

ARES COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE CORPORATION ANNOUNCES TAX REPORTING INFORMATION FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2017

NEW YORK—January 31, 2018—Ares Commercial Real Estate Corporation (NYSE: ACRE) (the "Company") today announced the 2017 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 2017	Taxable Ordinary Dividend	Taxable Qualified Dividends ⁽¹⁾	Total Capital Gain Distribution	Unrecaptured Section 1250 Gain ⁽²⁾
12/30/16	01/17/17	\$0.2600	\$0.0000 ⁽³⁾	\$0.0000	\$0.0000	\$0.0000	\$0.0000
03/31/17	04/17/17	\$0.2700	\$0.2700	\$0.2691	\$0.0006	\$0.0009	\$0.0000
06/30/17	07/17/17	\$0.2700	\$0.2700	\$0.2691	\$0.0006	\$0.0009	\$0.0000
09/29/17	10/16/17	\$0.2700	\$0.2700	\$0.2691	\$0.0006	\$0.0009	\$0.0000
12/29/17	01/16/18	\$0.2700	\$0.2700 ⁽⁴⁾	\$0.2691	\$0.0006	\$0.0009	\$0.0000
	Totals		\$1.0800	\$1.0764	\$0.0024	\$0.0036	\$0.0000

(1) Box 1b is a subset of, and included in, Box 1a

(2) Box 2b is a subset of, and included in, Box 2a

(3) The entire distribution of \$0.2600 per share was treated as taxable in 2016 pursuant to Section 857(b)(9) of the Internal Revenue Code

(4) The entire distribution of \$0.2700 per share is treated as taxable in 2017 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. 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.

Investor Relations:

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