JOSEPH W. COTCHETT (36324) 1 MARK C. MOLUMPHY (168009) NANCI E. NISHIMURA (152621) SEAN E. PONIST (204712) GERALD S. OHN (217382) COTCHETT, PITRE & McCARTHY 840 Malcolm Road, Suite 200 APR 47 2008 Burlingame, California 94010 APR 1 7 2005 Telephone: (650) 697-6000 GORDON PARK-LI, Clerk 5 Fax: (650) 697-0577 6 CASE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE SET ARIEL PIERRE CALONNE (110268) CITY OF SAN BUENAVENTURA 501 Poli Street P.O. Box 99 SEP 1 8 2009 -9 AM Ventura, California 93002-0099 Telephone: (805) 654-7818 Fax: (805) 641-0253 DEPARTMENT 212 10 Attorneys for Plaintiff City of San Buenaventura 11 12 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA 13 IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO 14 CCC-.09-487492 15 CITY OF SAN BUENAVENTURA, CIVIL ACTION NO.: 16 **COMPLAINT FOR:** 17 Plaintiff, VS. Fraud and Deceit 18 KERRY KILLINGER, THOMAS CASEY, 2. Negligent Misrepresentation 19 STEPHEN ROTELLA 3. Breach of Fiduciary Duty and 20 RONALD CATHCART, DAVID SCHNEIDER, 4. Violations of Calif. Corp. Code § 25400 STEPHEN FRANK, 21 THOMAS LEPPERT et seq. PHILLIP MATTHEWS, MICHAEL MURPHY, JURY TRIAL DEMANDED WILLIAM REED, JR., 23 ORIN SMITH, **DELOITTE & TOUCHE, LLP,** 24 and DOES 1 through 20, 25 Defendants. 26 27 28 LAW OFFICES COTCHETT, Complaint McCarthy

PITRE &

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

^ <u> </u>			1,122 01 001,121,12
2			page
3	I.	INTRO	DDUCTION1
4	II.	<u>JURIS</u>	DICTION AND VENUE
5	III.	THE P	<u>PARTIES</u>
6		A.	<u>Plaintiff</u>
7		В.	<u>Defendants</u>
8			1. Officer Defendants
9			2. <u>Director Defendants</u>
10		C.	Auditor Defendant
11		D.	<u>Doe Defendants</u>
12		E.	Agents and Co-Actors
13		F.	Unnamed Participants
14	IV.	FACT	UAL ALLEGATIONS7
15		A.	The City And Its Investments
16			1. State Law Authority And Requirements
17			2. The Structure And Investment Policy Of The City
18		В.	Overview of WaMu's Lending Business
19		C.	2005-2007: WaMu Embarks On Risky Loan Program To Drive New Profits 12
20		D.	2007: In Midst Of Defendants' Reassurances To Market About WaMu's Financial
21			Condition And Risk Management Practices, The City Purchases Interest In WaMu Note
22		F.	The Central Role Of Deloitte
23	V.	CAUS	<u>ES OF ACTION</u> 48
24		FIRST	CAUSE OF ACTION (Froud and Desait)
25		SECO.	(Fraud and Deceit)
26		SECU.	ND CAUSE OF ACTION (Negligent Misrepresentation)50
27			
28			

LAW OFFICES COTCHETT, PITRE & MCCARTHY

Complaint

i

١		
1		THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION (Breach of Fiduciary Duty)
2		FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION
3		(Violation of California Corporations Code § 25400 et seq.)
4	VI.	PRAYER FOR RELIEF
5	VII.	DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL
6		
7		
8		
9		
10 11		
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		
26		
27		
28		
		Complaint

LAW OFFICES COTCHETT, PITRE & MCCARTHY

LAW OFFICES COTCHETT, PITRE & MCCARTHY Plaintiff City of San Buenaventura ("Plaintiff" or the "City") alleges the following based on the investigation conducted by the City and its counsel, a review and analysis of Washington Mutual, Inc.'s ("WaMu" or the "Company") filings with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"), news articles and other media reports, press releases, interviews, and other matters of record.

#### I. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>

- 1. Until its recent demise, Washington Mutual or "WaMu" was one of the largest savings and loans in the United States. In addition to typical banking activities, WaMu's home loan business was a large source of its reported business success. In 2006 and 2007, about 70% of WaMu's net interest income was generated by residential real estate loans and related products, much of it in California.
- 2. To help ensure the legitimacy and longevity of that business, WaMu and its senior officers the Individual Defendants herein assisted by its long-time auditor, Deloitte & Touche LLP, touted a number of risk management processes they were implementing and managing within the Company, including an active Risk Management Group, use of reliable home appraisals, extending home loans based on conservative loan-to-value ("LTV") ratios, and some of the highest underwriting standards in the industry to minimize the credit risk involved in lending sums to borrowers. WaMu also reassured investors that it was taking appropriate allowances for loan losses, based on highly developed statistical forecasting models to help it appropriately calculate the reported "Allowance" every quarter.
- 3. However, contrary to WaMu's disclosures and at the same time it was raising funds from unsuspecting investors such as the City WaMu senior management had secretly decided to dramatically increase the level of risk assumed by the Company without informing investors and abandoned recognized underwriting standards used to evaluate both "prime" home mortgages and "subprime" loans. As a result, WaMu's allowances were under reported by hundreds of millions of dollars.

ŒS

LAW OFFICES COTCHETT, PITRE & MCCARTHY 4. In 2008, WaMu finally revealed the full extent of its losses, acknowledging that its portfolio of supposedly high-quality home loans was tainted with substantially impaired assets. WaMu is now in default on coupon payments to the City. As a result, the City has suffered substantial losses.

### II. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 5. Plaintiff, the City of San Buenaventura, was incorporated by the California Legislature in 1866. The City invests its public funds pursuant to the California Government Code. The City's pooled funds are managed by the City's Treasurer on behalf of the City. The City was solicited to purchase its interest in a WaMu note in California and the purchase was consummated in California. The City held and continues to hold the note in its custodial account in California.
- 6. Each Defendant has sufficient contacts with California, is a resident citizen of California, has property in California, and/or has otherwise purposefully availed himself or herself of benefits from California so as to render the exercise of jurisdiction over each by the California courts consistent with traditional notions of fair play and substantial justice. Prior to its bankruptcy, WaMu conducted substantial business in California. Indeed, California was WaMu's largest source of business. WaMu maintained several offices in California, including several offices in San Francisco. Deloitte also conducted substantial business in California, and presently maintains several offices in California, including an office in San Francisco.
  - 7. The amount in controversy exceeds the jurisdictional minimum of this Court.
- 8. This action is not preempted by the federal Securities Litigation Uniform Standards Act of 1998 ("SLUSA"), as this action is <u>not</u> a class action and is brought by a single Plaintiff seeking damages. The claims are brought under California law, including California Corporations Code § 25400 *et seq.*, which prohibits knowing or intentionally false or misleading statements in connection with the sale of a security, and California common law.

4

5

8 9

7

10 11

12 13

14 15

16

17

18

19 20

21

2223

24

25

26

2728

LAW OFFICES COTCHETT, PITRE & MCCARTHY 9. Venue is proper in the City and City of San Francisco as many of the acts and transactions that constitute violations of law complained of herein, including WaMu's dissemination of untrue statements of material facts about the WaMu securities to the public investors.

### III. THE PARTIES

#### A. Plaintiff

- 10. Plaintiff is the City of San Buenaventura. The City is one of the oldest settlements on the Pacific Coast. It is the site of the San Buenaventura Mission founded in 1782, and incorporated as a town by the California Legislature in 1866. The City invests its public funds pursuant to the California Government Code. The City's investments are managed by the San Buenaventura City Treasurer on behalf of the City.
- 11. In reliance on Defendants' misrepresentations and omissions, as described below, the City purchased and held the WaMu note in California and suffered substantial losses.

#### B. <u>Defendants</u>

### 1. Officer Defendants

12. Defendant Kerry Killinger ("Killinger") served as the Company's Chief Executive Officer since 1990 and as a member of the Company's Board of Directors (the "Board") since 1988. Killinger also served as the Company's President from 1988 through 2004, and as Chairman of the Board from 1991 until June 30, 2008. Killinger served as a member of the Company's Executive Committee since its creation in 1990, and as Chair of the Corporate Development Committee since its creation in 1997. Killinger joined WaMu in 1982 and, until his appointment as President in 1988, he held numerous positions, including executive vice president; senior vice president for financial management, research, investor relations and corporate marketing; and member of a three-person Office of the President. From 2005 through 2007, Killinger received over \$33 million in total compensation, including at least \$7 million in bonus compensation.

LAW OFFICES COTCHETT, PITRE & MCCARTHY 13. Defendant <u>Thomas Casey</u> ("Casey") served as Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of WaMu since October 2002. Casey also served as a member of the Executive Committee since 2002, overseeing the Company's corporate finance, strategic planning and investor relations functions. From 2005 through 2007, Casey received over \$11 million in total compensation, including at least \$3 million in bonus compensation.

- 14. Defendant <u>Stephen Rotella</u> ("Rotella") served as WaMu's President and Chief Operating Officer since January of 2005. Rotella was responsible for overseeing the Company's retail banking, home loans, credit card, and commercial lines of business, as well as the Company's technology group and day-to-day administration. Rotella also served on the Executive Committee since joining the Company in 2005 and, from March 2005 to August 2005, served as the Acting Head of the Home Loans Group. From 2005 through 2007, Rotella received over \$29.7 million in total compensation, including at least \$6.9 million in bonus compensation.
- 15. Defendant Ronald Cathcart ("Cathcart") served as Executive Vice President and Chief Enterprise Risk Officer of WaMu from December 2005 until April 2008. Cathcart was responsible for overseeing the credit, market, operational, and compliance risk functions for the Company. Cathcart also served as a member of the Executive Committee from December 2005 to April 2008. During 2007, Cathcart received at least \$1.9 million in compensation.
- 16. Defendant <u>David Schneider</u> ("Schneider") served as Executive Vice

  President and President of Home Loans since August 2005. Schneider was responsible for
  overseeing all aspects of the Company's home lending operations, with responsibility for the
  group's overall business strategy and its production and servicing channels. Schneider also
  served as a member of the Executive Committee since August 2005. During 2005,
  Schneider received \$2.3 million in total compensation, including at least \$492,000 in bonus
  compensation.
- 17. Defendants Killinger, Casey, Cathcart, Rotella, and Schneider are referred to as the "Officer Defendants."

### 

# 

### 

# 

### 

### 

### 

### 

### 

### 

### 

### 

### 

### 

### 

### 

### 

### 

### 

## 

### 2. <u>Director Defendants</u>

- 18. Defendant <u>Stephen Frank</u> ("Frank") served as a director of the Company since 1997, and since July 1, 2008, as Chairman of the Board. While a director, Frank served on several committees, including the Audit Committee (1997-2008, Vice Chair 2001-2004, and Chair 2004-2008); the Finance Committee (2001-2008); the Human Resources Committee (2002-2008); and the Corporate Development Committee (2002-2008).
- 19. Defendant <u>Thomas Leppert</u> ("Leppert") served as a director of the Company since September 2005. While a director, Leppert served on several committees including the Audit Committee (2005-2008); the Governance Committee (2005-2008, Chair 2008-2008); and the Corporate Relations Committee (2005-2008, Chair 2007-2008).
- 20. Defendant <u>Phillip Matthews</u> ("Matthews") served as a director of the Company since 1998. While a director, Matthews served on several committees, including the Audit Committee (2001-2007); the Finance Committee (2001-2004); the Governance Committee (1998-2008); the Human Resources Committee (2004-2008); and the Corporate Development Committee (2006-2008).
- 21. Defendant <u>Michael Murphy</u> ("Murphy") served as a director of the Company since 1985. While a director, Murphy served on several committees, including, among others, the Audit Committee (2004-2008); the Finance Committee (2001-2008, Chair 2001-2004); and the Corporate Relations Committee (2000-2008).
- 22. Defendant William Reed, Jr. ("Reed") served as a director of the Company since 1970. While a director, Reed served on several committees, including the Audit Committee (1996-2008); the Finance Committee (2004-2008); and the Governance Committee (1996-2008, Chair from 1996-2008). Reed also served as a director for WaMu's subsidiary, Washington Mutual Bank.
- 23. Defendant Orin C. Smith ("Smith") served as a director of the Company since July 2005. While a director, Smith served on the Audit Committee (2005-2008), the Governance Committee (2005-2008), and the Finance Committee (Chair 2008).

24. Defendants Frank, Leppert, Mathews, Murphy, Reed, and Smith are collectively referred to herein as the "Director Defendants." The Officer Defendants and the Director Defendants are collectively referred to as the "Individual Defendants." The Individual Defendants, because of their senior positions at WaMu, were controlling persons of the Company and possessed the power and authority to control the contents of WaMu's reports to the SEC, press releases, and presentations to securities analysts, money and portfolio managers, institutional investors, and individual investors such as the City – *i.e.*, the market.

### C. Auditor Defendant

25. Defendant <u>Deloitte & Touche, LLP</u> ("Deloitte") is a public accounting firm with offices throughout the world, including in San Francisco, California. Deloitte served as WaMu's outside auditor for years and at all times relevant hereto. WaMu engaged Deloitte to audit its financial statements, as well as to provide a written report as to whether the internal controls were effective and whether the financial statements were fairly presented. WaMu also engaged Deloitte to perform reviews of its quarterly financial results. For its work, Deloitte earned tens of millions of dollars in annual fees, including an estimated \$15 million in 2007 alone.

#### D. Doe Defendants

- 26. Except as described herein, Plaintiff is ignorant of the true names of Defendants sued as Does 1 through 20 inclusive and, therefore, sues these Defendants by such fictitious names. Plaintiff will seek leave of the Court to amend this Complaint to allege their true names and capacities when they are ascertained.
- 27. Plaintiff alleges that each of these Doe Defendants is responsible in some manner for the acts and occurrences alleged herein, and that Plaintiff's damages were caused by such Doe Defendants.

⊕

LAW OFFICES COTCHETT, PITRE & MCCARTHY

### E. Agents and Co-Actors

- 28. At all relevant times, each Defendant was and is the agent of each of the remaining Defendants, and in doing the acts alleged herein, was acting within the course and scope of such agency. Each Defendant ratified and/or authorized the wrongful acts of each of the Defendants.
- 29. Defendants, and each of them, are individually sued as participants and as aiders and abettors in the improper acts, plans, schemes, and transactions, to induce Plaintiff to purchase and hold the securities that are the subject of this Complaint.
- 30. Defendants, and each of them, have participated as members of the fraud or acted with or in furtherance of it, or aided or assisted in carrying out its purposes alleged in this Complaint, and have performed acts and made statements in furtherance of the violations and conspiracy.

### F. <u>Unnamed Participants</u>

31. Numerous individuals and entities participated actively during the course of and in furtherance of the conspiracy and concealed such information from the public. There was a conspiracy and many acts were done in the course of and in furtherance of the conspiracy by statements, conduct, and intent to defraud. The individuals and entities acted in concert by joint ventures and by acting as agents for principals, in order to advance the objectives of the conspiracy. The acts were intended to promote the conspiratorial objectives.

### IV. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

#### A. The City And Its Investments

### 1. State Law Authority And Requirements

32. California Government Code Section 53630.1 states, "The Legislature hereby finds that the solvency and creditworthiness of each individual local agency can impact the solvency and creditworthiness of the state and other local agencies within the state and all of its political subdivisions, the Legislature hereby declares that the deposit and investment of public funds by local officials and local agencies is an issue of state wide concern." Based on this

12

15

14

16 17

18

19 20

21 22

23 24

25

26 27

28

OTCHETT. PITRE &

**ACCARTHY** 

policy, California Legislature enacted several statutes governing the investment of a city or county's surplus public funds, including the types and amounts of such investments. Cal. Govt. Code § 53600, et seq.

- 33. Pursuant to state law, the primary objectives in managing public funds, in order of priority, are to 1) safeguard the principal of the funds; 2) satisfy the liquidity needs of depositors; and 3) achieve a return on the funds. Cal. Govt. Code §§ 27000.5, 53600.6. Consistent with these objectives, state law places strict limitations on the instruments in which local agencies may invest, as well as the concentration of such investments. For example, treasury investments are limited, by statute, to conservative instruments such as U.S. Treasury obligations, highlyrated commercial paper, certificates of deposit, and the like.
- 34. State law also places restrictions upon a city's concentration of investments. Such restrictions depend on the instruments at issue, as well as the type of local entity making the purchase. For example, Government Code Section 53601, which applies specifically to local agencies, authorizes a city to invest up to 10% of fund proceeds into the commercial paper of a single issuer so long as the issuer has a rating of A-1/P-1/F-1. Section 53601 also allows up to 30% of a city's funds to be invested in "medium term notes," but only 20% of a city's funds to be invested in money market mutual funds..

#### 2. The Structure And Investment Policy Of The City

- 35. The City has invested its surplus public funds for many years. The funds are used to finance virtually all services provided by the City, including payroll and purchases.
- 36. The City's investments are governed by the City's Investment Policy, which was developed and adopted pursuant to Government Code Section 53600-53683. The Investment Policy sets forth the philosophy for investing the funds, the objectives, the allowable investment instruments, the maturity and average life of investments, and specific qualifications of the investments. The Policy sets forth controls relating to investment authority, reporting, auditing, accounting methods, withdrawal request and other related control matters. Finally, the Investment Policy sets forth the procedures to be followed in executing investment transactions.

1
1
1
1
1
1
1

	37.	In accordance with California law, the Treasurer of the City prepares the Policy			
which is reviewed by the Investment Review Committee and ultimately approved by the City					
Coun	cil.				
	20	Description of the Alex City's Investment Policy the reasonability for moleins			

- Pursuant to the City's Investment Policy, the responsibility for making investments resides with the Treasurer who supervises the investment program within the guidelines of the Policy and state law. The Investment Review Committee meets to evaluate general strategies and to monitor results and discuss the economic outlook, portfolio diversification, maturity structure and potential risks. An annual audit is also conducted of the portfolios, procedures, reports and operations.
- 39. The investment objectives of the City's Investment Policy are consistent with state law and can be summarized, in order of priority, as: (1) safety, (2) liquidity and (3) return on investments.
- 40. As a result of these statutory mandates, the City has a long history of maintaining high quality investment portfolios governed by a disciplined investment strategy of diversification and conservatively designed to achieve a reasonable balance of risk and a stable source of earnings.
- 41. Unfortunately, in reliance on Defendants' misrepresentations and omissions, described in more detail below, the City purchased a substantial interest in a WaMu note which is now worthless. The note was purchased on or about September 28, 2007, with a maturity date on June 15, 2011. The par amount of the note was \$5,000,000 with a 6.875% coupon. At the time, the note was rated A by DBRS, A2 by Moody's, A- by Fitch, and A- by Standard and Poors. The City made its decision to purchase the WaMu note in California and, at all times, held the note in its custodial account in California.

26

27

3 4

5

8

10

11 12

13 14

16

15

17 18

19

21

20

22 23

24 25

26 27

28

OTCHETT, PITRE & **1**CCARTHY

#### В. Overview of WaMu's Lending Business

- 42. Until its demise, Washington Mutual, Inc. ("WaMu") was one of the largest savings and loans in the United States. Headquartered in Seattle, Washington, WaMu had a particularly strong lending and fund raising presence in California. WaMu operated as a savings and loan holding company with banking subsidiaries and nonbanking subsidiaries. Its banking subsidiaries included, among others, Washington Mutual Bank, formerly known as Washington Mutual Bank FA, and Washington Mutual Preferred Funding LLC.
- 43. WaMu had four operating segments: the Home Loans Group, the Retail Banking Group, the Card Services Group and the Commercial Group. As set forth in the Company's Form 10-K for the year-ended December 31, 2006 (the "2006 Form 10-K"), the primary activities of the Home Loans Group include the origination and servicing of home loans, the fulfillment and servicing of home equity loans and lines of credit, and the managing the Company's capital market operations, which includes the buying and selling of all types of real estate secured loans in the secondary market.
- 44. Within WaMu's Home Loans Group, WaMu's subprime mortgage channel originated, purchased, and held for investment home loans and home equity loans issued to subprime borrowers. WaMu originated subprime loans through its subprime division (known for some time as "Long Beach Mortgage" ("LBM") and known thereafter as the Company's "specialty mortgage lending" channel) and also purchased loans from subprime lenders. WaMu's subprime channel was originally part of the Company's Commercial Group, but was moved to the Home Loans Group in 2006. As of December 31, 2006, WaMu's subprime mortgage channel loans held for investment totaled \$20.77 billion, of which \$4.40 billion were originated by LBM and \$16.37 billion were purchased from outside subprime lenders.
- 45. The primary activities of WaMu's Retail Banking Group included: (1) offering a comprehensive line of deposit and other retail banking products and services to consumer and small businesses; (2) holding both the Company's portfolio of home loans held for investment and the substantial majority of its portfolio of home equity loans and lines of credit (but not the

AW OFFICES COTCHETT, PITRE & Company's portfolio of mortgage loans originated or purchased through the subprime mortgage channel); (3) originating home equity loans and lines of credit; and (4) providing investment advisory and brokerage services, sales of annuities and other financial services.

- 46. In addition to its operating segments noted above, WaMu maintained a "Corporate Support/Treasury and Other" business segment which, among other things, managed the Company's: (1) interest rate risk, liquidity position, and capital; (2) enterprise-wide identification, measurement, monitoring, control, and reporting of credit, market, and operational risk; (3) community-lending and investment activities; (4) impact of changes in the unallocated allowance for loan losses; (5) net impact of fund transfer pricing for loan and deposit balances; and (6) transfers of loans from the Retail Banking Group to the Home Loans Group.
- 47. WaMu originated residential loans through its retail and wholesale lending operations, which were primarily issued through WaMu's Home Loans and Commercial Groups. Under the Company's underwriting standards, WaMu purportedly required documentation of the borrower's credit history and score, income, debt level, and other factors.
- 48. After originating home loans, WaMu either (a) retained the loans as investments in its "held for investment" portfolio, which generally were reflected as assets in the Company's public financial reports and in other information disseminated to the public; or (b) held such loans for sale, and, accordingly, securitized or sold off such loans to third parties in due course, primarily through the Capital Markets Division of WaMu's Home Loans Group ("WaMu Capital Corp.").
- 49. WaMu reported significant income from its home lending operations. With regard to its loans "held for investment," however, WaMu was also required to maintain and publicly report a reserve amount for probable losses related to such loans (for example, losses from WaMu borrowers defaulting on their obligations to make mortgage payments). WaMu referred to its loss reserve as its Allowance for Loan and Lease Losses (the "Allowance"). WaMu's Allowance was one of only five "earnings drivers" that the Company discussed each quarter, and was a critical metric for investors because, as the Company's 2006 Form 10-K

explained, "[t]he [Allowance] represents management's estimate of incurred credit losses inherent in the Company's loan and lease portfolios as of the balance sheet date." WaMu was required to periodically reassess and adjust its Allowance, or "provision," for any such loan and lease losses. Increases in the Allowance reduced WaMu's earnings because such charges are recorded as an expense. Thus, WaMu's reported Allowance was directly linked to net income and the Company's earnings per share.

50. WaMu repeatedly reassured investors about the quality of its loans to third-party purchasers of its residential loans, since it knew the materiality of such information. If purchasers determined that the Company had breached its representations and warranties, or if a borrower defaulted early in the term of the loan, the purchasers could hold WaMu accountable for losses by requiring WaMu to repurchase the loans. WaMu was also required to maintain an appropriate reserve for such losses.

### C. 2005-2007: WaMu Embarks On Risky Loan Program To Drive New Profits

- 51. In February 2005, WaMu publicly announced a five-year plan for the Company which called for "[t]ransforming the company's mortgage business and maintaining a leading national position in mortgage lending," while also "[m]aintaining risk management as a top priority."
- 52. The new plan was implemented by WaMu's senior management, many of whom held brand new positions at WaMu. For example, Defendant Rotella joined the Company as President and Chief Operating Officer in January 2005, and became the acting president of the Home Loans Group in March. In July 2005, Defendant Schneider was appointed as the President of the Home Loans Group. By the end of 2005, the Company also installed a new Chief Enterprise Risk Officer, Defendant Cathcart.
- 53. The Company began to promote riskier loan products to both prime borrowers (borrowers who appeared to be creditworthy) and subprime borrowers, while reducing the share of traditional, fixed rate loans it originated. The Company focused heavily on originating loan products, such as WaMu's "flagship" product, the Option Adjustable Rate Mortgage loan

W OFFICES OTCHETT,

PITRE &

McCarthy

("Option ARM"), and subprime loans that were "nonconforming," i.e., they did not meet the specifications required by the government-sponsored entities ("GSEs"), such as Freddie Mac or Fannie Mae. Because these nonconforming loans were riskier, WaMu could charge much higher interest rates and fees for their origination.

- 54. While WaMu acknowledged publicly that it had altered its loan origination mix in favor of generating more loans with higher profit margins, WaMu and the other Defendants did not reveal the full extent of WaMu's highly questionable and unlawful practices directed by the Individual Defendants to artificially fuel WaMu's growth targets.
- 55. Option ARMs made up the majority of WaMu's "prime" mortgage originations, as well as the majority of the loans in WaMu's "held for investment" portfolio of loans. Option ARM loans always made up more than fifty percent of WaMu's held for investment loan portfolio and, in the fourth quarter 2006, Option ARM loans comprised \$63.6 billion or 64% of WaMu's entire \$99.5 billion loan portfolio.
- 56. WaMu's Option ARM had a minimum payment option based on the interest rate charged during the introductory period, and was almost always significantly lower than the loan's fully-indexed payment rate. The fully-indexed rate was calculated using an index rate plus a margin. When the introductory or "teaser" period ended, typically after a period of several months, the contractual interest rate charged on the loan increased to the fully-indexed rate and adjusted monthly to reflect movements in the index. Moreover, if a WaMu Option ARM borrower continued to make only a minimum monthly payment after the introductory period ends, his or her payments often were not sufficient to cover the interest accrued on his or her loan, resulting in "negative amortization" of the Option ARM loan as unpaid interest is deferred and added to the loan's principal balance. WaMu "capped" the amount of negative amortization on its Option ARM loans from 100% to 125% of the original loan balance. So if a WaMu borrower reached the negative amortization cap (or at least every 60 months), the borrower's WaMu loan was subject to "recasting," where a new minimum monthly payment is calculated

that is sufficient to fully repay the principal balance of the loan, including any deferred interest, over the remainder of the loan term using the fully-indexed rate then in effect.

- 57. WaMu booked negative amortization amounts on its Option ARM loans as deferred interest earnings on its income statement, thereby reporting non-cash income created solely from a borrower's failure to pay full interest. Thus, WaMu could keep its Option ARM mortgages on the Company's books and record the deferred interest from them as income. The unpaid Option ARM principal balance, which was recorded by WaMu as non-cash income, rose from \$76 million in the third quarter 2005 to \$1.7 billion in the fourth quarter 2007.
- 58. The Company falsely represented that it was managing the Company's risk associated with its Option ARM products by ensuring compliance with appropriate underwriting standards, monitoring loan performance, and conducting risk modeling procedures. It was not. For example, although the Company claimed that it did not offer Option ARM loans to subprime borrowers, WaMu in fact issued Option ARM loans to borrowers with low credit scores generally considered subprime. Moreover, WaMu underwrote many of its Option ARM loans at the loan's introductory interest rate, rather than, as represented, at the loan's fully-indexed interest rate. In other words, WaMu often qualified its Option ARM borrowers based on their ability to pay temporary, very low "teaser" interest rates rather than the much higher interest rates that would be in place for the overwhelming majority of the Option ARM loan term.
- 59. WaMu also offered stated-income loans, which are mortgages in which the lender does not verify the borrower's income by examining their pay stubs, W-2s, bank statements, tax documents or other records. Instead, WaMu simply asked the borrower for his or her income without further confirmation. For this reason, stated-income loans are particularly risky. While initially intended for self-employed borrowers with good credit, WaMu extended them to subprime borrowers. Similarly, WaMu issued "no-doc" or "low-doc" loans, also referred to as "Alt-A" loans, which were loan products offered to borrowers that require little to no documentation from the borrower.

- 60. To drive business, the Officer Defendants established a system of financial rewards for originating risky loans, and imposed penalties on those who did not. WaMu loan production personnel were compensated based on loan volume without any regard to loan quality, and were paid even more for originating riskier loans, including Option ARM loans. Thus, WaMu's employees, targeted borrowers who were less able to afford the loan payments they would have to make.
- 61. In November 2005, Defendant Cathcart was hired to lead WaMu's Enterprise Risk Management. Killinger announced, "Ron has a proven track-record in developing and leading risk management organizations . . . . He is a seasoned professional with a deep understanding and familiarity with all facets of risk management." Cathcart replaced James Vanasek, who had been the Company' Chief Enterprise Risk Officer since 2004.
- 62. However, soon thereafter, WaMu secretly discontinued appropriate risk management practices. Even when WaMu's risk management teams identified critical problems with WaMu's business and accounting practices and brought those matters to the attention of WaMu's senior management, appropriate remedial actions were not taken.
- 63. For example, WaMu regularly compiled "Risk Reports" to verify that the Company as a whole was within guidelines ultimately established by WaMu's Board of Directors. These reports noted that Company was exceeding certain risk parameters, but were ignored.
- 64. WaMu's senior management also encouraged real estate appraisals to be manipulated so that loans could go through. Appraisers were put under intense pressure to "hit" higher appraisal values and, if they refused, were not included on "preferred" appraiser lists. As a result, WaMu originated loans that had artificially low (*i.e.*, favorable) loan-to-value ("LTV") ratios and loans that otherwise never would have been approved at all.
- 65. The practice greatly increased the risk to WaMu, and thus, to its noteholders, such as plaintiff. As explained in WaMu's 2006 Form 10-K: "Credit risk is the risk of loss arising from . . . the availability and quality of collateral." By misrepresenting the value of

underlying loan collateral through manipulating appraisals, WaMu was exposed to a substantial risk of loss from loans in WaMu's "held for investment" portfolio and to a substantial risk on loans originated by WaMu and "held for sale" (that is, sold to third parties or securitized), due to a contingent risk of loss upon the exercise of recourse upon default or the discovered violation of the representations and warranties, both of which would force WaMu to repurchase such loans.

- 66. Nonetheless, the Officer Defendants touted the Company's low LTV ratios concerning the Company's portfolios of loans to reassure investors that the Company was not taking on an inordinate amount of credit risk. According to Defendant Rotella, the Company's reported LTV ratios gave the Company a "measure of protection against losses going forward, because we do have a fair amount of cushion in those portfolios on average."
- 67. WaMu also under-reserved for loan losses based upon misstated collateral values. As stated in WaMu's 2006 Form 10-K, "[t]he estimation of the allowance [for loan and lease losses] is based on a variety of factors, including. . . the estimated value of underlying collateral."
- 68. Fair and accurate appraisals are of paramount importance to home borrowers because an appraisal that inflates the value of a borrower's home as too high can cause that borrower to take a loan in excess of the borrower's actual needs and ability to pay and that is also unjustified by the market value of the borrower's home. The result of an inflated appraisal, therefore, is significant additional risk for the borrower and the lender.
  - 69. Accordingly Federal regulations stress the importance of appraisals:

The soundness of a savings association's mortgage loans and real estate investments, and those of its service corporation(s), depends to a great extent upon the adequacy of the loan underwriting used to support these transactions. An appraisal standard is one of several critical components of a sound underwriting policy because appraisal reports contain estimates of the value of collateral held or assets owned.

12 C.F.R. § 564.8(a) (Emphasis in original.)

70. Independent appraisals were supposed to be used to determine reliable LTV ratios for loans originated by WaMu. As WaMu explained in its 2005 Amended Form 10-K, "[t]he loan-to-value ratio measures the ratio of the original loan amount to the appraised value of the collateral at origination." Thus, the LTV ratio is directly dependent on appraisal value, and any error or fraud related to an appraisal will necessarily affect the LTV ratio. Artificially increased appraisals lead to artificially *decreased* LTV ratios, which make a company's loan portfolio look less risky than it really is.

71. WaMu repeatedly acknowledged the key role of real estate appraisals to its home lending business. For example, in its Amended 2005 Form 10-K, WaMu emphasized the critical importance of appraisals and LTV in predicting loan performance (and therefore in measuring and controlling for risk), stating:

The Company's experience shows that debt-to-income ratios are less predictive of loan performance than credit scores and loan-to-value ratios, which the Company believes are the two key determinants in forecasting future loan performance.

The Company and the Officer Defendants made statements to the same effect in WaMu's 2006 and 2007 Form 10-Ks and in quarterly financial statements.

72. Similarly, in its Amended 2005 Form10-K, which included Deloitte's unqualified audit opinions on the Company's financial statements and management's assessment of internal controls, WaMu stated:

Home loans with loan-to-value ratios of greater than 80 percent at origination without private mortgage insurance or government guarantees expose the Company to greater credit risk than home loans with loan-to-value ratios of 80 percent or less at origination.

\* \* \*

Typically, borrowers requesting financing with loan-to-value ratios of greater than 80 percent without government guarantees are required to purchase private mortgage insurance ["PMI"] from a third party. In the event of default, the Company can recover losses from the private mortgage insurer. Alternatively, under certain loan programs, qualifying customers can elect to pay a higher interest rate to the Company in lieu of paying for private mortgage insurance. This higher interest rate is expected to compensate the Company for the incremental credit risk inherent in lending to borrowers without private mortgage insurance.

Therefore, lower LTV ratios significantly increase credit risk by allowing lenders to avoid purchasing PMI or paying a higher interest rate that would have resulted from a true, higher LTV ratio.

- 73. Prior to hiring outside firms to conduct appraisals on its behalf, WaMu maintained its own department of in-house staff appraisers. Recognizing the dependence of the "soundness of [WaMu's] mortgage loans and real estate investments" on WaMu's appraisals, WaMu's directors and officers supposedly maintained policies to ensure that the appraisals complied with professional standards.
- 74. In addition, on March 22, 2005, federal regulators including the Office of Thrift Supervision ("OTS"), which regulates WaMu published guidance directly applicable to WaMu on appraisals, entitled "Frequently Asked Questions on the Appraisal Regulations and the Interagency Statement on Independent Appraisal and Evaluation Functions" (the "2005 Interagency Appraisal Guidelines"). OTS also sent a letter to the Chief Executive Officers of the institutions that it regulated, including WaMu, enclosing the 2005 Interagency Appraisal Guidelines. The OTS Letter stated, in relevant part:

Savings associations' board of directors and management should review the [2005 Interagency Appraisal Guidelines] in conjunction with the OTS appraisal regulations, the Interagency Appraisal and Evaluation Guidelines (October 1994), and the Interagency Statement on Independent Appraisal and Evaluation Functions (October 2003). Internal policies and procedures should ensure that, among other considerations, the savings association's appraisal and evaluation function is safeguarded from internal influence and interference from the loan production staff.

Thus, WaMu and the Officer Defendants, among other WaMu senior executives and directors, knew and understood their obligations to ensure that WaMu was conducting fair and accurate appraisals.

75. Moreover, the Interagency Statement on Independent Appraisal and Evaluation Functions (October 2003) that is directly referenced in 2005 Interagency Appraisal Guidelines, in a section entitled "Appraisal and Evaluation Compliance Reviews," warns that:

An institution's appraisal and evaluation program must maintain effective internal controls that promote compliance with program standards and the agencies' appraisal regulations and Guidelines. Internal controls should, among other

LAW OFFICES
COTCHETT,
PITRE &

McCarthy

criteria, confirm that appraisals and evaluations are reviewed by qualified and adequately trained individuals who are not involved in the loan production processes.

- 76. Similarly, the Interagency Appraisal and Evaluation Guidelines (October 1994) that are specifically referenced in the 2005 OTS Cover Letter, state in a section titled "Independence of the Appraisal and Evaluation Function," that: "Because the appraisal and evaluation process is an integral component of the credit underwriting process, it should be isolated from influence by the institution's loan production process."
- 77. Despite these clear guidelines, WaMu utilized in-house appraisers to perform appraisals on properties for which WaMu originated loans. WaMu's in-house appraisal functions raised concern from federal regulators because, as apparent from the 2005 Interagency Appraisal Guidelines discussed above, banks and other lending institutions that both originated and issued appraisals for the same loans faced potential conflicts of interest concerning appraisal values.
- 78. This concern was particularly warranted with respect to WaMu, as the Officer Defendants' policies caused appraisal values generated by WaMu's in house appraisers to be artificially inflated. Starting in July 2006, WaMu outsourced the vast majority of its residential lending appraisal work to two purportedly-independent appraisal companies, eAppraiseIT and LSI, supposedly to protect the integrity of the appraisal process and eliminate the avenues that had previously existed to inflate appraisal values when conducted "in-house" at WaMu.
- 79. Thereafter, both eAppraiseIT or LSI received appraisal orders from WaMu, they were then supposed to select an independent appraiser, provide the necessary information to the appraiser, and report the impartial results to WaMu once the appraisal was complete. However, WaMu required that eAppraiseIT and LSI use only appraisers for WaMu loans from a preselected, list created by WaMu sales personnel. In return, eAppraiseIT performed at least 260,000 appraisals for WaMu at a cost of \$50 million.
- 80. WaMu, pressured appraisers to "hit" the higher appraisal values that WaMu and its loan production team desired, frequently requested reconsideration of value ("ROVs"), and refused to work with licensed appraisers who were not on the "preferred" appraiser lists.

LAW OFFICES COTCHETT, PITRE & MCCARTHY 81. The Officer Defendants also caused WaMu's underwriting standards to deteriorate. Underwriting is a critical component of every loan, because it acts as a form of quality control by which the loan originator is able to enforce its policies for approving or disapproving loans pursuant to its guidelines. WaMu did not disclose the specifics of its underwriting guidelines to the investing public, but instead treated such information as proprietary.

- 82. Nevertheless, the Officer Defendants regularly discussed WaMu's purportedly strong underwriting standards in public filings, earnings calls, and investor conferences. In particular, Defendants misrepresented that the Company's underwriting for its "prime" loans was strong and that the Company took great care to confirm the credit-worthiness of its Option ARM and subprime borrowers. For example, in the Company's 2005 and 2006 Forms 10-K, the Company stated: "[t]he Company seeks to mitigate the credit risk in this portfolio by ensuring compliance with underwriting standards on loans originated to subprime borrowers and by reunderwriting all purchased subprime loans." Similarly, in speaking of the Company's Option ARM portfolio, the Officer Defendants claimed that "The Company actively manages the credit risk inherent in its Option ARM portfolio primarily by ensuring compliance with its underwriting standards, monitoring loan performance and conducting risk modeling procedures." The Officer Defendants repeatedly stated that "[c]redit quality continues to surpass [the Officer Defendants'] expectations," that the Company maintained "disciplined credit underwriting."
- 83. WaMu also noted its supposed adherence to "Responsible Residential Lending Principles" that WaMu had formulated in 2001. These Principles, which WaMu distributed publicly through its website and other media, announced that WaMu "is committed to . . . setting the highest standards for responsible lending" that WaMu "only extend[s] credit to borrowers who have demonstrated to us the ability to repay the loan."
- 84. However, WaMu abandoned appropriate underwriting standards for its loans in favor of underwriting policies designed to allow WaMu to increase the volume of loans it could originate and inflate the Company's earnings.

**⊕** .w offices

TCHETT,

85. For example, the Officer Defendants consistently emphasized to the public that the Company's "prime" loans were of "high quality." At the Company's 2006 Investor Day held in September 2006, Defendant Cathcart claimed the Company had "maintained conservative lending standards" in the Company's prime and home equity portfolios that resulted in "high quality loans."

- 86. WaMu also regularly distinguished between its "prime" and "subprime" loans. For example, the Company reported its volumes of prime and subprime mortgage loans produced and sold, the volumes of prime and subprime loans held for investment, and the value of the Company's credit-sensitive retained (or "residual") interests in securitized prime and subprime loans. However, WaMu did not adhere to industry standards for classifying loans.
- 87. The most widely accepted measure of creditworthiness is the borrower's Fair Issac Credit Organization ("FICO") credit score. FICO scores are key determinants of whether a given borrower will be classified as "prime" or "subprime." Fitch Ratings termed FICO scores the "best single indicator" of mortgage default risk. In its 2005 Amended Form 10-K, WaMu said that credit scores are "a useful measure for assessing the credit quality of a borrower" and one of two key determinants "in forecasting future loan performance" (along with the loan's LTV ratio).
- 88. A FICO score which can range from 300 to 850, is calculated based on payment history, amounts owed to creditors, length of credit history, new credit sources, and types of credit used. Generally, the higher the FICO score, the better the borrower's credit and the lower the risk of default. According to Fair Isaac, approximately 27% of the U.S. population has a FICO score between 750 and 799, 27% has a score below 650, and 15% has a score below 600.
- 89. According to the Expanded Guidance for Subprime Lending Programs, issued jointly by the Officer of the Comptroller for Currency, the Federal Reserve Board, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and the Officer of Thrift Supervision on February 2, 2001, subprime borrowers generally have a FICO score of 660 or below. This Expanded Guidance was sent to CEOs such as WaMu CEO Defendant Killinger by both the FDIC and the OTS. The Expanded Guidance lists various credit characteristics of subprime borrowers, including:

payment delinquencies, charge-offs, judgments and bankruptcies. Such borrowers "may also display reduced repayment capacity as measured by credit scores, debt-to-income ratios, or other criteria that may encompass borrowers with incomplete credit histories." Subprime loans "have a higher risk of default than loans to prime borrowers." Accordingly, the Expanded Guidance states that loans should be classified as subprime in accordance with the guidelines and other applicable Agency guidelines.

- 90. Other recognized industry sources recognize similar thresholds. Standard & Poor's, one of the leading securities rating agencies, stated that it considered "prime borrowers to have a FICO credit score of 660 or above." Freddie Mac stated that "FICO scores are an effective tool in evaluating a Borrower's credit reputation . . .Freddie Mac has identified a strong correlation between Mortgage performance and FICO scores." For single-family homes, Freddie Mac views a FICO score of 660 or above as "likely to have an acceptable credit reputation." A FICO score of 620 to 660 is viewed as "an indication that the Borrower's willingness to repay and ability to manage obligations as agreed are uncertain." A FICO score of below 620 "should be viewed as a strong indication that the Borrower's credit reputation is not acceptable[.]"
- 91. Washington Mutual repeatedly stated that its prime loan borrowers had high FICO scores. For example, during WaMu's 2006 Investor Day Conference held on September 7, 2006, Defendant Cathcart stated that the home equity portfolio, primarily generated through retail banking channels, has an average FICO score at origination of 734. Defendant Cathcart also said that the Option ARM loan product, which is "not made available to subprime borrowers," had a weighted average FICO score of 708.
- 92. WaMu's claims of high FICO scores for its prime home equity portfolio and Option ARMs continued throughout 2006 and 2007. During the WaMu Brothers 10th Annual Financial Services Conference on May 16, 2007, Defendant Killinger reported that the prime residential portfolio, two-thirds of which is Option ARM loans, had an average FICO score of 708. The Option ARM customers reportedly had an average FICO score of 700.

AW OFFICES
COTCHETT,
PITRE &

McCarthy

93. Moreover, because WaMu's Option ARM loans were of particular concern to investors who wanted to make certain that the Company was not underwriting high-risk loans, Defendants regularly reassured investors of the strength of the Company's underwriting for Option ARM loans. In specifically addressing concerns about the Company's Option ARM portfolio, Defendant Cathcart stated during WaMu's 2006 Investor Day, "At origination, WaMu focuses on an effective underwriting process and borrower disclosures through our experienced sales force and broker channels."

- 94. Defendants also stated, that the Company underwrote its Option ARM loans to the fully-indexed rate, thus helping to prevent payment shock when the "teaser" rate ended. For example, during a January 18, 2006 earnings call Defendant Rotella emphasized that "an important fact is we underwrite every loan at the fully indexed rate. And so that's an important thing to note from a credit perspective." At a November 16, 2006 investors conference Defendant Killinger stated: "Our option ARM portfolio quality is also very good . . . . This quality reflects the option ARM underwriting which evaluates the borrower's ability to make the loans' fully amortizing payments, even though they are allowed to make a much lower initial payment. . . . Let me make one clear point. In our underwriting on option ARMs we underwrite to the fully indexed rate, we never underwrite to the teaser rate. And so, again, we don't see this as having a significant impact on the underwriting for us."
- 95. WaMu made loans to "subprime" borrowers through its subprime channel, LBM. In 2006, LBM was consolidated into the Home Loans Group, and Company's subprime lending (formerly LBM) was referred to in the Company's SEC filings as WaMu's "specialty mortgage finance operations." This reorganization did not modify WaMu's subprime lending practices.
- 96. Although WaMu did not define "subprime" borrowers, subprime loans are generally made to borrowers with lower FICO scores who could not normally obtain prime loans. Because subprime borrowers' credit scores indicated that they were less creditworthy than WaMu's "prime" borrowers, WaMu was able to charge much higher interest rates and fees on these subprime loans. However, WaMu also assured investors that although loans were being made to borrowers with low FICO scores, the Company's purportedly rigorous underwriting

17

18 19

20

21 22

24 25

23

26

27

28

W OFFICES COTCHETT, PITRE & McCarthy

standards guarded against excessive credit risk to the Company. For example, the Company's Amended 2005 Form 10-K announced that, "[t]he Company seeks to mitigate the credit risk in [WaMu's subprime] portfolio by ensuring compliance with underwriting standards on loans originated to subprime borrowers and by re-underwriting all purchased subprime loans." As set forth below. WaMu made a similar reassurance in its 2006 Form 10-K.

97. Furthermore, in July 2006, Defendant Rotella claimed that with regard to the Company's subprime lending, "we're being quite careful and making any changes we need to make in our credit policies as we move forward, but our sense of things are – things are in pretty good shape." At WaMu's 2006 Investor Day, in September 2006, Defendant Schneider claimed that:

On subprime, we have seen, as others have seen, some early payment default and repurchase activity. We saw most of that occur for us in late 105, Q4 '05, and first guarter of '06. We reserved for it appropriately and we have also, in second quarter of '06, tightened up a number of our underwriting guidelines, and you can see that in our numbers.

In fact, we think we've lost probably a percentage or so of market share over the past year as a result of tightening some of the credit guidelines in our subprime business. And we think that was the prudent thing to do and actually we think we're ahead of many of our competitors here.

- 98. The FDIC issued specific warnings regarding subprime lending to mortgage lenders. For example, in 1999, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, the Federal Reserve Board, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, and the OTS jointly issued the Interagency Guidance on Subprime Lending, which gave extensive guidance to subprime lenders regarding risk management and appropriate credit loss reserving. The guidance noted, "If the risks associated with this activity are not properly controlled, the agencies consider subprime lending a high risk activity that is unsafe and unsound."
- 99. However, as discussed above, the Individual Defendants failed to implement or enforce subprime lending guidelines, allowing WaMu employees to consummate more and more subprime loans.

- 100. As a result of the conduct described above, WaMu published financial statements and information that violated generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP") and failed to disclose the true financial condition of the Company.
- 101. For example, GAAP required WaMu and the Officer Defendants to establish a reserve for incurred credit losses resulting from borrowers defaulting on their obligations to make monthly mortgage payments or when it was probable that borrowers would do so. WaMu referred to this loss reserve as its Allowance for Loan and Lease Losses ("Allowance").
- 102. WaMu's Allowance was a critical metric for investors, for which management was directly responsible. As described in a December 2006 "Interagency Policy Statement on the Allowance for Loan and Lease Losses," issued jointly by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation ("FDIC"), the National Credit Union Administration, and the OTS (collectively, the "Agencies"):

The [Allowance] represents one of the most significant estimates in an institution's financial statements and regulatory reports. Therefore, each financial institution has a responsibility for ensuring that controls are in place to consistently determine the [Allowance] in accordance with GAAP, the institution's stated policies and procedures, and relevant supervisory guidance.

- 103. Indeed, the Company's 2006 Form 10-K explained, "[t]he [Allowance] represents management's estimate of incurred credit losses inherent in the Company's loan and lease portfolios as of the balance sheet date." Not surprisingly, the Officer Defendants consistently touted the soundness of WaMu's Allowance. For example, during a May 18, 2006 conference call, Defendant Killinger announced: "The next target is on the credit front. . . . Certainly we can come back in the Q&A if you want to talk more about credit; but credit for us is [in] excellent shape, and I feel very comfortable with where we are from management of that credit as well as the reserving."
- 104. The Allowance was reported on the Company's balance sheet as a reduction to assets. As loans were "charged off" as losses against the Allowance, the Allowance was reduced. In order to properly account for the worsening credit quality of its loan portfolio, WaMu was required under GAAP to record periodic provisions (which WaMu referred to as its "provisions

for loan and lease losses" or its "provision for loan losses") to increase its reserve to reflect its estimate of incurred or probable credit losses. Under GAAP, a provision for loan and lease losses is recorded as an expense, which reduces pre-tax earnings on a dollar-for-dollar basis. Thus, WaMu's reported Allowance was directly linked to net income and the Company's earnings per share.

- Rather, to conceal the negative impact that the deteriorating credit quality of the Company's home mortgage loans was having on the Company's financial condition, WaMu and the Officer Defendants, among other things, improperly accounted for the impairment of WaMu's loan portfolio by materially understating WaMu's provisioning for loan and lease losses, and thereby overstated WaMu's net income and earnings per share and understated WaMu's Allowance.
- 106. WaMu repeatedly represented that it accounted for its Allowance for its portfolio of home mortgage loans in accordance with GAAP, and, in particular, Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 5, "Accounting for Contingencies" ("SFAS 5"). SFAS 5, which was issued over thirty years ago, states:

An estimated loss for loss contingency . . . shall be accrued by a charge to income if *both* of the following conditions are met:

- a. Information available prior to issuance of the financial statements indicates that it is probable that an asset had been impaired or a liability had been incurred at the date of the financial statements. It is implicit in this condition that it must be probable that one or more future events will occur confirming the fact of the loss.
- b. The amount of loss can be reasonably estimated.
   (Emphasis in original.)
- 107. In the context of lending, Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 114, "Accounting By Creditors for Impairment of a Loan" ("SFAS 114"), which was issued in May 1993 over fifteen years ago provides a definition of "impairment" for individual loans under GAAP that is also instructive for pooled loans: "A loan is impaired when, based on current information and events, it is probable that a creditor will be unable to collect all amounts due according to the contractual terms of the loan agreement."

LAW OFFICES
COTCHETT,
PITRE &
MCCARTHY

108. Further, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants' (AICPA) Audit and Accounting Guide for Depository and Lending Institutions: Banks and Savings Institutions, Credit Unions, Finance Companies and Mortgage Companies (the "AICPA Guide"), which was originally issued in 2004 and updated in 2007, states: "if a faulty credit granting decision has been made or loan credit review procedures are inadequate or overly aggressive . . . the loss should be recognized at the date of loan origination."

109. These fundamental GAAP provisions underpin the "Expanded Guidance for Subprime Lending Programs," issued by the Agencies in 2001, which provided guidance specific to reserving for subprime loans:

The [Allowance] required for subprime loans should be sufficient to absorb at least all estimated credit losses on outstanding balances over the current operating cycle, typically 12 months. The board of directors and management are expected to ensure that the institution's process for determining an adequate level for the [Allowance] is based on a comprehensive and adequately documented analysis of all significant factors. The consideration of factors should include historical loss experience, ratio analysis, peer group analysis, and other quantitative analysis, as a basis for the reasonableness of the [Allowance]. To the extent that the historical net charge-off rate is used to estimate expected credit losses, it should be adjusted for changes in trends, conditions, and other relevant factors, including business volume, underwriting, risk selection, account management practices, and current economic or business conditions that may alter such experience. The allowance should represent a prudent, conservative estimate of losses that allows a reasonable margin for imprecision.

- SEC Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 102, "Selected Loan Loss Allowance Methodology and Documentation Issues" ("SAB 102"), which was issued in July 2001, states in pertinent part: "It is critical that loan loss allowance methodologies incorporate management's current judgments about the credit quality of the loan portfolio through a disciplined and consistently applied process." Therefore, pursuant to SAB 102, a loan loss allowance methodology generally should "[c]onsider all known relevant internal and external factors that may affect loan collectability . . . . [and] be based on current and reliable data[.]" The Officer Defendants failed to appropriately take into account these factors in provisioning for the Company's Allowance.
- 111. The SEC further states in SAB 102 that "[f]or many entities engaged in lending activities, the allowance and provision for loan losses are significant elements of the financial

statements. Therefore, the staff believes it is appropriate for an entity's management to review, on a periodic basis, its methodology for determining its allowance for loan losses." Thus, in addition to evaluating loans for impairment at origination, lenders are expected to reevaluate their reserving methodology and loan portfolios for impairment every financial reporting period.

- 112. WaMu, Deloitte, and the Officer Defendants concealed their material deviations from these accounting standards and falsely described the Company's Allowance. WaMu represented that it was following appropriate accounting rules and that, among other things, the Company's management reviewed its models for loan losses for reasonableness, and, on a quarterly basis, updated the assumptions used in those models. In addition, according to the Company's 2006 Form 10-K, WaMu supposedly evaluated for impairment its loans held in portfolio on a collective basis "using statistical forecasting models that estimate default and loss outcomes based on an evaluation of past performance of loans in the Company's portfolio and other factors as well as industry historical loan loss data." Based on this statistical modeling, the Company represented, WaMu allocated a certain percentage of its provision for loan losses to its different loan product categories (e.g., home loans, credit card loans, commercial loans).
- an unallocated allowance, which, according to WaMu, was supposedly based upon several factors, including "national and local economic trends and conditions, industry conditions within portfolio segments, recent loan portfolio performance, loan growth and concentrations, changes in underwriting criteria, and the regulatory and public policy environment." Defendant Killinger stated in a December 13, 2006 conference call with investors:

When we do our reserving, I will tell you that we factor in the existing book of business; what the current delinquencies are; we make assumptions about housing price declines and the economy; and we develop models about what we think is going to happen to delinquencies, ultimate charge-offs. And those things are, clearly, rising right now. And then we back that into what's the appropriate amount of embedded losses in that portfolio, and that determines our reserving. We do that every quarter.

114. According to the Company's 2006 Form 10-K, the Finance Committee of the Company's Board of Directors oversaw the Company's credit risk management activities, including Defendants Frank and Reed. Further, according to the Company's 2006 Form 10-K,

the Company's Enterprise Risk Management Committee, which was chaired by the Company's Chief Enterprise Risk Officer, Defendant Cathcart, was responsible for "oversee[ing] the identification, measurement, monitoring, control and reporting of credit, market and operational risks." The Company's 2006 Form 10-K explained that:

Enterprise Risk Management works with the lines of business to establish appropriate policies, standards and limits designed to maintain risk exposures within the Company's risk tolerance. Significant risk management policies approved by the relevant management committees are also reviewed and approved by the Board, Audit, and Finance Committees.

Thus these Officer and Director Defendants knew that the Company had become more aggressive in its credit provisioning, and were failing to accurately report WaMu's Allowance.

- Company's control nor was it unforeseeable to management. Indeed, WaMu increasingly underwrote high-risk loans with loose underwriting standards and inflated appraisals, which it knew were impaired, while under-provisioning its Allowance. For example, the Company increased the proportion of Option ARM loans in its home loan portfolio without adjusting its Allowance appropriately. Indeed, the Company encouraged its salespeople and mortgage brokers with whom the Company worked to sell ever greater numbers of Option ARM loans through bonus incentives. Option ARM loans dominated WaMu's single-family residential portfolio.
- 116. WaMu recorded significant amounts of negative amortization (*i.e.*, the difference between the payment made and the full payment to pay all interest due) from Option ARMs as deferred revenue (*i.e.*, interest income) and increased the balance due on negatively-amortizing loans.
- 117. The reported increase in interest income from negative amortization presented the impression that the Company's results were strong. In fact, the enormous accumulated negative amortization on these loans was a red flag to the Officer Defendants that those loans were trending towards delinquency and default.
- 118. Similarly, the Officer Defendants did not adequately consider the Company's "levels of and trends in delinquencies and impaired loans" in provisioning for loan losses. The quality of the Company's loan portfolio was steadily worsening over time, illustrated by the

LAW OFFICES COTCHETT, PITRE & MCCARTHY rising number of "nonaccrual loans," or home mortgage loans that were over ninety days past due on payments. Instead of increasing the Allowance in compliance with GAAP to properly account for the deteriorating quality of WaMu's loan portfolio, the Officer Defendants actually decreased the Allowance relative to the number of nonaccrual loans that were accumulating in the Company's portfolio, after taking into account one-time events, such as Hurricane Katrina-related costs.

# D. <u>2007: In Midst Of Defendants' Reassurances To Market About WaMu's Financial Condition And Risk Management Practices, The City Purchases Interest In WaMu Note</u>

results for the quarter and year-ended December 31, 2006. WaMu reported that, for the fourth quarter 2006, the Company had a net income of \$1.06 billion, compared with net income of \$865 million in the fourth quarter of 2005. For the full year 2006, the Company's reported net income was \$3.56 billion, compared with a net income of \$3.43 billion, in 2005. WaMu also reported that its provision for loan and lease losses for the fourth quarter 2006 was \$344 million, \$95 million of which the Company attributed to the Company's on balance sheet credit card receivables. For the full-year 2006, the Company reported a loan loss provision of \$816 million, an increase of \$500 million over 2005, which the Company stated in its earnings release was "primarily due to the addition of the company's credit card business acquired Oct. 1, 2005."

Defendant Killinger stated that the Company for the future. Those decisive actions have positioned us well to deliver stronger operating performance in 2007."

120. That same day, the Company held an earnings call with investors to discuss the fourth quarter and year-end 2006 results. While the Officer Defendants noted the difficult environment for mortgage lenders, Defendant Killinger emphasized the Company's efforts to prepare for such times:

As you'll recall I have been pretty pessimistic on the housing market for the last couple of years, and really felt that the market was overheated and was likely to be slowing at some point, and so both the combination of that and also from a strategic standpoint we've been diversifying our mix of businesses . . . We tightened underwriting, we decreased production volume by about half in the

LAW OFFICES
COTCHETT,
PITRE &
MCCARTHY

subprime area taking ourselves down from the sixth largest originator all the way down to ten, and we decreased the subprime portfolio you were asking about by about \$2.4 billion over the last twelve months, and I think the important thing is that as the housing market has softened as expected, what I have really seen is a continued very good performance out of most parts of the portfolio.

Defendant Killinger reassured investors that, although the Company had stated its intention to focus on higher-margin mortgage products in the past, it had promised to do so only in a "prudent manner." Defendant Killinger also announced that the Board was raising the quarterly dividend for the 46th consecutive quarter. The stock price of the Company's common shares rose from a close of \$44.06 on January 16 to \$45.31 on January 26.

- Financial Services Conference and told investors that the credit quality of the Company's loan portfolio "continue[d] to be in very good shape." Killinger noted the "high quality" of the Company's prime loans, the "very good" quality of the Option ARM portfolio, and the "very high quality" of the home equity portfolio. Killinger then attributed the high credit quality of these loans to the low LTV ratios associated with those loan portfolios. Killinger underscored the Company's "rigorous adher[ence] to [its] minimum FICO threshold" in its subprime portfolio and, in response to a question regarding the Company's charge-offs in its subprime portfolio, downplayed the importance of the charge-offs, explaining that the Company's subprime portfolio had been decreasing in size and claiming that "when you're not originating new ones at the same level and are letting the portfolio run up, you get a natural increase in [charge offs]."
- 122. On March 1, 2007, WaMu filed with the SEC a Form 10-K for the fourth quarter and fiscal year ended December 31, 2006 (the "2006 Form 10-K"). The 2006 Form 10-K was signed by Defendants Killinger, Casey, Frank, Leppert, Reed, Smith, Matthews, and Murphy, amongst others, and included Deloitte's unqualified audit opinion on the Company's financial statements and management's assessment of internal controls. Specifically, Deloitte stated:

In our opinion, such consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company as of December 31, 2006 and 2005, and the results of operations and of its cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2006, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We have also

audited, in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB, the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2006... and our report dated February 26, 2007, expressed an unqualified opinion on management's assessment of the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting and an unqualified opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

The Company reiterated the financial results set forth in the January 17, 2007 press release and earnings call, and also reported a full-year provision for loan and lease of \$816 million in 2006, compared with a provision of \$316 million in 2005. According to the 2006 Form 10-K, this higher provision was "substantially the result of the Company's entry into credit card lending that resulted from the Providian acquisition and the ensuing growth in the on-balance sheet credit card portfolio, which accelerated during the fourth quarter of 2006." WaMu also touted the Company's underwriting standards for its Option ARM portfolio, claiming that, "[t]he Company actively manages the credit risk inherent in its Option ARM portfolio primarily by ensuring compliance with its underwriting standards, monitoring loan performance and conducting risk modeling procedures." The Company announced improved credit risk management practices, stating: "In 2006, the Finance Committee of the Board of Directors approved a set of credit risk concentration limits. These limits facilitate a more rigorous and quantitative framework that better enables the credit risk management function to proactively manage credit risk." Defendants Killinger and Casey signed certifications attesting to the accuracy of the information contained in the 2006 Form 10-K, and the Form 10-K contained a statement confirming the adequacy of the Company's internal controls over financial reporting.

123. Analysts and bond rating agencies alike responded favorably to the Company's and Deloitte's statements regarding the Company's financial condition, credit quality and internal controls. Although all analysts noted the difficult mortgage environment in which the Company operated, the Officer Defendants' reassurances that the Company had prepared for these negative events by tightening underwriting practices were well-received. For example, Erin Swanson of Morningstar observed that "all is not smooth sailing" given the "softening" in the industry; however, "[t]hat said, we think WaMu's management team anticipated this slowdown and began taking steps to position its balance sheet for tougher times. During 2006, WaMu sold all of its

25

26

27

5

9

10 11

12 13

14

15 16

17

18 19

20

22

21

24

23

25

26 27

27

28

LAW OFFICES COTCHETT, PITRE & MCCARTHY subprime mortgage originations, tightened its underwriting, and reduced its subprime portfolio by \$2.4 billion." Swanson raised the fair value estimate of WaMu by \$5 a share. The Company's stock price also rose from a close of \$44.06 on January 16, 2007, to close at \$45.35 on January 24, 2007, an increase of almost 3%.

124. On April 17, 2007, WaMu issued a press release announcing its financial results for the quarter ending March 31, 2007, including net income of \$784 million, and total assets of \$319.9 billion. In the press release, Defendant Killinger praised the Company's performance, stating, "[o]verall, we delivered solid results in the first quarter despite the challenging interest rate environment and slowing housing market." The Company also reported that its provision for loan and lease losses was \$234 million, down from to \$344 million in the fourth quarter 2006. The Company noted that although the subprime portfolio had deteriorated, the prime portfolio had improved. During an earnings call that same day, Defendant Killinger stated:

"While we're not at our full earnings potential, I am pleased with the solid results delivered by our team, despite a quarter that was challenged by a number of environmental factors. We had an inverted yield curve, and slowing housing markets and unprecedented deterioration in the subprime mortgage business. . . . In home loans, which felt the brunt of the environmental challenges during the quarter, we were encouraged by improved performance in our prime lending business. . . . reflecting these results and the company's strong financial position, the Board once again increased the quarterly cash dividend, for the 47th consecutive quarter, by \$0.01, to \$0.55 cents per share. . . . [The Company is] seeing encouraging signs with the improvement in the prime business that we saw in the first quarter, and with the steps that we've taken into the subprime area of increasing pricing, improving underwriting, that we are starting to see that show up in the way of early signs of credit on the 2007 production looks much better than '06, so that's encouraging.... I would view the first quarter of having been profitable for our prime part of the business. It was offset[,] more than offset[,] by the losses in the subprime area, and as the subprime area comes back to more of a normalcy, I think that we can certainly expect the home loan unit to get back to profitability and the current expectation for us is later in the year, rather than getting specific on one quarter or the other."

Similarly, Defendant Casey again highlighted the improved standards supposedly imposed on the Company's subprime channel, stating "With regard to pricing and underwriting standards in the subprime area, as Kerry mentioned, we've been working on this for quite some time. We've reduced our volume significantly and in the first quarter, we have significantly increased our pricing and decreased our risk profile that we're willing to underwrite to, and so we think all those factors taken together will make this business a little more profitable. We are being

**⊕**

LAW OFFICES COTCHETT, PITRE & MCCARTHY selective with our underwriting." Defendant Rotella stated: "we have absolutely no plans to shut down our subprime channel. We have, as you've heard, since the beginning of last year been tightening credit in that part of our business. You heard the volume numbers were down 51% year on year and volume and we feel pretty good about the credit box we're playing in right now, but we're cautious as the market goes through this rationalization."

125. On May 10, 2007, the Company filed with the SEC a Form 10-Q for the period ending March 31, 2007, which was signed by Defendant Casey (the "First Quarter 2007 Form 10-Q"). The First Quarter 2007 Form 10-Q repeated the financial results set forth in the Company's April 17, 2007 press release and earnings conference call, and also stated that "[t]he Company's financial reporting and accounting policies conform to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ('GAAP')." Defendants Killinger and Casey signed certifications attesting to the accuracy of the information contained in the First Quarter 2007 Form 10-Q. Additionally, the First Quarter 2007 Form 10-Q contained a statement confirming the adequacy of the Company's internal controls over financial reporting. The First Quarter 2007 Form 10-Q again reiterated the Company's stated belief that "loan-to-value ratios are one of the two key determinants in determining future loan performance." In response, the Company's stock price rose from a close of \$40.73 on April 16, 2007, to close at \$42.77 on April 20, 2007, an increase of 5%.

126. On July 18, 2007, WaMu issued a press release announcing its financial results for the quarter ending June 30, 2007, reporting that, for the second quarter 2007, the Company had net income of \$830 million, and total assets of \$312.2 billion. Defendant Killinger praised the performance, stating, "We delivered record growth in our retail banking, credit card and commercials businesses during the second quarter. Our Home Loans' results improved from the first quarter and we are targeting a return to profitability by the end of the year." The Company also reported that its provision for loan and lease losses was \$372 million, up from \$234 million in the second quarter 2007. The Company noted that the performance of the Company's home loans portfolio had improved over the second quarter, stating that "Home Loans shows improvement in a difficult environment," and "Prime business continues to improve."

8

9

10

11 12 13

14 15

16 17

18

19

20

21 22

23

24 25

26

27

28

AW OFFICES COTCHETT, PITRE & McCarthy

That same day, the Company held an earnings call and Defendant Killinger announced, "We also saw improvement in the performance of our home loans group, despite continued pressure from the challenging rate environment and ongoing weakness in the subprime mortgage market as well as continued erosion in the housing market." Defendant Casey stated, "While we anticipate that we will see higher [nonperforming assets] across all of our home loan portfolios, we expect losses in the prime loans to be much lower due to the lower LTVs and high FICO profile of our prime portfolio." Defendant Killinger touted the Company's role in the industry with regard to underwriting standards, stating:

From my point of view, I think too much money, and some would say just irrational money, did flood the mortgage market, particularly in the subprime area over the last two years, and I think this caused underwriting standards to decline, credit spreads to narrow, volumes to surge, and now not unexpectedly delinquencies and losses to sore. This was a real concern of ours, and where we took a lot of defensive actions beginning about two years ago, like tightening underwriting, selling off our '04 and '05 residuals, delayed our plans to grow the subprime portfolio, . . . . I think now what we're seeing is, some underwriting discipline starting to return, credit spreads are widening, and marginal players are leaving the industry. And I that think this gives us an opportunity to gradually increase our loan portfolios, with much improved risk adjusted returns. So I think - I do think we're watching the subprime area very carefully. We think the industry has a lot more to go in terms of tightening underwriting to be appropriate for today's underwriting environment. That's why I mentioned the initiatives that we have taken to help lead the industry to what we think is much more prudent and appropriate underwriting standards at this point in the cycle. In assuming we start to see credit quality improve because of these underwriting initiatives, and if we see credit spreads widen and good opportunities to take assets in our portfolio, we would like to start accelerating the – the growth of our balance sheet again.

127. On August 9, 2007, the Company filed with the SEC a Form 10-O for the period ending June 30, 2007, which was signed by Defendant Casey (the "Second Quarter 2007) Form I0-Q"). The Second Quarter 2007 Form 10-Q repeated the financial results set forth in the Company's July 18, 2007 press release and earnings conference call and stated that "[t]he Company's financial reporting and accounting policies conform to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ('GAAP')." Defendants Killinger and Casey signed certifications attesting to the accuracy of the information contained in the Second Quarter 2007 Form 10-Q. Additionally, the Second Quarter 2007 Form 10-Q contained a statement confirming the adequacy of the Company's internal controls over financial reporting.

128.

25 26

27

28

24

21 22 23

home loans lending guidelines." Defendant Killinger also touted the Company's low LTV ratios in its home loan portfolio and the "attractive" returns seen on Option ARM loans and other adjustable rate mortgages, noting that "the credit quality in these loans is good." However, Killinger revealed that, while he was not updating the Company's guidance, the Company anticipated that the provision for loan losses for 2007 "could be approximately \$500 million greater" than the full year guidance the Company provided in July 2007 (\$1.5 billion to \$1.7 billion). Defendant Killinger attributed this to a "near perfect storm" in housing conditions and rising interest rates. Killinger reassured investors that WaMu was taking "proactive steps" and that general conditions were to blame for the Company's anticipated heightened provision for loan and lease losses. In response, WaMu's stock price rose from a closing price of \$34.74 per share on September 10, 2007 to a closing price of \$38.32 per share on September 19, 2007. On or about September 28, 2007, in reliance on Defendants' misrepresentations 129. and omissions, the City purchased a substantial interest in a WaMu note, with a maturity date on June 15, 2011. The par amount of the note was \$5,000,000.00 with a 6.875% coupon and a purchase price of 103.700. At the time of purchase, the note was rated A by DBRS, A2 by Moody's, A- by Fitch, and A- by Standard and Poors. The City made its decision to purchase the WaMu note in California and, at all times, held the note in its custodial account in California. 130. On October 5, 2007, the Company issued a press release entitled "Washington Mutual Q3 Net Income Impacted by Market and Credit Environments," including the Company's

On September 10, 2007, Defendants Killinger and Casey attended the WaMu

third quarter 2007 results. WaMu disclosed that the Company's net income for the quarter would

decline by approximately 75% from the same quarter during the prior year due to "a weakening

housing market and disruptions in the secondary market." WaMu also said the Company's loan

"ongoing weakness in the housing market, primarily as it affects subprime and home equity

loss provision for the third quarter was expected to increase to approximately \$975 million due to

17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |

loans, as well as growth in the company's loan portfolio." Nonetheless, Killinger reassured investors about the Company's financial position, explaining that WaMu expected improved results the following quarter: "While we're disappointed with our anticipated third quarter results, we look forward to an improved fourth quarter as we continue to see good operating performance in our Retail Banking, Card Services and Commercial Group businesses." Based on Killinger's assurances, WaMu's stock price rose from \$35.06 per share on October 5, 2007 to \$35.61 per share on October 8, 2007. Similarly, WaMu's note prices continued to climb. The purchase price of the City's note reached a high of 105.341 on October 24, 2007.

- 131. On November 9, 2007, the Company filed with the SEC a Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 2007 (the "Third Quarter 2007 Form 10-Q"), which was signed by Defendant Casey and included certifications by Defendants Killinger and Casey. The Third Quarter 2007 Form 10-Q repeated the financial results set forth in the Company's October 17, 2007 press release, including that the Company's provision for loan and lease losses was \$967 million for the quarter. The Third Quarter 2007 Form 10-Q continued to conceal the Company's improper lending, and accounting practices and deficient risk management. It also failed to disclose the true extent of the Company's loss exposure.
- 132. On January 17, 2008, after the close of the market, the Company announced its earnings for the quarter and year ended December 31, 2007, as well as a dividend of \$0.15 per share. In an analyst conference call, Defendants Killinger, Casey and Rotella again blamed the Company's financial performance on the "turmoil" and "unprecedented challenges in the mortgage and credit markets," and not the Company's improper lending and accounting practices and deficient risk management. Defendants continued to conceal the full magnitude of the Company's loss exposure and the full size of the Company's loan loss provision that was yet to be recorded.
- 133. On February 29, 2008, the Company filed with the SEC its Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007, which was signed by, among others, Defendants Killinger and Casey, and included certifications by Defendants Killinger and Casey. On May 22, 2008, the Company filed with the SEC its Form 10-K/A for the year ended December 31, 2007

Cotchett, Pitre & McCarthy (collectively, the "2007 Form 10-K"). The 2007 Form 10-K repeated the financial results set forth in the Company's January 17 press release, and continued to conceal the Company's improper lending, and accounting practices and deficient risk management practices as well as the true extent of the Company's loss exposure.

- 134. On March 14, 2008, Moody's downgraded the Company's senior unsecured debt rating from Baa2 to Baa3, one level above junk status. In lowering its rating, Moody's explained that it "believes that remaining lifetime losses on [WaMu's residential mortgage loan] portfolio will be higher than previously expected" and that "WaMu's required provisioning is likely to be greater than \$12 billion and that full year 2008 net losses could eliminate the company's approximately \$6 billion capital cushion above regulatory well capitalized minimums." Moody's also placed a negative outlook on all WaMu entities.
- 135. On April 7, 2008, private equity firm TPG reportedly was close to a deal to invest \$5 billion in WaMu in order for WaMu's to alleviate its pressing capital requirements. After the close of the market on April 7, additional reports circulated that WaMu was exiting its wholesale lending business.
- 136. On April 8, 2008, the Company announced its first quarter 2008 results, including a net loss of \$1.1 billion. The quarterly dividend was reduced from \$0.15 to \$0.01. The Company also disclosed that the loan loss provision increased to \$3.5 billion, almost double what the Company stated it would be on December 10, 2007. The Company also stated that it was closing all 186 of its stand-alone home loan offices nationwide and eliminating approximately 3,000 jobs as part of the closings. The Company also announced that it would raise \$7 billion in capital through a direct sale of equity securities to an investment vehicle managed by TPG Capital.
- 137. On April 11, 2008, Goldman Sachs issued a report, recommending that its clients short-sell WaMu stock because it estimated that WaMu has "\$17 to \$23 billion of embedded losses in its current book of business" and forecasted "a "\$14b provision charge in 2008." Goldman Sachs further estimated that WaMu may lose \$3.30 per share in 2008.

- 138. On April 16, 2008, Chris Brendler of Stifel Nicolaus issued a report and questioned the Company's ability to return to profitability, observing, "as [management] struggles to right the sinking ship, we are increasingly questioning the value of [WaMu]'s remaining franchise. The home loan business is broken, the loan portfolio is a disaster. . . ."
- 139. On April 29, 2008, WaMu announced that Defendant Cathcart had left the Company.
- 140. On May 12, 2008, WaMu the filed with the SEC its Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2008 (the "First Quarter 2008 Form 10-Q"), which was signed by Defendants and Casey and included certifications by Defendants Killinger and Casey. The First Quarter 2008 Form 10-Q repeated the financial results set forth in the Company's April 8, 2008 press release. The First Quarter 2008 Form 10-Q continued to conceal the Company's improper lending and, accounting practices and deficient risk management as well as the true extent of the Company's loss exposure.
- 141. On June 2, 2008, WaMu announced that, effective July 1, 2008, the Company was stripping Defendant Killinger of his title of Chairman of the Board, and that Director Defendant Stephen Frank would replace him in the position of Chairman.
- 142. On June 9, 2008, UBS Investment Research published a detailed analyst report on WaMu, concluding, that cumulative losses on WaMu's mortgage portfolio will likely total close to \$21.7 billion through 2011, between 12.5 to 44% greater than the loss guidance of \$12 to \$19 billion that the Company provided to the market in April 2008. Moreover, with respect to its \$21.7 billion loss estimate, UBS observed that it might still be too low, stating: "The attributes of WM's remaining loan portfolio and broader economic weakening mean our bias is that losses could be worse than our projection." This report also estimated that WaMu would record \$24.2-\$24.7 billion in incremental loan loss provisions between now and 2010.
- 143. After the close of the market on July 14, 2008, WaMu issued a press release, claiming that the Company's was sufficiently capitalized and had excess liquidity of more than \$40 billion. As a result of this press release, the market price of WaMu's stock rebounded slightly, rising to \$5.92 per share in the days following this announcement.

19

18

2021

22

24

23

25

2627

28

OFFICES

PITRE &

144. Yet, just ten days later, after the markets closed on July 22, 2008, WaMu announced its second quarter 2008 financial results, revealing that the Company suffered a net loss of \$3.3 billion, more than 65% greater than the Company's first quarter 2008 net loss of \$1.14 billion, driven by a significant increase in its loan loss reserves. The Company further announced that it increased its loan loss reserves by \$3.74 billion to \$8.46 billion and that it took a \$5.9 billion loan loss provision in the quarter, an increase of 40% from the \$3.5 billion provision that the Company recorded in the first quarter 2008. The Company explained: "approximately one third of the second quarter provision for loan losses related to significant changes in key assumptions the company used to estimate incurred losses in its loan portfolio." Specifically, the Company shortened the time period used to evaluate defaults for its prime mortgage portfolio to one year from three years "to reflect the evolving risk profile of the loan portfolio and adjusted its severity assumptions for all single family mortgages to reflect the continuing decline in home prices." In addition, WaMu announced that its unpaid mortgages, foreclosed homes and other nonperforming assets continued to increase during the second quarter.

145. That same day, WaMu held a conference call to discuss the Company's second quarter 2008 financial results. During the call, Killinger and Casey reviewed the results set forth in the Company's press release. They also explained that, in 2008, the Company's Option ARM loans experienced the fastest rise in delinquency rates and that they expected "other prime loans, which are mostly 5 and 7 year hybrids, to follow Option ARMs closely." According to John McMurray, WaMu's new Chief Enterprise Risk Officer, home equity loans and subprime mortgages had experienced high delinquency rates during the late 2006 to late 2007 time period.

146. The market reacted swiftly to this news, driving down the stock price 20% from a closing price of \$5.82 per share on July 22, 2008 to a closing price of \$4.65 per share on July 23, 2008. Dominion Bond Rating Service Limited and Standard & Poor's downgraded WaMu's bond ratings. Moody's placed WaMu and its bank subsidiary on review for a downgrade to junk status. Piper Jaffray downgraded WaMu to "Sell" and Merrill Lynch cut the Company's rating to "Underperform."

LAW OFFICES
COTCHETT,
PITRE &
MCCARTHY

147. On September 15, 2008, WaMu received another credit rating agency downgrade. From that date through September 24, 2008, customers withdrew \$16.7 billion in deposits.

- 148. On September 25, 2008, the OTS seized Washington Mutual Bank from WaMu and placed it into the receivership of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC). The FDIC sold the banking subsidiaries (minus unsecured debt or equity claims) to JPMorgan Chase for \$1.9 billion, which reopened the bank the next day.
- 149. On September 26, 2008, WaMu filed for bankruptcy. Washington Mutual Bank's closure and receivership is the largest bank failure in American financial history. Before the receivership action, it was the sixth-largest bank in the United States. According to WaMu 2007 Annual Report, the holding company held assets valued at \$327.9 billion.
- 150. The City, and the thousands of residents it includes, have been left in the disastrous wake. The City's note is now in default.

#### F. The Central Role Of Deloitte

- 151. Deloitte served as WaMu's outside auditor for years, including throughout the relevant period. WaMu retained Deloitte to conduct quarterly reviews of its interim financial results and to conduct the annual audit of the Company's fiscal results, including for fiscal years ending in 2005 and 2006. As the "independent" auditor, Deloitte was responsible for conducting audits on WaMu's financial statements and issuing audit reports, knowing that they would be used and relied upon by prospective and existing investors of WaMu, as well as analysts, in evaluating the purchase and holding of WaMu securities. Indeed, the reports were specifically addressed to WaMu's stockholders. Thus, the City was an intended beneficiary of Deloitte's audit reports.
- 152. By virtue of its long history with WaMu, Deloitte was intimately familiar with WaMu's business model, its employees, its products, and its increasing exposure by virtue of its loan practices. Moreover, in the course of its work, including its audit planning procedures for the audits, Deloitte reviewed WaMu's internal controls, paying specific attention to loan practices, real estate loan valuations and risk exposure. Deloitte audited large transactions and received from WaMu numerous materials concerning those transactions. Deloitte participated in

LAW OFFICES COTCHETT, PITRE &

McCarthy

drafting and reviewing WaMu's quarterly press releases, which announced WaMu's performance, financial condition, asset valuations and revenues. Deloitte reviewed drafts of WaMu's filings with the SEC prior to filing. Deloitte also attended and made presentations at Board of Director and Committee meetings, where it discussed the results of its examination of WaMu's financial statements.

- 153. With respect to its audit work, Deloitte provided "clean" audit opinions included in WaMu's Form 10-K for 2005, 2006 and 2007, confirming that Deloitte had conducted its audit in accordance with GAAS and that based on its review, WaMu's financial statements fairly presented the Company's financial position for fiscal years 2005, 2006 and 2007, in accordance with GAAP.
- 154. As noted above, these clean audit reports were critical to WaMu's ability to continue raising money from its debt offerings investments. Deloitte had unique access to the underlying information used to prepare the Company's financial statements, which was not available to the public, and was well aware that WaMu was differentiating itself from its competitors.
- 155. Deloitte was also well aware that investors, like the City, were relying on it to investigate and confirm that WaMu's financial condition was accurately reported. Deloitte promoted itself as one of the foremost accounting firms in the world, with special experience in real estate and sophistication in accounting for complex capital markets. Deloitte also promoted its multi-disciplinary business to address the particular risks for audit clients engaged in real estate, combining the skills of audit, tax, advisory and valuation professionals.
- 156. Similarly, Deloitte recognized that prospective and existing investors in WaMu, like the City, were the intended beneficiaries of its work.
- 157. Deloitte's knew that the entire point of an audit is to protect the Company's *investors*, who do not have access to inside information. This is consistent with the United States Supreme Court's pronouncement relating to the special "public watchdog" role of an accountant in assuring the accuracy of financial statement:

By certifying the public reports that collectively depict a corporation's financial status, the independent auditor assumes a public responsibility transcending any employment relationship with the client. The independent public accountant performing this special function owes ultimate allegiance to the corporation's creditors and stockholders, as well as the investing public. This "public watchdog" function demands that the accountant maintain total independence from the client at all times and requires complete fidelity to the public trust. To insulate from disclosure a certified public accountant's interpretations of the client's financial statements would be to ignore the significance of the accountant's role as a disinterested analyst charges with public obligations.

- U.S. v. Arthur Young & Co. (1984) 465 U.S. 805, 817-18 (emphasis added); accord Bily v. Arthur Young & Co. (1992) 3 Cal.4th 370, 383-84; National Medical Transp. Network v. Deloitte & Touche (1998) 62 Cal.App.4th 412, 428-29.
- 158. Deloitte was also well aware of the particular audit risks at WaMu, given the bank's extensive real estate-related assets and reliance on loan revenues. A basic principle of financial accounting standards requires not only accurate financial statements, but also the recording of loan losses. Thus, Deloitte recognized the risk of nonpayment, especially of subprime loans. Deloitte also recognized the audit risk created by WaMu's exposure to even a minor downturn in the market, and the fact that others in the market had decided to take recognize large losses on similar assets.
- 159. In addition, Deloitte recognized that WaMu's management had a built-in incentive to inflate WaMu's financial condition and the value of its assets, given the Company's compensation structure. Indeed, the Officer Defendants stood to receive bonuses and other rewards under the Company's compensation plans, directly tied to short-term benchmarks.
- 160. However, contrary to its public statements and its professional duties to WaMu's investors, Deloitte failed to design or perform its audit in a manner to account for these audit risks, and therefore was unable to provide unqualified opinions regarding WaMu's financial statements.
- 161. The entire purpose of an audit is to obtain an opinion that the financial statements fairly present, in all material respects, the financial position of the company in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States ("GAAP"). These principles are further clarified by Statements on Auditing Standards ("SAS") that are referred to with an "AU"

number. The auditor has the affirmative duty to plan and perform the audit to obtain *reasonable* assurance that the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether caused by error or fraud. AU 110.02.

- 162. To obtain such reasonable assurance, the independent auditor has to perform specific procedures called for by GAAS and, after performing such procedures, determine if anything came to his or her attention that would lead them to believe that the financial statements were not fairly presented in accordance with GAAP. AU 722.09. Indeed, the audit process requires professional skepticism in order to properly test management's representations so that the auditor actually has a reasonable basis on which to form an opinion regarding the financial statements. AU 333.02. The audit opinion is valuable precisely because the auditor is supposedly conducting an independent and skeptical examination of the information provided by management.
- 163. Thus, the auditor must consider both audit risk and materiality in (1) planning the audit and designing audit procedures, and (2) in evaluating the results of the audit in relation to the financial statements as a whole. AU 312.12. The auditor must plan the audit to obtain reasonable assurance of detecting material misstatements that it believes could be large enough, individually or in the aggregate, to be quantitatively material to the financial statements. AU 312.20.
- 164. Deloitte failed to adhere to these basic accounting principles. As a result, its audit reports misrepresented the true financial condition of WaMu and misrepresented that it had conducted its audits in compliance with professional standards of care. In performing its audit work for WaMu, Deloitte agreed and had a duty to perform such work in conformity with GAAP, as well as the standard of care established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountant ("AICPA"), including the GAAS' Ten (10) Professional Standards of Care:

#### General Standards

- 1. The audit must be performed by a person or persons having adequate technical training and proficiency as an auditor.
- 2. In all matters relating to the assignment, an independence in mental attitude is to be maintained by the auditor or auditors.

3. Due professional care is to be exercised in the planning and performance of the audit and the preparation of the report.

#### Standards of Field Work

- 4. The work is to be adequately planned and assistants, if any, are to be properly supervised.
- 5. A sufficient understanding of internal controls is to be obtained to plan the audit and to determine the nature, timing, and extent of tests to be performed.
- 6. Sufficient competent evidential matter is to be obtained through inspection, observation, inquiries, and confirmations to afford a reasonable basis for an opinion regarding the financial statements under audit.

#### Standards of Reporting

- 7. The report shall state whether the financial statements are presented in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles.
- 8. The report shall identify those circumstances in which such principles have not been consistently observed in the current period in relation to the preceding period.
- 9. Informative disclosures in the financial statements are to be regarded as reasonably adequate unless otherwise stated in the report.
- 10. The report shall either contain an expression of opinion regarding the financial statements, taken as a whole, or an assertion to the effect that an opinion cannot be expressed. When an overall opinion cannot be expressed, the reasons therefor should be stated. In all cases where an auditor's name is associated with financial statements, the report should contain a clear-cut indication of the character of the auditor's work, if any, and the degree of responsibility the auditor is taking.
- disregarded the true financial condition and exposure of WaMu, the value of WaMu' loan "assets," the true credit risks, and WaMu's deteriorating financial condition, which contradicted the unqualified audit reports on WaMu's financial statements meant to be distributed to the market. Deloitte's reports used by WaMu to promote its securities to the market were issued in clear violation of professional standards and fiduciary duties.
- 166. Based upon its annual audit and quarterly reviews, Deloitte also knew or should have known about the inadequate internal control structure. Indeed, Deloitte discussed with WaMu's management, including the Board and Committees, responsibility for establishing and maintaining adequate internal controls for WaMu and for ensuring that the Company's financial statements were based on accurate financial information, including that WaMu:



- (a) make and keep books, records, and accounts, which, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the issuer; and
- (b) devise and maintain a system of internal accounting controls sufficient to provide reasonable assurances that
  - (i) transactions are executed in accordance with management's general or specific authorization;
  - (ii) transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP.

Nonetheless, Deloitte certified WaMu's financial statements, knowing that WaMu's internal controls were inadequate.

- 167. The misstatements of WaMu's quarterly and annual financial statements were material and in violation of GAAP. Deloitte breached its professional responsibilities and acted in violation of GAAP and GAAS in its review of the above-specified quarterly financials and audits of the annual financial statements of WaMu.
- 168. Deloitte violated GAAS General Standard No. 3, which requires the auditor to exercise due professional care in the performance of the audit and preparation of the audit report.
- 169. Deloitte violated GAAS Reporting Standard No. 1, which requires the audit report to state whether the financial statements are presented in accordance with GAAP. Deloitte's audit opinion falsely represented that WaMu's financial statements complied with GAAP. For example, WaMu and the other Defendants failed to comply with FAS 157, which required that financial instruments and other inventory positions must be reported at fair value.
- 170. Deloitte violated GAAS Field Standard No. 1, and the standards set forth in AU sections 310, 320, 327, and others, by failing to adequately plan its audit and properly supervise the work of assistants so as to establish and carry out procedures reasonably designed to search for and detect the existence of errors and irregularities which would have a material effect upon the financial statements.
- 171. Deloitte violated AU section 316, which requires the auditor to plan and perform its examination of the financial statements with professional skepticism. Section 316 begins with the statement that: "the auditor has a responsibility to plan and perform the audit to obtain

∕ OFFICES

TTRE &

reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether caused by error or fraud." AU §316.01. In WaMu's case, there were numerous audit red flags and risk factors that alerted Deloitte to the potential of misstatements.

172. Deloitte failed to expand its audit procedures and perform effective audit testing to obtain more reliable, persuasive audit evidence because of the above-described significant risk factors and audit red flags. As section 316 states, "[t]he nature of audit procedures may need to be changed to obtain evidence that is more reliable or to obtain additional corroborative information. For example, more evidential matter may be needed from independent sources outside the entity." Deloitte failed to obtain adequate confirmations and/or otherwise communicate directly with affiliates of WaMu regarding the true value and exposure from WaMu's loan practices and failed to fully understand the relationships between the parties, despite knowledge of risk factors and audit red flags that required action on Deloitte's part. Section 316.27, which discusses the need to exercise professional skepticism in response to the risk of material misstatement, directs: (a) increased sensitivity in the selection of the nature and extent of documentation to be examined in support of material transactions, and (b) increased recognition of the need to corroborate management explanations or representations concerning materials matters.

- 173. Deloitte violated AU section 722, which requires the auditor to ensure that the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors is aware of, and responds appropriately to, any irregularities that the auditor discovers as part of a review of interim financial information to be filed with a regulatory agency, such as the SEC.
- 174. Deloitte violated AU section 722.18, which states: "If, in performing a review of interim financial information, the accountant becomes aware of information that leads him or her to question whether the interim financial information to be reported conforms with generally accepted accounting principles, the accountant should make additional inquiries or employ other procedures he or she considers appropriate to provide the limited assurance for a review engagement." In view of all the previously described risk factors and audit red flags at WaMu,

Deloitte should have made additional inquiries, including further communications with customers and other related parties, as described above.

175. By giving of the unqualified audit opinions for the WaMu financial statements for fiscal years 2005, 2006 and 2007, Deloitte certified that its audits of WaMu's books and records were done in accordance with GAAP and GAAS. They were not. Thus, Deloitte's statements were materially misleading.

#### V. <u>CAUSES OF ACTION</u>

#### FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

#### (Fraud and Deceit)

- 176. Plaintiff incorporates and realleges each of the foregoing paragraphs, as though fully set forth herein and further alleges as follows.
- 177. Defendants, and each of them, made material representations and omissions to Plaintiff which were false and misleading, including those contained in press releases, public statements, financial statements, SEC filings, registration statements, and other disclosures made by Defendants, described above.
- millions of dollars in each quarter, which had a dollar-for-dollar impact on the Company's reported pre-tax income. The effect on net income would be reduced by the Company's effective tax rate. As a result of Defendants' manipulation of the Company's Allowance, WaMu reported artificially inflated net income. WaMu should have increased its reserves during the to take into account the lower credit quality of its home loan portfolio. Defendants also concealed the inadequacy of WaMu's internal controls by falsely representing to investors that the Company's internal controls over financial reporting were effective. Defendants Killinger and Casey each repeatedly and falsely certified the design, operation and effectiveness of WaMu's internal controls in the Company's annual and quarterly financial statements. However, the Company's purported control environment failed to ensure that the financial statements issued were reliable or in compliance with applicable laws. Rather, Defendants focused on increasing loan volume origination without regard to the quality of such loans in an effort to reach aggressive market

share goals without taking the steps required under GAAP and SEC guidelines to account properly for their activities. In addition, Deloitte issued unqualified audit reports on WaMu's financial statements, which they knew and intended would be read and relied upon by prospective and existing investors in WaMu notes and securities, like the City, and which were in fact read and relied upon by the City in making its investment decisions.

- 179. When Defendants, and each of them, made the representations and failed to disclose and suppressed information they had a duty to disclose, as set forth hereinbefore, Defendants had knowledge of the falsity of their statements and representations and knew that they were failing to disclose material facts which they had a duty to disclose.
- 180. Defendants made the misrepresentations and omitted the material facts with the intent to defraud Plaintiff and to induce Plaintiff to purchase and hold the WaMu note.
- 181. At the time these misrepresentations were made and the material facts not disclosed, and at the time that Plaintiff took the actions herein alleged, Plaintiff was ignorant of the true facts. If Plaintiff had known the true facts, it would not have invested in or continued to hold the WaMu note, and would have divested of it immediately.
- 182. Plaintiff reasonably relied on these representations, including Deloitte's unqualified audit reports, in investing in and continuing to hold WaMu securities and its reliance was justified since the Defendants had exclusive knowledge of the true facts.
- 183. Defendants knew that a fraud was occurring in the representations about WaMu. Notwithstanding their knowledge of this improper and unlawful conduct, these Defendants, and each of them, engaged in conduct, hereinbefore described which rendered substantial assistance to, encouraged and/or aided and abetted the fraud.
- 184. With knowledge of the unlawful purpose of the fraud, Defendants, and each of them, entered into an agreement to accomplish the aforesaid scheme, and by their actions took steps to further that scheme.
- 185. As a direct and proximate result of the wrongful conduct of each of the Defendants, Plaintiff has suffered and will continue to suffer economic losses and other general and specific damages, all in an amount to be determined according to proof.

# 7 8

6

## 9 10

## 11

12

# 13 14

# 15

# 17

16

18 19

20

21 22

23

24

25 26

27

28

LAW OFFICES
COTCHETT,
PITRE &

186. The aforementioned acts of Defendants, and each of them, were done maliciously, oppressively, and with intent to defraud, and Plaintiff is entitled to punitive and exemplary damages in an amount to be shown according to proof at the time of trial.

#### SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

#### (Negligent Misrepresentation)

- 187. Plaintiff incorporates and realleges each of the foregoing paragraphs, as though fully set forth herein and further alleges as follows.
- 188. Defendants, and each of them, negligently made material representations to Plaintiff which were false and misleading, including those contained in press releases, public statements, SEC filings, financial statements, registration statements, and other disclosures made by Defendants, described above.
- 189. As described above, Defendants understated the Company's Allowance by millions of dollars in each quarter, which had a dollar-for-dollar impact on the Company's reported pre-tax income. The effect on net income would be reduced by the Company's effective tax rate. As a result of Defendants' manipulation of the Company's Allowance, WaMu reported artificially inflated net income. WaMu should have increased its reserves during the to take into account the lower credit quality of its home loan portfolio. Defendants also misrepresented the adequacy of WaMu's internal controls by falsely representing to investors that the Company's internal controls over financial reporting were effective. Defendants Killinger and Casey each repeatedly and falsely certified the design, operation and effectiveness of WaMu's internal controls in the Company's annual and quarterly financial statements. However, the Company's purported control environment failed to ensure that the financial statements issued were reliable or in compliance with applicable laws. Rather, Defendants focused on increasing loan volume origination without regard to the quality of such loans in an effort to reach aggressive market share goals without taking the steps required under GAAP and SEC guidelines to account properly for their activities. In addition, Deloitte issued unqualified audit reports on WaMu's financial statements, which it knew and intended would be read and relied upon by prospective

and existing investors in WaMu notes and securities, like the City, and which were in fact read and relied upon by the City in making its investment decisions.

- 190. When Defendants, and each of them, made the representations, as set forth hereinbefore, Defendants had no reasonable ground for believing them to be true. Defendants made positive assertions in a manner not warranted by the information in their possession. Defendants made these assertions to induce the reliance of Plaintiff and to induce Plaintiff to purchase and hold the WaMu note.
- 191. At the time these misrepresentations were made and the material facts not disclosed, and at the time that Plaintiff took the actions herein alleged, Plaintiff was ignorant of the true facts. If Plaintiff had known the true facts, it would not have invested in or continued to hold the WaMu note, and would have divested of it immediately.
- 192. Plaintiff reasonably relied on these representations, including Deloitte's unqualified audit reports, in investing in and continuing to hold the WaMu note and its reliance was justified.
- 193. Defendants, and each of them, engaged in conduct, hereinbefore described which rendered substantial assistance to, encouraged and/or aided and abetted the others' conduct.
- 194. With knowledge of the unlawful purpose of the fraud, Defendants, and each of them, entered into an agreement to accomplish the aforesaid scheme, and by their actions took steps to further that scheme.
- 195. As a direct and proximate result of the wrongful conduct of each of the Defendants, Plaintiff has suffered and will continue to suffer economic losses and other general and specific damages, all in an amount to be determined according to proof.

## 

# 

# 

# 

## 

# 

## 

## 

# 

## 

# 

#### 

# 

## 

## 

## 

## 

# 

# LAW OFFICES COTCHETT, PITRE & MCCARTHY

#### THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

#### (Breach of Fiduciary Duty)

- 196. Plaintiff incorporates and realleges each of the foregoing paragraphs, as though fully set forth herein and further alleges as follows.
- 197. By virtue of Plaintiff's ownership of the note that is the subject of this Complaint, the Individual Defendants, and each of them, as officers and directors of WaMu, owed fiduciary duties of the highest good faith, integrity and fair dealing to Plaintiff as a holder of the note. The Individual Defendants, and each of them, further owed fiduciary obligations to Plaintiff as they sought to induce, and did induce Plaintiff to purchase and hold the note, knowing of the City's particular circumstances.
- 198. The Individual Defendants and each of them, had insider knowledge of adverse non-public information regarding the securities as alleged above. The Individual Defendants knowingly and intentionally concealed this adverse non-public information from the Plaintiff.
- 199. The Individual Defendants, and each of them, breached and violated their fiduciary obligations to Plaintiff, to the detriment of Plaintiff, by failing to disclose all material information known to them at the time that Plaintiff purchased and held the note, and by making the above-mentioned misrepresentations to induce Plaintiff to purchase and hold the note or to take other actions.
- 200. As set forth above, the Defendants knew that WaMu was engaged in fraudulent conduct, and that the Individual Defendants, and each of them, were breaching their fiduciary duties to WaMu's note holders and investors. Notwithstanding their knowledge of the improper and unlawful conduct, the Defendants, and each of them, engaged in conduct, hereinbefore described which rendered substantial assistance to, encouraged and/or aided and abetted the breach of fiduciary duty.
- 201. With knowledge of the unlawful purpose of the conduct of WaMu, and the other Defendants, the Defendants, and each of them, entered into an agreement to accomplish the aforesaid scheme, and by their actions took steps to further that scheme.

- 202. As a result of the wrongful conduct of each of the Defendants, Plaintiff has suffered and will continue to suffer economic losses and other general and specific damages, all in an amount to be determined according to proof.
- 203. The aforementioned acts of Defendants, and each of them, were done maliciously, oppressively, and with intent to defraud, and Plaintiff is entitled to punitive and exemplary damages in an amount to be shown according to proof at the time of trial.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for relief as set forth below.

#### **FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

#### (Violation of California Corporations Code § 25400 et seq.)

- 204. Plaintiff hereby realleges and incorporates by reference each of the foregoing paragraphs as though fully set forth herein and further alleges as follows.
- 205. Defendants, and each of them, acting individually and pursuant to a scheme and conspiracy, directly and indirectly to, induce the purchase and retention of the note by the Plaintiff by circulating or disseminating, in or from California, information that falsely described WaMu's financial condition and exposure, as described above, for the purpose of inducing Plaintiff to purchase and hold the note. Defendants knew or had reason to believe that their statements were false or misleading in light of the circumstances under which they were made. As a result of the misrepresentations, Defendants knew that investors like Plaintiff would be misled and would purchase and hold WaMu notes based upon false information. Despite this knowledge, Defendants continued to make the misrepresentations in order to induce investors to purchase and hold such notes.
- 206. Defendants, and each of them, also knowingly provided substantial assistance to the other Defendants in violation of the Corporations Code Section 25403.
- 207. Defendants, and each of them are liable for wilfully participating in acts or transactions in violation of Corporations Code Sections 25400 and 25403, and thus are liable to Plaintiff, which purchased its interest in the WaMu note at a price which was affected by Defendants' acts, for damages sustained by Plaintiff as a result of such acts or transactions.