UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, DC 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of report (Date of earliest event reported): November 3, 2023



ARES COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE CORPORATION

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

001-35517

45-3148087 (IRS Employer Identification No.)

(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)

(Commission File Number)

245 Park Avenue, 42nd Floor, New York, NY 10167 (Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code (212) 750-7300

(Former Name or Former Address, if Changed Since Last Report) N/A

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

☐ Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

☐ Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)

☐ Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))

 \square Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class

Common Stock, \$0.01 par value per share

Trading Symbol(s)

Name of each exchange on which registered

ACRE New York Stock Exchange

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§ 230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§ 240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act. 🗆

Item 2.02 Results of Operations and Financial Condition.

On November 3, 2023, the registrant issued a press release announcing its financial results for the quarter ended September 30, 2023. A copy of the press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and incorporated herein by reference.

Item 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure.

On November 3, 2023, the registrant made available on its website an earnings presentation with respect to its financial results for the quarter ended September 30, 2023. A copy of the presentation is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.2 and incorporated

The information disclosed under Item 2.02 and Item 7.01, including Exhibit 99.1 and Exhibit 99.2 hereto, is being furnished and shall not be deemed "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and shall not be deemed incorporated by reference into any filing made under the Securities Act of 1933, except as expressly set forth by specific reference in such filing.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

Exhibits:

 99.1
 Press Release, dated November 3, 2023

 99.2
 Presentation of Ares Commercial Real Estate Corporation, dated November 3, 2023

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 Cover Page Interactive Data File - the cover page XBRL tags are embedded within the Inline XBRL document

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

ARES COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE CORPORATION

Date: November 3, 2023

By: /s/ Tae-Sik Yoon

Name: Tae-Sik Yoon

Title: Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer



ARES COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE CORPORATION REPORTS THIRD QUARTER 2023 RESULTS

Third quarter GAAP net income of \$9.2 million or \$0.17 per diluted common share and Distributable Earnings⁽¹⁾ of \$13.5 million or \$0.25 per diluted common share

- Subsequent to end of third quarter -

Declared fourth quarter 2023 dividend of \$0.33 per common share

NEW YORK—(BUSINESS WIRE)—Ares Commercial Real Estate Corporation (the "Company") (NYSE:ACRE), a specialty finance company engaged in originating and investing in commercial real estate assets, reported generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP") net income of \$9.2 million or \$0.17 per diluted common share and Distributable Earnings(1) of \$13.5 million or \$0.25 per diluted common share for the third quarter of 2023.

"During the third quarter, we continued to operate with significant liquidity and moderate leverage, which enabled us to maximize credit outcomes and selectively originate new loans in today's market to take advantage of attractive spreads," said Bryan Donohoe, Chief Executive Officer of Ares Commercial Real Estate Corporation. "We believe the strength of our balance sheet and our deep credit capabilities have us well positioned to navigate the industry challenges and generate attractive dividends for shareholders."

"We resolved one of our defaulted loans during the quarter resulting in a realized loss of \$0.09 per diluted common share," said Tae-Sik Yoon, Chief Financial Officer of Ares Commercial Real Estate Corporation. "Our Distributable Earnings for the third quarter of \$0.25 per diluted common share includes this realized loss."

(1) Distributable Earnings is a non-GAAP financial measure. Refer to Schedule I for the definition and reconciliation of Distributable Earnings.

COMMON STOCK DIVIDEND

On August 2, 2023, the Board of Directors of the Company declared a regular cash dividend of \$0.33 per common share for the third quarter of 2023. The third quarter 2023 dividend was paid on October 17, 2023 to common stockholders of record as of September 29, 2023.

On November 3, 2023, the Board of Directors of the Company declared a regular cash dividend of \$0.33 per common share for the fourth quarter of 2023. The fourth quarter 2023 dividend will be payable on January 17, 2024 to common stockholders of record as of December 29, 2023.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The Company issued a presentation of its third quarter 2023 results, which can be viewed at www.arescre.com on the Investor Resources section of our home page under Events and Presentations. The presentation is titled "Third Quarter 2023 Earnings Presentation." The Company also filed its Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 2023 with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission on November 3, 2023.

CONFERENCE CALL AND WEBCAST INFORMATION

On Friday, November 3, 2023, the Company invites all interested persons to attend its webcast/conference call at 10:00 a.m. (Eastern Time) to discuss its third quarter 2023 financial results.

All interested parties are invited to participate via telephone or the live webcast, which will be hosted on a webcast link located on the Home page of the Investor Resources section of the Company's website at www.arescre.com. Please visit the website to test your connection before the webcast. Domestic callers can access the conference call by dialing +1 (201) 389-0899. All callers are asked to dial in 10-15 minutes prior to the call so that name and company information can be collected. For interested parties, an archived replay of the call will be available through December 1, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. (Eastern Time) to domestic callers by dialing +1 (877) 660-6853 and to international callers by dialing +1 (201) 612-7415. For all replays, please reference access code 13740719. An archived replay will also be available through December 1, 2023 on a webcast link located on the Home page of the Investor Resources section of the Company's website.

ABOUT ARES COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE CORPORATION

Ares Commercial Real Estate Corporation (the "Company") 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 Corporation. For more information, please visit wow.arescre.com.

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Statements included herein or on the webcast / conference call 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, including the return or impact of current and future investments, rates of prepayments on the Company's mortgage loans and the effect on the Company's business of such prepayments, availability of investment opportunities in mortgage-related and real estate-related investments and securities, ACREM's ability to locate suitable investments for the Company, monitor, service and administer the Company's investments and execute its investment strategy, the Company's ability to obtain, maintain, repay or refinance financing arrangements, including securitizations, global economic trends and economic conditions, including heightened inflation, slower growth or recession, changes to fiscal and monetary policy, higher interest rates and currency fluctuations, changes in interest rates and the market value of the Company's investments, the demand for commercial real estate loans, and the risks described from time to time in the Company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"), including, but not limited to, the risk factors

described in Part I, Item 1A. Risk Factors in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K, filed with the SEC on February 15, 2023 and the risk factors described in Part II, Item 1A. Risk Factors in the Company's subsequent Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q. Any forward-looking statement, including any contained herein, speaks only as of the time of this press release and Ares Commercial Real Estate Corporation undertakes no duty to update any forward-looking statements made herein or on the webcast/conference call. Projections and forward-looking statements are based on management's good faith and reasonable assumptions, including the assumptions described herein.

INVESTOR RELATIONS CONTACTS

Ares Commercial Real Estate Corporation Carl Drake or John Stilmar (888) 818-5298 iracre@aresmgmt.com

ARES COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (in thousands, except share and per share data)

		As	of	
	- :	September 30, 2023		December 31, 2022
		(unaudited)		
ASSETS				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	61,017	\$	141,278
Loans held for investment (\$874,719 and \$887,662 related to consolidated VIEs, respectively)		2,180,412		2,264,008
Current expected credit loss reserve		(112,432)		(65,969)
Loans held for investment, net of current expected credit loss reserve		2,067,980		2,198,039
Investment in available-for-sale debt securities, at fair value		28,136		27,936
Real estate owned, net		84,094		_
Other assets (\$5,705 and \$2,980 of interest receivable related to consolidated VIEs, respectively; \$99,418 and \$129,495 of other receivables related to consolidated VIEs, respectively)		121,949		155,749
Total assets	\$	2,363,176	\$	2,523,002
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY				
LIABILITIES				
Secured funding agreements	\$	654,507	\$	705,231
Notes payable		104,611		104,460
Secured term loan		149,344		149,200
Collateralized loan obligation securitization debt (consolidated VIEs)		735,136		777,675
Due to affiliate		4,092		5,580
Dividends payable		18,082		19,347
Other liabilities (\$2,139 and \$1,913 of interest payable related to consolidated VIEs, respectively)		14,446		13,969
Total liabilities		1,680,218		1,775,462
Commitments and contingencies				
STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY				
Common stock, par value \$0.01 per share, 450,000,000 shares authorized at September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022 and 54,136,273 and 54,443,983 shares issued and outstanding at September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022, respectively		532		537
Additional paid-in capital		811,147		812,788
Accumulated other comprehensive income		666		7,541
Accumulated earnings (deficit)		(129,387)		(73,326)
Total stockholders' equity		682,958		747,540
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$	2,363,176	\$	2,523,002
1 - 2				

ARES COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS (in thousands, except share and per share data) (unaudited)

	For the Three Month	Ended Septen	nber 30,	For the Nine Months Ended September 30,		
	 2023		2022	2023		2022
Revenue:						
Interest income	\$ 52,819	\$	45,633	\$ 154,260	\$	117,619
Interest expense	 (29,745)		(18,362)	 (79,695)		(43,851)
Net interest margin	23,074		27,271	74,565		73,768
Revenue from real estate owned	 809		<u> </u>	 809		2,672
Total revenue	 23,883		27,271	75,374		76,440
Expenses:	 		,	 ,		
Management and incentive fees to affiliate	2,974		3,868	9,317		10,608
Professional fees	682		842	2,080		2,720
General and administrative expenses	1,691		1,416	5,414		4,617
General and administrative expenses reimbursed to affiliate	775		1,011	2,617		2,641
Expenses from real estate owned	 480			 480		4,309
Total expenses	 6,602		7,137	19,908		24,895
Provision for current expected credit losses	3,227		19,485	44,373		26,659
Realized losses on loans	4,886		_	10,499		_
Gain on sale of real estate owned	 		<u> </u>	 		2,197
Income before income taxes	9,168		649	594		27,083
Income tax expense (benefit), including excise tax	(16)		5	48		208
Net income attributable to common stockholders	\$ 9,184	\$	644	\$ 546	\$	26,875
Earnings per common share:						
Basic earnings per common share	\$ 0.17	\$	0.01	\$ 0.01	\$	0.53
Diluted earnings per common share	\$ 0.17	\$	0.01	\$ 0.01	\$	0.52
Weighted average number of common shares outstanding:						
Basic weighted average shares of common stock outstanding	54,085,035		54,415,545	54,339,441		50,753,915
Diluted weighted average shares of common stock outstanding	54,796,413		54,846,756	55,043,206		51,193,238
Dividends declared per share of common stock ⁽¹⁾	\$ 0.33	\$	0.35	\$ 1.03	\$	1.05

⁽¹⁾ There is no assurance dividends will continue at these levels or at all.

SCHEDULE I

Reconciliation of Net Income to Non-GAAP Distributable Earnings

Distributable Earnings is a non-GAAP financial measure that helps the Company evaluate its financial performance excluding the effects of certain transactions and GAAP adjustments that it believes are not necessarily indicative of its current loan origination portfolio and operations. To maintain the Company's REIT status, the Company is generally required to annually distribute to its stockholders substantially all of its taxable income. The Company believes the disclosure of Distributable Earnings provides useful information to investors regarding the Company's ability to pay dividends, which is one of the principal reasons the Company believes investors invest in the Company. The presentation of this additional information is not meant to be considered in isolation or as a substitute for financial results prepared in accordance with GAAP. Distributable Earnings is defined as net income (loss) attributable to common stockholders computed in accordance with GAAP, excluding non-cash equity compensation expense, the incentive fees the Company pays to its Manager (Ares Commercial Real Estate Management LLC), depreciation and amortization (to the extent that any of the Company's target investments are structured as debt and the Company forecloses on any properties underlying such debt), any unrealized gains, losses or or other non-cash equity of necessary in the company is underlying the principal reasons and amortization (to the extent that any of the Company's independent directors and after approval by a majority of the Company's independent directors. Loan balances that are deemed to be uncollectible are written off as a realized loss and are included in Distributable Earnings is aligned with the calculation of "Core Earnings," which is defined in the Management Agreement and is used to calculate the incentive fees the Company pays to its Manager.

Reconciliation of net income (loss) attributable to common stockholders, the most directly comparable GAAP financial measure, to Distributable Earnings is set forth in the table below for the three months and twelve months ended September 30, 2023 (\$ in thousands).

in thousands):		
	For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2023	For the Twelve Months Ended September 30, 2023
Net income attributable to common stockholders \$	9,184	\$ 3,456
Stock-based compensation	986	3,688
Incentive fees to affiliate	_	1,598
Depreciation and amortization of real estate owned	206	206
Provision for current expected credit losses	3,227	63,775
Realized gain on termination of interest rate cap derivative ⁽¹⁾	(93)	(1,238)
Distributable Earnings	13,510	\$ 71,485
Net income attributable to common stockholders \$	0.17	\$ 0.06
Stock-based compensation	0.02	0.07
Incentive fees to affiliate	_	0.03
Depreciation and amortization of real estate owned	_	_
Provision for current expected credit losses	0.06	1.17
Realized gain on termination of interest rate cap derivative ⁽¹⁾	<u> </u>	(0.02)
Basic Distributable Earnings per common share	0.25	\$ 1.31
Net income attributable to common stockholders \$	0.17	\$ 0.06
Stock-based compensation	0.02	0.07
Incentive fees to affiliate	_	0.03
Depreciation and amortization of real estate owned	_	_
Provision for current expected credit losses	0.06	1.16
Realized gain on termination of interest rate cap derivative ⁽¹⁾	<u> </u>	(0.02)
Diluted Distributable Earnings per common share	0.25	\$ 1.30

(1) For the three and twelve months ended September 30, 2023, Distributable Earnings includes a \$93 thousand and \$1.2 million, respectively, adjustment to reverse the impact of the \$2.0 million realized gain from the termination of the interest rate cap derivative that was amortized into GAAP net income.



Disclaimer

Statements included herein may constitute "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, which may relate to future events or the future performance or financial condition of Ares Commercial Real Estate Corporation ("ACRE" or, the "Company"), Ares Commercial Real Estate Management LLC ("ACREM"), a subsidiary of Ares Management Corporation ("Ares Corp.), Ares Corp., certain of their subsidiaries and certain funds and accounts managed by ACREM, Ares Corp. and/or their subsidiaries, including, without limitation, ACRE. These statements are not guarantees of future results or financial condition and involve a number of risks and uncertainties. Actual results could differ materially from those in the forward-looking statements as a result of a number of factors, including the return or impact of current and future investments, rates of prepayments, availability of investment opportunities in mortgage-related and real estate-related investments and securities, ACREM's ability to locate suitable investments for the Company's business of such prepayments, availability of investments and execute its investment strategy, the Company's ability to obtain, maintain, repay or refinance financing arrangements, including securitizations, global economic conditions, including heightened inflation, slower growth or recession, changes to fiscal and monetary policy, higher interest rates, currency fluctuations and challenges in the supply chain, changes in interest rates, credit spreads and the market value of the Company's investments, the demand for commercial real estate loans, and other risks described from time to time in ACRE's fillings within the Securities and Exchange Commissions of the Company's investments, the demand for commercial real estate loans, and other risks described from time to time in ACRE's fillings within the Securities and Exchange Commissions of the Company's investments, the dema

Ares Corp. is the parent to several registered investment advisers, including Ares Management LLC ("Ares Management") and ACREM. Collectively, Ares Corp., its affiliated entities, and all underlying subsidiary entities shall be referred to as "Ares" unless specifically noted otherwise. For a discussion regarding potential risks on ACRE, see Part L, Item 7. "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and Part I., Item 1A. "Risk Factors" in ACRE's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2022 and Part II., Item 1A. "Risk Factors" in subsequent ACRE's Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q.

The information contained in this presentation is summary information that is intended to be considered in the context of ACRE's SEC filings and other public announcements that ACRE, ACREM or Ares may make, by press release or otherwise, from time to time. ACRE, ACREM and Ares undertake no duty or obligation to publicly update or revise the forward-looking statements or other information contained in this presentation. These materials contain information about ACRE, ACREM and Ares, and certain of their respective personnel and affiliates, information about their respective information and general information about the market. You should not view information related to the past performance of ACRE, ACREM or Ares or information about the market, as indicative of future results, the achievement of which cannot be assured.

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In addition, in light of the various investment strategies of such other investment partnerships, funds and/or pools, it is noted that such other investment programs may have portfolio investments inconsistent with those of the investment vehicle or strategy discussed herein.

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For the definitions of certain terms used in this presentation, please refer to the "Glossary" slide in the appendix.

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Company Highlights



As of September 30, 2023, unless otherwise noted. Past performance is not indicative of future results. There is no guarantee or assurance investment objectives will be achieved. Diversification does not ensure profit or protection against market loss.

- Based on outstanding principal balance.
- Distributable Earnings is a non-GAAP financial measure. See page 18 for Distributable Earnings definition and page 17 for the Reconciliation of Net Income to Non-GAAP Distributable
- Earnings.
 Realized loss relates to the repayment of a defaulted senior loan.
 Net debt to equity ratio is calculated as (i) \$1.6 billion of outstanding principal of borrowings less \$61.0 million of cash, (ii) divided by total stockholders' equity of \$683.0 million plus CECL reserve of \$115.7 million at September 30, 2023. Net debt to equity ratio including the CECL reserve is 2.3x. Total debt to equity ratio excluding the CECL reserve is 2.1x and including the
- As of September 30, 2023, includes \$61.0 million of unrestricted cash and \$75.0 million of available financing proceeds under the secured revolving funding agreement with City National Bank ("CNB Facility").



Summary of Q3 2023 Results and Activity

Earnings Results	 GAAP net income of \$0.17 per diluted common share⁽¹⁾ Distributable Earnings of \$0.25 per diluted common share⁽²⁾ includes realized loss of \$0.09 per diluted common share Book value per common share of \$12.62 or \$14.75 per common share excluding the CECL reserve⁽³⁾ Cash dividend of \$0.33 per common share paid on October 17, 2023
Portfolio Activity	 Closed \$69.3 million in new senior loan commitments on multifamily and self storage properties; \$89.7 million in outstanding principal funded on new senior loan commitments \$48.3 million of cash proceeds in loan exits \$82.9 million defaulted senior loan related to a mixed-use property was transferred to real estate owned ("REO") at the prior period loan amount
Balance Sheet Positioning	 Available capital of \$136.0 million⁽⁵⁾ plus \$150.4 million of unlevered assets that may be financed to further increase available capital Moderate leverage with net debt to equity ratio of 2.0x⁽⁶⁾ Nearest final maturity on current borrowings will be in 2026⁽⁷⁾
Recent Developments	On November 3, 2023, declared a cash dividend for the fourth quarter 2023 of \$0.33 per common share

Note: As of September 30, 2023, unless otherwise noted.

- 1. Inclusive of \$0.06 per diluted common share provision for CECL and \$0.09 per diluted common share realized loss on the repayment of a defaulted senior loan.
 2. Distributable Earnings is a non-GAAP financial measure. See page 18 for Distributable Earnings definition and page 17 for the Reconciliation of Net Income to Non-GAAP Distributable Earnings.

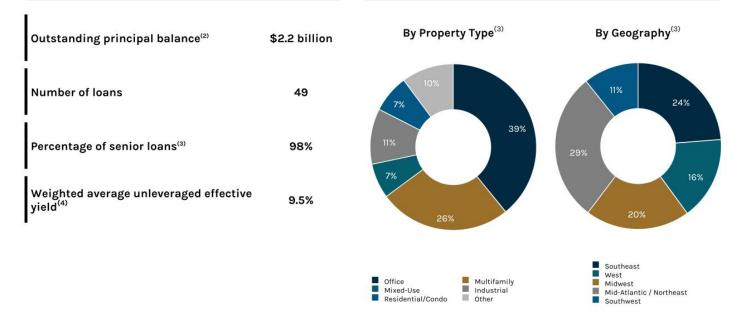
 3. Book value per common share excluding the CECL reserve is calculated as (i) total stockholders' equity of \$683.0 million plus CECL reserve of \$115.7 million divided by (ii) total outstanding
- shares of 54,136,273 as of September 30, 2023.
 4. Outstanding principal funded includes fundings on previously closed loans.
 5. As of September 30, 2023, includes \$61.0 million of unrestricted cash and \$75.0 million of available financing proceeds under the secured revolving funding agreement with City National

- 6. Net debt to equity ratio is calculated as (i) \$1.6 billion of outstanding principal of borrowings less \$61.0 million of cash, (ii) divided by total stockholders' equity of \$683.0 million plus CECL reserve of \$115.7 million at September 30, 2023. Net debt to equity ratio including the CECL reserve is 2.3x. Total debt to equity ratio excluding the CECL reserve is 2.1x and including the CECL
- 7. Includes secured funding facilities (excludes funding facilities where outstanding principal balance is zero as of September 30, 2023), notes payable and secured term loan as of September 30, 2023. The final maturities assume exercise of all available extension options by the Company, which may be subject to the satisfaction of certain conditions, including no existing defaults and payment of extension fees.

Loan Portfolio Positioning and Performance

Loans Held for Investment Portfolio Metrics⁽¹⁾

Diverse Loans Held for Investment Portfolio



Note: As of September 30, 2023, unless otherwise noted. Past performance is not indicative of future results. Diversification does not ensure profit or protection against market loss.

Weighted average unpaid principal balance of loan portfolio of \$2.267 billion during Q3 2023.

Based on outstanding principal balance of loans held for investment.

Excludes impact of five loans on non-accrual status. Including the five non-accrual loans, total weighted average unleveraged effective yield for total loans held for investment is 8.6%.



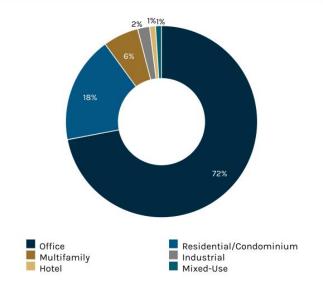
Unless otherwise noted, includes only loans held for investment and excludes \$28.0 million of AAA rated CRE debt securities purchased in 2022 and the mixed-use property recognized as REO that was acquired in September 2023.

Current Expected Credit Losses

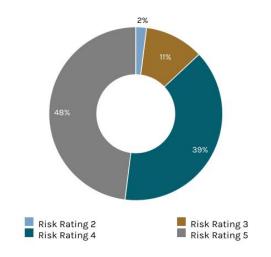
(\$ in thousands)	
Balance at 6/30/2023	\$ 112,454
Provision for CECL	3,227
Balance at 9/30/2023	\$ 115,681

- Increase in total CECL reserve of \$3.2 million vs. 2Q-2023
- As of September 30, 2023, the total CECL reserve includes specific reserves of \$55.5 million on two senior office loans or 48% of the total CECL reserve

Current Expected Credit Loss Reserve by Property Type



Current Expected Credit Loss Reserve by Risk Rating





Q3 2023 Loan Activity

Investment Composition⁽²⁾ **New Investments** Total new investments⁽¹⁾ \$69.3 million Self Storage Multifamily Percent senior 100% Weighted average unleveraged 8.9% effective yield



Well-Positioned Balance Sheet

Diversified Sources of Financing⁽³⁾ **Financing Metrics** Total capacity across all financings(1) \$2.3 billion Sources of financing(2) 8 Outstanding principal borrowings \$1.6 billion Percentage of non-recourse financing(3) 45% Secured Funding Agreements Secured Term Loan Notes Payable Net debt to equity ratio(4) 2.0x CLO Securitizations Spread based mark to market provisions(5) 0%

Note: As of September 30, 2023, unless otherwise noted. Diversification does not ensure profit or protection against market loss.

1. Weighted average unpaid principal balance of \$1.650 billion across all financings for Q3 2023.

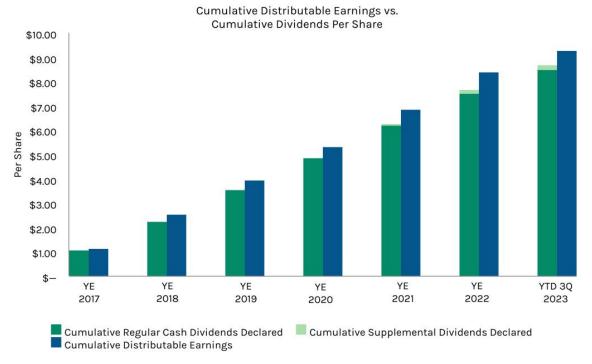
2. Excludes Notes Payable. See page 10 for additional details on sources of financing.

3. Based on outstanding principal balance.

- Net debt to equity ratio is calculated as (i) \$1.6 billion of outstanding principal of borrowings less \$61.0 million of cash, (ii) divided by total stockholders' equity of \$683.0 million plus CECL reserve of \$115.7 million at September 30, 2023. Net debt to equity ratio including the CECL reserve is 2.3x. Total debt to equity ratio excluding the CECL reserve is 2.1x and including the CECL reserve is 2.4x. Secured funding agreements are not subject to mark-to-market provisions based on changes in market borrowing spreads but are subject to remargining provisions based on the credit performance

Full Dividend Coverage from Distributable Earnings⁽¹⁾

>> ACRE has generated cumulative Distributable Earnings in excess of our dividends declared (2)(3)



Note: As of September 30, 2023, unless otherwise stated. There can be no assurance that dividends will continue to be declared at historic levels or at all.

- Past performance is not indicative of future results.

 1. Distributable Earnings is a non-GAAP financial measure. See page 18 for Distributable Earnings definition and page 17 for the Reconciliation of Net Income to Non-GAAP Distributable Earnings.
 The regular cash dividend is a quarterly cash dividend not specified as a supplemental dividend. From 2021 through Q2 2023, ACRE paid a supplemental
- quarterly dividend of \$0.02 per share.
 2017 reflects the first full year subsequent to the sale of ACRE Capital, ACRE's legacy GSE-oriented Mortgage Banking business.







Additional Details on Sources of Funding

(\$ in millions)				
Financing Sources	Total Commitments	Outstanding Principal	Pricing Range	Mark-to-Market
Secured Funding Agreement	s			
Wells Fargo Facility	\$450.0	\$208.2	SOFR+1.50 to 3.75%	Credit
Citibank Facility	325.0	236.6	SOFR+1.50 to 2.10%	Credit
CNB Facility	75.0	-	SOFR+2.65%	Credit
Morgan Stanley Facility	250.0	209.7	SOFR+1.60 to 3.10%	Credit
MetLife Facility	180.0	-	SOFR+2.50%	Credit
Subtotal	\$1,280.0	\$654.5		
Asset Level Financing				
Notes Payable	\$105.0	\$105.0	SOFR + 2.00%	Credit
Capital Markets				
Secured Term Loan	\$150.0	\$150.0	4.50% (Fixed)	Credit
2017-FL3 Securitization	445.6	445.6	SOFR+ 1.82%	None
2021-FL4 Securitization	290.3	290.3	SOFR+ 1.57%	None
Subtotal	\$885.9	\$885.9		
Total Debt	\$2,270.9	\$1,645.4		

Note: As of September 30, 2023.



(\$ ir	n millions) Loan Type	Location	Origination Date	Current Loan Commitment	Outstanding Principal	Carrying Value	Interest Rate	SOFR Floor	Unleveraged Effective Yield	Maturity Date	Payment Terms ⁽¹⁾
Offi	ice Loans:				331.1						
1	Senior	IL	Nov 2020	\$157.9	\$157.9	\$154.0	(2)	1.5%	7.6% ⁽²⁾	Mar 2025	1/0
2	Senior	Diversified	Jan 2020	122.1	122.0	122.0	S+3.75%	1.6%	9.3%	Jan 2024	P/I
3	Senior	AZ	Sep 2021	115.7	80.0	79.7	S+3.61%	0.1%	9.3%	Oct 2024	1/0
4	Senior	NY	Jul 2021	81.0	73.1	72.6	S+3.95%	-%	9.6%	Aug 2025	1/0
5	Senior	NC	Mar 2019	68.8	68.8	68.7	S+4.35%	2.3%	10.0%	Mar 2024	P/I
6	Senior	NC	Aug 2021	85.0	68.5	68.3	S+3.65%	0.2%	9.4%	Aug 2024	1/0
7	Senior	IL	May 2018	59.0	56.9	51.2	S+3.95%	2.0%	-% ⁽³⁾	Dec 2023	1/0
8	Senior	IL	Dec 2022	56.0	56.0	55.6	S+4.25%	3.0%	10.1%	Jan 2025	1/0
9	Senior	GA	Nov 2019	48.6	48.6	48.5	S+3.15%	1.9%	8.8%	Dec 2023	P/I
10	Senior	MA	Apr 2022	82.2	45.5	44.9	S+3.75%	-%	9.8%	Apr 2025	1/0
11	Senior	CA	Oct 2019	33.2	33.2	31.4	S+3.45%	1.9%	-% ⁽³⁾	Nov 2023	1/0
12	Senior	CA	Nov 2018	22.8	22.8	22.8	S+3.50%	2.3%	9.1%	Nov 2023	1/0
13	Subordinated	ИЛ	Mar 2016	18.5	18.5	16.4	12.00%	-%	-% ⁽³⁾	Jan 2026	1/0
Tota	al Office			\$950.8	\$851.8	\$836.1					77.5



Note: As of September 30, 2023.

1. I/O = interest only, P/I = principal and interest.

2. The Illinois loan is structured as both a senior and mezzanine loan with the Company holding both positions. The senior position has a per annum interest rate of S + 2.25% and the mezzanine position has a fixed per annum interest rate of 10.00%. The mezzanine position of this loan, which had an outstanding principal balance of \$43.9 million as of September 30, 2023, was on non-accrual status as of September 30, 2023 and therefore, the Unleveraged Effective Yield presented is for the senior position only as the mezzanine position is non-interest accruing.

3. Loan was on non-accrual status as of September 30, 2023 and the Unleveraged Effective Yield is not applicable.

(\$ in	millions)										
#	Loan Type	Location	Origination Date	Current Loan Commitment	Outstanding Principal	Carrying Value	Interest Rate	SOFR Floor	Unleveraged Effective Yield	Maturity Date	Payment Terms ⁽¹⁾
Mul	tifamily Loans:										
14	Senior	NY	May 2022	\$133.0	\$132.2	\$131.2	S+3.90%	0.2%	9.7%	Jun 2025	1/0
15	Senior	TX	Jun 2022	100.0	100.0	99.4	S+3.50%	1.5%	9.7%	Jul 2025	1/0
16	Senior	TX	Nov 2021	68.8	68.2	67.9	S+2.95%	-%	8.6%	Dec 2024	1/0
17	Senior ⁽²⁾	SC	Dec 2021	67.0	67.0	66.9	S+3.00%	-%	8.6%	Nov 2024	1/0
18	Senior	ОН	Sep 2023	57.8	57.0	56.4	S+3.05%	2.5%	8.7%	Oct 2026	1/0
19	Senior	CA	Nov 2021	31.7	31.7	31.5	S+3.00%	-%	8.6%	Dec 2025	1/0
20	Senior	PA	Dec 2018	29.2	29.2	29.2	S+4.00%	1.3%	9.6%	Dec 2023	P/I
21	Senior	WA	Dec 2021	23.1	23.1	23.0	S+3.00%	-%	8.5%	Nov 2025	1/0
22	Senior	TX	Oct 2021	23.1	22.8	22.7	S+2.60%	-%	8.3%	Oct 2024	1/0
23	Subordinated	SC	Aug 2022	20.6	20.6	20.5	S+9.53%	1.5%	15.3%	Sep 2025	1/0
24	Senior	WA	Feb 2020	18.8	18.8	18.8	S+3.10%	1.6%	8.4%	Sep 2023 ⁽³⁾	1/0
Tota	al Multifamily			\$573.1	\$570.6	\$567.5					
Mix	ed-Use Loans:										
25	Senior	NY	Jul 2021	\$78.3	\$75.7	\$75.5	S+3.75%	-%	9.4%	Jul 2024	1/0
26	Senior	CA	Feb 2020	37.9	37.9	37.9	S+4.10%	1.7%	9.4%	Mar 2023 ⁽⁴⁾	1/0
27	Senior	TX	Sep 2019	35.3	35.3	35.3	S+3.85%	0.7%	9.4%	Sep 2024	1/0
Tota	al Mixed-Use		-37	\$151.5	\$148.9	\$148.7					

Note: As of September 30, 2023.

e: As of September 30, 2023.
I/O = interest only, P/I = principal and interest.
Loan commitment is allocated between a multifamily property (\$60.5 million) and an office property (\$6.5 million).
As of September 30, 2023, the senior Washington loan, which is collateralized by a multifamily property, is in maturity default due to the failure of the borrower to repay the outstanding principal balance of the loan by the September 2023 maturity date.

As of September 30, 2023, the senior California loan, which is collateralized by a mixed-use property, is in maturity default due to the failure of the borrower to repay the outstanding principal balance of the loan by the March 2023 maturity date.



#	Loan Type	Location	Origination Date	Current Loan Commitment	Outstanding Principal	Carrying Value	Interest Rate	SOFR Floor	Unleveraged Effective Yield	Maturity Date	Payment Terms ⁽¹⁾
Indu	ıstrial Loans:									42	
28	Senior	IL	May 2021	\$100.7	\$100.7	\$100.5	S+4.65%	0.1%	10.4%	May 2024	1/0
29	Senior	MA	Jun 2023	49.0	47.0	46.8	S+2.90%	-%	8.3%	Jun 2028	1/0
30	Senior	NJ	Jun 2021	28.3	27.8	27.7	S+3.85%	0.2%	9.8%	May 2024	1/0
31	Senior	FL	Dec 2021	25.5	25.5	25.4	S+3.00%	-%	8.6%	Dec 2025	1/0
32	Senior	CA	Aug 2019	19.6	19.6	19.5	S+3.85%	2.0%	9.4%	Sep 2024	1/0
33	Senior	TX	Nov 2021	10.0	10.0	10.0	S+5.35%	0.2%	11.1%	Dec 2024	1/0
34	Senior	TN	Oct 2021	6.4	6.4	6.4	S+5.60%	0.2%	11.3%	Nov 2024	1/0
Tota	l Industrial			\$239.5	\$237.0	\$236.3					
Resi	dential/Condo	minium Loai	ns:								
35	Senior	NY	Mar 2022	\$91.1	\$86.3	\$84.6	S+8.95%	0.4%	16.1% ⁽²⁾	Apr 2024	1/0
36	Senior	FL	Jul 2021	75.0	75.0	75.0	S+5.35%	-%	10.7%	Jul 2024	1/0
Tota	l Residential/	Condominiur	n	\$166.1	\$161.3	\$159.6					
Hote	el Loans:										
37	Senior	NY	Mar 2022	\$55.7	\$45.6	\$45.3	S+4.40%	0.1%	10.1%	Mar 2026	1/0
38	Senior	CA	Mar 2022	60.8	44.1	43.7	S+4.20%	-%	10.0%	Mar 2025	1/0
Tota	l Hotel			\$116.5	\$89.7	\$89.0					

Note: As of September 30, 2023.



As of aeptention 30, 2023.

If 0 = interest only, Pf = principal and interest.

The New York loan is structured as both a senior and mezzanine loan with the Company holding both positions. The senior and mezzanine positions each have a per annum interest rate of S + 8,95%. The mezzanine position of this loan, which had an outstanding principal balance of \$50.9 million as of September 30, 2023, was on non-accrual status as of September 30, 2023 and therefore, the Unleveraged Effective Yield presented is for the senior position only as the mezzanine position is non-interest accruing.

#	Loan Type	Location	Origination Date	Current Loan Commitment	Outstanding Principal	Carrying Value	Interest Rate	SOFR Floor	Unleveraged Effective Yield	Maturity Date	Payment Terms ⁽¹⁾
Self	Storage Loans	s:									
39	Senior	PA	Mar 2022	\$18.2	\$18.2	\$18.1	S+3.00%	1.0%	8.6%	Dec 2025	1/0
40	Senior	NJ	Aug 2022	17.6	17.6	17.4	S+2.90%	1.0%	9.0%	Apr 2025	1/0
41	Senior	WA	Aug 2022	11.5	11.5	11.4	S+2.90%	1.0%	8.9%	Mar 2025	1/0
42	Senior	IN	Sep 2023	11.4	10.5	10.4	S+3.60%	0.9%	9.6%	Jun 2026	1/0
43	Senior	MA	Apr 2022	7.7	7.7	7.7	S+3.00%	0.8%	8.5%	Nov 2024	1/0
44	Senior	MA	Apr 2022	6.8	6.8	6.7	S+3.00%	0.8%	8% 8.5% Oc		1/0
45	Senior	МО	Jan 2021	6.5	6.5	6.5	S+3.10%	1.2%	8.5%	Dec 2023	1/0
46	Senior	NJ	Mar 2022	5.9	5.9	5.9	S+3.00%	0.8%	8.8%	Jul 2024	1/0
47	Senior	IL	Jan 2021	5.6	5.6	5.6	S+3.10%	0.9%	8.8%	Dec 2023	1/0
Tota	al Self Storage			\$91.2	\$90.3	\$89.7					
Stu	dent Housing L	.oans:									
48	Senior	CA	Jun 2017	\$34.0	\$34.0	\$34.0	S+3.95%	0.5%	9.3%	Jan 2024	1/0
49	Senior	AL	Apr 2021	19.5	19.5	19.5	S+3.95%	0.1%	9.6%	May 2024	1/0
Γota	al Student Hou	sing		\$53.5	\$53.5	\$53.5				***	
	n Portfolio Tota	al/Waightad	Average	\$2,342.2	\$2,203.1	\$2,180.4		1.1% ⁽²⁾	8.6%		

Note: As of September 30, 2023.

1. I/O = interest only, P/I = principal and interest.

2. The weighted average floor is calculated based on loans with SOFR floors.



Consolidated Balance Sheets

	As of					
(\$ in thousands, except share and per share data)	9	/30/2023		12/31/2022		
ASSETS						
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	61,017	\$	141,278		
Loans held for investment (\$874,719 and \$887,662 related to consolidated VIEs, respectively)		2,180,412		2,264,008		
Current expected credit loss reserve		(112,432)		(65,969		
Loans held for investment, net of current expected credit loss reserve	-	2,067,980		2,198,039		
Investment in available-for-sale debt securities, at fair value		28,136		27,936		
Real estate owned, net		84,094		D=		
Other assets (\$5,705 and \$2,980 of interest receivable related to consolidated VIEs, respectively; \$99,418 and \$129,495 of other receivables related to consolidated VIEs, respectively)		121,949		155,749		
Total assets	\$	2,363,176	\$	2,523,002		
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY						
LIABILITIES						
Secured funding agreements	\$	654,507	\$	705,23		
Notes payable		104,611		104,460		
Secured term loan		149,344		149,200		
Collateralized loan obligation securitization debt (consolidated VIEs)		735,136		777,675		
Due to affiliate		4,092		5,580		
Dividends payable		18,082		19,347		
Other liabilities (\$2,139 and \$1,913 of interest payable related to consolidated VIEs, respectively)		14,446		13,969		
Total liabilities		1,680,218		1,775,462		
Commitments and contingencies						
STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY						
Common stock, par value \$0.01 per share, 450,000,000 shares authorized at September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022 and 54,136,273 and 54,443,983 shares issued and outstanding at September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022, respectively		532		537		
Additional paid-in capital		811,147		812,788		
Accumulated other comprehensive income		666		7,541		
Accumulated earnings (deficit)		(129,387)		(73,326		
Total stockholders' equity		682,958		747,540		
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$	2,363,176	\$	2,523,002		



Consolidated Statements of Operations

				For t	he T	hree Months	End	led		
(\$ in thousands, except share and per share data)	9	0/30/2023	(6/30/2023		3/31/2023	1	12/31/2022	٤	0/30/2022
Revenue:										
Interest income	\$	52,819	\$	51,941	\$	49,500	\$	52,552	\$	45,633
Interest expense		(29,745)		(26,951)		(22,999)		(22,144)		(18,362)
Net interest margin		23,074		24,990		26,501		30,408		27,271
Revenue from real estate owned		809		-		-		-		-
Total revenue		23,883		24,990		26,501		30,408		27,271
Expenses:										
Management and incentive fees to affiliate		2,974		3,334		3,010		4,290		3,868
Professional fees		682		626		771		630		842
General and administrative expenses		1,691		2,038		1,685		1,777		1,416
General and administrative expenses reimbursed to affiliate		775		1,109		732		1,136		1,011
Expenses from real estate owned		480		1922		0_0		_		[32]
Total expenses		6,602		7,107		6,198		7,833		7,137
Provision for current expected credit losses		3,227		20,127		21,019		19,402		19,485
Realized losses on loans		4,886		-		5,613		-		-
Income (loss) before income taxes		9,168		(2,244)		(6,329)		3,173		649
Income tax expense (benefit), including excise tax		(16)		(46)		110		264		5
Net income (loss) attributable to common stockholders	\$	9,184	\$	(2,198)	\$	(6,439)	\$	2,909	\$	644
Earnings per common share:										
Basic earnings (loss) per common share	\$	0.17	\$	(0.04)	\$	(0.12)	\$	0.05	\$	0.01
Diluted earnings (loss) per common share	\$	0.17	\$	(0.04)	\$	(0.12)	\$	0.05	\$	0.01
Weighted average number of common shares outstanding:										
Basic weighted average shares of common stock outstanding		54,085,035		54,347,204		54,591,650		54,427,041		54,415,545
Diluted weighted average shares of common stock outstanding		54,796,413		54,347,204		54,591,650		54,894,888		54,846,756
Dividends declared per share of common stock(1)	\$	0.33	\$	0.35	\$	0.35	\$	0.35	\$	0.35

^{1.} There is no assurance dividends will continue at these levels or at all.



Reconciliation of Net Income to Non-GAAP Distributable Earnings

		For the Three Months Ended							
(\$ in thousands, except per share data)	9/	30/2023		6/30/2023		3/31/2023	12/31/2022		9/30/2022
Net income (loss) attributable to common stockholders	\$	9,184	\$	(2,198)	\$	(6,439) \$	2,909	\$	644
Stock-based compensation		986		1,004		960	738		673
Incentive fees to affiliate		-		334		-	1,264		855
Depreciation and amortization of real estate owned		206		_		_	_		-
Provision for current expected credit losses		3,227		20,127		21,019	19,402		19,485
Realized gain on termination of interest rate cap derivative ⁽¹⁾		(93)		(266)		(457)	(422)	ì	(354)
Distributable Earnings	\$	13,510	\$	19,001	\$	15,083 \$	23,891	\$	21,303
Net income (loss) attributable to common stockholders	\$	0.17	\$	(0.04)	\$	(0.12) \$	0.05	\$	0.01
Stock-based compensation		0.02		0.02		0.02	0.01		0.01
Incentive fees to affiliate		12-		0.01		_	0.02		0.02
Depreciation and amortization of real estate owned		-		-			-		_
Provision for current expected credit losses		0.06		0.37		0.39	0.36		0.36
Realized gain on termination of interest rate cap derivative ⁽¹⁾		_		_		(0.01)	(0.01)	1	(0.01)
Basic Distributable Earnings per common share	\$	0.25	\$	0.35	\$	0.28 \$	0.44	\$	0.39
Net income (loss) attributable to common stockholders	\$	0.17	\$	(0.04)	\$	(0.12) \$	0.05	\$	0.01
Stock-based compensation		0.02		0.02		0.02	0.01		0.01
Incentive fees to affiliate		-		0.01		-	0.02		0.02
Depreciation and amortization of real estate owned		_		_		_	_		_
Provision for current expected credit losses		0.06		0.37		0.38	0.35		0.36
Realized gain on termination of interest rate cap derivative ⁽¹⁾		-		_		(0.01)	(0.01)		(0.01)
Diluted Distributable Earnings per common share	\$	0.25	\$	0.35	\$	0.27 \$	0.44	\$	0.39

For the three months ended September 30, 2023, June 30, 2023, March 31, 2023, December 31, 2022, and September 30, 2022, Distributable Earnings includes \$0.1 million, \$0.5 million, \$0.4 million, and \$0.4 million, respectively, adjustment to reverse the impact of the \$2.0 million realized gain from the termination of the interest rate cap derivative that was amortized into GAAP net income.



Glossary

Distributable Earnings

Distributable Earnings is a non-GAAP financial measure that helps the Company evaluate its financial performance excluding the effects of certain transactions and GAAP adjustments that it believes are not necessarily indicative of its current loan origination portfolio and operations. To maintain the Company's REIT status, the Company is generally required to annually distribute to its stockholders substantially all of its taxable income. The Company believes the disclosure of Distributable Earnings provides useful information to investors regarding the Company's ability to pay dividends, which the Company believes is one of the principal reasons investors invest in the Company. The presentation of this additional information is not meant to be considered in isolation or as a substitute for financial results prepared in accordance with GAAP. Distributable Earnings is defined as net income (loss) computed in accordance with GAAP, excluding non-cash equity compensation expense, the incentive fees the Company pays to its Manager, depreciation and amortization (to the extent that any of the Company's target investments are structured as debt and the Company forecloses on any properties underlying such debt), any unrealized gains, losses or other non-cash items recorded in net income (loss) for the period, regardless of whether such items are included in other comprehensive income or loss, or in net income (loss), one-time events pursuant to changes in GAAP and certain non-cash charges after discussions between the Company's manager and the Company's independent directors and after approval by a majority of the Company's independent directors. Loan balances that are deemed to be uncollectible are written off as a realized loss and are included in Distributable Earnings. Distributable Earnings is aligned with the calculation of "Core Earnings," which is defined in the Management Agreement and is used to calculate the incentive fees the Company pays to its Manager.

Unleveraged Effective Yield

Unleveraged effective yield is the compounded effective rate of return that would be earned over the life of the investment based on the contractual interest rate (adjusted for any deferred loan fees, costs, premiums or discounts) and assumes no dispositions, early prepayments or defaults.

Weighted Average Unleveraged Effective Yield

Weighted average unleveraged effective yield is calculated based on the average of unleveraged effective yield of all loans held by the Company as weighted by the outstanding principal balance of each loan.

