# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

IN RE THE RESERVE PRIMARY FUND SECURITIES & DERIVATIVE CLASS ACTION LITIGATION No. 08-cv-8060-PGG (Class Action)

# NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF CLASS ACTION AND PROPOSED SETTLEMENT, FINAL APPROVAL HEARING, AND MOTION FOR ATTORNEYS' FEES AND REIMBURSEMENT OF LITIGATION EXPENSES

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

NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF CLASS ACTION: Please be advised that your rights may be affected by the above-captioned class action lawsuit pending in this Court (the "Action") if you purchased or held shares of the Primary Fund during the period between September 28, 2006 through September 17, 2008 (the "Class Period").

NOTICE OF SETTLEMENT: Please also be advised that the Court-appointed Lead Plaintiff in the above captioned case, on behalf of the Class (as defined in ¶1 below), has reached a proposed settlement that will resolve all claims in the Action, and that has the net effect of at least a \$54.5 million benefit to Members of the Class and other Primary Fund Shareholders, as explained below (the "Settlement").

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

1. Description of the Action and the Class: This Notice relates to a proposed global settlement among: (i) Lead Plaintiff Third Avenue Institutional International Value Fund ("Lead Plaintiff" or "Third Avenue"), on behalf of itself and the Class; (ii) the defendants in the Action, Reserve Management Company, Inc., Reserve Partners, Inc., Reserve Management Corporation (the "Reserve Defendants"), Bruce Bent Sr., Bruce R. Bent II, and Arthur T. Bent III (the "Individual Defendants," together with the Reserve Defendants, the "Defendants"); (iii) the Independent Trustees of the Primary Fund ("Independent Trustees"); and (iv) the Primary Fund, as to all claims asserted in the Action in their entirety, including those in the Complaint and the Third Party Complaint filed by Defendants in the Action on or about January 22, 2013 (the "Third Party Complaint"), as well as Defendants' claims for indemnification, expenses and management fees that Defendants have asserted against shareholder funds. The proposed Settlement, if approved by the Court, will apply to the following Class (the "Class"): all Persons who (i) purchased or held shares of the Primary Fund during the period from September 28, 2006 through September 15, 2008 and held them as of 4:00 p.m. ET on September 15, 2008; or (ii) purchased shares of the Primary Fund during the period between 4:00 p.m. ET on September 15, 2008 and September 17, 2008.

<sup>2</sup> Excluded from the Class are: (a) Defendants; (b) members of the immediate families of Bruce R. Bent, Sr., Bruce R. Bent II, and Arthur T. Bent III; (c) the subsidiaries and affiliates of Defendants; (d) any person or entity who is

All capitalized terms that are not defined herein shall have the meaning ascribed to them in the Stipulation and Agreement of Settlement Dated August 14, 2013, subject to Amendment No. 1 to the Stipulation and Agreement of Settlement Dated August 14, 2013 (collectively, the "Stipulation").

- 2. Statement of Class's Recovery: Subject to Court approval, and as described more fully below, Lead Plaintiff, on behalf of the Class, Defendants, the Independent Trustees, and the Primary Fund have agreed to settle all Released Claims (as defined in ¶33 below) against Defendants and other Released Parties (as defined in ¶34 below) in exchange for a Settlement that provides a number of benefits to the Class, including a cash payment by Defendants of \$10 million (the "Cash Contribution"), the relinquishment of more than \$42 million in certain claims (out of a total of approximately \$72 million in such claims) that Defendants have asserted against shareholder funds that have been withheld from distribution, and are currently in a Court-ordered Expense Fund, the release of certain asserted and potential litigation claims that would have otherwise likely resulted in additional expenditure from the Expense Fund, the prompt distribution of shareholder funds that have not been distributed to date because of competing claims for them (as described in more detail below), as well as other benefits for the Class. The terms of the Settlement are explained in greater detail below, but Lead Plaintiff estimates that the benefit of the Settlement to the Members of the Class and other Primary Fund Shareholders is in excess of \$54.5 million.
- Statement of Average Distribution Per Share: Lead Plaintiff proposes a plan for distribution of the remaining assets of the Primary Fund, including the Net Settlement Fund (the Settlement Fund less Taxes, Notice and Administration Costs, and attorneys' fees and expenses awarded by the Court) (the "Plan of Allocation") that is consistent with the pro rata distribution plan in the Court's November 25, 2009 Order in the action encaptioned Securities and Exchange Commission v. Reserve Management Company, Inc., et al., 09 Civ. 4346 (PGG) (S.D.N.Y.) (the "SEC Action"), and all subsequent orders of the Court related to the pro rata distribution of the Expense Fund, including that the distribution may be made through record holders only, or as otherwise ordered by the Court. In addition, if the potential distribution to any record holder calculates to less than \$10.00, that distribution will not be included in the calculation and no distribution will be made to that record holder. The amount of each distribution to a record holder will depend on, among other things, the number of Primary Fund shares owned on or after September 15, 2008, and the amount previously received in distributions pursuant to the Court's November 25, 2009 Order in the SEC Action and subsequent orders of the Court. The Claims Administrator, Crederian Fund Services LLC ("Crederian") estimates that, based on a total of 62 billion total shares, the estimated average distribution will be approximately \$0.0009 per share as of 4:00 p.m. ET on September 15, 2008,3 before the deduction of Court-approved fees and Litigation Expenses and other expenses as approved by the Court, as described below. The distribution amount per record holder may also be increased depending on the amount remaining in the Primary Fund (after expenses and reasonable reserves).
- 4. Statement of the Parties' Position on Damages: Defendants deny all claims of wrongdoing, that they are liable to Lead Plaintiff and/or the Class or that Lead Plaintiff or other Members of the Class suffered any injury. Moreover, the parties do not agree on the amount of recoverable damages or on the average amount of damages per share that would be recoverable if Lead Plaintiff were to prevail on each of the claims. The issues on which the parties disagree include, but are not limited to: (1) whether the statements made or facts allegedly omitted were material, false or misleading; (2) whether Defendants are otherwise liable under the securities laws for those statements or omissions, including whether the Class could establish the required element of reliance; and (3) whether all or part of the damages allegedly suffered by Members of the Class were caused by economic conditions or factors other than the allegedly false or misleading statements or omissions.

<sup>3</sup> For purposes of this calculation, it was assumed that, as of 4:00 p.m. ET on September 15, 2008, each share had a per share value of \$1.00.

2

a partner, executive officer, director, trustee or controlling person of the Reserve Defendants, or the Primary Fund (including any of their subsidiaries or affiliates); (e) any entity in which any Defendant has a controlling interest; (f) Defendants' liability insurance carriers, and any affiliates or subsidiaries thereof; and (g) the legal representatives, heirs, successors and assigns of any such excluded party. Notwithstanding the foregoing, neither the Yield Plus Fund (YP) nor the Independent Trustees of the Primary Fund are excluded from the definition of the Class. Also excluded is any Person who validly excludes himself, herself or itself from the Class.

- 5. Statement of Attorneys' Fees and Expenses Sought: Lead Counsel has not received any payment for its services in pursuing claims against Defendants on behalf of the Class for more than 4.5 years, nor has Lead Counsel been reimbursed for its out-of-pocket expenses. Lead Counsel will apply to the Court for an award of attorneys' fees from the Settlement Fund in an amount not to exceed \$5 million. In addition, Lead Counsel also will apply for the reimbursement of Litigation Expenses paid or incurred by Plaintiffs' Counsel in connection with the prosecution and resolution of the Action in an amount not to exceed \$250,000. If the Court approves Lead Counsel's fee and expense application, Crederian estimates that, based on a total of 62 billion shares, the average cost per share will be approximately \$0.00008 per share as of 4:00 p.m. ET on September 15, 2008.<sup>4</sup>
- 6. <u>Identification of Attorneys' Representatives</u>: Lead Plaintiff and the Class are being represented by Bernstein Litowitz Berger & Grossmann LLP ("Lead Counsel"). Any questions regarding the Settlement should be directed to John C. Browne, Esq. at Bernstein Litowitz Berger & Grossmann LLP, 1285 Avenue of the Americas, 38<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10019, (866) 648-2524, blbg@blbglaw.com.

# YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS AND OPTIONS IN THE SETTLEMENT:

REMAIN A MEMBER OF THE CLASS TO RECEIVE THE FULL BENEFIT OF THE SETTLEMENT.

This is the only way to potentially get a payment of the If you wish to be potentially Cash Contribution. eligible to receive a payment out of the Cash Contribution as a Member of the Class, you must remain a Member of the Class. You need not do anything to remain a Member of the Class, and no submission of a claim form is required. Payments will be sent to record holders of the Primary Fund who owned shares during the Class Period and at least until 4:00 p.m. on September 15, 2008, or who purchased shares during the period between 4:00 p.m. ET on September 15, 2008 and September 17, 2008, or as otherwise ordered by the Court. If you are a Class Member but purchased your shares indirectly (e.g., through a broker or nominee), you should contact that broker or nominee immediately, as the Court may order that any distribution be made through the record holders only.

If you remain a Member of the Class, you will be subject to all Orders of the Court in this Action, including any judgment that is entered in the Action. The judgment proposed as part of the Settlement will dismiss with prejudice the claims in the Complaint and the Third Party Complaint and will provide that, upon the Effective Date, Lead Plaintiff and all other Class Members shall be deemed to have fully and finally released the Class Members' Released Claims (as defined below), including Unknown Claims (as defined below) as against the Released Parties (as defined below).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> For purposes of this calculation, it was assumed that, as of 4:00 p.m. ET on September 15, 2008, each share had a per share value of \$1.00.

EXCLUDE YOURSELF FROM THE CLASS BY SUBMITTING A WRITTEN REQUEST FOR EXCLUSION SO THAT IT IS *RECEIVED* NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 25, 2013.

This is the only option that allows you to ever be part of any other lawsuit against any of the Defendants or the other Released Parties concerning the claims that were, or could have been, asserted in this case. Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, Persons who would otherwise be Class Members but who submit valid exclusion requests will **not** be eligible to participate in distribution of the Cash Contribution, but will otherwise be eligible to participate in the distribution in the remaining assets of the Primary Fund including the remaining amount of the Net Settlement Fund (less the amount of the Cash Contribution), as set forth herein.

PLEASE NOTE: If you choose to exclude yourself from the Class, you should carefully review the Court's November 25, 2009 Order in the SEC Action (as described in Paragraph 43 below), which may prevent you from asserting certain litigation claims against Defendants and others and may further compel you to distribute pro rata to all shareholders any litigation recovery you may achieve.

OBJECT TO THE SETTLEMENT BY SUBMITTING WRITTEN OBJECTIONS SO THAT THEY ARE *RECEIVED* NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 25, 2013.

Write to the Court and explain why you do not like the proposed Settlement or the request for attorneys' fees and reimbursement of expenses. You cannot object to the Settlement unless you are a Class Member and do not exclude yourself.

GO TO THE HEARING ON DECEMBER 16, 2013 AT 2:00 P.M. ET, AND FILE A NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPEAR SO THAT IT IS *RECEIVED* NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 25, 2013.

Ask to speak in Court about the fairness of the Settlement or the request for attorneys' fees and reimbursement of expenses.

## WHAT THIS NOTICE CONTAINS

Why Did I Get This Notice?	Page 5
What Is This Case About? What Has Happened So Far?	Page 6
How Do I Know If I Am Affected By The Settlement?	Page 7
What Are The Lead Plaintiff's Reasons For The Settlement?	Page 7
What Might Happen If There Were No Settlement?	Page 8
How Much Will My Payment Be?	Page 8
What Rights Am I Giving Up By Agreeing To The Settlement?	Page 9
What Payment Are The Attorneys For The Class Seeking? How Will The Lawyers Be Paid?	Page10
How Do I Participate In The Settlement? What Do I Need To Do?	Page 11
What If I Do Not Want To Be A Part Of The Settlement? How Do I Exclude Myself?	Page 11
When And Where Will The Court Decide Whether To Approve The Settlement? Do I Have To	
Come To The Hearing? May I Speak At The Hearing If I Don't Like The Settlement?	Page 12
What If I Bought Shares On Someone Else's Behalf?	Page 14
Can I See The Court File? Whom Should I Contact If I Have Questions?	Page 14

#### WHY DID I GET THIS NOTICE?

- 7. This Notice is being sent to you pursuant to an Order of the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York (the "Court") because you or someone in your family may be a Class Member or because you or someone in your family may be a record holder of shares of the Primary Fund purchased or held during the Class Period. The Court has directed us to send this Notice because Class Members have a right to know about their options before the Court rules on the proposed Settlement of this case. Additionally, Class Members have the right to understand how a class action lawsuit may generally affect their legal rights. If the Court approves the Settlement, a claims administrator approved by the Court will make payments pursuant to the Settlement after any objections and appeals are resolved.
- 8. A class action is a type of lawsuit in which the claims of a number of individuals are resolved together, thus providing the class members with both consistency and efficiency. In a class action lawsuit, the Court selects one or more people, known as class representatives, to sue on behalf of all people with similar claims, commonly known as the class or the class members. Once the class is certified, the Court must resolve all issues on behalf of the class members, except for any persons who choose to exclude themselves from the class. (For more information on excluding yourself from the Class, please read "What If I Do Not Want To Be A Part Of The Settlement? How Do I Exclude Myself?" located below.) In the Action, the Court has directed that Lead Plaintiff and Lead Counsel shall have primary responsibility for prosecuting all private securities claims against Defendants on behalf of the Class.
- 9. The Court in charge of this case is the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, and the case is known as *In re The Reserve Primary Fund Securities & Derivative Class Action Litigation*, Civil Action No. 08 Civ. 8060 (PGG) (the "Action"). The Judge presiding over this case is the Honorable Paul G. Gardephe, United States District Judge. The people who are suing are called plaintiffs, and those who are being sued are called defendants. In this case, the primary plaintiff is referred to as the Lead Plaintiff, on behalf of itself and the Class, and Defendants are Reserve Management Company, Inc., Reserve Partners, Inc., Reserve Management Corporation, and the Individual Defendants.
- 10. This Notice explains the lawsuit, the Settlement, your legal rights, what benefits are available, who is eligible for them, and how to get them. The purpose of this Notice is to inform you of this case, that it is a class action, how you might be affected, and how to exclude yourself from the Settlement if you wish to do so. It also is being sent to inform you of the terms of the proposed Settlement, and of a hearing to be held by the Court to consider the fairness, reasonableness, and adequacy of the proposed Settlement and the application by Lead Counsel for attorneys' fees and reimbursement of expenses (the "Settlement Hearing").
- 11. The Settlement Hearing will be held on December 16, 2013, at 2:00 p.m. ET, before the Honorable Paul G. Gardephe, at the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, 40 Foley Square, Courtroom 705, New York, New York, 10007, to determine, among other things:
  - (i) whether the proposed Settlement on the terms and conditions provided for in the Stipulation and Agreement of Settlement (the "Stipulation") is fair, reasonable, and adequate and should be approved by the Court;
  - (ii) whether a judgment should be entered, dismissing the Action, including the Complaint and the Third Party Complaint, on the merits and with prejudice, and whether the releases provided in the Stipulation (as explained in paragraphs 32-36 below) should be ordered; and
  - (iii) whether Lead Counsel's application for an award of attorneys' fees and reimbursement of Litigation Expenses incurred should be approved by the Court.

12. This Notice does not express any opinion by the Court concerning the merits of any claim in the Action, and the Court still has to decide whether to approve the Settlement. If the Court approves the Settlement, payments will be made after any appeals are resolved. Please be patient.

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

- 13. This case arises from the Primary Fund's disclosure on September 16, 2008 that its Net Asset Value ("NAV") had declined below \$1.00 per share due to losses on more than \$785 million in investments in commercial paper and other debt issued by Lehman Brothers Holdings, Inc. The Primary Fund subsequently suspended redemption requests and proceeded to begin liquidating. A number of civil actions were filed against Defendants and others, including a putative class action filed by Lead Plaintiff on September 19, 2008 and captioned Third Avenue Institutional International Value Fund, L.P. v. The Reserve Fund, Case No. 08 Civ. 8103 (PGG). In addition to Lead Plaintiff's putative class action, on and after September 17, 2008, the following additional putative class action cases were filed in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York: (1) Pomeranz v. The Primary Fund, Case No. 08 Civ. 8060 (PGG); (2) Miller v. The Reserve, Case No. 08 Civ. 8098 (PGG); (3) Lifschitz v. Reserve Management Company, Inc., Case No. 08 Civ. 8137 (PGG); (4) Dyer v. The Reserve Fund, Case No. 08 Civ. 8139 (PGG); (5) Kurtzer v. The Reserve Fund, Case No. 08 Civ. 8292 (PGG); (6) Goodman v. Reserve Management Company, Inc., Case No. 08 Civ. 8593 (PGG); (7) Shabel v. Bent, Case No. 08 Civ. 8946 (PGG); (8) Wolgin v. The Reserve Fund, Case No. 08 Civ. 9525 (PGG); (9) Pogolzelski v. The Reserve Fund, Case No. 08 Civ. 9604 (PGG); (10) Frenkel v. The Reserve, Case No. 08 Civ. 10006 (PGG); (11) Albert Fried & Company, LLC v. The Reserve Fund, Case No. 08 Civ. 10302 (PGG). On May 5, 2009, the SEC filed the SEC Action against certain of the Defendants.
- 14. On August 26, 2009, the Court ordered the class action cases consolidated, appointed Third Avenue as Lead Plaintiff and Bernstein Litowitz Berger & Grossmann LLP as Lead Counsel ("Lead Counsel"). In its role as Court-appointed Lead Plaintiff, Third Avenue continued to investigate potential claims against Defendants and others. On January 5, 2010, Lead Plaintiff filed the consolidated class action complaint (the "Complaint"). During this time, Lead Plaintiff was also involved in the negotiation of certain issues relating to the numerous competing claims asserted against shareholder funds that had been withheld from distribution, including Defendants' claims for indemnification, expenses and management fees, as discussed in more detail herein.
- 15. On June 25, 2010, Defendants filed their motion to dismiss. On August 13, 2010, Lead Plaintiff filed its opposition to the motion to dismiss, and on September 3, 2010, Defendants filed their reply in further support of their motion to dismiss.
- 16. On September 30, 2012, the Court granted in part and denied in part Defendants' motion to dismiss the Complaint, noting that the reasons for the Court's ruling would be explained in a forthcoming written opinion.
- 17. On January 22, 2013, Defendants filed their answer to the Complaint, and also filed a Third Party Complaint against certain of the Independent Trustees.
- 18. Following extensive settlement negotiation efforts, including multiple mediation sessions before the Honorable Layn R. Phillips (Fmr.) (the "Mediator"), certain of the Settling Parties executed a confidential Final Settlement Term Sheet on February 27, 2013, to resolve claims amongst themselves pursuant to the terms and provisions of the Stipulation.
- 19. Based upon its prosecution of the litigation, Lead Counsel has concluded that the terms and conditions of the Stipulation are fair, reasonable and adequate to Lead Plaintiff and the Class, and in their best interest, and has agreed to settle the claims raised in the Action pursuant to the terms and provisions of the Stipulation, after considering: (i) the substantial benefits that Lead Plaintiff and the Members of the Class will receive from resolution of the Action as against the Defendants; (ii) the attendant risks of litigation; (iii) the

prior recovery of approximately 99.04% by Members of the Class; and (iv) the desirability of permitting the Settlement to be consummated as provided by the terms of the Stipulation.

20. On October 7, 2013, the Court entered an order that preliminarily approved the Settlement, authorized this Notice to be sent to record holders of shares of the Primary Fund during the Class Period and who held Primary Fund shares at least until 4:00 p.m. ET on September 15, 2008, or who purchased shares of the Primary Fund during the period between 4:00 p.m. ET on September 15, 2008 and September 17, 2008, and scheduled the Settlement Hearing to consider whether to grant final approval to the Settlement.

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

21. If you are a Member of the Class, you are subject to the Settlement unless you timely request to be excluded. The Class consists of all Persons who (i) purchased or held shares of the Primary Fund during the period from September 28, 2006 through September 15, 2008 and held them as of 4:00 p.m. ET on September 15, 2008; or (ii) purchased shares of the Primary Fund during the period between 4:00 p.m. ET on September 15, 2008 and September 17, 2008. Excluded from the Class are: (a) Defendants; (b) members of the immediate families of Bruce Bent Sr., Bruce R. Bent II, and Arthur T. Bent III; (c) the subsidiaries and affiliates of Defendants; (d) any person or entity who is a partner, executive officer, director, trustee or controlling person of the Reserve Defendants, or the Primary Fund (including any of their subsidiaries or affiliates); (e) any entity in which any Defendant has a controlling interest; (f) Defendants' liability insurance carriers, and any affiliates or subsidiaries thereof; and (g) the legal representatives, heirs, successors and assigns of any such excluded party. The Class also does not include those persons and entities who validly request exclusion from the Class pursuant to this Notice (see "What If I Do Not Want To Participate In The Class And The Settlement? How Do I Exclude Myself?," below).

RECEIPT OF THIS NOTICE DOES NOT NECESSARILY MEAN THAT YOU ARE A CLASS MEMBER OR THAT YOU ARE ENTITLED TO RECEIVE PROCEEDS FROM THE SETTLEMENT. PAYMENT OF SETTLEMENT PROCEEDS WILL BE MADE THROUGH RECORD HOLDERS OF PRIMARY FUND SHARES. IF YOU ARE A CLASS MEMBER BUT NOT THE RECORD HOLDER, YOU SHOULD CONTACT THE RELEVANT RECORD HOLDER IMMEDIATELY.

## WHAT ARE THE LEAD PLAINTIFF'S REASONS FOR THE SETTLEMENT?

22. Lead Plaintiff and Lead Counsel believe that the claims asserted against Defendants have merit. Lead Plaintiff and Lead Counsel recognize, however, the expense and length of continued proceedings necessary to pursue their claims against Defendants through trial and appeals, as well as the difficulties in establishing liability. In addition, Lead Plaintiff and Lead Counsel recognize that if this litigation continued additional claims would be asserted against the shareholder funds that have not been distributed, including the amounts being withheld in the Expense Fund, and additional costs would be incurred that would likely be paid out of shareholder funds. Further, Lead Plaintiff and Lead Counsel have considered the additional delay that would be incurred in distributing amounts to shareholders if this litigation were to continue through trial and appeal, a process that could take several years. Lead Plaintiff and Lead Counsel have also considered the uncertain outcome of trial and appellate risk in complex lawsuits like this one, including the significant delays that would likely occur in distributing the remaining assets of the Primary Fund if this case were to continue through trial and appeals. Lead Counsel has also required as a condition of the Settlement that Defendants submit, by confidential submission to the Mediator, information sufficient to substantiate that they do not have

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Notwithstanding the foregoing, neither the Yield Plus Fund (YP) nor the Independent Trustees of the Primary Fund are excluded from the definition of the Class.

substantial personal assets with which to pay a judgment of the magnitude sought by the Class in this Action, and that the Mediator is satisfied with those submissions.

- 23. In light of the amount of the Settlement and the immediacy of recovery to the Class, Lead Plaintiff and Lead Counsel, and the Independent Trustees of the Primary Fund believe that the proposed Settlement is fair, reasonable and adequate, and in the best interests of the Class. Lead Plaintiff and Lead Counsel believe that the Settlement provides a substantial benefit now, as compared to the risk that the claims would produce a similar, smaller, or no recovery after summary judgment, trial and appeals, possibly years in the future.
- 24. Defendants have denied, and continue to deny, each and all of the claims alleged by Lead Plaintiff in the Action. Defendants expressly have denied and continue to deny all charges of wrongdoing or liability against them arising out of any of the conduct, statements, acts or omissions alleged, or that could have been alleged, in the Action. Defendants also have denied and continue to deny, among other things, the allegations that Lead Plaintiff or the Class have suffered any damage, or that Lead Plaintiff or the Class were harmed by the conduct alleged in the Action. Defendants have concluded that further conduct of the Action would be protracted and expensive, and that it is desirable that the Action be fully and finally settled in the manner and upon the terms and conditions set forth in the Stipulation.
- 25. The Independent Trustees have denied, and continue to deny, each and all of the claims alleged by Defendants in the Third Party Complaint. The Independent Trustees expressly deny all allegations of wrongdoing or liability against them arising out of any of the conduct, statements, acts or omissions alleged, or that could have been alleged, in the Third Party Complaint. The Independent Trustees also deny, among other things, the allegations that Defendants have suffered any damage or were harmed in any way by the conduct alleged in the Third Party Complaint. The Independent Trustees have concluded that further litigation of the Third Party Complaint would be protracted, expensive, not in the best interests of the Primary Fund or its shareholders, and that it is therefore desirable that the Action, including the Third Party Complaint, be fully and finally settled in the manner and upon the terms and conditions set forth in the Stipulation.

# WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN IF THERE WERE NO SETTLEMENT?

26. If there were no Settlement and Lead Plaintiff failed to establish any essential legal or factual element of their claims, neither Lead Plaintiff nor the Class would recover anything from Defendants as a result of this lawsuit. Moreover, if Lead Plaintiff failed to establish the claims, Defendants would argue that they are entitled to reimbursement of their attorneys' fees and litigation expenses to be paid out of shareholder funds that are currently being withheld in the Expense Fund. Also, if Defendants were successful in proving any of their defenses or their claims in the Third Party Complaint, the Class might recover substantially less than the amount provided in the Settlement, or nothing at all. Moreover, in the absence of a Settlement, the claims asserted by Lead Plaintiff against Defendants, and by Defendants against the Independent Trustees, would continue to be litigated, which would result in additional expenses against the Primary Fund that would further deplete shareholder funds and further delay any distribution to shareholders.

# HOW MUCH WILL MY PAYMENT BE?

27. The Plan of Allocation that Lead Plaintiff proposes for distribution to Class Members and other Primary Fund Shareholders is the pro rata distribution plan in the Court's November 25, 2009 Order in the SEC Action ("November 25, 2009 Order"), and all subsequent orders of the Court related to the pro rata distribution of the Expense Fund, with the addition that if the prorated payment to any record holder calculates to less than \$10.00, it will not be included in the calculation and no distribution will be made to the record holder for that Class Member or to the Class Member or other Primary Fund Shareholders. The monies that would have been made in distributions that calculate to less than \$10.00 will instead be included in the distributions to those Class Members or Shareholders who would receive \$10.00 or more, and the calculations will be re-run excluding those who would receive less than \$10.00. For clarification, payments may be made through one or more distributions, and the \$10.00 minimum will apply to each distribution.

- 28. The Settling Parties propose that upon final approval of the Settlement, the remaining assets of the Primary Fund, with the exception of the Cash Contribution, net of payments and hold-backs as set forth in the Stipulation, will be distributed to Primary Fund Shareholders, including Class Members, in a manner consistent with the Court's November 25, 2009 Order and related orders. The additional Cash Contribution to be paid by Defendants as set forth in the Stipulation is proposed to be distributed to Class Members only.
- 29. Lead Plaintiff further proposes that, consistent with the Court's November 25, 2009 Order and related orders, distribution to Class Members and other Primary Fund Shareholders will be made to Primary Fund record holders as of or after September 15, 2008, and such record holders may be instructed to distribute the amount to the Class Members or other Primary Fund Shareholders, consistent with the Court's November 25, 2009 Order and all related orders.
- 30. Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, Persons who are excluded from the Class by definition, or who would otherwise be Class Members but who submit valid exclusion requests, will not be eligible to participate in distribution of the Cash Contribution, but will otherwise be eligible to participate in the distribution in the remaining assets of the Primary Fund including the remaining amount of the Net Settlement Fund (less the amount of the Cash Contribution), as set forth in the Stipulation.
- 31. For efficiency purposes, the Claims Administrator may distribute both the Cash Contribution and the remaining assets of the Primary Fund, including the remaining amount of the Net Settlement Fund, through a single distribution process, or through multiple distributions, whichever the Claims Administrator, in its discretion, determines is most cost efficient. The Board of Trustees of the Primary Fund (the "Fund Board") has reported that, as of the end of April 2013, the Primary Fund had approximately \$97 million in assets. With the addition of the \$10 million Cash Contribution, there will be approximately \$107 million in assets in the Primary Fund. If the Settlement is approved by the Court, the Reimbursement Payments, Future Defense Fund, Post Distribution Expense Amount, and any other fees and expenses approved by the Court will be paid out of the Primary Fund before distribution is made to Class Members and other Primary Fund Shareholders as set forth in paragraphs 10 and 11 of the Stipulation.

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

- 32. If the Settlement is approved, the Court will enter a judgment (the "Judgment"). The Judgment will dismiss with prejudice the claims in the Complaint and the Third Party Complaint and will provide that, upon the Effective Date, Lead Plaintiff and all other Class Members shall be deemed to have fully and finally released the Class Members' Released Claims (as defined in paragraph 33 below), including Unknown Claims (as defined in paragraph 35 below) as against the Released Parties (as defined in paragraph 34 below).
- 33. "Released Claims" means any and all actions, causes of action, claims, damages, demands, duties, issues, judgments, liabilities, losses, matters, obligations, proceedings, and rights of every nature and description whatsoever, whether based on law or equity, on federal, state, local, statutory or common law or any other law, rule or regulation (whether foreign or domestic), including both known claims and Unknown Claims (as defined below), accrued claims and not accrued claims, foreseen claims and unforeseen claims, matured claims and not matured claims, suspected or unsuspected, fixed or contingent and whether or not concealed or hidden, that relate to, concern or in any way involve the Primary Fund, and that have been or could have been asserted through the Effective Date in the Action or in any forum of competent jurisdiction (including a state or federal court) by or on behalf of (a) the Lead Plaintiff or any other Member of the Class, (b) the Defendants, (c) the Primary Fund, or (d) the Independent Trustees. With respect to the releases being given by Defendants, Independent Trustees, and the Primary Fund, "Released Claims" also includes all claims related to any and all transactions up to the Effective Date between one or more Defendants, on one hand, and the Primary Fund (including its current officers, in their respective capacities as such), Crederian or the Independent Trustees, on the other hand.

- 34. "Released Parties" means: (a) the Defendants; (b) the Primary Fund; (c) the Independent Trustees; (d) the trustees, officers, employees, agents, attorneys, successors and assigns of each of the foregoing Released Parties, in their respective capacities as such, including State Street Bank and Trust Company, its agents and affiliates and their respective officers, directors and employees, in their respective capacities as such; (e) Crederian, in its capacity as service provider of the Expense Fund; and (f) Eugene P. Grace, in his capacity as Chief Administrative Officer of Crederian in its capacity as service provider of the Expense Fund, and as an officer of the Primary Fund.
- 35. "Unknown Claims" means any and all Released Claims that the releasing party does not know or suspect to exist in his, her or its favor at the time of the release of the Released Claims, which if known by him, her or it might have affected his, her or its settlement with and release of the Released Claims, or might have affected his, her or its decision not to object to this Settlement or not exclude himself, herself or itself from the Class. With respect to any and all Released Claims, the parties stipulate and agree that, upon the Effective Date, the Settling Parties shall expressly waive, and each Class Member shall be deemed to have waived, and by operation of the Order and Final Judgment shall have expressly waived, to the fullest extent permitted by law, any and all provisions, rights and benefits conferred by Cal. Civ. Code § 1542, and any law of any state or territory of the United States, or principle of common law, or the law of any foreign jurisdiction, 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.

The Settling Parties or Class Members may hereafter discover facts in addition to or different from those which he, she or it now knows or believes to be true with respect to the subject matter of the Released Claims, but the Settling Parties shall expressly – and each Class Member, upon the Effective Date, shall be deemed to have, and by operation of the Order and Final Judgment shall have – fully, finally and forever settled and released any and all Released Claims, known or Unknown, suspected or unsuspected, contingent or non-contingent, whether or not concealed or hidden, which now exist, or heretofore have existed, upon any theory of law or equity now existing or coming into existence in the future, including, but not limited to, conduct which is negligent, reckless, intentional, with or without malice, or a breach of any duty, law or rule, without regard to the subsequent discovery or existence of such different or additional facts. The Settling Parties acknowledge, and Class Members by law and operation of the Order and Final Judgment shall be deemed to have acknowledged, that the inclusion of "Unknown Claims" in the definition of Released Claims was separately bargained for and was a material element of the Settlement.

36. The Judgment also will provide that, as set forth in more detail in the Stipulation, upon the Effective Date: (a) Defendants will release current and future claims against the Expense Fund or other assets of the Primary Fund; (b) Defendants will release all Released Claims against Lead Plaintiff, Lead Counsel, any other Class Member, the Primary Fund (including its current officers, in their respective capacities as such), Crederian, and the Independent Trustees; (c) the Independent Trustees and the Primary Fund (including its current officers, in their respective capacities as such) will release all Released Claims against Lead Plaintiff, Lead Counsel, and any other Class Member, and Defendants; and (d) Defendants will release any and all claims that they have asserted or could potentially assert involving State Street Bank and Trust Company, its agents and affiliates and their respective officers, directors and employees, in their respective capacities as such, for which \$2.5 million is currently held in the Expense Fund, but that will instead be included as part of the Settlement Fund.

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

37. Lead Counsel has not received any payment for its services in pursuing claims against Defendants on behalf of the Class for more than 4.5 years, nor has Lead Counsel been reimbursed for its out-

of-pocket expenses. Before final approval of the Settlement, Lead Counsel intends to apply to the Court for an award of attorneys' fees to Lead Counsel from the Settlement Fund in an amount not to exceed \$5 million. At the same time, Lead Counsel also intends to apply for the reimbursement from the Settlement Fund of Litigation Expenses to Plaintiffs' Counsel (which may include the reasonable costs and expenses of Lead Plaintiff directly related to its representation of the Class), in an amount not to exceed \$250,000. The Court will determine the amount of the award.

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

- 38. If you (i) purchased or held shares of the Primary Fund during the period from September 28, 2006 through September 15, 2008 and held them as of 4:00 p.m. on September 15, 2008; or (ii) purchased shares during the period between 4:00 p.m. September 15, 2008 and September 17, 2008, and you are not excluded by the definition of the Class and you do not elect to exclude yourself from the Class, then you are a Class Member, and 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.
- 39. This Notice, as well as any payments to Class Members made pursuant to the Settlement, will be made through the record holders of Primary Fund shares on or after September 15, 2008. **No claim form** needs to be submitted. If you are a Class Member, but not a record holder, you should contact the appropriate record holder immediately. Please retain all records of your ownership of, or transactions in the Primary Fund shares.
- 40. As a Class Member, you are represented by Lead Plaintiff and Lead Counsel, unless you enter an appearance through counsel of your own choice at your own expense. You are not required to retain your own counsel, but if you choose to do so, such counsel must file a notice of appearance on your behalf and must serve copies of his or her notice of appearance on the attorneys listed in the section entitled, "When And Where Will The Court Decide Whether To Approve The Settlement?" below.
- 41. If you do not wish to remain a Class Member, you may exclude yourself from the Class by following the instructions in the section entitled, "What If I Do Not Want To Be A Part Of The Class And The Settlement? How Do I Exclude Myself?" below. If you exclude yourself from the Class, you will not be eligible to receive any distribution from the Cash Contribution but you will retain the right to be a part of any other lawsuit against any of the Released Parties (as defined in paragraph 34 above) with respect to any of the Released Claims (as defined in paragraph 33 above).
- 42. If you wish to object to the Settlement or any of its terms or Lead Counsel's application for attorneys' fees and reimbursement of Litigation Expenses, and if you do not exclude yourself from the Class, you may present your objections by following the instructions in the section entitled, "When And Where Will The Court Decide Whether To Approve The Settlement?," below. If you exclude yourself from the Class, you are not entitled to submit an objection.

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

43. If you do not want to be a part of the Class and potentially share in the Cash Contribution obtained through the Settlement, you must submit a timely and valid request for exclusion as set forth in this paragraph. You should be informed that the Court has previously issued orders in the related SEC Action which govern the assets of the Primary Fund, beginning with the November 25, 2009 Order. The November 25, 2009 Order and subsequent related orders provide, among other things, that: (i) private actions against the Primary Fund or any of its Indemnitees (as defined in the November 25, 2009 Order), that seek an award that would be payable or subject to indemnification by the Primary Fund, are permanently enjoined; and (ii) any recovery from the Primary Fund must be distributed pro rata to shareholders. This is not a full or precise description of the November 25, 2009 Order and subsequent related orders, which should be reviewed in the event you are considering requesting exclusion from the Class. Each Class Member will be bound by all determinations and

judgments in this lawsuit, including those concerning the Settlement, whether favorable or unfavorable, unless such person or entity mails, by first-class mail (or its equivalent outside the U.S.), or otherwise delivers a written request for exclusion from the Class, addressed to The Reserve Primary Fund Securities Class Action Litigation, c/o Crederian Fund Services LLC, 1400 N. Providence Road, Bldg. 2, Suite 5035, Media, PA 19063. The exclusion request must be received no later than November 25, 2013. Such request for exclusion shall clearly indicate that the sender requests to be excluded from the Class in The Reserve Primary Fund Securities Class Action Litigation, Civil Action No. 08 Civ. 8060 (PGG), and must be signed by such Person. Such Persons requesting exclusion are also directed to provide the following information: (i) name, (ii) address, (iii) telephone number, (iv) number of Primary Fund shares owned during the Class Period and, if purchased through a broker or nominee, the name of the broker or nominee, (v) number of Primary Fund shares held at least until 4:00 p.m. ET on September 15, 2008, (vi) number of Primary Fund shares held between 4:00 p.m. ET on September 15, 2008 and September 17, 2008, (vii) the amount previously received in distributions pursuant to the Court's November 25, 2009 Order and subsequent orders of the Court, and (viii) a statement that the person or entity wishes to be excluded from the Class. Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, any Class Member who does not submit a timely written request for exclusion as provided by this section shall be bound by the Settlement. Requests for exclusion will not be valid if they do not include the information set forth above and they are not received within the time stated above, unless the Court otherwise determines.

44. If a person or entity requests to be excluded from the Class, that person or entity will not receive any payment from distribution of the Cash Contribution provided for in the Stipulation.

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

- 45. If you do not wish to object in person to the proposed Settlement and/or the application for attorneys' fees and reimbursement of Litigation Expenses, you do not need to attend the Settlement Hearing. You can object to or participate in the Settlement without attending the Settlement Hearing.
- 46. The Settlement Hearing will be held on December 16, 2013, at 2:00 p.m. ET, before the Honorable Paul G. Gardephe, at the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, 40 Foley Square, Courtroom 705, New York, New York 10007. The Court reserves the right to approve the Settlement at or after the Settlement Hearing without further notice to Members of the Class.
- 47. Any Class Member who does not submit a request for exclusion that is *received* no later than November 25, 2013, may object to the Settlement or Lead Counsel's request for an award of attorneys' fees and reimbursement of expenses. Objections or oppositions must be in writing. You must file any written objection or opposition, together with copies of all other supporting papers and briefs, with the Clerk's Office at the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York at the address set forth below on or before November 25, 2013. You must also serve the papers on Lead Counsel for the Class and counsel for the Defendants and the Independent Trustees at the addresses set forth below so that the papers are *received* on or before November 25, 2013.

#### Clerk's Office

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK 40 Foley Square New York, NY 10007

#### Lead Counsel for the Class

BERNSTEIN LITOWITZ BERGER & GROSSMANN LLP
John C. Browne, Esq.
Niki L. Mendoza, Esq.
1285 Avenue of the Americas, 38th Floor
New York, NY 10019

#### **Counsel For Defendants**

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP
John Dellaportas, Esq. 101 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10178
and

DUANE MORRIS LLP Fran Jacobs, Esq. 1540 Broadway New York, NY 10168

## **Counsel For Independent Trustees**

GOODWIN PROCTER LLP Mark Holland, Esq. 620 Eighth Avenue New York, NY 10018

- 48. Any objection must set forth the basis for the objection and include: (i) name, (ii) address, (iii) telephone number, (iv) number of Primary Fund shares owned during the Class Period, (v) number of Primary Fund shares owned on or after 4pm ET on September 15, 2008, and documentation demonstrating the number of Primary Fund shares owned on or after 4:00 p.m. ET on September 15, 2008, including brokerage confirmation receipts or other competent documentary evidence, (vi) number of Primary Fund shares held between 4:00 p.m. ET on September 15, 2008 and September 17, 2008, (vii) a written statement of all grounds for the objection accompanied by any legal support for the objection, (viii) copies of any papers, briefs or other documents upon which the objection is based, (ix) a list of all persons who will be called to testify in support of the objection, (x) a statement of whether the objector intends to appear at the Settlement Hearing, (xi) a list of other cases in which the objector or the objector's counsel has appeared either as a settlement objector or as counsel for objectors in the preceding five years, and (xii) the objector's signature, even if represented by counsel. Persons who intend to object to the Settlement and/or to Lead Counsel's application for an award of attorneys' fees and Litigation Expenses, and desire to present evidence at the Settlement Hearing must include in their written objections the identity of any witnesses they intend to call to testify, and exhibits they intend to introduce into evidence at the Settlement Hearing.
- 49. Any Class Member who does not object in the manner prescribed above shall be deemed to have waived such objection and shall forever be foreclosed from making any objection to the fairness, adequacy or reasonableness of the Settlement, the Order and Final Judgment to be entered approving the Settlement, or the attorneys' fees and reimbursement of Litigation Expenses requested.
  - 50. You may not object to the Settlement or any aspect of it, if you excluded yourself from the Class.
- 51. You may file a written objection without having to appear at the Settlement Hearing. You may not appear at the Settlement Hearing to present your objection, however, unless you first filed and served a written objection in accordance with the procedures described above, unless the Court orders otherwise.
- 52. You are not required to hire an attorney to represent you in making written objections or in appearing at the Settlement Hearing. If you decide to hire an attorney, which will be at your own expense, however, he or she must file a notice of appearance with the Court and serve it on Lead Counsel so that the notice is *received* on or before November 25, 2013.
- 53. The Settlement Hearing may be adjourned by the Court without further written notice to the Class. If you intend to attend the Settlement Hearing, you should confirm the date and time with Lead Counsel.

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 shall be forever foreclosed from making any objection to the proposed Settlement or Lead Counsel's request for an award of attorneys' fees and reimbursement of expenses. Class Members do not need to appear at the hearing or take any other action to indicate their approval.

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

54. If you purchased or otherwise acquired the shares described above for the beneficial interest of a person or organization other than yourself, you must either (i) send a copy of this Notice to the beneficial owner of such shares, postmarked no later than seven (7) days after you receive this Notice, or (ii) provide to the Reserve Primary Fund Securities Class Action Litigation, c/o Crederian Fund Services LLC, 1400 N. Providence Road, Bldg. 2, Suite 5035, Media, PA 19063, the names and addresses of such persons no later than seven (7) days after you receive this Notice. If you choose the second option, Crederian will send a copy of the Notice to the beneficial owner. Upon full compliance with these directions, such nominees may seek reimbursement of their reasonable expenses actually incurred, by providing Crederian with proper documentation supporting the expenses for which reimbursement is sought. Copies of this Notice may also be obtained by calling toll-free (800) 691-7562, and may be downloaded from Lead Counsel's website, www.blbglaw.com. Lead Plaintiff proposes that notice of the proposed Settlement and distribution of the remaining assets of the Primary Fund, including the Net Settlement Fund, be made through record holders as of or after 4:00 pm ET on September 15, 2008, consistent with the Court's prior orders. Thus, if you purchased or otherwise acquired the shares for the beneficial interest of a person or organization other than yourself, you may be required to distribute monies to the beneficial owners.

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

55. This Notice contains only a summary of the terms of the proposed Settlement. A copy of this Notice is also available at http://www.primary-yieldplus-inliquidation.com. Copies of other documents, including copies of the Stipulation, and the Complaint, are available on Lead Counsel's website at www.blbglaw.com. All inquiries concerning this Notice should be directed to:

The Reserve Primary Fund Securities Class Action Litigation
% CREDERIAN FUND SERVICES LLC
1400 N. Providence Road
Bldg. 2, Suite 5035
Media, PA 19063
(800) 691-7562

#### Claims Administrator

OR

John C. Browne, Esq.
BERNSTEIN LITOWITZ BERGER & GROSSMANN LLP
1285 Avenue of the Americas, 38<sup>th</sup> Floor
New York, New York 10019
(866) 648-2524
blbg@blbglaw.com

Lead Counsel

# DO NOT CALL OR WRITE THE COURT OR THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT REGARDING THIS NOTICE.

Dated: October 7, 2013

By Order of the Clerk of Court
United States District Court

for the Southern District of New York