



**BLACKSTONE HOLDINGS FINANCE CO. L.L.C.**

**LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL**

**To Tender in Respect of Any and All Outstanding  
5.875% Senior Notes Due 2021**

**(CUSIP No. 09256BAB3 (144A); CINS No. U09254AB6 (Regulation S))  
(ISINs US09256BAB36 (144A) and USU09254AB61 (Regulation S))**

**Pursuant to the Offer to Purchase  
dated September 3, 2019**

**THE OFFER (AS DEFINED BELOW) WILL EXPIRE AT 5:00 P.M., NEW YORK CITY TIME, ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2019, UNLESS EXTENDED OR THE OFFER IS EARLIER TERMINATED BY THE COMPANY (AS DEFINED BELOW) IN ITS SOLE DISCRETION (SUCH TIME, AS THE SAME MAY BE EXTENDED OR EARLIER TERMINATED, THE "EXPIRATION TIME").**

*The Depositary for the Offer is:*

**Global Bondholder Services Corporation**

*By Regular, Registered or Certified Mail; Hand  
or Overnight Delivery:*

Global Bondholder Services Corporation  
65 Broadway, Suite 404  
New York, New York 10006

Attention: Corporation Actions

*By Facsimile Transmission  
(for Eligible Institutions only):*  
(212) 430-3775/3779

*For Confirmation:*  
(212) 430-3774  
Toll-Free: (866) 470-3700

**DELIVERY OF THIS LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL TO AN ADDRESS OTHER THAN AS SET FORTH ABOVE, OR TRANSMISSION OF INSTRUCTIONS VIA A FAX NUMBER OTHER THAN AS LISTED ABOVE, WILL NOT CONSTITUTE A VALID DELIVERY. HOLDERS WHO WISH TO BE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE THE NOTES CONSIDERATION MUST VALIDLY TENDER THEIR NOTES OR DELIVER A PROPERLY COMPLETED AND DULY EXECUTED NOTICE OF GUARANTEED DELIVERY PRIOR TO THE EXPIRATION TIME AND COMPLY WITH THE PROCEDURES FOR TENDER BY NOTICE OF GUARANTEED DELIVERY SET FORTH IN THE OFFER TO PURCHASE (AS DEFINED BELOW). THE METHOD OF DELIVERY OF THIS LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL, NOTES, A NOTICE OF GUARANTEED DELIVERY AND ALL OTHER REQUIRED DOCUMENTS TO THE DEPOSITARY, INCLUDING DELIVERY THROUGH THE DEPOSITARY TRUST COMPANY ("DTC") AND ANY ACCEPTANCE OR AGENT'S MESSAGE DELIVERED THROUGH DTC'S AUTOMATED TENDER OFFER PROGRAM ("ATOP"), IS AT THE ELECTION AND RISK OF HOLDERS.**

Blackstone Holdings Finance Co. L.L.C., a Delaware limited liability company (the "**Company**"), is offering to purchase for cash any and all of its outstanding 5.875% Senior Notes due 2021, CUSIP No. 09256BAB3 (144A), CINS No. U09254AB6 (Regulation S), ISINs US09256BAB36 (144A) and USU09254AB61 (Regulation S) (the "**Notes**"), from holders thereof (each, a "**Holder**" and collectively, the "**Holders**") upon the terms and subject to the

conditions set forth in the Offer to Purchase dated September 3, 2019 (as it may be amended or supplemented from time to time, the “*Offer to Purchase*”), the Notice of Guaranteed Delivery (as it may be amended or supplemented from time to time, the “*Notice of Guaranteed Delivery*”) and in this Letter of Transmittal (as it may be amended or supplemented from time to time, this “*Letter of Transmittal*”), which together constitute the Offer (the “*Offer*”).

Holders should carefully review the information set forth in the Offer to Purchase, the Notice of Guaranteed Delivery and this Letter of Transmittal.

All capitalized terms used herein and not defined herein have the meaning given to them in the Offer to Purchase.

This Letter of Transmittal is to be completed by a Holder wishing to tender Notes unless such Holder is executing the tender through ATOP or is tendering using the procedures for tendering by notice of guaranteed delivery. **A Holder tendering through ATOP does not need to complete a Letter of Transmittal.**

Holders who are tendering by book-entry transfer to the Depositary’s account at DTC can execute the tender through ATOP, for which the transaction will be eligible. DTC participants that are accepting the Offer must transmit their acceptance to DTC, which will verify the acceptance and execute a book-entry delivery to the Depositary’s account at DTC. DTC will then send an Agent’s Message to the Depositary for its acceptance. Delivery of the Agent’s Message by DTC will satisfy the terms of the Offer as to execution and delivery of a Letter of Transmittal by the participant identified in the Agent’s Message.

For a description of certain procedures to be followed in order to tender Notes (through ATOP or otherwise), see “Terms of the Offer—Procedure for Tendering Notes” in the Offer to Purchase and the Instructions to this Letter of Transmittal.

Delivery of documents to DTC does not constitute delivery to the Depositary.

Only Holders may validly tender their Notes. The undersigned should complete, execute and deliver this Letter of Transmittal to indicate the action the undersigned desires to take with respect to the Offer.

The undersigned authorizes the Depositary to deliver this Letter of Transmittal to the Company as evidence of the undersigned’s tender of Notes.

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<b>TENDER OF NOTES</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	CHECK HERE IF CERTIFICATES REPRESENTING TENDERED NOTES ARE ENCLOSED HEREWITH.
<input type="checkbox"/>	CHECK HERE IF TENDERED NOTES ARE BEING DELIVERED BY BOOK-ENTRY TRANSFER MADE TO THE ACCOUNT MAINTAINED BY THE DEPOSITARY WITH DTC AND COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:  Name of Tendering Institution: _____  DTC Account Number: _____  Transaction Code Number: _____  Date Tendered: _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	CHECK HERE IF YOU ARE DELIVERING TENDERED NOTES PURSUANT TO A NOTICE OF GUARANTEED DELIVERY THAT YOU PREVIOUSLY SENT TO THE DEPOSITARY AND COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:  Names(s) of Tendering holder(s): _____  Date of Execution of Notice of Guaranteed Delivery: _____  Name of Institution that Guaranteed Delivery: _____

List below the Notes to which this Letter of Transmittal relates. If the space provided is inadequate, list the certificate numbers and principal amounts on a separately executed schedule and affix the schedule to this Letter of Transmittal. Tenders of Notes will be accepted in base denominations of \$2,000 and in integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof. No alternative, conditional or contingent tenders will be accepted. Holders who tender less than all of their Notes must continue to hold Notes in the minimum authorized denomination of \$2,000 principal amount.

### DESCRIPTION OF NOTES TENDERED

Name(s) and Address(es) of Holder(s) (Please fill in, if blank)	Certificate Numbers*	Aggregate Principal Amount Represented**	Principal Amount Tendered**
<p>* Need not be completed by Holders tendering by book-entry transfer (see below).</p> <p>** Unless otherwise indicated in the column labeled "Principal Amount Tendered" and subject to the terms and conditions set forth in the Offer to Purchase, a Holder will be deemed to have tendered the entire aggregate principal amount represented by the Notes indicated in the column labeled "Aggregate Principal Amount Represented." See Instruction 7.</p>			

If not already printed above, the name(s) and address(es) of the registered Holder(s) should be printed exactly as they appear on the certificate(s) representing Notes tendered hereby or, if tendered by a participant in DTC, exactly as such participant's name appears on a security position listing as the owner of the Notes.

**The Offer is not being made to, and tenders will not be accepted from or on behalf of, Holders in any jurisdiction in which the making or the acceptance of the Offer would not be in compliance with the laws of such jurisdiction.**

## SETTLEMENT DATES

Subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein and in the Offer to Purchase, the Company expects to accept for purchase all of the Notes that are validly tendered and not validly withdrawn at or prior to the Expiration Time one business day following the Expiration Time (the date of such acceptance, the “***Acceptance Date***”). With respect to Notes accepted for purchase on the Acceptance Date, if any, the Holders thereof will receive payment of the Notes Consideration for such accepted Notes on the Settlement Date, which date will be the date on or promptly after the Acceptance Date on which the Company deposits with DTC the aggregate Notes Consideration for Notes accepted for purchase on the Acceptance Date, together with an amount equal to the Accrued Interest thereon, being referred to as the “***Settlement Date***.” The Settlement Date will occur promptly after the Expiration Time. Accrued Interest will cease to accrue on the Settlement Date for all Notes accepted in the Offer including Notes tendered by Notice of Guaranteed Delivery. With respect to accepted Notes delivered pursuant to the guaranteed delivery procedures described below, the Holders thereof will receive payment of the Notes Consideration for such Notes one business day after the Notice of Guaranteed Delivery Date, namely the second business day after the Expiration Time, together with an amount equal to the Accrued Interest to but not including the Settlement Date. The date for settlement of Notes tendered by Notice of Guaranteed Delivery is referred to as the “***Guaranteed Delivery Settlement Date***.”

Notes will be accepted for purchase in base denominations of \$2,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof. Holders who tender less than all of their Notes must continue to hold Notes in the minimum authorized denomination of \$2,000 principal amount. All references to “\$” are to U.S. dollars.

**NOTE: SIGNATURES MUST BE PROVIDED BELOW.**  
**PLEASE READ THE ACCOMPANYING INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY.**

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The undersigned hereby tenders to Blackstone Holdings Finance Co. L.L.C., a Delaware limited liability company (the “*Company*”), upon the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in the Offer to Purchase dated September 3, 2019 (as it may be amended or supplemented from time to time, the “*Offer to Purchase*”), the Notice of Guaranteed Delivery (as it may be amended or supplemented from time to time, the “*Notice of Guaranteed Delivery*”), receipt of both of which is hereby acknowledged, and this Letter of Transmittal, the principal amount of Notes indicated in the table above entitled “Description of Notes Tendered” under the column heading “Principal Amount Tendered” (or, if nothing is indicated therein, with respect to the entire aggregate principal amount represented by the Notes described in such table). The undersigned agrees to all of the terms and conditions of the Offer as set forth herein and in the Offer to Purchase. Capitalized terms used herein and not defined herein have the meanings given to them in the Offer to Purchase.

Subject to, and effective upon, the acceptance for payment of, and payment for, the principal amount of Notes tendered herewith in accordance with the terms and subject to the conditions of the Offer, the undersigned hereby (a) sells, assigns and transfers to or upon the order of the Company all right, title and interests in and to all of the Notes tendered hereby and (b) waives any and all other rights with respect to such Notes. The undersigned hereby irrevocably constitutes and appoints the Depositary as the true and lawful agent and attorney-in-fact of the undersigned (with full knowledge that the Depositary also acts as the agent of the Company) with respect to such Notes, with full powers of substitution and revocation (such power of attorney being deemed to be an irrevocable power coupled with an interest), to (i) present such Notes and all evidences of transfer and authenticity to, or transfer ownership of such Notes on the account books maintained by DTC to, or upon the order of, the Company, (ii) present such Notes for transfer of ownership on the books of the Company and (iii) receive all benefits and otherwise exercise all rights of beneficial ownership of such Notes, all in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Offer as described in the Offer to Purchase.

The undersigned understands that tenders of Notes before the Expiration Time may be validly withdrawn by complying with the procedures described in the Offer to Purchase, the Notice of Guaranteed Delivery and this Letter of Transmittal, at any time at or before the earlier of (i) the Expiration Time and (ii) if the Offer is extended, the 10th business day after the commencement of the Offer; provided, however, that if the Company is required by law to permit withdrawal, then previously tendered Notes may be validly withdrawn to the extent required. In addition, tendered Notes may be withdrawn at any time after the 60th business day after the commencement of the Offer if for any reason the Offer has not been consummated within 60 business days after date of commencement of the Offer.

The undersigned acknowledges and agrees that a tender of Notes pursuant to any of the procedures described in the Offer to Purchase, the Notice of Guaranteed Delivery and in the instructions hereto and an acceptance of such Notes by the Company will constitute a binding agreement between the undersigned and the Company upon the terms and subject to the conditions of the Offer, which agreement will be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of the State of New York.

The undersigned acknowledges that the Company’s obligation to accept for purchase, and to pay for, Notes that are validly tendered and not validly withdrawn pursuant to the Offer is subject to the terms and conditions set forth in the Offer to Purchase, under “Terms of the Offer—Conditions to the Offer,” each of which the Company may waive, in its sole discretion. Any Notes not accepted for payment in the Offer will be returned promptly to the undersigned at the address set forth above.

The undersigned hereby represents and warrants that (a) the undersigned has full power and authority to tender, sell, assign and transfer the Notes tendered hereby, and (b) when such tendered Notes are accepted for payment and paid for by the Company pursuant to the Offer, the Company will acquire good title thereto, free and clear of all liens, restrictions, charges and encumbrances and not subject to any adverse claim or right. The undersigned will, upon request, execute and deliver any additional documents deemed by the Depositary or by the Company to be necessary or desirable to complete the sale, assignment and transfer of the Notes tendered hereby.

The Company is not required to accept for purchase any Notes tendered after the Expiration Time. The Expiration Time may be extended, as described in the Offer to Purchase. The undersigned understands that the delivery and surrender of any Notes is not effective, and the risk of loss of the Notes does not pass to the Depositary, until receipt by the Depositary of this Letter of Transmittal (or a copy thereof), properly completed and duly executed, together with all accompanying evidences of authority and any other required documents in form satisfactory to the Company.

No authority conferred or agreed to be conferred by this Letter of Transmittal shall be affected by, and all such authority shall survive, the death or incapacity of the undersigned, and any obligation of the undersigned hereunder shall be binding upon the heirs, executors, administrators, trustees in bankruptcy, personal and legal representatives, successors and assigns of the undersigned.

**In consideration for the purchase of Notes pursuant to the Offer, the undersigned hereby waives, releases, forever discharges and agrees not to sue the Company or its former, current or future directors, officers, employees, agents, subsidiaries, affiliates, members, equityholders, partners, predecessors, successors, assigns or other representatives as to any and all claims, demands, causes of action and liabilities of any kind and under any theory whatsoever, whether known or unknown (excluding any liability arising under U.S. federal securities laws in connection with the Offer), by reason of any act, omission, transaction or occurrence, that the undersigned ever had, now has or hereafter may have against the Company as a result of or in any manner related to the undersigned's purchase, ownership or disposition of the Notes pursuant to the Offer or any decline in the value thereof. Without limiting the generality or effect of the foregoing, upon the purchase of Notes pursuant to the Offer, the Company shall obtain all rights relating to the undersigned's ownership of Notes (including, without limitation, the right to all interest payable on the Notes) and any and all claims relating thereto.**

All questions as to the form of all documents and the validity (including time of receipt) and acceptance of tenders and withdrawals of Notes will be determined by the Company, in its sole discretion, and such determination shall be final and binding.

Unless otherwise indicated herein under "Special Delivery Instructions," the undersigned hereby request(s) that any Notes representing principal amounts not validly tendered or not accepted for purchase be issued in the name(s) of, and be delivered to, the undersigned (and, in the case of Notes tendered by book-entry transfer, by credit to the undersigned's account at DTC). Unless otherwise indicated herein under "Special Payment Instructions," the undersigned hereby request(s) that any checks for payment to be made in respect of the Notes tendered hereby be issued to the order of, and delivered to, the undersigned.

In the event that the "Special Delivery Instructions" box is completed, the undersigned hereby request(s) that any Notes representing principal amounts not tendered or not accepted for purchase be issued in the name(s) of, and be delivered to, the person(s) at the address(es) therein indicated. The undersigned recognizes that the Company has no obligation pursuant to the "Special Delivery Instructions" box to cause the transfer of any Notes from the names of the registered Holder(s) thereof if the Company does not accept for purchase any of the principal amount of such Notes so tendered. In the event that the "Special Payment Instructions" box is completed, the undersigned hereby request(s) that checks for payment to be made in respect of the Notes tendered hereby be issued to the order of, and be delivered to, the person(s) at the address(es) therein indicated.

<b>SPECIAL DELIVERY INSTRUCTIONS</b> (See Instructions 1, 2, 3 and 4)	<b>SPECIAL PAYMENT INSTRUCTIONS</b> (See Instructions 1, 2, 3 and 4)
<p>To be completed ONLY if Notes in a principal amount not tendered or not accepted for purchase are to be issued in the name of someone other than the person(s) whose signature(s) appear(s) within this Letter of Transmittal or sent to an address different from that shown in the table entitled "Description of Notes Tendered" in this Letter of Transmittal.</p> <p>Deliver: Notes</p> <p>Name: _____  (Please Print)</p> <p>Address: _____  _____  (Include Zip Code)</p> <p>_____  (Tax identification or Social Security number)</p> <p>(Complete Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") Form W-9 or an Appropriate IRS Form W-8)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Check here to direct a credit of Notes not tendered or not accepted for payment to be delivered by book-entry transfer to an account at DTC.</p> <p>_____  (DTC Account Number)</p> <p>Name of Account Party: _____</p>	<p>To be completed ONLY if checks are to be issued payable to someone other than the person(s) whose signature(s) appear(s) within this Letter of Transmittal or sent to an address different from that shown in the table entitled "Description of Notes Tendered" in this Letter of Transmittal.</p> <p>Issue: Checks</p> <p>Name: _____  (Please Print)</p> <p>Address: _____  _____  (Include Zip Code)</p> <p>_____  (Tax identification or Social Security number)</p> <p>(Complete IRS Form W-9 or an Appropriate IRS Form W-8)</p>



**PLEASE COMPLETE AND SIGN BELOW**

(This page is to be completed and signed by all tendering  
Holders except Holders executing the tender through ATOP)

By completing, executing and delivering this Letter of Transmittal, the undersigned hereby tenders the principal amount of Notes listed in the table above labeled "Description of Notes Tendered" under the column heading "Principal Amount Tendered" (or, if nothing is indicated therein, with respect to the entire aggregate principal amount represented by the Notes described in such table).

Signature(s): \_\_\_\_\_

(Must be signed by the registered Holder(s) exactly as the name(s) appear(s) on certificate(s) representing the tendered Notes or, if the Notes are tendered by a participant in DTC, exactly as such participant's name appears on a security position listing as the owner of such Notes or by person(s) authorized to become registered Holder(s) by appropriate endorsements and documents transmitted with this Letter of Transmittal. If signature is by trustees, executors, administrators, guardians, attorneys-in-fact, officers of corporations or others acting in a fiduciary or representative capacity, please set forth the full title and see Instruction 1.)

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Print)

Capacity: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Including Zip Code)

Area Code and Telephone Number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Tax Identification or Social Security Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Medallion Signature Guarantee  
(Only If Required—See Instructions 1 and 2)**

Authorized Signature of Guarantor: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Firm: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Area Code and Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

[Place Seal Here]

**IMPORTANT: COMPLETE AND SIGN IRS FORM W-9 IN THIS LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL  
OR APPLICABLE IRS FORM W-8**

## **Instructions for Holders forming part of the Terms and Conditions of the Offer**

1. *Signatures on Letter of Transmittal, Instruments of Transfer and Endorsements.* If this Letter of Transmittal is signed by the registered Holder(s) of the Notes tendered hereby, the signatures must correspond with the name(s) as written on the face of the certificate(s) without alteration, enlargement or any change whatsoever. If this Letter of Transmittal is signed by a participant in DTC whose name is shown on a security position listing as the owner of the Notes tendered hereby, the signature must correspond with the name shown on the security position listing as the owner of such Notes.

If any of the Notes tendered hereby are registered in the name of two or more Holders, all such Holders must sign this Letter of Transmittal. If any of the Notes tendered hereby are registered in different names on several certificates, it will be necessary to complete, sign and submit as many separate Letters of Transmittal as there are different registrations of certificates.

If this Letter of Transmittal or any Notes or instrument of transfer is signed by a trustee, executor, administrator, guardian, attorney-in-fact, agent, officer of a corporation or other person acting in a fiduciary or representative capacity, such person should so indicate when signing, and proper evidence satisfactory to the Company of such person's authority to so act must be submitted.

When this Letter of Transmittal is signed by the registered Holder(s) of the Notes tendered hereby, no endorsements of Notes or separate instruments of transfer are required unless payment is to be made, or Notes not tendered or purchased are to be issued, to a person other than the registered Holder(s), in which case signatures on such Notes or instruments of transfer must be guaranteed by a participant in the Security Transfer Agents Medallion Program, the New York Stock Exchange Medallion Signature Program or the Stock Exchange Medallion Program (a "*Medallion Signature Guarantor*").

**Unless this Letter of Transmittal is signed by the registered Holder(s) of the Notes tendered hereby (or by a participant in DTC whose name appears on a security position listing as the owner of such Notes), such Notes must be endorsed or accompanied by appropriate instruments of transfer and each such endorsement or instrument of transfer must be signed exactly as the name or names of the registered Holder(s) appear on the Notes (or as the name of such participant appears on a security position listing as the owner of such Notes); signatures on each such endorsement or instrument of transfer must be guaranteed by a Medallion Signature Guarantor, unless the signature is that of an Eligible Institution (as defined below).**

2. *Signature Guarantees.* Signatures on this Letter of Transmittal must be guaranteed by a Medallion Signature Guarantor, unless the Notes tendered hereby are tendered and delivered (i) by a participant in DTC whose name appears on a security position listing as the owner of such Notes who has not completed any of the boxes entitled "Special Payment Instructions" or "Special Delivery Instructions" on this Letter of Transmittal, or (ii) for the account of a member firm of a registered national securities exchange, a member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. or a commercial bank or trust company having an office or correspondent in the United States (each of the foregoing being referred to as an "*Eligible Institution*"). Without limiting the foregoing, unless Notes are tendered by an Eligible Institution, (i) if the signer of this Letter of Transmittal is a person other than the registered Holder or DTC participant whose name appears on a security position listing as the owner, (ii) if the payment of the Notes Consideration plus Accrued Interest is being made to a person other than the registered Holder or DTC participant whose name appears on a security position listing as the owner, or (iii) Notes not accepted for purchase or not tendered are to be returned to a person other than the registered Holder or DTC participant whose name appears on a security position listing as the owner, then the signature on this Letter of Transmittal accompanying the tendered Notes must be guaranteed by a Medallion Signature Guarantor as described above. Beneficial owners whose Notes are registered in the name of a Custodian must contact such Custodian if they wish to tender Notes so registered..

3. *Transfer Taxes.* Except as set forth in this Instruction 3, the Company will pay or cause to be paid any transfer taxes with respect to the transfer and sale of Notes to it, or to its order, pursuant to the Offer. If payment is to be made to, or if Notes not tendered or purchased are to be registered in the name of or delivered to, any persons other than the registered owners, or if tendered Notes are registered in the name of any persons other than the persons signing this Letter of Transmittal, the amount of any transfer taxes (whether imposed on the registered Holder or such

other person) payable on account of the transfer to such other person will be deducted from the payment unless satisfactory evidence of the payment of such taxes or exemption therefrom is submitted.

4. *Backup Withholding; IRS Form W-9; IRS Form W-8.* Each tendering Holder that is a “U.S. person” (as defined in the instructions to IRS Form W-9) is required to provide the Holder’s correct taxpayer identification number (“**TIN**”), generally the Holder’s social security or federal employer identification number, on the IRS Form W-9, which is provided under “Important Tax Information” below or, alternatively, to establish another basis for exemption from backup withholding. A Holder must cross out item (2) in Part II on the IRS Form W-9 if such Holder is subject to backup withholding. Failure to provide the information on the form may subject the tendering Holder to 24% federal backup withholding on the payments made to the Holder with respect to Notes purchased pursuant to the Offer and to a \$50 penalty imposed by the IRS. If the tendering Holder has not been issued a TIN and has applied for a TIN or intends to apply for a TIN in the near future, the tendering Holder should write “Applied For” in the space provided for the TIN in Part I of the IRS Form W-9. If “Applied For” is written in the space provided for the TIN in Part I of the IRS Form W-9 and the Holder does not provide a TIN by the time of payment, such Holder will be subject to backup withholding at 24% from all such payments with respect to the Notes. Each tendering Holder that is a non-U.S. person, including entities, must submit an appropriate properly completed IRS Form W-8 certifying, under penalties of perjury, to such Holder’s foreign status in order to establish an exemption from backup withholding. An appropriate IRS Form W-8 can be obtained via the IRS website at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).

**FAILURE TO COMPLETE IRS FORM W-9, THE APPROPRIATE IRS FORM W-8, OR ANOTHER APPROPRIATE FORM MAY RESULT IN BACKUP WITHHOLDING AT THE RATE DESCRIBED ABOVE ON ANY PAYMENTS MADE TO YOU PURSUANT TO THE OFFER.**

5. *Withdrawal of Tenders.* Notes tendered at or prior to the Expiration Time may be withdrawn at any time at or before the earlier of (i) the Expiration Time and (ii) if the Offer is extended, the 10th business day after the commencement of the Offer; *provided, however*, that if the Company is required by law to permit withdrawal, then previously tendered Notes may be validly withdrawn to the extent required. In addition, tendered Notes may be withdrawn at any time after the 60th business day after the commencement of the Offer if for any reason the offer has not been consummated within 60 business days after date of commencement of the Offer. In the event of a termination of the Offer with respect to the Notes, such Notes will be credited to the account maintained at DTC from which such Notes were delivered or certificates for such Notes will be returned to such tendering Holders.

If the Company makes a material change in the terms of the Offer or the information concerning the Offer, with respect to the Notes, the Company will disseminate additional offering materials and extend the Offer to the extent required by law. In addition, any extension or amendment of the Expiration Time with respect to the Notes will be followed as promptly as practicable by public announcement thereof to be issued no later than 9:00 a.m., New York City time, on the next business day after the previously scheduled Expiration Time. Without limiting the manner in which any public announcement may be made, the Company shall have no obligation to publish, advertise or otherwise communicate any such public announcement, other than by issuing a press release to *Business Wire*.

For a permitted withdrawal of tendered Notes to be effective, a written or facsimile transmission notice of withdrawal (or a properly transmitted “Request Message” through ATOP) must be received by the Depositary at its address set forth on the cover of this Letter of Transmittal within the prescribed time period. Any such notice of withdrawal must (i) specify the name of the person who tendered the Notes to be withdrawn (or, if tendered by book-entry transfer, the name of the participant in the book-entry transfer facility whose name appears on the security position listing as the owner of such Notes), (ii) contain the description of the Notes to be withdrawn, the certificate numbers shown on the particular certificates evidencing such Notes (unless such Notes were tendered by book-entry transfer) and the aggregate principal amount represented by such Notes, (iii) if other than a notice transmitted through ATOP, be signed by the Holder of such Notes in the same manner as the original signature on the Letter of Transmittal by which such Notes were tendered (including any required signature guarantees), or be accompanied by (x) documents of transfer sufficient to have the trustee for such Notes register the transfer of the Notes into the name of the person withdrawing such Notes and (y) a properly completed irrevocable proxy authorizing such person to effect such withdrawal on behalf of such Holder and (iv) specify the name in which such Notes are to be registered if different from the person who tendered such Notes pursuant to such documents of transfer (or, in the case of Notes transferred by book-entry transfer, the name and number of the account at the book-entry transfer facility to be credited with withdrawn Notes). If the Notes to be withdrawn have been delivered or otherwise identified to the Depositary, a signed

notice of withdrawal is effective immediately upon written or facsimile notice of such withdrawal, even if physical release is not yet effected.

Any permitted withdrawal of Notes may not be rescinded. Any Notes properly withdrawn will thereafter be deemed not validly tendered for purposes of the Offer; *provided, however*, that withdrawn Notes may be re-tendered by again following one of the appropriate procedures described herein at any time at or prior to the Expiration Date.

All questions as to the validity, form and eligibility (including time of receipt) of notices of withdrawal will be determined by the Company, in its sole discretion (whose determination shall be final and binding). Neither the Company, the Depositary, the Information Agent, the Dealer Managers nor any other person will be under any duty to give notification of any defects or irregularities in any notice of withdrawal, or incur any liability for failure to give any such notification.

6. *Requests for Assistance or Additional Copies.* If a Holder of Notes has questions about the Offer or procedures for accepting the Offer, the Holder should call the Dealer Managers or the Information Agent at their respective telephone numbers set forth on the last page of this Letter of Transmittal. If a Holder would like additional copies of the Offer to Purchase, Notice of Guaranteed Delivery or this Letter of Transmittal, the Holder should contact the Information Agent at the web address and the telephone numbers set forth on the last page of this Letter of Transmittal.

7. *Partial Tenders.* Tender instructions of Notes will be accepted in base denominations of \$2,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof. If less than the entire principal amount of any Note is tendered, the tendering Holders should fill in the principal amount tendered in the fourth column of the table entitled “Description of Notes Tendered” above. Holders who tender less than all of their Notes must continue to hold Notes in the minimum authorized denomination of \$2,000 principal amount. The entire principal amount of Notes delivered to the Depositary will be deemed to have been tendered unless otherwise indicated. If the entire principal amount of all Notes is not tendered, then substitute Notes for the principal amount of Notes not tendered and purchased pursuant to the Offer will be sent to the Holder at his or her registered address or otherwise to the Holder’s account, unless a different address or account is provided in the appropriate box on this Letter of Transmittal, promptly after the delivered Notes are accepted for partial tender.

Notwithstanding any other provision of the Offer, the consummation of the Offer and the Company’s obligation to accept for purchase, and to pay for, Notes validly tendered (and not validly withdrawn) pursuant to the Offer are also subject to the satisfaction of or waiver of certain conditions, including the Financing Condition, and satisfaction of the other conditions set forth in “Terms of the Offer—Conditions to the Offer” in the Offer to Purchase. The Company reserves the right to amend or waive any of the conditions of the Offer, in whole or in part, at any time or from time to time, in its sole discretion.

8. *Irregularities.* All determinations as to the validity, form, eligibility (including time of receipt) and acceptance of any tendered Notes pursuant to any of the procedures described above will be made by the Company in its sole discretion (whose determination shall be final and binding). The Company expressly reserves the absolute right, in its sole discretion, subject to applicable law, to reject any or all tenders of any Notes determined by it not to be in proper form or if the acceptance for purchase of, or payment for, such Notes may, in the opinion of counsel to the Company, be unlawful. The Company also reserves the absolute right, in its sole discretion, subject to applicable law, to waive or amend any of the conditions of the Offer, or to waive any defect or irregularity in any tender with respect to Notes of any particular Holder, whether or not similar defects or irregularities are waived in the case of other Holders. The Company’s interpretation of the terms and conditions of the Offer (including this Letter of Transmittal and the Instructions hereto) will be final and binding. None of the Company, the Depositary, the Dealer Managers, the Information Agent, the Trustee or any other person will be under any duty to give notification of any defects or irregularities in tenders or will incur any liability for failure to give any such notification.

9. *Waiver of Conditions.* The Company expressly reserves the right prior to the Expiration Date to waive (or to seek to waive) any of the conditions to the Offer, in whole or in part, at any time and from time to time.

10. *Mutilated, Lost, Stolen or Destroyed Certificates.* If a Holder desires to tender Notes, but the certificates evidencing such Notes have been mutilated, lost, stolen or destroyed, such Holder should contact the Trustee to receive information about the procedures for obtaining replacement certificates for Notes.

11. *Delivery of this Letter of Transmittal and Certificates for Notes or Book-Entry Confirmations; Guaranteed Delivery Procedures.*

You should use this Letter of Transmittal only if (a) you are forwarding Certificates for Notes with this Letter of Transmittal, (b) you are going to deliver Certificates for Notes under a Notice of Guaranteed Delivery previously sent to the Depository, or (c) tender of Notes is to be made by book-entry transfer to the Depository's account at DTC pursuant to the procedures set forth under the caption "Terms of the Offer—Procedures for Tendering Notes" in the Offer to Purchase, and instructions are not being transmitted through ATOP. In order for you to properly tender Notes, the Depository must receive certificates for all physically tendered Notes, or a confirmation of a book-entry transfer of all Notes delivered electronically into the Depository's account at DTC, as the case may be, in each case together with a properly completed and duly executed Letter of Transmittal (or manually signed facsimile thereof) with any required signature guarantees and any other documents required by the Letter of Transmittal, or a properly transmitted Agent's Message, as applicable, by the Expiration Time.

12. *Guaranteed Delivery.* If you cannot deliver your Notes and all other required documents to the Depository, or if your Notes are not immediately available, by the Expiration Time, or the procedure for book-entry transfer cannot be completed on a timely basis, you may tender your Notes pursuant to the guaranteed delivery procedure described in the Offer to Purchase by or through any Eligible Institution. To comply with the guaranteed delivery procedure, you must: (1) properly complete and duly execute the Notice of Guaranteed Delivery; (2) arrange for the Depository to receive the Notice of Guaranteed Delivery by the Expiration Time; and (3) ensure that the Depository receives the certificates for all physically tendered Notes or a confirmation of a book-entry transfer of all Notes delivered electronically into the Depository's account at DTC, as the case may be, in each case together with a properly completed and duly executed Letter of Transmittal (or manually signed facsimile thereof) with any required signature guarantees and any other documents required by the Letter of Transmittal, or a properly transmitted Agent's Message, as applicable, within two business days after the Expiration Time, all as provided in the Offer to Purchase.

The Notice of Guaranteed Delivery may be delivered by facsimile transmission or mail to the Depository and must include, if necessary, a guarantee by an Eligible Institution in the form set forth in such notice. For Notes to be properly tendered under the guaranteed delivery procedure, the Depository must receive the Notice of Guaranteed Delivery before the Expiration Time. **FOR THE AVOIDANCE OF DOUBT, THE DELIVERY OF SUCH NOTES TENDERED BY GUARANTEED DELIVERY PROCEDURES WILL BE MADE NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS ON THE SECOND BUSINESS DAY AFTER THE EXPIRATION TIME; PROVIDED, THAT ACCRUED INTEREST WILL CEASE TO ACCRUE ON THE SETTLEMENT DATE FOR ALL NOTES ACCEPTED IN THE OFFER, INCLUDING THOSE TENDERED BY THE GUARANTEED DELIVERY PROCEDURES SET FORTH ABOVE AND UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL ADDITIONAL INTEREST ON THE NOTES CONSIDERATION BE PAID BY THE COMPANY AFTER THE SETTLEMENT DATE BY REASON OF ANY DELAY ON THE PART OF THE GUARANTEED DELIVERY PROCEDURES.**

**The method of delivery of this Letter of Transmittal, Notes, the Notice of Guaranteed Delivery and all other required documents to the Depository, including delivery through DTC and any acceptance or Agent's Message delivered through ATOP, is at the election and risk of Holders.** If such delivery is by mail, it is suggested that Holders use properly insured registered mail, return receipt requested, and that the mailing be sufficiently in advance of the Expiration Time to permit delivery to the Depository prior to such date. Except as otherwise provided below, the delivery will be deemed made when actually received or confirmed by the Depository. This Letter of Transmittal and the certificates representing the Notes tendered should be sent only to the Depository, not to the Company, DTC, the Trustee, the Information Agent or the Dealer Managers.

All tendering Holders, by execution of this Letter of Transmittal, waive any right to receive any notice of the acceptance of their Notes for purchase.

13. *Special Payment and Delivery Instructions.* If the undersigned would like to request that any Notes representing principal amounts not tendered or not accepted for purchase be issued in the name(s) of a person(s) other than the signer of this Letter of Transmittal or to an address other than that shown above, the appropriate “Special Delivery Instructions” box should be completed. The undersigned recognizes that the Company has no obligation pursuant to the “Special Delivery Instructions” box to cause the transfer of any Notes from the names of the registered Holder(s) thereof if the Company does not accept for purchase any of the principal amount of such Notes so tendered. If the undersigned would like to request that checks for payment to be made in respect of the Notes tendered hereby be issued to the order of a person other than the signer of this Letter of Transmittal or be delivered to an address other than that shown above, the appropriate “Special Payment Instructions” box should be completed. In the case of issuance in a different name, the taxpayer identification or social security number of the person named must also be indicated and such person must properly complete an IRS Form W-9, or an applicable IRS Form W-8.

14. *Expiration Time.* The Expiration Time means, with respect to the Offer, 5:00 p.m., New York City time, September 9, 2019, or any later time and date to which the Company in its sole discretion (subject to applicable law) extends the Offer.

## IMPORTANT TAX INFORMATION

Under U.S. federal income tax laws, a Holder whose tendered Notes are accepted for payment is required to provide such Holder's correct TIN on IRS Form W-9 below or otherwise establish a basis for exemption from backup withholding. If such Holder is an individual, the TIN is his or her social security number or individual taxpayer identification number, as the case may be. For entities, the TIN is generally the employer identification number. A tendering Holder may be subject to backup withholding tax at a rate of 24% with respect to payments made pursuant to the Offer and a \$50 penalty may be imposed on the Holder by the IRS if a TIN is not provided. Failure to comply truthfully with the backup withholding requirements also may result in the imposition of severe criminal and/or civil fines and penalties.

Certain Holders (including, among others, most corporations and certain non-U.S. persons) are not subject to these backup withholding requirements. Exempt Holders (other than non-U.S. persons) should furnish their TIN, complete the certification in Part II of the IRS Form W-9, and sign, date and return the IRS Form W-9 to the Depository's address provided herein. See the enclosed IRS Form W-9 for additional instructions. A non-U.S. person, including an entity, may qualify as an exempt recipient by submitting an appropriate, properly completed IRS Form W-8BEN, W-8BEN-E, W-8ECI, W-8EXP or W-8IMY (a "**Form W-8**"), as the case may be, signed under penalties of perjury, certifying to that Holder's foreign status. An appropriate Form W-8, in addition to instructions for completing such forms, can be obtained via the IRS website at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).

Each payment in respect of accrued and unpaid interest made to a non-U.S. person, including an entity, generally will be subject to U.S. federal withholding tax at a 30% rate unless such non-U.S. person certifies its foreign status on a Form W-8 and certain other conditions are met.

If backup withholding applies, any payments made to the Holder or other payee will be subject to backup withholding at a 24% rate. Backup withholding is not an additional federal income tax. Rather, the federal income tax liability of persons subject to backup withholding will be reduced by the amount of tax withheld. If withholding results in an overpayment of taxes, a refund or credit may be obtained from the IRS, provided that the required information is properly furnished to the IRS on a timely basis.

See the section entitled "Certain United States Federal Income Tax Consequences" in the Offer to Purchase for an additional discussion of certain tax consequences.

### *Purpose of IRS Form W-9*

To prevent backup withholding on payments made with respect to Notes purchased pursuant to the Offer, a Holder who is a U.S. person is required to provide either (i) the Holder's correct TIN by properly completing the IRS Form W-9 below, certifying that the TIN provided on the IRS Form W-9 is correct (or that such Holder is awaiting a TIN), that the Holder is a U.S. person and that (a) the Holder has not been notified by the IRS that the Holder is subject to backup withholding as a result of a failure to report all interest or dividends or (b) the IRS has notified the Holder that the Holder is no longer subject to backup withholding; or (ii) an adequate basis for exemption.

### *What Number to Give the Depository*

The Holder is required to provide the TIN (e.g., social security number, individual taxpayer identification number or employer identification number) of the registered Holder. If the Notes are held in more than one name or are held not in the name of the actual owner, consult the enclosed IRS Form W-9 for additional guidance on which number to report.



Form (Rev. October 2018) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service	<b>W-9</b>		<b>Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification</b>		<b>Give Form to the requester. Do not send to the IRS.</b>																																																			
	▶ Go to <a href="http://www.irs.gov/FormW9">www.irs.gov/FormW9</a> for instructions and the latest information.																																																							
Print or type. See Specific Instructions on page 3.	1 Name (as shown on your income tax return). Name is required on this line; do not leave this line blank.																																																							
	2 Business name/disregarded entity name, if different from above																																																							
	3 Check appropriate box for federal tax classification of the person whose name is entered on line 1. Check only <b>one</b> of the following seven boxes.  <input type="checkbox"/> Individual/sole proprietor or single-member LLC <input type="checkbox"/> C Corporation <input type="checkbox"/> S Corporation <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership <input type="checkbox"/> Trust/estate  <input type="checkbox"/> Limited liability company. Enter the tax classification (C=C corporation, S=S corporation, P=Partnership) ▶ _____ <b>Note:</b> Check the appropriate box in the line above for the tax classification of the single-member owner. Do not check LLC if the LLC is classified as a single-member LLC that is disregarded from the owner unless the owner of the LLC is another LLC that is not disregarded from the owner for U.S. federal tax purposes. Otherwise, a single-member LLC that is disregarded from the owner should check the appropriate box for the tax classification of its owner.  <input type="checkbox"/> Other (see instructions) ▶ _____			4 Exemptions (codes apply only to certain entities, not individuals; see instructions on page 3):  Exempt payee code (if any) _____  Exemption from FATCA reporting code (if any) _____  <i>(Applies to accounts maintained outside the U.S.)</i>																																																				
	5 Address (number, street, and apt. or suite no.) See instructions.			Requester's name and address (optional)																																																				
	6 City, state, and ZIP code																																																							
	7 List account number(s) here (optional)																																																							
<b>Part I Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)</b>																																																								
Enter your TIN in the appropriate box. The TIN provided must match the name given on line 1 to avoid backup withholding. For individuals, this is generally your social security number (SSN). However, for a resident alien, sole proprietor, or disregarded entity, see the instructions for Part I, later. For other entities, it is your employer identification number (EIN). If you do not have a number, see <i>How to get a TIN</i> , later.																																																								
<b>Note:</b> If the account is in more than one name, see the instructions for line 1. Also see <i>What Name and Number To Give the Requester</i> for guidelines on whose number to enter.																																																								
<table border="1"><tr><td colspan="9">Social security number</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td colspan="11">or</td></tr><tr><td colspan="9">Employer identification number</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>						Social security number																				or											Employer identification number																			
Social security number																																																								
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Employer identification number																																																								
<b>Part II Certification</b>																																																								
Under penalties of perjury, I certify that:																																																								
1. The number shown on this form is my correct taxpayer identification number (or I am waiting for a number to be issued to me); and																																																								
2. I am not subject to backup withholding because: (a) I am exempt from backup withholding, or (b) I have not been notified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) that I am subject to backup withholding as a result of a failure to report all interest or dividends, or (c) the IRS has notified me that I am no longer subject to backup withholding; and																																																								
3. I am a U.S. citizen or other U.S. person (defined below); and																																																								
4. The FATCA code(s) entered on this form (if any) indicating that I am exempt from FATCA reporting is correct.																																																								
<b>Certification instructions.</b> You must cross out item 2 above if you have been notified by the IRS that you are currently subject to backup withholding because you have failed to report all interest and dividends on your tax return. For real estate transactions, item 2 does not apply. For mortgage interest paid, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, contributions to an individual retirement arrangement (IRA), and generally, payments other than interest and dividends, you are not required to sign the certification, but you must provide your correct TIN. See the instructions for Part II, later.																																																								
<table border="1"><tr><td><b>Sign Here</b></td><td>Signature of U.S. person ▶</td><td>Date ▶</td></tr></table>						<b>Sign Here</b>	Signature of U.S. person ▶	Date ▶																																																
<b>Sign Here</b>	Signature of U.S. person ▶	Date ▶																																																						
<b>General Instructions</b>																																																								
Section references are to the Internal Revenue Code unless otherwise noted.																																																								
<b>Future developments.</b> For the latest information about developments related to Form W-9 and its instructions, such as legislation enacted after they were published, go to <a href="http://www.irs.gov/FormW9">www.irs.gov/FormW9</a> .																																																								
<b>Purpose of Form</b>																																																								
An individual or entity (Form W-9 requester) who is required to file an information return with the IRS must obtain your correct taxpayer identification number (TIN) which may be your social security number (SSN), individual taxpayer identification number (ITIN), adoption taxpayer identification number (ATIN), or employer identification number (EIN), to report on an information return the amount paid to you, or other amount reportable on an information return. Examples of information returns include, but are not limited to, the following.																																																								
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Form 1099-DIV (dividends, including those from stocks or mutual funds)</li><li>• Form 1099-MISC (various types of income, prizes, awards, or gross proceeds)</li><li>• Form 1099-B (stock or mutual fund sales and certain other transactions by brokers)</li><li>• Form 1099-S (proceeds from real estate transactions)</li><li>• Form 1099-K (merchant card and third party network transactions)</li><li>• Form 1098 (home mortgage interest), 1098-E (student loan interest), 1098-T (tuition)</li><li>• Form 1099-C (canceled debt)</li><li>• Form 1099-A (acquisition or abandonment of secured property)</li></ul>																																																								
Use Form W-9 only if you are a U.S. person (including a resident alien), to provide your correct TIN.																																																								
If you do not return Form W-9 to the requester with a TIN, you might be subject to backup withholding. See What is backup withholding, later.																																																								



By signing the filled-out form, you:

1. Certify that the TIN you are giving is correct (or you are waiting for a number to be issued),
2. Certify that you are not subject to backup withholding, or
3. Claim exemption from backup withholding if you are a U.S. exempt payee. If applicable, you are also certifying that as a U.S. person, your allocable share of any partnership income from a U.S. trade or business is not subject to the withholding tax on foreign partners' share of effectively connected income, and
4. Certify that FATCA code(s) entered on this form (if any) indicating that you are exempt from the FATCA reporting, is correct. See *What is FATCA reporting*, later, for further information.

**Note:** If you are a U.S. person and a requester gives you a form other than Form W-9 to request your TIN, you must use the requester's form if it is substantially similar to this Form W-9.

**Definition of a U.S. person.** For federal tax purposes, you are considered a U.S. person if you are:

- An individual who is a U.S. citizen or U.S. resident alien;
- A partnership, corporation, company, or association created or organized in the United States or under the laws of the United States;
- An estate (other than a foreign estate); or
- A domestic trust (as defined in Regulations section 301.7701-7).

**Special rules for partnerships.** Partnerships that conduct a trade or business in the United States are generally required to pay a withholding tax under section 1446 on any foreign partners' share of effectively connected taxable income from such business. Further, in certain cases where a Form W-9 has not been received, the rules under section 1446 require a partnership to presume that a partner is a foreign person, and pay the section 1446 withholding tax. Therefore, if you are a U.S. person that is a partner in a partnership conducting a trade or business in the United States, provide Form W-9 to the partnership to establish your U.S. status and avoid section 1446 withholding on your share of partnership income.

In the cases below, the following person must give Form W-9 to the partnership for purposes of establishing its U.S. status and avoiding withholding on its allocable share of net income from the partnership conducting a trade or business in the United States.

- In the case of a disregarded entity with a U.S. owner, the U.S. owner of the disregarded entity and not the entity;
- In the case of a grantor trust with a U.S. grantor or other U.S. owner, generally, the U.S. grantor or other U.S. owner of the grantor trust and not the trust; and
- In the case of a U.S. trust (other than a grantor trust), the U.S. trust (other than a grantor trust) and not the beneficiaries of the trust.

**Foreign person.** If you are a foreign person or the U.S. branch of a foreign bank that has elected to be treated as a U.S. person, do not use Form W-9. Instead, use the appropriate Form W-8 or Form 8233 (see Pub. 515, *Withholding of Tax on Nonresident Aliens and Foreign Entities*).

**Nonresident alien who becomes a resident alien.** Generally, only a nonresident alien individual may use the terms of a tax treaty to reduce or eliminate U.S. tax on certain types of income. However, most tax treaties contain a provision known as a "saving clause." Exceptions specified in the saving clause may permit an exemption from tax to continue for certain types of income even after the payee has otherwise become a U.S. resident alien for tax purposes.

If you are a U.S. resident alien who is relying on an exception contained in the saving clause of a tax treaty to claim an exemption from U.S. tax on certain types of income, you must attach a statement to Form W-9 that specifies the following five items.

1. The treaty country. Generally, this must be the same treaty under which you claimed exemption from tax as a nonresident alien.
2. The treaty article addressing the income.
3. The article number (or location) in the tax treaty that contains the saving clause and its exceptions.
4. The type and amount of income that qualifies for the exemption from tax.
5. Sufficient facts to justify the exemption from tax under the terms of the treaty article.

**Example.** Article 20 of the U.S.-China income tax treaty allows an exemption from tax for scholarship income received by a Chinese student temporarily present in the United States. Under U.S. law, this student will become a resident alien for tax purposes if his or her stay in the United States exceeds 5 calendar years. However, paragraph 2 of the first Protocol to the U.S.-China treaty (dated April 30, 1984) allows the provisions of Article 20 to continue to apply even after the Chinese student becomes a resident alien of the United States. A Chinese student who qualifies for this exception (under paragraph 2 of the first protocol) and is relying on this exception to claim an exemption from tax on his or her scholarship or fellowship income would attach to Form W-9 a statement that includes the information described above to support that exemption.

If you are a nonresident alien or a foreign entity, give the requester the appropriate completed Form W-8 or Form 8233.

## Backup Withholding

**What is backup withholding?** Persons making certain payments to you must under certain conditions withhold and pay to the IRS 24% of such payments. This is called "backup withholding." Payments that may be subject to backup withholding include interest, tax-exempt interest, dividends, broker and barter exchange transactions, rents, royalties, nonemployee pay, payments made in settlement of payment card and third party network transactions, and certain payments from fishing boat operators. Real estate transactions are not subject to backup withholding.

You will not be subject to backup withholding on payments you receive if you give the requester your correct TIN, make the proper certifications, and report all your taxable interest and dividends on your tax return.

**Payments you receive will be subject to backup withholding if:**

1. You do not furnish your TIN to the requester,
2. You do not certify your TIN when required (see the instructions for Part II for details),
3. The IRS tells the requester that you furnished an incorrect TIN,
4. The IRS tells you that you are subject to backup withholding because you did not report all your interest and dividends on your tax return (for reportable interest and dividends only), or
5. You do not certify to the requester that you are not subject to backup withholding under 4 above (for reportable interest and dividend accounts opened after 1983 only).

Certain payees and payments are exempt from backup withholding. See *Exempt payee code*, later, and the separate Instructions for the Requester of Form W-9 for more information.

Also see *Special rules for partnerships*, earlier.

## What is FATCA Reporting?

The Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) requires a participating foreign financial institution to report all United States account holders that are specified United States persons. Certain payees are exempt from FATCA reporting. See *Exemption from FATCA reporting code*, later, and the Instructions for the Requester of Form W-9 for more information.

## Updating Your Information

You must provide updated information to any person to whom you claimed to be an exempt payee if you are no longer an exempt payee and anticipate receiving reportable payments in the future from this person. For example, you may need to provide updated information if you are a C corporation that elects to be an S corporation, or if you no longer are tax exempt. In addition, you must furnish a new Form W-9 if the name or TIN changes for the account; for example, if the grantor of a grantor trust dies.

## Penalties

**Failure to furnish TIN.** If you fail to furnish your correct TIN to a requester, you are subject to a penalty of \$50 for each such failure unless your failure is due to reasonable cause and not to willful neglect.

**Civil penalty for false information with respect to withholding.** If you make a false statement with no reasonable basis that results in no backup withholding, you are subject to a \$500 penalty.

**Criminal penalty for falsifying information.** Willfully falsifying certifications or affirmations may subject you to criminal penalties including fines and/or imprisonment.

**Misuse of TINs.** If the requester discloses or uses TINs in violation of federal law, the requester may be subject to civil and criminal penalties.

## Specific Instructions

### Line 1

You must enter one of the following on this line; **do not** leave this line blank. The name should match the name on your tax return.

If this Form W-9 is for a joint account (other than an account maintained by a foreign financial institution (FFI)), list first, and then circle, the name of the person or entity whose number you entered in Part I of Form W-9. If you are providing Form W-9 to an FFI to document a joint account, each holder of the account that is a U.S. person must provide a Form W-9.

a. **Individual.** Generally, enter the name shown on your tax return. If you have changed your last name without informing the Social Security Administration (SSA) of the name change, enter your first name, the last name as shown on your social security card, and your new last name.

**Note: ITIN applicant:** Enter your individual name as it was entered on your Form W-7 application, line 1a. This should also be the same as the name you entered on the Form 1040/1040A/1040EZ you filed with your application.

b. **Sole proprietor or single-member LLC.** Enter your individual name as shown on your 1040/1040A/1040EZ on line 1. You may enter your business, trade, or "doing business as" (DBA) name on line 2.

c. **Partnership, LLC that is not a single-member LLC, C corporation, or S corporation.** Enter the entity's name as shown on the entity's tax return on line 1 and any business, trade, or DBA name on line 2.

d. **Other entities.** Enter your name as shown on required U.S. federal tax documents on line 1. This name should match the name shown on the charter or other legal document creating the entity. You may enter any business, trade, or DBA name on line 2.

e. **Disregarded entity.** For U.S. federal tax purposes, an entity that is disregarded as an entity separate from its owner is treated as a "disregarded entity." See Regulations section 301.7701-2(c)(2)(iii). Enter the owner's name on line 1. The name of the entity entered on line 1 should never be a disregarded entity. The name on line 1 should be the name shown on the income tax return on which the income should be reported. For example, if a foreign LLC that is treated as a disregarded entity for U.S. federal tax purposes has a single owner that is a U.S. person, the U.S. owner's name is required to be provided on line 1. If the direct owner of the entity is also a disregarded entity, enter the first owner that is not disregarded for federal tax purposes. Enter the disregarded entity's name on line 2, "Business name/disregarded entity name." If the owner of the disregarded entity is a foreign person, the owner must complete an appropriate Form W-8 instead of a Form W-9. This is the case even if the foreign person has a U.S. TIN.

### Line 2

If you have a business name, trade name, DBA name, or disregarded entity name, you may enter it on line 2.

### Line 3

Check the appropriate box on line 3 for the U.S. federal tax classification of the person whose name is entered on line 1. Check only one box on line 3.

IF the entity/person on line 1 is a(n) . . .	THEN check the box for . . .
• Corporation	Corporation
• Individual	Individual/sole proprietor or single-member LLC
• Sole proprietorship, or	
• Single-member limited liability company (LLC) owned by an individual and disregarded for U.S. federal tax purposes.	
• LLC treated as a partnership for U.S. federal tax purposes,	Limited liability company and enter the appropriate tax classification. (P= Partnership; C= C corporation; or S= S corporation)
• LLC that has filed Form 8832 or 2553 to be taxed as a corporation, or	
• LLC that is disregarded as an entity separate from its owner but the owner is another LLC that is not disregarded for U.S. federal tax purposes.	
• Partnership	Partnership
• Trust/estate	Trust/estate

### Line 4, Exemptions

If you are exempt from backup withholding and/or FATCA reporting, enter in the appropriate space on line 4 any code(s) that may apply to you.

#### Exempt payee code.

- Generally, individuals (including sole proprietors) are not exempt from backup withholding.
- Except as provided below, corporations are exempt from backup withholding for certain payments, including interest and dividends.
- Corporations are not exempt from backup withholding for payments made in settlement of payment card or third party network transactions.
- Corporations are not exempt from backup withholding with respect to attorneys' fees or gross proceeds paid to attorneys, and corporations that provide medical or health care services are not exempt with respect to payments reportable on Form 1099-MISC.

The following codes identify payees that are exempt from backup withholding. Enter the appropriate code in the space in line 4.

- 1—An organization exempt from tax under section 501(a), any IRA, or a custodial account under section 403(b)(7) if the account satisfies the requirements of section 401(f)(2)
- 2—The United States or any of its agencies or instrumentalities
- 3—A state, the District of Columbia, a U.S. commonwealth or possession, or any of their political subdivisions or instrumentalities
- 4—A foreign government or any of its political subdivisions, agencies, or instrumentalities
- 5—A corporation
- 6—A dealer in securities or commodities required to register in the United States, the District of Columbia, or a U.S. commonwealth or possession
- 7—A futures commission merchant registered with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission
- 8—A real estate investment trust
- 9—An entity registered at all times during the tax year under the Investment Company Act of 1940
- 10—A common trust fund operated by a bank under section 584(a)
- 11—A financial institution
- 12—A middleman known in the investment community as a nominee or custodian
- 13—A trust exempt from tax under section 664 or described in section 4947

The following chart shows types of payments that may be exempt from backup withholding. The chart applies to the exempt payees listed above, 1 through 13.

IF the payment is for . . .	THEN the payment is exempt for . . .
Interest and dividend payments	All exempt payees except for 7
Broker transactions	Exempt payees 1 through 4 and 6 through 11 and all C corporations. S corporations must not enter an exempt payee code because they are exempt only for sales of noncovered securities acquired prior to 2012.
Barter exchange transactions and patronage dividends	Exempt payees 1 through 4
Payments over \$600 required to be reported and direct sales over \$5,000 <sup>1</sup>	Generally, exempt payees 1 through 5 <sup>2</sup>
Payments made in settlement of payment card or third party network transactions	Exempt payees 1 through 4

<sup>1</sup> See Form 1099-MISC, Miscellaneous Income, and its instructions.

<sup>2</sup> However, the following payments made to a corporation and reportable on Form 1099-MISC are not exempt from backup withholding: medical and health care payments, attorneys' fees, gross proceeds paid to an attorney reportable under section 6045(f), and payments for services paid by a federal executive agency.

**Exemption from FATCA reporting code.** The following codes identify payees that are exempt from reporting under FATCA. These codes apply to persons submitting this form for accounts maintained outside of the United States by certain foreign financial institutions. Therefore, if you are only submitting this form for an account you hold in the United States, you may leave this field blank. Consult with the person requesting this form if you are uncertain if the financial institution is subject to these requirements. A requester may indicate that a code is not required by providing you with a Form W-9 with "Not Applicable" (or any similar indication) written or printed on the line for a FATCA exemption code.

A—An organization exempt from tax under section 501(a) or any individual retirement plan as defined in section 7701(a)(37)

B—The United States or any of its agencies or instrumentalities

C—A state, the District of Columbia, a U.S. commonwealth or possession, or any of their political subdivisions or instrumentalities

D—A corporation the stock of which is regularly traded on one or more established securities markets, as described in Regulations section 1.1472-1(c)(1)(i)

E—A corporation that is a member of the same expanded affiliated group as a corporation described in Regulations section 1.1472-1(c)(1)(i)

F—A dealer in securities, commodities, or derivative financial instruments (including notional principal contracts, futures, forwards, and options) that is registered as such under the laws of the United States or any state

G—A real estate investment trust

H—A regulated investment company as defined in section 851 or an entity registered at all times during the tax year under the Investment Company Act of 1940

I—A common trust fund as defined in section 584(a)

J—A bank as defined in section 581

K—A broker

L—A trust exempt from tax under section 664 or described in section 4947(a)(1)

M—A tax exempt trust under a section 403(b) plan or section 457(g) plan

**Note:** You may wish to consult with the financial institution requesting this form to determine whether the FATCA code and/or exempt payee code should be completed.

## Line 5

Enter your address (number, street, and apartment or suite number). This is where the requester of this Form W-9 will mail your information returns. If this address differs from the one the requester already has on file, write NEW at the top. If a new address is provided, there is still a chance the old address will be used until the payor changes your address in their records.

## Line 6

Enter your city, state, and ZIP code.

## Part I. Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)

**Enter your TIN in the appropriate box.** If you are a resident alien and you do not have and are not eligible to get an SSN, your TIN is your IRS individual taxpayer identification number (ITIN). Enter it in the social security number box. If you do not have an ITIN, see *How to get a TIN* below.

If you are a sole proprietor and you have an EIN, you may enter either your SSN or EIN.

If you are a single-member LLC that is disregarded as an entity separate from its owner, enter the owner's SSN (or EIN, if the owner has one). Do not enter the disregarded entity's EIN. If the LLC is classified as a corporation or partnership, enter the entity's EIN.

**Note:** See *What Name and Number To Give the Requester*, later, for further clarification of name and TIN combinations.

**How to get a TIN.** If you do not have a TIN, apply for one immediately. To apply for an SSN, get Form SS-5, Application for a Social Security Card, from your local SSA office or get this form online at [www.SSA.gov](http://www.SSA.gov). You may also get this form by calling 1-800-772-1213. Use Form W-7, Application for IRS Individual Taxpayer Identification Number, to apply for an ITIN, or Form SS-4, Application for Employer Identification Number, to apply for an EIN. You can apply for an EIN online by accessing the IRS website at [www.irs.gov/Businesses](http://www.irs.gov/Businesses) and clicking on Employer Identification Number (EIN) under Starting a Business. Go to [www.irs.gov/Forms](http://www.irs.gov/Forms) to view, download, or print Form W-7 and/or Form SS-4. Or, you can go to [www.irs.gov/OrderForms](http://www.irs.gov/OrderForms) to place an order and have Form W-7 and/or SS-4 mailed to you within 10 business days.

If you are asked to complete Form W-9 but do not have a TIN, apply for a TIN and write "Applied For" in the space for the TIN, sign and date the form, and give it to the requester. For interest and dividend payments, and certain payments made with respect to readily tradable instruments, generally you will have 60 days to get a TIN and give it to the requester before you are subject to backup withholding on payments. The 60-day rule does not apply to other types of payments. You will be subject to backup withholding on all such payments until you provide your TIN to the requester.

**Note:** Entering "Applied For" means that you have already applied for a TIN or that you intend to apply for one soon.

**Caution:** A disregarded U.S. entity that has a foreign owner must use the appropriate Form W-8.

## Part II. Certification

To establish to the withholding agent that you are a U.S. person, or resident alien, sign Form W-9. You may be requested to sign by the withholding agent even if item 1, 4, or 5 below indicates otherwise.

For a joint account, only the person whose TIN is shown in Part I should sign (when required). In the case of a disregarded entity, the person identified on line 1 must sign. Exempt payees, see *Exempt payee code*, earlier.

**Signature requirements.** Complete the certification as indicated in items 1 through 5 below.

**1. Interest, dividend, and barter exchange accounts opened before 1984 and broker accounts considered active during 1983.** You must give your correct TIN, but you do not have to sign the certification.

**2. Interest, dividend, broker, and barter exchange accounts opened after 1983 and broker accounts considered inactive during 1983.** You must sign the certification or backup withholding will apply. If you are subject to backup withholding and you are merely providing your correct TIN to the requester, you must cross out item 2 in the certification before signing the form.

**3. Real estate transactions.** You must sign the certification. You may cross out item 2 of the certification.

**4. Other payments.** You must give your correct TIN, but you do not have to sign the certification unless you have been notified that you have previously given an incorrect TIN. "Other payments" include payments made in the course of the requester's trade or business for rents, royalties, goods (other than bills for merchandise), medical and health care services (including payments to corporations), payments to a nonemployee for services, payments made in settlement of payment card and third party network transactions, payments to certain fishing boat crew members and fishermen, and gross proceeds paid to attorneys (including payments to corporations).

**5. Mortgage interest paid by you, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, qualified tuition program payments (under section 529), ABLE accounts (under section 529A), IRA, Coverdell ESA, Archer MSA or HSA contributions or distributions, and pension distributions.** You must give your correct TIN, but you do not have to sign the certification.

### What Name and Number To Give the Requester

For this type of account:	Give name and SSN of:
1. Individual	The individual
2. Two or more individuals (joint account) other than an account maintained by an FFI	The actual owner of the account or, if combined funds, the first individual on the account <sup>1</sup>
3. Two or more U.S. persons (joint account maintained by an FFI)	Each holder of the account
4. Custodial account of a minor (Uniform Gift to Minors Act)	The minor <sup>2</sup>
5. a. The usual revocable savings trust (grantor is also trustee)	The grantor-trustee <sup>1</sup>
b. So-called trust account that is not a legal or valid trust under state law	The actual owner <sup>1</sup>
6. Sole proprietorship or disregarded entity owned by an individual	The owner <sup>3</sup>
7. Grantor trust filing under Optional Form 1099 Filing Method 1 (see Regulations section 1.671-4(b)(2)(i)(A))	The grantor <sup>4</sup>
For this type of account:	Give name and EIN of:
8. Disregarded entity not owned by an individual	The owner
9. A valid trust, estate, or pension trust	Legal entity <sup>4</sup>
10. Corporation or LLC electing corporate status on Form 8832 or Form 2553	The corporation
11. Association, club, religious, charitable, educational, or other tax-exempt organization	The organization
12. Partnership or multi-member LLC	The partnership
13. A broker or registered nominee	The broker or nominee

For this type of account:	Give name and EIN of:
14. Account with the Department of Agriculture in the name of a public entity (such as a state or local government, school district, or prison) that receives agricultural program payments	The public entity
15. Grantor trust filing under the Form 1041 Filing Method or the Optional Form 1099 Filing Method 2 (see Regulations section 1.671-4(b)(2)(i)(B))	The trust

<sup>1</sup> List first and circle the name of the person whose number you furnish. If only one person on a joint account has an SSN, that person's number must be furnished.

<sup>2</sup> Circle the minor's name and furnish the minor's SSN.

<sup>3</sup> You must show your individual name and you may also enter your business or DBA name on the "Business name/disregarded entity" name line. You may use either your SSN or EIN (if you have one), but the IRS encourages you to use your SSN.

<sup>4</sup> List first and circle the name of the trust, estate, or pension trust. (Do not furnish the TIN of the personal representative or trustee unless the legal entity itself is not designated in the account title.) Also see *Special rules for partnerships*, earlier.

**\*Note:** The grantor also must provide a Form W-9 to trustee of trust.

**Note:** If no name is circled when more than one name is listed, the number will be considered to be that of the first name listed.

### Secure Your Tax Records From Identity Theft

Identity theft occurs when someone uses your personal information such as your name, SSN, or other identifying information, without your permission, to commit fraud or other crimes. An identity thief may use your SSN to get a job or may file a tax return using your SSN to receive a refund.

To reduce your risk:

- Protect your SSN,
- Ensure your employer is protecting your SSN, and
- Be careful when choosing a tax preparer.

If your tax records are affected by identity theft and you receive a notice from the IRS, respond right away to the name and phone number printed on the IRS notice or letter.

If your tax records are not currently affected by identity theft but you think you are at risk due to a lost or stolen purse or wallet, questionable credit card activity or credit report, contact the IRS Identity Theft Hotline at 1-800-908-4490 or submit Form 14039.

For more information, see Pub. 5027, Identity Theft Information for Taxpayers.

Victims of identity theft who are experiencing economic harm or a systemic problem, or are seeking help in resolving tax problems that have not been resolved through normal channels, may be eligible for Taxpayer Advocate Service (TAS) assistance. You can reach TAS by calling the TAS toll-free case intake line at 1-877-777-4778 or TTY/TDD 1-800-829-4059.

#### Protect yourself from suspicious emails or phishing schemes.

Phishing is the creation and use of email and websites designed to mimic legitimate business emails and websites. The most common act is sending an email to a user falsely claiming to be an established legitimate enterprise in an attempt to scam the user into surrendering private information that will be used for identity theft.

The IRS does not initiate contacts with taxpayers via emails. Also, the IRS does not request personal detailed information through email or ask taxpayers for the PIN numbers, passwords, or similar secret access information for their credit card, bank, or other financial accounts.

If you receive an unsolicited email claiming to be from the IRS, forward this message to [phishing@irs.gov](mailto:phishing@irs.gov). You may also report misuse of the IRS name, logo, or other IRS property to the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA) at 1-800-366-4484. You can forward suspicious emails to the Federal Trade Commission at [spam@uce.gov](mailto:spam@uce.gov) or report them at [www.ftc.gov/complaint](http://www.ftc.gov/complaint). You can contact the FTC at [www.ftc.gov/idtheft](http://www.ftc.gov/idtheft) or 877-IDTHEFT (877-438-4338). If you have been the victim of identity theft, see [www.IdentityTheft.gov](http://www.IdentityTheft.gov) and Pub. 5027.

Visit [www.irs.gov/IdentityTheft](http://www.irs.gov/IdentityTheft) to learn more about identity theft and how to reduce your risk.

## Privacy Act Notice

Section 6109 of the Internal Revenue Code requires you to provide your correct TIN to persons (including federal agencies) who are required to file information returns with the IRS to report interest, dividends, or certain other income paid to you; mortgage interest you paid; the acquisition or abandonment of secured property; the cancellation of debt; or contributions you made to an IRA, Archer MSA, or HSA. The person collecting this form uses the information on the form to file information returns with the IRS, reporting the above information. Routine uses of this information include giving it to the Department of Justice for civil and criminal litigation and to cities, states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. commonwealths and possessions for use in administering their laws. The information also may be disclosed to other countries under a treaty, to federal and state agencies to enforce civil and criminal laws, or to federal law enforcement and intelligence agencies to combat terrorism. You must provide your TIN whether or not you are required to file a tax return. Under section 3406, payers must generally withhold a percentage of taxable interest, dividend, and certain other payments to a payee who does not give a TIN to the payer. Certain penalties may also apply for providing false or fraudulent information.

Any questions or requests for assistance or additional copies of this Letter of Transmittal, the Notice of Guaranteed Delivery or the Offer to Purchase may be directed to the Information Agent at the telephone numbers and address listed below. A Holder may also contact each Dealer Manager at its telephone number set forth below or such Holder's broker, dealer, commercial bank, trust company or nominee for assistance concerning the Offer.

Copies of this Offer to Purchase, the related Letter of Transmittal and the Notice of Guaranteed Delivery are also available at the following web address: <http://www.gbsc-usa.com/Blackstone/>

*The Information Agent for the Offer is:*

**Global Bondholder Services Corporation**

65 Broadway, Suite 404  
New York, New York 10006  
Banks and Brokers: (212) 430-3774  
[Email: contact@gbsc-usa.com](mailto:contact@gbsc-usa.com)

*The Depositary for the Offer is:*

**Global Bondholder Services Corporation**

*By Hand, Overnight Delivery or Mail  
(Registered or Certified Mail Recommended):*

Global Bondholder Services Corporation  
65 Broadway, Suite 404  
New York, New York 10006

Attention: Corporation Actions

*By Facsimile Transmission  
(for Eligible Institutions only):*

(212) 430-3775/3779

*For Confirmation:*

(212) 430-3774

Toll-Free: (866) 470-3700

*The Joint Lead Dealer Managers for the Offer are:*

**Citigroup**

388 Greenwich Street, 7th Floor  
New York, New York 10013  
U.S. Toll-Free: (800) 558-3745  
Collect: (212) 723-6106

**Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC**

1585 Broadway, 29<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, New York  
Attention: Liability Management Group  
U.S. Toll-Free: (800) 624-1808  
Collect: (212) 761-1057