# NOTICE OF CLASS ACTION MEMORANDUM

1 6 DEC. 2016

## DATE: DECEMBER 09, 2016

**SECURITY DESCRIPTION: FIFTH STREET FINANCE CORP.** 

ISIN: US31678A1034

**HEARING DATE: FEBRUARY 16, 2017** 

**EXCLUSION DATE: JANUARY 26, 2017** 

## **PROOF OF CLAIM DEADLINE: MARCH 27, 2017**

Enclosed for your consideration is a Notice of Pendency of Class Action, Proposed Settlement of Class Action, and Proof of Claim involving the above-mentioned security. Kindly note that if you wish to participate in the settlement please complete the enclosed Proof of Claim and forward it together with any Supporting documentation if required, postmarked no later than MARCH 27, 2017, to one of the following address:

CLAIMS ADMINISTRATOR: FSC Securities Settlement C/O A. B. Data Ltd. Post Office Box 173025 Milwaukee, WI 53217 Email: info@FSCSecuritiesSettlement.com Website: WWW.FSCSECURITIESSETTLEMENT.COM Telephone: 866-217-4461

Contact your account representative if you require additional information relating to activity within your account during the class action period.

Kind Regards, Corporate Actions/Reorganization Department

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

# 1 6 DEC. 2016

IN RE FIFTH STREET FINANCE CORP. SECURITIES LITIGATION

This Matter Relates To:

All Actions

Case No. 15-cv-7759 (LAK)

•

:

1

:

:

#### NOTICE OF: (1) PENDENCY AND PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF CLASS ACTION; (2) MOTION FOR ATTORNEYS' FEES AND EXPENSES; AND (3) HEARING ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT

## A Federal Court authorized this Notice. This is not a solicitation from a lawyer.

NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF CLASS ACTION: Your rights may be affected by a class action (the "Action") pending in this Court if you purchased or otherwise acquired common stock of Fifth Street Finance Corp. ("FSC") during the period from July 7, 2014 through February 6, 2015, inclusive (the "Class Period").

NOTICE OF SETTLEMENT: Lead Plaintiff Oklahoma Police Pension and Retirement System, on behalf of the Class, has reached a proposed settlement (the "Settlement") with defendants FSC, Fifth Street Asset Management Inc. ("FSAM"), Leonard M. Tannenbaum, Bernard D. Berman, Alexander C. Frank, Todd G. Owens, Ivelin M. Dimitrov, and Richard A. Petrocelli (collectively, "Defendants") to resolve all claims asserted in the Action. The Settlement calls for Defendants to pay \$14,050,000 for the benefit of the Class.

This Notice explains important rights you may have, including your possible receipt of cash from the Settlement. If you are a Class Member, your legal rights will be affected whether you act or not. Please read this Notice carefully!

This Notice <u>does not</u> apply to a separate settlement on behalf of shareholders of FSAM. Please read the enclosed cover letter if you purchased shares of FSAM in addition to or instead of shares of FSC. You may be entitled to a recovery in the FSAM settlement.

1. Description of the Lawsuit and Class: The Action is a securities class action filed against FSC and the Defendants. Plaintiff and Defendants have reached an agreement to settle the Action, subject to Court approval. The proposed Settlement, if approved, will provide relief to all persons and entities who purchased FSC common stock during the Class Period and who qualify for a distribution under the Plan of Allocation described below.

2. <u>Statement of Class's Recovery</u>: The proposed Settlement provides for a payment of \$14,050,000 in cash (the "Settlement Amount"), which will be deposited into an Escrow Account. The Net Settlement Fund (meaning the Settlement Amount plus any interest that accrues, minus taxes, notice and administrative costs, and attorneys' fees and litigation expenses awarded to counsel representing Plaintiff and the Class) will be distributed in accordance with the Plan of Allocation approved by the Court for determining how the Net Settlement Fund will be allocated among the Class Members. The proposed Plan of Allocation is included in this Notice. (See paragraphs 23 to 35, below.) Plaintiff's damages consultant estimates that approximately 40.9 million shares of FSC common stock might have been affected by the conduct alleged in the Action. If all Class Members choose to participate in the Settlement, the average per-share recovery from the Net Settlement Fund will be approximately \$0.34 per affected share before the deduction of attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses as approved by the Court.

3. <u>Statement of Potential Outcome of Case</u>: Plaintiff and Defendants do not agree on the average amount of damages per share that would be recoverable if Plaintiff were to prove its claims. Defendants would expressly deny that any shares of FSC common stock were damaged as alleged. Instead, Defendants would contend that the price of FSC common stock was not inflated by any allegedly false or misleading public statements and that the price decline alleged in the Action did not result from any misconduct.

4. <u>Statement of Attorneys' Fees and Litigation Expenses Sought</u>: Lead Counsel (Labaton Sucharow LLP) will ask the Court for (*i*) an award of attorneys' fees of not more than 25% of the Settlement Fund, or \$3,512,500, and (*ii*) litigation expenses not to exceed \$500,000, with all amounts to be paid from the Settlement Fund. In addition, Plaintiff may seek reimbursement of its time and expenses, including lost wages, of not more than \$5,000. If the Court approves Lead Counsel's application, the average cost per affected share will be approximately \$0.10.

5. <u>Reasons for Settlement</u>: Plaintiff believes that its claims have merit and that it would prevail at trial. Defendants believe that the claims are without merit and that Plaintiff would lose at trial. Nevertheless, the parties have agreed to settle the case to avoid the risks, burdens, and expense of continued litigation, to provide relief to the Class, and to end the Action.

6. <u>Identification of Lawyers' Representatives</u>: Plaintiff and the Class are being represented by Labaton Sucharow LLP, the Courtappointed Lead Counsel. Any questions about the Settlement should be sent to Labaton Sucharow LLP at the address and telephone number given below.

QUESTIONS? CALL 866-217-4461 OR VISIT WWW.FSCSECURITIESSETTLEMENT.COM

PAGE 1 OF 8

YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS AND OPTIONS IN THIS SETTLEMENT:			
REMAIN A MEMBER OF THE CLASS AND SUBMIT A CLAIM FORM	This is the only way to be eligible for a payment. If you want to obtain a payment as a Class Member, you must submit a Claim Form (included with this Notice) <i>postmarked or received</i> no later than March 27, 2017. You can also visit <u>www.FSCSecuritiesSettlement.com</u> to obtain, complete, and file a Claim Form online.		
EXCLUDE YOURSELF FROM THE CLASS BY SUBMITTING A WRITTEN REQUEST FOR EXCLUSION RECEIVED NO LATER THAN JANUARY 26, 2017	Get no payment. This is the only option that allows you to ever be part of any other lawsuit against Defendants and the other Releasees concerning the claims in this case.		
<b>OBJECT TO THE SETTLEMENT BY SUBMITTING</b> WRITTEN OBJECTIONS <i>RECEIVED</i> NO LATER THAN JANUARY 26, 2017	Write to the Court and explain why you do not like the Settlement, the proposed Plan of Allocation, or the request for attorneys' fees and litigation expenses. You cannot object to the Settlement unless you are a Class Member and do not exclude yourself.		
GO TO THE HEARING ON FEBRUARY 16, 2017, AT 9:30 A.M., AND FILE A NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPEAR, <i>RECEIVED</i> NO LATER THAN JANUARY 26, 2017	Ask to speak in Court about the fairness of the Settlement, the proposed Plan of Allocation, or the request for attorneys' fees and litigation expenses.		
DONOTHING	Get no payment. Remain a Class Member. Give up your rights.		

INQUIRIES: Please do not contact the Court about this notice. All inquiries about this Notice, the Claim Form, or anything else should be directed to the Claims Administrator or Lead Counsel:

FSC Securities Settlement c/o A.B. Data, Ltd. P.O. Box 173025 Milwaukee, WI 53217 Tel.: 866-217-4461 info@FSCSecuritiesSettlement.com www.FSCSecuritiesSettlement.com

#### Labaton Sucharow LLP

Joel H. Bernstein, Esq. 140 Broadway New York, NY 10005 Tel.: 888-219-6877 SettlementQuestions@labaton.com www.labaton.com

WHAT THIS NOTICE CONTAINS	
Why Did I Get This Notice?	Page 2
What Is This Case About? What Has Happened So Far?	Page 3
How Do I Know Whether I Am Affected By The Settlement?	Page 3
Why Have Defendants Agreed To The Settlement?	Page 3
Why Has Plaintiff Agreed To The Settlement?	Page 4
What Might Happen Without A Settlement?	Page 4
How Much Will My Payment Be?	Page 4
What Rights Am I Giving Up By Agreeing To The Settlement?	Page 6
What Payment Are The Attorneys For The Class Seeking? How Will The Lawyers Be Paid?	Page 6
How Do I Participate In The Settlement? What Do I Need To Do?	Page 6
What If I Do Not Want To Be A Part Of The Settlement? How Do I Exclude Myself?	
When And Where Will The Court Decide Whether To Approve The Settlement? Do I Have To Come To The Hearing? Can I Object To The Settlement? May I Speak At The Hearing If I	Page 7
Don't Like The Settlement?	Page 7
What If I Bought Shares On Someone Else's Behalf?	Page 8
Can I See The Court File? Whom Should I Contact If I Have Questions?	Page 8

## WHY DID I GET THIS NOTICE?

7. This Notice is being sent to you by order of the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York (the "Court"), because you or someone in your family may have purchased FSC common stock during the Class Period (July 7, 2014 through February 6, 2015). As a potential Class Member, you should know about your options and how a class action and a class-action settlement may affect your legal rights.

8. A class action is a type of lawsuit filed by a person or entity called a "plaintiff" against the "defendants" (FSC and others). A class action asks the court to resolve the claims of a number of persons and entities together, to provide consistency and efficiency. The court selects one or more people, known as "class representatives" or "lead plaintiffs," to sue on behalf of all people with similar claims (the "class" or the "class" o

members"). Once the class is certified, the court resolves all issues on behalf of the whole class, except for any persons who exclude themselves from the class.

9. In this Action, which is known as In re Fifth Street Finance Corp. Securities Litigation, the Court has appointed Oklahoma Police Pension and Retirement System as "Lead Plaintiff" and Labaton Sucharow LLP as "Lead Counsel" under a federal law governing this type of lawsuit.

10. This Notice explains the Action, the proposed Settlement, your legal rights, what benefits are available, who is eligible for them, and how to get them. The Notice tells you how you might be affected by the Action and how you can exclude yourself from the Class. The Notice also describes the hearing that the Court will hold to consider the fairness, reasonableness, and adequacy of the proposed Settlement (the "Fairness Hearing").

11. The Fairness Hearing will be held on February 16, 2017, at 9:30 a.m., before United States District Judge Lewis A. Kaplan, at the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, located at 500 Pearl Street, Courtroom 21B, New York, New York 10007. At the hearing, the Court will determine:

(i) whether the proposed Settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate and should be approved, and whether the claims against the Defendants should be dismissed with prejudice and a permanent injunction entered;

- (ii) whether the proposed Plan of Allocation is fair and reasonable and should be approved; and
- (iii) whether Lead Counsel's request for attorneys' fees and litigation expenses should be approved.

12. This Notice does not express the Court's opinion about the merits of any claims in the Action, and the Court has not yet decided whether to approve the proposed Settlement. If the Court approves the Settlement, payments will be made after any appeals have been resolved and all claims have been processed. Please be patient.

## WHAT IS THIS CASE ABOUT? WHAT HAS HAPPENED SO FAR?

13. FSC is a publicly traded Connecticut-based business-development company.

14. Starting in October 2015, three class actions were filed by purchasers of FSC common stock alleging violations of the federal securities laws. On February 1, 2016, the Court appointed the Lead Plaintiff and Lead Counsel.

15. On April 1, 2016, Plaintiff filed an amended complaint (the "Complaint") asserting claims under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. The Complaint contends that, during the Class Period, Defendants made materially false statements and/or omitted material facts about FSC's financial condition. Plaintiff alleges that Defendants engaged in a scheme to inflate FSC's assets and investment income in order to increase the revenue of FSC's investment adviser, Fifth Street Asset Management Inc. ("FSAM"), before FSAM's initial public offering at the end of October 2014. After that offering, FSC wrote down the value of certain assets, suspended its dividend for February 2015, and reduced its future dividends. The Complaint contends that these alleged misstatements and omissions inflated the price of FSC's common stock during the Class Period.

16. Defendants moved to dismiss the Complaint on May 31, 2016. The parties then engaged in settlement discussions - with the assistance of a mediator (a retired California Superior Court Judge) - and were able to reach the proposed Settlement described here.

## HOW DO I KNOW WHETHER I AM AFFECTED BY THE SETTLEMENT?

17. If you are a member of the Class, you are subject to the Settlement unless you timely and validly ask to be excluded from it. The Class consists of all persons and entities (or legal beneficiaries) who purchased or otherwise acquired FSC common stock during the period from July 7, 2014 through February 6, 2015, inclusive.

18. The Class does *not* include: (*i*) all Defendants, any other individuals who were officers or directors (as determined under section 16 of the Exchange Act) of FSC or FSAM during the Class Period, Family Members of any of the foregoing, and their legal representatives, trustees, administrators, heirs, successors, or assigns, and any entity in which any Defendant had a Controlling Interest during the Class Period; (*ii*) persons or entities who submit timely and valid requests for exclusion from the Class; and (*iii*) persons or entities who, while represented by counsel, settled an actual or threatened lawsuit or other proceeding against the Releasees and released the Releasees from any further Claims concerning their purchase or other acquisition of FSC common stock during the Class Period.

RECEIPT OF THIS NOTICE DOES NOT NECESSARILY MEAN THAT YOU ARE A CLASS MEMBER OR ARE ENTITLED TO RECEIVE MONEY FROM THE SETTLEMENT. IF YOU WANT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SETTLEMENT, YOU MUST SUBMIT THE CLAIM FORM ENCLOSED WITH THIS NOTICE. THE CLAIM FORM MUST BE POSTMARKED OR RECEIVED NO LATER THAN MARCH 27, 2017.

#### WHY HAVE DEFENDANTS AGREED TO THE SETTLEMENT?

19. Defendants deny that they engaged in any wrongdoing, violated any law, or breached any duty, and deny that the claims in the Complaint have any merit. Defendants believe that they have substantial defenses to all of those claims and would prevail at trial. Nevertheless, Defendants decided that settling the Action would be better than continuing to litigate, because a settlement would bring to an end the substantial expenses, burdens, and uncertainties of litigation, avoid further disruption of FSC's and FSAM's management and operations, and provide benefits to Class Members. The Settlement is not evidence of or an admission by Defendants of any fault or liability whatsoever, or of any weakness in any defenses that they have asserted or would assert in the Action.

## WHY HAS PLAINTIFF AGREED TO THE SETTLEMENT?

20. Plaintiff and Lead Counsel believe that the claims have merit and that Plaintiff would prevail at trial. But Plaintiff and Lead Counsel also recognize the expense and length of continued proceedings necessary to pursue the claims through trial and appeals, the difficulties in establishing liability in complex actions such as this one, and the difficulties in collecting money even after a judgment.

21. The proposed Settlement would provide guaranteed cash compensation to eligible Class Members. In light of the risks and expenses of continued litigation, the cash Settlement Amount, and the immediacy of recovery to the Class, Plaintiff and Lead Counsel believe that the proposed Settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate and in the best interests of the Class. Plaintiff and Lead Counsel also recognize the risk that continued litigation of the claims in the Action could produce a similar or smaller recovery – or potentially no recovery at all – after motions to dismiss, summary judgment, trial, and appeals, possibly years in the future.

## WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN WITHOUT A SETTLEMENT?

22. If there were no Settlement, and if Plaintiff failed to establish any essential legal or factual element of its claims, neither Plaintiff nor the Class would recover anything from Defendants. Also, if Defendants were successful in proving any of their defenses, the Class would likely recover substantially less than the relief provided in the proposed Settlement, or nothing at all.

#### HOW MUCH WILL MY PAYMENT BE?

#### THE PROPOSED PLAN OF ALLOCATION: GENERAL PROVISIONS

23. As discussed above, the Settlement provides 14,050,000 in cash for the benefit of the Class. The Settlement Amount and any interest it earns constitute the "Settlement Fund." The "Net Settlement Fund" is the Settlement Fund after deduction of Court-approved attorneys' fees and litigation expenses, Notice and Administrative Expenses, Tax Expenses, and any other fees or expenses approved by the Court. The Net Settlement Fund will be distributed to Authorized Claimants – *i.e.*, members of the Settlement Class who timely submit valid Claim Forms that show Recognized Claims pursuant to the Plan of Allocation and are approved by the Court.

24. The Net Settlement Fund will not be distributed unless and until the Court has approved the proposed Settlement and the Plan of Allocation (or some other allocation plan) and the Court's approval becomes "final" (meaning that the time to appeal the Order granting approval has expired, or, if the Order is appealed, that the appeal is decided without causing a material change in the Order or that the Order is upheld on appeal and is no longer subject to any further type of appellate review). The Plan of Allocation is separate from the Settlement, so any decision by the Court concerning the Plan of Allocation will not affect the validity or finality of the Settlement. The Court may approve the Plan of Allocation with or without modifications agreed to among the parties, or another plan of allocation, without further notice to Class Members. Any orders about a modification of the Plan of Allocation will be posted to the Settlement website www.FSCSecuritiesSettlement.com.

25. Payments under the Court-approved Plan of Allocation will be conclusive against all Authorized Claimants. No person shall have any claim against Plaintiff, Lead Counsel, Defendants, Defendants' counsel, the Claims Administrator, or anyone else arising from distributions made substantially in accordance with the Settlement Agreement, the Plan of Allocation, or the Court's Orders.

26. The Claims Administrator will determine each Authorized Claimant's pro rata share of the Net Settlement Fund based upon each Authorized Claimant's Recognized Claim. <u>Please Note</u>: The formulas set forth herein are not intended to estimate either the amount that a Class Member might have been able to recover after a trial or the amount that will be paid to Authorized Claimants under the Settlement. The formulas are simply the basis upon which the Net Settlement Fund will be proportionately allocated to Authorized Claimants. Each Authorized Claimant shall be paid the percentage of the Net Settlement Fund that each Authorized Claimant's Recognized Claim bears to the total Recognized Claims of all Authorized Claimants (*i.e.*, the Authorized Claimant's pro rata share). The Net Settlement Fund will be allocated among all Authorized Claimants whose prorated payment would be \$10.00 or greater, given the fees and expenses associated with printing and mailing payments.

27. The Plan of Allocation is designed to distribute the settlement proceeds fairly to those Class Members who suffered economic loss as a result of the alleged fraud, as opposed to loss caused by general market conditions or other non-fraud-related factors. The Plan reflects analyses conducted by Plaintiff's damages consultant. In order to have a compensable loss, FSC common stock must have been purchased or otherwise acquired during the Class Period and been held through an alleged corrective disclosure.

28. If any of the Net Settlement Fund remains (because of uncashed checks or otherwise) six (6) months after the initial distribution of such funds, and after the Claims Administrator has made reasonable and diligent efforts to have Authorized Claimants cash their initial distribution checks, such monies shall be (i) used for the payment of any unpaid Notice and Administrative Expenses and the costs or fees to be incurred in a redistribution of the remaining funds and then (ii) distributed in an economical fashion to Authorized Claimants who have cashed their initial distribution checks. If any funds remain in the Escrow Account after such redistribution(s), or if any such redistribution is not economically feasible, the unpaid residue shall be given to a nonprofit organization to be designated by Plaintiff and approved by the Court and by FSC (whose approval will not be unreasonably withheld).

## THE BASIS FOR CALCULATING YOUR RECOGNIZED CLAIM:

29. The Claims Administrator will calculate a "Recognized Loss Amount" for each purchase or acquisition of FSC common stock during the Class Period listed in the Class Member's Claim Form and for which adequate documentation is provided. The Recognized Loss Amount will depend upon several factors, including (*i*) when the shares were purchased or acquired and (*ii*) whether they were held until the conclusion of the Class Period or sold during the Class Period, and, if so, when they were sold.

30. For each share of FSC common stock purchased or otherwise acquired during the period between July 7, 2014 through February 6, 2015, inclusive, a Recognized Loss Amount will be calculated by the Claims Administrator as the number of shares purchased multiplied by:

- i) if shares are sold on or before February 6, 2015, \$0.00 per share; or
- ii) if shares are held as of the close of trading on February 6, 2015, the lesser of (but not less than zero):
  - a. \$1.30 per share; or
  - b. the difference between purchase price paid (excluding all fees, taxes, and commissions) per share and:
    - i. if the shares are sold between February 9, 2015 and May 8, 2015, the PSLRA rolling average price on the date of sale as set forth in Table A below; or
    - ii. if the shares are held as of the close of trading on May 8, 2015, the PSLRA 90-day look-back price of \$7.12 per share.<sup>1</sup>

Date	Price	Date	Price	Date	Price
2/9/2015	\$7.22	3/11/2015	\$7.13	4/10/2015	\$7.13
2/10/2015	\$7.09	3/12/2015	\$7.13	4/13/2015	\$7.13
2/11/2015	\$7.01	3/13/2015	\$7.12	4/14/2015	\$7.13
2/12/2015	\$7.04	3/16/2015	\$7.12	4/15/2015	\$7.13
2/13/2015	\$7.07	3/17/2015	\$7.11	4/16/2015	\$7.13
2/17/2015	\$7.10	3/18/2015	\$7.11	4/17/2015	\$7.13
2/18/2015	\$7.11	3/19/2015	\$7.11	4/20/2015	\$7.13
2/19/2015	\$7.13	3/20/2015	\$7.11	4/21/2015	\$7.13
2/20/2015	\$7.14	3/23/2015	\$7.11	4/22/2015	\$7.12
2/23/2015	\$7.14	3/24/2015	\$7.11	4/23/2015	\$7.13
2/24/2015	\$7.14	3/25/2015	\$7.11	4/24/2015	\$7.13
2/25/2015	\$7.14	3/26/2015	\$7.12	4/27/2015	\$7.13
2/26/2015	\$7.14	3/27/2015	\$7.12	4/28/2015	\$7.12
2/27/2015	\$7.14	3/30/2015	\$7.12	4/29/2015	\$7.12
3/2/2015	\$7.13	3/31/2015	\$7.13	4/30/2015	\$7.12
3/3/2015	\$7.13	4/1/2015	\$7.13	5/1/2015	\$7.13
3/4/2015	\$7.14	4/2/2015	\$7.13	5/4/2015	\$7.13
3/5/2015	\$7.14	4/6/2015	\$7.13	5/5/2015	\$7.12
3/6/2015	\$7.14	4/7/2015	\$7.13	5/6/2015	\$7.12
3/9/2015	\$7.14	4/8/2015	\$7.13	5/7/2015	\$7.12
3/10/2015	\$7.13	4/9/2015	\$7.13	5/8/2015	\$7.12

Table A PSLRA Rolling Average Prices

31. For each share of FSC common stock purchased or otherwise acquired during the period from July 7, 2014 through February 6, 2015, inclusive, an Out-of-Pocket Trading Loss (or Gain) will also be calculated by the Claims Administrator as the number of shares purchased multiplied by:

- (a) if shares are sold on or before February 6, 2015, \$0.00 per share; or
- (b) if shares are held as of the close of trading on February 6, 2015, the difference between purchase price paid (excluding all fees, taxes and commissions) and the closing price of \$7.22 on February 9, 2015.

32. For purposes of calculating your Recognized Claim, all purchases, acquisitions, and sales shall be matched on a First In, First Out ("FIFO") basis in chronological order. Therefore, on the Claim Form enclosed with this Notice, you must provide all of your purchases and acquisitions of FSC common stock during the time period from July 7, 2014 through February 6, 2015, inclusive.

33. For purposes of calculating your Recognized Claim, the date of purchase, acquisition, or sale – not the "settlement" or "payment" date – is the "contract" or "trade" date. The receipt or grant of FSC stock by gift, inheritance, or operation of law shall not be deemed a purchase, acquisition, or sale of FSC stock for the calculation of Recognized Claims. The covering purchase of a short sale is not an eligible purchase. Options are not eligible securities.

34. To the extent a claimant had an Out-Of-Pocket Trading Gain from his, her, or its overall transactions in FSC common stock during the Class Period, the value of the Recognized Claim will be zero, and the claimant will not be entitled to a share of the Net Settlement Fund. To the extent that a claimant suffered an Out-Of-Pocket Trading Loss on his, her, or its overall transactions in FSC common stock during the Class Period, but that trading loss was less than the Recognized Loss Amounts calculated above, the Recognized Claim shall be limited to the amount of the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Pursuant to Section 21(D)(e)(2) of the PSLRA, "in any private action arising under this title in which the plaintiff seeks to establish damages by reference to the market price of a security, if the plaintiff sells or repurchases the subject security prior to the expiration of the 90-day period described in paragraph (1), the plaintiff's damages shall not exceed the difference between the purchase or sale price paid or received, as appropriate, by the plaintiff for the security and the mean trading price of the security during the period beginning immediately after dissemination of information correcting the misstatement or omission and ending on the date on which the plaintiff sells or repurchases the security."

claimant's actual Out-Of-Pocket Trading Loss. A Recognized Claim that calculates to yield a negative number is treated as a Recognized Claim of zero.

35. All persons involved in the review, verification, calculation, tabulation, or any other aspect of the processing of the claims submitted in connection with the Settlement, or otherwise involved in the administration or taxation of the Settlement Fund or the Net Settlement Fund, shall be released and discharged from any and all claims arising out of such involvement, and all Class Members – whether or not they are to receive payment from the Net Settlement Fund – will be barred from making any further claim against the Net Settlement Fund beyond the amount allocated to them as provided in any distribution orders entered by the Court.

## WHAT RIGHTS AM I GIVING UP BY AGREEING TO THE SETTLEMENT?

36. If the Court approves the Settlement, it will enter a judgment (the "Judgment"). The Judgment will dismiss with prejudice the claims against Defendants and will say that, as of the Final Settlement Date, Plaintiff and all other Class Members are deemed to have - and by operation of the Judgment shall have - fully, finally, and forever released, relinquished, settled, and discharged any and all "Released Plaintiff's Claims," including "Unknown Claims," against the Releasees and any claims or potential claims that were, could have been, or could be asserted in connection with the Released Plaintiff's Claims.

37. "Released Plaintiff's Claims" means (in summary) every Claim that Plaintiff or any other Class Member (i) asserted against any of the Releasees in the Action (including all Claims alleged in any complaint filed in the Action or in any action consolidated into it) or (ii) could have asserted or could assert against any of the Releasees in connection with the facts and circumstances alleged in the Action, whether arising under any federal, state, or other statutory or common – law rule, in any court, tribunal, agency, or other forum, that both (A) arises out of or relates to the purchase or other acquisition of FSC common stock during the Class Period, or any other Investment Decision concerning FSC common stock during the Class Period, and (B) relates directly or indirectly to (1) the valuation of any of FSC's investments, investment decisions concerning FSC's portfolio and the due diligence undertaken in connection with those decisions, FSC's investments, investment decisions concerning FSC's investments on non-accrual status, decisions whether to impair or write down any of FSC's investments and the timing and amount of any write-downs or impairments, recognition of revenue from any of FSC's investments, the renegotiation or modification of any of the terms of FSC's investments, decisions as to any of FSC's investments, the performance or risk of FSC's investments, FSC's governance and internal controls, policies, processes and procedures relating to issues raised in the Complaint, and/or (2) any alleged statements about or characterizations of – or alleged failures to disclose information about – any of the foregoing matters. An "Investment Decision" is any decision about an investment in FSC common stock during the Class Period, including a decision to hold those shares. The complete definition of Released Plaintiff's Claims is printed in the Claim Form. You should read it carefully.

38. The term "Releasee," which is also printed in full in the Claim Form, includes FSC, FSAM, and their past and present officers, directors, employees, and agents, as well as related persons and entities.

39. The Judgment will also state that Releasees will be deemed to have – and by operation of the Judgment shall have – fully, finally, and forever released, relinquished, settled, and discharged all claims, whether known or unknown, that Releasees have or could have asserted, or could assert, against Plaintiff, Plaintiff's lawyers, and/or any of their agents, if such claims arise out of or relate in any way to the institution, prosecution, or settlement of the Action, except claims relating to the enforcement of the Settlement. In addition, Defendants will release all Defendants' Mutually Released Claims that any Defendant could otherwise have asserted directly or derivatively against any other Defendant.

40. Defendants will also ask the Court to enter "bar orders" barring any person or entity from suing the Releasees – and barring the Releasees from suing any other person or entity – for contribution, indemnification, and any other injury that relates to a Released Plaintiff's Claim and arises from the barred person's or entity's alleged liability to the Class or any Class Member.

## WHAT PAYMENT ARE THE ATTORNEYS FOR THE CLASS SEEKING? HOW WILL THE LAWYERS BE PAID?

41. Plaintiff's counsel has not received any payment for its services or expenses in connection with the Action. Lead Counsel will therefore apply to the Court for an award of attorneys' fees from the Settlement Fund of not more than 25% of the Settlement Fund and for litigation expenses not to exceed \$500,000. The Court will determine the amount of the award.

42. The requested attorneys' fees and litigation expenses will be the only payment to Lead Counsel for its efforts in achieving this Settlement and for its risk in undertaking this representation on a wholly contingent basis. Lead Counsel has committed time and expenses in litigating this case for the benefit of the Class. The Court will decide what is a reasonable fee award and may award less than the amount requested by Lead Counsel.

43. As a Class Member, you are represented by Plaintiff and Lead Counsel, unless you enter an appearance through counsel of your own choice at your own expense. You do not need to hire your own lawyer, but, if you choose to do so, he or she must file a notice of appearance on your behalf with the Court and must serve copies of his or her notice of appearance on the attorneys listed in paragraph 56, below.

## HOW DO I PARTICIPATE IN THE SETTLEMENT? WHAT DO I NEED TO DO?

44. If you purchased or otherwise acquired FSC common stock during the Class Period and are not excluded from the definition of the Class, and if you do not exclude yourself from the Class, then you are a Class Member. As a Class Member, you will be bound by the proposed Settlement, if the Court approves it, and by any judgment or determination of the Court affecting the Class.

45. If you are a Class Member and want to claim money from the Net Settlement Fund, you must submit a Claim Form and supporting documentation. A Claim Form is included with this Notice, or you may go to the website www.FSCSecuritiesSettlement.com to download a Claim Form or ask that one be mailed to you. You may also obtain, complete, and file a Claim Form online by March 27, 2017. You may also request a Claim Form by calling 866-217-4461 or e-mailing info@FSCSecuritiesSettlement.com. Those who exclude themselves from the Class, and those who do not submit timely and valid Claim Forms with adequate supporting documentation, will not be entitled to share in the settlement money.

46. The Claim Form and the required documents must be sent to the address (including the email address) printed in the Claim Form and must be received or postmarked no later than March 27, 2017. Unless the Court otherwise orders, any Class Member who fails to submit a timely Claim Form will be forever barred from receiving payments from the Settlement, but will remain a Class Member and be subject to the provisions of the Settlement Agreement and the Court's Orders and Judgment. This means that each Class Member will release the Released Plaintiff's Claims against Defendants and the other Releasees and will be enjoined and prohibited from filing, prosecuting, or pursuing any of the Released Plaintiff's Claims against Defendants regardless of whether such Class Member submits a Claim Form.

47. The Claim Form asks you to provide information and documentation about your purchases, holdings, and sales of FSC common stock before the Class Period, during the Class Period, and at the end of the Class Period. Please retain all records of your ownership of, or transactions in, FSC common stock so you can document your claim.

48. If you submit a Claim Form that is rejected in whole or in part, and if you want to dispute that decision, the Court will make a final, binding, and nonappealable decision on the dispute.

## WHAT IF I DO NOT WANT TO BE A PART OF THE SETTLEMENT? HOW DO I EXCLUDE MYSELF?

49. If you do not want to participate in the proposed Settlement and be bound by the rulings and judgments in this Action, you must exclude yourself from the Class. To do so, you must submit a written Request for Exclusion by first-class mail (or its equivalent outside the U.S.) or other delivery to FSC Securities Settlement - EXCLUSIONS, c/o A.B. Data, Ltd., P.O. Box 173025, Milwaukee, WI 53217. The exclusion request must be *received* no later than January 26, 2017. You will not be able to exclude yourself from the Class after that date, unless the Court otherwise determines.

50. Each Request for Exclusion must (i) state the name, address, telephone number, and e-mail address (if available) of the person or entity requesting exclusion; (ii) state that such person or entity "requests exclusion from the Class in *In re Fifth Street Finance Corp. Securities Litigation*, No. 15-cv-7759 (LAK)"; (iii) be signed by the person or entity requesting exclusion; and (iv) provide the date(s), price(s), and number(s) of shares of all purchases and sales of FSC common stock during the Class Period.

51. If you want to exclude yourself from the Class, you must follow these instructions even if you have pending, or later file, another lawsuit, arbitration, or other proceeding relating to any Released Plaintiff's Claims.

52. If you request exclusion from the Class, you will not receive any benefits from the proposed Settlement, and you cannot object to it.

## WHEN AND WHERE WILL THE COURT DECIDE WHETHER TO APPROVE THE SETTLEMENT? DO I HAVE TO COME TO THE HEARING? CAN I OBJECT TO THE SETTLEMENT? MAY I SPEAK AT THE HEARING IF I DON'T LIKE THE SETTLEMENT?

53. The Fairness Hearing will be held on February 16, 2017, at 9:30 a.m., before United States District Judge Lewis A. Kaplan, at the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, 500 Pearl Street, Courtroom 21B, New York, New York 10007. The Court reserves the right to approve the Settlement, the Plan of Allocation, and/or Lead Counsel's request for attorneys' fees and litigation expenses at or after the Fairness Hearing without further notice to the Class. Lead Counsel intends to file papers in support of final approval of the proposed Settlement, the Plan of Allocation, and the request for attorneys' fees and litigation expenses on or before January 12, 2017. The papers will be posted at www.FSCSecuritiesSettlement.com.

#### 54. You do not need to attend the Fairness Hearing. You can participate in the Settlement without attending the Fairness Hearing.

55. Any Class Member who does not submit a timely request for exclusion as described above may object to the proposed Settlement, the Plan of Allocation, or Lead Counsel's request for an award of attorneys' fees and litigation expenses. Objections must be in writing and must include the following information: (i) name and docket number of the Action (In re Fifth Street Finance Corp. Securities Litigation, Case No. 15-cv-7759 (LAK)); (ii) Class Member's name, address, telephone number, and e-mail address (if available); (iii) the date(s), price(s), and number(s) of shares of all purchases and sales of FSC common stock during the Class Period; (iv) account statements verifying all such transactions; (v) the reason(s) for the objection; (vi) any legal support that the Class Member wants to bring to the Court's attention; and (vii) any evidence or exhibits that the Class Member wants the Court to consider.

56. Objections must be timely filed with the Clerk of Court at the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, 500 Pearl Street, New York, New York 10007. Objections must also be served on the Settling Parties' counsel by first-class mail, e-mail, or hand-delivery at:

Lead Counsel for the Class	Defendants' Counsel		
Joel H. Bernstein, Esq.	Ralph C. Ferrara, Esq.		
Labaton Sucharow LLP	Proskauer Rose LLP		
140 Broadway	1001 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.		
New York, NY 10005	Suite 600 South		
SettlementQuestions@labaton.com	Washington, DC 20004		
Settien and Antonio	rferrara@proskauer.com		

57. All objections must be received by the Court and the attorneys no later than January 26, 2017.

58. You may file a written objection without appearing at the Fairness Hearing.

59. If you wish to speak at the Fairness Hearing, you must also file and serve a notice of intention to appear. The notice of intention to appear must include (i) name and docket number of the Action (In re Fifth Street Finance Corp. Securities Litigation, Case No. 15-cv-7759 (LAK)); (ii) your name, address, telephone number, and e-mail address (if available), and (iii) your attorney's contact information, if you have an attorney. You must file and serve your notice of intention to appear with the Court and the Settling Parties' counsel, at the addresses listed in paragraph 56 above, so that it is received on or before January 26, 2017.

60. You do not need to hire an attorney to represent you in making written objections or in appearing at the Fairness Hearing. However, if you decide to hire an attorney at your own expense, he or she must file a notice of appearance with the Court and serve it on the Settling Parties' counsel, at the above addresses, so that the notice is *received* on or before January 26, 2017.

61. The Court may change the date of the Fairness Hearing without further written notice to the Class. If you intend to attend the hearing, you should confirm the date and time with Lead Counsel or by checking the settlement website.

Unless the Court orders otherwise, any Class Member who does not object in the manner described above will be deemed to have waived any objection and will be forever foreclosed from objecting to the proposed Settlement, the Plan of Allocation, or Lead Counsel's request for attorneys' fees and litigation expenses. Class Members do not need to appear at the Fairness Hearing or take any other action to indicate their approval.

## WHAT IF I BOUGHT SHARES ON SOMEONE ELSE'S BEHALF?

62. If you purchased or otherwise acquired FSC common stock during the Class Period as a nominee or for the beneficial interest of a person or organization other than yourself, YOU MUST, WITHIN FOURTEEN (14) CALENDAR DAYS after receipt of the Individual Notice, EITHER (A) request from the Claims Administrator sufficient copies of the Individual Notice and Claim Form to forward to all such beneficial owners and, WITHIN FOURTEEN (14) CALENDAR DAYS after receipt of the copies of the Individual Notice and Claim Form, forward them to all such beneficial owners; OR (B) provide a list of the names and addresses of all such beneficial owners to FSC Securities Settlement, c/o A.B. Data, Ltd., FULFILLMENT, 3410 West Hopkins Street, P.O. Box 173025, Milwaukee, WI 53217. If you mail Individual Notices and Claim Forms to beneficial owners, YOU MUST, upon making such mailing, send a statement to the Claims Administrator confirming that the mailing was made as directed, and retain the list of names and addresses for use in connection with any possible future notice to the Class. Upon full compliance with this directive, including the timely mailing of the Individual Notices and Claim Forms to beneficial owners, you may seek reimbursement of your reasonable expenses actually incurred by providing the Claims Administrator with proper documentation supporting the reasonable expenses for which reimbursement is sought and reflecting compliance with these instructions, including timely mailing of the Individual Notices and Claim Forms.

63. In addition, you may download the Notice from the settlement website <u>www.FSCSecuritiesSettlement.com</u>, where you also can view other documents relating to the proposed Settlement.

## CAN I SEE THE COURT FILE? WHOM SHOULD I CONTACT IF I HAVE QUESTIONS?

64. This Notice contains only a summary of the terms of the proposed Settlement. More detailed information about the Action is available on the settlement website, including copies of the Settlement Agreement, the Claim Form, the Complaint, the Court's orders about the Settlement, and the relevant motion papers. All inquiries about this Notice should be directed to:

Claims Administrator	Lead Counsel for the Class		
FSC Securities Settlement	Joel H. Bernstein, Esq.		
c/o A.B. Data, Ltd.	Labaton Sucharow LLP		
P.O. Box 173025	140 Broadway		
Milwaukee, WI 53217	New York, NY 10005		
Tel.: 866-217-4461	Tel.: 888-219-6877		
Email: info@FSCSecuritiesSettlement.com	Email: SettlementQuestions@labaton.com		
Website: www.FSCSecuritiesSettlement.com	Website: www.labaton.com		

#### PLEASE DO NOT CALL OR WRITE THE COURT OR THE CLERK OF COURT ABOUT THIS NOTICE.

Dated: November 27, 2016

By Order of the Clerk of Court United States District Court for the Southern District of New York

QUESTIONS? CALL 866-217-4461 OR VISIT WWW.FSCSECURITIESSETTLEMENT.COM

PAGE 8 OF 8

### FIFTH STREET FINANCE CORP. SECURITIES SETTLEMENT

Case No. 15-cv-7759 (LAK) (S.D.N.Y.)

#### CLAIM FORM AND RELEASE

# YOU MUST SUBMIT A COMPLETED CLAIM FORM THAT IS POSTMARKED OR RECEIVED BY A.B. DATA, LTD. (THE "CLAIMS ADMINISTRATOR") NO LATER THAN MARCH 27, 2017 TO BE ELIGIBLE TO SHARE IN THE SETTLEMENT.

IF YOU ALSO PURCHASED COMMON STOCK OF *FIFTH STREET ASSET MANAGEMENT INC.* ("FSAM") PURSUANT OR TRACEABLE TO FSAM'S REGISTRATION STATEMENT, YOU MUST SUBMIT THE FSAM CLAIM FORM AS WELL.

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

PAGE #

SECTION I – GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS	1
SECTION II – CLAIMANT IDENTIFICATION.	3
SECTION III – TRANSACTIONS IN FSC COMMON STOCK	4
SECTION IV – RELEASE AND SIGNATURE	5

#### SECTION I - GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. You should read the "Notice of (1) Pendency and Proposed Settlement of Class Action; (2) Motion for Attorneys' Fees and Expenses; and (3) Hearing on Proposed Settlement" (the "Individual Notice") that accompanies this Claim Form, as well as the Plan of Allocation included in the Individual Notice. The Individual Notice and the Plan of Allocation describe the proposed Settlement of this Action, how Class Members are affected by the Settlement, and how the Net Settlement Fund will be distributed if the Court approves the Settlement and the Plan of Allocation. The Individual Notice also contains the definitions of many of the defined terms (shown with initial capital letters) used in this Claim Form.

2. TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SETTLEMENT, YOU MUST SUBMIT YOUR COMPLETED AND SIGNED CLAIM FORM – WITH THE REQUIRED SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION – SO THAT IT IS RECEIVED OR POSTMARKED ON OR BEFORE MARCH 27, 2017, ADDRESSED TO:

FSC Securities Settlement c/o A.B. Data, Ltd. P.O. Box 173025 Milwaukee, WI 53217 Tel.: 866-217-4461 info@FSCSecuritiesSettlement.com

You can also visit www.FSCSecuritiesSettlement.com to obtain, complete, and file a Claim Form online.

IF YOU DO NOT SUBMIT A TIMELY, PROPERLY ADDRESSED AND COMPLETED CLAIM FORM, YOUR CLAIM MAY BE REJECTED, AND YOU MAY BE PREVENTED FROM RECEIVING ANY SETTLEMENT MONEY.

3. This Claim Form is directed to all persons and entities (or legal beneficiaries) who purchased or otherwise acquired FSC common stock during the period from July 7, 2014 through February 6, 2015, inclusive (the "Class Period" and the "Class"). The following persons and entities are specifically *excluded* from the Class under the terms of the Settlement Agreement: (a) all Defendants; any other individuals who were officers or directors of FSC or Fifth Street Asset Management Inc. ("FSAM") during the Class Period; Family Members of any of the foregoing, and their legal representatives, trustees, administrators, heirs, successors, or assigns; and any entity in which any Defendant had a Controlling Interest during the Class Period; (b) persons or entities who submit timely and valid requests for exclusion from the Class; and (c) anyone who, while represented by counsel, settled an actual or threatened lawsuit or other proceeding against the Releasees (defined below) and released the Releasees from any further Claims concerning their purchase or other acquisition of FSC common stock during the Class Period.

4. "Authorized Claimant" means a Class Member who timely submits to the Claims Administrator a valid Claim Form that is approved pursuant to the terms of the Settlement Agreement.

5. IF YOU ARE NOT A CLASS MEMBER, OR IF YOU OR SOMEONE ACTING ON YOUR BEHALF FILED A REQUEST FOR EXCLUSION FROM THE CLASS, DO NOT SUBMIT A CLAIM FORM. YOU MAY NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE SETTLEMENT IF YOU ARE NOT A CLASS MEMBER.

6. Submission of this Claim Form does not guarantee that you will share in the Net Settlement Fund. Distributions from the Net Settlement Fund are governed by the Plan of Allocation, which must be approved by the Court. The proposed Plan of Allocation is included in the Individual Notice.

QUESTIONS? CALL 866-217-4461 OR VISIT WWW.FSCSECURITIESSETTLEMENT.COM

Page 1 of 8

7. If you have questions about the Claim Form or need additional copies of it or of the Individual Notice, you may contact the Claims Administrator at the above address or telephone number. You may also send your questions to info@FSCSecuritiesSettlement.com or download the documents from <u>www.FSCSecuritiesSettlement.com</u>.

8. If you are a Class Member and you do not (or someone acting on your behalf does not) submit a timely request for exclusion from the Class, and if the Court approves the Settlement, you will be bound by the Court's orders and judgment whether or not you submit a Claim Form. The proposed judgment enjoins the filing or continued prosecution of all Released Plaintiff's Claims and also releases the Releasees from Released Plaintiff's Claims (defined below), including those that are subject to pending lawsuits or arbitrations.

9. You must submit sufficient documentation for your transactions in FSC common stock during the period July 7, 2014 through May 8, 2015. Documentation may be photocopies of stockbrokers' confirmation slips or monthly statements (reflecting your opening and closing balances for the months that are specified on the Claim Form and in which transactions occurred during the relevant period). If you do not have such documents in your possession, you should obtain copies or equivalent contemporaneous documents from your broker. The Settling Parties and Claims Administrator do not have information about your transactions. Failure to supply this documentation could cause your claim to be rejected. Do not send original stock certificates.

10. The date of covering a "short sale" is deemed to be the date of purchase of FSC common stock. The date of a "short sale" is deemed to be the date of sale of FSC common stock.

11. All joint purchasers must each sign this Claim Form.

12. Agents, executors, administrators, guardians, and trustees must complete and sign the Claim Form on behalf of persons represented by them, and they must:

- (a) expressly state the capacity in which they are acting;
- (b) identify the name, account number, Social Security number (or taxpayer identification number), address, telephone number, and e-mail address (if available) of the beneficial owner of (or other person or entity on whose behalf they are acting as to) the FSC common stock; and
- (c) submit evidence of their authority to bind to the Claim Form the person or entity on whose behalf they are acting. (Stockbrokers cannot establish their authority to complete and sign a Claim Form by demonstrating merely that they have discretionary authority to trade stock in another person's accounts.)
- 13. By submitting a signed Claim Form, you will be affirming that:
  - (a) you own(ed) the FSC common stock you have listed in the Claim Form; or
  - (b) you are expressly authorized to act on behalf of the owner of that common stock.

NOTE: Separate Claim Forms should be submitted for each separate legal entity (for example, a claim from joint owners should not include separate transactions of just one of the joint owners, and an individual should not combine his or her IRA transactions with transactions made solely in non-IRA accounts). However, a single Claim Form submitted on behalf of one legal entity should include all transactions made by that entity, no matter how many separate accounts that entity has (for example, a corporation with multiple brokerage accounts should include on one Claim Form all transactions made in FSC common stock during the Class Period, no matter how many accounts the transactions were made in).

14. NOTICE REGARDING ELECTRONIC FILES: Certain Claimants with large numbers of transactions may request, or may be requested, to submit information regarding their transactions in electronic files. To obtain the mandatory electronic filing requirements and file layout, you may visit the settlement website at FSCSecuritiesSettlement.com, or you may email the Claims Administrator's electronic filing department at efiling@abdata.com. Any file not in accordance with the required electronic filing format will be subject to rejection. No electronic files will be considered to have been properly submitted unless the Claims Administrator issues an email after processing your file with your claim numbers and respective account information. Do not assume that your file has been received or processed until you receive this email. If you do not receive such an email within 10 days after your submission, you should contact the electronic filing department at efiling@abdata.com to inquire about your file and confirm it was received and acceptable.

# IF YOU DO NOT SUBMIT A COMPLETE CLAIM BY MARCH 27, 2017, YOUR CLAIM IS SUBJECT TO REJECTION.

MUST BE POSTMARKED OR RECEIVED NO LATER THAN MARCH 27, 2017 FSC Securities Settlement c/o A.B. Data, Ltd. PO Box 173025 Milwaukee, WI 53217 United States of America



FOR INTERNAL USE ONLY

## **CLAIM FORM AND RELEASE**

Please Type or Print in the Boxes Below

Do NOT use Red Ink, Pencil, or Staples

## SECTION II - CLAIMANT IDENTIFICATION

## Claimant or Representative Contact Information:

The Claims Administrator will use this information for all communications regarding this Claim Form. If this information changes, you MUST notify the Claims Administrator in writing at the address above.

Claimant Names(s) (as the name(s) should appear on check, if eligible for payment; if the shares are jointly owned, the names of all beneficial owners must be provided):

Name of Person the Claims Administrator Should Contact Regarding this Claim Form (Must Be Provided):

Mailing Address - Line 1: Street Address/P.O. Box:

Mailing Address - Line 2 (If Applicable): Apartment/Suite/Floor Number:

City:	S	tate:	Zip Code:	
Foreign Province:	Foreign Postal Code:		Foreign Country:	
Social Security Number or Taxpaye	er Identification Number:	]		
Daytime Telephone Number:	Evenin	g Teleph	one Number:	

Email address (E-mail address is not required, but if you provide it you authorize the Claims Administrator to use it in providing you with information relevant to this claim.):

## QUESTIONS? CALL 866-217-4461 OR VISIT WWW.FSCSECURITIESSETTLEMENT.COM

Page 3 of 8

## SECTION III - TRANSACTIONS IN FSC COMMON STOCK

## YOU MUST SUBMIT DOCUMENTATION SUPPORTING THE INFORMATION BELOW

1. BEGINNING HOLDINGS: State the number of shares of FSC common stock that the Claimant owned at the close of business on July 6, 2014. If none, write "zero" or "0." If other than zero, be sure to attach the required documentation.

 PURCHASES: List all purchases of FSC common stock during the period July 7, 2014 through and including May 8, 2015<sup>1</sup>. (NOTE: If you acquired your FSC common stock during this period other than by an open-market purchase, please provide a complete description of the terms of the acquisition on a separate page.) Be sure to attach the required documentation.

-			
Date of Purchase (List Chronologically) (Month/Day/Year)	Number of Shares Purchased	Purchase/Acquisition Price Per Share	Total Purchase/Acquisition Price (excluding taxes, commissions, and fees)
		\$	\$
		\$	\$
		\$	S
		\$	S
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	\$	\$
		\$	\$
		\$	\$

3. SALES: List all sales of FSC common stock during the period July 7, 2014 through and including May 8, 2015. Be sure to attach the required documentation.

Date of Sale (List Chronologically) (Month/Day/Year)	Number of Shares Sold	Sale Price Per Share	Total Sale Price (excluding taxes, commissions, and fees)
		\$	\$
	and a spectrum of the second	\$	\$
		\$	\$
		\$	\$
		S	\$
		\$	\$
		\$	S

4. UNSOLD HOLDINGS: State the number of shares of FSC common stock that the claimant owned at the close of business on May 8, 2015. Be sure to attach the required documentation.

IF YOU REQUIRE ADDITIONAL SPACE FOR THE SCHEDULE ABOVE, ATTACH EXTRA SCHEDULES IN THE SAME FORMAT. PRINT THE BENEFICIAL OWNER'S FULL NAME AND LAST FOUR DIGITS OF SOCIAL SECURITY/TAXPAYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER ON EACH ADDITIONAL PAGE. IF YOU DO ATTACH EXTRA SCHEDULES, CHECK THIS BOX.

## YOU MUST READ AND SIGN THE RELEASE ON PAGE 7. FAILURE TO SIGN THE RELEASE MAY RESULT IN A DELAY IN PROCESSING OR THE REJECTION OF YOUR CLAIM.

<sup>1</sup> Please note that FSC common stock purchased or acquired during the 90-day look-back period between February 7, 2015 and May 8, 2015, will be used to balance your claim, and not to increase your Recognized Loss.

#### SECTION IV - RELEASE AND SIGNATURE

#### I. Definitions

Capitalized terms not already defined in this form have the following meanings. Other defined terms have the meanings given them in the Stipulation of Settlement dated as of July 27, 2016 (the "Settlement Agreement").

"Defendants' Mutually Released Claims" means each and every Claim arising out of or relating to any or all of the acts, failures to act, omissions, misrepresentations, facts, events, matters, transactions, occurrences, or oral or written statements or representations during the Class Period that were or could have been alleged under the facts and circumstances pled in the Action (including in the Complaint and the original complaints filed in the Action), including the matters described in the definition of Released Plaintiff's Claims; *provided, however*, that the term "Defendants' Mutually Released Claims" shall not apply to (*i*) any right to indemnification or advancement under any statute, charter, bylaw, or contract, (*ii*) any other contractual rights between or among Defendants, and (*iii*) any claims asserted in the FSC Derivative Actions.

"Final Order" is the Order of Dismissal to be entered by the Court upon approval of the Settlement, as contemplated by the Settlement Agreement, dismissing the Action with prejudice and without costs to any Releasee (except to the extent awarded by the Court), releasing all Released Plaintiff's Claims as against the Releasees, and enjoining Class Members from instituting, continuing, or prosecuting any action asserting any Released Plaintiff's Claims against any Releasee.

"Released Defendants' Claims" means each and every Claim that has been, could have been, or could be asserted in the Action or in any other proceeding by any Releasee, including any Defendant or the successors and assigns of any Defendant, against Plaintiff, any other Class Members, or their attorneys (including Lead Counsel), that arises out of or relates in any way to the institution, prosecution, or settlement of the Action, except for claims to enforce the Settlement.

"Released Plaintiff's Claims" means each and every Claim that Plaintiff or any other Class Member (i) asserted against any of the Releases in the Action (including all Claims alleged in any complaint filed in the Action or in any action consolidated into it) or (ii) could have asserted or could assert against any of the Releases in connection with the facts and circumstances alleged in the Action, whether arising under any federal, state, or other statutory or common-law rule, in any court, tribunal, agency, or other forum, that both (A) arises out of or relates to the purchase or other acquisition of FSC common stock during the Class Period, or any other Investment Decision concerning FSC common stock during the Class Period, and (B) relates directly or indirectly to the matters described in Subsections a.-s. below and/or any alleged statements about or characterizations of – or alleged failures to disclose information about – any of those matters, including with respect to both Subsections (i) and (ii) above:

a. the valuation and management of FSC's investments, including the approach used in calculating the fair values of investments and the inputs used, assumptions made, and comparables and quotations relied upon, the quality checks that were conducted regarding valuation calculations, documentation concerning valuation decisions and calculations, decisions whether to write down or impair FSC's investments and the timing and amount of any investment write-downs, decisions whether to place investments on non-accrual status, decisions whether to obtain ITP valuations for particular investments, the selection of ITPs to perform such valuations, and the timing of ITP valuations of FSC's investments;

b. the origination of investments for FSC's portfolio, including FSC's communications with and due diligence on investment sponsors, FSC's pre-investment due diligence and underwriting, the approval process for investments, and the structuring, negotiation, documentation, pricing, and terms of FSC's investments;

c. FSC's risk management, including FSC's investment approach, the selection of its individual investments, creditor protections negotiated in connection with those investments, underwriting policies, the overall risk profile and credit quality of FSC's portfolio, and any characterizations or descriptions of those matters;

d. FSC's leverage, including the aggregate amount of its indebtedness and the terms and structure of its various financing arrangements;

e. the management of FSC's portfolio, including the processes used to manage the investments, the inputs into the Black Mountain platform regarding investments, the review, ranking, and rating of investments, and decisions to place investments on FSC's "Watchlist";

f. waivers, amendments, and loan modifications effected regarding FSC's investments, including decisions regarding waivers of cash interest, conversion of loans to PIK interest, the modification of loan terms or interest rates, the provision of any additional financing to companies in which FSC had already made a debt or equity investment, the acquisition of control investments, or the sale, liquidation, or other disposal of investments;

g. FSC's fair-value accounting and recognition of income, including its revenue recognition for original-issue discounts, accruals, accruals on contingent-payment debt instruments, PIK interest, loan-origination fee income, and other fee income;

h. policies, processes, and procedures concerning the valuation of investments, portfolio management, revenue recognition, and disclosure, including FSC's Valuation Policy, Valuation Narrative, Portfolio Management Narrative, Revenue Recognition Narrative, and Disclosure Policy;

i. decisions regarding FSC's dividends, including whether to pay dividends in any particular quarter, the amount of dividends to be paid, announcements of and statements regarding dividends, and the timing of dividend payments;

j. FSC's investment-advisory arrangements with FSM and/or its Affiliates, including the services provided by FSM, all base, incentive, and other fees, costs, and expenses paid by FSC under the Investment Advisory Agreement ("IAA"), the provisions of the IAA, communications between FSC and its shareholders (including RiverNorth Capital Management LLC) regarding the IAA, and FSC's indemnity and advancement obligations to FSM or its Affiliates;

k. FSC's administration arrangements with FSC CT and/or its Affiliates, including the services provided by FSC CT, all costs, fees, and expenses paid by FSC under the Administration Agreement with FSC CT, the provisions of the Administration Agreement, and FSC's indemnity and advancement obligations to FSC CT or its Affiliates;

1. FSC's participation in any agreements, ventures, partnerships, or any similar arrangements with any of its affiliates, including any alleged conflicts of interest and FSC's waiver of any alleged conflicts;

m. FSC's partnership with Trinity Universal Insurance Company (a subsidiary of Kemper Corporation) to establish Senior Loan Fund JV 1, LLC ("SLF JV1"), and the financial performance and income generation of SLF JV1;

n. FSC's secondary offering of common stock announced on July 10, 2014, and the materials disseminated and statements made in connection with that offering;

o. accounting treatment relating to investments (including the recognition of revenue) and to fees paid to FSC's investment advisor and administrator;

p. FSC's assets, asset quality, financial condition, revenues, income (including fee income, net investment income, and PIK income), expenses, earnings per share, and other financial metrics, and auditors' comments about FSC's financial condition;

q. FSC's governance and internal controls, including any deficiencies and weaknesses in such controls;

r. FSC's earnings announcements and other public statements about financial results during the Class Period;

s. FSAM's IPO, the offering's alleged impact on FSAM's, FSM's, and/or FSC CT's performance of services for FSC, and the uses of the IPO proceeds; and

t. Releasees' statements about, characterizations of, or alleged omissions concerning any or all of the above matters, including any alleged failures to comply with Item 303 of SEC Regulation S-K. The term "Released Plaintiff's Claims" also includes any Claim relating to the initiation, litigation, settlement, or dissemination of notice of the Action, including the payment of any settlement relief to settle the Action; provided however, that the term "Released Plaintiff's Claims" does not include any claims to enforce the Settlement Agreement or brought on behalf of FSAM stock purchasers in the FSAM Class Action.

"Releasees" means (a) Defendants and their Family Members, heirs, trustees, administrators, successors, representatives, agents, and assigns; (b) each and every entity that falls within the definition of FSC Releasees or FSAM Releasees; and (c) each of the FSC Releasees' and FSAM Releasees' respective past and present directors, executive-committee members, officers, officials, employees, members, partners, principals, agents, attorneys (including in-house or outside attorneys (including Defendants' Counsel) employed or retained by the FSC Releasees or the FSAM Releasees), advisors, investment bankers, trustees, administrators, fiduciaries, consultants, actuaries, representatives, accountants, accounting advisors, auditors, insurers, reinsurers, service providers, and valuation firms (including independent third-party firms).

"Unknown Claims" means any and all Released Plaintiff's Claims that any Plaintiff or any other Class Member does not know or suspect to exist in his, her, or its favor at the time of the release of the Releasees, and any Released Defendants' Claims or Defendants' Mutually Released Claims that any Defendant does not know or suspect to exist in his or its favor, which, if known by Plaintiff, the other Class Members, or Defendants, might have affected his, her, its, or their decision(s) concerning the Settlement. As to any and all Released Plaintiff's Claims, Released Defendants' Claims, and Defendants' Mutually Released Claims, the Settling Parties stipulate and agree that, upon the Final Settlement Date, Plaintiff and Defendants shall expressly waive, and each other Class Member, Releasor, and Releasee shall be deemed to have waived, and by operation of the Final Order and the Judgment shall have expressly waived, any and all provisions, rights, and benefits conferred by any law of any state or territory of the United States or of any other country, or any principle of common law, that is similar, comparable, or equivalent to Cal. Civ. Code § 1542, which provides:

A general release does not extend to claims which the creditor does not know or suspect to exist in his or her favor at the time of executing the release, which if known by him or her must have materially affected his or her settlement with the debtor.

Plaintiff and Defendants acknowledge, and the other Class Members by operation of law shall be deemed to have acknowledged, that the inclusion of "Unknown Claims" in the definition of Released Plaintiff's Claims, Released Defendants' Claims, and Defendants' Mutually Released Claims was separately bargained for and was a key element of the Settlement.

#### I. The Release

I (we) understand and acknowledge that, without further action by anyone, on and after the entry of the Final Order and Judgment, and upon the Final Settlement Date, I (we), as a Class Member(s) (even if I (we) have pending or later initiate any other actions, arbitrations, or other proceedings against Defendants or any related person or entity relating to Released Plaintiff's Claims).

on behalf of myself (ourselves), my (our) parents, predecessors, successors, heirs, executors, administrators, successors, assigns, and any person or entity claiming by or through, on behalf of, for the benefit of, derivatively for, or as representative of me (us), for good and sufficient consideration, the receipt and adequacy of which are hereby acknowledged, shall be deemed to have, and by operation of law and of the Final Order and Judgment shall have, fully, finally, and forever released, relinquished, settled, and discharged all Released Plaintiff's Claims against each and every one of the Releasees, including all Released Plaintiff's Claims that may already have been asserted in any pending action, arbitration, or other proceeding, and whether or not a Claim Form is executed and delivered by, or on behalf of, me (us).

## SIGNATURE AND CERTIFICATIONS

By signing and submitting this Claim Form, the Claimant or the person who represents the Claimant certifies as follows:

1. The claimant is a Class Member, as defined in the Individual Notice;

2. I (we) have read and understand the contents of the Individual Notice and the Claim Form;

3. I am (we are) not acting for FSC or FSAM; nor am I (are we) otherwise excluded from the Class;

4. I (we) have not filed a request for exclusion from the Class, and I (we) do not know of any request for exclusion from the Class filed on my (our) behalf as to my (our) transactions in FSC common stock;

5. I (we) own(ed) the FSC common stock identified in the Claim Form, or, in signing and submitting this Claim Form, I (we) have the authority to act on behalf of the owner(s) thereof;

6. Claimant may be entitled to receive a distribution from the Net Settlement Fund;

7. Claimant wants to participate in the Settlement described in the Individual Notice and agrees to the Settlement's terms and conditions;

8. I (we) submit to the jurisdiction of the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York for all matters related to this Claim Form;

9. I (we) agree to furnish such additional information concerning this Claim Form as the parties or the Court may require;

10. I (we) waive trial by court or jury, to the extent it exists, concerning this Claim Form and any right to appeal the determination of this Claim Form, and agree to the Court's final disposition of any disputes about the validity or amount of the claim made by this Claim Form or the amount payable to any claimant; and

11. I am (we are) not subject to backup withholding under the provisions of Section 3406(a)(1)(c) of the Internal Revenue Code.

**NOTE**: If you have been notified by the Internal Revenue Service that you are subject to backup withholding, please strike the language that you are not subject to backup withholding in the certification above. The Internal Revenue Service does not require your consent to any provision other than the certification required to avoid backup withholding.

I (we) declare, under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America, that the statements made and answers given in this Claim Form are true and correct and that the documents submitted with this Claim Form are true and genuine.

Executed this	day of in	
	(Month/Year)	(City/State/Country)
Signature of claiman	t	Print your name here
Signature of joint cla	imant, if any	Print your name here
Signature of person s	igning on behalf of claimant, if any	Print your name here
Capacity of person s	igning on behalf of claimant, if other th	nan an individual, e.g., executor, president, trustee, custodian, etc.
		G TAKES A SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF TIME. U FOR YOUR PATIENCE.

QUESTIONS? CALL 866-217-4461 OR VISIT WWW.FSCSECURITIESSETTLEMENT.COM

Page 7 of 8

## **REMINDER CHECKLIST:**

- 1. Please sign the Certification Section of this Claim Form.
- 2. Keep a copy of your Claim Form and all submitted documentation for your records.
- 3. If this claim is made on behalf of joint claimants, then each claimant must sign.
- 4. Please remember to attach copies of supporting documents.
- 5. If you move, please send us your new address.
- 6. DO NOT SEND ORIGINALS OF ANY SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS.

4

7. Do not use highlighter on the Claim Form or supporting documentation.

## THIS CLAIM FORM MUST BE POSTMARKED OR SUBMITTED NO LATER THAN MARCH 27, 2017, AND SENT TO:

FSC Securities Settlement c/o A.B. Data, Ltd. P.O. Box 173025 Milwaukee, WI 53217 info@FSCSecuritiesSettlement.com