent with and in fulfillment of its fiduciary duties.and consistent with and in fulfillment of its fiduciary duties.
- H. The treatment of what is described in the Allocation Model as "Uncovered Costs" is approved, appropriate, and consistent with ML Manager's business judgment obligations and consistent with and in fulfillment of its fiduciary duties.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> All capitalized terms in this Order shall have the same meaning as set forth in the operative documents including the Plan, the Allocation Model and the Interborrower Agreement, which was attached as an Exhibit to the Distribution Motion.

I. The treatment of what is described in the Allocation Model as "Replacement Loan Interest" is approved, appropriate, and consistent with ML Manager's business judgment obligations and consistent with and in fulfillment of its fiduciary duties.

J. The treatment of General Costs for the entire portfolio of ML Loans, and all Loan Specific Costs for the any of the six Loans described above that are not otherwise specifically described herein are approved, appropriate, and consistent with ML Manager's business judgment obligations and consistent with and in fulfillment of its fiduciary duties.

<u>H.</u> K. All of the objections to the Allocation Model or the distribution of proceeds under the six Loans, except any objections that have been specifically reserved by this Court, have been overruled.

L. With regard to the six Loans at issue, the determination, allocation and proposed distribution of costs, expenses and proceeds under the Allocation Model is approved. This includes, without limitation, the determination that the total amount of settlement costs were \$7,393,841.58 and were properly treated, accounted for and disbursed. Pursuant to the obligations under the Exit Financing Loan agreement, the payment to the Exit Lender from these six loans of collectively \$8,770,523.50 was properly treated, accounted for and disbursed. ML Manager was entitled to and properly treated, accounted for and disbursed a "Permitted Reserve" of \$2,836,944.90. Pursuant to the Allocation Model, the "Total Estimated Costs" (as provided in the Allocation Model) of the "Pass-Through Investors" that were not included in the payments to the Exit Lender were \$1,160,931.75, and they have been properly treated and accounted for. Based on the operation of the Allocation Model, \$8,521,443.22 is available to distribute to investors, subject to the provisions set forth below. This

includes \$4,758,799.88 to the "Pass-Through Investors" and \$3,762,639.58 to the Loan LLCs or MP Funds.

<u>J.</u> M. There exists a recorded judgment lien against Robert L. Barnes, Jr. ("Barnes") by Kathleen Heth ("Heth"), and a recorded judgment lien against the "Barness Investment Limited Partnership, an Arizona Limited Partnership ("Barness") by the Town of Gilbert ("Gilbert"). The current expected distribution to Barnes and Barness is less than the amount of the recorded judgment liens. The proposed distributions of net proceeds from the six Loans, following the application of their respective share of costs and expenses under the Allocation Model, to their respective judgment creditors, care of the respective judgment creditor counsel, is approved.

K. N.—The Trust has filed certain preference actions, avoidance actions or other claims (collectively, the "Insider Claims") against certain individuals or entities that have been referred to as "Insiders." The term "Insider" for purposes of this Motion means in the individuals or entities referred to in paragraph RQ below and has been used in this Order for identification purposes only. There has been no adjudication, finding or determination as to whether any individual or entity was an "Insider" for purposes of any statute or rule.

L. O.—ML Manager holds approximately \$241,099.11 from payments received by the Debtor during the bankruptcy prior to confirmation of the Plan. This amount was held by the Debtor pursuant to an Order by the Court, (Docket No. 458) governing distributions to certain investors referred to as insiders (the "Insider Escrow"). Upon confirmation of the Plan, control and management of the Insider Escrow was transferred or assigned to ML Manager.

M. P. Except as indicated herein, amounts in the Insider Escrow and any distributions to Insiders are subject to the Allocation Model. ML Manager is entitled to assess costs and expenses against any distribution or proposed distribution to Insiders,

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Insiders pursuant to the Allocation Model. N. Q.—Notwithstanding the foregoing, whether the Mortgages Ltd. 401(k)

against the proceeds in the Insider Escrow, and against all escrows held on behalf of the

Plan (the "401(k) Plan") can be assessed any fees or costs under the Allocation Model has not yet been determined or adjudicated, and that issue, among others, is pending before the United Stated District Court for the District of Arizona. As such, no judicial determination has yet been made regarding the propriety of allocating costs to the 401(k) Plan and no allocation shall be implemented at this time with respect to the 401(k) Plan.

R. Until further order of this Court, ML Manager, any Loan LLCs (as O. defined by the Plan) involved with the six Loans, and the MP Funds (as defined by the Plan) shall not make any distributions, pay any payments of principal or interest related to the six Loans or proceeds from any of the ML Loans, or from the Insider Escrow to any of the following Insiders:

- 1. Julie B. Coles, Defendant John Doe Coles, and Defendant Perry L. Coles, Trustee of the Julie B. Coles Irrevocable Trust, and any amendments thereto;
- 2. Michael Denning and Donna Denning, and the marital community property of Michael Denning and his spouse;
- 3. Lisa A. Katz and John Doe Katz, husband and wife, and Defendant Lisa A. Katz, Trustee of the Lisa A. Katz Trust;
- 4. George A. Everette and Mary J. Everette, husband and wife, and Defendants George A. Everette and Mary J. Everette, Trustees of the GEME Revocable Trust, Dated December 19, 2005;
- 5. Defendant Perry L. Coles, Trustee of the Scott M. Coles Trust, Dated March 28, 2004;

- 6. Defendant Robert G. Furst and Jane Doe First, husband and wife, and Defendant Robert G. Furst, Trustee of The Robert G. Furst & Associates Defined Benefit Pension Plan; and
- 7. Defendants Ryan P. Walter and Jeanne M. Walter, husband and wife.
- P. S.-ML Manager shall cause any distribution or other payment that would have otherwise been made to an Insider to be held in a separate escrow or segregated account, or added to the Insider Escrow.
- T. As between the Trust and ML Manager only, other than the authorization to create and hold proceeds as described above, this Order shall not constitute the law of the case, have collateral estoppel effect, or constitute in any manner a judicial determination on any legal issue, including but not limited to allocation of costs and expenses as between the Trust and ML Manager.
- Q. U.-ML Manager has asserted a right to recoup, offset or set-off against distributions, including distributions under the six Loans of at least \$336,000 (the "Offset Claim") against thirteen investors known as the "Rev-Op Group" consisting of (1) AJ Chandler 25 Acres, LLC; (2) Bear Tooth Mountain Holding LLP; (3) Cornerstone Realty & Development Inc.; (4) Cornerstone Realty & Development, Inc. Defined Benefit Plan and Trust; (5) Evertson Oil Company, Inc.; (6) The Lonnie Joel Krueger Family Trust; (7) Michael Johnson Investments II, LLC (8) Louis B. Murphey (9) Pueblo Sereno Mobile Home Park LLC (10) Queen Creek XVIII, LLC; (11) Morley Rosenfield, M.D. P.C. Restated Profit Sharing Plan; (12) The James C. Schneck Revocable Trust; (13) William L. Hawkins Family LLP.
- R. V. The Offset Claim includes a judgment (Case No. 10-AP-00430, Docket No. 137) that ML Manager that has obtained against the Rev-Op Group, among others, in the amount of \$89,364.26 (the "Judgment"). The Judgment is on appeal to the United States District Court for the District of Arizona, but has not been stayed.

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<u>S.</u> <u>W.-ML</u> Manager is entitled to satisfy the Judgment from distributions that would otherwise be made to the Rev-Op Group, which ML Manager has indicated that it will do on a pro-rata basis. ML Manager is authorized to satisfy the Judgment in such a manner.

T. X. As for the balance of the Offset Claim, or approximately \$246,000, ML Manager shall deduct that amount from the distributions to the Rev-Op Group on a prorata basis and segregate that amount in a separate escrow account pending further order of this Court, or another Court of competent jurisdiction, or agreement of ML Manager and the Rev-Op Group.

<u>U.</u> Y. This Order is stayed only until 8 a.m., January 24, 2011. All other stays under the Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure are hereby waived.

DATED AND SIGNED ABOVE.