

1 **Settlement Agreement**

2 This Settlement Agreement (“Agreement”) is entered into between, on the one
3 hand, the United States, acting through the United States Department of Justice (“DOJ”),
4 and the States of Arizona, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Colorado, Delaware,
5 Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Mississippi, Missouri, New Jersey, North Carolina,
6 Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Washington, and the District of
7 Columbia, acting through their respective Attorneys General (each of the District of
8 Columbia and the states set forth above referred to individually as “State” and
9 collectively as “the States”), and, on the other hand, McGraw Hill Financial, Inc.
10 (formerly known as The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc.) and Standard & Poor’s
11 Financial Services LLC (collectively “Defendants”). The United States, the States, and
12 Defendants are collectively referred to herein as “the Parties.”

13 **Recitals**

14 1. On February 4, 2013, the United States filed in United States District Court
15 for the Central District of California the case captioned United States v. McGraw-Hill
16 Companies, Inc., and Standard & Poor’s Financial Services LLC, No. CV 13-00779-
17 DOC (the “US Case”).

18 2. On the following dates, in the following courts, the States filed the cases
19 captioned as follows (collectively, the “State Cases”):

State	Filing Date	Court	Caption
Arizona	2/5/2013	Arizona Superior Court, Maricopa County	<u>Arizona ex rel. Brnovich v. The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc., and Standard & Poor’s Financial Services LLC</u> , No. CV2013-001188
Arkansas	2/5/2013	Arkansas Circuit Court, Pulaski County	<u>Arkansas ex rel. McDaniel v. The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc., and Standard & Poor’s Financial Services LLC</u> , No. 60CV-13-534

State	Filing Date	Court	Caption
California	2/5/2013	California Superior Court, San Francisco County	<u>People of the State of California v. The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc., Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC, and Does 1-100</u> , No. CGC-13-528491
Colorado	2/5/2013	District Court, City and County of Denver, State of Colorado	<u>State of Colorado ex rel. Coffman v. The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc., and Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC</u> , No. 2013-CV-30537
Connecticut	3/10/2010	Connecticut Superior Court, Judicial District of Hartford at Hartford	<u>Connecticut v. The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc., and Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC</u> , No. HHD-cv-10-6008838-S
Delaware	2/5/2013	Delaware Superior Court, New Castle County	<u>Delaware v. The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc., and Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC</u> , No. N 13C-02-044
District of Columbia	2/5/2013	D.C. Superior Court	<u>District of Columbia v. The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc., and Standard & Poor's LLC</u> , Civ. No. 2013 CA 000997 B
Idaho	2/5/2013	Idaho 4 th Judicial District Court, Ada County	<u>Idaho ex rel. Wasden v. The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc., and Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC</u> , No. CV OC 1302154
Illinois	1/25/2012	Illinois Circuit Court, Cook County	<u>People of the State of Illinois v. The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc., and Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC</u> , No. 12CH02535
Indiana	6/27/2013	Marion County Superior Court	<u>Indiana ex rel. Mihalik v. McGraw Hill Financial, Inc., and Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC</u> , No. 49D03-1306-PL-025757.
Iowa	2/5/2013	Iowa District Court, Polk County	<u>Iowa ex rel. Miller v. The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc., and Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC</u> , No. EQCE73545

1	State	Filing Date	Court	Caption
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1 methodologies used to rate Structured Finance Instruments; and (2) all statements by the
2 Released Entities concerning the integrity, objectivity, independence and lack of
3 influence from business concerns of their activities in connection with the issuance,
4 confirmation, and surveillance of ratings for Structured Finance Instruments, including
5 statements concerning their Codes of Conduct and/or Business Ethics and Policies and
6 Procedures.

7 j. **“Effective Date of this Agreement”** means the date of signature of
8 the last signatory to this Agreement.

9 5. **Statement of Facts.** Defendants acknowledge the facts set out in the
10 Statement of Facts set forth in Annex 1, which is attached hereto and incorporated by
11 reference.

12 6. **Payment.** Defendants shall pay a total of \$1,375,000,000.00 (the
13 “Settlement Amount”) as follows:

14 a. Within thirty (30) calendar days of receiving written payment
15 processing instructions from the Department of Justice, Office of the Associate Attorney
16 General, Defendants shall pay \$687,500,000.00 of the Settlement Amount by electronic
17 funds transfer to the Department of Justice. The entire amount of \$687,500,000.00 is a
18 civil monetary penalty recovered pursuant to the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery
19 and Enforcement Act of 1989 (“FIRREA”), 12 U.S.C. § 1833a.

20 b. Within the time limits specified below, Defendants shall pay the
21 States a total of \$687,500,000.00 in the allocated amounts and pursuant to the terms set
22 forth below. The funds paid to the States may be used or expended in any way permitted
23 by applicable state law at each State’s sole discretion. Except as specifically set forth
24 below with respect to the amounts listed in Paragraph 6(b)(xiii), as to which the Parties
25 agree that no characterization has been made, and in Paragraph 6(b)(xvi), as to which
26 \$2,153,571.00 is to be paid as a penalty for alleged violation of North Carolina law, no
27 portion of this \$687,500,000.00 is paid as a civil monetary penalty, fine, or payment in
28 lieu thereof.

1 i. \$21,535,714.00, and no other amount, will be paid by
2 Defendants to the State of Arizona pursuant to this Agreement and the terms of written
3 payment instructions from the State of Arizona, Office of the Attorney General. Said
4 payment shall, pursuant to state law, be used by the Arizona Attorney General for
5 attorneys' fees and other costs of investigation or litigation, for restitution, remediation,
6 or for other consumer protection purposes, or for other uses as permitted by governing
7 state law, within the discretion of the Attorney General. Payment shall be made by
8 electronic funds transfer within thirty (30) calendar days of receiving written payment
9 processing instructions from the State of Arizona, Office of the Attorney General.

10 ii. \$21,535,714.00, and no other amount, will be paid by
11 Defendants to the State of Arkansas pursuant to this Agreement and the terms of written
12 payment instructions from the State of Arkansas, Office of the Attorney General.
13 Payment shall be made by electronic funds transfer within thirty (30) calendar days of
14 receiving written payment processing instructions from the State of Arkansas, Office of
15 the Attorney General. The money paid by Defendants to the Arkansas Attorney General
16 shall be deposited in the Consumer Education and Enforcement Account to be used in
17 accordance with Act 763 of 2013 of the Arkansas General Assembly.

18 iii. \$210,000,000.00, and no other amount, will be paid by
19 Defendants to the State of California pursuant to this Agreement and the terms of written
20 payment instructions from the State of California, Office of the Attorney General.
21 Payment shall be made by electronic funds transfer within thirty (30) calendar days of
22 receiving written payment processing instructions from the State of California, Office of
23 the Attorney General.

24 iv. \$21,535,714.00, and no other amount, will be paid by
25 Defendants to the Colorado Department of Law pursuant to this Agreement and the
26 terms of written payment instructions from the State of Colorado, Office of the Attorney
27 General. Payment shall be made by electronic funds transfer within thirty (30) calendar
28 days of receiving written payment processing instructions from the State of Colorado,

1 Office of the Attorney General. The money paid by Defendants to the Colorado
2 Department of Law is to be held, along with any interest thereon, in trust by the
3 Colorado Attorney General to be used for reimbursement of the State's actual costs and
4 attorneys' fees, the payment of restitution, if any, and for future consumer education,
5 consumer fraud, or antitrust enforcement purposes.

6 v. \$36,000,000.00, and no other amount, will be paid by
7 Defendants to the State of Connecticut pursuant to this Agreement and the terms of
8 written payment instructions from the State of Connecticut, Office of the Attorney
9 General. Payment shall be made by electronic funds transfer within thirty (30) calendar
10 days of receiving written payment processing instructions from the State of Connecticut,
11 Office of the Attorney General.

12 vi. \$25,000,000.00, and no other amount, will be paid by
13 Defendants to the State of Delaware pursuant to this Agreement and the terms of written
14 payment instructions from the State of Delaware, Office of the Attorney General.
15 Payment shall be made by electronic funds transfer within thirty (30) calendar days of
16 receiving written payment processing instructions from the State of Delaware, Office of
17 the Attorney General. The payment to the State of Delaware shall be used, to the
18 maximum extent possible, for purposes of providing restitution and remediating harms to
19 the State and its communities, including harm to the State's operating revenues,
20 allegedly resulting from unlawful conduct of the Released Entities, including funding
21 efforts to address the mortgage and foreclosure crisis, financial fraud and deception, and
22 housing-related issues.

23 vii. \$21,535,714.00, and no other amount, will be paid by
24 Defendants to the District of Columbia pursuant to this Agreement and the terms of
25 written payment instructions from the District of Columbia, Office of the Attorney
26 General. Payment shall be made by electronic funds transfer within thirty (30) calendar
27 days of receiving written payment processing instructions from the District of Columbia,
28 Office of the Attorney General.

1 viii. \$21,535,714.00, and no other amount, will be paid by
2 Defendants to the State of Idaho pursuant to this Agreement and the terms of written
3 payment instructions from the State of Idaho, Office of the Attorney General. Payment
4 shall be made by electronic funds transfer within thirty (30) calendar days of receiving
5 written payment processing instructions from the State of Idaho, Office of the Attorney
6 General.

7 ix. \$52,500,000.00, and no other amount, will be paid by
8 Defendants to the State of Illinois pursuant to this Agreement and the terms of written
9 payment instructions from the State of Illinois, Office of the Attorney General. Payment
10 shall be made by electronic funds transfer within thirty (30) calendar days of receiving
11 written payment processing instructions from the State of Illinois, Office of the Attorney
12 General for ultimate deposit in the following funds: (a) designated state pension funds,
13 and (b) the Attorney General State Projects and Court Ordered Distribution Fund (the
14 801 fund). Any payment to the 801 fund shall be made for subsequent expenditure at the
15 sole discretion of and as authorized by the Illinois Attorney General.

16 x. \$21,535,714.00, and no other amount, will be paid by
17 Defendants to the State of Indiana pursuant to this Agreement and the terms of written
18 payment instructions from the State of Indiana, Office of the Attorney General. Payment
19 shall be made by electronic funds transfer within thirty (30) calendar days of receiving
20 written payment processing instructions from the State of Indiana, Office of the Attorney
21 General.

22 xi. \$21,535,714.00, and no other amount, will be paid by
23 Defendants to the State of Iowa pursuant to this Agreement and the terms of written
24 payment instructions from the State of Iowa, Office of the Attorney General. Payment
25 shall be made by electronic funds transfer within thirty (30) calendar days of receiving
26 written payment processing instructions from the State of Iowa, Office of the Attorney
27 General. The payment shall be used at the sole and complete discretion of the Attorney
28 General of Iowa, for any use permitted by law or this Settlement Agreement, including

1 but not limited to: (a) Purposes intended to ameliorate the effects of the financial crisis;
2 to enhance law enforcement efforts to prevent and prosecute financial fraud and unfair or
3 deceptive acts or practices, including funding for training and staffing of financial fraud
4 or general consumer protection efforts; and to compensate the State of Iowa for costs
5 resulting from the alleged unlawful conduct of the Defendants, including losses
6 sustained by State employee pension plans or other State government funds due to the
7 financial crisis. (b) Public education relating to consumer fraud and for funding for
8 enforcement of Iowa Code section 714.16, including reimbursement of investigative and
9 litigation costs incurred by the Iowa Attorney General's Office in connection with this
10 lawsuit. (c) Any other lawful purpose.

11 xii. \$21,535,714.00, and no other amount, will be paid by
12 Defendants to the State of Maine pursuant to this Agreement and the terms of written
13 payment instructions from the State of Maine, Office of the Attorney General. Payment
14 shall be made by electronic funds transfer within thirty (30) calendar days of receiving
15 written payment processing instructions from the State of Maine, Office of the Attorney
16 General. The payment to the State of Maine, Office of the Attorney General, shall be
17 used in the sole discretion of the Attorney General for reimbursement of costs and
18 attorneys' fees; restitution; consumer protection, health and education, including
19 financial literacy and student loan issues; law enforcement; litigation support; and efforts
20 to remediate the effects of the mortgage and financial crisis. Said funds are to be used to
21 supplement and not to supplant existing programs.

22 xiii. \$33,000,000.00, and no other amount, will be paid by
23 Defendants to the State of Mississippi pursuant to this Agreement and the terms of
24 written payment instructions from the State of Mississippi, Office of the Attorney
25 General. The State of Mississippi disclaims paragraph 6(b) to the extent that the State of
26 Mississippi does not characterize the payment. Payment shall be made by electronic
27 funds transfer within thirty (30) calendar days of receiving written payment processing
28 instructions from the State of Mississippi, Office of the Attorney General.

1 xiv. \$21,535,714.00, and no other amount, will be paid by
2 Defendants to the State of Missouri pursuant to this Agreement and the terms of written
3 payment instructions from the State of Missouri, Office of the Attorney General, to be
4 distributed thereafter in a manner to be determined by the Missouri Attorney General and
5 Missouri Commissioner of Securities. Payment shall be made by electronic funds
6 transfer within thirty (30) calendar days of receiving written payment processing
7 instructions from the State of Missouri, Office of the Attorney General.

8 xv. \$21,535,714.00, and no other amount, will be paid by
9 Defendants to the State of New Jersey pursuant to this Agreement and the terms of
10 written payment instructions from the State of New Jersey, Office of the Attorney
11 General. Payment shall be made by electronic funds transfer within thirty (30) calendar
12 days of receiving written payment processing instructions from the State of New Jersey,
13 Office of the Attorney General.

14 xvi. \$21,535,714.00, and no other amount, will be paid by
15 Defendants to the Plaintiff State of North Carolina ex rel. Cooper pursuant to this
16 Agreement and the terms of written payment instructions from the North Carolina
17 Attorney General's Office. Payment shall be made within thirty (30) calendar days of
18 receiving written payment processing instructions from the North Carolina Attorney
19 General's Office. \$2,153,571.00 of said payment shall be deemed a penalty under North
20 Carolina law. \$19,382,143.00 of said payment shall be used by the North Carolina
21 Attorney General for attorneys' fees and other costs of investigation or litigation, placed
22 in or applied to the consumer protection fund, and for consumer protection purposes and
23 other uses permitted by law, at the sole discretion of the Attorney General; this amount
24 of \$19,382,143.00 is not a fine, penalty, or payment in lieu thereof.

25 xvii. \$21,535,714.00, and no other amount, will be paid by
26 Defendants to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Office of Attorney General pursuant
27 to this Agreement and the terms of written payment instructions from the
28 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Office of the Attorney General. Payment shall be

1 made by electronic funds transfer within thirty (30) calendar days of receiving written
2 payment processing instructions from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Office of the
3 Attorney General. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General
4 shall receive \$5,035,714.00 to reimburse it for its costs of investigating and litigating this
5 case and to be used for future public protection and education purposes. The
6 Pennsylvania Office of the Governor/Office of the Budget, the Pennsylvania Insurance
7 Department, the Pennsylvania Treasury Department, the Pennsylvania State Employees'
8 Retirement System ("SERS"), the Pennsylvania Public School Employees' Retirement
9 System ("PSERS"), and the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System ("PMRS") will
10 receive \$250,000.00 each to reimburse them for their costs in responding to discovery,
11 and the remainder shall be distributed and divided among those Commonwealth agencies
12 who purchased RMBS and CDOs, including the Pennsylvania Treasury Department,
13 Pennsylvania State Employees' Retirement System, the Pennsylvania Public School
14 Employees' Retirement System, the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System, and the
15 Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission, in approximate proportion to their purchases of
16 RMBS and CDOs as determined in the sole discretion of the Commonwealth of
17 Pennsylvania, Office of Attorney General.

18 xviii. \$21,535,714.00, and no other amount, will be paid by
19 Defendants to the State of South Carolina pursuant to this Agreement and the terms of
20 written payment instructions from the State of South Carolina, Office of the Attorney
21 General. Payment shall be made by electronic funds transfer within thirty (30) calendar
22 days of receiving written payment processing instructions from the State of South
23 Carolina, Office of the Attorney General. South Carolina may allocate such payment in
24 the South Carolina Attorney General's sole discretion and in accordance with any and all
25 obligations imposed by law for purposes including, but not limited to, a consumer
26 protection enforcement fund, consumer education fund, consumer litigation fund, local
27 consumer aid fund, or revolving fund; for attorneys' fees and other costs of investigation
28 and litigation; for cy pres purposes; or for any other uses not prohibited by law.

1 xix. \$25,000,000.00, and no other amount, will be paid by
2 Defendants to the State of Tennessee, Office of the Attorney General pursuant to this
3 Agreement and the terms of written payment instructions from the State of Tennessee,
4 Office of the Attorney General. Payment shall be made by electronic funds transfer
5 within thirty (30) calendar days of receiving written payment processing instructions
6 from the State of Tennessee, Office of the Attorney General. Said funds include the
7 Tennessee Attorney General's legal fees and costs of investigation and prosecution of
8 this matter. All funds will be distributed at the sole discretion of the Tennessee Attorney
9 General.

10 xx. \$21,535,714.00, and no other amount, will be paid by
11 Defendants to the State of Washington pursuant to this Agreement and the terms of
12 written payment instructions from the State of Washington, Office of the Attorney
13 General. Payment shall be made by electronic funds transfer within thirty (30) calendar
14 days of receiving written payment processing instructions from the State of Washington,
15 Office of the Attorney General. The payment to the State of Washington, Office of the
16 Attorney General, shall be distributed as follows: \$500,000 shall be retained by the
17 Attorney General for reimbursement of investigative and litigation costs in this case;
18 \$3,000,000 shall be distributed at the sole discretion of the Attorney General for cy pres
19 to remediate effects of the mortgage and financial crisis; the Attorney General shall
20 cause the remaining \$18,035,714 to be deposited into the State General Fund.

21 xxi. \$4,500,004.00, and no other amount, will be paid by
22 Defendants to the National Association of Attorneys General Financial Services and
23 Consumer Protection Enforcement, Education and Training Fund pursuant to this
24 Agreement and the terms of written payment instructions from the National Association
25 of Attorneys General. Payment shall be made by electronic funds transfer within thirty
26 (30) calendar days of receiving written payment processing instructions from the
27 President of the National Association of Attorneys General.

1 7. **Compliance Measures.**

2 a. Defendants shall comply with the following particular State laws
3 (collectively, “the Particular State Laws” and, with respect to each State, “that State’s
4 Particular Laws”):

5 i. **State of Arizona.** Arizona Consumer Fraud Act, Ariz. Rev.
6 Stat. Sec. 44-1521 *et seq.*

7 ii. **State of Arkansas.** Arkansas Deceptive Trade Practices Act
8 (ADTPA), Ark. Code Ann. §§ 4-88-107(a)(1), 4-88-107(a)(10), and 4-88-108.

9 iii. **State of California.** California Business and Professions Code
10 Sections 17200 *et seq.*, the Unfair Competition Law, and Sections 17500 *et seq.*, the
11 False Advertising Law.

12 iv. **State of Connecticut.** Connecticut Unfair Trade Practices
13 Act, Conn Gen. Stat. Sec. 42-110a *et seq.*

14 v. **State of Colorado.** Colorado Consumer Protection Act,
15 C.R.S. §§ 6-1-101, *et seq.*

16 vi. **State of Delaware.** Delaware Consumer Fraud Act, 6 Del. C.
17 §§ 2511 *et seq.*; Delaware Deceptive Trade Practices Act, 6 Del. C. §§ 2531 *et seq.*

18 vii. **District of Columbia.** Consumer Protection Procedures Act,
19 D.C. Code § 28-3904(e) and (f); Securities Act of 2000, D.C. Code § 31-
20 5605.02(a)(1)(B) and (a)(1)(C).

21 viii. **State of Idaho.** Idaho Consumer Protection Act, Idaho Code
22 § 48-601 *et seq.*; Idaho Rules of Consumer Protection, IDAPA 04.02.01.000 *et seq.*

23 ix. **State of Illinois.** The Illinois Consumer Fraud and Deceptive
24 Business Practices Act, 815 ILL. COMP. STAT. § 505/1, *et seq.*, and Uniform
25 Deceptive Trade Practices Act, 815 ILL. COMP. STAT. § 510/1, *et seq.*

26 x. **State of Indiana.** Indiana Deceptive Consumer Sales Act,
27 Indiana Code chapter 24-5-0.5; Indiana Uniform Securities Act, Indiana Code article 23-
28 19.

1 xi. **State of Iowa.** Iowa Consumer Fraud Act, Iowa Code section
2 714.16.

3 xii. **State of Maine.** Maine Unfair Trade Practices Act, 5 M.R.S.
4 section 205-A *et seq.*

5 xiii. **State of Mississippi.** Mississippi Consumer Protection Act,
6 Miss. Code Ann. § 75-24-1 *et seq.*

7 xiv. **State of Missouri.** Sections 407.020, RSMo, Missouri
8 Merchandising Practices Act, and 409.5-501(2), 409.5-501(3), and 409.5-502, RSMo,
9 Missouri Securities Act.

10 xv. **State of New Jersey.** New Jersey Consumer Fraud Act,
11 N.J.S.A. 56:8-1 *et seq.*; New Jersey Regulations Governing General Advertising,
12 N.J.A.C. 13:45A-9.1 *et seq.*

13 xvi. **State of North Carolina.** North Carolina Unfair and
14 Deceptive Trade Practices Act, N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 75-1.1 *et seq.*

15 xvii. **Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.** Unfair Trade Practices and
16 Consumer Protection Law, 73 P.S. §§ 201-1 *et seq.*

17 xviii. **State of South Carolina.** South Carolina Unfair Trade
18 Practices Act, S.C. Code §§ 39-5-10 *et seq.*; South Carolina Uniform Securities Act of
19 2005, S.C. Code §§ 35-1-101 *et seq.*

20 xix. **State of Tennessee.** Tennessee Consumer Protection Act,
21 Tenn. Code Ann. § 47-18-101 *et seq.*

22 xx. **State of Washington.** Washington Consumer Protection Act,
23 RCW 19.86.

24 b. Defendants' obligation to comply with the Particular State Laws
25 specified in Paragraph 7(a) above shall have no effect on any obligations Defendants
26 may have to comply with other state laws not specified above.

27 c. For a period of five (5) years commencing on the Effective Date of
28 this Agreement, Defendants shall, upon request from any State expressing a concern

1 over a possible violation of that State's Particular Laws as specified in Paragraph 7(a)
2 above, meet and confer in good faith with that State regarding its expressed concern and
3 any requests from that State to provide information and documents to address the State's
4 expressed concern. In connection with such a meet and confer, information and
5 documents responsive to a State's request will not be unreasonably withheld by
6 Defendants and, to the extent a protective order was entered in that State's State Case,
7 will not be subjected by Defendants to terms governing their release to that State that are
8 more restrictive than those contained in that protective order. The States and Defendants
9 each reserve their respective rights with respect to any effort by the States to pursue and
10 obtain information and documents through formal process or otherwise.

11 d. Any State that obtains information or documents pursuant to
12 Paragraph 7(c) above may share such information or documents with the other States,
13 provided that such other States agree and are able to maintain the confidentiality of the
14 information or documents as agreed to by the State or States that originally received the
15 information or documents.

16 8. **Withdrawal of Defense.** Prior to the filing of the Joint Stipulation of
17 Dismissal provided for in Paragraph 9(a) of this Agreement, Defendants shall file in the
18 US Case a withdrawal of their Eleventh Affirmative Defense, which asserts Defendants'
19 claim that the US Case was filed in retaliation for Standard & Poor's Ratings Services'
20 2011 decisions to place on credit watch negative and subsequently downgrade the credit
21 rating of the United States.

22 9. **Resolution of Pending Cases.** As soon as practicable, but in no event later
23 than fourteen (14) calendar days after the Effective Date of this Agreement,

24 a. Defendants and the United States shall sign and file in the US Case a
25 Joint Stipulation of Dismissal of the US Case pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil
26 Procedure 41(a)(1)(A)(ii), in the form attached hereto as Annex 2. This Agreement may
27 be attached as an exhibit to the Joint Stipulation.
28

1 b. Defendants and the District of Columbia shall sign and file in the
2 District of Columbia State Case a Joint Stipulation of Dismissal pursuant to D.C. Super.
3 Ct. R. Civ. P. 41(a)(1(ii)). This Agreement may be attached as an exhibit to the Joint
4 Stipulation. Paragraph 9(c) of this Agreement shall not apply to the District of
5 Columbia. In any action by the District of Columbia alleging a violation by Defendants
6 of its Particular State Laws under Paragraph 7(a), personal jurisdiction over Defendants
7 must be established by facts independent of the existence of this Agreement.

8 c. Defendants and each of the States (other than the District of
9 Columbia) shall sign and file in each respective State Case stipulated judgments, consent
10 judgments, or similar pleadings as provided by the rules of practice in each of the States
11 to bring formal legal proceedings to a close and memorialize the terms of this
12 Agreement, including without limitation the Compliance Measures set forth in Paragraph
13 7 of this Agreement, in an enforceable judgment. This Agreement shall be attached as
14 an exhibit to any such filed papers. With respect to enforcement of any State court
15 judgment obtained pursuant to this paragraph:

16 i. Defendants and the States agree that the State court in which
17 the judgment is entered shall have exclusive jurisdiction over any claim by either the
18 Defendants or the Attorney General of the State that there has been a violation of any of
19 the terms of this Agreement, other than a claim by the Attorney General of the State that
20 Defendants have violated Paragraph 7(a) of this Agreement.

21 ii. Defendants and the States agree that if the Attorney General of
22 any State, who shall be the only person authorized to pursue a claim pursuant to this
23 Agreement or that State's State court judgment that a violation of that State's Particular
24 Laws constitutes a violation of Paragraph 7(a) of this Agreement or of such State court
25 judgment, asserts such a claim, that claim shall be pursued in the State court in which the
26 judgment is entered as an action to enforce the State court judgment; with respect to any
27 such action, Defendants and the States agree: (a) Defendants shall not remove any such
28 action to federal court; (b) Defendants reserve the right to assert any rights or defenses,

1 including without limitation, Constitutional or jurisdictional rights and defenses,
2 including without limitation a claim that the State court lacks personal jurisdiction based
3 on the conduct alleged to constitute a violation of that State's Particular Laws; and (c)
4 the States reserve the right to assert all arguments in response to any asserted rights or
5 defenses, including without limitation any arguments based on prior decisions in any of
6 the State Cases or In re: Standard & Poor's Rating Agency Litigation, 13-MD-2446
7 (JMF) (S.D.N.Y.), but agree that personal jurisdiction over Defendants must be
8 established by facts independent of the existence of this Agreement or the State court
9 judgment entering the same.

10 **10. Releases by the United States.** Subject to the exceptions in Paragraph 12
11 of this Agreement ("Excluded Claims"), and conditioned upon Defendants' filing of a
12 withdrawal of their Eleventh Affirmative Defense as provided in Paragraph 8 of this
13 Agreement and Defendants' full and timely payment of the Settlement Amount, the
14 United States fully and finally releases the Released Entities from any civil claims the
15 United States has for Covered Conduct occurring between January 2004 and December
16 2007 under FIRREA, 12 U.S.C. § 1833a; the False Claims Act, 31 U.S.C. § § 3729-
17 3733; the common law theories of negligence, gross negligence, payment by mistake,
18 unjust enrichment, breach of fiduciary duty, breach of contract, misrepresentation,
19 deceit, fraud, or aiding and abetting any of the foregoing; or any other claim that the
20 Civil Division of the Department of Justice has actual and present authority to assert and
21 compromise pursuant to 28 C.F.R. § 0.45(d) and (j).

22 **11. Releases by the States.** Subject solely to the exceptions set forth in
23 Paragraph 12 of this Agreement ("Excluded Claims"), the conditions set forth in this
24 paragraph below, and any particular conditions or exceptions set forth in the
25 subparagraph below defining each State's release, each of the States fully and finally
26 releases the Released Entities in accordance with the terms set forth in the subparagraph
27 below defining that State's release. Each State's release of claims below is expressly
28 conditioned on Defendants' full and timely payment of the Settlement Amount,

1 including without limitation payment to each of the States as specified in Paragraph 6(b)
2 of this Agreement, and (except for the District of Columbia) on the entry of a stipulated
3 judgment, consent judgment, or other enforceable judgment implementing the terms of
4 this Agreement in accordance with Paragraph 9(c) of this Agreement.

5 a. **Releases by the State of Arizona.** The Arizona Attorney General
6 fully and finally releases the Released Entities from any civil claim that was or could
7 have been brought based on: (a) the facts alleged in his Complaint dated February 5,
8 2013, Maricopa County Superior Court case no. CV 2013-001188 ("Arizona's State
9 Case"), for the period of January 1, 2001 through February 5, 2013; or (b) the Covered
10 Conduct for the period of January 1, 2001 through December 31, 2012. The Arizona
11 Attorney General executes this release in his official capacity and releases only claims
12 that the Arizona Attorney General has the authority to bring and release.

13 b. **Releases by the State of Arkansas.** The State of Arkansas fully and
14 finally releases the Released Entities from any civil claim that was or could have been
15 made by the Attorney General of the State of Arkansas based on: (a) the facts alleged in
16 the Complaint filed and dated February 5, 2013, or in the Amended Complaint filed and
17 dated July 9, 2014, in Pulaski County Circuit Court as Case no. 60-CV-13-534, for the
18 period of January 1, 2001 through July 9, 2014; or (b) the Covered Conduct for the
19 period of January 1, 2001 through December 31, 2012. The Arkansas Attorney General
20 executes this release in her official capacity and releases only claims that the Arkansas
21 Attorney General has the authority to bring and release.

22 c. **Releases by the State of California.** The California Attorney
23 General fully and finally releases the Released Entities from any civil claim that was or
24 could have been brought based on: (a) the facts alleged in her Complaint dated February
25 5, 2013, San Francisco Superior Court case no. CGC-13-52849 ("California's State
26 Case"), for the period of January 1, 2001 through February 5, 2013; or (b) the Covered
27 Conduct for the period of January 1, 2001 through December 31, 2012. The California
28 Attorney General executes this release in her official capacity and releases only claims

1 that the California Attorney General has the authority to bring and release. The
2 California Attorney General and Defendants acknowledge that they have been advised
3 by their attorneys of the contents and effect of Section 1542 of the California Civil Code
4 (“Section 1542”) and hereby expressly waive with respect to this Agreement any and all
5 provisions, rights, and benefits conferred by Section 1542 which states: “A general
6 release does not extend to claims which the creditor does not know or suspect to exist in
7 his or her favor at the time of executing the release, which if known by him or her must
8 have materially affected his or her settlement with the debtor.”

9 d. **Releases by the State of Colorado.** The State of Colorado fully and
10 finally releases the Released Entities from any civil claim that was or could have been
11 brought based on: (a) the facts alleged in the State of Colorado’s Complaint dated
12 February 5, 2013, Denver District Court Case No. 2013cv30537 (“Colorado's State
13 Case”), for the period of January 1, 2001, through February 5, 2013; or (b) the Covered
14 Conduct for the period of January 1, 2001 through December 31, 2012. The Colorado
15 Attorney General executes this release in her official capacity and releases only the
16 claims that the Colorado Attorney General has the authority to bring and release.

17 e. **Releases by the State of Connecticut.** The State of Connecticut,
18 acting through the Office of the Connecticut Attorney General, fully and finally releases
19 the Released Entities from any civil claim that was or could have been brought based on:
20 (a) the facts alleged in its Complaint dated March 10, 2010, Hartford Superior Court
21 docket no. HHD-cv-10-6008838 (“Connecticut's State Case”), for the period of January
22 1, 2000 through March 10, 2010; or (b) the Covered Conduct for the period of January 1,
23 2001 through December 31, 2012. The Connecticut Attorney General executes this
24 release in his official capacity and releases only claims that the Connecticut Attorney
25 General has the authority to bring and release.

26 f. **Releases by the State of Delaware.** The Delaware Attorney General
27 fully and finally releases the Released Entities from any civil claim that was or could
28 have been brought based on: (a) the facts alleged in the Complaint dated February 5,

1 2013, or in the First Amended Complaint dated August 13, 2014, Delaware Superior
2 Court Case C.A. No. N13C-02-044(RRC) (“Delaware’s State Case”), for the period of
3 January 1, 2001 through August 13, 2014; or (b) the Covered Conduct for the period of
4 January 1, 2001 through December 31, 2012. The Delaware Attorney General executes
5 this release in his official capacity and releases only claims that the Delaware Attorney
6 General has the authority to bring and release.

7 g. **Releases by the District of Columbia.** The District of Columbia
8 fully and finally releases Defendants from any civil claim that was or could have been
9 brought by the District of Columbia based on: (a) the factual allegations in the District of
10 Columbia’s Complaint, filed on February 5, 2013, in District of Columbia Superior
11 Court, Civ. No. 2013 CA 000997 B, for the period of January 1, 2001 through February
12 5, 2013; or (b) the Covered Conduct for the period of January 1, 2001 through December
13 31, 2012.

14 h. **Releases by the State of Idaho.** The Idaho Attorney General fully
15 and finally releases the Released Entities from any civil claim that was or could have
16 been brought based on: (a) the facts alleged in his February 5, 2013 Complaint or his
17 June 17, 2014 Amended Complaint filed in the Fourth Judicial District of Idaho, Ada
18 County, Case No. CV OC 1302154 (“Idaho’s Case”), for the period of January 1, 2001
19 through June 17, 2014; or (b) the Covered Conduct for the period of January 1, 2001
20 through December 31, 2012. The Idaho Attorney General executes this release in his
21 official capacity and releases only claims that the Idaho Attorney General has the
22 authority to bring and release.

23 i. **Releases by the State of Illinois.** The Illinois Attorney General fully
24 and finally releases the Released Entities from any civil claim that was or could have
25 been brought based on: (a) the facts alleged in her Complaint dated January 25, 2012,
26 filed in the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois, County Department, Chancery
27 Division, Case No. 12 CH 02535 (the “Illinois State Case”), for the period of January 1,
28 2001 through January 25, 2012; or (b) the Covered Conduct for the period of January 1,

1 2001 through December 31, 2012. The Illinois Attorney General executes this release in
2 her official capacity and releases only claims that the Illinois Attorney General has the
3 authority to bring and release.

4 j. **Releases by the State of Indiana.** The Indiana Attorney General
5 and the Indiana Securities Commissioner fully and finally release the Released Entities
6 from any civil claim that the Indiana Attorney General or the Indiana Securities
7 Commissioner acting with the assistance of the Indiana Attorney General brought or
8 could have brought based on: (a) the facts alleged in his Complaint dated June 27, 2013,
9 filed in Marion Superior Court 3, Marion County, Indiana under Cause No. 49D03-
10 1306-PL-025757 (the “Indiana State Case”), for the period from January 1, 2001 through
11 June 27, 2013; or (b) the Covered Conduct for the period of January 1, 2001 through
12 December 31, 2012. This release includes any claim the Indiana Attorney General could
13 have brought under Indiana’s Deceptive Consumer Sales Act, Indiana Code chapter 24-
14 5-0.5. The Indiana Attorney General and the Indiana Securities Commissioner execute
15 this release in their official capacities and release only claims that the Indiana Attorney
16 General or the Indiana Securities Commissioner acting with the assistance of the Indiana
17 Attorney General have the authority to bring and release.

18 k. **Releases by the State of Iowa.** The Iowa Attorney General fully and
19 finally releases the Released Entities from any civil claim that was or could have been
20 brought based on: (a) the facts alleged in his Petition in Equity filed February 5, 2013 in
21 the Iowa District Court for Polk County, docket no. EQCE073545 (“Iowa’s State Case”),
22 for the period of January 1, 2001 through February 5, 2013; or (b) the Covered Conduct
23 for the period of January 1, 2001 through December 31, 2012. The Iowa Attorney
24 General executes this release in his official capacity and releases only claims that the
25 Iowa Attorney General has the authority to bring and release.

26 l. **Releases by the State of Maine.** The Maine Attorney General fully
27 and finally releases the Released Entities from any civil claim that was or could have
28 been brought based on: (a) the facts alleged in her Complaint dated February 5, 2013,

1 Court case no. BCD-CV-14-49 ("Maine's State Case"), for the period of January 1, 2001
2 through February 5, 2013; or (b) the Covered Conduct for the period of January 1, 2001
3 through December 31, 2012. The Maine Attorney General executes this release in her
4 official capacity and releases only claims that the Maine Attorney General has the
5 authority to bring and release.

6 m. **Releases by the State of Mississippi.** The Mississippi Attorney
7 General fully and finally releases the Released Entities from any civil claim that was or
8 could have been brought based on: (a) the facts alleged in the Complaint dated May 10,
9 2011, the Amended Complaint dated September 8, 2011, or the Second Amended
10 Complaint dated July 2, 2014, Hinds County Chancery Court Case No. G2011-835 S/2
11 ("Mississippi's State Case"), for the period of January 1, 2000 through July 2, 2014; or
12 (b) the Covered Conduct for the period of January 1, 2001 through December 31, 2012.
13 The Mississippi Attorney General executes this release in his official capacity and
14 releases only claims that the Mississippi Attorney General has the authority to bring and
15 release.

16 n. **Releases by the State of Missouri.** The Missouri Attorney General
17 and Missouri Commissioner of Securities fully and finally release the Released Entities
18 from any civil claim that was or could have been brought based on: (a) the facts alleged
19 in the Petition dated February 5, 2013, State of Missouri ex rel Chris Koster, Attorney
20 General, ex rel The Commissioner of Securities v. The McGraw Hill Companies, Inc.
21 and Standard and Poor's Financial Services, LLC, Circuit Court of Jackson County at
22 Kansas City, Case No. 1316-cv02931 ("Missouri's State Case"), for the period of
23 January 1, 2001 through February 5, 2013; or (b) the Covered Conduct for the period of
24 January 1, 2001 through December 31, 2012. The Missouri Attorney General and
25 Commissioner of Securities execute this release in their official capacities and release
26 only claims that the Missouri Attorney General or the Commissioner of Securities have
27 the authority to bring and release.

1 o. **Release by the State of New Jersey, Office of the Attorney**

2 **General.** John J. Hoffman, Acting Attorney General of the State of New Jersey (the
3 “Attorney General”), and Steve C. Lee, Acting Director of the New Jersey Division of
4 Consumer Affairs (the “Director”), fully and finally release the Released Entities from
5 any civil claim that the Attorney General and the Director brought or could have brought
6 against Defendants based on: (a) the facts alleged in their Complaint dated October 9,
7 2013, Superior Court of New Jersey, Chancery Division, General Equity: Essex County,
8 Docket No. ESX-C-216-13 (“New Jersey’s State Case”), for the period of January 1,
9 2001 through October 9, 2013; or (b) the Covered Conduct for the period of January 1,
10 2001 through December 31, 2012. The Attorney General and the Director execute this
11 release in their official capacities and release only claims that the State of New Jersey,
12 Office of the Attorney General or the Director have the authority to bring and release.

13 p. **Releases by the State of North Carolina.** The North Carolina

14 Attorney General fully and finally releases the Released Entities from any civil claim
15 that was or could have been brought based on: (a) the facts alleged in his Complaint
16 dated February 5, 2013, or his Amended Complaint dated July 11, 2014, currently in
17 Wake County Superior Court, docket number 13 CVS 1703 (“North Carolina’s State
18 Case”), for the period of January 1, 2001 through July 11, 2014; or (b) the Covered
19 Conduct for the period of January 1, 2001 through December 31, 2012. The North
20 Carolina Attorney General executes this release in his official capacity and releases only
21 claims that the North Carolina Attorney General has the authority to bring and release on
22 behalf of the State of North Carolina.

23 q. **Releases by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Office of**

24 **Attorney General.** The Pennsylvania Attorney General fully and finally releases the
25 Released Entities from any civil claim that was or could have been brought based on: (a)
26 the facts alleged in her Complaint dated February 5, 2013, or in her Amended Complaint
27 dated August 11, 2014, Commonwealth Court No. 58 MD 2013 (“Commonwealth Court
28 Action”), for the period of January 1, 2001 through August 11, 2014; or (b) the Covered

1 Conduct for the period of January 1, 2001 through December 31, 2012. The
2 Pennsylvania Attorney General executes this release in her official capacity and releases
3 only claims that the Pennsylvania Attorney General has the authority to bring and
4 release.

5 r. **Releases by the State of South Carolina.** The South Carolina
6 Attorney General fully and finally releases the Released Entities from any civil claim
7 that was or could have been brought based on: (a) the facts alleged in his Complaint
8 dated February 13, 2013, *State of South Carolina ex rel. Alan Wilson, in his official*
9 *capacity as Attorney General and as Securities Commissioner for the State of South*
10 *Carolina v. The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc., and Standard & Poor's Financial*
11 *Services LLC*, filed in the Richland County Court of Common Pleas in the State of South
12 Carolina, Civil Action no. 2013-CP-40-00951 ("South Carolina's State Case"), for the
13 period of January 1, 2001 through February 13, 2013; or (b) the Covered Conduct for the
14 period of January 1, 2001 through December 31, 2012. The South Carolina Attorney
15 General executes this release in his official capacity and releases only claims that the
16 South Carolina Attorney General has the authority to bring and release.

17 s. **Releases by the State of Tennessee.** The Tennessee Attorney
18 General fully and finally releases the Released Entities from any civil claim that was or
19 could have been brought based on: (a) the facts alleged in his Complaint dated February
20 5, 2013, Davidson County Circuit Court case no. 13C506 ("Tennessee's State Case"),
21 for the period of January 1, 2001 through February 5, 2013; or (b) the Covered Conduct
22 for the period of January 1, 2001 through December 31, 2012. The Tennessee Attorney
23 General executes this release in his official capacity and releases only claims that the
24 Tennessee Attorney General has the authority to bring and release.

25 t. **Releases by the State of Washington.** The Washington Attorney
26 General fully and finally releases the Released Entities from any civil claim that was or
27 could have been brought based on: (a) the facts alleged in his Complaint dated February
28 5, 2013, or his Amended Complaint dated August 1, 2014, *State of Washington v. The*

1 *McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. and Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC*, Case
2 No. 13-2-02593-9 in the Snohomish County Superior Court (“Washington’s State
3 Case”), for the period of January 1, 2001 through August 1, 2014; or (b) the Covered
4 Conduct for the period of January 1, 2001 through December 31, 2012. The Washington
5 Attorney General executes this release in his official capacity and releases only claims
6 that the Washington Attorney General has the authority to bring and release.

7 **12. Excluded Claims.** Notwithstanding the releases in Paragraphs 10 and 11 of
8 this Agreement, or any other term(s) of this Agreement, the following claims are
9 specifically reserved and not released by this Agreement:

- 10 a. Any criminal liability;
- 11 b. Any antitrust liability, except, with respect to the States, to the extent
12 any of the States have alleged practices by Defendants that purportedly violate State
13 antitrust laws;
- 14 c. Any liability of any individual;
- 15 d. Any private right of action;
- 16 e. Any liability of any person or entity other than the Released Entities;
- 17 f. Any liability arising under Title 26 of the United States Code (the
18 Internal Revenue Code) or the States’ similar tax codes or laws;
- 19 g. Any liability to or claims of the Federal Deposit Insurance
20 Corporation (in its capacity as a corporation, receiver, or conservator), National Credit
21 Union Administration (in its capacity as a corporation, receiver, or conservator), Federal
22 Housing Finance Agency, any of the Federal Home Loan Banks, the Federal Reserve
23 Board and its member institutions, the Securities & Exchange Commission (“SEC”), the
24 Federal Trade Commission, and the United States Department of the Treasury;
- 25 h. Except as explicitly stated in this Agreement, any administrative
26 liability, including the suspension and debarment rights of any federal or state agency;
- 27 i. Any liability to or claims of the United States (or its agencies) or the
28 States (or their agencies) for any conduct other than that falling within the scope of the

1 respective releases granted by the United States and the States in Paragraphs 10 and 11
2 of this Agreement;

3 j. Any liability to or claims of the United States (or its agencies or any
4 other party) as to which the United States Attorney General lacks the authority to bring
5 or compromise;

6 k. Any liability to or claims of the States (or their agencies or any other
7 party) as to which the respective Attorneys General of the States, or for Missouri the
8 Missouri Commissioner of Securities, for Indiana the Securities Commissioner for
9 Indiana, and for New Jersey the Director of the New Jersey Division of Consumer
10 Affairs, lack the authority to bring or compromise;

11 l. Any liability to or claims of county, municipal, or local pension funds
12 or other county, municipal, or local government funds as investors, unless otherwise
13 explicitly released by an individual State in this Agreement;

14 m. Any liability to or claims of county or local governments or state
15 regulatory agencies having specific regulatory jurisdiction that is separate and
16 independent from the regulatory and enforcement jurisdiction of the State Attorney
17 Generals, or for Missouri the Missouri Commissioner of Securities, for Indiana the
18 Securities Commissioner for Indiana, and for New Jersey the Director of the New Jersey
19 Division of Consumer Affairs; and

20 n. Any liability based upon obligations created by this Agreement.

21 13. **Releases by Defendants.** The Released Entities fully and finally release
22 the United States and the States, and their officers, agents, employees, and servants, from
23 any claims (including attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses of every kind and however
24 denominated) that the Released Entities have asserted, could have asserted, or may assert
25 in the future against the United States and the States, and their agencies, divisions,
26 entities, officers, agents, employees, and servants, related to the conduct falling within
27 the scope of the releases granted by the United States and the States in Paragraphs 10
28

1 and 11 of this Agreement and the investigation and prosecution thereof by the United
2 States and the States.

3 **14. Waiver of Potential Defenses by Defendants.** The Released Entities
4 waive and shall not assert any defenses the Released Entities may have to any criminal
5 prosecution or administrative action relating to the conduct falling within the scope of
6 the releases granted by the United States and the States in Paragraphs 10 and 11 of this
7 Agreement that may be based in whole or in part on a contention that, under the Double
8 Jeopardy Clause in the Fifth Amendment of the Constitution, or under the Excessive
9 Fines Clause in the Eighth Amendment of the Constitution and the States' similar state
10 constitutional provisions, this Agreement bars a remedy sought in such criminal
11 prosecution or administrative action.

12 **15. Unallowable Costs.** Unallowable Costs (as defined in this paragraph
13 below) will be separately determined and accounted for by Defendants, and Defendants
14 shall not charge such Unallowable Costs directly or indirectly to any contract with the
15 United States or the States. For purposes of this paragraph, "Unallowable Costs" means
16 unallowable costs for government contracting purposes, which shall specifically include
17 all costs (as defined in the Federal Acquisition Regulation, 48 C.F.R. § 31.205-47)
18 incurred by or on behalf of Defendants, and its present or former officers, directors,
19 employees, shareholders, and agents in connection with any of the following:

- 20 a. the matters covered by this Agreement;
- 21 b. the United States' and the States' audit(s) and civil investigation(s) of
22 the matters covered by this Agreement;
- 23 c. Defendants' investigation, defense, and corrective actions undertaken
24 in response to the United States' and the States' audit(s) and civil investigation(s) in
25 connection with the matters covered by this Agreement (including attorneys' fees);
- 26 d. the negotiation and performance of this Agreement; and
- 27 e. the payments Defendants make to the United States and the States
28 pursuant to this Agreement.

1 **16. Miscellaneous Provisions.**

2 a. This Agreement is intended to be for the benefit of the Parties only
3 and does not create any third-party rights.

4 b. The Parties acknowledge that this Agreement is made without any
5 trial or final adjudication on the merits, and is not itself a final order of any court or
6 governmental authority.

7 c. Each Party shall bear its own legal and other costs incurred in
8 connection with this matter, including in connection with the US Case, the State Cases,
9 the investigations leading to the US Case and the State Cases, and the preparation and
10 performance of this Agreement.

11 d. Each Party and signatory to this Agreement represents that it freely
12 and voluntarily enters in to this Agreement without any degree of duress or compulsion.

13 e. Nothing in this Agreement in any way alters or affects the terms of
14 any regulations put in place by the SEC with respect to Nationally Recognized Statistical
15 Rating Organizations (“NRSROs”) or Defendants’ obligations under any such
16 regulations.

17 f. Nothing in this Agreement constitutes an agreement by the United
18 States or the States concerning the characterization of the Settlement Amount for the
19 purposes of the Internal Revenue laws, Title 26 of the United States Code, or similar
20 state tax codes or laws.

21 g. For the purposes of construing the Agreement, this Agreement shall
22 be deemed to have been drafted by all Parties and shall not, therefore, be construed
23 against any Party for that reason in any dispute.

24 h. This Agreement constitutes the complete agreement between the
25 Parties. This Agreement may not be amended except by written consent of all the
26 Parties.

1 i. The undersigned counsel for the United States and the States
2 represent and warrant that they are fully authorized to execute this Agreement on behalf
3 of the United States and the States.

4 j. Counsel for Defendants shall provide a corporate resolution
5 authorizing the execution of this Agreement on behalf of Defendants, and represent and
6 warrant that they are fully authorized to execute this Agreement on behalf of Defendants.

7 k. This Agreement may be executed in counterparts, each of which
8 constitutes an original and all of which constitute one and the same Agreement.

9 l. This Agreement is binding on Defendants' successors, transferees,
10 heirs, and assigns.

11 m. All Parties consent to the disclosure to the public of this Agreement
12 by Defendants, the United States, and the States.

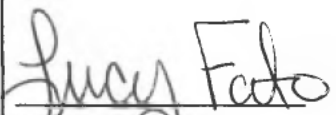
13 n. This Agreement shall not be deemed to constitute approval of any of
14 Defendants' advertising or business practices, and neither Defendants nor anyone acting
15 on their behalf shall state or imply that this Agreement constitutes approval, sanction, or
16 authorization for any act or practice of Defendants.

17 o. This Agreement is effective on the date of signature of the last
18 signatory to the Agreement. Facsimiles of signatures and signatures provided by
19 portable document format (".pdf") shall constitute acceptable, binding signatures for
20 purposes of this Agreement.

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1 For Defendants McGraw Hill Financial, Inc., and
2 Standard & Poor's Financial Services, LLC:

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LUCY FATO
Executive Vice President & General Counsel
McGraw Hill Financial, Inc.
55 Water Street
New York, NY 10041

Dated: 2/2/2015



ADAM SCHUMAN
Executive Managing Director & Chief Legal Officer
Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC
55 Water Street
New York, NY 10041

Dated: Feb 2, 2015

1 For the United States:

2
3 

4 GEORGE S. CARDONA
5 Assistant United States Attorney

6 United States Attorney's Office
7 Central District of California
8 312 North Spring Street, 12th Floor
9 Los Angeles, CA 90012

10 Dated: 2/2/2015

11
12
13 
14 JAMES T. NELSON
15 Trial Attorney

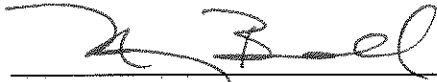
16 United States Department of Justice
17 Civil Division, Consumer Protection Branch
18 P.O. Box 261, Ben Franklin Station
19 Washington, D.C. 20044

20 Dated: 2/2/2015

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For the State of Arizona:

MARK BRNOVICH
ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR THE STATE OF ARIZONA

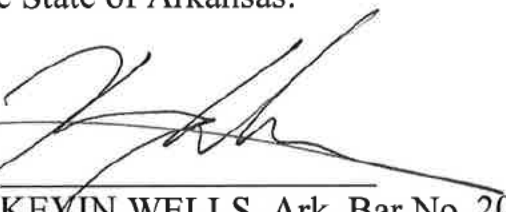


Nancy M. Bonnell
Brad K. Keogh
Susan V. Myers
Dana R. Vogel
Assistant Attorneys General
Consumer Protection & Advocacy Section
Arizona Attorney General's Office
1275 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Dated: 2/2/15

1 For the State of Arkansas:

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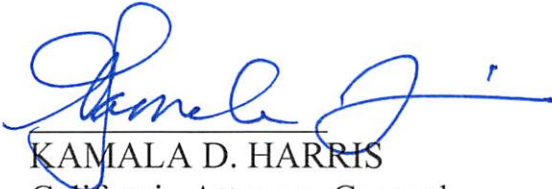


By: KEVIN WELLS, Ark. Bar No. 2007213
Assistant Attorney General

LESLIE RUTLEDGE
Arkansas Attorney General
323 Center Street, Suite 500
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dated: February 2, 2015

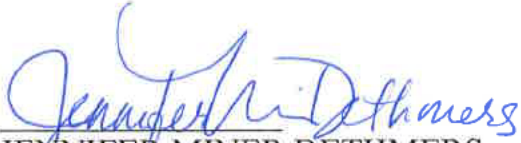
For the State of California:



KAMALA D. HARRIS
California Attorney General
California Department of Justice
455 Golden Gate, Suite 11000
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dated: 2 Feb 2015

1 For the State of Colorado, ex rel.
2 CYNTHIA H. COFFMAN, Attorney General:

3
4 

5 JENNIFER MINER DETHMERS
6 Assistant Attorney General
7 Consumer Protection Section
8 Colorado Department of Law

8 Ralph L. Carr Colorado Judicial Center
9 1300 Broadway, 7th Floor
10 Denver, CO 80203


11 Dated: 2.2.15
12

1 For the State of Connecticut:

2

3 GEORGE JEPSEN
4 ATTORNEY GENERAL

5

6 By: 

PERRY ZINN ROWTHORN
7 Deputy Attorney General
8 55 Elm Street
9 Hartford, CT 06141

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11 Dated: 2/2/2015

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1 For the State of Delaware

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MATTHEW P. DENN

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Attorney General for the State of Delaware

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Delaware Department of Justice

7

Carvel State Office Building

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820 N. French Street

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Wilmington, DE 19801

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Dated: 2/2/2015

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For the District of Columbia:



KARL A. RACINE

Attorney General for the District of Columbia
441 Fourth Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20001

Dated: 2-2-15

1 For the State of Idaho:

2 LAWRENCE G. WASDEN
3 ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR THE STATE OF IDAHO

4 By:

5

6 

7 Brett T. DeLange
8 Consumer Protection Division Chief

9

10 Oscar S. Klaas
11 Jane E. Hochberg
12 Scott Zanzig
13 Deputy Attorneys General

14 Consumer Protection Division
15 954 West Jefferson, 2d Floor
16 Boise, ID 83720

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19 Dated: 2/2/2015

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For the State of Illinois:



LISA MADIGAN
Attorney General State of Illinois
100 West Randolph Street, 12th Floor
Chicago, IL 60601

Dated: Feb. 2, 2014

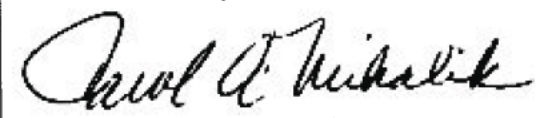
1 For the State of Indiana:

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GREGORY F. ZOELLER
Attorney General for the State of Indiana
Indiana Attorney General's Office
Indiana Government Center South
302 West Washington Street, 5th Floor
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Dated: February 2, 2015



CAROL MIHALIK
Securities Commissioner for Indiana
Secretary of State Connie Lawson
302 West Washington Street, Room E111
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Dated: February 2, 2015

1 For the State of Iowa:

2

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4



THOMAS J. MILLER

5

Attorney General for the State of Iowa

6

Iowa Department of Justice

7

Hoover Building, 2nd Floor

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

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Dated: February 2, 2015

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For the State of Maine:
ATTORNEY GENERAL
JANET T. MILLS

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Linda Conti", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Linda Conti
Assistant Attorney General
Chief, Consumer Protection Division
Office of the Attorney General
6 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dated: February 2, 2015

1 For the State of Mississippi:

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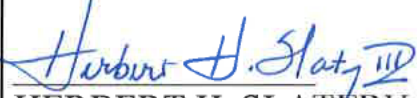
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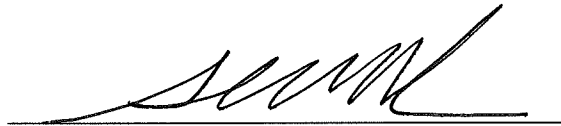
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Annex 1

Annex 1: Statement of Facts

1. Between 2004 and 2007, Standard & Poor's Ratings Services ("S&P"), at the time a division of The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. (now known as McGraw Hill Financial, Inc.), was a Nationally Recognized Statistical Rating Organization ("NRSRO") that, for a fee, provided letter grade ratings of, among other things, Residential Mortgage Backed Securities ("RMBS") and Collateralized Debt Obligations ("CDOs"). S&P made statements regarding its processes and controls for the development of criteria for, and the issuance and surveillance of, RMBS and CDO ratings in publicly available documents that included a formal Code of Practices and Procedures (the "Code") first published in September 2004 and subsequently revised and reissued in October 2005 and June 2007.

The Code

2. In September 2004, S&P first published the Code. The Introduction to the Code stated that S&P's mission had "always remained the same – to provide high-quality, objective, independent, and rigorous analytical information to the marketplace." The Introduction stated that S&P "endeavors to conduct the rating and surveillance processes in a manner that is transparent and credible and that also ensures that the integrity and independence of the rating and surveillance processes are not compromised by conflicts of interest, abuse of confidential information or other undue influences." The Introduction stated that S&P had "established and implemented internal controls and policies and procedures to further the transparent, credible, independent and objective nature of its rating and surveillance processes." The Introduction identified the Code as a "restatement of established policies and procedures" relevant to "these rating and surveillance processes." With respect to "independence and avoidance of conflicts of interest," Section 3.1.1 of the Code stated that S&P "endeavors to avoid conflicts of interest and, where this is not possible, has established policies and procedures to address the conflicts of interest through a combination of internal controls and disclosure." Section 3.1.2 of the Code stated: "In all analytic processes, Ratings Services must preserve the objectivity, integrity and independence of its ratings. In particular, the fact that Ratings Services receives a fee from the issuer must not be a factor in the decision to rate an issuer or in the analysis and the rating opinion." Section 3.1.5 of the Code stated: "Ratings assigned by Ratings Services shall not be affected by an existing or a potential business relationship between Ratings Services (or any Non-Ratings Business) and the issuer or any other party, or the non-existence of such a relationship." In October 2005 and June 2007, S&P published updated versions of the Code that made similar statements regarding the objectivity, integrity, and independence of S&P's ratings process.

3. S&P published on its website a November 2005 "Analytic Firewalls Policy" that stated, among other things: "No employee of Standard & Poor's/McGraw-Hill shall attempt to exert improper influence on the opinions of an Equity Analyst or a Ratings Analyst. In no circumstances shall an employee of Standard & Poor's/McGraw-Hill try to influence the opinion of an Equity Analyst or a Ratings Analyst by referring to the commercial relationship between Standard & Poor's/McGraw-Hill and any third party." In a February 2006 "Report On Implementation of Standard & Poor's Rating Services Code of Conduct," also published on S&P's website, S&P stated, among other things: (a) "[S&P] recognizes its role in the global

capital markets and is committed to providing ratings that are objective, independent and credible”; and (b) “It is a central tenet of [S&P] that its ratings decisions not be influenced by the fact that [S&P] receives fees from issuers. To reinforce this central tenet, commencing in 2004, [S&P] separated in a more formal manner its commercial functions from its rating analytical functions.”

Decisions Regarding CDO Evaluator Updates

4. In 2004 and 2005, S&P was in the process of updating CDO Evaluator, one of the models used by S&P to rate Collateralized Debt Obligations (“CDOs”) to arrive at what would become CDO Evaluator Version 3.0 (“E3”). The initial update efforts, throughout 2004, were directed in part by the then head of S&P’s Global CDO group, whose experience was that the risk of losing transaction revenue was a factor that affected updates of CDO Evaluator. He set as goals for the update efforts: (a) small impacts to non-investment grade (“NIG”) cash CDO deals to minimize any negative impact of the updates on this segment of S&P’s ratings business; and (b) 2-3 notch improvements for investment grade deals to improve S&P’s market share with respect to investment grade synthetic CDOs. In accordance with these goals, during the initial update efforts, he and, according to him the then Managing Director in charge of the Cash CDO group, pushed back against updates to CDO Evaluator proposed by one of S&P’s senior analysts because they believed these changes would have had a significant negative effect on S&P’s market share and ratings business. In accordance with these goals, on May 27, 2004, the then head of S&P’s Global CDO Group sent the head of S&P’s Research and Criteria Group, the Managing Director in charge of the Synthetic CDO Group, and others an email directing the CDO Group to begin testing with customers a default matrix he had developed. According to the then head of S&P’s Global CDO Group, the decision to test this default matrix was “in part based upon business decisions, considerations.” Ultimately, this default matrix was not adopted, and work on updating CDO Evaluator to arrive at what would become E3 continued.

5. S&P originally scheduled E3 for release “sometime after July 11, 2005.” In preparation for the release, S&P circulated information regarding E3 to a number of investment banks involved in the issuance of CDOs. On July 18 and 19, 2005, a Client Value Manager in S&P’s Global CDO Group sent emails summarizing the feedback on E3 that had been received from one of these investment banks as follows: S&P’s ratings generated using CDO Evaluator Version 2.4.3 had been the “best” (by comparison to Moody’s and Fitch) with respect to CDOs comprised of certain “more lowly rated” asset pools; S&P would be giving up its market advantage with respect to these CDOs by moving to E3; and S&P would not make up for this with any increase in business in “the high quality sector” because with respect to this sector “Moody’s and Fitch can do better than E3 already.” After receiving this negative feedback, in a July 20, 2005 “Global CDO Activity Report” that she sent to the Executive Managing Director in charge of S&P’s Structured Finance department, the Managing Director in charge of S&P’s Global CDO group stated that the roll out of E3 to the market had been “toned down and slowed down” “pending further measures to deal with such negative results,” and described the basis for this decision, noting in particular one investment bank’s comments that E3 would result in S&P missing “potential business opportunities.”

Decisions Regarding Negative RMBS Ratings Actions

6. On or about November 14, 2006, the head of S&P's RMBS Surveillance Group sent to two S&P executives and an S&P senior analyst an email attaching a spreadsheet, titled "Subprime_Trouble.XLS," which showed that more than 50% of the subprime RMBS transactions that S&P rated in 2006 had severely delinquent loans that represented 25% or more of credit enhancement for the lowest rated class, with many having realized losses already.

7. On or about January 11, 2007, the head of S&P's RMBS Surveillance Group conducted a meeting of that group. Minutes indicate that at the meeting the RMBS Surveillance Group discussed topics including that a "Housing Bubble" existed, that there was a "slowdown," that the "Bubble is deflating," a projection for "20% default this year," that there were "issues with Subprime, some AltA," and that RMBS rated "A and below are in trouble for 80% of the deals." Minutes indicate that the RMBS Surveillance Group considered a recommendation that 2006 RMBS subprime be handled as follows: "Identify all the worst pools for 2006 (Decide a cutoff for delinquencies 20-30%) and put all on creditwatch."

8. After this meeting, on February 7, 2007, an RMBS Surveillance Review meeting was conducted. At this meeting, RMBS Surveillance staff recommended that subordinate tranches from approximately 30 RMBS transactions be placed on CreditWatch Negative, a public announcement, and that subordinate tranches from approximately 20 additional RMBS transactions be placed on Internal Watch, which was S&P's internal, non-public list of securities to be closely reviewed for possible rating action. The agenda for this meeting indicated that the recommendations for Credit Watch were made because tranches were experiencing "higher than expected delinquency and loss performance," "[s]everely delinquent percentages are increasing [at] a rapid pace," "[l]osses are occurring very early in some of the deals," "[s]everely delinquent ratio to loss coverage exceeds 50%," and "[m]odified stress shows potential default with in[sic] 7 months." The agenda for the meeting indicated that RMBS Surveillance proposed "continuous monitoring of the entire list of 2006 transactions through our monthly exception reports and SFSS portfolio" with rating actions to be taken based on the criteria described in the agenda after the "impact of rating actions to the SF business" was "discussed and understood."

9. The February 7, 2007 recommendations of the RMBS Surveillance Group were not followed. Instead, a committee that included members of S&P's RMBS New Issue group was convened on February 12 2007, and that committee decided to place only 18 RMBS tranches from 11 RMBS transactions on CreditWatch negative. Immediately after this decision, the head of S&P's RMBS Surveillance Group wrote to the Managing Director in charge of the Global Surveillance/ Servicer Evaluations Group that she was "fine with where we are." According to several of her colleagues, however, the head of S&P's RMBS Surveillance Group regularly complained that she was prevented by S&P executives from downgrading subprime RMBS as she and the surveillance group wanted because of concern that S&P's rating business would be negatively affected if S&P were to announce severe downgrades. According to the Managing Director in charge of the Global Surveillance/ Servicer Evaluations Group, he was told at the time by the head of S&P's Research and Criteria Group that a decision to make only "incremental downgrades" was made outside S&P's analytical rating function by the Executive Managing Director in charge of S&P's Structured Finance department.

10. On or about June 11, 2007, the heads of S&P's RMBS and CDO Surveillance Groups sent to senior S&P executives an "RMBS & CDO Surveillance Weekly Subprime Update." With respect to RMBS Surveillance, the Executive Summary portion of this update noted that "delinquencies and losses continued to increase in the pools," "the dollar balance of loans in foreclosure and REO continues to increase," "[r]esearch to determine the current time required to liquidate the loans has been initiated," and "[w]e expect to obtain data necessary to adjust our severity assumptions and the anticipated timing of losses, both of which may negatively impact rating performance." The update also detailed the determination that certain tranches of subprime RMBS were particularly vulnerable to rating actions, noting that analysts had re-run all of S&P's 18,000 subprime RMBS ratings issued since 1996 and found that, on average, the BBB-rated and lower rated tranches of subprime RMBS had greater than 100% severe delinquencies versus available credit support.

11. On or about June 27, 2007, senior S&P managers circulated an email from an S&P senior analyst indicating that if, as expected, the 2006 vintage RMBS continued to perform worse than the 2000 vintage RMBS, "we could see losses over 25% of original balance." The head of the RMBS Surveillance Group forwarded this email to others within RMBS surveillance with the comment that if the senior analyst was correct, we "could see defaults at 'AA' and 'AAA.'"

12. On or about June 29, 2007, S&P decided to accelerate the process to revise surveillance criteria with the expectation that this would result in large-scale negative rating actions on subprime RMBS ratings. Reflecting this decision: (a) on June 29, 2007, the Managing Director in charge of the Global ABS/RMBS/New Assets Group sent an email to an executive in her group explaining: "We have shortened the dates to act . . . [A]bsent any adverse event that may require us acting sooner than that, such timings tentatively include a CW [CreditWatch] press release on Monday July 9th"; and (b) on July 1, 2007, the head of the Research and Criteria Group forwarded to the head of the CDO Group and a group of other S&P executives a spreadsheet identifying 428 subprime RMBS transactions to be reviewed, with an accompanying email stating: "We have estimated the potential losses we expect from the 2006 vintage as a basis for taking near term rating action that will truly reflect the appropriate rating levels" and noting that in the future the review would need to extend to "closed end seconds" and "Alt-A" transactions.

13. On July 10, 2007, S&P publicly announced the placement of "credit ratings on 612 classes of [RMBS] backed by U.S. Subprime collateral on CreditWatch with negative implications." In addition, S&P publicly announced changes to its new issue and surveillance criteria with respect to subprime RMBS, including toughening of loss severity and loss timing assumptions for purposes of surveillance, and increased credit enhancement requirements for new subprime transactions. Thereafter, on July 12, 2007, S&P announced large-scale downgrades of 2005 and 2006 vintage subprime RMBS ratings.

14. As referenced above, from February 7, 2007 through June 29, 2007, reports from S&P analysts indicated that negative rating actions on large numbers of subprime RMBS were anticipated. After S&P's June 29, 2007 decision to accelerate the revision of surveillance criteria for subprime RMBS, senior managers at S&P expected that this would result in large-scale

negative rating actions on subprime RMBS. Throughout the period from February 7, 2007 through the public announcement of the negative rating actions on July 10, 2007, S&P continued to issue and confirm ratings for CDOs backed substantially by subprime RMBS, without making any adjustments to its existing CDO rating criteria to account for anticipated negative rating actions.

This Settlement

15. On August 27, 2014, the United States Securities and Exchange Commission adopted new requirements for credit rating agencies registered with the Commission as NRSROs. These new requirements address conflicts of interest and procedures to protect the integrity and transparency of rating methodologies, and provide for attestations to accompany credit ratings that the ratings were not influenced by other business activities. As a material part of this settlement, S&P agrees to certain Compliance Measures requiring compliance with Particular State Laws as set forth in the Settlement Agreement.

16. S&P has reviewed the voluminous discovery provided to S&P by the United States to date, and acknowledges that this discovery does not support its allegation that the United States' FIRREA complaint against S&P was filed in retaliation for S&P's 2011 decisions to place on credit watch negative and subsequently downgrade the credit rating of the United States. Accordingly, in conjunction with this settlement, S&P is withdrawing that allegation.

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20 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

21 Plaintiff,

22 v.

23 MCGRAW-HILL COMPANIES, INC.
and STANDARD & POOR'S
24 FINANCIAL SERVICES LLC,

25 Defendants.
26
27
28

Case No. CV13-779 DOC (JCGx)

**JOINT STIPULATION FOR
DISMISSAL OF ACTION
PURSUANT TO FEDERAL RULE OF
CIVIL PROCEDURE 41(a)(1)(A)(ii)**

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1 The parties hereby stipulate as follows:

2 1. To avoid the delay, uncertainty, inconvenience, and expense of
3 protracted litigation, the parties have agreed to settle the claims made by the
4 United States in this case, as well as claims made by 19 States and the District of
5 Columbia in their own state-court actions, on the terms set forth in the fully-
6 executed Settlement Agreement attached to this Joint Stipulation for Dismissal as
7 Exhibit A.

8 2. Pursuant to the terms of the Settlement Agreement, defendants
9 McGraw Hill Financial, Inc. (formerly known as The McGraw-Hill Companies,
10 Inc.) and Standard and Poor’s Financial Services, LLC (collectively “defendants”)
11 have filed a withdrawal of defendants’ Eleventh Affirmative Defense, which
12 asserted defendants’ claim that the United States filed this action in retaliation for
13 Standard and Poor’s Ratings Services’ 2011 decisions to place on credit watch
14 negative and subsequently downgrade the credit rating of the United States.

15 3. Accordingly, pursuant to the terms of the Settlement Agreement, the
16 parties hereby stipulate to the dismissal, with prejudice, of this action pursuant to
17 Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 41(a)(1)(A)(ii).

18 4. Each party will bear its own costs, expenses and fees in this matter.

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1 SO STIPULATED.

2 Dated: February __, 2015

KEKER & VAN NEST LLP

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4

By: /s/ John W. Keke
John W. Keke

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7 Dated: February __, 2015

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