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Attorneys for the Debtors and Debtors in Possession

# IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS DALLAS DIVISION

In re:

ALCO STORES, INC., et al.

Debtors.

S

Case No.: 14-34941 (SGJ)

Chapter 11

Jointly Administered

# NOTICE OF FILING OF PLAN SUPPLEMENT FOR THE DEBTORS' FIRST AMENDED PLAN OF LIQUIDATION PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 11 OF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that on April 7, 2015, the Debtors filed with the Bankruptcy Court the *Debtors' First Amended Plan of Liquidation Under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code* (the "<u>First Amended Plan</u>").

**PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE** that the Debtors hereby file the Plan Supplement with respect to the First Amended Plan. The Debtors expressly reserve the right to amend, alter or supplement the Plan Supplement and the documents attached hereto.

**PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE** that any party wishing to obtain copies of the First Amended Plan or the Plan Supplement documents referenced on the attached list, may download copies from the Debtors' restructuring website at http://cases.primeclerk.com/ALCO, or may request copies by telephone at (844) 794-3478.

The Debtors in these chapter 11 cases, along with the last four (4) digits of their taxpayer identification number, are ALCO Stores, Inc. (1080) and ALCO Holdings, LLC (0364). The mailing address of the Debtors, solely for purposes of notices and communications, is ALCO Stores, Inc., 751 Freeport Parkway, Coppell, Texas 75019.

Dated: May 22, 2015 Dallas, Texas

# **DLA PIPER LLP (US)**

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# **EXHIBIT A**

(Form of Liquidation Trust Agreement)

#### LIQUIDATING TRUST AGREEMENT

This LIQUIDATING TRUST AGREEMENT (the "<u>Agreement</u>" or "<u>Liquidating Trust Agreement</u>") is made and entered into, as of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, by and among ALCO Stores, Inc. and ALCO Holdings, LLC (together, the "<u>Debtors</u>"), the official committee of unsecured creditors appointed in the Debtors' Chapter 11 Cases (the "<u>Committee</u>"), and Anthony Saccullo, Esq. of Saccullo Business Consulting, LLC (the "<u>Liquidating Trustee</u>"). Capitalized terms used herein and not otherwise defined shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Plan (as hereinafter defined).

# **RECITALS**

WHEREAS, on October 12, 2014, the Debtors filed voluntary petitions for relief under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "<u>Bankruptcy Code</u>") in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Texas (the "<u>Bankruptcy Court</u>"); and

WHEREAS, on February 18, 2015, the Debtors filed the Plan of Liquidation Pursuant to Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code (as amended or modified from time to time, the "Plan"); and

WHEREAS, by order dated \_\_\_\_\_\_, the Bankruptcy Court confirmed the Plan; and

WHEREAS, under the terms of the Plan, all cash and other property of the Debtors as of the Effective Date of the Plan will be transferred to and held by the Liquidating Trust created by this Liquidating Trust Agreement so that, among other things: (i) the Trust Assets (defined below) can be pursued and/or disposed of in an orderly and expeditious manner; (ii) objections to Claims can be pursued and Disputed Claims can be resolved; and (iii) Distributions can be made to the beneficiaries of the Liquidating Trust in accordance with the Plan; and

WHEREAS, this Liquidating Trust is established under and pursuant to the Plan which provides for the appointment of the Liquidating Trustee to administer the Liquidating Trust for the benefit of creditors of the Debtors, and to provide administrative services relating to the implementation of the Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Liquidating Trustee has agreed to serve as such upon the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in this Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, in accordance with the Plan and in consideration of the promises and of the mutual covenants and agreements contained herein, the parties hereto agree as follows:

#### **DECLARATION OF TRUST**

The Debtors hereby absolutely assign to the Liquidating Trust, and to its successors in trust and its successors and assigns, all right, title and interest of the Debtors in and to the Trust Assets;

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD unto the Liquidating Trust and its successors in trust and its successors and assigns forever;

IN TRUST NEVERTHELESS upon the terms and subject to the conditions set forth herein and for the benefit of the holders of Allowed Claims, as and to the extent provided in the Plan, and for the performance of and compliance with the terms hereof and of the Plan;

PROVIDED, HOWEVER, that upon termination of the Liquidating Trust in accordance with Article V hereof, this Agreement shall cease, terminate and be of no further force and effect; and

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER COVENANTED AND DECLARED that the Trust Assets are to be held and applied by the Liquidating Trustee upon the further covenants and terms and subject to the conditions herein set forth.

#### I NAME; PURPOSE; TRUST ASSETS

- 1.1 <u>Name of Trust</u>. The trust created by this Agreement shall be known as the "<u>ALCO Liquidating Trust</u>" or sometimes herein as the "<u>Liquidating Trust</u>."
- 1.2 <u>Transfer of Trust Assets</u>. In accordance with the provisions of the Plan, on the Effective Date, the Debtors and their chapter 11 estates shall be deemed to transfer, assign and convey to the beneficiaries of the Liquidating Trust any and all rights and assets of the Debtors and the Estates, including, without limitation, (i) cash and accounts, including, without limitation, any and all moneys held in escrow or separate segregated accounts during the pendency of the Chapter 11 Cases; (ii) all Causes of Action not expressly released or waived under the Plan; and (iii) any and all other assets, interests, rights, claims, defenses and causes of action of the Debtors or Estates (collectively, the "<u>Trust Assets</u>"), followed by a deemed transfer by such beneficiaries to the Liquidating Trust, to be held by the Liquidating Trustee in trust for the holders, from time to time, of Allowed Claims as and to the extent provided in the Plan (such holders collectively, the "<u>Trust Beneficiaries</u>"), on the terms and subject to the conditions set forth herein and in the Plan.
- 1.3 <u>Purposes</u>. The purposes of the Liquidating Trust are to hold and effectuate an orderly disposition of the Trust Assets and to distribute or pay over the Trust Assets or proceeds thereof in accordance with this Agreement and the Plan, with no objective or authority to engage in any trade or business.
- 1.4 <u>Acceptance by the Liquidating Trustee</u>. The Liquidating Trustee is willing and hereby accepts the appointment to serve as Liquidating Trustee pursuant to this Agreement and the Plan and agrees to observe and perform all duties and obligations imposed upon the Liquidating Trustee by this Agreement and the Plan, including, without limitation, to accept, hold and administer the Trust Assets and otherwise to carry out the purpose of the Liquidating Trust in accordance with the terms and subject to the conditions set forth herein.
- 1.5 <u>Further Assurances</u>. The Debtors and any successors in interest will, on request of the Liquidating Trustee, execute and deliver such further documents and perform such further acts as may be necessary or proper to transfer to the Liquidating Trustee any portion of the Trust Assets or to vest in the Trust the powers or property hereby conveyed. The Debtors, for themselves and their predecessors and successors, disclaim any right to any reversionary interest in any of the Trust Assets, but nothing herein will limit the right and power of the Liquidating

Trustee to abandon any Trust Assets to the Debtors in the event the Liquidating Trustee determines it is in the best interests of the Liquidating Trust and its beneficiaries to do so.

### 1.6 The Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee.

- (a) As provided in section IV.B of the Plan, the members of the Committee shall serve as the Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee. The Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee shall at all times consist of at least one (1) member. In the event that all members of the Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee resign, the Liquidating Trustee shall appoint a new member.
- (b) The Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee shall consult with the Liquidating Trustee from time to time on matters including, without limitation, objections to Claims, the Distributions and other matters affecting the administration of the Liquidating Trust. The Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee shall oversee and provide direction to the Liquidating Trustee, and if necessary or desirable in its sole discretion, replace the Liquidating Trustee in accordance with the terms of this Agreement.
- (c) Any member of the Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee may resign upon reasonable notice to the Liquidating Trustee and other members of the Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee. Twenty (20) days prior written notice shall constitute reasonable notice under this Section. Any member of the Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee may be removed by the Bankruptcy Court for cause. The Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee may authorize its own dissolution by filing with the Bankruptcy Court an appropriate notice that its responsibilities under the Plan have concluded. Unless earlier dissolved, the Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee shall be dissolved as of the date the Debtors' Chapter 11 Cases are closed.
- The Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee is authorized to retain Cooley LLP and the Law Offices of Judith W. Ross as counsel and such other professional Persons it deems necessary and appropriate, including, without limitation, Persons who have previously been approved by the Bankruptcy Court to be retained by the Debtors and the Committee. Professionals shall be compensated from the Trust Assets on a monthly basis. Members of the Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee shall have fiduciary duties to the Trust Beneficiaries in the same manner that members of an official committee of creditors appointed pursuant to section 1102 of the Bankruptcy Code have fiduciary duties to the constituents represented by such a committee and shall be entitled to indemnification from the Trust Assets in the same manner as the Liquidating Trustee for service as members of the Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee from and after the Effective Date of the Plan under or in connection with this Agreement. Except in the case of a violation of their fiduciary duties, gross negligence, willful misconduct or, in the case of an attorney professional and as required under Rule 1.08(g) of the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct, malpractice, the Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee and its retained professional Persons shall not be liable for any loss or damage by reason of any action taken or omitted by them pursuant to the discretion, powers and authority conferred, or in good faith believed by the Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee to be conferred, on the Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee by this Agreement or the Plan.

- (e) The Liquidating Trustee shall report to the Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee on at least a monthly basis, or such other period as subsequently agreed to between the Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee and the Liquidating Trustee, as to the status of all material litigation, and Claims objections, and all other material matters affecting the Liquidating Trust.
- (f) Subject to Section 1.6(g) below, the Liquidating Trustee shall obtain the approval of the Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee by at least a majority vote prior to taking any action regarding any of the following matters:
  - (i) The commencement, prosecution, settlement, compromise, withdrawal or other resolution of any Cause of Action by the Liquidating Trust where the amount sought to be recovered in the complaint or other document initiating such Cause of Action exceeds \$50,000;
  - (ii) The sale, transfer, assignment, or other disposition of any non-Cash Trust Assets having a valuation in excess of \$50,000;
  - (iii) The abandonment of any non-Cash Trust Assets having a valuation of at least \$50,000;
  - (iv) The settlement, compromise, or other resolution of any Disputed Claim, wherein the allowed amount of the asserted Claim exceeds \$50,000;
  - (v) The borrowing of any funds by the Liquidating Trust or pledge of any portion of the Trust Assets;
  - (vi) Any matter which could reasonably be expected to have a material adverse effect on the amount of distributions to be made by the Liquidating Trust;
  - (vii) The exercise of any right or action set forth in this Liquidating Trust Agreement that expressly requires approval of the Liquidating Trust Committee;
  - (viii) All investments authorized to be made by the Liquidating Trustee under this Liquidating Trust Agreement.
- (g) The Liquidating Trustee's failure to receive objections from members of the Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee within seven days after written (including facsimile or electronic) notice is provided to the Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee of a proposed action shall be deemed approval of the Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee for purposes of this Section. In the event that the Liquidating Trustee and counsel for the Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee agree that urgent circumstances require a more expedited decision, such decision may be made upon less than seven days notice, and with the mutual agreement of the Liquidating Trustee and counsel to the Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee, without notice, provided that the Liquidating Trustee and the counsel to the Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee are in agreement on the course of action to be pursued.

# II RIGHTS, POWERS AND DUTIES OF LIQUIDATING TRUSTEE

- 2.1 <u>General.</u> As of the Effective Date, the Liquidating Trustee shall take possession and charge of the Trust Assets and, subject to the provisions hereof and in the Plan, shall have full right, power and discretion to manage the affairs of the Liquidating Trust, subject to Section 1.6 above. Except as otherwise provided herein and in the Plan, the Liquidating Trustee shall have the right and power to enter into any covenants or agreements binding the Liquidating Trust and in furtherance of the purpose hereof and of the Plan and to execute, acknowledge and deliver any and all instruments that are necessary or deemed by the Liquidating Trustee to be consistent with and advisable in connection with the performance of his or her duties hereunder. On and after the Effective Date, the Liquidating Trustee, at the direction and with the consent of the Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee in each instance, shall have the power and responsibility to do all acts contemplated by the Plan to be done by the Liquidating Trustee and all other acts that may be necessary or appropriate in connection with the disposition of the Trust Assets and the distribution of the proceeds thereof, as contemplated by the Plan, including:
- (a) To exercise all power and authority that may be or could have been exercised, commence all proceedings that may be or could have been commenced and take all actions that may be or could have been taken by any partner, member, officer, director or shareholder of the Debtors with like effect as if authorized, exercised and taken by unanimous action of such partners, members, officers, directors and shareholders; including, without limitation, amendment of the certificates of incorporation and by-laws of the Debtors, merger of any Debtor into another Debtor, the dissolution of any Debtor and the assertion or waiver of the Debtors' attorney/client privilege;
- (b) To open and maintain bank and other deposit accounts, escrows and other accounts, calculate and implement Distributions to holders of Allowed General Unsecured Claims as provided for or contemplated by the Plan and take other actions consistent with the Plan and the implementation thereof, including the establishment, re-evaluation, adjustment and maintenance of appropriate reserves, in the name of the Debtors or the Liquidating Trustee, even in the event of the dissolution of the Debtors:
- (c) To make a good faith valuation of the assets of the Liquidating Trust, as soon as possible after the Effective Date;
- (d) Subject to the applicable provisions of the Plan, to collect and liquidate all assets of the Debtors' estates pursuant to the Plan and to administer the winding-up of the affairs of the Debtors;
- (e) To object to any Claims (Disputed or otherwise), including, without limitation, as discussed in section IV.G.4 of the Plan, and to defend, compromise and/or settle any Claims prior to or following objection without the necessity of approval of the Bankruptcy Court, and/or to seek Bankruptcy Court approval for any Claims settlement, to the extent thought appropriate by the Liquidating Trustee or to the extent such approval is required by prior order of the Bankruptcy Court;

- (f) To make decisions in consultation with the Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee, without further Court approval, regarding the retention or engagement of professionals, employees and consultants by the Liquidating Trust and to pay, from the Liquidating Trust Assets, the charges incurred by the Liquidating Trust on or after the Effective Date for services of professionals, disbursements, expenses or related support services relating to the winding down of the Debtors and implementation of the Plan, without application to the Court;
- (g) To cause, on behalf of the Liquidating Trust, the Debtors, and their estates all necessary tax returns and all other appropriate or necessary documents related to municipal, State, Federal or other tax law to be prepared or filed timely;
- (h) To invest Cash in accordance with section 345 of the Bankruptcy Code or as otherwise permitted by a Final Order of the Court and as deemed appropriate by the Liquidating Trustee in accordance with the investment and deposit guidelines set forth in section 2.4 of this Agreement;
- (i) To collect any accounts receivable or other claims and assets of the Debtors or their estates not otherwise disposed of pursuant to the Plan;
- (j) To enter into any agreement or execute any document required by or consistent with the Plan and perform all of the obligations of the Debtors or the Liquidating Trustee thereunder;
- (k) To abandon in any commercially reasonable manner, including abandonment or donation to a charitable organization approved by the Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee, any assets that the Liquidating Trustee concludes are of no benefit to creditors of the Debtors or, as provided in section V.M of the Plan, too impractical to distribute;
- (l) To investigate (including pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 2004), prosecute and/or settle any Causes of Action not expressly released or waived under the Plan (in consultation with the Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee), participate in or initiate any proceeding before the Court or any other court of appropriate jurisdiction, participate as a party or otherwise in any administrative, arbitrative or other non-judicial proceeding, litigate or settle such Causes of Action on behalf of the Liquidating Trust and pursue to settlement or judgment such actions;
- (m) To approve, without Bankruptcy Court approval, the settlement of any Cause of Action for which the amount claimed by the Liquidating Trust against a defendant is less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000) and to seek Bankruptcy Court approval, upon notice and a hearing, of the settlement of any Cause of Action for which the amount claimed by the Liquidating Trust is unliquidated or equals or exceeds one million dollars (\$1,000,000);
- (n) To use Trust Assets to purchase or create and carry all appropriate insurance policies, bonds or other means of assurance and protection of the Trust Assets and pay all insurance premiums and other costs he or she deems necessary or advisable to insure the acts and omissions of the Liquidating Trustee, and if appropriate, the Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee;

- (o) To implement and/or enforce all provisions of the Plan;
- (p) To maintain appropriate books and records (including financial books and records) to govern the liquidation and distribution of the Trust Assets;
- (q) To collect and liquidate all assets of the Estates pursuant to the Plan and administer the winding-up of the affairs of the Debtors including, but not limited to, closing the Chapter 11 Cases;
- (r) To pay fees incurred pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1930(a)(6) and to file with the Court and serve on the U.S. Trustee quarterly post-confirmation financial reports for each of the Debtors until such time as such reports are no longer required, or the Court orders otherwise, a final decree is entered closing these Cases or the Cases are converted or dismissed;
- (s) To provide the Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee, within thirty (30) days after the end of the first full month following the effective date, and within twenty (20) days after the end of each quarter thereafter, a report setting forth (i) the receipt and disposition by the Liquidating Trustee of property of the Debtors' estates during such period, including the amounts, recipients and dates of any Distribution; (ii) any Disputed Claims resolved by the Liquidating Trustee; (iii) all known material non-Cash assets of the Debtors remaining to be disposed of; (iv) the status of all Causes of Action; (v) an itemization of all expenses the Liquidating Trustee anticipates will become due and payable within the subsequent quarter; and (vi) the Liquidating Trustee's forecast of cash receipts and expenses for the subsequent quarter; and
- (t) To do all other acts or things consistent with the provisions of the Plan that the Liquidating Trustee deems reasonably necessary or desirable with respect to implementing the Plan.

Other than the obligations of the Liquidating Trustee enumerated or referred to under this Agreement or the Plan, the Liquidating Trustee shall have no duties or obligations of any kind or nature respecting the implementation and administration of the Plan or this Agreement.

- 2.2 <u>Costs.</u> On and after the Effective Date, the Liquidating Trustee, with the consent of the Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee, shall reserve Cash reserves from the Trust Assets to be held in a Liquidating Trust wind-down fund (the "<u>Trust Expenses Reserve</u>"). The Trust Expenses Reserve shall be used to pay amounts due to the Liquidating Trustee pursuant to Section 2.8 hereof and the fees and expenses of any counsel, accountant, consultant or other advisor or agent retained by the Liquidating Trustee pursuant to this Agreement as well as other expenses of the liquidation of the Debtors. In the event that amounts held in the Trust Expenses Reserve, together with any remaining Trust Assets, are insufficient to make payments as provided in this Section 2.2, the Liquidating Trustee shall, unless reserves sufficient for such purpose have otherwise been made available from any other sources, have no obligation to make such payments.
- 2.3 <u>Distributions</u>. Pursuant to the Plan, the Liquidating Trustee shall record and account for all proceeds received upon any disposition of Trust Assets (after deduction therefrom

of appropriate reserves as provided herein and in the Plan) for distribution in accordance with the provisions of the Plan.

- 2.4 <u>Limitations on Investment Powers of Liquidating Trustee</u>. Funds in the Liquidating Trust shall be invested in demand and time deposits in banks or other savings institutions, or in other temporary, liquid investments, such as Treasury bills, consistent with the liquidity needs of the Liquidating Trust as determined by the Liquidating Trustee and the Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee, in accordance with section 345 of the Bankruptcy Code, unless the Bankruptcy Court otherwise requires.
- 2.5 <u>Limits on Retained Cash</u>. The Liquidating Trust may not receive or retain Cash or Cash equivalents in excess of an amount reasonably necessary to meet expenses, pay contingent liabilities (including Disputed General Unsecured Claims) and maintain the value of the Trust Assets. Without limiting the foregoing, and subject to the terms of the Plan, the Liquidating Trustee shall distribute to the Trust Beneficiaries on account of their interests in the Liquidating Trust, at least annually, its net income plus all net proceeds from the sale of assets, except that the Liquidating Trust may retain an amount of net proceeds or net income reasonably necessary to maintain the value of the Liquidating Trust or to meet claims and contingent liabilities, which amount shall be used to fund the Trust Expenses Reserve and the Disputed Claim Reserve.

# 2.6 Liability of Liquidating Trustee.

- (a) Standard of Care. Except in the case of bad faith, willful misconduct, reckless disregard of duty, criminal conduct, gross negligence, fraud or self-dealing, or in the case of an attorney professional and as required under Rule 1.08(g) of the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct, malpractice, the Liquidating Trustee shall not be liable for any loss or damage by reason of any action taken or omitted by him or her pursuant to the discretion, powers and authority conferred, or in good faith believed by the Liquidating Trustee to be conferred, on the Liquidating Trustee by this Agreement or the Plan.
- (b) No Liability for Acts of Predecessors. No successor Liquidating Trustee shall be in any way responsible for the acts or omissions of any Liquidating Trustee in office prior to the date on which such successor becomes the Liquidating Trustee, unless a successor Liquidating Trustee expressly assumes such responsibility.
- (c) No Implied Obligations. The Liquidating Trustee shall not be liable except for the performance of such duties and obligations as are specifically set forth herein, and no implied covenants or obligations shall be read into this Agreement against the Liquidating Trustee.
- (d) No Liability for Good Faith Error of Judgment. The Liquidating Trustee shall not be liable for any error of judgment made in good faith, unless it shall be proved that the Liquidating Trustee was grossly negligent in ascertaining the pertinent facts.
- (e) Reliance by Liquidating Trustee on Documents or Advice of Counsel or Other Persons. Except as otherwise provided herein, the Liquidating Trustee may rely and shall be protected in acting upon any resolution, certificate, statement, instrument, opinion, report,

notice, request, consent, order or other paper or document believed by the Liquidating Trustee to be genuine and to have been signed or presented by the proper party or parties. The Liquidating Trustee also may engage and consult with legal counsel, accountants and other professionals for the Liquidating Trust and other agents and advisors and shall not be liable for any action taken or suffered by the Liquidating Trustee in reliance upon the advice of such counsel, agents or advisors. The Liquidating Trustee or the Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee shall have the right at any time to seek instructions from the Bankruptcy Court concerning the administration or disposition of the Trust Assets.

- (f) No Personal Obligation for Trust Liabilities. Persons dealing with the Liquidating Trustee, or seeking to assert Claims against the Debtors, shall look only to the Trust Assets to satisfy any liability incurred by the Liquidating Trustee to any such Person in carrying out the terms of this Agreement, and the neither the Liquidating Trustee nor his or her company or organization shall have a personal or individual obligation to satisfy any such liability.
- 2.7 <u>Selection of Agents</u>. The Liquidating Trustee may engage any employee of the Debtors or other persons, and also may engage or retain brokers, banks, custodians, investment and financial advisors, attorneys (including existing counsel to the Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee or the Debtors), accountants (including existing accountants for the Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee or the Debtors) and other advisors and agents, in each case without Bankruptcy Court approval. The Liquidating Trustee may pay the salaries, fees and expenses of such persons from amounts in the Trust Expenses Reserve, or, if such amounts are insufficient therefor, out of the Trust Assets or proceeds thereof. In addition, the parties acknowledge that Trust Assets may be advanced to satisfy such salaries, fees and expenses. The Liquidating Trustee shall not be liable for any loss to the Liquidating Trust or any person interested therein by reason of any mistake or default of any such Person referred to in this Section 2.7 selected by the Liquidating Trustee in good faith and without either gross negligence or intentional malfeasance.

#### 2.8 Liquidating Trustee's Compensation, Indemnification and Reimbursement.

- (a) As compensation for services in the administration of this Liquidating Trust, the Liquidating Trustee shall be compensated as specified on **Schedule A** attached hereto. The Liquidating Trustee shall also be reimbursed for all documented actual, reasonable and necessary out-of-pocket expenses incurred in the performance of its duties hereunder.
- (b) In addition, the Liquidating Trustee shall be indemnified by and receive reimbursement from the Trust Assets against and from any and all loss, liability, expense (including attorneys' fees), or damage which the Liquidating Trustee incurs or sustains, in good faith and without either gross negligence or intentional malfeasance, acting as Liquidating Trustee under or in connection with this Agreement.
- (c) The Liquidating Trustee is authorized to use Trust Assets to obtain all reasonable insurance coverage for himself, his agents, representatives, employees or independent contractors, including, without limitation, coverage with respect to the liabilities, duties and obligations of the Liquidating Trustee and his agents, representatives, employees or independent contractors under the Plan and this Agreement.

# 2.9 Tax Provisions.

- (a) It is intended that the Liquidating Trust qualify as a grantor trust for federal income tax purposes, and that the Trust Beneficiaries are treated as grantors. As described more fully in the Plan and the Disclosure Statement, the transfer of the Trust Assets will be treated for federal income tax purposes as a transfer to the Trust Beneficiaries, followed by a deemed transfer from such Trust Beneficiaries to the Liquidating Trust, *provided, however*, that the Trust Assets will be subject to any post-Effective Date obligations incurred by the Liquidating Trust relating to the pursuit of Trust Assets. Accordingly, the Trust Beneficiaries shall be treated for United States federal income tax purposes as the grantors and owners of their respective share of the Trust Assets. The foregoing treatment shall also apply, to the extent permitted by applicable law, for state and local income tax purposes. Subject to Section 2.9(c)(iv), all items of income, gain, loss, deduction and credit will be included in the income of the Trust Beneficiaries as if such items had been recognized directly by the Trust Beneficiaries in the proportions in which they own beneficial interests in the Liquidating Trust.
- (b) The Liquidating Trustee shall comply with all tax reporting requirements and, in connection therewith, the Liquidating Trustee may require Trust Beneficiaries to provide certain tax information as a condition to receipt of Distributions, including, without limitation, filing returns for the Liquidating Trust as a grantor trust pursuant to Treasury Regulation § 1.6714(a)

(c)

- (i) Under the guidelines set forth in Revenue Procedure 94-95, 1994-2 C.B. 684 and Treasury Regulation § 1.671-4(a), the Liquidating Trustee will file returns for the Liquidating Trust as a grantor trust.
- (ii) Except to the extent definitive guidance from the Internal Revenue Service or a court of competent jurisdiction (including the issuance of applicable Treasury Regulations or the receipt by the Liquidating Trustee of a private letter ruling if the Liquidating Trustee so requests one) indicates that such valuation is not necessary to maintain the treatment of the Liquidating Trust as a liquidating trust for purposes of the Internal Revenue Code and applicable Treasury Regulations, as soon as reasonably practicable after the Trust Assets are transferred to the Liquidating Trust, the Liquidating Trustee shall make a good faith valuation of the Trust Assets. Such valuation shall be made available from time to time to all parties to the Liquidating Trust Agreement and to all Trust Beneficiaries, to the extent relevant to such parties for tax purposes, and shall be used consistently by such parties for all United States federal income tax purposes.
- (iii) In accordance with the provisions of section 6012(b)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, the Liquidating Trustee shall cause to be prepared, at the cost and expense of the Liquidating Trust, the corporate income tax returns (Federal, state and local) that the Debtors are required to file (to the extent such returns have not already been filed by the Effective Date). The Liquidating Trustee shall timely file each such tax return with the appropriate taxing authority and shall pay out of the Trust Assets all taxes due with respect to the period covered by each such tax return.

The Debtors hereby agree to furnish to the Liquidating Trustee all information required by the Liquidating Trustee, and generally to cooperate with the Liquidating Trustee, so as to enable the Liquidating Trustee to accurately and timely prepare such tax returns.

- (iv) The Liquidating Trustee shall timely file all tax returns required to be filed with respect to the Disputed Claim Reserve, if any, on the basis that the Disputed Claim Reserve is a discrete trust pursuant to Section 641 et seq. of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. The Liquidating Trustee shall pay from the Trust Assets any taxes required to be paid with respect to the Disputed Claim Reserve's undistributed income or gains.
- Service or a court of competent jurisdiction to the contrary (including the issuance of applicable Treasury Regulations, the receipt by the Liquidating Trustee of a private letter ruling if the Liquidating Trustee so requests one, or the receipt of an adverse determination by the IRS upon audit if not contested by the Liquidating Trustee), allocations of Liquidating Trust taxable income or loss shall be allocated by reference to the manner in which any economic gain or loss would be borne immediately after a hypothetical liquidating distribution of the remaining Trust Assets. The tax book value of the Trust Assets for purpose of this paragraph shall equal their fair market value on the date the Trust Assets are transferred to the Liquidating Trust, adjusted in accordance with tax accounting principles prescribed by the Internal Revenue Code, the applicable Treasury Regulations, and other applicable administrative and judicial authorities and pronouncements.
- (e) Current Basis. All income of the Liquidating Trust will be subject to tax on a current basis.
- (f) Withholding. The Liquidating Trustee may withhold from the amount distributable from the Liquidating Trust at any time to any Trust Beneficiary such sum or sums as may be sufficient to pay any tax or taxes or other charge or charges which have been or may be imposed on such Trust Beneficiary or upon the Liquidating Trust with respect to the amount distributable or to be distributed under the income tax laws of the United States or of any state or political subdivision or entity by reason of any Distribution provided for by any law, regulation, rule, ruling, directive, or other governmental requirement. Any tax withheld shall be treated as distributed to the Trust Beneficiary for purposes of this Agreement.
- Trust Beneficiary to furnish to the Liquidating Trustee its Employer or Taxpayer Identification Number as assigned by the Internal Revenue Service or certify to the Liquidating Trustee's satisfaction that Distributions to the Trust Beneficiary are exempt from backup withholding. The Liquidating Trustee may condition any Distribution to any Trust Beneficiary upon receipt of such identification number. If after reasonable inquiry, any Trust Beneficiary fails to provide such identification number to the Liquidating Trustee, the Liquidating Trustee shall deem such Trust Beneficiary's claim as disallowed and no Distribution shall be made on account of such Trust Beneficiary's claim.

- (h) Annual Statements. The Liquidating Trustee shall annually (for tax years in which Distributions from the Liquidating Trust are made) send to each Trust Beneficiary a separate statement setting forth the Trust Beneficiary's share of items of income, gain, loss, deduction or credit and all such holders shall report such items on their federal income tax returns.
- (i) Notices. The Liquidating Trustee shall distribute such notices to the Liquidating Trust Beneficiaries as the Liquidating Trustee determines are necessary or desirable.
- (j) Expedited Determination. The Liquidating Trustee may request an expedited determination of taxes of the Debtors or of the Liquidating Trust under Bankruptcy Code section 505(b) for all tax returns filed for, or on behalf of, the Debtors and the Liquidating Trust for all taxable periods through the dissolution of the Liquidating Trust.
- 2.10 <u>Conflicting Claims</u>. If the Liquidating Trustee becomes aware of any disagreement or conflicting Claims with respect to the Trust Assets, or is in good faith doubt as to any action that should be taken under this Agreement, the Liquidating Trustee may take any or all of the following actions as reasonably appropriate:
  - (i) to the extent of such disagreement or conflict, or to the extent deemed by the Liquidating Trustee necessary or appropriate in light of such disagreement or conflict, withhold or stop all further performance under this Agreement with respect to the matter of such dispute (except, in all cases, the safekeeping of the Trust Assets) until the Liquidating Trustee is reasonably satisfied that such disagreement or conflicting Claims have been fully resolved; or
  - (ii) file a suit in interpleader or in the nature of interpleader in the Bankruptcy Court (or any other court of competent jurisdiction) and obtain an order requiring all Persons involved to litigate in the Bankruptcy Court their respective Claims arising out of or in connection with this Agreement; or
  - (iii) file any other appropriate motion for relief in the Bankruptcy Court (or any other court of competent jurisdiction).
- 2.11 Records of Liquidating Trustee. The Liquidating Trustee shall maintain accurate records of receipts and disbursements and other activity of the Liquidating Trust, and duly authorized representatives of the Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee shall have reasonable access to the records of the Liquidating Trust. On or after 90 days from the Effective Date, the books and records maintained by the Liquidating Trustee, as well as any and all other books and records of the Debtors, may be disposed of by the Liquidating Trustee, without notice or a filing with the Bankruptcy Court, at such time as the Liquidating Trustee determines that the continued possession or maintenance of such books and records is no longer necessary for the benefit of the Liquidating Trust or its beneficiaries, or upon the termination of the Liquidating Trust, provided, however, that the Liquidating Trustee shall not dispose or abandon any books and records that are reasonably likely to pertain to pending litigation in which the Debtors or their current or former officers or directors are a party or that pertain to General Unsecured Claims without further order of the Bankruptcy Court.

# III RIGHTS, POWERS AND DUTIES OF BENEFICIARIES.

- 3.1 <u>Interests of Beneficiaries</u>. The Trust Beneficiaries shall have beneficial interests in the Trust Assets as provided in the Plan. The Trust Beneficiaries' proportionate interests in the Trust Assets as thus determined shall be not be transferable, except upon the death of the Trust Beneficiary or the operation of law.
- 3.2 <u>Interests Beneficial Only</u>. The ownership of a beneficial interest hereunder shall not entitle any Trust Beneficiary to any title in or to the Trust Assets as such (which title shall be vested in the Liquidating Trustee) or to any right to call for a partition or division of Trust Assets or to require an accounting.

#### IV AMENDMENT OF TRUST OR CHANGE IN TRUSTEE.

- 4.1 <u>Resignation of the Liquidating Trustee</u>. The Liquidating Trustee may resign by an instrument in writing signed by the Liquidating Trustee and filed with the Bankruptcy Court with notice to the Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee, provided that the Liquidating Trustee shall continue to serve as such after his resignation for thirty (30) days or, if longer, until the time when appointment of his successor shall become effective in accordance with Section 4.3 hereof, or as otherwise agreed with the Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee.
- 4.2 Removal of the Liquidating Trustee. The Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee may remove the Liquidating Trustee with or without cause at any time. Such removal shall be effective the (10) days after the Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee provides written notice to the Liquidating Trustee and the U.S. Trustee. Upon removal of the Liquidating Trustee by the Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee in accordance with this Section 4.2 other than for cause, the Liquidating Trustee shall be entitled to all compensation that has accrued through the effective date of termination but remains unpaid as of such date, which payment shall be made promptly from the Trust Expenses Reserve. For the purposes of this Agreement, "cause" shall mean (a) the willful and continued refusal by the Liquidating Trustee to perform his duties as set forth herein; (b) gross negligence, gross misconduct, fraud, embezzlement or theft; or (c) such other cause as the Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee shall in good faith determine.
- 4.3 Appointment of Successor Liquidating Trustee. In the event of the death, resignation, termination, incompetence or removal of the Liquidating Trustee, the Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee may appoint a successor Liquidating Trustee without the approval of the Bankruptcy Court, which the parties acknowledge shall nevertheless retain jurisdiction to resolve any disputes in connection with the service of the Liquidating Trustee or his successor. If the Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee fails to appoint a successor Liquidating Trustee within 30 days of the occurrence of a vacancy, any Trust Beneficiary, any Debtor still existing, or the outgoing Liquidating Trustee may petition the Bankruptcy Court for such appointment. Every successor Liquidating Trustee appointed hereunder shall execute, acknowledge and deliver to the Bankruptcy Court and to the predecessor Liquidating Trustee (if practicable) an instrument accepting such appointment and the terms and provisions of this Agreement, and thereupon such successor Liquidating Trustee, without any further act, deed or conveyance, shall become vested with all the rights, powers and duties of the retiring Liquidating Trustee.

- 4.4 <u>Continuity</u>. Unless otherwise ordered by the Bankruptcy Court, the death, resignation, incompetence or removal of the Liquidating Trustee shall not operate to terminate or to remove any existing agency created pursuant to the terms of this Agreement or invalidate any action theretofore taken by the Liquidating Trustee. In the event of the resignation or removal of the Liquidating Trustee, the Liquidating Trustee shall promptly execute and deliver such documents, instruments, final reports, and other writings as may be reasonably requested from time to time by the Bankruptcy Court, the Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee or the successor Liquidating Trustee.
- 4.5 <u>Amendment of Agreement</u>. This Agreement may be amended, modified, terminated, revoked or altered only upon (i) order of the Bankruptcy Court; or (ii) agreement of the Liquidating Trustee and the Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee.

#### V TERMINATION OF TRUST

The Liquidating Trustee shall be discharged and the Liquidating Trust shall be terminated, at such time as (i) all Disputed Claims have been resolved; (ii) all of the Trust Assets have been liquidated; (iii) all duties and obligations of the Liquidating Trustee under this Agreement have been fulfilled; (iv) all Distributions required under the Plan and this Agreement have been made; and (v) the Debtors' Chapter 11 Cases have been closed; provided, however, that in no event shall the Liquidating Trust be dissolved later than three (3) years from the Effective Date unless the Bankruptcy Court, upon motion within the six-month period prior to the third anniversary (or the end of any extension period approved by the Bankruptcy Court), determines that a fixed period extension not to exceed one (1) year is necessary to facilitate or complete the recovery and liquidation of the Liquidating Trust Assets.

#### VI RETENTION OF JURISDICTION

Subject to the following sentence, the Bankruptcy Court shall have exclusive jurisdiction over the Liquidating Trust, the Liquidating Trustee and the Trust Assets as provided in the Plan, including the determination of all controversies and disputes arising under or in connection with the Liquidating Trust or this Agreement. However, if the Bankruptcy Court abstains or declines to exercise such jurisdiction or is without jurisdiction under applicable law, any other court of competent jurisdiction may adjudicate any such matter. All Trust Beneficiaries consent to the jurisdiction of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas and the state courts sitting in Dallas, Texas over all disputes related to this Agreement.

#### VII MISCELLANEOUS

- 7.1 <u>Applicable Law.</u> The Liquidating Trust created by this Agreement shall be construed in accordance with and governed by the laws of the State of Texas without giving effect to principles of conflict of laws, but subject to any applicable federal law.
- 7.2 <u>Waiver</u>. No failure or delay of any party to exercise any right or remedy pursuant to this Agreement shall affect such right or remedy or constitute a waiver thereof.

- 7.3 <u>Relationship Created</u>. Nothing contained herein shall be construed to constitute any relationship created by this Agreement as an association, partnership or joint venture of any kind
- 7.4 <u>Interpretation</u>. Section and paragraph headings contained in this Agreement are for convenience of reference only and shall not affect the meaning or interpretation of any provision hereof.
- 7.5 <u>Savings Clause</u>. If any clause or provision of this Agreement shall for any reason be held invalid or unenforceable by the Bankruptcy Court, such invalidity or unenforceability shall not affect any other clause or provision hereof, but this Agreement shall be construed, insofar as reasonable to effectuate the purpose hereof, as if such invalid or unenforceable provision had never been contained herein.
- 7.6 Entire Agreement. This Agreement and the Plan constitute the entire agreement by and among the parties and there are no representations, warranties, covenants or obligations with respect to the subject matter hereof except as set forth herein or therein. This Agreement together with the Plan supersedes all prior and contemporaneous agreements, understandings, negotiations and discussions, written or oral, of the parties hereto, relating to such subject matter. Except as otherwise authorized by the Bankruptcy Court or specifically provided in this Agreement or in the Plan, nothing in this Agreement is intended or shall be construed to confer upon or to give any Person other than the parties hereto, the Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee, and the Trust Beneficiaries any rights or remedies under or by reason of this Agreement.
- 7.7 <u>Counterparts</u>. This Agreement may be executed by facsimile or electronic transmission and in counterparts, each of which when so executed and delivered shall be an original document, but all of which counterparts shall together constitute one and the same instrument.

# 7.8 <u>Notices</u>.

- (a) All notices, requests or other communications required or permitted to be made in accordance with this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be deemed given five Business Days after first-class mailing, one Business Day after sending by overnight courier, or on the first Business Day after facsimile or electronic transmission.
  - (i) if to the Liquidating Trustee:

Saccullo Business Consulting 27 Crimson King Drive Bear, DE 19701 Attn: Anthony Saccullo, Esq.

Tel.: 302-832-5595

(ii) if to the Debtors:

ALCO Stores, Inc.

c/o Deloitte CRG.
2200 Ross Ave., Suite 1600
Dallas, Texas 75201-6703
Attn.: Michael Juniper

with copies to:

DLA Piper LLP (US) 1251 Avenue of the Americas New York, New York 10020 Attn: Thomas R. Califano, Esq.

Tel.: 212-335-4762 Fax: 212-884-8562

-and-

DLA PIPER LLP (US) 1717 Main Street, Suite 4600 Dallas, Texas 75201 Attn: Vincent P. Slusher, Esq. Telephone: (214) 743-4500 Facsimile: (214) 743-4545

(iii) if to the Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee:

COOLEY LLP 1114 Avenue of the Americas New York, NY 10036-7798 Attn: Jay R. Indyke, Esq. Seth Van Aalten, Esq.

Tel: (212) 479-6000 Fax: (212) 479-6275

- (iv) if to any Trust Beneficiary, to such address as such Trust Beneficiary shall have furnished to the Debtors in writing prior to the Effective Date.
- (b) Any Person may change the address at which it is to receive notices under this Agreement by furnishing written notice to the Liquidating Trustee in the same manner as above.
  - 7.9 <u>Effective Date</u>. This Agreement shall become effective as of the Effective Date.
- 7.10 <u>Successors and Assigns</u>. This Agreement shall be binding upon each of the parties hereto and their respective successors and assigns and shall inure to the benefit of the parties, Committee, the Trust Beneficiaries and, subject to the provisions hereof, their respective successors and assigns.
- 7.11 <u>Conflict with the Plan</u>. In the event of any conflict between the terms of this Agreement and the Plan, the terms of the Plan shall govern.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned have caused this Agreement to be executed as of the day and year first above written.

ALCO STORES, INC. AND ALCO HOLDINGS, LLC
By:
Name:
Title:
ANTHONY SACULLO, ESQ., LIQUIDATING TRUSTEE OF ALCO LIQUIDATING TRUST
By:
Name: Anthony Saccullo
Title: Liquidating Trustee of ALCO Liquidating Trust
OFFICIAL COMMITTEE OF UNSECURED
CREDITORS OF ALCO STORES, INC., ET AL.
By:
Name: Jack Ezon
Title: Chairperson

### **SCHEDULE A**

# TERMS OF COMPENSATION AND REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES OF THE LIQUIDATING TRUSTEE

# 1. **COMPENSATION**

Beginning at the Effective Date (as defined in the Plan), the Liquidating Trustee shall be employed and compensated on a monthly basis at \$25,000 per month for the first two months following the Effective Date and \$10,00 per month thereafter.

#### 2. REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES

The Liquidating Trustee shall be entitled to reimbursement for documented actual and reasonable expenses incurred in performing his duties as the Liquidating Trustee, and may submit a report of quarterly expenses, if any, with each quarterly report provided to the Liquidating Trust Advisory Committee under the Liquidating Trust Agreement.