Ares Commercial Real Estate Corporation Announces Tax Reporting Information for Calendar Year 2016

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NEW YORK--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- Ares Commercial Real Estate Corporation (NYSE:ACRE) (the "Company") today announced the 2016 tax treatment for the Company's common stock distributions (CUSIP # 04013V-10-8).

| Form 1099 Reference: | | | (Box 1a + 2a) | Box 1a | Box 1b | Box 2a | Box 2b |
|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| Record Date | Payment Date | Cash Distribution Per Share | Distribution Allocable to 2016 | Taxable Ordinary Dividend | Taxable Qualified Dividends | Total Capital Gain ^[] Distribution | Unrecaptured Section 1250 Gain ⁽²⁾ |
| 12/31/15 | 01/19/16 | \$0.2500 | \$0.0689 ⁽³⁾ | \$0.0178 | \$0.0000 | \$0.0511 | \$0.0060 |
| 03/31/16 | 04/15/16 | \$0.2600 | \$0.2600 | \$0.0673 | \$0.0000 | \$0.1927 | \$0.0228 |
| 06/30/16 | 07/15/16 | \$0.2600 | \$0.2600 | \$0.0673 | \$0.0000 | \$0.1927 | \$0.0228 |
| 09/30/16 | 10/17/16 | \$0.2600 | \$0.2600 | \$0.0673 | \$0.0000 | \$0.1927 | \$0.0228 |
| 12/30/16 | 01/17/17 | \$0.2600 | \$0.2600 ⁽⁴⁾ | \$0.0673 | \$0.0000 | \$0.1927 | \$0.0228 |
| (4) D 4 | Totals | . (1, 1 | \$1.1089 | \$0.2870 | \$0.0000 | \$0.8219 | \$0.0972 |

- (1) Box 1b is a subset of, and included in, Box 1a
- (2) Box 2b is a subset of, and included in, Box 2a
 - The distribution reported as allocable to 2016 represents the portion of this distribution that is
- (3) treated as taxable in 2016. The remainder was taxable in 2015 pursuant to Section 857(b)(9) of the Internal Revenue Code
- (4) The entire distribution of \$0.2600 per share is treated as taxable in 2016 pursuant to Section 857(b)(9) of the Internal Revenue Code

The amounts indicated above are not classified as excess inclusion income. Stockholders are encouraged to consult with their own tax advisors as to their specific tax treatment of the Company's distributions.

About Ares Commercial Real Estate Corporation

Ares Commercial Real Estate Corporation is a specialty finance company primarily engaged in originating and investing in commercial real estate loans and related investments. Through its national direct origination platform, the Company provides a broad offering of flexible and reliable financing solutions for commercial real estate owners and operators. The Company originates senior mortgage loans, as well as subordinate financings, mezzanine debt and preferred equity, with an emphasis on providing value added financing on a variety of properties located in liquid markets across the United States. Ares Commercial Real Estate Corporation elected and qualified to be taxed as a real estate investment trust and is externally managed by a subsidiary of Ares Management, L.P. (NYSE:ARES), a publicly traded, leading global alternative asset manager with approximately \$97 billion of assets under management as of September 30, 2016. For more information, please visit www.arescre.com. The contents of such website are not, and should not be deemed to be, incorporated by reference herein.

Forward-Looking Statements

Statements included herein may constitute "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, which relate to future events or the Company's future performance or financial condition. These statements are not guarantees of future performance, condition or results and involve a number of risks and uncertainties. Actual results may differ materially from those in the forward-looking statements as a result of a number of factors, those described from time to time in the Company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Ares Commercial Real Estate Corporation undertakes no duty to update any forward-looking statements made herein.

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