

## AGREEMENT AND DECLARATION OF TRUST SAMPLE LENDER SECURITY LAND TRUST

THIS AGREEMENT AND DECLARATION OF TRUST Is made and entered into this DAY day of MONTH, YEAR, by and between SETTLOR NAME HERE as Settlor, (herein referred to as "Settlor",) whose address is SETTLOR ADDRESS, and TRUSTEE NAME HERE, whose address is TRUSTEE ADDRESS, (referred to herein as the "Trustee", which designation shall include all successor trustees,) for the benefit of BENEFICIARY NAME HERE as Beneficiaries, (referred to herein as the "Beneficiaries", whether one or more, which designation shall include all successors in interest of any Beneficiary),. and, LENDER NAME HERE, LENDER ADDRESS HERE as Lender,  
IT IS MUTUALLY AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

1. **Trust Property.** The Settlor is about to convey or cause to be conveyed to the Trustee by deed, absolute in form, the property described in the attached Exhibit "A", which said property, herein referred to as "Trust Property", shall be held by the Trustee, in trust, for the following uses and purposes, under the terms of this Agreement, subject to the provisions set forth in paragraph 20.

2. **Consideration.** No consideration was paid by Trustee for such conveyance. The conveyance will be accepted and will be held by Trustee subject to all existing encumbrances, easements, restrictions or other clouds or claims against the title thereto, whether the same are of record or otherwise. The property will be held on the trusts, terms and conditions and for the purposes hereinafter set forth, until the whole of the trust estate is conveyed, free of this trust, as provided herein.

3. **Beneficiaries.** The persons named in the attached Exhibit "B" are the Beneficiaries of this Trust, and as such, shall be entitled to all of the earnings, avails and proceeds of the Trust Property according to their interests set opposite their respective names.

4. **Interests.** The interests of the Beneficiaries shall consist solely of the following rights respecting the Trust Property:

- a. The right to direct the Trustee to convey or otherwise deal with the title to the Trust Property as set out herein, so long as such conveyance complies with paragraph 20..

- b. The right to manage and control the Trust Property.
- c. The right to receive the proceeds and avails from the rental, sale, mortgage, or other disposition of the Trust Property, subject to the Lender's claims under paragraph 20.

The foregoing rights shall be deemed to be personal property and may be assigned and otherwise transferred as such. No Beneficiary shall have any right, title or interest, as realty, in or to any real estate held in trust under his Agreement, or the right to require partition of such real estate, but shall have only the rights set out above, and the death of a Beneficiary shall not terminate this Trust or in any manner affect the powers of the Trustee.

#### **5. Powers of Trustee.**

- a. With the consent of the Beneficiary and Lender, the Trustee shall have authority to issue notes or bonds and to secure the payment of the same by mortgaging the whole or any part of the Trust Property; to borrow money by creating notes signed by him in his capacity as Trustee; to invest such part of the capital and the profits earned by the capital and the proceeds of the sale of bonds and notes in such real estate, equities in real estate, and mortgages in real estate in the United States of America, as he may deem advisable.
- b. With the consent of the Beneficiary, the Trustee shall have the authority to hold the legal title to all of the Trust Property, and shall have the exclusive management and control of the property as if he were the absolute owner thereof, and the Trustee is hereby given full power to do all things and perform all acts which in his judgment are necessary and proper for the protection of the Trust Property and for the interest of the Beneficiaries in the property of the Trust, subject to the restrictions, terms, and conditions herein set forth.
- c. Without prejudice to the general powers conferred on the Trustee hereunder, it is hereby declared that the Trustee shall have the following powers, with the consent of the Beneficiaries:
  - (1) To purchase any real property for the Trust at such times and on such terms as may seem advisable; to assume mortgages upon such property.

(2) To sell at public auction or private sale, to barter, to exchange, or otherwise dispose of, the whole of the Trust Property or any part thereof, subject to such restrictions, for such consideration of whatever kind, and upon such terms and conditions as may seem judicious; to secure payment upon any loan or loans of the Trust, by mortgage with or without power of sale, and to include such provisions, terms, and conditions as may seem desirable.

(3) To rent or lease the whole or any part of the Trust Property for long or short terms, but not for terms exceeding the term of the Trust then remaining.

(4) To repair, alter, tear down, add to, or erect any building or buildings upon land belonging to the Trust; to fill, grade, drain, improve, and otherwise develop any land belonging to the Trust; to carry on, operate, or manage any building, apartment house, or hotel belonging to the Trust.

(5) To make, execute, acknowledge, and deliver all deeds, releases, mortgages, leases, contracts, agreements, instruments, and other obligations of whatsoever nature relating to the Trust Property, and generally to have full power to do all things and perform all acts necessary to make the instruments proper and legal.

(6) To collect notes, obligations, dividends, and all other payments that may be due and payable to the Trust; to deposit the proceeds thereof, as well as any other moneys from whatsoever source they may be derived, in any suitable bank or depository, and to draw the same from time to time for the purposes herein provided.

(7) To pay all lawful taxes and assessments and the necessary expenses of the Trust; to employ such officers, brokers, engineers, architects, carpenters, contractors, agents, counsel, and such other persons as may seem expedient, to designate their duties and fix their compensation; to fix a reasonable compensation for their own services to the Trust, as organizers thereof.

(8) To represent the Trust and the Beneficiaries in all suits and legal proceedings relating to the Trust Property in any court of law of equity, or before any other bodies or tribunals; to begin

suits and to prosecute them to final judgment or decree; to compromise claims or suits, and to submit the same to arbitration when, in their judgment, such course is necessary or proper.

(9) To arrange, pay for and keep in force, in the name and for the benefit of the Trustee, such insurance as the Trustee may deem advisable, in such amounts, and against such risks as deemed necessary by the Trustee.

6. **Duties of Trustee.** It shall be the duty of the Trustee in addition to the other duties herein imposed upon them:

- a. To keep a careful and complete record of all the beneficial interests in the Trust Property with the name and residence of the person or persons owning such beneficial interest, and such other items as they may deem of importance or as may be required by the Beneficiaries.
- b. To keep careful and accurate books showing the receipts and disbursements of the Trust and also of the Trust Property, and such other items as they may deem of importance or as the Beneficiaries hereunder may require.
- c. To keep books of the Trust open to the inspection of the Beneficiaries at such reasonable times at the main office of the Trust as they may appoint.
- d. To furnish the Beneficiaries at special meetings at which the same shall be requested a careful, accurate, written report of their transactions as Trustees hereunder, of the financial standing of the Trust, and of such other information concerning the affairs of the Trust as they shall request.
- e. To sell the Trust Property and distribute the proceeds arising from such a sale:

(1) If any property shall remain in trust under this Agreement for a term which exceeds that allowed under applicable state law, the Trustee forthwith shall sell same at public sale after a reasonable public advertisement and reasonable notice to the Beneficiaries and, after deducting its reasonable fees and expenses, it shall divide the

proceeds of the sale among the Beneficiaries as their interests may then appear, without any direction or consent whatsoever, or

(2) To transfer, set over, convey and deliver to all the then Beneficiaries of this Trust their respective undivided interests in any non-divisible assets,  
or

(3) To transfer, set over and deliver all of the assets of the Trust to its Beneficiaries, in their respective proportionate shares, at any time when the assets of the Trust consist solely of cash.

f. To execute deeds required under the terms of paragraph 20, should such be required.

7. **Compensation of Trustee.** The Beneficiaries jointly and severally agree that the Trustee shall receive the sum of \$0 per month for his services as Trustee hereunder.

8. **Liability of Trustee.** The Trustee and his successor as Trustee shall not be required to give a bond, and each Trustee shall be liable only for his own acts and then only as a result of his own gross negligence or bad faith.

9. **Removal of Trustee.** The Beneficiaries shall have their power to remove a Trustee from his office or appoint a successor to succeed him.

10. **Resignation and Successor.**

a. Any Trustee may resign his office with thirty (30) days written notice to Beneficiaries and Beneficiaries shall proceed to elect a new Trustee to take the place of the Trustee who had resigned, but the resignation shall not take effect until a certificate thereof, signed, sealed, and acknowledged by, the Trustee, and a certificate of the election of the new Trustee, signed and sworn to by the Beneficiaries and containing an acceptance of the office, signed and acknowledged by the new Trustee, shall have been procured in a form which is acceptable for recording in the registries of deeds of all the counties in which properties held under this instrument are situated. If the Beneficiaries shall fail to elect a new Trustee within thirty (30) days after the resignation, then the

Trustee may petition any appropriate court in this state to accept his resignation and appoint a new Trustee.

- b. Any vacancy in the office of Trustee, whether arising from death or from any other cause not herein provided for, shall be filled within thirty (30) days from the date of the vacancy and the Beneficiaries shall proceed, to elect a new Trustee to fill the vacancy, and immediately thereafter shall cause to be prepared a certificate of the election containing and acceptance of the office, signed, sealed, and acknowledged by the new Trustee, which shall be in a form acceptable for recording in the registries of deeds of all the counties in which properties held under this instrument are situated.
- c. Whenever a new Trustee shall have been elected or appointed to the office of Trustee and shall have assumed the duties of office, he shall succeed to the title of all the properties of the Trust and shall have all the powers and be subject to all the restrictions granted to or imposed upon the Trustee by this agreement, and every Trustee shall have the same powers, rights, and interests regarding the Trust Property, and shall be subject to the same restrictions and duties as the original Trustee, except as the same shall have been modified by amendment, as herein provided for.
- d. Notwithstanding any such resignation, the Trustee shall continue to have a lien on the Trust Property for all costs, expenses and attorney's fees incurred and for said Trustee's reasonable compensation.

11. **Objects and Purposes of Trust.** The objects and purposes of this Trust shall be to hold title to the Trust Property and to protect and conserve it until its sale or other disposition or liquidation. The Trustee shall not undertake any activity not strictly necessary to the attainment of the foregoing objects and purposes, nor shall the Trustee transact business within the meaning of applicable state law, or any other law, nor shall this Agreement be deemed to be, or create or evidence the existence of a corporation, de facto or de jure, or a Massachusetts Trust, or any other type of business trust, or an association in the nature of a corporation, or a co-partnership or joint venture by or between the Trustee and the Beneficiaries, or by or between the Beneficiaries.

12. **Exculpation.** The Trustee shall have no power to bind the Beneficiaries personally and, in every written contract he may enter into,

reference shall be made to this declaration; and any person or corporation contracting with the Trustee, as well as any beneficiary, shall look to the funds and the Trust Property for payment under such contract, or for the payment of any debt, mortgage, judgment, or decree, or for any money that may otherwise become due or payable, whether by reason of failure of the Trustee to perform the contract, or for any other reason, and neither the Trustee nor the Beneficiaries shall be liable personally therefor.

13. **Dealings with Trustee** No party dealing with the Trustee in relation to the Trust Property in any manner whatsoever shall have any obligation or privilege: to see that the terms of this Trust Agreement have been complied with; to inquire into the authority of the Trustee, to inquire into the necessity or expediency of any act of the Trustee; or the terms of this Trust Agreement. Every deed, mortgage, lease or other instrument executed by the Trustee in relation to the Trust Property shall be conclusive evidence, in favor of any person claiming any right, title, or interest under the Trust, that at the time of its delivery the Trust created under this Agreement was in full force and effect; that instrument was executed in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Agreement, and, all its amendments, if any; and is binding upon all Beneficiaries under it; that the Trustee was duly authorized and empowered to execute and deliver every such instrument; if a conveyance has been made to a successor or successors in trust, that the successor or successors have been appointed properly and are vested fully with all the title, estate, rights, powers, duties and obligations of its, his or their predecessor in Trust.

14. **Recording of Agreement.** This Agreement shall not be placed on record in the county in which the Trust Property is situated, or elsewhere, but if it is so recorded, that recording shall not be considered as notice of the rights of any person under this Agreement derogatory to the title or powers of the Trustee.

15. **Name of Trustee.** The name of the Trustee shall not be used by the Beneficiaries in connection with any in advertising or other publicity whatsoever without the written consent of the Trustee.

16. **Income Tax Returns.** The Trustee shall be obligated to file any income tax returns with respect to the Trust, as required by law, and the Beneficiaries individually shall report and pay their share of income taxes on the earnings and avails of the Trust Property or growing out of their interest under this Trust.

17. **Assignment.** The interest of a Beneficiary, or any part of that interest, may be transferred only by a written assignment, executed in duplicate and delivered to the Trustee. The Trustee shall note its acceptance on the original and duplicate original of the assignment, retaining the original and delivering the duplicate original to the assignee as and for his or her evidence of ownership of a beneficial interest under this Agreement. No assignment of any interest under this Agreement, other than by operation of law, that is not so executed, delivered and accepted shall be valid without the written approval of all of the other Beneficiaries who possess the power of direction. No person who is vested with the power of direction, but who is not a Beneficiary under this Agreement, shall assign that power without the written consent of all the Beneficiaries.

18. **Individual Liability of Trustee.** The Trustee shall not be required, in dealing with the Trust Property or in otherwise acting under this Agreement, to enter into any individual contract or other individual obligation whatsoever; nor to make itself individually liable to pay or incur the payment of any damages, attorney's fees, fines, and penalties, forfeitures, costs, charges or other sums of money whatsoever. The Trustee shall have no individual liability or obligation whatsoever arising from its ownership, as Trustee, of legal title to the Trust Property, or with respect to any act done or contract entered into or indebtedness incurred by it in dealing with the Trust Property or in otherwise acting under this Agreement, except only as far as the Trust Property and any trust funds in the actual possession of the Trustee shall be applicable to the payment and discharge of that liability or obligation.

19. **Reimbursement and Indemnification of Trustee.** If the Trustee shall pay or incur any liability to pay any money on account of this Trust, or incur any liability to pay any money on account of being made a party to any litigation as a result of holding title to Trust Property or otherwise in connection with this Trust, whether because of breach of contract, injury to person or property, fines or penalties under any law, or otherwise, the Beneficiaries, jointly and severally agree that on demand they will pay to the Trustee, with interest at the rate of 0 per annum, all such payments made or liabilities incurred by the Trustee, together with its expenses, including reasonable attorney's fees, and that they will indemnify and hold the Trustee harmless of and from any and all payments made or liabilities incurred by it for any reason whatsoever as a result of this Agreement; and all amounts so paid by the Trustee, as well as its compensation under this Agreement, shall constitute a lien on the Trust Property. The Trustee shall not be required to convey or otherwise deal with the Trust property as long



as any money is due to the Trustee under this Agreement; nor shall the Trustee be required to advance or pay out any money on account of this Trust or to prosecute or defend any legal proceedings involving this Trust or any property or interest under this Agreement unless it shall be furnished with sufficient funds or be indemnified to its satisfaction.

20. **Lender's Protection.** As a direct and material inducement to make the loan evidenced by the note appended as Addendum A to this document, The Beneficiaries of this Trust offered as their own suggestion, with no request by the Lender, to forego the delays associated with foreclosure by law in the event of the Beneficiaries' failure to make payments due under the said note.

Accordingly the Trustee is instructed, and agrees to:

Upon written notice to the Trustee, from the Lender, that the Beneficiaries have fallen 30 days in arrears in their payments, the Trustee shall notify the Beneficiary that they have 15 days to cure such arrearage or prove that it does not exist.

In the event that Beneficiary shall not cure the arrearage within that 15 days, nor prove that such arrearage does not exist, the Trustee shall prepare and deliver a deed transferring the subject Property to Lender within 5 days of the expiration of the 15 day period. All time periods referenced herein shall be computed in ordinary calendar days.

In the event that the Beneficiary shall request that the Trustee borrow against the Subject Property, the Trustee shall confirm that the Lender knows of and approves such borrowing before proceeding.

In the event that the Property shall be sold the Trustee shall receive proof that all sums due under Addendum A have been paid before releasing proceeds to the Beneficiary.

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For the Beneficiary

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For the Lender

21. **Entire Agreement.** This Agreement contains the entire understanding between the parties and may be amended, revoked, or terminated only by written agreement signed by the Trustee and all of the Beneficiaries, and with the consent of the Lender if a balance is due under Addendum A. This Agreement may be signed in counterparts, at different times and places.

22. **Governing Law.** This agreement, and all transactions contemplated hereby, shall be governed by, construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of **Ohio**. The parties herein waive trial by jury and agree to submit to the personal jurisdiction and venue of a court of subject matter jurisdiction located in the County of **Hamilton** and in the State of **Ohio**. In the event that litigation results from or arises out of this Agreement performance thereof, the parties agree to reimburse the prevailing party's reasonable attorney's fees, court costs, and all other expenses, whether or not taxable by the court as costs, in addition to any other relief to which the prevailing party may be entitled. In such event, no action shall be entertained by said court or any court of competent jurisdiction if filed more than one year subsequent to the date the cause(s) of action actually accrued regardless of whether damages were otherwise as of said time calculable.

23. **Binding Effect.** The terms and conditions of this Agreement shall inure to the benefit of and be binding upon any successor trustee under It, as well as upon the executors, administrators, heirs, assigns and all other successors in interest of the Beneficiaries.

24. **Trustee's Liability to Beneficiaries.** The Trustee shall be liable to the Beneficiaries for the value of their respective beneficial interests only to the extent of the property held in Trust by him hereunder and the Beneficiaries shall enforce such liability only against the Trust Property and not against the Trustee personally.

25. **Annual Statements.** There shall be no annual meeting of the Beneficiaries, but the Trustee shall prepare an annual report of their receipts and disbursements for the fiscal year preceding, which fiscal year shall coincide with the calendar year, and a copy of the report shall be sent by mail to the Beneficiaries not later than February 28 of each year.

26. **Termination.** This trust may be terminated at any time by the

Beneficiaries, with the written consent of Lender while a balance is due on the attached note, and with thirty (30) days written notice of termination delivered to the Trustee, the Trustee shall execute any and all documents necessary to vest fee simple marketable title to any and all Trust Property in Beneficiaries.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this agreement as of the day and year first above written.

\_\_\_\_\_  
BENEFICIARY NAME IF SAME AS SETTLOR ELSE ADD A LINE, as Settlor and Beneficiary

\_\_\_\_\_  
TRUSTEE NAME, Trustee

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

STATE OF STATE \_\_\_\_\_ )

ss:

COUNTY OF COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_ )

Before me personally appeared NAMES OF SETTLOR, BENEFICIARY AND TRUSTEE HERE to me well known and known to me to be the persons described in and who executed the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to and before me that they executed said instrument for the purposes therein expressed.

WITNESS my hand and official seal in the State and County aforesaid, this day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20 \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

NOTARY

Prepared by: