#### FRANCHISE DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT

Choice Hotels International, Inc. a Delaware corporation

**Before December 1, 2023**1 Choice Hotels Circle, Suite 400
Rockville, Maryland 20850

On or about December 1, 2023 915 Meeting Street North Bethesda, Maryland 20852

(301) 592-5000 e-mail: development@choicehotels.com https://choicehotelsdevelopment.com



The franchise offered is for the right to operate an upper upscale hotel that provides lodging services to the public under the name "Radisson Blu®" ("RADISSON BLU" or "Hotel").

The total investment necessary to begin the operation of a Radisson Blu® Hotel with no more than 300 rooms is \$21,333,095 to \$128,853,045 but excludes the cost of real estate. This includes approximately \$176,795 to \$270,795 that must be paid to the franchisor or its affiliates.

This Disclosure Document summarizes certain provisions of your Franchise Agreement and other information in plain English. Read this Disclosure Document and all accompanying agreements carefully. You must receive this Disclosure Document at least 14 calendar days before you sign a binding agreement with, or make any payment to, us or an affiliate in connection with the proposed franchise sale. **Note, however, that no government agency has verified the information contained in this document.** 

You may wish to receive your Disclosure Document in another format that is more convenient for you. To discuss the availability of disclosures in different formats, contact Franchise Development at 1 Choice Hotels Circle, Suite 400, Rockville, Maryland 20850 until December 1, 2023, and on or after December 1, 2023, at 915 Meeting Street, North Bethesda, Maryland 20852, or by telephone, at (301) 592-5000.

The terms of your contract will govern your franchise relationship. Do not rely on the Disclosure Document alone to understand your contract. Read all of your contracts carefully. Show your contract and this Disclosure Document to an advisor, like a lawyer or accountant.

Buying a franchise is a complex investment. The information in this Disclosure Document can help you make up your mind. More information on franchising, such as "A Consumer's Guide to Buying a Franchise," which can help you understand how to use this Disclosure Document, is available from the Federal Trade Commission ("FTC"). You can contact the FTC at 1-877-FTC-HELP or by writing to the FTC at 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20580. You can also visit the FTC's home page at www.ftc.gov for additional information on franchising.

There may also be laws on franchising in your state. Ask your state agencies about them.

Issuance Date: April 1, 2023

# **How to Use This Franchise Disclosure Document**

Here are some questions you may be asking about buying a franchise and tips on how to find more information:

QUESTION	WHERE TO FIND INFORMATION
How much can I earn?	Item 19 may give you information about outlet sales, costs, profits or losses. You should also try to obtain this information from others, like current and former franchisees. You can find their names and contact information (if any) in Item 20 or Exhibit J.
How much will I need to invest?	Items 5 and 6 list fees you will be paying to the franchisor or at the franchisor's direction. Item 7 lists the initial investment to open. Item 8 describes the suppliers you must use.
Does the franchisor have the financial ability to provide support to my business?	Item 21 or Exhibit C includes financial statements. Review these statements carefully.
Is the franchise system stable, growing, or shrinking?	Item 20 summarizes the recent history of the number of company-owned and franchised outlets.
Will my business be the only Radisson Blu® business in my area?	Item 12 and the "territory" provisions in the franchise agreement describe whether the franchisor and other franchisees can compete with you.
Does the franchisor have a troubled legal history?	Items 3 and 4 tell you whether the franchisor or its management have been involved in material litigation or bankruptcy proceedings.
What's it like to be a Radisson Blu® franchisee?	Item 20 or Exhibit J list current and former franchisees (if any). You can contact them to ask about their experiences.
What else should I know?	These questions are only a few things you should look for. Review all 23 Items and all Exhibits in this disclosure document to better understand this franchise opportunity. See the table of contents.

# What You Need To Know About Franchising Generally

<u>Continuing responsibility to pay fees</u>. You may have to pay royalties and other fees even if you are losing money.

<u>Business model can change</u>. The franchise agreement may allow the franchisor to change its manuals and business model without your consent. These changes may require you to make additional investments in your franchise business or may harm your franchise business.

<u>Supplier restrictions</u>. You may have to buy or lease items from the franchisor or a limited group of suppliers the franchisor designates. These items may be more expensive than similar items you could buy on your own.

<u>Operating restrictions</u>. The franchise agreement may prohibit you from operating a similar business during the term of the franchise. There are usually other restrictions. Some examples may include controlling your location, your access to customers, what you sell, how you market, and your hours of operation.

<u>Competition from franchisor</u>. Even if the franchise agreement grants you a territory, the franchisor may have the right to compete with you in your territory.

**Renewal**. Your franchise agreement may not permit you to renew. Even if it does, you may have to sign a new agreement with different terms and conditions in order to continue to operate your franchise business.

When your franchise ends. The franchise agreement may prohibit you from operating a similar business after your franchise ends even if you still have obligations to your landlord or other creditors.

# **Some States Require Registration**

Your state may have a franchise law, or other law, that requires franchisors to register before offering or selling franchises in the state. Registration does not mean that the state recommends the franchise or has verified the information in this document. To find out if your state has a registration requirement, or to contact your state, use the agency information in Exhibit B.

Your state also may have laws that require special disclosures or amendments be made to your franchise agreement. If so, you should check the State Specific Addenda. See the Table of Contents for the location of the State Specific Addenda.

# Special Risk(s) to Consider About This Franchise

Certain states require that the following risk(s) be highlighted:

Out-of-State Dispute Resolution. The Franchise Agreement requires you to resolve disputes with the franchisor by mediation, arbitration and/or litigation only in Maryland. Out-of-state mediation, arbitration, or litigation may force you to accept a less favorable settlement for disputes. It may also cost more to mediate, arbitrate, or litigate with the franchisor in Maryland than in your own state.

Certain states may require other risks to be highlighted. Check the "State Specific Addenda" (if any) to see whether your state requires other risks to be highlighted.

# NOTICE REQUIRED BY STATE OF MICHIGAN

THE STATE OF MICHIGAN PROHIBITS CERTAIN UNFAIR PROVISIONS THAT ARE SOMETIMES IN FRANCHISE DOCUMENTS. IF ANY OF THE FOLLOWING PROVISIONS ARE IN THESE FRANCHISE DOCUMENTS, THE PROVISIONS ARE VOID AND CANNOT BE ENFORCED AGAINST YOU.

Each of the following provisions is void and unenforceable if contained in any documents relating to a franchise:

- a) A prohibition of the right of a franchisee to join an association of franchisees.
- b) A requirement that a franchisee assent to a release, assignment, novation, waiver, or estoppel which deprives a franchisee of rights and protections provided in this act. This shall not preclude a franchisee, after entering into a franchise agreement, from settling any and all claims.
- c) A provision that permits a franchisor to terminate a franchise prior to the expiration of its term except for good cause. Good cause shall include the failure of the franchisee to comply with any lawful provisions of the franchise agreement and to cure such failure after being given written notice thereof and a reasonable opportunity, which in no event need be more than 30 days, to cure such failure.
- d) A provision that permits a franchisor to refuse to renew a franchise without fairly compensating the franchisee by repurchase or other means for the fair market values at the time of expiration of the franchisee's inventory, supplies, equipment, fixtures, and furnishings. Personalized materials which have no value to the franchisor and inventory, supplies, equipment, fixtures, and furnishings not reasonably required in the conduct of the franchise business are not subject to compensation. This subsection applies only if: (i) the term of the franchise is less than 5 years and (ii) the franchisee is prohibited by the franchise or other agreement from continuing to conduct substantially the same business under another trademark, service mark, trade name, logotype, advertising, or other commercial symbol in the same area subsequent to the expiration of the franchise or the franchisee does not receive at least 6 months advance notice of franchisor's intent not to renew the franchise.
- e) A provision that permits the franchisor to refuse to renew a franchise on terms generally available to other franchisees of the same class or type under similar circumstances. This section does not require a renewal provision.
- f) A provision requiring that arbitration or litigation be conducted outside this state. This shall not preclude the franchisee from entering into an agreement, at the time of arbitration, to conduct arbitration at a location outside this state.
- g) A provision which permits a franchisor to refuse to permit a transfer of ownership of a franchise, except for good cause. This subdivision does not prevent a franchisor from exercising a right of refusal to purchase the franchise. Good cause shall include, but is not limited to:
  - (i) The failure of the proposed transferee to meet the franchisor's then current reasonable qualifications or standards.
  - (ii) The fact that the proposed transferee is a competitor of the franchisor or subfranchisor.
  - (iii) The unwillingness of the proposed transferee to agree in writing to comply with all lawful obligations.
  - (iv) The failure of the franchisee or proposed transferee to pay any sums owing to the franchisor or to cure any default in the franchise agreement existing at the time of the

#### proposed transfer.

- h) A provision that requires the franchisee to resell to the franchisor items that are not uniquely identified with the franchisor. This subdivision does not prohibit a provision that grants to a franchisor a right of first refusal to purchase the assets of a franchise on the same terms and conditions as a bona fide third party willing and able to purchase those assets, nor does this subdivision prohibit a provision that grants the franchisor the right to acquire the assets of a franchise for the market or appraised value of such assets if the franchisee has breached the lawful provisions of the franchise agreement and has failed to cure the breach in the manner provided in subdivision (c).
- i) A provision which permits the franchisor to directly or indirectly convey, assign, or otherwise transfer its obligations to fulfill contractual obligations to the franchisee unless provision has been made for providing the required contractual services.

THE FACT THAT THERE IS A NOTICE OF THIS OFFERING ON FILE WITH THE ATTORNEY GENERAL DOES NOT CONSTITUTE APPROVAL, RECOMMENDATION, OR ENDORSEMENT BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL.

Any questions regarding this notice should be directed to:

State of Michigan
Office of the Attorney General
CONSUMER PROTECTION DIVISION
Attention: Antitrust and Franchise Unit
525 West Ottawa Street
G. Mennen Williams Building, 1st Floor
Lansing, Michigan 48913
Telephone Number: (517) 373-7117

THE MICHIGAN NOTICE APPLIES ONLY TO FRANCHISEES WHO ARE RESIDENTS OF MICHIGAN OR LOCATE THEIR FRANCHISES IN MICHIGAN.

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# THE FRANCHISOR AND ANY PARENTS, PREDECESSORS AND AFFILIATES

To simplify the language in this disclosure document, "we," "us," "our," "Choice" or "Choice Hotels" means Choice Hotels International, Inc., the franchisor. "We," "us," "our," "Choice" or "Choice Hotels" does not include the employees, officers, directors or shareholders of Choice. "You" means the person who buys the franchise. "You" may be an individual, corporation, partnership, limited liability company or other legal entity, or may include the principal owners of such entity or entities if an owner of you is required to sign a personal guarantee and be personally bound by your obligations under the Franchise Agreement.

This disclosure document is for the right to own and/or operate a RADISSON BLU branded hotel ("RADISSON BLU" or "RADISSON BLU Marks").

We do business under the following primary Choice Hotels trademarks among others: ASCEND HOTEL COLLECTION®, CAMBRIA®, CLARION HOTEL®, CLARION INN®, CLARION INN & SUITES®, CLARION SUITES®, CLARION RESORT®, CLARION COLLECTION®, CLARION POINTE®, COMFORT INN®, COMFORT INN & SUITES®, COMFORT SUITES®, COUNTRY INN & SUITES®, ECONO LODGE®, ECONO LODGE INN & SUITES®, EVERHOME SUITES®, MAINSTAY SUITES®, PARK INN®, PARK INN® RESIDENCES, PARK PLAZA®, QUALITY INN®, QUALITY INN & SUITES®, QUALITY SUITES®, QUALITY HOTEL®, RADISSON®, RADISSON BLU®, RADISSON INDIVIDUALS®, RADISSON INN & SUITES™, RADISSON RED®, RODEWAY INN®, RODEWAY INN & SUITES®, SLEEP INN®, SLEEP INN & SUITES®, SUBURBAN®, SUBURBAN STUDIOS® and WOODSPRING SUITES®.

#### The Franchisor and Our Business.

We are a Delaware corporation formed on January 8, 1963, under the name Quality Inns International, Inc. We changed our corporate name to Choice Hotels International, Inc. on July 25, 1990. From November 1, 1996 to October 15, 1997, our corporate name was Choice Hotels Franchising, Inc. Our corporate name has been Choice Hotels International, Inc. since October 15, 1997. Our principal business address (as well as the principal place of business of the Radisson companies listed in this Item 1) is 1 Choice Hotels Circle, Suite 400, Rockville, Maryland 20850. This address will change in December 2023, when we move our headquarters to 915 Meeting Street, North Bethesda, Maryland 20852. Our agents for service of process are disclosed in Exhibit B of this disclosure document.

Our business began in 1939 when seven independent motel owners in Florida met to discuss how they could better satisfy the needs of their customers. Over the next few years, the group continued to meet and share best practices. In 1941, the group formalized its relationship by creating a membership association called Quality Courts United, thereby creating the nation's first hotel chain. The vision of the members of Quality Courts United was to develop quality and other standards for their customers, as well as to refer guests to each other's motels.

In January 1963, the organization officially became a for-profit corporation operating under the name Quality Courts Motels, Inc. Shortly thereafter, a training school, a central reservations system and hotel directory were added to the organization. Since that time, the company has changed its name to Choice Hotels International, Inc. and has expanded and further developed the Choice franchise system of hotels through the development of additional hotel brands and expansion into new markets.

Our indirect subsidiaries have conducted international franchise operations through a combination of direct franchising and master franchising or master development relationships since approximately 1958. More currently, our indirect subsidiary, Choice Hotels Licensing B.V. ("Choice BV"), a private limited liability company formed in the Netherlands on June 8, 2000, has been a franchisor or a master franchisor of our various Choice hotel brands internationally. Our international operations are primarily conducted in the following countries and territories, as organized by region: (1) Asia-Pacific - Australia, China, India, Japan, New Zealand, Thailand, and these have been mainly our ASCEND HOTEL COLLECTION, COMFORT, ECONO LODGE, and QUALITY brands; (2) Europe & Middle East. - Austria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Lithuania, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom, and these have been mainly our ASCEND HOTEL COLLECTION, COMFORT, QUALITY, and CLARION brands; and (3) Latin America & Canada - Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, and these have been our ASCEND, COMFORT, QUALITY, and SLEEP INN brands. Choice BV's wholly owned subsidiary, Choice Hotels France, S.A.S. (a French company incorporated in France on November 23, 2006), conducts franchise operations in France. Choice BV's wholly owned subsidiary, Choice Hotels Asia-Pac Pty. Ltd. (an Australia company incorporated on March 30, 1998), conducts franchise operations in Australia and New Zealand. In Canada, Choice BV conducts franchise operations for its CAMBRIA, EVERHOME, MAINSTAY, SUBURBAN STUDIOS and WOODSPRING brands. We have a master franchise agreement with Choice Hotels Canada, Inc. ("CHC"), a corporation incorporated on May 21, 2008 under the laws of the Province of Ontario. CHC has the exclusive right to franchise hotels in Canada under the ASCEND HOTEL COLLECTION, COMFORT, CLARION, ECONO LODGE, QUALITY, RODEWAY INN, and SLEEP INN brands. CHC is equally owned by Choice Hotels International Licensing ULC, a company formed in May 2008 under the laws of the Province of Alberta, Canada, and a wholly owned subsidiary of Choice BV, and by InnVest Management Holdings Limited. Further, as a part of the Radisson purchase, Choice acquired the rights in Radisson Hotels Canada, Inc. (Radisson Canada"), which is a British Columbia corporation incorporated on May 9, 2011, and Radisson Canada currently offers franchises in Canada for hotels under the Radisson Blu, Radisson®, Country Inn & Suites® by Radisson, and Park Inn by Radisson names, and previously offered franchises under the Radisson RED, Radisson Individuals and Radisson Inn & Suites names. Radisson Canada began offering franchises in 2011. Unless otherwise noted, all of these subsidiaries share our principal business address, and have not operated any hotels or offered franchises in any other line of business. As of December 31, 2022, there were approximately 1,191 Choice franchised hotels (inclusive of 90 Radisson franchised hotels) operating in these various countries.

In 2013, we established a subsidiary, SkyTouch Solutions, LLC, that develops and markets cloud-based technology products, including inventory management, pricing and connectivity to third party channels, to hoteliers who do not have franchise agreements with us.

Choice Privileges Loyalty Services, LLC is a Delaware limited liability company formed on June 12, 2017 ("CPLS"). CPLS owns, operates and administers the Choice Privileges® guest rewards program. Its principal business address is 2711 Centerville Road, Suite 400, Wilmington, Delaware 19808.

On August 11, 2022, Choice completed its purchase of Radisson Hospitality, Inc. pursuant to a Share Sale and Purchase Agreement dated June 12, 2022 ("Purchase Agreement"). Under the Purchase Agreement, Choice purchased 100% of Radisson Holdings, Inc.'s equity interest in Radisson Hospitality, Inc. (a Minnesota corporation incorporated on March 3, 1998) and its subsidiaries (collectively, "Radisson"). Radisson is now a wholly owned subsidiary of Choice.

Radisson was a hospitality franchisor of the following portfolio of brands that were the subject of the Purchase Agreement: Radisson Collection®; Radisson Blu®; Radisson RED®; Radisson

Individuals®; Radisson Inn & Suites®; Park Plaza®; Park Inn® by Radisson; and Country Inn & Suites® by Radisson (the "Radisson Brands"). Radisson owned the rights to these brands in the United States, Canada, Latin America, and the Caribbean (the "Americas"). Pursuant to the Purchase Agreement, Choice did not purchase any interest in Radisson Hotel Group, which owns the rights to Radisson Hotels in Europe, the Middle East, Africa, and Asia Pacific. As a part of the purchase, we also acquired Radisson Hotels Management Corporation, a company incorporated in 1979 under the laws of New Jersey, which manages several Radisson Brand hotels owned by us or other unrelated parties. (See Item 1 below.)

From 2015 to 2023, Radisson Hotels International, Inc. ("Radisson International"), a Delaware corporation incorporated on August 15, 1983, and a wholly owned subsidiary of Radisson Hospitality, Inc., offered franchise hotels under the RADISSON BLU brand. Choice began offering franchises under the RADISSON BLU marks as of April 2023.

Radisson Procurement, Inc., d/b/a Strategic Sourcing, is a subsidiary of Radisson that purchases goods and services for resale to third parties, including Radisson franchisees.

Except as set forth in this Item 1, we do not have any other parents, predecessors or affiliates that must be disclosed.

# **RADISSON BLU Hotels.**

RADISSON BLU is an upper upscale Hotel that has a full range of first-class hotel services but maintain its individuality reflecting the uniqueness of the market in which it is located. RADISSON BLU Hotels appeal to both leisure and business travelers and customers looking for meeting and/or event space. You must sign the form of Franchise Agreement and Personal Guaranty of Franchise Agreement attached to this Disclosure Document as Exhibit D. If you are converting an existing hotel, purchasing an existing RADISSON BLU Hotel, or renewing your license, your Franchise Agreement will include a Property Improvement Plan as an exhibit to your Franchise Agreement.

The information in this Disclosure Document applies to both new construction and conversion of existing hotels, except where otherwise disclosed in this Disclosure Document. The Franchise Agreement authorizes you to use the RADISSON BLU trade name and service marks to operate and to identify the class of hotel facility, and permits you to use the distinctive identity, trade dress, methods and system for conducting the hotel business at the franchised Hotel.

Our affiliates and subsidiaries have owned, operated and managed hotels under the name RADISSON BLU since 2012. Your receipt of this disclosure document does not mean that you will be approved as a franchisee or that you may develop or open any of our franchised hotels. Before you may develop and open any of our franchised hotels, we must approved you as a franchisee, we must approve the location of your proposed Hotel, you must attend and successfully complete our training programs, and we and you must sign the Franchise Agreement (Exhibit D to this Disclosure Document.)

## **General Market and Competition.**

The market for hotel services is generally well developed but will largely depend on your Hotel's location, size and type of operation (for example, resort location, hotel for frequent business travelers, etc.). Franchisees typically seek customers and business referrals from the local community and solicit business from tour and travel groups on a regional and national level. Depending on the location of the hotel, sales may increase or decrease significantly on a seasonal basis.

Your competitors will include other chain-affiliated hotels (including our hotel brands) and independent hotels and motels in the area where your Hotel is located. You may also face competition from vacation rental properties, such as VRBO and Airbnb.

#### Other Choice Hotels Brands.

We franchise other hotel brands under the Choice Marks as defined in Item 13. We have franchised full service, mid-priced hotels under the trademark QUALITY INN since 1968 and under the trademark CLARION since 1987. QUALITY INN provides an accommodating environment, friendly service and a continental breakfast. All-suites hotels within the QUALITY brand are known as QUALITY SUITES hotels. CLARION branded hotels offer guests a quality of service, amenities and inviting atmosphere associated with finer hotels, but at an affordable price. These hotels offer free high-speed internet access, and most locations offer a full-service restaurant, room service, swimming pool and fitness center. In 2018, we began franchising limited-service hotels under the trademark CLARION POINTE, which offer affordable accommodations with comfortable, contemporary rooms, free high-speed internet access, and a free better-for-you breakfast.

We have franchised limited-service, mid-scale hotels under the trademark COMFORT since 1981 and under the trademark SLEEP INN since 1987. We also have franchised limited-service economy and budget hotels under the trademark ECONO LODGE since 1990 and under the trademark RODEWAY INN® since 1990, respectively. COMFORT branded hotels provide a warm atmosphere and personal, helpful service, including breakfast, in-room coffee and high-speed internet access. All-suites hotels under the COMFORT brand are offered under the COMFORT SUITES trademark. SLEEP INN branded hotels provide exceptional service and value in a familiar atmosphere with carefully maintained facilities. SLEEP INN branded hotels that contain at least 10% suites may operate under the SLEEP INN & SUITES trademark. ECONO LODGE branded hotels provide a comfortable stay at a great value for business and leisure travelers. RODEWAY INN branded hotels are budget segment hotels for value-oriented travelers that offer a welcoming and efficient environment at an economy price.

We have franchised extended stay, limited-service hotels under the trademark MAINSTAY SUITES since 1996 and under the trademark SUBURBAN since 2005 or SUBURBAN STUDIOS® since 2022. MAINSTAY SUITES offers residential style amenities and affordable rates. Each MAINSTAY SUITES hotel room offers ample space for an extended stay, with areas for dressing, relaxing, sleeping and eating, and includes a well-equipped kitchen. SUBURBAN or SUBURBAN STUDIOS offers competitive rates for stays of one week or more. Rooms at a SUBURBAN property are spacious and feature a well-equipped kitchen and free high-speed internet access.

We acquired the WOODSPRING SUITES brand from WoodSpring Hotels Franchise Services LLC, a Kansas limited liability company ("WHFS") in 2018. From 2004 to April 2015, WHFS offered extended-stay franchises under the name "VALUE PLACE," and in 2015 WHFS changed the brand to "WOODSPRING SUITES." We began offering franchises under the trademark WOODSPRING SUITES in February 2018. WOODSPRING SUITES hotels are extended stay, limited services hotels that offer customers the value of a furnished room with kitchen facilities, together with terms and conditions, services and amenities associated with extended-stay hotels, including easy check-in, one-week stays, and periodic housekeeping.

We began offering EVERHOME SUITES franchises in November 2019. EVERHOME SUITES offers in the mid-scale space studio and larger one-bedroom options, all of which include a fully equipped, modern kitchen complete with a full-sized refrigerator, dishwasher, stovetop, microwave, and ample counter space. Dishes, utensils, glassware, and cookware will be provided in room for free to enable guests to cook their own meals. Small appliances, such as blenders, crockpots, and electric indoor grills, will be

available to rent at the front desk.

We have franchised hotels under the trademark CAMBRIA since 2004. CAMBRIA is an upscale, select-service hotel brand designed for guests who want to take their lifestyle with them when traveling. CAMBRIA branded hotels feature a stylish design that creates a unique sense of place, within our design framework—optimized for operational excellence, financial performance and guest appeal.

We also offer hotels under the trademark ASCEND, which is a special group of boutique, unique or historic hotels that have a strong local identity and share a common commitment to outstanding guest service. ASCEND member hotels range from historic to themed to contemporary and offer amenities, including operation of an onsite, upscale dining restaurant or are located within one city block of an upscale dining restaurant. From April 1, 2005 through April 30, 2008, we offered franchises for a similar concept under the trademark CLARION COLLECTION. As of December 31, 2022, there were three CLARION COLLECTION franchises open in the United States. ASCEND member hotels typically will be conversions of existing hotels that retain their existing name followed by the words, "ASCEND HOTEL COLLECTION" or "ASCEND RESORT COLLECTION" for local marketing and signage purposes.

We began offering franchises for COUNTRY INN & SUITES through our subsidiary in August 2022 and directly since April 2023. Previously, Country Inn & Suites by Radisson, Inc. ("CIS Radisson"), a Minnesota corporation incorporated on July 22, 1986, conducted business under the corporate name Country Inns & Suites By Carlson, Inc., and granted franchises under the trade names "Country Inns & Suites By Carlson," "Country Inn By Carlson" and "Country Suites By Carlson" from 1987 until September 29, 2017. On September 29, 2017, the corporate name was changed to Country Inn & Suites by Radisson, Inc. and it began conducting business and granting franchises under the trade names "Country Inns & Suites by Radisson" from that date and until March 2023.

We began offering RADISSON franchises through our subsidiary in August 2022 and directly since April 2023. From 1983 to 2023, Radisson Hotels International, Inc. ("Radisson International"), a Delaware corporation incorporated on August 15, 1983, and a wholly owned subsidiary of Radisson Hospitality, Inc., franchised hotels under the RADISSON brand. RADISSON is a full-service hotel brand that offers bright welcoming spaces and amenities, including breakfast options and free Wi-Fi. RADISSON franchises are offered for three different classes, each aimed at a slightly different segment of travelers: resort class; suite class; and hotel class. Some of the differences between these classes are the location and size of the RADISSON hotel and the size and type of the guest rooms in the hotel.

We began offering franchises under the name PARK INN, PARK INN BY RADISSON and PARK INN BY RADISSON RESIDENCES through our subsidiary in August 2022 and directly since April 2023. From 2000 to 2023, Park Hospitality LLC ("Park"), a Delaware limited liability company organized on June 13, 2000, and a wholly-owned indirect subsidiary of Radisson Hospitality, Inc., operated and franchised hotels under the name PARK INN or PARK INN BY RADISSON and began offering the extended stay PARK INN BY RADISSON RESIDENCES option in 2020. In addition to guestrooms and a lobby area, these PARK INN hotels may include various amenities and facilities typically provided at upper-economy and midscale hotels, such as a swimming pool, a restaurant, a cocktail lounge (where legally permitted), a business center, room service, a banquet area and meeting rooms. A PARK INN RESIDENCES Hotel may include extended stay amenities, such as common laundry facilities and in-room kitchenettes.

Our predecessor, Radisson International, has offered or sold franchises for the Radisson Collection, Radisson Red, and Radisson Individuals brands. As of the date of this disclosure document, we are not actively offering or selling franchises for these brands, although this may change in the future.

As of December 31, 2022, the following Choice Brands were open and operating in the United States: 177 ASCEND hotel franchises; 59 CAMBRIA hotel franchises; 121 CLARION hotel franchises; 3 CLARION COLLECTION hotel franchises; 55 CLARION POINTE hotel franchises; 1,655 COMFORT INN, COMFORT INN & SUITES, and COMFORT SUITES hotel franchises; 429 COUNTRY hotel franchises; 702 ECONO LODGE hotel franchises; 1 EVERHOME SUITES hotel franchises; 115 MAINSTAY SUITES hotel franchises; 4 PARK INN hotel franchises; 0 PARK PLAZA hotel franchises; 1,633 QUALITY hotel franchises; 57 RADISSON hotel franchises; 1 RADISSON BLU hotel franchises; 2 RADISSON INDIVIDUALS hotel franchises; 0 RADISSON INN & SUITES hotel franchises; 1 RADISSON RED hotel franchises; 503 RODEWAY INN hotel franchises; 423 SLEEP INN and SLEEP INN & SUITES hotel franchises; 75 SUBURBAN franchises; and 212 WOODSPRING SUITES. The above includes the following hotels that Choice operates, but does not own: 6 Radisson hotels located in Phoenix, Arizona; Sunnyvale, California; Nashville, Tennessee; Salt Lake City, Utah; Seattle, Washington; and La Crosse, Wisconsin; Radisson Blu hotel located in Chicago, Illinois; and 3 Country Inn & Suites located in San Diego, California; Brooklyn Center, Minnesota; and Bothell, Washington. Not included in this list are six CAMBRIA hotels owned by Choice, which are operated by third party management companies. Choice intends to franchise all company-owned CAMBRIA hotels in the near future. Also not included are the following hotels that Choice owns and operates: a Radisson Blu hotel located in Bloomington, Minnesota; a Radisson RED hotel located in Minneapolis, Minnesota; and a dual brand Country Inn & Suites and Park Plaza hotel located in Bloomington, Minnesota.

# **Industry Specific Laws and Regulations.**

Your franchise Hotel will be subject to significant federal, state and local laws and regulations applicable to businesses generally and those specific to the hotel industry, including regulations regarding zoning and building, occupational health and safety, labor, licensing and bonding, food, insurance, advertising, liquor licenses, sales, income and other taxes, the Americans with Disabilities Act, privacy and data collection, and posting of hotel room rates and registration and identification of guests. There may be other laws and regulations applicable to the hotel industry or businesses generally, with which you must comply. You should consult with your attorney concerning these laws and regulations.

Except as described in this Item 1, we have not offered franchises in any other line of business, and we do not engage in any franchise business not related to those described in this Item 1.

# ITEM 2 BUSINESS EXPERIENCE

#### **OFFICERS**

#### Director, President and Chief Executive Officer: Patrick S. Pacious

Mr. Pacious has been a Director, President and Chief Executive Officer since September 2017. He is based in our Rockville, Maryland corporate office.

#### Chief Human Resources Officer: Patrick J. Cimerola

Mr. Cimerola has been Chief Human Resources Officer since 2015. He is based in our Rockville, Maryland corporate office.

## Senior Vice President, Chief Development Officer: David A. Pepper

Mr. Pepper has been Senior Vice President, Chief Development Officer since May 2015. He is based in our Rockville, Maryland corporate office.

## Chief Financial Officer: Dominic E. Dragisich

Mr. Dragisich has been Chief Financial Officer since March 2017. He is based in our Rockville, Maryland corporate office.

# Senior Vice President, General Counsel, Corporate Secretary and External Affairs: Simone Wu

Ms. Wu has been Senior Vice President, General Counsel, Corporate Secretary and External Affairs since 2015. She is based in our Rockville, Maryland corporate office.

# Senior Vice President, Upscale Brands: Janis Cannon

Ms. Cannon has been Senior Vice President, Upscale Brands since April 2015. She is based in our Rockville, Maryland corporate office.

#### Senior Vice President, Real Estate and Finance: Scott E. Oaksmith

Mr. Oaksmith has been Senior Vice President, Real Estate and Finance since March 2020. Previously, he was Senior Vice President, Finance & Chief Accounting Officer from May 2016 to March 2020. He is based in our Rockville, Maryland corporate office.

# **Chief Commercial Officer: Robert McDowell**

Mr. McDowell has been Chief Commercial Officer since February 2016. He is based in our Rockville, Maryland corporate office.

## Senior Vice President, Enterprise Operations and Technology: John E. Bonds

Mr. Bonds has been Senior Vice President, Enterprise Operations and Technology since September 2017. He is based in our Rockville, Maryland corporate office.

#### Chief Strategy and International Operations Officer: Raul Ramirez Sanchez

Mr. Ramirez Sanchez has been Chief Strategy and International Operations Officer since October 2021. He was Senior Vice President, Head of International, Corporate Strategic and Financial Planning from June 2020 to October 2021. He was Senior Vice President, International Strategic Planning and Global Head of Financial Planning and Analysis from August 2019 to June 2020 and was Vice President, Strategic Finance and Financial Planning and Analysis from August 2017 to August 2019. He is based in our Rockville, Maryland corporate office. Previously, he was Head of Finance, XO Business Unit for Verizon Communications in Herndon, Virginia from February 2019 to August 2019 and was employed at XO Communications as Vice President, Financial Planning and Analysis and Corporate Development from September 2015 until January 2019.

# Deputy General Counsel and Assistant Secretary: Jeff Lobb

Mr. Lobb has been Deputy General Counsel since February 2017 and has been Assistant Secretary since September 2015. He is based in our Rockville, Maryland corporate office.

# OTHER EXECUTIVES WITH MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY RELATING TO THE SALE OR OPERATION OF OUR FRANCHISES

#### **Chief Information Officer: Brian Kirkland**

Mr. Kirkland has been Chief Information Officer since July 2021. Previously, he was Chief Technology Officer from January 2018 to July 2021. He is based in our Scottsdale, Arizona corporate office.

## Vice President and General Manager Signature and Foundation Brands: Timothy R. Shuy

Mr. Shuy has been Vice President and General Manager Signature and Foundation Brands since September 2022. Previously, he was a Vice President, Owner and Portfolio Strategy for Choice from September 2015 to August 2022. He is based in our Rockville, Maryland corporate office.

#### Senior Vice President, Upscale Brands Development: Mark Shalala

Mr. Shalala has been Senior Vice President, Upscale Brands Development since January 2020. He was Vice President, Upscale Brands Development from January 2017 to December 2019. He is based in his home office in Rockville, Maryland.

## Senior Vice President, Foundation Brands Development: Tom Nee

Mr. Nee has been Senior Vice President, Foundation Brands Development since January 2017. He is based in his home office in Rockville, Maryland.

#### Vice President, Environmental, Social and Governance: Megan Brumagim

Ms. Brumagim has been Vice President, Environmental, Social and Governance since April 2022. Previously, she was Vice President, Brand Management, Design and Compliance from June 2019 to March 2022. She was Senior Director, Signature Brands for Choice Hotels from September 2017 to June 2019. She is based in our Rockville, Maryland corporate office.

#### Senior Vice President, Extended Stay Development: Ron Burgett

Mr. Burgett has been Senior Vice President, Extended Stay Development since January 2020. Previously, Mr. Burgett was Vice President, Franchise Development, WoodSpring from February 2018 to January 2020. He is based in our Rockville, Maryland corporate office.

#### Senior Vice President, Franchise Development: Jason Cowan

Mr. Cowan has been Senior Vice President, Franchise Development since January 2020. Previously, he was Regional Vice President, Franchise Development from May 2018 to January 2020. He was Regional Vice President, Franchise Sales from January 2012 to April 2018. He is based in his home office located in Atlanta, Georgia.

#### Vice President, Franchisee Onboarding and Learning: Timothy Tobin

Mr. Tobin has been Vice President, Franchisee Onboarding and Learning since February 2018. He is based in our Rockville, Maryland corporate office.

# Vice President and GM, Extended Stay Brand: Anna Scozzafava

Ms. Scozzafava has been Vice President and GM of Extended Stay since June 2019. Previously, she was Vice President of Strategy and Planning from November 2017 to June 2019. She is based in our Rockville, Maryland corporate office.

#### **Vice President, Franchise Services: Curtis Osekowsky**

Mr. Osekowsky has been Vice President, Franchise Performance since July 2022. Previously, he was a Vice President, Franchise Services for Choice from September 2018 to June 2022. He is based in our Rockville, Maryland corporate office. He was a Regional Vice President of Radisson Hotel Group in Minnetonka, Minnesota from April 2016 to February 2018.

## Vice President, Franchise Development: Brian Parker

Mr. Parker has been Vice President, Franchise Development since January 2020. He was Regional Vice President, Franchise Sales from January 2012 to December 2019. He is based in his home office located in Plainfield, New Jersey.

## Vice President, Franchise Development: Nick DePaolo

Mr. DePaolo has been Vice President, Franchise Development since January 2017. He was Regional Vice President, Franchise Development from April 2008 to January 2017. He is based in his home office located in Chicago, Illinois.

## Vice President, Franchise Development: Sonia Egyhazy

Ms. Egyhazy has been Vice President, Franchise Development since January 2019. Previously, she was Director of Development from December 2014 to December 2018. She is based in her home office located in Jacksonville, Florida.

# **Vice President of Hotel Development – Ascend Hotel Collection: Pete Metzger**

Mr. Metzger has been Vice President of Hotel Development-Ascend Hotel Collection since January 2020. Previously, he was Regional Vice President Ascend Collection Development – Ascend Hotel Collection from May 2018 to January 2020. He was Director of Development from January 2013 to August 2018. He is based in his home office located in Columbia, South Carolina.

#### **Vice President, Franchise Development: Anthony Goldstein**

Mr. Goldstein has been Vice President, Franchise Development since January 2020. Previously, he was Regional Vice President, Franchise Development from May 2018 to January 2020. He was Regional Vice President, Franchise Sales from July 2017 to April 2018. He is based in his home office located in San Diego, California.

# Vice President, Franchise Development: Keith Jones

Mr. Jones has been Vice President, Franchise Development since January 2022. Previously, he was Regional Vice President, Franchise Development from March 2018 to December 2021. He is based in his home office located in Austin, Texas.

## Vice President, Franchise Development: Robert O'Leary

Mr. O'Leary has been Vice President, Franchise Development since January 2022. Previously, Mr.

O'Leary was Regional Vice President, Franchise Development from March 2018 to December 2021. He is based in his home office located in Tampa, Florida.

# Vice President, Franchise Sales Development U.S. - Country Inn & Suites: Hemant Patel

Mr. Patel has been a Vice President, Franchise Sales Development U.S. – Country Inn & Suites since January 2023. Previously, he was a Vice President, Franchise Development for Choice from February 2021 to December 2022. He was a Regional Vice President, Franchise Development for Choice from January 2020 to February 2021. He was also Director of Franchise Development from January 2014 to January 2020. He is based in his home office located in Tallahassee, Florida.

#### **Vice President, Franchise Development: Scott Andrews**

Mr. Andrews has been Vice President, Franchise Development since July 2019. He is based in our Scottsdale, Arizona corporate office. Previously, he was a Regional Vice President for Wyndham Hotel Group in Parsippany, New Jersey from July 2015 to June 2019.

# Vice President, Foundation Brands Development: Christopher Martinez

Mr. Martinez has been a Vice President, Foundations Brands Development since January 2023. Previously, he was a Regional Vice President Development for Choice from January 2020 to January 2023. He was a Director of Franchise Sales and Development from January 2007 to January 2020. Chris is based in his home office in Tampa, Florida.

## Regional Vice President, Franchise Services: Byron Bean

Mr. Bean has been Regional Vice President, Franchise Services since February 2005. He is based in his home office located in Sacramento, California.

## Regional Vice President, Franchise Services: Jill Burke

Ms. Burke has been Regional Vice President, Franchise Services since January 2019. She was a Regional Area Director from May 2016 to January 2019. She is based in her home office located in Columbus, Ohio.

#### Regional Vice President, Franchise Performance: Michelle Masters

Ms. Masters has been Regional Vice President, Franchise Performance since April 2019. She is based in her home office located in St. Paul, Minnesota. She was Regional Vice President, Operations of Radisson Hotel Group in Minnesota, Minnesota from November 2002 to April 2019.

#### Regional Vice President, Franchise Services: Odette Brown

Ms. Brown has been Regional Vice President since January 2021. Previously, she was a Regional Area Director from January 2018 to December 2020. She is based in her home office located in Little Rock, Arkansas.

# Regional Vice President, Franchise Services, Extended Stay Brands: D. Glenn McFarland

Mr. McFarland has been Regional Vice President. Franchise Services, Extended Stay Brands since February 2018. He is based in his home office located in Turlock, California.

#### Regional Vice President, Franchise Performance: Barry O'Neill

Mr. O'Neill has served as a Regional Vice President, Franchise Performance, for Choice since August 2022. Previously, he was a Vice President of Franchise Operations for Radisson, Country and Park from April 2020 to August 2022. He served as the Regional Vice President for these companies from May 2019 to April 2020. He joined Radisson Hospitality and its affiliates in 2007 and served from September 2018 to May 2019 as Senior Director, Operations & Guest Experience and from October 2017 to September 2018 as Regional Director. He is based in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

## Senior Director, Relicensing: James Rudeau

Mr. Rudeau has been Senior Director, Relicensing since April 2005. He is based in our Rockville, Maryland corporate office.

## Project Director, Relicensing: Phil Carandang

Mr. Carandang has been Project Director, Relicensing since March 2015. He is based in his home office located in Columbia, South Carolina.

## Senior Director, Onboarding Services: Colleen Kruse

Ms. Kruse has been Senior Director, Onboarding Services since January 2020. Previously, she was a Director, Franchise Development Operations from January 2015 to January 2020. She is based in our Rockville, Maryland corporate office.

#### **DIRECTORS**

#### Chairman of the Board: Stewart W. Bainum, Jr.

Mr. Bainum has been a Director and Chairman of the Board of Choice Hotels since October 1997. He has also been Chairman of the Board of Realty Investment Company, Inc., in Silver Spring, Maryland since December 2005. Mr. Bainum has been Chairman of the Board of Sunburst Hospitality Corporation, in Silver Spring, Maryland since November 1996.

#### Director: Brian B. Bainum

Mr. Bainum has been a Director since April 2019. He has been a Management Consultant and Director of SunBridge Capital Management, LLC, in Chevy Chase, Maryland since January 2017. Previously, Mr. Bainum was a Management Consultant at Deloitte in Rockville, Maryland from September 2017 through October 2018.

#### **Director: Ervin Shames**

Mr. Shames has been a Director since April 2002. He has been an independent management advisor to consumer goods and services companies based out of Wilton, Connecticut since January 1995.

#### **Director: William Jews**

Mr. Jews has been a Director since March 2006 and was also a Director from 2000 to 2005. Mr. Jews has also been Chairman of the Ryland Group, in Calabasas, California since February 2010. He has been a Director of Fortress International Group, in Columbia, Maryland since August 2007 and a Director of KCI Technologies, Inc., in Sparks, Maryland since December 2009.

#### **Director: John Tague**

Mr. Tague has been a Director since February 2012. He has been Chief Executive Officer of Greatwide Logistics Services, Inc., in Dallas, Texas since July 2011.

#### **Director: Monte J. M. Koch**

Mr. Koch has been a Director since March 2014. He has been Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors of Auction.com, in Irvine, California since July 2012. He has been a Director of the National Business Aviation Association located in Washington, DC since November 2005.

#### Director: Liza K. Landsman

Ms. Landsman has been a Director since October 2014. She has been Chief Customer Officer at Jet.com, Inc. in Montclair, New Jersey since March 2015.

#### **Director: Maureen Sullivan**

Ms. Sullivan has been a Director since November 2018. She has been Chief Operating Officer of Rent the Runway, Inc. in New York, New York since September 2015.

#### Director: Donna F. Vieira

Ms. Vieira has been a Director since July 2021. She has been an Executive Vice President and Chief Commercial Officer at Sallie Mae in Newark, Delaware since September 2020. She was previously the Chief Marketing Officer of Consumer Bank & Chase Wealth Management with JP Morgan Chase in New York, New York, from May 2014 to January 2019.

#### Director: Gordan A. Smith

Mr. Smith has been a Director since May 2022 and was a Director of Choice from 2004 to 2017. He is the former Co-President and Chief Operating Officer of JPMorgan Chase & Co. based in New York, New York, from June 2007 until retiring in January 2022. He was previously CEO of Consumer & Community Banking at JP Morgan Chase from 2012 to 2021.

# ITEM 3 LITIGATION

#### I. PENDING LITIGATION AND ARBITRATION DEMANDS

(1) Norma Knuth v. Radisson Hotels International, Inc., et al.
Court of Queen's Bench for Saskatchewan, Court File No. QBG No. 2560 of 2014

On December 5, 2014, Norma Knuth filed a complaint under The Class Actions Act against over 25 named defendants, including Country, alleging that the defendants wrongfully collected undisclosed destination marketing fees ("DMF") charged to the plaintiff and other class members by hotels located in Canada that were owned, operated or managed by the defendants. On December 29, 2015, the plaintiff amended and expanded its complaint alleging, among other things, that the class included those who paid the fee to a hotel in Canada branded by one of the defendants and that the defendants that did not directly charge or collect the fee approved of it and encouraged the imposition of the DMF. The plaintiff has alleged

that the collection of the DMF violated The Consumer Protection Act, was negligent, unjustly enriched the defendants and constituted a Waiver of Tort. The plaintiff has demanded, on behalf of the class, disgorgement of any fees and revenue received by the defendants generated by imposition of the fee, and an order that the defendants are jointly and severally liable for restitution of \$403,000,000, general and punitive damages, costs of notice, interest and any other relief the court deems appropriate. The class has yet to be certified. We filed a motion for summary judgment on October 3, 2016. On June 2, 2017, Radisson and Country filed a Statement of Claim against 2 current and 3 former franchisees/licensees, that had not entered into tolling agreements, seeking contribution and indemnification. On August 29, 2019, the court denied Radisson's motion for summary judgment, holding that it was premature. Radisson intends to reassert its summary judgment motion arguments at the appropriate time.

(2) Radisson Hotels International, Inc. v. 205 Wolf Holdings, LLC; 205 Wolf Land, LLC; Appleton Holdings, LLC; Appleton Land,; 204 Fox Holdings, LLC; 204 Fox Land, LLC; 5500 Midland Holdings, LLC; 5500 Midland Land, LLC; 100 Berlin Holdings, LLC; 100 Berlin Land, LLC; 50 Morgan Hospitality Group, LLC; M&G Capital, LLC; Inner Circle High Point, LLC; Highpoint Land, LLC; Timonium Recovery Trust, LLC; and HISJ Holdings, LLC

Fourth Judicial District, Hennepin County, Minnesota, Case No. 27-CV-18-4230

On March 12, 2018, Radisson filed a complaint against former licensees or guarantors 205 Wolf Holdings, LLC; 205 Wolf Land, LLC; Appleton Holdings, LLC; Appleton Land,; 204 Fox Holdings, LLC; 204 Fox Land, LLC; 5500 Midland Holdings, LLC; 5500 Midland Land, LLC; 100 Berlin Holdings, LLC; 100 Berlin Land, LLC; 50 Morgan Hospitality Group, LLC; M&G Capital, LLC; Inner Circle High Point, LLC; Highpoint Land, LLC; Timonium Recovery Trust, LLC; and HISJ Holdings, LLC (collectively "Inner Circle Licensees") asserting breach of their individual license (franchise) agreements with Radisson and/or their corporate guaranties of those license agreements, and the licensees' collective breach of the Global Settlement Agreement they each had entered into with Radisson to resolve certain issues under their license agreements. Radisson seeks to recover the fees and damages it believes it is entitled to under the terms of the license agreements, corporate guaranties, and the Global Settlement Agreement. On March 30, 2018, Radisson amended its complaint to assert claims against certain Inner Circle Licensees for fraudulent inducement of the Global Settlement Agreement and to seek additional damages and attorneys' fees. On May 23, 2018, Radisson again amended its complaint to assert fraudulent inducement claims against additional Inner Circle Licensees and to seek additional damages and attorney's fees. On June 12, 2018, the Inner Circle Licensees filed a motion to dismiss, which was denied in its entirety by the court on December 12, 2018. On January 17, 2019, Inner Circle Licensees filed their answer to Radisson's amended complaint and asserted counterclaims against Radisson for breach of contract, unjust enrichment, promissory estoppel, criminal conversion and civil theft, fraud and tortious interference. Inner Circle Licensees are seeking actual and, in some cases, statutory damages, plus punitive damages and attorneys' fees. On February 19, 2019, Radisson filed a motion to dismiss Inner Circle Licensees' unjust enrichment, promissory estoppel, criminal conversion and civil theft, fraud, and tortious interference counterclaims. On April 9, 2019, Inner Circle Licensees filed a motion for default judgment on their breach of contract counterclaim. On July 11, 2019, the Court issued an order denying Inner Circle Licensee's motion for default and issued a separate order granting in part and denying in part Radisson's partial motion to dismiss Inner Circle Licensee's counterclaims. In July 2019, all of the guarantors and one of the operating entities filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy. The case has been placed on the inactive docket while the parties decide whether to continue the case in light of the bankruptcy filing. By Order dated January 3, 2023, the Court lifted the stay and moved the case back to the active docket. The Defendants' bankruptcy action has since been resolved as it relates to RHI's interests and RHI has determined that there is no benefit to continuing to prosecute the state court action against the Defendants. Therefore, RHI is seeking to have the case dismissed with prejudice. A case status conference with Court is scheduled for April 21, 2023.

(3) <u>Jai Sai Baba, LLC, et al. v. Choice Hotels International, Inc., et al.</u>
United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, Case No. 2:20-cv-02823

On June 12, 2020 (amended on July 15, 2020), approximately ninety current and former franchise owners that own and operate one or more Choice branded hotels ("Plaintiffs") filed suit against Choice Hotels ("Choice") and Choice Hotels Owner Council ("CHOC") (Choice and CHOC collectively referred to as "Defendants"). In the complaint, the Plaintiffs allege that the Defendants engaged in discriminatory and anti-competitive practices and violated the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act, the Sherman Act, the Civil Rights Act, and various state franchise laws. Additionally, the Defendants have claimed that Choice is in breach of contract, has breached the implied duty of good faith and fair dealing and committed common law fraud. The Plaintiffs are seeking unspecified actual damages, punitive damages, consequential and/or compensatory damages, attorneys' fees, costs and interest, a declaratory judgment that certain allegedly unconscionable provisions are unenforceable, an accounting of all fees paid by Plaintiffs, an order for restitution and the rescission of Maryland franchise agreements, a declaratory judgment that some or all franchise agreements are terminated, and certain permanent injunctive relief. On July 29, 2020, Choice filed a motion to stay the litigation and compel individual arbitration proceedings. On March 19, 2021, the Court granted motion. This case remains stayed, and the parties provide the Court with monthly status updates.

The following arbitrations have been filed in conjunction with this case:

A. Choice Hotels International, Inc. v. DIP Hospitality, LLC, et al. American Arbitration Association, Case #01-21-0003-7036

On April 9, 2021, Choice Hotels International, Inc. initiated this arbitration to pursue contractually due franchise fees, a promissory note balance and lost profit damages from the franchisees in the amount of \$498,495.93. On May 19, 2021, Franchisees filed a counterclaim against Choice in the amount of \$3,000,000. The arbitration hearing is scheduled to begin on May 15, 2023. The hearing will be a hybrid of virtual and in-person to be held in Rockville, MD.

B. <u>Jai Sai Baba, LLC, et al v. Choice Hotels International, Inc., et al.</u> American Arbitration Association, Case #01-21-0004-5568

On June 29, 2021, Jai Sai Baba, LLC and Dipesh Patel filed an arbitration against Choice Hotels International, Inc. and Choice Hotels Owners Council in conjunction with the underlying action. The arbitration hearing concluded in 2022. The hearing was hybrid of virtual and in-person in Rockville, MD. On January 12, 2023, a final arbitration award was entered in favor of Choice in the amount of \$675,065.43. On February 12, 2023, Respondents filed a motion to vacate the arbitration award and transfer the venue from Maryland to Pennsylvania.

C. <u>Highmark Lodging, LLC, et al. v. Choice Hotels International, Inc., et al.</u> American Arbitration Association, Case #01-21-0004-5554

On June 29, 2021, Highmark Lodging, LLC and Darshan Patel filed an arbitration against Choice Hotels International, Inc. and Choice Hotels Owners Council in conjunction with the underlying action. The arbitration concluded in February 2023, and the parties are waiting for an arbitration award to be issued in the matter.

# D. <u>Dahya Investments Incorporated, et al. v. Choice Hotels International, Inc., et al.</u> American Arbitration Association, Case #01-21-0004-5563

On June 29, 2021, Dahya Investments Incorporated and Dinu Patel filed an arbitration against Choice Hotels International, Inc. and Choice Hotels Owners Council in conjunction with the underlying action. The arbitration hearing concluded in 2022 and the parties are waiting on an arbitration award to be issued in the matter.

#### II. ACTIONS INVOLVING THE FRANCHISE RELATIONSHIP IN PRIOR FISCAL YEAR

# A. ACTIONS INITIATED BY CHOICE TO RECOVER ROYALTIES, LIQUIDATED DAMAGES AND OTHER DEBTS OWED TO CHOICE HOTELS

DEFENDANT(S)/RESPONDENT(S)	VENUE	CASE NUMBER	FILING DATE
Avsar Hotel Enterprise, Inc., Hiren Shah and Nilesh Sheth	United States District Court for the District	8:2022cv00228	January 31, 2022
	of Maryland, Southern Division		
Manistee Hotel, Inc., Vishwajit Jariwala, and Jinal Jariwala	Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Maryland	C15CV22000509	January 31, 2022
Imperial Group, Inc., and Adnan Z. Chaudhry	United States District Court for the District of Maryland, Southern Division	8:2022cv00745	March 28, 2022
Seven Star Hotels Group, Inc., Khurram Chaudhry, and Mohamad Ayache	United States District Court for the District of Maryland, Southern Division	8:2022cv00748	March 28, 2022
Riverstone Hospitality Inc., Lakeview Hotel, LLC, Dhaval S. Patel, Radheshyam I. Thakkar, and Pratixaben J. Patel	United States District Court for the District of Maryland, Southern Division	8:2022cv01063	May 2, 2022
ABS Hotels, Inc., Amit Bansal and Sucha Singh	Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Maryland	C15CV22001787	May 3, 2022
Misri, Inc., and Anil Patel	Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Maryland	C15CV22001303	May 5, 2022
Ramji Hospitality, LLC, Pratik K. Ahir, and Karankumar Ahir	United States District Court for the District of Maryland, Southern Division	8:2022cv01607	June 29, 2022
Shree Properties, LLC and Roopa Patel	American Arbitration Association	01-22-0002-9144	July 11, 2022
Vipul Patel	American Arbitration Association	01-22-0003-2793	July 29, 2022

DEFENDANT(S)/RESPONDENT(S)	VENUE	CASE NUMBER	FILING DATE
Reddy Co. 3, LLC and Kami Reddy	American Arbitration Association	01-22-0003-2753	July 29, 2022
Hanuomsai Investments, LLC, Rakesh Patel and Rita Patel	American Arbitration Association	01-22-0003-4979	August 16, 2022
Spargo, LLC and Kevin McDowell	American Arbitration Association	01-22-0003-4994	August 16, 2022
Kaylee & Haley Hospitality, LLC, Kalpesh Ahir, Bhavesh Ahir, Erick Leon and Shantaben Ahir	Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Maryland	C15CV220003003	August 16,2022
John H. Roberts and W. Patrick Murphy	United States District Court for the District of Maryland, Southern Division	8:2022cv02091	August 19, 2022
VC Hospitality, LLC, Thomas Varish and Terry Paul Helwig	American Arbitration Association	01-22-0003-5872	August 22, 2022
Valpo 786, LLC, Hamza Rashid, Yaqoob Rana and Arc Valpo, LLC	American Arbitration Association	01-22-0003-8083	September 8, 2022
Kertra, LTD, Clemens V. Schwab, Jr. and Kerry Schwab	United States District Court for the District of Maryland, Southern Division	8:2022cv02304	September 12, 2022
Nick Patel	United States District Court for the District of Maryland, Southern Division	8:2022cv02310	September 12, 2022
Ewing Solar Corporation, Tony Ewing and Franklin Lassiter	American Arbitration Association	01-22-0004-0878	September 28, 2022
Durlabhji B. Ukani	American Arbitration Association	01-22-0004-0924	September 28, 2022
Stark Group, Inc., Marilyn Stark and George Stark	American Arbitration Association	01-22-0004-1099	September 29, 2022
Arvindkumar Patel	United States District Court for the District of Maryland, Southern Division	8:2022cv02658	October 17, 2022
Amber Motel, LLC, Yatish M. Shah and Chandrika Y. Shah	American Arbitration Association	01-22-0004-5636	October 27, 2022
TM Hospitality, LLC and Hitendra Chokshi	American Arbitration Association	01-22-0004-5642	October 27, 2022
Amax, LLC, Sung In Seo and Il Kyung Bae	American Arbitration Association	01-22-0004-5662	October 27, 2022
Rootstown Hotel & Hospitality, LLC, Lodging Decisions, Inc., Shrinay Corporation, Saif U. Rehman, Jeff Todd Brown- Malogrides and Amrish Patel	United States District Court for the District of Maryland, Southern Division	8:2022cv02762	October 27, 2022
Orin Solomon	American Arbitration Association	01-22-0004-9880	November 28, 2022

DEFENDANT(S)/RESPONDENT(S)	VENUE	CASE NUMBER	FILING DATE
Banyan TX, LLC, Jim Peterson and	American Arbitration	01-22-0005-0341	November 30,
Banyan Strategies, LLC	Association		2022
Lotus Motel, Inc., Joginder Chumber	American Arbitration	01-22-0005-0316	December 1,
and Kaushalaya Devi Chumber	Association		2022
Thakorji, Inc., Dhansukh Patel,	United States District	8:2022cv03092	December 1,
Urmila Patel, Naresh Patel and	Court for the District		2022
Amit K. Patel	of Maryland, Southern		
	Division		
S and D Hospitality, LLC, Dharmesh	American Arbitration	01-22-0005-2307	December 13,
M. Patel and Sonal Patel	Association		2022
Pioneer Hotel Group, Inc., Mita	American Arbitration	01-22-0005-2296	December 13,
Vagashia and Pinal Doshi	Association		2022
CK Hospitality, Inc., Suraj Patel and	American Arbitration	01-22-0005-3583	December 20,
Kiran Jariwala	Association		2022
Shree Ramkabir, LLC, Nitinkumar	American Arbitration	01-22-0005-4179	December 28,
Bhakta and Shivam Bhakta	Association		2022

# B. ACTIONS INITIATED BY CHOICE TO ENFORCE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS – POST TERMINATION

DEFENDANTS	VENUE	CASE NUMBER	FILING DATE
Amba Corporation, Kamlesh	United States District	1:22-cv-04779	July 27, 2022
Patel	Court of the District of		
	New Jersey (Camden)		
Skyways Petroleum LLC,	United States District	5:22-cv-01835	October 12, 2022
Muhammad Arif, Muhammad	Court of the Northern		
Younis	District of Ohio (Akron)		
Findley Lake Hospitality LLC,	United States District	1:22-cv-00825	November 1, 2022
Premanand, LLC, Udaiusha	Court of the Western		
Investments, LLC, Arun K.	District of New York		
Singh, Jeetendra K. Gupta	(Buffalo)		

#### III. RESOLVED LITIGATION/PRIOR ACTIONS

(1) <u>Trocki Hotels, LP, Trocki Holding, Inc., Ira Trocki and Shari Trocki v. Choice Hotels International, Inc.</u>

Superior Court of New Jersey, Law Division, Atlantic County, Case # L-4370-10 United States District Court for the District of New Jersey, Case # 1:10-CV-05177

On August 16, 2010, Trocki Hotels, LP, Trocki Holding, Inc., Ira Trocki and Shari Trocki filed an action against Choice Hotels International, Inc. in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Law Division, Atlantic County. The Plaintiffs alleged that Choice's actions in terminating their franchise agreement violated the New Jersey Franchise Act, breached the contract and violated the covenant of good faith and fair dealing.

On June 26, 2013, the parties settled this dispute. As part of the settlement, Choice agreed to pay its former franchisee \$200,000 in exchange for dismissal of the lawsuit.

(2) Rogers Hospitality, LLC and Brian Conneran v. Choice Hotels International, Inc.

#### American Arbitration Association, Case # 65 114 Y 00212 11

On December 22, 2011, Rogers Hospitality, LLC and Brian Conneran filed an arbitration demand against Choice Hotels International, Inc. The arbitration demand included eight counts that alleged violations of Minnesota and North Dakota franchise laws, unjust enrichment, intentional misrepresentations, negligent misrepresentation, breach of contract and the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing.

On December 23, 2013, the arbitration panel presiding over the matter rendered a decision that found in favor of the former franchisee on one count. As part of its ruling the panel awarded the former franchisees \$667,000 in damages and \$533,000 in fees and other costs.

(3) Wydredge, L.L.C., H & P Investments, Clayton Wyman, Barry Eldredge and James Rumpsa v. Choice Hotels International, Inc.
American Arbitration Association, Case # 16-114-000517-12

On August 31, 2012, Wydredge, L.L.C., H & P Investments, Clayton Wyman, Barry Eldredge and James Rumpsa filed an arbitration demand against Choice Hotels International, Inc. The arbitration demand sought unspecified damages for unjust enrichment, intentional misrepresentation, negligent misrepresentation, breach of contract, and breach of implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing. On or about September 27, 2012, Choice filed a counterclaim alleging breach of contract.

On July 7, 2014, the parties settled this dispute. As part of the settlement, Choice made certain concessions to franchisees in connection with two existing franchise agreements for other properties owned by franchisees reducing the royalty rate to 4.65% for 24 months and 4.25% for 24 months respectively.

(4) <u>Sender Kohl v. Choice Hotels International, Inc.</u>
United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida, Fort Lauderdale Division, Case #0:18-cv-62597 and American Arbitration Association, Case #01-19-0000-1797

On October 29, 2018, Sender Kohl filed an action against us seeking damages in an unspecified amount. The complaint alleged breach of contract, breach of the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing, fraud and material misrepresentations. In December 2018, the court action was stayed pending arbitration, pursuant to the terms of the franchise agreement, which was filed in January 2019. On August 25, 2021, the parties settled this dispute.

As part of the settlement, Choice agreed to pay its former franchisee \$85,000.00 in exchange for dismissal of the arbitration.

\* \* \*

Other than these actions, no litigation must be disclosed in this disclosure document.

# ITEM 4 BANKRUPTCY

No bankruptcy information is required to be disclosed in this Item.

ITEM 5

#### INITIAL FEES

#### APPLICATION AND AFFILIATION FEE

You must pay us, for the rights granted to you in the RADISSON BLU Franchise Agreement, an affiliation fee of \$500 per room for new franchises, with a \$100,000 minimum for new franchises, and \$750 per room with a \$100,000 minimum for transfers and renewals. The entire affiliation fee is due no later than the time you sign the Franchise Agreement and is non-refundable following our signing of the Franchise Agreement. We will also collect a non-refundable application fee of \$10,000 that will be credited towards the affiliation fee. If for any reason we do not grant you a franchise, or a Franchise Agreement is not counter signed by us, the affiliation fee, less the \$10,000 application fee, will be refunded to you. Financing information is in Item 10. In the past, we have agreed to reduce the affiliation fee in certain instances for multiple unit franchisees, franchisees with larger properties, franchisees with whom we have previously dealt, franchisees that are departing other hotel chains or franchised systems and joining our system, and in other special circumstances. However, we do not always negotiate the affiliation fee even for franchisees possessing these characteristics, and we may freely choose not to negotiate with you, even if you possess some or all of these characteristics.

Because we sold no franchises in the last fiscal year, there is no range of initial fees paid by franchisees in the last year to disclose.

#### EXTENSION FEE AND OTHER CONSTRUCTION-RELATED FEES

If you do not begin construction or do not complete renovations to an existing franchised Hotel within the time required under your Franchise Agreement, you may apply for an additional 3 months in which to begin construction or complete renovations. If we agree to grant an extension, you must pay us an additional \$5,000 per extension. In special circumstances we may waive the extension fee, but we are not obligated to, and any decision to waive an extension fee will be determined solely by us.

When transferring a 50% or more interest in your RADISSON BLU Hotel, you must pay us a property improvement plan fee of \$3,000. This fee is for the inspection of your Hotel and the creation of a property improvement plan that will be integrated into the new franchise agreement with the buyer/transferee.

#### OPENING DATE RESCHEDULING FEE

You must pay a fee of \$2,500, plus any travel expenses incurred, in the event the Hotel Opening Date is set and confirmed by you in the pre-opening requirement document and changed within 2 weeks of the committed date, or if a temporary certificate of occupancy is not received at least 7 days prior to the committed date. This fee may be charged multiple times if multiple date commitments or changes occur.

#### FOOD AND BEVERAGE OPENING SUPPORT FEE

You must pay us a fee of \$8,500 - \$18,000, for pre-opening food and beverage development, menu creation, product specifications, opening training and support. This service is provided by an approved food and beverage consultant supported by the Brand Operations team.

#### PROPERTY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

You must use our required hotel computer systems, which we may periodically change. Currently, we require you to use ORACLE Opera Cloud PMS. You must purchase the standard hardware and software

configuration components for your property management system (PMS) and related technology from us, our affiliates, or third parties. The cost of the individual components is uniform, although the total cost for the technology will vary. You must pay for items purchased from us or our affiliates upon receipt of an invoice. All deposits are nonrefundable and, after the components are delivered, the total amount of the purchase price is due and is not refundable.

We estimate the pre-opening costs for the technology system using the ORACLE Opera Cloud PMS to be approximately \$33,550 for an average 300-room property with the minimum required components. Approximately \$2,400 of this amount is collected by us and then paid to the vendor for hardware and implementation for the network connection described in Item 6. You must also pay for the cost and expenses for cabling and accommodations for installers, which may vary. The actual cost will vary based on number of rooms, additional workstations and printers, optional components purchased and other miscellaneous items. See also Items 8 and 11.

We are evaluating our current property management system requirements and may require RADISSON BLU Hotels to use our choiceADVANTAGE® property management system in the future.

#### ARCHITECTURAL ORIENTATION MEETING

Your architect and owner representative must meet with us within 60 days after you sign your Franchise Agreement and prior to commencement of any drawings or specifications to discuss our design and construction team review process, design standards, prototype documentation, and your project schedule. You will be required to provide final construction schedule at construction commencement and updated schedule as material changes in completion date occurs.

#### ORIENTATION / HOSPITALITY TRAINING

We provide required training programs that you, your General Manager, or other key employees must complete before opening your Hotel in the Choice franchise system or within 90 days of the Hotel's opening or relicensing. The training fees you must pay for orientation and hospitality operations training include our HOST training fee of \$1,395. The HOST training fee covers an operator certification program that is offered virtually, consisting of self-paced online lessons, live interactive virtual workshops, and exams. The costs for training programs do not include the cost of travel, lodging, or meals to attend the required training programs. Some or all of the training may not be required if you have previously owned a Choice branded hotel, obtained Choice Hotels training certification for another existing Choice-branded hotel and/or a hotel staff member has previously completed the training in a prior position. We may in the future require you to participate in our Choice Onboard training and pay the training fee of \$1,950.

When a franchised hotel undergoes a 50% or greater change in its ownership and the new owners sign a franchise agreement with Choice (known as a "re-licensing"), the hotel is also required to have a customized re-licensing training. This session is delivered remotely via webinar by a Choice University Learning Facilitator. The fee for the re-licensing training is \$995.

Attendance is mandatory at the training programs identified in this Item 5. Failure to attend within the prescribed time frame may result in a non-compliance penalty of \$250 per month for failure to attend the HOST training until compliant and/or formal default, and the failure to cure the default could result in the termination of your Franchise Agreement. For more detailed information on each training program, see Item 11.

#### **OTHER FEES**

Before the Hotel opens for business, you must pay to us a non-refundable fee of approximately \$10,000-\$12,000 (plus shipping charges) for Start-up Supplies, which include training materials, development cost of WebExtra, start-up materials and certain pre-opening promotional marketing services (see Item 7). The fee for the Start-up Supplies is due upon receipt of an invoice for the supplies and is nonrefundable. Hotels will no longer be required to pay the Start-up Supplies Fee after around the third quarter of 2023 but will be required to purchase a custom photography package directly from the vendor.

You must license from us our Revenue Optimization Program which includes IDeaS G3, our fully integrated revenue management system, the support of the Revenue Optimization Specialists for your Hotel, OTA Insight & Parity Insight and other tools. If the Hotel has not previously used IDeaS G3, you must pay us a nonrefundable \$2,000 set-up fee and a \$2,500 limited data build fee.

\* \* \*

Except as identified in this Item 5, all fees are uniform, are fully earned by us when paid by you, and we have no obligation to refund these fees. Except as set forth in Item 10, we do not offer financing for any part of the affiliation fee, and we do not offer financing for any other initial fees.

# ITEM 6 OTHER FEES

TYPE OF FEE	AMOUNT (NOTE 1)	DUE DATE	REMARKS
GENERAL	(IVOTE I)		
Royalty Fee	5% of the preceding month's Gross Room Revenues ("GRR") (Note 2).	Payable monthly.	
Marketing Fee (Note 3)	2% of the preceding month's GRR (Note 2).	Payable monthly.	In addition to the Marketing Fee, you may be required to contribute to the cost of certain marketing or brand standards programs that we may develop and administer. The costs of these programs will be assessed to you and are payable upon receipt of the invoice. (Note 3).
Reservation Fee	2% of the preceding month's GRR (Note 2).	Payable monthly.	
REWARDS, MARKETING, AND DISTRIBUTION PROGRAMS			

TYPE OF FEE	AMOUNT (NOTE 1)	DUE DATE	REMARKS
Rewards Programs Fee (Choice Privileges Loyalty Program) (Note 4)	5.0% of gross room revenue and gross food and beverage revenue generated by rewards program members.	Monthly (Commission invoice is transmitted each Sunday night and payment must be submitted to us no later than Friday).	This Rewards Program Fee is established by us to administer the program, reimburse hotels for reward nights. You must participate in the Choice Privileges Loyalty Program beginning around the third quarter of 2023. See Note 4 for current loyalty program description and fees.
Airline Frequent Traveler Program Fee	5% of room revenue generated by airline frequent travelers.	Payable monthly.	This fee is established by us to administer the program and pay for airline miles awarded.
Affiliate and Enhanced Reservations Program Commissions (Note 5)	Standard commissions (currently up to 10%) for reservations delivered through our Affiliate Program or Choice Hotels Enhanced Reservations Program (CHERP).	Payable monthly.	We have negotiated marketing arrangements with certain agencies, including Commission Junction, and we may retain a portion of this fee to cover our expenses in administering the Affiliate Program. We also manage a pay for performance program where a commission is charged on certain reservations delivered through search engines such as Google, Bing, and TripAdvisor. We anticipate offering this program in the third quarter of 2023. See Note 5 for current program description. This program may be changed to provide for smaller commissions on all e-commerce reservations.

	AMOUNT	DUE DATE	REMARKS
TYPE OF FEE	(NOTE 1)	DOEDATE	KEWIKKS
Marketing Processing Fee (Note 6)	\$0.48 per transaction per eligible stay for Affiliate, FedRooms, GSA fees	Payable Monthly	These fees cover our administrative costs of consolidating the billing and processing disbursements for
Programs Processing Fee (Note 6)	\$0.12 per transaction per eligible stay for Reward Program or CHERP fees  (not charged if the Commission Processing Fee is charged by Onyx).		the applicable Marketing and Rewards program costs. These processing fees will go into effect around the third quarter of 2023. See Note 6 for current processing fees.
Third Party Distribution Fee	\$3.75 for each reservation made through directly connected online travel agents, DerbySoft, and DHISCO.  Beginning around the third quarter of 2023, the Third Party Distribution Fee will only be charged for consumed reservations.	Payable monthly.	Directly connected online travel agents include Expedia and Booking.com. Connectivity solutions such as DerbySoft and DHISCO are used to connect with other online travel agents such as Agoda/Priceline, and wholesalers, such as Hotelbeds and WebBeds.
Global Distribution System ("GDS") (Note 7)	Currently \$7.70 for each reservation received through a GDS with which we have an agreement.	Payable monthly.	This fee is a reimbursement of costs we incur by using a GDS and is subject to change.
Travel Agent and Other Reservation Based Commissions (Note 8)	Standard commission (currently 10% - 12%) through our Travel Agent Centralized Commission Program, including marketing programs developed by Choice and commissions from third party designated accounts (for example wholesale clubs, motorclubs, sports marketing).	Currently payable monthly.  Beginning around the third quarter of 2023, payable weekly (Commission remittance will be available via the online portal of our commission processing vendor, Onyx CenterSource, each Monday and payment must be submitted no later than Thursday).	Transaction fees included in Note 6 currently apply until the third quarter of 2023. Beginning around the third quarter of 2023, \$0.48 per Commissionable Transaction processing fee is applied to the Onyx remittance. Commissions are payable on retail or "rack" rates and not on net, non-commissionable rates.

TYPE OF FEE	AMOUNT (NOTE 1)	DUE DATE	REMARKS
Leisure Affinity Promotional Program	You must pay a per preferred room night fee of \$2.50 (or up to the equivalent of a 10% commission) for all consumed stays booked through our Leisure Affinity Promotional Program.	Payable monthly	This program is offered to affinity organizations such as AARP and other leisure-based member-based organizations with which we have negotiated preferred status. The fee may vary based on the Affinity partner.
Egencia Preferred Program	Payment of a \$5.00 Choice Privileges fee covering 1,000 loyalty points	As incurred	The Egencia Preferred Program offers your Hotel the opportunity to gain priority access to the more than four million business travelers who book through Egencia (a subsidiary of Expedia) each year. You may opt out of this program. The Rewards Program Fees of the Choices Privileges Loyalty Program described above do not apply to these Egencia bookings. This program will be available when your Hotel participates in the Choice Privileges Loyalty Program.
General Sales Agents (GSA) Fee	5% commission in addition to any applicable Travel Agent Commission.	Payable monthly.	This fee covers commissions for international sales agents when they book reservations for international guests staying at domestic Choice brand hotels. This fee will go into effect around the third quarter of 2023.

TYPE OF FEE	AMOUNT (NOTE 1)	DUE DATE	REMARKS
Platform Marketing Distribution	Up to 15% commission for consumed reservations generated through Choice's third-party marketing platform	Payable monthly and as incurred	This fee is mandatory and based on consumed reservations (which may include revenue from the rental, sale, use, or occupancy of your Hotel) facilitated through a third-party platform marketing, such as Penn Entertainment and others. These opportunities help introduce new guests to Choice's Brands. We reserve the right to modify the engagement, including adding or removing third party participants. This fee will go into effect around the third quarter of 2023.
FedRooms/DoD Program	1.5% of room revenue per consumed stays resulting from program activities	As incurred	The fee is billed to properties who participate in the FedRooms or DoD program
Choice Privileges Elite Welcome Gift Program	Approximately \$0.005 per Choice Privileges point awarded to guest, or the cost of the gift provided to guest.	Monthly for Choice Privileges point reimbursements. As incurred for other gifts provided.	At check-in, Choice Privileges Elite members will be given Choice Privileges points (amount determined by us). You must participate in this program when you begin participating in the Choice Privileges Loyalty Program
PROPERTY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AND TECHNOLOGY			
ORACLE Opera Cloud PMS Fee	\$12-\$13 per sleeping room per month	Payable to Vendor	Your Hotel must use the ORACLE Opera Cloud PMS. We are currently evaluating property management system requirements and may require you to use the choiceAdvantage property management system in the future.

TYPE OF FEE	AMOUNT (NOTE 1)	DUE DATE	REMARKS
Technology & Interface Connect Fee	\$5.95 per sleeping room per month with a maximum of 100 rooms invoiced; and \$1.70 per sleeping room per month for sleeping rooms over 100 with a maximum of 250 invoiced	Payable monthly.	Four web-based email accounts are also included in these fees. These fees do not include all technology costs required to operate a typical Hotel. Examples of systems not included are telephone, accounting, payroll, inventory management, call accounting, voice mail, guest internet, free to guest television and concierge applications. You must maintain other systems through suppliers of your choosing. We offer a list of approved suppliers for many of these systems, but these are recommendations only.
PMS Payment Gateway License & Transaction Fees	\$130 - \$150 per month	Payable to Vendor	
Medallia Zingle Oracle OXI Interface Fee	\$0.35 per sleeping room per month with a maximum of 200 sleeping rooms invoiced	Payable to Vendor	
CrowdStrike	\$60	Payable monthly	The fee is required for all brands and covers security software and services to help monitor, detect and prevent software-based cyber security threats.
REVENUE MANAGEMENT			

TYPE OF FEE (NOTE 1)  Choice Revenue \$1,775-1,995 based on Monthly Participation in the Choice Revenue Management Program ("ChoiceRM") (Note 9)  Participation in the Choice Revenue Management Program is mandatory. Hotels must use the Choice Revenue Management Program during the first 36 months of operation. Afterward, you may use another Choice-approved revenue management service and the choice approved revenue management service and the choice and the choic
Management Program ("ChoiceRM") (Note 9)  Revenue Management Program is mandatory. Hotels must use the Choice Revenue Management Program during the first 36 months of operation. Afterward, you may use another Choice-approved revenue management service
provider. If certain conditions are met, we may waive the Choice Revenue Management Program requirement. During the firs year, the only minimum service levels available for Radisson is the Upscale service level, as further set forth in the Rules and Regulations. ChoiceRM will be available beginning around the fourth quarter of 2023. See Note 9 for curren revenue management options.
Revenue Optimization Program  \$7.25 per sleeping room per month with a maximum of 500 rooms invoiced  Monthly.  The Revenue Optimization Program includes IDeaS G3 our fully integrated revenue management system, the support of the Revenue Specialists for your Hotel, OTA Insight & Parity Insight and other tools.
These fees are subject to change. If the Hotel has not previously used IDeaS G3, you must also pay us a nonrefundable \$2,000 set-up fee and a \$2,500 limited data build fee.

	AMOUNT	DUE DATE	REMARKS
TYPE OF FEE	(NOTE 1)		
Annual Convention Registration Fee	\$1,475 plus travel, lodging and living expenses. The Late Registration Fee is \$1,725	Annually, before Convention.	You must attend. The General Manager and Director of Sales attendance is required. The annual convention is designed to give our franchisees resources and information to better leverage our strong value proposition. Attendees participate in a full schedule of education and brand sessions and networking events. In addition, there is a trade show with the industry's top suppliers.
Educational Resources Program	\$1,500 plus any applicable taxes.	Annually (billed in four even amounts on a quarterly basis).	This program provides unlimited access to training programs on Choice's learning management system.
Additional Training Programs	Reasonable charges ranging from \$49 - \$599.	On enrollment.	You also must pay travel, lodging and living expenses for all attending employees for any additional training requested by you or required by us.
Room Count Change Fee	The per-room charge then being charged for new franchisees, but not less than \$1,000.	Before expansion of sleeping rooms.	This fee is applicable only if you choose to change the room count by more than 10%. Our consent is required for any room count change greater than 10%.
Extension Fee (Note 10)	\$5,000.	Upon expiration of your Construction Start or other renovation deadline.	If we agree to grant you an extension, you must pay us \$5,000 for each 3-month extension.
Assumption Fee	\$7,500.	Upon submission of application.	This fee is applicable if we consent to a transfer of less than 50% of the equity interest in you or the Hotel.

TYPE OF FEE	AMOUNT (NOTE 1)	DUE DATE	REMARKS
Property Improvement Plan Fee	\$3,000.	Upon transferee's submission of application.	This fee is applicable only if we consent to a transfer of 50% or more of the equity interest in you or your Hotel franchise. This fee is for the inspection of your Hotel and the creation of a property improvement plan which will be integrated into the transferee's franchise agreement.
Commitment to Your Satisfaction Program	Up to the cost of the dissatisfied guest's stay at your Hotel.	Variable.	You must refund up to the cost for the number of nights during a stay that a customer is not completely satisfied (for example, if a customer is dissatisfied on 2 nights during a 3-night stay, you must refund the customer for 2 nights).
Comfort Letter Fee	\$2,500 (If a Comfort Letter is needed within 1-3 days there will be a \$500 expedite fee.)	Upon request for a Comfort Letter.	The comfort letter is a document issued by us in our sole discretion that grants your lender certain rights under the Franchise Agreement upon your default of your loan obligations to the lender. You may be required to sign this agreement as a condition of receiving a loan from your lender. Attached as Exhibit K is our current form comfort letter.
Choice Privileges Recognition Programs	Hotels are required to offer 250 Choice Privileges points to all members as a welcome amenity.	At time of stay  Monthly for Choice Privileges point reimbursements.	At check-in, Choice Privileges members must be offered the 250 Choice Privileges points as a welcome amenity. You must participate in this program when you begin participating in the Choice Privileges Loyalty Program.

TYPE OF FEE	AMOUNT (NOTE 1)	DUE DATE	REMARKS
Choice Privileges Elite Benefits "Reserved Parking" Signs	Approximately \$25 per "Reserved Parking" sign based on number of parking signs purchased	Upon purchase of parking signs	Hotels are required to offer Choice Privileges Elite Members the on-property benefit of "Reserved Parking" spaces. Hotels are required to purchase "Reserved Parking" signs based on Rules and Regulations. You must participate in this program when you begin participating in the Choice Privileges Loyalty Program.
Transfer Fee	The then current affiliation fee or \$100,000, whichever is greater.	Upon transferee's submission of application.	This fee is applicable if we consent to a transfer of 50% or more of the equity interest in you or your Hotel franchise. In addition, our consent is required for any transfer of more than 5% of the equity interests in you or the Hotel.
Close Family Member Transfer Fee	\$0-\$7,500	Upon transferee's submission of application.	Upon death or disability, if you wish to transfer to a Close Family Member (defined as adult spouse, parent, child, sibling, grandchild, or grandparent) we will charge an application fee not to exceed \$7,500.
Change of Ownership	\$3,000.	Upon submission of application	This fee is applicable for any transfer of less than a 50% equity interest in you or your Hotel franchise.
Choice Privileges "Points Plus" Packages	Approximately \$0.005 per Choice Privileges point awarded to guest.	Monthly for Choice Privileges point reimbursements.	At the time of booking, when booking BAR, guests have the option to purchase 1,000, 2,000 or 5,000 points in addition to their base stay points. Hotels are charged for the additional points purchased by the guest. You must participate in this program when you begin participating in the Choice Privileges Loyalty Program.

	AMOUNT	DUE DATE	REMARKS
TYPE OF FEE	(NOTE 1)		
Taxes	Amount assessed by federal, state and local tax authorities	When we invoice you	You must pay an amount equal to any sales tax, gross receipt tax or similar tax imposed with respect to any payments required under the Franchise Agreement, unless the tax is credited against income tax otherwise payable to us. You will have no obligation for any tax which is based upon our net income.
Insurance Reimbursement Fee	\$500-\$100,000	As incurred	This fee applies only if you fail to procure or provide us with evidence that you maintain at least the minimum insurance required by the Franchise Agreement. The range for this fee is dependent on market conditions and a policy may fall outside of this range depending on the current market rate.
Energy Collection & Measurement (ECM) Software Platform	\$215 (annually) and up to \$250 associated with implementation and service	Monthly payment of approximately \$18.00	This platform is intended to improve energy efficiency at the Hotel. The fee is mandatory. The annual fee includes onboarding and implementation of the Hotel into the hosted service (Resource Advisor), recurring collection and aggregation of the Hotel's energy consumption data, and platform access and use of the sustainability measurement dashboard and reporting. This platform will be implemented in 2024.

	AMOUNT	DUE DATE	REMARKS
TYPE OF FEE	(NOTE 1)		
WebExtra Annual Service Plan Fee	\$1,554	As incurred	You will be automatically enrolled in our Basic Annual Service Plan for WebExtraSM, which provides for on-going updates and an annual review of your WebExtraSM content. If you elect to have your content translated to other languages, additional fees will apply. This program and its fee will be discontinued around the third quarter of 2023.
Medallia Zingle Subscription Fee	\$140 per month	Payable monthly.	Medallia Zingle is a real- time guest text messaging platform for guest engagement and service needs. You will pay the monthly subscription fee listed in the chart for the Medallia Zingle platform, which we collect and then pay to the vendor.
Information Security/Payment Card Industry Support Fee	\$250 per year	Annually	This fee includes the portal for reporting PCI compliance, external vulnerability scanning capabilities, remediation tracking and guidance, and annual Information Security Awareness Training.
OPTIONAL			

TYPE OF FEE	AMOUNT (NOTE 1)	DUE DATE	REMARKS
GoLocal Sales Program (available in select markets)	\$300-\$1,000	Monthly	Optional program. Through Go Local, a dedicated corporate seller focuses on closing the gap between business sourced by our Global Sales team and your property-level sales efforts to help deliver corporate room nights. Under this program, the corporate seller will proactively identify and contact group and corporate accounts, help negotiate rates with your input, and set up local rates and group blocks upon receiving the input of your property representative. This program is not currently available but may be in the future. Your participation in this program is optional.
SmartMarketing	\$0 - \$45.	As incurred.	This program is an online toolkit of marketing materials that can be customized for your Hotel. We anticipate this program will be available beginning in 2024.
Mega Agency and Consortia Pay for Performance Program (Note 11)	2.7% of total room revenue from consumed business (for example, actual room sold).	Payable monthly.	This program will be available beginning around the third quarter of 2023.  See Note 11 for current Pay for Performance fees. You may opt out of this program.
Choice Privileges Meeting/Group Planner Point Program	\$0.005 per Choice Privileges point awarded.	Payable monthly.	Meeting organizers will be awarded 4 Choice Privileges points per every \$3.00 dollars spent on meeting related activities (meeting room rental, food and beverage, and meeting attendees' guest rooms). You may participate in this program when you begin participating in the Choice Privileges Loyalty Program.

	AMOUNT	DUE DATE	REMARKS
TYPE OF FEE	(NOTE 1)		
Call Forwarding Reservation Service Fees (Note 12)	\$2.95 per call transferred from your Hotel to our CRS plus any additional costs necessary to update telephones to support the Call Forwarding system.  An early exit fee of \$500/month remaining in the initial term (plus a pro rata share for the remaining portion of the current month)	Payable monthly.	This is an optional program and we may change the fee at any time upon 60 days' prior written notice to you. Exhibit E includes the Call Forwarding Agreement.  This program will be available beginning around the third quarter of 2023. See Note 12 for current call forwarding program fees.
Additional Consultation and Services Fee	Dependent on the service requested	As incurred	We may make available to you additional consultation and services to assist you to construct, renovate, maintain, operate, and/or market the Hotel.
AHLA Dues	\$5.00/room	Annually	This fee covers dues for membership in the American Hotel & Lodging Association. You have the opportunity to opt out of membership by January 15 of each year.
REMEDIES AND NON- COMPLIANCE			
Non-Compliance Penalty	\$1,000-\$10,000 per intervention.	As incurred.	Non-compliance penalty is charged as a result of a failure to meet quality assurance and/or guest satisfaction standards required for the brand, non-compliance with your Property Improvement Plan, non-compliance with the Franchise Agreement or the Rules and Regulations. This range of penalties may change from time to time.

	AMOUNT	DUE DATE	REMARKS
TYPE OF FEE	(NOTE 1)		
Audit Fees	Cost of inspection or audit, including travel, lodging, meals, salaries, professional fees and other expenses. We anticipate the cost will be \$1,000 - \$6,000.	As incurred.	Payable only if any inspection or audit discloses a deficiency in any payments due under the Franchise Agreement. If the deficiency in any payment is willful or exceeds 5% of the correct amount, you must immediately pay the deficient amount plus interest at 1.5% and the entire cost of the inspection or audit, including travel, lodging, meals, salaries, professional fees, and other expenses of the inspecting or auditing personnel.
Revenue Reporting	1.5% of the preceding	Payable only if you	Immediately payable if any
Late Fee	month's Royalty Fee	do not send us the	report is not timely
	Reservation Fee and	required reports on	submitted.
	Marketing Fee.	time.	
Interest	1.5% of the delinquent	Payable only if you	Immediately payable if your
	amount.	do not pay your	account is not timely paid.
		bills on time.	
Reservation System	\$5,000.	This fee must be	Payable only if you are
Reinstatement Fee		paid prior to the	suspended from the
		reinstatement of	reservation system due to
		reservation	your default and you wish to
		services.	be reinstated.

	AMOUNT	DUE DATE	REMARKS
TYPE OF FEE	(NOTE 1)		
Liquidated Damages (Note 13)	If terminated before opening, the number of sleeping rooms multiplied by 60 months, multiplied by \$100.	Within 30 days after termination.	
	If terminated after opening, the greater of (a) \$100, multiplied by the number of sleeping rooms, multiplied by the number of months until the next date on which you may terminate the Franchise Agreement without penalty (not to exceed 60 months); or (b) the average monthly GRR for the last 12 months, multiplied by the Royalty Fee, multiplied by the Royalty Fee, multiplied by the number of months until the next date on which you may terminate the Franchise Agreement without penalty (not to		
Intellectual Property	exceed 60 months). \$2,500 per day that you	Upon demand.	If you continue to use our
Liquidated Damages	continue to use our intellectual property following the expiration or termination of the Franchise Agreement.	•	intellectual property after the expiration or termination of the Franchise Agreement, you must pay this fee to compensate us for damage to our ownership interests in our intellectual property.
Costs and Attorneys' Fees	Will vary under circumstances	Payable on receipt of invoice	If we are successful in any legal action or arbitration proceeding we bring against you or in defending any legal action or arbitration proceeding you bring against us.

Note 1: Unless otherwise stated, these fees are imposed by us, paid to us, and are non-refundable. The Commitment to Your Satisfaction Program fee is not paid to Choice. The Travel Agent and Other Reservation Based Commissions fee and the Travel Agent Centralized Commission Processing Fee may not be paid to Choice. Unless otherwise stated, all fees are uniformly imposed except when negotiated in special circumstances.

Note 2: "Gross Room Revenues" are revenues from the rental, sale, use or occupancy of

sleeping rooms at the hotel for whatever purpose, including cash and credit transactions, whether or not collected by you, guaranteed no show revenue, early departure fees, late checkout fees, day use revenue, attrition or cancellation fees, and any proceeds from business interruption insurance. It does not include taxes required by law, revenues from telephone calls, movie rentals, vending machines, room service, meeting rooms or food and beverage sales.

Note 3: We may increase the Marketing Fee for increases in inflation or costs of advertising, publicity, public relations, or marketing, additional costs of implementing new or improved programs or systems, or increases in our cost of providing any other aspect of our franchise system so long as the increases apply to all or most of the U.S. hotels in our franchise system unless you approve a greater amount. We may also assess additional fees and charges for various components of the franchise system and other services as described in the Rules and Regulations.

Note 4: As of the date of this disclosure document, you must participate in Radisson Blu's current guest loyalty program, Radisson Rewards Americas. The current program fees are detailed below. We anticipate discontinuing the Radisson Rewards Americas program around the third quarter of 2023, and at that time, you will participate in Choice Privileges and pay the fees associated with Choice Privileges as set forth in the chart above.

Radisson Rewards Americas: You must pay us 5% of GRR from a Member Stay, or total package revenue in the case of hotel packages or special offers that include lodging accommodations sold with other services provided by either the Hotel or a third party as part of a single transaction ("Package Revenue"). You will also pay us 5% of the gross food and beverage revenue charged on the program member's guest folio ("F&B Revenue") for each Member Stay. A "Member Stay" is defined as all consecutive room nights at a single hotel. If you successfully enroll a guest in the Radisson Rewards Americas program during their stay, we will waive the fee on Room Revenue and F&B Revenue for the guest's first Member Stay. No fees will be waived if a duplicate account is found.

Members of all Radisson Rewards loyalty programs may redeem their accumulated points for free night award stays at your Hotel and other rewards. You will be fully or partially reimbursed for these redemptions as described in the program rules, which may change. There may be additional costs for guest amenities that must be provided to program members and you must honor all program rules and policies, including free night award stays at your Hotel.

Your Hotel may choose to award bonus points to members, planners and travel agents. You must pay \$0.002 for members and planners and \$0.003 for travel agents.

Your Hotel must meet certain monthly enrollment quotas for the number of guests you enroll in the Radisson Rewards Americas loyalty program. We are currently reviewing the brand standards relating to the loyalty program enrollments for hotels and anticipate that, we will begin measuring hotel performance in meeting these enrollment quotas on a monthly basis and requiring the hotel to pay a fee, which has not yet been determined, if the hotel fails to meet its enrollment standards.

<u>Radisson Rewards Americas for Business</u>: You must participate in the Radisson Rewards Americas for Business program, which incentivizes travel agents, meeting or event planners and other business professionals who plan meetings and conferences. The points awarded under the Radisson Rewards Americas for Business program are in addition to

the points that may be earned by the individual travelers. The fees you must pay are based on the following:

<u>Planners</u>: Eligible planners are awarded 5 points per dollar spent for event purchases. Purchases must be applied to a single master account bill to be eligible for points. You must pay \$0.002 per point awarded to planners.

<u>Travel Agents (formerly Look To Book)</u>: Eligible travel agents are awarded 10 points per dollar spent on booked and consumed reservations made through radissonhotelsamericas.com or through the Global Distribution System (GDS). You must pay us 3% on eligible GRR awarded to travel agents.

- Note 5: As of the date of this disclosure document and until the third quarter of 2023 when we anticipate the Affiliate and Enhanced Reservations Program Commissions will go into effect, you must participate in our Digital Promotions Program (DPP). You must pay a commission fee of up to 10% of qualified stays for reservations delivered through certain online providers and other digital marketing efforts through search engines, referral sites and other online outlets. If a consumer clicks on a media listing or ad, they are referred to radissonhotelsamericas.com to make a direct booking, and if this results in a qualified stay, the fee is charged on the qualified stay. The fee is also charged when a unique telephone reservation or tracking number is used in digital or social sites and a booking is made through that unique telephone phone or tracking number.
- Note 6: As of the date of this disclosure document, you must pay a transaction fee of \$0.13 per pay-for-performance transaction, and \$0.24 for commissionable transactions. Additional customization of the program may result in additional charges. The processing fees set forth in the chart above will go into effect around the third quarter of 2023.
- Note 7: Reservations received through a GDS are currently charged \$3.75 per reservation. This fee will increase to \$7.70, as reflected in the chart above, around the third quarter of 2023.
- Note 8: A "Travel Agent" includes traditional travel agents, such as American Express Travel, CWT, BCD and others, as well as online travel agents such as Expedia if those online travel agents book through our global distribution system ("GDS"). For all reservations originating in a foreign country in which there is a Choice-approved General Sales Agent or which is serviced by a Choice sales team, a hotel will be required to pay a 5% commission in addition to the standard Travel Agent Commission. The additional commission will apply to reservations via travel agents, GDS, and Choice's central reservation system, but will not apply to reservations through online travel agents (for example, Expedia) that are designated by an International Air Transport Association number.
- Note 9: Before ChoiceRM is available around the fourth quarter of 2023, you will have the option to participate in the current Revenue Optimization Consulting Services (ROCS) program, an in-depth revenue management program, for an additional fee. The fee for participating in the ROCS program will vary depending on a number of factors, including, for example, the size of the property, customer complexity, and the market dynamics of each property. Currently, the ROCS fee ranges from approximately \$1,000 \$2,500 per month.
- Note 10: This fee is payable only if you fail to cause Construction Start to occur or you do not complete any renovations which are required to be completed prior to the opening of the Hotel in the Choice franchise system within the deadlines specified in your Franchise Agreement.
  - Note 11: Choice has secured preferred status with leading "mega" travel agencies (for

example, multi-national travel management companies) and consortia of travel agencies so that our franchisees receive a high level of exposure within the Global Distribution System, corporate online booking tools, and preferencing through the various booking channels. For consumed reservations booked through a "mega" travel agency that are commissionable, the Travel Agent and Other Reservation Based Commissions Fee and Travel Agent Centralized Commission Processing Fee apply. These payments are made through ONYX. Hotels that are not current with their travel agent fees risk suspension from the agencies booking tool.

As of the date of this disclosure document and until the Mega Agency and Consortia Pay for Performance Program described above is available for your Hotel, the following fees apply to participation in current pay for performance programs: You must pay a fee of \$1.00 to \$4.00 per consumed room night booked by TMC/Consortia agency partners participating in our TMC/Consortia Pay-for-Performance Program plus the 10% Commission payable on travel agency bookings. There are exceptions to the TMC/Consortia Pay-for-Performance program, including: (i) certain commission re-direct programs, will have a separate fee structure, with no more than 15% of total gross revenue for consumed bookings billed monthly for these programs; (ii) Amex GHP & SME Program, a non-commissionable program, that is billed as an override to Hotels at 5% backend fees for SME only revenue, for consumed bookings against applicable rate codes; (iii) CWT Business Rates (formerly CWT RoomIT), a non-commissionable program, that is billed as an override to Hotels at 10% of total gross revenue for consumed bookings against applicable rate codes; (iv) TripActions, a non-commissionable program, that is billed as an override to Hotels at 10% of total gross revenue for consumed bookings against applicable rate codes; and (v) BCD SME Rate Program, a commissionable program, at 10% commission for consumed bookings against applicable rate codes.

Note 12: As of the date of this disclosure document and until the Call Forwarding Reservation Service program described above is available, you must participate in the current redirected call program and pay an annual maintenance fee of \$360 and pay a fee, currently ranging from \$2.00 to \$2.50 depending upon the number of calls transferred during the billing month, for each call transferred. Calls transferred to our 800 telephone number that do not go through RCP are charged at the rate of \$5.00 per call.

Note 13: This fee is payable only if the Franchise Agreement is terminated due to your breach and does not apply where state law prohibits it.

# ITEM 7 ESTIMATED INITIAL INVESTMENT

## YOUR ESTIMATED INITIAL INVESTMENT

Type of Expenditure	Amount (Note 1)	Method of Payment	When Due	To Whom Payment Is To Be Made
Affiliation Fee	\$500/room for new franchises, \$750 per room for transfers and renewals (\$100,000 minimum)	Two installments	\$10,000 with Application. Balance when Franchise Agreement is signed.	Us
Construction-Related Extension Fee (Note 2)	\$0 to \$5,000 per 3 month extension	As billed	As incurred	Us
Opening Date Rescheduling Fee (Note 2)	\$0 to \$2,500 per each rescheduling	As billed	As incurred	Us
Real Estate (Note 3)	Not included	N/A	N/A	N/A
Improvements (Note 4)	\$13,500,000 to \$90,000,000	As billed	As incurred	Suppliers
Design & Engineering Costs (Note 5)	\$1,000,000 to \$2,500,000	As billed	As incurred	Suppliers, Engineers, Architects, and Other Professionals
Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment (Note 6) <sup>6</sup>	\$2,500,000 to \$25,000,000	As billed	As incurred	Suppliers
Exterior Signage (Note 7)	\$50,000 to \$200,000	As billed	As incurred	Suppliers
Miscellaneous Pre- Opening Costs (Note 8)	\$1,200,000 to \$2,500,000	As incurred	As incurred	Suppliers
Opening Inventory (Note 9)	\$750,000 to \$5,000,000	As billed	As incurred	Employees, Suppliers, Utilities.
ORACLE Opera Cloud PMS Initial Investment (Note 10)	\$33,550	As billed	As incurred	Us and Suppliers

Type of Expenditure	Amount (Note 1)	Method of Payment	When Due	To Whom Payment Is To Be Made
Training Registration Fees and Expenses (Note 11)	\$1,395	As billed	As incurred	Us
Food and Beverage Opening Support Fee	\$8,500 to \$18,000	As billed	As incurred	Us
WebExtra <sup>SM</sup> Fee (Note 12)	\$150 to \$1,100	As billed	As incurred	Us and Suppliers
Start-Up Supplies (Note 13)	\$10,000 to \$12,000	As billed	As incurred	Us
IDeaS Fees (Note 14)	\$4,500	As billed	As incurred	Us
Insurance (Note 15)	\$125,000 to \$350,000	As billed	As incurred	Your insurance carriers
Additional Funds 3 Months (Note 16)	\$2,000,000 to \$3,000,000	As incurred	As incurred	Employees, Suppliers, Utilities
TOTAL	Hotel: \$21,333,095 to \$128,853,045 (does not include real estate)			
Total Cost Per Room (based on 300 rooms)	\$71,110 to \$429,510 (does not include real estate costs; figures rounded)			

Note 1. These estimates are for a Radisson Blu® Hotel with 300 total guestrooms. These ranges are estimates only and do not include real estate. Costs are based on our experience in the hotel industry and a sample of independent third-party estimates normalized at a 100-point construction cost index. Variables like location, cost of materials, labor, and site conditions will determine exactly what your initial investment will be.

Except as disclosed in Item 5, none of the above payments are refundable to you. Except as disclosed in Item 10, we do not, nor do any of our affiliates, provide direct or indirect financing to franchisees for any of these items.

Note 2. We may, under certain circumstances, extend the timeline required to begin or complete the renovation or construction of your Hotel, but we are not required to grant any extension. If we agree to grant an extension, you must pay us \$5,000 per 3 month extension. Whether we grant an extension may vary depending on the circumstances surrounding the delay, the Hotel's market position, size of the property, number of hotels that a franchisee operates in the System, or on other criteria as we may adopt.

You must pay a fee of \$2,500 in the event the Hotel Opening Date is set and confirmed by you in the preopening requirement document and changed within 2 weeks of the committed date, or if a temporary certificate of occupancy is not received at least 7 days prior to the committed date. This fee may be charged multiple times if multiple date commitments or changes occur. You are also responsible for the cost of any travel incurred.

Note 3. These estimates do not include the cost of purchasing an existing hotel to be converted or the cost of purchasing unimproved land to construct a new hotel. The cost of purchasing unimproved land and

making site improvements will vary depending on location, soil conditions, municipal requirements, availability of utilities and other factors and cannot be estimated by us.

Note 4. The high range assumes you are building a new Hotel and includes only building construction costs (excluding the costs of providing utilities, exterior lighting, parking and landscaping). The low range assumes you are converting an existing Hotel and that (i) you have no acquisition costs; (ii) the hotel is in good condition, with no structural work, repaving, roof repair or mechanical work on plumbing, heating, ventilation or air conditioning systems required; and (iii) the hotel includes the necessary facilities such as meeting rooms, restaurant, health club, etc. If any of these assumptions are incorrect, the cost for improvements for a conversion property can be much greater than disclosed in the chart. We encourage you to review this with your professional advisors and look to hotel-related organizations that report on these matters for assistance.

Note 5. Costs may be incurred for engineering, geotechnical investigation, architectural, design, real estate, legal, and other professional services necessary for securing approvals from government agencies and obtaining financing.

Note 6. You must use one of our standard interior design packages, unless we otherwise agree. You must purchase all furniture, fixtures, equipment and interior finishes from the suppliers we designate. Variables such as location, cost of materials and labor, goods and services provided and site conditions can affect the cost of the furniture, fixtures and equipment. Shipping costs are not included in these estimates.

Note 7. Depending on the location, size and configuration of your Hotel, you must pay signage costs ranging from \$50,000 to \$200,000. This amount includes a professional site survey, the signage and the installation. You must purchase your signage from a designated vendor (see Item 8).

Note 8. Miscellaneous opening costs include initial startup expenses such as security deposits, utility costs, and incorporation fees, payroll and related costs, initial supplies, possible transportation and/or utility impact fees, initial opening, advertising and other promotional expenses and materials, and any unforeseen incidental expenses related to facilities deficiencies or equipment repairs. Your costs will depend on whether you are building a new Hotel or converting an existing property, as well as other factors like how much you follow our methods and procedures, your management skill, experience, general economic conditions, the local market for our product, the prevailing wage rate, competition, hotel size, the occupancy level reached during the initial period, and other factors.

Note 9. Opening inventory reflects the costs of inventory items such as stationery, promotional materials, amenity items, miscellaneous room supplies, cleaning supplies, paper goods, smallwares, kitchen supplies and other small equipment and supplies required for operating a Hotel.

Note 10. You will pay the following estimated implementation fees and hardware costs for the ORACLE Opera Cloud PMS:

DESCRIPTION	FEE	PAID TO
ORACLE Opera Cloud PMS	\$15,000	Vendor
Implementation Fees		
Technology & Interface Connect Fee	\$2,400	Us
PMS Payment Gateway Fee	\$150	Vendor
Equipment/Hardware	\$16,000	Vendor

The actual cost will vary based on number of rooms, additional workstations and type of printers, optional components purchased and other miscellaneous items. For example, if you add an optional POS system or sales and catering system, you will pay additional implementation and monthly fees. The cost includes ORACLE Opera Cloud PMS training. Before the opening of the Hotel, all Hotel staff that will be utilizing ORACLE Opera Cloud PMS should complete their respective training.

These estimates for required components do not include all technology systems required to operate a typical Hotel. Examples of systems not included are telephone, accounting, payroll, inventory management, call accounting, voice mail and internet (which are included in the Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment Category, Operating, Supplies & Equipment Category and the Miscellaneous Additional Funds Category). It will be necessary for you to purchase compatible systems from suppliers of your choosing. We offer a list of approved suppliers for most items, but these are recommendations only. Also, the estimates do not include costs for cabling, accommodations for installers and annual upgrades, all of which are your responsibility. See Item 6 for a summary of the monthly fees. Upon expiration or termination of your Franchise Agreement, you will be disconnected and will no longer have access to the ORACLE Opera Cloud PMS.

Note 11. Orientation and Hospitality operations training includes the cost to attend Hospitality Operations Success Training ("HOST"). Our HOST training fee is \$1,395 and covers an operator certification program that is offered virtually, consisting of self-paced online lessons, live interactive virtual workshops, and exams. The costs do not include the cost of travel, lodging, or meals to attend the required training programs. Some or all of the training may not be required if you have previously owned a Choice branded hotel, obtained Choice Hotels training certification for another existing hotel.

Note 12. You must participate in the WebExtra<sup>SM</sup> program, which requires the completion of an individual website for your Hotel in English. There is a nonrefundable one-time initial development charge of \$2,244 which is included as part of the Start-up Supplies fee (See Item 5) and you must purchase from the supplier between 25 and 100 credits (\$150-\$600). Additional credits and optional services may also be purchased from the supplier. Translation costs are not included in the annual renewal and vary based on the number of languages and amount of content on your site. If you choose to translate your site to additional languages, an annual budget of \$500 per language is recommended to cover translation costs. The WebExtra<sup>SM</sup> program will be discontinued in Q3 2023.

Note 13. This estimate includes our training materials, guest loyalty program items, various sales and marketing program materials and guides, a franchise plaque, and the initial development charge for WebExtra.

Note 14. The Revenue Optimization Program includes IDeaS G3, our fully integrated revenue management system, the support of the Revenue Optimization Specialists for your Hotel, OTA Insight & Parity Insight and other tools. If the Hotel has not previously used IDeaS G3, you must pay us a nonrefundable \$2,000 set-up fee and a \$2,500 limited data build fee.

Note 15. These policies cover construction, General Liability, Cyber Liability, and Workers Compensation, including Statutory Workers Compensation and Employers Liability insurance, and must provide minimum limits per location of coverage as stated in the Franchise Agreement.

Note 16. These estimates are for your initial startup expenses including working capital, payroll and related costs, opening inventories, advertising, utilities and insurance for 3 months after opening. Insurance costs may vary greatly depending on market conditions and risk factors involved. Other costs and fees are described in Item 6. We do not guarantee that you will not have additional expenses starting the business. Your costs will depend on factors like how much you follow our methods and procedures, your management skill,

experience and business acumen, general economic conditions, the prevailing wage rate, competition, hotel size, the occupancy level reached during the initial period, and other factors.

We relied on our experience in the hotel business to compile these estimates. You should review these figures carefully with a business advisor before making any decision to purchase the franchise.

## ITEM 8 RESTRICTIONS ON SOURCES OF PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

You must design the Hotel and provide product and design specifications that align with the brand design directives for public spaces, guest room size and facilities and equip the Hotel with furniture, fixtures and equipment, bath and bed linens, draperies, bedcoverings, floor coverings, wall coverings, lighting, ice machines, telephone systems and other amenities for which we have established written specifications or minimum standards. We may modify our specifications in writing as we determine appropriate from time to time and may add new specifications or brand guidelines, in writing including any manuals or policies regarding, among other things, our standards and requirements for construction, equipment, furnishings, supplies, maintenance and marketing that are applicable to RADISSON BLU Hotels ("Rules and Regulations").

Our Procurement Services Department and Brand Management Department maintain lists of "Qualified Vendors" of products and services for our franchisees. Certain Qualified Vendors are designated in the Rules and Regulations as exclusive suppliers. Unless required by the Rules and Regulations, you do not have to purchase products that otherwise meet brand standards from Qualified Vendors. You do have to purchase certain Choice Mark-bearing items, such as signs and bath amenities, only from Qualified Vendors. You must also purchase bedding, computer hardware, and other brand standard items per brand specifications through a Qualified Vendor. Currently, you must purchase only from us the Start-up Supplies (and replacements for those supplies), and you must license only from our affiliate certain software and other items ancillary to the ORACLE Opera Cloud PMS and system.

Vendors that are not on the Qualified Vendor list may apply to become "Qualified," and you may recommend new vendors to us. Among the criteria that we consider is the financial stability of the company, whether the product or service meets Rules and Regulations and if the product or service is of use to our franchisees. Our criteria are available to you for review upon request. Where applicable, the vendor may be asked to submit product samples and specifications to us. We usually make our decision and notify the vendor within 90 days after all information and samples have been submitted, although a longer period may be required for products or services that, due to their cost or importance to the brand, may have significant financial impact on our franchisees. We may limit the number of Qualified Vendors and Preferred Vendors to obtain volume discounts and to promote consistent quality and adequate supplies for the particular brand. We may revoke a vendor's "Qualified" status if the vendor no longer meets our criteria, if they breach their agreement with us or if the product or service offered is no longer competitive in price or quality, among other reasons.

We require you to engage a professional hotel management company ("Management Company") before Construction Start (as defined in the Franchise Agreement) and retain such Management Company to operate and manage the Hotel during the term of the Franchise Agreement, which will be subject to our prior written consent. Our affiliate, Radisson Hotels Management Corporation, through one or more subsidiaries, owns a management company.

In addition, you are required to manage all food and beverage operations and offerings at the Hotel in accordance with our Rules and Regulations. Any third-party operator you designate to operate any

restaurant, bar (including any rooftop bar), any retail bay outlet or other food establishment at the Hotel must be pre-approved by us in writing. You and/or any third-party operator must provide food and beverage at the Hotel in strict compliance with the Rules and Regulations, including: (1) operating the restaurant, bar, lounge, market and sundry area or any other food outlet at the Hotel in accordance with our requirements as provided in the Rules and Regulations to ensure the highest level of quality, safety, and service; (2) maintaining in sufficient supply all food and beverage products and ingredients (as well as other supplies, paper goods, dinnerware, and furnishings) that meet our requirements and conform to our Rules and Regulations; (3) selling or offering to sell only those food and beverage items in the restaurant, bar, lounge, or any other food outlet (including any rooftop bar or restaurant) at your Hotel that comply with our Rules and Regulations and applicable law (including abiding by applicable licensing and other requirements for the sale of alcoholic beverages); (4) maintaining hours of operation for the restaurant, bar, lounge, or any other food or beverage outlet (including rooftop) in accordance with our Rules and Regulations; and (5) using only menus, signs, promotional displays and other materials that comply with the design of our Rules and Regulations.

Additionally, none of our officers own an interest in any privately-held suppliers, or a material interest in any publicly-held suppliers of our franchise system. From time to time, our officers may own non-material interests in publicly-held companies that are suppliers to our franchise system.

We receive certain commissions or rebates from Qualified Vendors that typically range from 1% to 2% (but may be up to 20%) of net sales volume to franchisees, as well as a flat fee that we typically receive annually from each Qualified Vendor. In exchange for these fees, we may provide each vendor with certain services, which may include one or more of the following: marketing services from our Procurement Managers and/or marketing personnel, space on our ChoiceBuys.com website, a booth at our annual convention, advertisements in our print and electronic publications (Choice e-Connections and Choice Connections) and sponsorship opportunities, among other benefits. We do not provide franchisees with any material benefits, such as opportunities to acquire additional franchises, based on their purchases of particular products or services from Qualified Vendors or use of particular Qualified Vendors.

You must display at your Hotel entrance the number and type of identity signs required by the Rules and Regulations. Such signs must display the approved brand name and logo of your Hotel. Signs are available from manufacturers who must be approved by us and who must comply with brand specifications. Each sign manufacturer must meet certain business, financial and insurance requirements. We derive income from appointment fees, limited trademark licenses, drawing charges and commissions on signs sold that are purchased through signage Qualified Vendors. All highway billboards and printed advertising, among other electronic or printed media, must use the Choice Marks in accordance with our specifications.

You must display at your Hotel entrance at least one main identity sign displaying the name and logo of your Hotel. You are required to use a Qualified Vendor for all exterior building signs. We derive income from limited trademark licenses, and commissions on signs sold that are purchased through sign or face Qualified Vendor manufacturers. All highway billboards and printed advertising, among other electronic or printed media, must use the Choice Marks in accordance with our specifications.

We also periodically negotiate preferred marketing agreements with corporations and other organizations for joint marketing efforts, which may result in commissionable stays at your Hotel. If you make inventory available to these organizations, we may retain up to 50% of any commissions payable by you in consideration of our marketing services and program administration costs.

As described in Item 7, you must obtain and maintain insurance which will include, at a minimum, insurance policies of the kinds, and in the amounts, required by us (Franchise Agreement, Section 12).

These written insurance policies include, at a minimum, the following coverage during construction or complete renovation of the hotel: commercial general liability insurance (including automobile liability, bodily injury and property damage) for all types of liabilities, together with the costs of defense and/or adjustments arising out of the operations to construct the hotel, providing limits of coverage of not less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence, and including coverage for contractual liability, explosion, collapse and underground property damage hazard liability, personal injury liability, products and completed operations liability, owner's and contractor's protective liability, and independent contractor's liability; all-risk builder's insurance to insure the hotel buildings under construction to 100% of their replacement cost value; and a workers' compensation policy as required by statute. During the operation of the hotel, required insurance policies include, at a minimum: all-risk physical damage coverage insuring the hotel and its contents for full replacement costs; commercial automobile and commercial general liability insurance policies written on an occurrence form, which must include contractual, products and completed operations, independent contractors, personal injury, property damage, bodily injury and host liquor liability coverage, together with the costs and expenses of the defense and/or adjustment of injury or damage, providing limits of coverage, per location, of not less than \$5,000,000 (\$10,000,000 to \$15,000,000 if the hotel has 6 or more stories) per occurrence; cyber liability insurance coverage that provides minimum coverage of \$1,000,000 per location; workers' compensation and employers' liability insurance with minimum employers liability limits of \$1,000,000 bodily injury by accident (each accident); \$1,000,000 bodily injury by disease (policy limit); and \$1,000,000 bodily injury by disease (each employee), whether or not required by the state where the hotel is located; dram shop/liquor liability insurance with limits of not less than \$5,000,000 per occurrence if alcoholic beverages are sold at the hotel (whether or not you own the establishment that sells alcohol); pollution/environmental legal liability insurance \$500,000 per pollution incident/\$1,000,000 aggregate, covering bodily injury, property damage, cleanup costs and defense costs arising from, or associated with, a pollution condition at a covered location. There will be no exclusion for carbon monoxide, and affirmative coverage for Legionella and microbial matter/mold; employment practices liability insurance \$1,000,000 limit, including \$1,000,000 third party coverage; and business interruption insurance that provides coverage for a minimum of three (3) months in the event the hotel is not operational.

You must also obtain and attach endorsements to your insurance policies adding us and our affiliates and subsidiaries, our and their respective officers, directors, agents, partners and employees, as additional insureds and provide waiver of subrogation on commercial automobile, commercial general, workers' compensation/employers' liability (if allowed), umbrella insurance policies and dram shop/liquor liability (if applicable), and adding us as co-defendant under the employment practices liability policies. If you fail to procure or maintain the minimum insurance described above (or as designated by us from time to time in the brand standards), we may procure the insurance on your behalf and charge you the cost of the insurance and, at our option, a reasonable penalty. You will be required to reimburse us for the cost of such insurance and for any reasonable out-of-pocket costs that we incur should we elect to obtain the insurance on your behalf.

Unless mandated by the brand standards contained in the then-current version of the Rules and Regulations, you do not have to participate in any purchasing or distribution cooperative we maintain. However, the Choice Procurement Services Department attempts to negotiate pricing believed to be favorable from its Qualified Vendors for franchisees, and we may from time to time offer cooperative buying programs to provide additional savings for those hotels that commit to any such program. You may opt out of being a member of such program at any time by completing and sending us the opt out electronic form located within the FAQs on Choicebuys.com. Most product and services offerings are accessible via ChoiceBuys.com, a proprietary web-based electronic catalogue. Radisson Procurement, Inc. d/b/a Strategic Sourcing also purchases goods and services for resale to third parties, including the franchisees of its various affiliates.

In the year ended December 31, 2022, our total revenues were about \$1,297.7 million. Of this figure, revenues attributable to required purchases by franchisees of products and services were \$55.8 million, or about 4.30% of our total revenues in 2022, which includes revenues from Qualified Vendors and excludes choiceADVANTAGE® installation and support fees.

We estimate the cost of opening inventory for items that must be purchased from Qualified Vendors or subject to our standards or specifications to be less than 10% of your initial investment in goods and services for a new construction facility. Your annual expenditures on these items may range between 10-15% of your annual purchases.

## ITEM 9 FRANCHISEE'S OBLIGATIONS

This table lists your principal obligations under the franchise and other agreements. It will help you find more detailed information about your obligations in these agreements and in other Items of this Disclosure Document.

Obligation	Section in Franchise Agreement	Section in Call Forwarding Program Terms of Use	Disclosure Document Item
(a) Site selection & acquisition/ lease	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
(b) Pre-opening purchases/leases	Sections 6(b), (e), (f) & (g), (s)(3) & (8)	Not Applicable	Items 5, 7, 8 & 11
(c) Site development & other pre-opening requirements	Section 6	Not Applicable	Items 5, 7, 8 & 11
(d) Initial & ongoing training	Section 6(e)	Not Applicable	Items 5, 6, 7 & 11
(e) Opening	Sections 1(f) & 6(s)	Not Applicable	Item 11
(f) Fees	Sections 4, 6(e), (f), (g), (k), (n), (r), (s) & (w) 8, 9(b), (c), 10(c), (d), 12 & 16	Section 3	Items 5, 6, 11 & 17
(g) Compliance with Standards & Policies/Operating Manual	Sections 1(k), 5(a) & (b), 6 & 10	Not Applicable	Items 8 & 11
(h) Trademarks & proprietary information	Sections 1(i) & (j), 6(s)(1) & 7	Section 8	Items 13 & 14
(i) Restrictions on products/services offered	Section 6(b), (c) & (d)	Not Applicable	Items 8 & 16
(j) Warranty & customer service requirements	Sections 6(l) & (q)	Section 6	Not Applicable
(k) Territorial development and sales quotas	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
(l) Ongoing product/service purchases	Sections 6(b), (c), (e), (f), (g) & (o)	Not Applicable	Item 8

Obligation	Section in Franchise Agreement	Section in Call Forwarding Program Terms of Use	Disclosure Document Item
(m) Maintenance, appearance and remodeling requirements	Sections 6(a), (b), (c), (d), (f), (o) & (p), 7(c) & 8	Not Applicable	Items 6, 8 & 11
(n) Insurance	Section 12	Not Applicable	Items 6, 7 & 8
(o) Advertising	Section 6(s)(4)	Not Applicable	Items 6, 8 & 11
(p) Indemnification	Section 13	Section 7	Not Applicable
(q) Owner's Participation/Management/St affing	Section 6(t)	Not Applicable	Item 15
(r) Records and Reports	Sections 4(c), (d) & (e), 6(r)(4), 10(b)(2)(e) & 12(e)	Not Applicable	Item 6
(s) Inspections and Audits	Sections 4(e) & (f), 5(b), 6(h) & (s)(2)	Not Applicable	Items 6 & 11
(t) Transfer	Section 9	Section 10	Items 6 & 17
(u) Renewal	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Item 17
(v) Post-termination obligations	Section 11	Not Applicable	Items 6 &17
(w) Non-competition covenants	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
(x) Dispute resolution	Sections 16, 21, 22, 23, & 24	Section 9	Item 17

## ITEM 10 FINANCING

#### AFFILIATION FEE PROMISSORY NOTE

In our sole discretion and on approval of your credit, we may offer to finance the affiliation fee without interest. In that event, you must sign a promissory note (see Exhibit F). Note payment is due in one full lump sum generally within three months after the note is signed. The note may be accelerated upon default and provides for a waiver of presentment, demand for payment, notice of dishonor, protest, and includes a confession of judgment clause. If the principal amount of the note, or any portion of the amount, is not paid on or before the maturity date, the note will bear interest from the date on which the funds are due until paid at a default annual rate equal to eighteen percent (18%). In the event of default, you must pay all of our costs of suit and reasonable attorney's fees. The note contains no pre-payment penalty. The owners of the franchise entity may be required to sign the note personally.

#### SELECTED CAPITAL SUPPORT

Except as otherwise described in this Item 10, in certain instances, we may provide select capital support to help offset the costs associated with developing a hotel within the Choice franchise system. In our sole and absolute discretion, we may provide capital support for franchisees that develop a property with strategic importance to Choice. We do not offer capital support in every instance, and we may freely choose not to offer capital support to you. The terms of such capital support will vary and will always be determined in our sole and absolute discretion after your application has been submitted to us and we have approved your eligibility to own a hotel franchise. In the event you have been offered and agreed to accept

capital support, you will be bound, in all ways, to the contracts, documents, and agreements related to and controlling the administration of that capital support.

Specifically, the principal amount of the financing will depend upon the franchisee's creditworthiness and various other factors. The franchisee will sign a promissory note evidencing the loan. The form of promissory note is attached at Exhibit G.A (the "Capital Support Note"). Generally, forgiveness of the Capital Support Note will be amortized over a period of 10 to 15 years (beginning on the Opening Date of your Hotel) using a straight-line method, so that the Capital Support Note will be completely forgiven if you do not commit certain defaults under the Capital Support Note beginning upon signing of the Franchise Agreement and ending 10 to 15 years after the Opening Date. Your individual owners will be required to sign the Capital Support Note, in addition to franchisee. We will fund the loan shortly after the Hotel opens and we receive the signed Capital Support Note from the franchisee. In limited circumstances, you may be eligible for additional loan amounts based on your Hotel's performance. We will not charge you interest unless you default under the Capital Support Note (Section 5). If you default, all amounts outstanding will bear interest at prime plus two percent. The maximum interest rate in California is 10% annually. The loan amount will be payable in equal yearly installments over the term of the Franchise Agreement. However, each yearly payment will be deemed paid so long as no default has occurred under the Capital Support Note (Section 4). Defaults under the Capital Support Note include the termination of the Franchise Agreement, an uncured default by franchisee under the Franchise Agreement, a transfer as defined in the Franchise Agreement and a breach of any provision of the Note or any document executed in connection with the Capital Support Note (Section 5). Following a default under the Note, we may declare the entire outstanding amount under the Capital Support Note plus all accrued interest immediately due and payable (Section 5.2). Franchisee must also pay all of our costs and attorneys' fees incurred in collecting the Capital Support Note (Section 5.4). Default under the Capital Support Note will constitute a default under the Franchise Agreement (Section 5.1). Based upon your creditworthiness, we may not require that you provide us security for repayment of the loan.

The terms of the guaranty signed in connection with the Franchise Agreement will also extend to the repayment obligations under the Capital Support Note. The loan can be prepaid at any time and there are no prepayment penalties. Franchisee waives various rights under the Capital Support Note including presentment, demand, and all other notices and demands (Capital Support Note – Section 5.6).

In addition, if you sign our Capital Support Note, you and we must agree to waive our right to terminate the Franchise Agreement, without cause, for the applicable 10<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> anniversaries of the Opening Date as provided in Section 3 of the Franchise Agreement.

#### DIVERSITY AND VETERAN INCENTIVE PROGRAM

We participate in the International Franchise Association's Veteran's Transition Franchise Initiative (known as VetFran®). We are currently offering a diversity and veteran incentive program to encourage and increase the diversity of our franchise system and the hospitality industry as well as to encourage entrepreneurs that have served in the United States military and been honorably discharged from service ("Diversity and Veteran Incentive"). The Diversity and Veteran Incentive Program is intended to attract top hotel developers from diverse backgrounds and involves our commitment of capital to incentivize qualifying franchisees to develop either a newly constructed Choice-branded hotel or convert an existing hotel to a Choice-branded hotel. Qualifying franchisees who enter into franchise agreements to re-license Choice branded hotels that are currently part of the Choice franchise system are not eligible to receive a Diversity and Veteran Incentive; however, these franchisees will be given a 50% discount on the then-current affiliation fee due in connection with the re-licensed franchise agreement (see below).

#### **Qualifications**

To qualify for the Diversity and Veteran Incentive Program, you must meet all of the following conditions: you must make a good faith request for the Diversity and Veteran Incentive at the time of application; you must meet our then-current qualifications for new franchisees (including our standard credit review); you must be a majority owner that is actively engaged in the deal process; if you are an individual, you must identify to us the characteristics and background that will contribute to the diversity of our franchise system and the hospitality industry or if you are veteran you must demonstrate that you have served in the United States military and have been honorably discharged from service; or if you are a legal entity, you must be at least 51% legally and beneficially owned by persons that can demonstrate to us characteristics and background that will contribute to the diversity of our franchise system and the hospitality industry or meet the requirements of a veteran stated above. We will have sole discretion in determining whether you qualify for the Diversity and Veteran Incentive Program. The Diversity and Veteran Incentive Program may not be combined with any other incentive program that we may be offering at the time of your application and we may discontinue this Program at any time.

#### **Incentive**

Each Diversity and Veteran Incentive we make for a Hotel using the RADISSON BLU Marks listed will be for \$4,000 per room in the Hotel (maximum of \$500,000). Each incentive will be evidenced by a 10-year forgivable promissory note (see Exhibit G.B.) (the "Diversity Note"). We will pay the proceeds of the Diversity Note to you only after the Opening Date of your Hotel. You may use the proceeds of the Diversity Note for any purpose related to the Hotel. We do not require collateral for this Diversity Note, but may require you or the owners of a franchise entity to sign personally. Forgiveness of the Diversity Note will be amortized over 10 years (beginning on the Opening Date of your Hotel) using a straight-line method, so that the Diversity Note will be completely forgiven if you do not commit certain defaults under the Diversity Note beginning upon signing of the Franchise Agreement and ending 10 years after the Opening Date. The Diversity Note is structured to provide for one payment at the end of 10 years; however, you do not have to make payments on the Diversity Note if you remain in good standing under your Franchise Agreement. If you default in the obligations of your Franchise Agreement, your Franchise Agreement is terminated or expires, you die or you file for bankruptcy, then the entire remaining unforgiven principal balance is immediately due along with interest (accruing on the remaining unforgiven balance only) from the original date of the Diversity Note at an interest rate of prime plus 2%. The maximum interest rate in California is 10% annually. Under the Diversity Note, you must waive demand, presentment for payment, protest, notice of dishonor and your right to a jury trial. On your default, you also must pay all reasonable expenses, costs and attorneys' fees that we incur in collecting the Diversity Note. The Note contains no pre-payment penalty.

If you qualify for a Diversity and Veteran Incentive, you may request amortization over 5 years instead (beginning on the Opening Date of your Hotel) using a straight-line method, so that the Diversity Note will be completely forgiven if you do not commit certain defaults under your Franchise Agreement upon signing of the Franchise Agreement and ending 5 years after the Opening Date. If you request a 5 year Diversity Note, the incentive will be 50% of the amount of the 10 year Note, and will be limited to a maximum of \$250,000. Each incentive will be evidenced by a 5 year Diversity Note in the same form attached as Exhibit G.B. The Diversity Note is structured to provide for one payment at the end of 5 years; however, you do not have to make payments on the Diversity Note if you remain in good standing under your Franchise Agreement. If you default in the obligations of your Franchise Agreement, your Franchise Agreement is terminated or expires, you die or you file for bankruptcy, then the entire remaining unforgiven principal balance is immediately due along with interest (accruing on the remaining unforgiven balance only) from the original date of the Diversity Note at an interest rate of prime plus 2%. If the Default Payment Amount (as defined in Exhibit G.B) has not been paid in full fifteen (15) days after the date such

amount became due and payable, interest will begin to accrue at a default annual rate equal to Prime plus seven percent (prime plus 7%). The maximum interest rate in California is 10% annually. Under the Diversity Note, you must waive demand, presentment for payment, protest, notice of dishonor and your right to a jury trial. On your default, you also must pay all reasonable expenses, costs and attorneys' fees that we incur in collecting the Diversity Note. The Diversity Note contains no pre-payment penalty.

#### DIVERSITY AND VETERAN RE-LICENSING INCENTIVE

If you: (1) qualify for the Diversity and Veteran Incentive Program; and (2) purchase a hotel that is a RADISSON BLU branded Hotel operating as part of the Choice franchise system at the time of purchase; and (3) enter into a Franchise Agreement with Choice to re-license the hotel as a RADISSON BLU branded Hotel, you will be granted a 50% discount on the then-current affiliation fee due in connection with your Franchise Agreement. Franchisees that enter into franchise agreements with Choice for the relicensing of an existing Choice brand hotel and qualify and accept the Diversity and Veteran Incentive are not eligible to participate in any other incentive program.

\* \* \*

We have not sold, assigned or discounted our commercial paper to anyone, nor do we intend to (although we are permitted to do so).

#### **ITEM 11**

#### FRANCHISOR'S ASSISTANCE, ADVERTISING, COMPUTER SYSTEMS, AND TRAINING

Except as listed below, we are not required to provide you with any assistance.

**PRE-OPENING ASSISTANCE.** Before you open your Hotel in the Choice franchise system, we will provide certain assistance including:

#### SITE SELECTION

We must approve the site you select. (Franchise Agreement, Section 6(r).) We consider the location, market and revenue potential as factors approval. Our approval of your site does not assure that your business will be successful. Choice's Franchise Committee will review your application within 60 days of submission. If a site cannot be agreed upon and we reject your application, your affiliation fee will be refunded, less \$10,000, and no Franchise Agreement will be signed. (Franchise Agreement, Section 4(a).) The "typical" length of time to construct and open a new RADISSON BLU Hotel between the signing of a Franchise Agreement and the opening of a newly constructed Hotel is between 18 and 24 months (Franchise Agreement, Section 6(r)). This period may vary and largely depend on a number of factors, such as the ability to obtain a lease or control of the site; financing; local zoning laws and ordinances; the ability to obtain building permits on a timely basis; weather conditions; or any delays associated with the installation of equipment, fixtures and signs.

#### **CONSTRUCTION**

We will meet with your architect, at our corporate headquarters in Rockville, Maryland, or virtually for orientation to the brand standards and design review process. Our approval of your plans does not assure that they are adequate (Franchise Agreement, Section 6(r)). You must pay all travel and living expenses for this meeting.

At our discretion, we may provide additional consultation and services to assist you to construct, renovate, maintain, operate, and/or market the Hotel on the same basis as provided to other hotels that are authorized to use our System under the Brand Mark; we reserve the right to charge you reasonable fees that we may establish in advance or on a project-by-project basis for such consultation and services. (Franchise Agreement, Section 5(d)).

You must submit your preliminary drawings for our approval within 3 months after execution of your Franchise Agreement, and final working drawings and final building plans for the Hotel for our approval within 6 months after execution of your Franchise Agreement (Franchise Agreement, Section 6(r)). Our review of your plans is for compliance with our brand standards only and does not assure that your business will be successful, that your plans are suitable for architectural or engineering purposes, or that your plans are in compliance with local, state, or federal laws. It will be your responsibility to comply with all local, state, and national code requirements applicable to the construction of your Hotel.

Prior to ordering your FF&E, you must construct a model room for our review and approval. You must begin construction of your Hotel within 12 months after the date of the Franchise Agreement, and, within 5 days after Construction Start, notify us that the Construction Start has occurred (Franchise Agreement, Section 6(r)(2)), continue construction of the Hotel, in accordance with the plans without interruption, until the Hotel is ready for our inspection and complete construction of the Hotel, including furnishing, equipping and preparing for opening, within 12 months of Construction Start (Franchise Agreement, Section 6(r)(3)).

You must undertake any remodeling, renovations, and modifications to existing improvements, necessary to modernize and conform your Hotel to the Rules and Regulations or other requirements of our System as described in your Franchise Agreement. (Franchise Agreement, Section 6(o)).

#### **RULES AND REGULATIONS**

Upon request, you may view the current Rules and Regulations at our proprietary intranet site, www.choicecentral.com (Franchise Agreement, Section 5(a)). Once you become a RADISSON franchisee you will have access to these Rules and Regulations without having to request them from us. We may periodically revise, add to or update Rules and Regulations and other requirements by issuing revisions to the Rules and Regulations and other manuals that we may publish. As of the date of this disclosure document, the Rules and Regulations were a minimum of 133 pages in length. The Table of Contents for our Rules and Regulations manual is attached as Exhibit H to this disclosure document.

#### **OPENING SERVICES SUPPORT**

Our Opening Services department will assist you to open your Hotel in the Choice franchise system (Franchise Agreement, Section 5.) We will assign an Onboarding Project Manager directed by the RADISSON BLU team to monitor your project's progress and to assist you to meet contractual milestones (for example architectural and/or property improvement plan reviews). Your Onboarding Project Manager and Brand Operations Performance Support Director will introduce you to Choice's organizational support departments, enroll your Hotel in appropriate marketing programs, and help coordinate training course attendance/resource utilization. In addition, your Onboarding Project Manager and Brand Operations Performance Support Director will work with you to review and/or develop pre-opening sales/marketing and departmental checklists and action plans to make sure your Hotel is ready to open in the Choice franchise system. Finally, your Onboarding Project Manager and Brand Operations Performance Support Director will help you to make sure that your Hotel meets brand standards and that you have the knowledge and tools to assist you to successfully pass the Hotel's first Quality Assurance Review (QAR). (Franchise Agreement, Section 5.) You must ensure your Hotel opens in accordance with your Franchise Agreement.

(Franchise Agreement, Section 6(s).)

#### **TRAINING**

We will provide training, as described below (Franchise Agreement, Section 6(e)). You must comply with our training requirements by ensuring that you and the Hotel's general manager(s) attend (at the times required by us) our then-current training programs, including our annual national convention for hotels authorized to use the System-

You must have a certified General Manager at your Hotel. We will provide our Certified General Manager training under the HOST program, as described below.

You must have at least one Hotel staff member who is in a managerial role and is present on the Hotel premises operations certified by attending the HOST program. We will provide our operations certification training under the HOST program, as described below:

## **HOSPITALITY OPERATIONS SUCCESS TRAINING (HOST)**(Notes 1, 2 and 3)

	HOURS OF	HOURS OF ON	
	CLASSROOM	THE JOB	
SUBJECT	TRAINING	TRAINING	LOCATION
Self-Paced Online Modules, videos, and	12	None	Any location with
job aids covering:			internet access
1. Brands, Brand/Corporate			
Programs			
2. Quality Assurance and			
Compliance			
3. Systems and Resources			
4. Distribution and			
Reservations			
5. Reputation Management			
6. Driving Revenue			
7. Profitability			
8. Crisis/Emergency			
Management			
9. Lodging Legal			
Fundamentals			
10. Leadership			
Live Online Virtual Workshops and	12	None	Any location with
related activities covering:			internet access
1. Local Sales			
2. Responding to Reviews			
3. Online Engagement			
4. Digital Presence			
5. Profitability			
6. Leadership			
7. Housekeeping			

Operations 8. Maintenance Operations			
Online Exams covering:  1. Hotel and Business Operations 2. Systems and Distribution 3. Sales, Revenue, and Profitability	3		Any location with internet access
TOTAL	27	0	

Note 1: It is mandatory that at least one Hotel staff member who is in a managerial role and is present on the Hotel premises has completed the HOST training. The cost of the training class is \$1,395.

Note 2: Instructional materials for the HOST training program include interactive online learning, videos, job aids, virtual workshops, activities, and online examinations. Instructors for the program include Choice University Learning Professionals, and their experiences range from 10 to 30 plus years.

Note 3: At least one Hotel staff member who is in a managerial role must become HOST certified within 90 days of opening or relicensing the Hotel in the Choice franchise system, and at least one Hotel staff member that has completed HOST training must be on the Hotel premises. As described in Item 5, the HOST requirement is satisfied if a Hotel staff member in a managerial role has previously completed HOST training.

Attendance is mandatory at the training programs identified in this Item 5. Failure to attend within the prescribed time frame may result in a non-compliance penalty of \$250 per month for failure to attend the HOST training until compliant and/or formal default, and the failure to cure the default could result in the termination of your Franchise Agreement.

\* \* \*

You will also participate in the Educational Resources Program, which provides training on various topics through our online learning management system. The cost of the Educational Resources Program is \$1,500 annually plus any applicable state tax.

Additional training may be required based on individual Hotel needs. We reserve the right to charge you a tuition fee for these additional training programs as established by us from time to time. You also will be required to pay all travel, living and other expenses incurred by your employees while attending any required additional training programs.

We also offer many optional training programs throughout the year, including the regional workshops. In these educational workshops, you and your staff can gain valuable knowledge on a wide variety of topics designed to help your Hotel become more effective and efficient.

Any training provided by us to any of your employees will be limited to training or guiding the

employees regarding the delivery of approved services to guests in a manner that reflects the brand standards of the System. You are, and will remain, the sole employer of your employees during all training programs, and you are solely responsible for all employment decisions and actions related to your employees. It is your obligation to ensure that your employees receive adequate training.

\* \* \*

**POST-OPENING OBLIGATIONS.** During the operation of the Hotel in the Choice franchise system, we will provide the following services:

#### NEW HOTEL REVENUE GENERATION SUPPORT

At least six months prior to opening, you are required to hire a Director of Sales and General Manager, and at least four months prior to opening, you are required to create a sales and marketing plan for your Hotel. The Revenue Generation team will meet with your team and assist in optimizing a plan for your Hotel with a focus on revenue, ramp up time, marketing and sales.

The RADISSON BLU Revenue Generation team will work with your team and provide support in the following areas:

- Hotel Segmentation
- Market assessment helping to identify key demand generators for your Hotel
- Leveraging Choice Hotels Resources and Tools
- Sales Action Planning and Goal Setting to drive local sales efforts
- Rate position and pricing strategy
- Digital presence on all channels
- Training for sales teams
- Local marketing support
- Local and national sales support
- Grand opening support

#### **OUALITY ASSURANCE**

We will administer a quality assurance program that may include periodic visits to your Hotel (by us or our authorized representatives) and/or guest satisfaction surveys to evaluate your compliance with your franchise agreement and the Rules and Regulations. If necessary, we will advise you of changes that you must make to the Hotel or its operations to comply with the Franchise Agreement and/or the Rules and Regulations (Franchise Agreement, Section 5(b)). Franchisees who fail to improve on identified quality issues may be subject to consequences ranging from written warnings, the payment of re-inspection, noncompliance and guest satisfaction fees, attendance at mandatory training programs and ultimately to the termination of the Franchise Agreement.

#### **MARKETING**

You must contribute 2% of GRR as the Marketing Fee. We can use the Marketing Fees for all costs and expenses related to advertising, marketing, promoting, sales and public relations for the benefit of any brands that we or our affiliates may own or license, including researching, developing, producing, implementing, and administering standards, programs and initiatives that apply to or otherwise benefit any brands that we or our affiliates may own or license; developing and maintaining directories and web sites for any brands that we or our affiliates may own or license; developing and conducting training programs;

providing reservation services; administering and maintaining guest reward or loyalty programs, such as Choice Privileges, and any successor or substitute program; sales and revenue management activities; administration of the Marketing Fees; and defraying expenses of any brand business conference. We decide what specific activities serve these purposes, and the amounts to be paid for them to ourselves, our affiliates and third parties, including marketing efforts for hotels operated by us or others under different brands. The media in which advertisements may be disseminated includes digital media as well as traditional means (such as print ads, Out-of-Home, radio, television and direct email) and may be conducted on a regional, national or international basis. We coordinate the marketing programs and use our in-house marketing department as well as national and regional marketing and advertising agencies to create and place advertising and other marketing communications. We control all marketing programs.

You may pay other amounts for specific marketing programs or activities, as noted in Item 6. We also may receive payments from suppliers who participate jointly in some of our advertising and marketing activities. Hotels that we or our affiliates own or manage may contribute Marketing Fees at a rate different than 2% or not at all. Also, other franchisees may pay monthly Marketing Fees at a different rate.

We administer the allocation of the Marketing Fees, which may be commingled with, but are accounted for separately, from our other funds. Marketing Fees are not used to defray any of our general operating expenses, except for the reasonable salaries, administrative costs, travel expenses, agency fees, market research and overhead as we may incur in activities related to the administration of the marketing programs. We do not prepare separate audited financial statements for the Marketing Fees. We will provide an unaudited statement of the Marketing Fees for all Choice brands for the previous calendar year upon reasonable request by an existing franchisee. We have no obligation to separate incomes or expenditures between Choice brands. Any unspent Marketing Fees remaining at the end of the fiscal year generally are carried over for use in the follow year unless there is a deficit from a preceding year. In that case, the monies will be applied to pay down the deficit and any remaining funds will be carried over. During the last fiscal year (ended December 31, 2022), the Marketing Fees collected were spent as follows: 59.0% on media and advertising, 25.5% on sales (including payroll), 7.2% on professional expenses and 8.3% on administrative expenses. Marketing Fees are not directly used to sell additional franchises.

You may conduct your own local marketing program provided that all materials comply with brand standards, including proper trademark usage, and are approved in writing by us (our Franchise Services department), typically within 30 days after you submit your materials to us for review. (Franchise Agreement, Section 6(s)(4).) The SmartMarketing program provides marketing and promotional materials that help you promote your Hotel professionally and within brand standards. The fee for customizing some materials (for example, business cards and sales flyers) ranges from \$0 to \$45. We are not required to use any portion of the Marketing Fee for advertising in your area.

Any website created for your Hotel must follow the Choice Property Website Guidelines, Internet Distribution Policy and Domain Name Policy. (Franchise Agreement, Section 7(b).) We retain the right to pre-approve your Hotel's website design and use of linking between your internet web pages (or other networks) and all other web sites. All websites that are accessed from a domain name that uses one or more of the Choice Marks must conform to the Choice Hotels Property Website Guidelines and Internet Distribution Policy and cannot contain, or link to other web pages that contain, logos or information on non-Choice brand hotels. We have the right to determine the content and use of online or electronic media associated with any of the Choice Marks. You may not participate in any website or other electronic media (including social media) that markets goods and services under the Choice Marks unless it is first approved in writing by us. Your general conduct on the internet or other electronic media, including your use of the Choice Marks or any advertising is subject to the terms and conditions of the Franchise Agreement and any other rules, requirements or policies that we may identify from time to time.

We also may form advertising groups, including co-operatives, on a local or regional basis. The contributions to the groups will vary depending on the marketing activities and will be in addition to the Marketing Fee. We will administer the groups. The groups will not operate from written governing documents and will not prepare financial statements. We can form, change or dissolve these groups at any time

As of the date of this Disclosure Document, we may periodically assemble franchise advisory councils who meet with corporate representatives to advise on issues relating to the System (including advertising issues). We select the franchisees that participate on this council. The council acts in an advisory capacity only and we maintain all decision-making power of the System. We may create, change or dissolve this council at any time.

We do not undertake any obligation to ensure that expenditures through the marketing programs in or affecting any geographic area are proportionate or equivalent to contributions to the marketing programs by hotels operating in the geographic area or that your Hotel will benefit directly or in proportion to your contributions to the marketing programs. We do not hold the assets of the marketing programs in trust for you, nor do we assume any fiduciary obligation to you for these assets.

We are not obligated to provide you any pre-opening advertising.

#### **COMPUTER HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE:**

#### ORACLE OPERA CLOUD PMS.

Your Hotel must use the ORACLE Opera Cloud PMS to help you operate and manage your Hotel business. You will use the ORACLE Opera Cloud PMS to generate and store various types of data, including customer and employee information, information related to loyalty programs, and reservation and rate information and use its functionality for day-to-day management of the Hotel. Currently, the initial cost of the ORACLE Opera Cloud PMS system is approximately \$33,550 for an average 200-room property with the minimum required components. The subscription fee for the ORACLE Opera Cloud PMS is approximately \$11 to \$12 per guestroom per month, depending upon the number of interfaces required. The annual cost to you of maintenance, updating, upgrading and support contracts for the ORACLE Opera Cloud PMS is currently included in the subscription fee.

Neither we, nor any of our affiliates nor any third party are required to maintain, repair, upgrade or update the ORACLE Opera Cloud PMS. If during the time you are using the ORACLE Opera Cloud PMS we or ORACLE require an upgrade or update, you must upgrade or update the system and maintain and repair it. There are no limitations on the frequency of the updates or upgrades, or their cost. (Franchise Agreement, Section 6(g)).

We have independent access to the information and data that is stored in the ORACLE Opera Cloud PMS via interfacing software. Examples of the data that we may extract are: guest folio details, guests checked out today, reservations made today, reservations changed today, no-shows today, other guest information, statistical snap-shot of Hotel statistical and financial performance, market segmentation statistics and source of business segmentation statistics. There are no contractual limitations on the data that we may extract. (Franchise Agreement Section 6(g))

#### **BUSINESS CENTER SOLUTION SYSTEM**

You may purchase or lease and install a free-to-guest business center solution ("Business Center") with session-based computing capabilities and user restriction of (1) desktop modifications; (2)

downloading of executable files; (3) surfing of unsuitable websites; (4) deletion of programs; (5) user modifications of network configurations; and (6) viewing of internet history of previous users. Additionally, the Business Center Solution must include a current, supported version of Microsoft Windows Operating System and Microsoft Office and 24/7 technical support.

You must maintain 24/7 technical support through a Qualified Vendor with maximum 2-hour response time. As of the date of this disclosure document, we estimate that additional support and maintenance fees will total approximately \$800 per workstation per year and \$500 for the remote printing software.

We will not have independent access to any information or data that you might collect from the Business Center.

#### SALES ACCOUNT MANAGEMENT AND SALES ACTIVITY SOFTWARE

At a minimum three months prior to opening your Hotel, you also must purchase and install sales account management and sales activity software ("Sales Software") with the ability to complete – at minimum – the following: trace sales activities; create contracts and banquet event orders; account for contracted; forecasted and booked rooms; sales reporting including pace, group rooms control (with prospect, tentative, and definite business); and function details. System should also allow for centralized reporting and web-based remote access.

You must use a system pre-approved by the Radisson brand team. As of the date of the disclosure of this document, the following systems are approved:

- the Delphi.fde system, which is the proprietary product of Amadeus Hospitality, 75 New Hampshire Avenue, #300, Portsmouth, New Hampshire 03801 (telephone: 603-436-7500). You also must obtain ongoing support from Amadeus Hospitality; and
- Additional vendors subject to approval by brand.

We will not have independent access to the information or data that you collect from the Sales Software.

#### SERVICE RECOVERY AND MAINTENANCE SYSTEM

You also must purchase and install a brand approved web-based service recovery, tracking, maintenance and monitoring system for all guest-related issues and physical asset maintenance. You must use the software as your service recovery, tracking, maintenance, and monitoring system. You must obtain ongoing support from the software. As of the date of this disclosure document, we estimate that the annual ongoing support and maintenance fee will be \$2,000-\$3,000. We will have independent access to the information or data that you collect, and will use it to identify trends, as well as to perform statistical analysis for improvement of the brand standards.

#### **MEDALLIA CONCIERGE**

You also must purchase and install the Medallia Concierge web-based text messaging platform to communicate with guests during the guest journey. You must obtain ongoing support from Medallia. As of the date of this disclosure document, we estimate that the annual ongoing support and maintenance fee will be \$1,440.

#### MUSIC AND SCENT SYSTEMS

You must purchase and install custom music and scent systems to provide a more pleasing environment for your guests. The custom music sound system ("Music System") must include specifically programmed sound and music for the exterior entrance, lobby, pool, fitness, meeting, space, pre-function, public restroom, spa, treatment rooms, rooftops, outdoor deck, dining areas and elevator landings. The Music System must also provide optional programs for guest room corridors. The custom scent system ("Scent System") is a custom environmental scent program. We are currently evaluating our requirements and vendors and have not finalized our standards for the music and scent systems.

#### CHANGE IN SLEEPING ROOM COUNT

We will review and, where appropriate, approve requests to add or remove guestrooms to your Hotel after receipt of your room count change fee (if applicable) and construction plans (Franchise Agreement, Section 8).

## ITEM 12 TERRITORY

We grant franchises for specific sites only. You will not receive an exclusive territory, unless we grant to you an exclusive territory as further discussed below. You may face competition from other franchisees, from outlets that we own, or from other channels of distribution or competitive brands that we control. We may, depending on local market conditions or other factors such as your prior history with us (if any) and number of hotels franchised by us, grant exclusive territories in which no other hotel of the same brand will be franchised or operated for a period of time that we determine. Preferred regions and exclusive territories, if any, are determined by us. Our grant of a preferred region or exclusive territory can be terminated by us if you default under your Franchise Agreement, including failing to maintain quality standards or failing to pay fees due on a timely basis.

We expressly reserve the right to grant franchises or open company owned hotels at any location under any brand name other than the location specified in your Franchise Agreement. We may open company-owned hotels under any brand and offer hotel franchises for upscale, mid-priced and budget hotels under any of the Choice Marks.

If you wish to relocate or establish additional facilities, you must follow our usual application procedures and sign additional franchise agreements. Customarily, we do not grant to franchisees options, rights of first refusal or similar rights to acquire additional franchises.

We may take reservations for rooms through any method of distribution, including sales through such channels of distribution as the internet, catalog sales, telemarketing, or other direct marketing sales ("Alternative Distribution Channels"). You will receive no compensation for our sales through Alternative Distribution Channels, unless we make a reservation on your behalf.

You may solicit or accept reservations from customers at any location (including outside your territory, if applicable). You may use Alternative Distribution Channels to make sales if you comply with all of our standards, including any approval process that we may require (see Item 11). We, our affiliates and franchisees can use Alternative Distribution Channels to make sales anywhere (including within your territory, if applicable) of products or services under trademarks different from the trademarks that you are permitted to use under your Franchise Agreement. See Item 1 for additional information on other Choice

brands.

We have implemented a Fair Franchising Policy (attached as Exhibit I) that sets general guidelines on how Choice will maintain the overall Choice franchise system of brands, including principles for informal resolution of disputes between Choice and our franchisees. The Fair Franchising Policy is an internal policy, not a contractual obligation and can be changed or revoked by Choice in our sole discretion and at any time upon reasonable notice.

As noted in Item 1, we currently grant franchises for hotels operated under the following brands or extensions of these brands: ASCEND HOTEL COLLECTION®, CAMBRIA®, CLARION HOTEL®, CLARION INN®, CLARION INN & SUITES®, CLARION SUITES®, CLARION RESORT®, CLARION COLLECTION®, CLARION POINTE®, COMFORT INN®, COMFORT INN & SUITES®, COMFORT SUITES®, COUNTRY INN & SUITES®, ECONO LODGE®, ECONO LODGE INN & SUITES®, EVERHOME SUITES®, MAINSTAY SUITES®, PARK INN®, PARK INN® RESIDENCES, QUALITY INN®, QUALITY INN & SUITES®, QUALITY SUITES®, QUALITY HOTEL®, RADISSON®, RADISSON BLU®, RODEWAY INN®, RODEWAY INN & SUITES®, SLEEP INN®, SLEEP INN & SUITES®, SUBURBAN®, SUBURBAN STUDIOS® and WOODSPRING SUITES®. We have the right to operate and franchise these hotels at any location in accordance with the terms of your Franchise Agreement and you may compete with any of our brands in the operation of your Hotel. Those hotels could be company-owned, franchised, or both. We also have the right to operate or franchise a hotel or other business under a different trademark. We do not maintain physically separate offices or training facilities for the other Choice brands that may compete with your Hotel.

#### **ITEM 13**

#### **TRADEMARKS**

You will receive in the Franchise Agreement a limited license and obligation to use one or more of the trademarks and trade names identified below together with the related logo(s), including designs, stylized letters and colors that we permit you to use at your Hotel and in advertising for your Hotel, and any other additional or substituted trademarks, trade names, service marks or logos that we later adopt and authorize you in writing to use.

We own and license to you some of the following service marks and trademarks registered on the Principal Register with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office that correspond to the brand you may be granted to use in your Franchise Agreement:

TRADEMARK	REGISTRATION DATE	REGISTRATION NUMBER
RADISSON BLU	12/13/11	4,070,968
RADISSON BLU & Design	12/13/11	4,070,967
Radisson		

We have filed all required affidavits and renewals in connection with these trademarks.

You must follow the policies and rules we establish from time to time governing your use of the trademarks that your Franchise Agreement permits you to use. "Choice Marks" means collectively all of our trademarks or trade names, the trademarks and trade names ASCEND®, CAMBRIA®, CLARION®, CLARION POINTE®, COMFORT®, COUNTRY INN & SUITES®, ECONO LODGE®, EVERHOMETM, MAINSTAY®, PARK INN®, PARK PLAZA®, QUALITY®, RADISSON®, RADISSON BLU®, RADISSON COLLECTION®, RADISSON INDIVIDUALS®, RADISSON INN & SUITES™, RADISSON RED®, RODEWAY INN®, SLEEP®, SUBURBAN STUDIOS®, and WOODSPRING®, and our slogans (such as "Our Business is You®"), the names/trademarks of any Choice products, the names of our property management system, reservation system, guest loyalty program and any other additional or substituted trademarks, trade names, service marks or logos. You cannot use any Choice Marks or anything similar to these words in your name or the name of any of your affiliates, whether a partnership, corporation, limited liability company, joint venture or any other type of business organization, or as (or incorporated in) the name and/or design of any other building, business or business activity. You may not establish a website on the internet using the Choice Marks, or anything similar to the aforementioned words that does not comply with our Domain Name Policy, Internet Distribution Policy or our Property Website Guidelines (or such similar policies or regulations adopted by us from time to time). We retain the right to pre-approve your use of linking and framing between your internet web pages (or other network) and all other websites. All websites that are accessed from a domain name that uses a Choice Mark must conform to the Choice Hotels Property Website Guidelines and Internet Distribution Policy and cannot contain, or link to other web pages that contain, logos or information relating to non-Choice branded hotels. We have the right to determine the content and use of online or electronic media associated with any of the Choice Marks. You may not participate in any website or other electronic media (including social media) that markets goods and services under the Choice Marks unless it is first approved in writing by us.

If you are required by law to register any of the Choice Marks, your trademark application must specify that you use the Choice Marks: (1) only at your Hotel and in advertising for your Hotel; (2) only during the term of your franchise agreement; and (3) without claiming any property right in the Choice Marks during or after the term of your Franchise Agreement.

There are no effective material determinations by the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Trademark Trial and Appeal Board, the trademark administrator of any state or any court; pending infringement, opposition or cancellation proceedings; or pending material litigation involving the Choice Marks that your Franchise Agreement permits you to use.

We have no agreements currently in effect that significantly limit our rights to use or license our use of the Choice Marks. We do not know of any superior prior rights or material infringing uses of the Choice Marks that could materially and adversely affect your permitted use of the Choice Marks in any state.

You will not interfere with our use or registration of any of the Choice Marks, or with use of the Choice Marks by other hotels. You have no right to sublicense anyone else to use any Choice Marks and you have no right to use them for any purpose other than as permitted in connection with your Hotel.

You must promptly notify us of any suit filed or demand made against you challenging the validity of any of the Choice Marks ("Mark Claim"). Using our attorneys, we agree to protect and defend you against a Mark Claim, and to defend and indemnify you against your loss, cost or expense related to the Mark Claim, except where the Mark Claim arose because you used the Choice Marks in violation of your Franchise Agreement. You may not settle or compromise a Mark Claim without our prior written consent, and you agree to cooperate with us in defending against any Mark Claim.

# ITEM 14 PATENTS, COPYRIGHTS AND PROPRIETARY INFORMATION

There are no patents or pending patent applications that are material to a purchase of a franchise.

We claim copyright protection for our Franchise Agreement and related agreements, the Rules and Regulations (see Item 11), designs, proprietary restaurant standards and menu formats, various proprietary software packages, and for various sales promotional and other materials published periodically. We or our affiliates are the exclusive owners of the copyrights in these materials and any content or information displayed on or made available through our websites. You may not frame or incorporate any content or information contained in our websites without our express written authorization.

There are no currently effective material determinations of the United States Patent and Trademark Office, the Copyright Office of the Library of Congress or any court regarding any of the copyrighted materials. There are no agreements in effect that significantly limit our right to use or license the copyrighted materials except for the Franchise Agreement. We are not aware of any infringing uses of these materials that could materially affect your use of these materials. We reserve the right to control any patent or copyright dispute and we will determine whether we will bring suit or settle any instance when a third party infringes any patents or copyrights. We are not obligated to protect any patent, patent application or copyright or to defend you against claims arising from your use of any patented or copyrighted items. We are not obligated to take any affirmative action when notified of any infringement. We have the right to control all litigation related to any patented or copyrighted materials. We do not have to defend or indemnify you in a proceeding involving a patent, patent application or copyright of ours. You may not contest our, or our affiliates', interests in patents or copyrights.

You must keep confidential during and after the term of your Franchise Agreement all proprietary information, including the Rules and Regulations, that we permit you to use. You must not duplicate or disseminate any proprietary information to any party other than (during the term of the Franchise Agreement) your employees who need to know this proprietary information. Upon termination of the Franchise Agreement, you must return to us all proprietary information, including all copies of the Rules and Regulations. You must notify us immediately if you learn about an unauthorized use of proprietary information. We are not obligated to take action, and will determine the appropriate response to any information regarding the unauthorized use of proprietary information. You must comply with all changes to the Rules and Regulations at your cost.

# ITEM 15 OBLIGATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ACTUAL OPERATION OF THE FRANCHISE BUSINESS

We do not require you to personally participate in the direct operation of the franchised hotel nor do we make any recommendation regarding your personal participation in the direct operation of the franchise business. We advise you to have an effective organizational structure in place at every Radisson Blu Hotel. Management organization of a Radisson Blu Hotel property may vary according to location, size of property and target guest. At a minimum, the Radisson Blu Hotels management should include: General Manager; Director of Sales; Executive Housekeeper; Maintenance Engineering Leader; and F&B Leader.

You must have a certified General Manager at your Hotel, and the General Manager must not manage any other hotel. A General Manager is not required to hold any ownership interest in the hotel in

order to operate the franchise business.

Every Radisson Blu Hotel is required to have a full-time Director of Sales on site. Full-time is equivalent to spending a minimum of forty (40) hours per week dedicated specifically to the sales effort of the Hotel. The Director of Sales is required to have a minimum two (2) years of experience as a Director of Sales in the upscale segment or above or three (3) years' experience as a Business Travel or Groups Sales Manager of a Radisson Blu Hotel or equivalent hotel (upscale segment or above). A qualified Director of Sales is required to be on board full time a minimum of six (6) months prior to the opening of a Hotel and employed within two (2) months of the position being vacated.

Every Radisson Blu Hotel is also required to have an F&B Leader on site. This leader must be a full-time associate and cannot have additional part-time duties (e.g., a full-time Assistant General Manager with F&B leadership role as part of his/her duties).

We require that you contract with a hotel management company that is approved by us to operate your Hotel. We reserve the right to require you to replace your then-current hotel management company if you fail to comply with the requirements set forth in your Franchise Agreement. Moreover, you must include our right to require you to replace your hotel management company in any hotel management company agreement you execute in connection with your Hotel.

## ITEM 16 RESTRICTIONS ON WHAT THE FRANCHISEE MAY SELL

Goods or services that you offer at your Hotel must be consistent with high moral and ethical principles. You must offer accommodations and accompany goods and services that comply with our Rules and Regulations and applicable local, state, and federal law. We may periodically modify the Rules and Regulations to require you to provide additional services or amenities to your guests. See Item 8 for additional information.

# ITEM 17 RENEWAL, TERMINATION, TRANSFER, AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION

#### THE FRANCHISE RELATIONSHIP

This table lists certain important provisions of the franchise and related agreements. You should read these provisions in the agreements attached to this Disclosure Document.

	SECTION IN FRANCHISE	
PROVISION	AGREEMENT	SUMMARY
a. Length of franchise	Section 3	Term is 20 years from the Opening Date, subject to (d),
term		(e) and (f) below. If you are entering into a replacement
		franchise agreement for your existing Radisson Blu
		brand Hotel, we have the discretion to offer you a term
		of less than 20 years.

PROVISION	SECTION IN FRANCHISE AGREEMENT	SUMMARY
b. Renewal or extension of the term	Not Applicable	No provision for renewal after the 20 year term expires.
c. Requirements for you to renew or extend	Not Applicable	
d. Termination by you	Sections 3 and 10(a)	You have the right to terminate on the 10 <sup>th</sup> or 15 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Opening Date by giving us no less than 12 months prior written notice provided you have paid all fees and charges under the Franchise Agreement and any other related agreement at all times during the remainder of the term.  If we are in default of material obligations, you may terminate the Franchise Agreement, if after 60 days written notice, we have failed to cure the default.
e. Termination by us without cause	Section 3	Subject to state law, on the 10 <sup>th</sup> or 15 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Opening Date by giving 12 months written notice.
f. Termination by us with cause	Section 10(b)	We may terminate if you are in default and fail to cure within the applicable time period.
g. "Cause" defined - curable defaults	Section 10(b)(1)	You have 10 days to cure non-payment of fees and non- submission of reports and 30 days to cure any other breach of your obligations under the Franchise Agreement.
h. "Cause" defined – non-curable defaults	Section 10(b)(2)	Non-curable defaults: threat of danger due to condition of Hotel; abandonment; loss of possession; criminal behavior; unauthorized transfer; knowingly false statements on application, submission of false reports or maintenance of false books and records; failure to open Hotel; becoming insolvent or making a general assignment for the benefit of creditors; failure to maintain the required insurance coverage; we send you 2 notices of default for the same or similar cause in any consecutive 12 month-period, whether or not cured; failure to begin construction or renovation of the Hotel on or before the required date or failure to begin or complete construction or renovation of the Hotel on or before the required dates; failure to complete required property improvements by their deadlines; engaging in conduct that damaged our brand; unauthorized disclosure of confidential information; or breach of another agreement with us or our affiliates, or relating to the possession of the Hotel.

	SECTION IN	
	FRANCHISE	
PROVISION	AGREEMENT	SUMMARY
i. Your obligations upon termination/non-renewal	Sections 10 and 11	Obligations include complete de-identification; payment of all fees due; cancellation of any assumed name filing containing any Choice Marks; return of all materials we provided for the operation of the Hotel and payment of any damages as a result of enforcing Section 10 or 11 of the Franchise Agreement.
j. Assignment of contract by us	Section 9(a)	No restrictions on our right to assign.
k. "Transfer" by you- defined	Section 9(b)	Includes sale, assignment, lease, or other encumberment of the Franchise Agreement, the Hotel or ownership change.
l. Our approval of transfer by you	Section 9(b)	We must approve all transfers of more than 5% of the ownership interest in the Hotel with certain exceptions.
m. Conditions for our approval of transfer	Sections 9(b) and 9(c)	Transferee must meet all of our then-current qualifications for new franchisees; the Hotel must comply with our then-current brand image and standards. In addition, if you transfer a Controlling Interest in you (if you are an entity) or the Hotel, the transferee must sign our then-current form of franchise agreement and pay a re-licensing fee equal to the then-current affiliation fee we charge. If we approve the transfer to a Close Family Member (for example, current spouse, parent, child, sibling, or grandparent), that Close Family Member must pay us an application fee (not to exceed \$7,500).
n. Our right of first refusal to acquire your business	Section 9(d)	We have the right of first refusal. You must give us 90 days' notice of any good faith offer to purchase the Hotel and we have the right to purchase the Hotel on the same terms.
o. Our option to purchase your business	Not Applicable	
p. Your death or disability	Section 9(c)	Franchise must be assigned by estate to a remaining franchisee or to your heirs, when we approve, within 12 months.
q. Non-competition covenants during the term of the franchise	Not Applicable	
r. Non-competition covenants after the franchise is terminated or expires	Not Applicable	
s. Modification of the agreement	Section 20(h)	This agreement may only be modified in writing and signed by both parties.

PROVISION	SECTION IN FRANCHISE AGREEMENT	SUMMARY
t. Integration/merger clause	Section 24	Only the terms of the Franchise Agreement are binding (subject to state law). Any representations or promises outside of the disclosure document and Franchise Agreement may not be enforceable.
u. Dispute resolution by arbitration or mediation	Section 21	Except for certain claims, all disputes must be arbitrated, subject to Maryland law.
v. Choice of forum	Sections 21 and 24	Arbitration must be in Maryland (subject to state law). See Exhibit D, Addenda to the Franchise Agreement.
w. Choice of law	Sections 20(f) and 21	Maryland law applies (subject to state law). See Exhibit D, Addenda to the Franchise Agreement.
x. Other – Liquidated Damages	Sections 10(d) and 11(a)	If we terminate the Franchise Agreement due to your default, or if you use our trademarks after the Franchise Agreement is terminated, you may be subject to liquidated damages.

# ITEM 18 PUBLIC FIGURES

Arjun Atwal and Aditi Ashok are professional golfers who would be considered public figures and who endorse or otherwise recommend our franchises to prospective franchisees. We pay Mr. Atwal \$50,000 in connection with his activities on our behalf and we pay Ms. Ashok \$288,300 in connection with her activities on our behalf. Neither of these individuals are involved in the management or control of our company nor do either of these individuals have an investment in our company.

Except as disclosed above, we do not use any public figure to promote our franchise.

# ITEM 19 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE REPRESENTATIONS

The FTC's Franchise Rule permits a franchisor to provide information about the actual or potential financial performance of its franchised and/or franchisor-operated outlets, if there is a reasonable basis for the information, and if the information is included in the Disclosure Document. Financial performance information that differs from that included in Item 19 may be given only if: (1) a franchisor provides the actual records of an existing outlet you are considering buying; or (2) a franchisor supplements the information provided in this Item 19, for example, by providing information about possible performance at a particular location or under particular circumstances.

The following financial performance representation consists of two sections. Section A lists performance information for certain franchised and managed Hotels we refer to as the "Base Hotels" as explained in that Section, for the year ended December 31, 2022 ("Year 2022"). Section B provides historical information as to the percentage of the Base Hotels' room revenues in Year 2022 that was derived from business we contributed to the Hotels. We will provide you substantiation of the data used in preparing the Sections of this Item 19 upon reasonable request.

"Base Hotels" are defined as Radisson Blu® hotels located in the United States that were open and

operated for the 12-month period in the Year 2022 by our affiliate under a management agreement with the hotel's owner (a "Managed Hotel") and franchised hotels that were operating pursuant to a franchise agreement (a "Franchised Hotel"). There were 3 Base Hotels in Year 2022, which includes 2 Managed Hotels (Chicago, IL and Minneapolis, MN) and 1 Franchised Hotel (Fargo, ND). There was 1 Managed Hotel that ceased operating as a Radisson Blu in Year 2022 and therefore was not included in the performance information below. You should carefully consider the additional information found in the Basis, Sources and Limitations Of Information for each Section as well as the Special Notes section at the end of this Item to understand this information in the appropriate context.

# SECTION A – BASE HOTEL PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

	<b>Base Hotels</b>
Average <sup>1</sup> Daily Room Rate (ADR)	\$176.17 <sup>2</sup>
Average <sup>1</sup> Occupancy Rate	$70.4\%^2$
Average <sup>1</sup> Revenue Per Available Room (REVPAR)	\$124.08 <sup>2</sup>
Number of Hotels	3

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Average is a weighted average taking into account the sum of the rooms available for all the Hotels in the set.

#### Basis, Sources And Limitations Of Information For Section A

All information presented above is based on information received from our affiliates and we have not audited or otherwise verified the information. The "Average Daily Room Rate" was calculated by dividing the total amount of room revenues reported by our affiliates by the total number of guest rooms rented at the Base Hotels during the study period. The "Average Occupancy Rate" was calculated by dividing the number of guest room nights reported by our affiliates by the total of rooms available for rent during the study period. The Average Revenue Per Available Room ("REVPAR") was calculated by multiplying the average room rate for each Base Hotel by its average occupancy rate during the study period.

#### **SECTION B-SYSTEM CONTRIBUTION**

Through various booking channels, we drive business for our System Hotels. There are four "Principal Channels" that produce these revenues. They are:

- 1. Digital channels, which include any booking made through our brand website, mobile website or app, and outside travel agents with whom we have negotiated relationships;
- 2. Property Direct Contribution, which includes bookings using negotiated rates managed by our sales team, promotions, including advanced purchase rates and packages, employee and corporate promotional rates and bookings from our guest loyalty program;
- 3. Voice channels, which include bookings through our call center or through our Redirected Call

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The average daily room rate for each of the 3 Base Hotels was \$236.19 and \$152.31 for the two Managed Hotels and \$141.23 for the Franchised Hotel. The average occupancy rate for each of the 3 Base Hotels was 62.7% and 78.7% for the Managed Hotels and 60.2% for the Franchised Hotel. The average revenue per available room for each of the 3 Base Hotels was \$148.03 and \$119.88 for the Managed Hotels and \$85.00 for the Franchised Hotel.

Program; and

4. Global Distribution Services (GDS), which includes bookings by travel agents through GDS.

In calculating the "system contribution" for a Base Hotel, we divided the total consumed Gross Room Revenue for the Base Hotel that is derived from the Principal Channels by the total consumed Gross Room Revenue for that Base Hotel. Based on this criteria, we calculated the average percentage of Gross Room Revenue generated for Base Hotels by our Principal Channels in Year 2022 to be as follows:

	Base Hotels
Average <sup>1</sup> Percentage of Gross	
Room Revenue Derived from	$70\%^{2}$
System Contribution	
Average <sup>1</sup> Room Rate for	
Reservations Booked Through	\$188.65 <sup>3</sup>
Principal Channels	
Number of Hotels	3

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Average is a weighted average taking into account the sum of the rooms available for all the Hotels in the set.

#### Basis, Sources and Limitations of Information for Section B

All information pertaining to Gross Room Revenue is based principally on information received from the Base Hotels. Information as to leads generated for the Base Hotels by the Principal Channels are based on our internal reports. These reports have not been audited.

# **Special Notes for Sections A and B**

# A. Some outlets have achieved these levels. Your individual results may differ. There is no assurance you'll earn as much.

- B. Many unique factors to each Hotel, including location, physical layout, number of rooms, competition in the market, Hotel amenities, Hotel design and structure, management capabilities, local market conditions and other factors will significantly impact the financial performance of the Hotel and the contribution from the Principal Channels, Average Daily Room Rates, Average Occupancy Rates, and REVPAR.
- C. You have the responsibility of developing your own business plan for your Hotel, including capital budgets, financial statements, projections and other elements appropriate to your particular circumstances. We encourage you to consult with your own accounting, business and legal advisors in doing so. In developing the business plan, we caution you to make necessary allowance for changes in financial results to income, expenses, or both, that may result from operation of your Hotel in an unusual location, in different geographic areas or new market areas, of an unusual size, décor or arrangement, or during periods of or in areas suffering from economic downturns, inflation, unemployment, or other negative economic

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The average system contribution percentage of each of the 3 Base Hotels was 81.9% and 75.0% for the Managed Hotels and 60.8% for the Franchised Hotel.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The average room rate for reservations booked through the Principal Channels of each of the 3 Base Hotels was \$230.83 and \$168.45 for the Managed Hotel and \$149.74 for the Franchised Hotel.

influences.

Other than the preceding financial performance representations, we do not make any financial performance representations. We also do not authorize our employees, or representatives to make any such representations either orally or in writing. If you are purchasing an existing hotel, however, we may provide you with the actual records of that hotel. If you receive any other financial performance information or projections of your future income, you should report it to the franchisor's management by contacting our General Counsel until December 1, 2023 at 1 Choice Hotels Circle, Suite 400, Rockville, Maryland 20850 and at (301) 592-5000, and after December 1, 2023 at 915 Meeting Street, North Bethesda, Maryland 20852 and at (301) 592-5000; the Federal Trade Commission; and the appropriate state regulatory agencies.

# ITEM 20 OUTLETS AND FRANCHISEE INFORMATION

# TABLE No. 1 System-wide Outlet Summary For Years 2020 to 2022

Outlet Type	Year	Outlets at the Start of the Year	Outlets at the End of the Year	Net Change
Franchised Outlets	2020	0	1	+1
	2021	1	1	0
	2022	1	1	0
Company	2020	3	4	+1
Owned/Managed	2021	4	3	-1
	2022	3	2	-1
Total Outlets	2020	3	5	+2
	2021	5	4	-1
	2022	4	3	-1

<sup>\*</sup>As of December 31 for each year.

TABLE NO. 2
Transfers of Outlets From Franchisees to New Owners
(Other than the Franchisor)
For Years 2020 to 2022

State	Year	Number of Transfers
All States	2020	0
	2021	0
	2022	0
Total	2020	0
	2021	0
	2022	0

<sup>\*</sup> As of December 31 for each year. States not listed had no transfer activity to report.

Table No. 3
Status of Franchised Outlets For Years 2020 to 2022

State	Year	Outlets at Start of Year	Outlets Opened	Termina -tions	Non- Renewal	Reacquire d by Franchiso r	Ceased Operating Other Reason	Outlets at End of the Year
All States	2020	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
	2021	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
	2022	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total	2020	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
	2021	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
	2022	1	0	0	0	0	0	1

<sup>\*</sup> As of December 31 for each year. If multiple events occurred affecting an outlet, this table shows the event that occurred last in time. States not listed had no activity to report.

Table No. 4 Status of Company-Owned/Managed Outlets For Years 2020 to 2022

State	Year	Outlets at Start of Year	Outlets Opened	Outlets Reacquired from Franchisees	Outlets Closed	Outlets Sold to Franchisees	Outlets at End of the Year
California	2020	0	1	0	0	0	1
	2021	1	0	0	0	0	1
	2022	1	0	0	1	0	0
Illinois	2020	1	0	0	0	0	1
	2021	1	0	0	0	0	1
	2022	1	0	0	0	0	1
Minnesota	2020	2	0	0	0	0	2
	2021	2	0	0	1	0	1
	2022	1	0	0	0	0	1
Total	2020	3	1	0	0	0	4
	2021	4	0	0	1	0	3
	2022	3	0	0	1	0	2

<sup>\*</sup>As of December 31 for each year. States not listed had no activity to report.

TABLE No. 5
Projected Openings as of December 31, 2022

State*  License (Franchise)  Agreements Signed  But Outlet Not  Opened		Projected New Franchised Outlets in the next Fiscal Year	Projected New Company-Owned Outlets in Next Fiscal Year
All States	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0

<sup>\*</sup> We cannot predict with any certainty in which states we will sell Radisson Blu franchises in 2023. Accordingly, the projections above are very speculative. However, we hope to sign 1 Franchise Agreement in 2023.

Attached as Exhibit J is a list of the names, addresses and telephone numbers of all our owned/managed and franchised Radisson Blu Hotels as of December 31, 2022. There were no Radisson Blu franchisees who had a Hotel terminated, cancelled, not renewed, or otherwise voluntarily or involuntarily ceased to operate and/or conduct business under a Franchise Agreement, including transfers, during the most recently completed fiscal year, or who has not communicated with us within 10 weeks of the issuance date of this Disclosure Document.

The number of franchises as of year-end may differ from that in the audited financial statements (Exhibit C to this Disclosure Document) as the financial statements also include franchises in Puerto Rico, Dominican Republic, Turks & Caicos, the Cayman Islands and the Bahamas.

If you buy this franchise, your contact information may be disclosed to other buyers when you leave the franchise system.

No current or former Radisson Blu franchisees have signed confidentiality clauses that restrict them from discussing with you their experiences as a franchisee in the Radisson Blu system.

From time to time, we may assemble a franchise advisory council that includes franchisees to meet with corporate representatives to advise on issues related to the System. We will sponsor the council and select the franchisees to participate on the council. Contact information for the council is the same as our contact information.

# ITEM 21 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Our audited consolidated financial statements for the years ended December 31, 2022, 2021 and 2020 are included in this disclosure document as Exhibit C.

# ITEM 22 CONTRACTS

Attached as Exhibits D through G as well as Exhibit K to this disclosure document are copies of the agreements you may be required to sign or accept. These are the Franchise Agreement (including Personal Guaranty and State Addenda to the Franchise Agreement), Call Forwarding Terms of Use, Promissory Note, Incentive Promissory Note, the Comfort Letter, and Franchise Disclosure

Acknowledgment Form.

# ITEM 23 RECEIPTS

Two copies of a detachable receipt are found at the end of this Disclosure Document.



# STATE SPECIFIC ADDENDA FOR THE FOLLOWING STATES:

CALIFORNIA
HAWAII
ILLINOIS
MARYLAND
MICHIGAN
MINNESOTA
NEW YORK
NORTH DAKOTA
RHODE ISLAND
VIRGINIA
WASHINGTON
WISCONSIN

# ADDENDUM TO THE FRANCHISE DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT FOR CALIFORNIA

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary set forth in the Franchise Disclosure Document, the following provisions will supersede and apply to all franchises offered and sold in the State of California:

THE CALIFORNIA FRANCHISE INVESTMENT LAW REQUIRES THAT A COPY OF ALL PROPOSED AGREEMENTS RELATING TO THE SALE OF THE FRANCHISE BE DELIVERED TOGETHER WITH THE DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT.

OUR WEBSITE HAS NOT BEEN REVIEWED OR APPROVED BY THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL PROTECTION AND INNOVATION. ANY COMPLAINTS CONCERNING THE CONTENT OF THIS WEBSITE MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL PROTECTION AND INNOVATION AT <a href="https://www.dfpi.ca.gov">www.dfpi.ca.gov</a>.

CALIFORNIA CORPORATIONS CODE, SECTION 31125 REQUIRES CHOICE HOTELS INTERNATIONAL, INC. TO GIVE YOU A DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT, APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL PROTECTION AND INNOVATION PRIOR TO A SOLICITATION OF A PROPOSED MATERIAL MODIFICATION OF AN EXISTING FRANCHISE.

Each owner of the franchise is required to execute a personal guaranty. Doing so could jeopardize the marital assets of non-owner spouses domiciled in community property states such as California.

Registration of this franchise does not constitute approval, recommendation, or endorsement by the Commissioner.

#### **ITEM 3 LITIGATION**

1. We, nor any person identified in Item 2, is subject to any currently effective order of any national securities association or national securities exchange, as defined in the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, 15 U.S.C.A. 78 a et seq., suspending or expelling these persons from membership in such association or exchange.

#### **ITEM 6 OTHER FEES**

1. The maximum interest rate in California is 10% annually.

#### **ITEM 10 FINANCING**

- 1. We will comply with all appropriate laws governing any direct financing offered by us to you including, if applicable, the California Finance Lenders Law.
- 2. Item 10 of the FDD is amended to provide that Balboa Capital Corporation, Ascentium Capital LLC, and Avana Capital all operate in California under a California Finance Lender license. PMC Commercial Trust holds a license issued directly by the Small Business Administration ("SBA") that allows it to make SBA 7a loans in every state, including the State of California.

# ITEM 17 RENEWAL, TERMINATION, TRANSFER AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION

1. California Business and Professions Code Sections 20000 through 20043 provide rights to you concerning termination, transfer or non-renewal of a franchise. If the Franchise Agreement contains a provision that is inconsistent with the law, the law will control.

- 2. The Franchise Agreement provides for termination upon bankruptcy. This provision may not be enforceable under federal bankruptcy law (11 U.S.C.A. Sec. 101 et seq.).
- 3. The Franchise Agreement contains a provision requiring application of the laws of Maryland. This provision may not be enforceable under California law.
- 4. The Franchise Agreement requires venue to be limited to Maryland. This provision may not be enforceable under California law.
- 5. The Franchise Agreement requires you to execute a general release of claims upon renewal or transfer of the Franchise Agreement. California Corporations Code Section 31512 provides that any condition, stipulation or provision purporting to bind any person acquiring any franchise to waive compliance with any provision of that law or any rule or order is void. Section 31512 voids a waiver of your rights under the Franchise Investment Law (California Corporations Code Section 31000-31516). Business and Professions Code Section 20010 voids a waiver of your rights under the Franchise Relations Act (Business and Professions Code Sections 20000-20043).
- 6. The Franchise Agreement contains a liquidated damages clause. Under Civil Code Section 1671 certain liquidated damages clauses are unenforceable.
- 7. The Franchise Agreement requires binding arbitration. The arbitration will occur at our headquarters in Rockville, Maryland with the costs being borne by the non-prevailing party. Prospective franchisees are encouraged to consult private legal counsel to determine the applicability of California and Federal laws (such as Business and Professions Code Section 20040.5, Code of Civil Procedure Section 1281, and the Federal Arbitration Act) to any provision of a franchise agreement restricting venue to a forum outside the State of California.
- 8. No statement, questionnaire, or acknowledgment signed or agreed to by a franchisee in connection with the commencement of the franchise relationship shall have the effect of (i) waiving any claims under any applicable state franchise law, including fraud in the inducement, or (ii) disclaiming reliance on any statement made by any franchisor, franchise seller, or other person acting on behalf of the franchisor. This provision supersedes any other term of any document executed in connection with the franchise.

# ADDENDUM TO THE FRANCHISE DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT PURSUANT TO THE HAWAII FRANCHISE INVESTMENT LAW

These franchises have been filed under the Franchise Investment law of the State of Hawaii. Filing does not constitute approval, recommendation or endorsement by the director of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs or a finding by the director of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs that the information provided herein is true, complete, and not misleading.

The Franchise Investment Law makes it unlawful to offer or sell any franchise in this state without first providing to the prospective franchise or subfranchisor, at least seven (7) days prior to the execution by the prospective franchisee, of any binding franchise or other agreement, or at least seven (7) days prior to the payment of any consideration by the franchisee or subfranchisor, whichever occurs first, a copy of all proposed agreements relating to the sale of the franchise.

This Franchise Disclosure Document contains a summary only of certain material provisions of the Franchise Agreement. The contract or agreement should be referred to for a statement of all rights, conditions, restrictions and obligations of both the franchisor and the franchisee.

- 1. A. This proposed registration is or will be effective in California, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, New York, North Dakota, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Washington and Virginia.
  - B. This proposed registration is on file in all states with franchise disclosure legislation.
  - C. No states have refused, by order or otherwise, to register these franchises.
  - D. No states have revoked or suspended the right to offer these franchises.
  - E. The proposed registration of these franchises has not been withdrawn from any states.
- 2. No release language stated in the Franchise Agreement will relieve us or any other person, directly or indirectly, from liability imposed by the laws on franchising in Hawaii.

# ILLINIOS ADDENDUM TO THE FRANCHISE DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT PURSUANT TO THE ILLINOIS FRANCHISE DISCLOSURE ACT

1. Items 17(v) and 17(w) of the "Franchise Agreement" chart are supplemented by the following:

The conditions under which the Franchise Agreement can be terminated and not renewed may be affected by the Illinois Franchise Disclosure Act ("Act").

The Act will govern any franchise agreement if it applies to a franchise located or domiciled in Illinois.

The parties waive all question of personal jurisdiction or venue. However, any condition in the Franchise Agreement that designates jurisdiction or venue in a forum outside of Illinois is void as to any cause of action that otherwise is enforceable in Illinois, provided that the Franchise Agreement may provide for arbitration in a forum outside of Illinois.

2. No statement, questionnaire, or acknowledgment signed or agreed to by a franchisee in connection with the commencement of the franchise relationship shall have the effect of (i) waiving any claims under any applicable state franchise law, including fraud in the inducement, or (ii) disclaiming reliance on any statement made by any franchisor, franchise seller, or other person acting on behalf of the franchisor. This provision supersedes any other term of any document executed in connection with the franchise.

#### ADDENDUM TO THE DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT FOR MARYLAND

The following provisions will apply to all franchises offered and sold in the State of Maryland. Item numbers correspond to those in the main body of the disclosure document.

# **ITEM 17**

- 1. Any claims arising under the Maryland Franchise Registration and Disclosure law must be brought within 3 years after we grant you a franchise.
- 2. Our termination of the Franchise Agreement because of your bankruptcy may not be enforceable under applicable federal law (11 U.S.C.A. 101 et seq.).
- 3. The release language set forth in the Franchise Agreement will not apply to any liability under the Maryland Franchise Registration and Disclosure Law (COMAR 02.02.08.16L).
- 4. No statement, questionnaire, or acknowledgment signed or agreed to by a franchisee in connection with the commencement of the franchise relationship shall have the effect of (i) waiving any claims under any applicable state franchise law, including fraud in the inducement, or (ii) disclaiming reliance on any statement made by any franchisor, franchise seller, or other person acting on behalf of the franchisor. This provision supersedes any other term of any document executed in connection with the franchise.

# ADDENDUM TO THE FRANCHISE DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT PURSUANT TO THE MINNESOTA FRANCHISE INVESTMENT LAW

If and to the extent the Minnesota Franchise Investment Law applies to the Franchise Agreement, the following provisions supersede the Franchise Disclosure Document and apply to all franchises offered and sold in Minnesota.

- 1. Minnesota law provides franchisees with certain termination and non-renewal rights. Minnesota Statutes, Section 80C.14, Subdivisions 3, 4 and 5 require, except in certain specified cases, that a franchisee be given 90 days' notice of termination (with 60 days to cure) and 180 days' notice for non-renewal of the Franchise Agreement.
- 2. According to Minnesota Statute Section 2860.4400 (D), no release language stated in the Franchise Agreement will relieve us or any other person, directly or indirectly, from liability imposed by the laws on franchising in Minnesota, provided, that this part will not bar the voluntary settlement of disputes.
- 3. Any provision in a franchise agreement that requires the franchisee to consent to liquidated damages and/or termination penalties is deleted from any franchise agreement issued in Minnesota.
- 4. The franchisor will protect the franchisee's rights to use the trademarks, service marks, trade names, logos, slogans and other commercial symbols, or indemnify the franchisee from any loss, costs, or expenses arising out of the use of any trade or service mark in compliance with the Franchise Agreement.
- 5. The following language will appear at the end of Paragraph 20(f) of any Franchise Agreement issued in the State of Minnesota: Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 80C.21, this Section does not abrogate or reduce any rights of the franchisee as provided for in the Minnesota Statutes 1987, Chapter 80C.
- 6. No statement, questionnaire, or acknowledgment signed or agreed to by a franchisee in connection with the commencement of the franchise relationship shall have the effect of (i) waiving any claims under any applicable state franchise law, including fraud in the inducement, or (ii) disclaiming reliance on any statement made by any franchisor, franchise seller, or other person acting on behalf of the franchisor. This provision supersedes any other term of any document executed in connection with the franchise.

#### ADDENDUM TO THE FRANCHISE DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT FOR NEW YORK

1. The following information is added to the cover page of the Franchise Disclosure Document:

INFORMATION COMPARING FRANCHISORS IS AVAILABLE. CALL THE STATE ADMINISTRATORS LISTED IN EXHIBIT A OR YOUR PUBLIC LIBRARY FOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION. REGISTRATION OF THIS FRANCHISE BY NEW YORK STATE DOES NOT MEAN THAT NEW YORK STATE RECOMMENDS IT OR HAS VERIFIED THE INFORMATION IN THIS FRANCHISE DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT. IF YOU LEARN THAT ANYTHING IN THE FRANCHISE DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT IS UNTRUE, CONTACT THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION AND NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF LAW, BUREAU OF INVESTOR PROTECTION AND SECURITIES, 28 LIBERTY STREET, 21ST FLOOR, NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10005. THE FRANCHISOR MAY, IF IT CHOOSES, NEGOTIATE WITH YOU ABOUT ITEMS COVERED IN THE FRANCHISE DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT. HOWEVER, THE FRANCHISOR CANNOT USE THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS TO PREVAIL UPON A PROSPECTIVE FRANCHISEE TO ACCEPT TERMS WHICH ARE LESS FAVORABLE THAN THOSE SET FORTH IN THIS FRANCHISE DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT.

2. The following is added at the end of Item 3:

Except as provided above, with regard to the franchisor, its predecessor, a person identified in Item 2, or an affiliate offering franchises under the franchisor's principal trademark:

- A. No such party has an administrative, criminal or civil action pending against that person alleging: a felony, a violation of a franchise, antitrust, or securities law, fraud, embezzlement, fraudulent conversion, misappropriation of property, unfair or deceptive practices, or comparable civil or misdemeanor allegations.
- B. No such party has pending actions, other than routine litigation incidental to the business, which are significant in the context of the number of franchisees and the size, nature or financial condition of the franchise system or its business operations.
- C. No such party has been convicted of a felony or pleaded nolo contendere to a felony charge or, within the 10 year period immediately preceding the application for registration, has been convicted of or pleaded nolo contendere to a misdemeanor charge or has been the subject of a civil action alleging: violation of a franchise, antifraud, or securities law; fraud; embezzlement; fraudulent conversion or misappropriation of property; or unfair or deceptive practices or comparable allegations.
- D. No such party is subject to a currently effective injunctive or restrictive order or decree relating to the franchise, or under a Federal, State, or Canadian franchise, securities, antitrust, trade regulation or trade practice law, resulting from a concluded or pending action or proceeding brought by a public agency; or is subject to any currently effective order of any national securities association or national securities exchange, as defined in the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, suspending or expelling such person from membership in such association or exchange; or is subject to a currently effective injunctive or restrictive order relating to any other business activity as a result of an action brought by a public agency or department, including, without limitation, actions affecting a license as a real estate broker or sales agent.
- 3. The following is added to the end of Item 4:

Neither the franchisor, its affiliate, its predecessor, officers, or general partner during the 10-year period immediately before the date of the offering circular: (a) filed as debtor (or had filed against it) a petition to start an action under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code; (b) obtained a discharge of its debts under the bankruptcy code; or (c) was a principal officer of a company or a general partner in a partnership that either filed as a debtor (or had filed against it) a petition to start an action under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code or that obtained a discharge of its debts under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code during or within 1 year after that officer or general partner of the franchisor held this position in the company or partnership.

4. The following is added to the end of Item 5:

The initial franchise fee constitutes part of our general operating funds and will be used as such in our discretion.

5. The following is added to the end of the "Summary" sections of Item 17(c), "Requirements for you to renew or extend" and Item 17(m) "Conditions for our approval of transfer":

However, to the extent required by applicable law, all rights you enjoy and any causes of action arising in your favor from the provisions of Article 33 of the General Business Law of the State of New York and the regulations issued thereunder shall remain in force; it being the intent of this proviso that the non-waiver provisions of General Business Law Sections 687.4 and 687.5 be satisfied.

6. The following language replaces the "Summary" section of Item 17(d), "Termination by you":

You may terminate the agreement on any grounds available by law.

7. The following is added to the end of the "Summary" section of Item 17(j), "Assignment of contract by us":

However, no assignment will be made except to an assignee who in good faith and judgment of the franchisor, is willing and financially able to assume the franchisor's obligations under the Franchise Agreement.

8. The following is added to the end of the "Summary" sections of Item 17(v), "Choice of forum", and Item 17(w), "Choice of law":

The foregoing choice of law should not be considered a waiver of any right conferred upon the franchisor or upon the franchisee by Article 33 of the General Business Law of the State of New York.

9. No statement, questionnaire, or acknowledgment signed or agreed to by a franchisee in connection with the commencement of the franchise relationship shall have the effect of (i) waiving any claims under any applicable state franchise law, including fraud in the inducement, or (ii) disclaiming reliance on any statement made by any franchisor, franchise seller, or other person acting on behalf of the franchisor. This provision supersedes any other term of any document executed in connection with the franchise.

# ADDENDUM TO THE FRANCHISE DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT FOR NORTH DAKOTA

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary set forth in the Franchise Disclosure Document, the following provisions will supersede and apply to all franchises offered and sold in the State of North Dakota:

The North Dakota Securities Commissioner has held the following to be unfair, unjust, or inequitable to North Dakota franchisees:

- 1. Restrictive Covenants: Franchise disclosure documents that disclose the existence of covenants restricting competition contrary to Section 9-08-06, N.D.C.C., without further disclosing that such covenants will be subject to this statute.
- 2. Situs of Arbitration/Litigation Proceedings: Franchise agreements providing that the parties must agree to arbitrate/litigate disputes at a location that is remote from the site of the franchisee's business.
- 3. Restriction of Forum: Requiring North Dakota franchisees to consent to the jurisdiction of courts outside North Dakota.
- 4. Liquidated Damages and Termination Penalties: Requiring North Dakota franchisees to consent to liquidated damages or termination penalties.
- 5. Applicable Laws: Franchise agreements which specify that any claims arising under the North Dakota franchise law will be governed by the laws of a state other than North Dakota.
- 6. Waiver of Trial by Jury: Requiring North Dakota franchisees to consent to the waiver of a trial by jury.
- 7. Waiver of Exemplary and Punitive Damages: Requiring North Dakota franchisees to consent to a waiver of exemplary and punitive damages.
- 8. General Release: Requiring North Dakota franchisees to execute a general release of claims as a condition of renewal or transfer of a franchise.
- 9. Limitation of Claims: Requiring that North Dakota franchisees to consent to a limitation of claims. The statute of limitations under North Dakota law applies.
- 10. Enforcement of Agreement: Requiring that North Dakota franchisees pay all costs and expenses incurred by the franchisor in enforcing the agreement. The prevailing party in any enforcement action is entitled to recover all costs and expenses including attorney's fees.
- 11. No statement, questionnaire, or acknowledgment signed or agreed to by a franchisee in connection with the commencement of the franchise relationship shall have the effect of (i) waiving any claims under any applicable state franchise law, including fraud in the inducement, or (ii) disclaiming reliance on any statement made by any franchisor, franchise seller, or other person acting on behalf of the franchisor. This provision supersedes any other term of any document executed in connection with the franchise.

# ADDENDUM TO THE FRANCHISE DISLCOSURE DOCUMENT FOR RHODE ISLAND

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary set forth in the Franchise Disclosure Document, the following provisions will supersede and apply to all franchises offered and sold in the State of Rhode Island.

# ITEM 17 RENEWAL, TERMINATION, TRANSFER AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION

§19-28.1.-14 of the Rhode Island Franchise Investment Act provides that "A provision in a franchise agreement restricting jurisdiction or venue to a forum outside this state or requiring the application of the laws of another state is void with respect to a claim otherwise enforceable under this Act."

# ADDENDUM TO THE FRANCHISE DISLCOSURE DOCUMENT FOR VIRGINIA

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary set forth in the Franchise Disclosure Document, the following provisions will supersede and apply to all franchises offered and sold in the State of Virginia.

# ITEM 17 RENEWAL, TERMINATION, TRANSFER AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Pursuant to Section 13.1-564 of the Virginia Retail Franchising Act, it is unlawful for a franchisor to cancel a franchise without reasonable cause. If any ground for default or termination stated in the franchise agreement does not constitute "reasonable cause," as that term may be defined in the Virginia Retail Franchising Act or the laws of Virginia, that provision may not be enforceable.

# ADDENDUM TO THE FRANCHISE DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT PURSUANT TO THE WASHINGTON FRANCHISE INVESTMENT LAW

In the event of a conflict of laws, the provisions of the Washington Franchise Investment Protection Act, Chapter 19.100 RCW will prevail.

Item 17, "Renewal, Termination, Transfer, and Dispute Resolution," is amended by adding the following at the end of the Item:

- 1. RCW 19.100.180 may supersede the franchise agreement in your relationship with the franchisor including the areas of termination and renewal of your franchise. There may also be court decisions which may supersede the franchise agreement in your relationship with the franchisor including the areas of termination and renewal of your franchise.
- 2. In any arbitration or mediation involving a franchise purchased in Washington, the arbitration or mediation site will be either in the state of Washington, or in a place mutually agreed upon at the time of the arbitration or mediation, or as determined by the arbitrator or mediator at the time of arbitration or mediation. In addition, if litigation is not precluded by the franchise agreement, a franchise may bring an action or proceeding arising out of or in connection with the sale of franchises, or a violation of the Washington Franchise Investment Protection Act, in Washington.
- 3. A release or waiver of rights executed by a franchisee may not include rights under the Washington Franchise Investment Protection Act or any rule or order thereunder except when executed pursuant to a negotiated settlement after the agreement is in effect and where the parties are represented by independent counsel. Provisions such as those which unreasonably restrict or limit the statute of limitations period for claims under the Act, or rights or remedies under the Act such as a right to a jury trial, may not be enforceable.
- 4. Transfer fees are collectable to the extent that they reflect the franchisor's reasonable estimated or actual costs in effecting a transfer.
- 5. Pursuant to RCW 49.62.020, a noncompetition covenant is void and unenforceable against an employee, including an employee of a franchisee, unless the employee's earnings from the party seeking enforcement, when annualized, exceed \$100,000 per year (an amount that will be adjusted annually for inflation). In addition, a noncompetition covenant is void and unenforceable against an independent contractor of a franchisee under RCW 49.62.030 unless the independent contractor's earnings from the party seeking enforcement, when annualized, exceed \$250,000 per year (an amount that will be adjusted annually for inflation). As a result, any provisions contained in the franchise agreement or elsewhere that conflict with these limitations are void and unenforceable in Washington.
- 6. RCW 49.62.060 prohibits a franchisor from restricting, restraining, or prohibiting a franchisee from (i) soliciting or hiring any employee of a franchisee of the same franchisor or (ii) soliciting or hiring any employee of the franchisor. As a result, any such provisions contained in the franchise agreement or elsewhere are void and unenforceable in Washington.
- 7. No statement, questionnaire, or acknowledgment signed or agreed to by a franchisee in connection with the commencement of the franchise relationship shall have the effect of (i) waiving any claims under any applicable state franchise law, including fraud in the inducement, or (ii) disclaiming reliance on any statement made by any franchisor, franchise seller, or other person acting on behalf of the franchisor. This provision supersedes any other term of any document executed in connection with the franchise.

# ADDENDUM TO THE FRANCHISE DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT FOR WISCONSIN

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary set forth in the Franchise Disclosure document, the following provisions will supersede and apply to all franchises offered and sold in the State of Wisconsin:

- 1. Registration does not constitute approval, recommendation or endorsement by the Commissioner of Securities of the State of Wisconsin.
- 2. The following will apply to Franchise Agreements in the State of Wisconsin:
  - a. The Wisconsin Fair Dealership Act, Wisconsin Statutes, Chapter 135 will apply to and govern the provisions of Franchise Agreements issued in the State of Wisconsin.
  - b. That Act's requirement, including the requirements that, in certain circumstances, a franchisee receives ninety (90) days' notice of termination, cancellation, non-renewal or substantial change in competitive circumstances, and sixty (60) days to remedy claimed deficiencies, will supersede the requirements of the Franchise Agreement to the extent they may be inconsistent with the Act's requirements. If the reason for termination, cancellation, or substantial change in competitive circumstances is nonpayment of sums due under the franchise, you will have 10 days to cure the deficiency.



#### REGISTERED AGENTS FOR SERVICE OF PROCESS

#### **CALIFORNIA**

Department of Financial Protection and Innovation 1-866-275-2677

Los Angeles 320 West 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 750 Los Angeles, CA 90013-2344 (213) 576-7500

Sacramento 2101 Arena Boulevard Sacramento, CA 95834 (916) 445-7205

San Diego 1350 Front Street, Room 2034 San Diego, CA 92101-3697 (619) 525-4233

San Francisco
California Financial Protection and
Innovation Commissioner
One Sansome Street, Suite 600
San Francisco, CA 94104

#### **HAWAII**

Commissioner of Securities of the State of Hawaii Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs Business Registration / Securities Compliance 335 Merchant Street, Room 203 Honolulu, HI 96813

And

Corporation Service Company 1003 Bishop Street, Suite 1600 Pauahi Tower Honolulu, HI 96813

#### **ILLINOIS**

Corporation Service Company 801 Adlai Stevenson Drive Springfield, IL 62703

Or

Attorney General State of Illinois 500 South Second Street Springfield, IL 62706

#### **INDIANA**

Corporation Service Company Two Market Square Center 251 East Ohio Street, Suite 500 Indianapolis, IN 46204 Or Indiana Secretary of State Securities Division 302 West Washington Street Room E-111 Indiana Government Center South Indianapolis, IN 46204

#### MARYLAND

Corporation Service Company 7 St. Paul Street, Suite 1660 Baltimore, MD 21202

Or

Maryland Securities Commissioner 200 St. Paul Place Baltimore, MD 21202-2020

#### **MICHIGAN**

Corporation Service Company 601 Abbot Road East Lansing, MI 48823

#### **MINNESOTA**

Corporation Service Company 380 Jackson Street, Suite 700 St. Paul, MN 55101

Or

Commissioner of Commerce 85 7<sup>th</sup> Place East, Suite 280 Minneapolis, MN 55101-2198

#### **NEW YORK**

New York Department of State One Commerce Plaza 99 Washington Avenue, 6th Floor Albany, NY 12231-0001 518-473-2492

Or Secretary of State 41 State Street Albany, NY 12231

#### **NORTH DAKOTA**

Corporation Service Company 316 North 5<sup>th</sup> Street P.O. Box 1695 Bismarck, ND 58202

Or

Securities Commissioner North Dakota Securities Department 600 East Boulevard Avenue State Capitol, Fifth Floor, Dept 414 Bismarck, ND 58505

#### RHODE ISLAND

Director of Department of Business Regulation Securities Division Building 69, First Floor, John O. Pastore Center 1511 Pontiac Avenue Cranston, Rhode Island 02920

# SOUTH DAKOTA

Corporation Service Company 503 South Pierre Street Pierre, SD 57501

And

Division of Insurance Securities Regulation 124 S. Euclid, Suite 104 Pierre, South Dakota 57501

# **VIRGINIA**

Bank of America Center, 16<sup>th</sup> Floor 111 East Main Street Richmond, VA 23219 Or

Clerk of the State Corporation Commission 1300 E. Main Street, 1st Floor Richmond, VA 23219

# WASHINGTON

Department of Financial Institutions 150 Israel Rd SW Tumwater, WA98501

# WISCONSIN

Corporation Service Company 8040 Excelsior Drive Suite 400 Madison, WI 53717

#### **REGULATORY AUTHORITIES**

#### **CALIFORNIA**

Department of Financial Protection and Innovation 1-866-275-2677

Los Angeles 320 West 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 750 Los Angeles, CA 90013-2344 (213) 576-7500

Sacramento 2101 Arena Boulevard Sacramento, CA 95834 (916) 445-7205

San Diego 1350 Front Street, Room 2034 San Diego, CA 92101-3697 (619) 525-4233

San Francisco One Sansome Street, Suite 600 San Francisco, CA 94104-4428 (415) 972-8565

#### **HAWAII**

Commissioner of Securities of the State of Hawaii Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs Business Registration / Securities Compliance 335 Merchant Street, Room 203 Honolulu, HI 96813 (808) 586-2722

#### **ILLINOIS**

Illinois Attorney General 500 South Second Street Springfield, IL 62706 (217) 782-4465

#### **INDIANA**

Securities Commissioner Securities Division 302 West Washington Street, Room E-111 Indianapolis, IN 46204 (317) 232-6681

#### MARYLAND

Office of the Attorney General Division of Securities 200 St. Paul Place Baltimore, MD 21202-2020 (410) 576-6360

#### **MICHIGAN**

Consumer Protection Division Attn: Antitrust and Franchise Unit G. Mennen Williams Building 525 W. Ottawa Street Lansing, MI 48913 (517) 373-7117

#### **MINNESOTA**

Commissioner of Commerce Minnesota Department of Commerce 85 7<sup>th</sup> Place East, Suite 280 St. Paul, MN 55101 651-539-1600

# **NEW YORK**

NYS Department of Law Investor Protection Bureau 28 Liberty Street, 21st Floor New York, NY 10005 212-416-8236

#### NORTH DAKOTA

North Dakota Securities Department State of North Dakota State Capitol, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor 600 East Boulevard Avenue Bismarck, ND 58505-0510 (701) 328-2910

# **OREGON**

Division of Finance & Corp. Securities Department of Consumer & Business Services 350 Winter Street NE Room 410 Salem, OR 97301-3881 (503) 378-4140

#### RHODE ISLAND

Department of Business Regulation Securities Division Building 69, First Floor, John O. Pastore Center 1511 Pontiac Avenue Cranston, Rhode Island 02920 (401) 462-9527

#### **SOUTH DAKOTA**

Division of Insurance Securities Regulation 124 S. Euclid, Suite 104 Pierre, SD 57501 (605) 773-3563

#### **VIRGINIA**

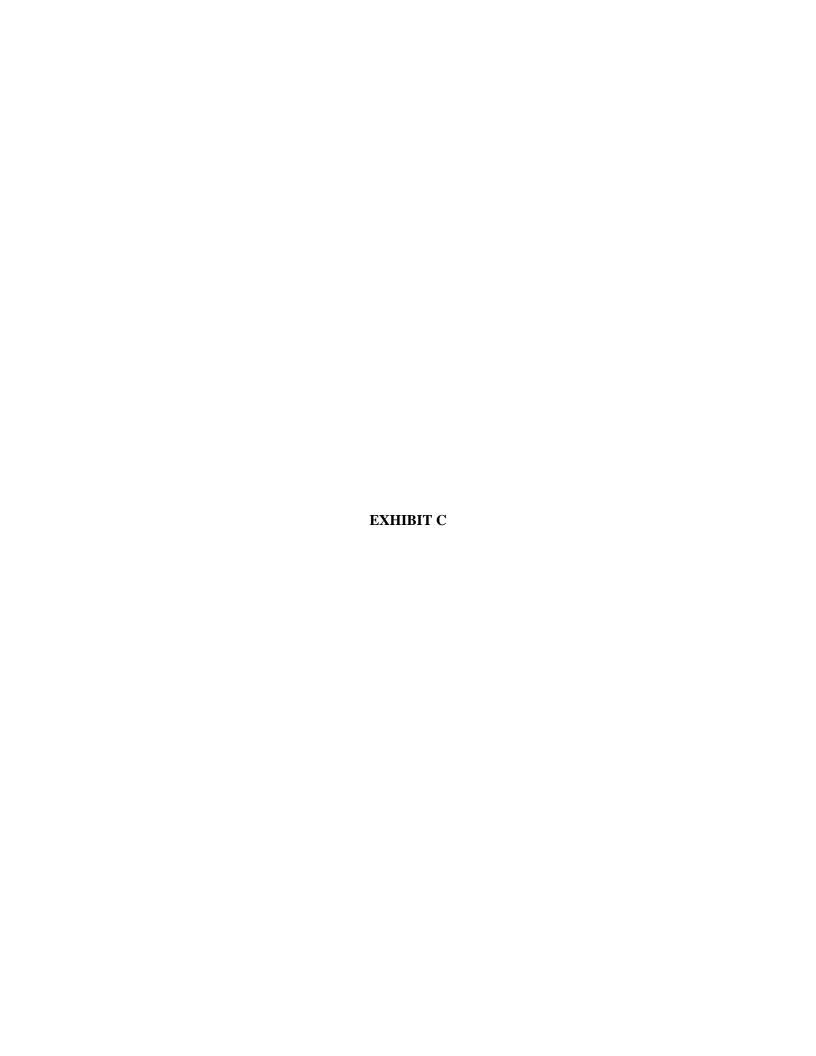
State Corporation Commission Division of Securities & Retail Franchising 1300 East Main Street, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor Richmond, VA 23219 (804) 371-9051

#### WASHINGTON

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# Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data.

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#### Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Shareholders and the Board of Directors of Choice Hotels International, Inc.

#### Opinion on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Choice Hotels International, Inc. and subsidiaries (the Company) as of December 31, 2022 and 2021, the related consolidated statements of income, comprehensive income, shareholders' equity (deficit) and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2022, and the related notes and financial statement schedule listed in the Index at Item 15(a)(2) (collectively referred to as the "consolidated financial statements"). In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company at December 31, 2022 and 2021, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2022, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (PCAOB), the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2022, based on criteria established in Internal Control-Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (2013 framework) and our report dated March 1, 2023 expressed an unqualified opinion thereon.

#### **Basis for Opinion**

These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company's financial statements based on our audits. We are a public accounting firm registered with the PCAOB and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. Our audits included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. Our audits also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

#### Critical Audit Matters

The critical audit matters communicated below are matters arising from the current period audit of the financial statements that were communicated or required to be communicated to the audit committee and that: (1) relate to accounts or disclosures that are material to the financial statements and (2) involved our especially challenging, subjective or complex judgments. The communication of critical audit matters does not alter in any way our opinion on the consolidated financial statements, taken as a whole, and we are not, by communicating the critical audit matters below, providing separate opinions on the critical audit matters or on the accounts or disclosures to which they relate.

#### Description of the Matter

#### Accounting for Guest Loyalty Programs

The Company recognized \$109.3 million in revenues from loyalty points redeemed, net of the cost of redemptions, and had a point liability and deferred revenue of \$137.3 million and \$93.4 million, respectively, as of December 31, 2022, associated with the Choice Privileges Loyalty Program and the Radisson Americas Loyalty Program that was acquired on August 11, 2022, as part of the acquisition of Radisson Hotels Americas ("the Guest Loyalty Programs").

As discussed in Note 1 to the consolidated financial statements, loyalty points earned represent a performance obligation attributable to usage of the points, and thus revenues are recognized at the point in time when the loyalty points are redeemed by members for benefits. The liability for the Guest Loyalty Programs is developed based on an estimate of the eventual redemption rates on future redemption behavior and point values using various actuarial methods. The amount of the Guest Loyalty Programs fees in excess of the point liability represents deferred revenue, which is recognized to revenue as points are redeemed including an estimate of future forfeitures.

Auditing the Guest Loyalty Programs results is complex due to: (1) the complexity of the models used to account for the Guest Loyalty Programs results; and (2) the complexity of estimating the future redemption rate and Guest Loyalty Programs point values. Such estimates are highly judgmental given the significant estimation uncertainty associated with expected redemption activity.

How We Addressed the Matter in Our Audit We obtained an understanding, evaluated the design and tested the operating effectiveness of controls over the Company's process of accounting for the Choice Privileges Guest Loyalty Programs during the year. For example, we tested controls over management's review of the assumptions and data inputs used in the accounting model and the actuarial methods used to estimate the ultimate redemption rate of Choice Privileges Guest Loyalty Programs points.

To test the recognition of revenues and liabilities associated with the Guest Loyalty Programs, we performed audit procedures that included, among others, testing the completeness and accuracy of the data and significant assumptions used in the models and assessing the accounting models developed by the Company to recognize the related revenue and the liabilities. For example, we tested significant inputs into the accounting models, including the Guest Loyalty Programs point values and the recognition of points earned and redeemed during the period. With the assistance of our actuarial specialists, we evaluated management's methodologies as well as the actuarial assumptions used in estimating the Guest Loyalty Programs expected redemption rates.

#### Accounting for Acquisitions

Description of the Matter On August 11, 2022, the Company completed its acquisition of Radisson Hotels Americas ("Radisson") for net consideration of approximately \$674 million, as disclosed in Note 24 to the consolidated financial statements. The transaction was accounted for as a business combination.

Auditing the Company's accounting for its acquisition of Radisson was complex due to the significant estimation uncertainty in the Company's determination of the fair value of identified intangible assets, which principally consisted of in-place franchise agreements and brand intangible assets. The significant estimation uncertainty was primarily due to the sensitivity of the respective fair values to underlying significant assumptions about the future performance of the acquired business. The Company used a discounted cash flow model to measure the in-place franchise agreements and brand intangible assets. The significant assumptions used to estimate the value of these assets included discount rates and certain assumptions that form the basis of the forecasted results (e.g., revenue growth rates and operating profit margin). These significant assumptions are forward looking and could be affected by future economic and market conditions.

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How We Addressed the Matter in Our Audit We tested the Company's controls over its accounting for acquisitions. Our tests included controls over the estimation process supporting the recognition and measurement of consideration transferred and the acquired asset values. We also tested management's review of assumptions used in the valuation models.

To test the estimated fair value of the in-place franchise agreements and brand intangible assets, we performed audit procedures that included, among others, evaluating the Company's selection of the valuation methodology, evaluating the methods and testing the significant assumptions used by the Company's valuation specialist. Our procedures included evaluating the completeness and accuracy of the underlying data supporting the significant assumptions and estimates and reconciling the prospective financial information utilized by the company's valuation specialists with other prospective financial information prepared by the Company. We involved our valuation specialists to assist with our evaluation of the methodology used by the Company and significant assumptions included in the fair value estimates. For example, we compared the significant assumptions to current industry, market and economic trends, to the assumptions used to value similar assets in other business combinations, to the historical results of the acquired business and to other guidelines used by companies within the same industry. Specifically, when assessing the key assumptions, we focused on revenue growth rates and operating profit margin that would drive these forecasted growth rates.

/s/ Ernst & Young LLP

We have served as the Company's auditor since 2014.

Tysons, Virginia

March 1, 2023

# CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

# CHOICE HOTELS INTERNATIONAL, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME (IN THOUSANDS, EXCEPT PER SHARE AMOUNTS)

	Years Ended December 31,					
	_	2022		2021		2020
REVENUES	_					
Royalty, licensing and management fees	\$	471,759	\$	397,218	\$	263,308
Initial franchise fees		28,074		26,342		25,906
Procurement services		63,800		50,393		45,242
Owned hotels		70,826		37,833		20,168
Other		64,740		28,669		16,880
Other revenues from franchised and managed properties		702,750		528,843		402,568
Total revenues	_	1,401,949		1,069,298		774,072
OPERATING EXPENSES						
Selling, general and administrative		207,275		145,623		148,910
Depreciation and amortization		30,425		24,773		25,831
Owned hotels		48,837		24,754		16,066
Other expenses from franchised and managed properties		653,060		444,946		446,847
Total operating expenses		939,597		640,096		637,654
Impairment of long-lived assets		_		(282)		(14,751)
Gain on sale of business and assets, net		16,249		13		_
Operating income	_	478,601		428,933		121,667
OTHER EXPENSES AND INCOME, NET		,		•		
Interest expense		43,797		46,680		49,028
Interest income		(7,288)		(4,981)		(7,688)
Loss on extinguishment of debt		` _				16,565
Other loss (gain)		7,018		(5,134)		(4,533)
Equity in net (gain) loss of affiliates		(1,732)		15,876		15,289
Total other income and expenses, net		41,795		52,441		68,661
Income before income taxes	_	436,806		376,492		53,006
Income tax expense (benefit)		104,654		87,535		(22,381)
Net income	\$		\$	288,957	\$	75,387
		<u>-</u>				
Basic earnings per share	\$	6.05	\$	5.20	\$	1.36
Diluted earnings per share	\$	5.99	\$	5.15	\$	1.35

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

# CHOICE HOTELS INTERNATIONAL, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (IN THOUSANDS)

	Years Ended December 31,					
		2022		2021		2020
Net income	\$	332,152	\$	288,957	\$	75,387
Other comprehensive (loss) income, net of tax:						
Foreign currency translation adjustment		(637)		72		(96)
Other comprehensive (loss) income, net of tax:		(637)		72		(96)
Comprehensive income	\$	331,515	\$	289,029	\$	75,291

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

# CHOICE HOTELS INTERNATIONAL, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (IN THOUSANDS, EXCEPT SHARE AMOUNTS)

	December 31, 2022		December 31, 2021	
ASSETS				
Current assets				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	41,566	\$	511,605
Accounts receivables (net of allowance for credit losses of \$23,435 and \$34,149, respectively)		216,614		153,147
Income taxes receivable		4,759		12,511
Notes receivable (net of allowance for credit losses of \$4,125 and \$4,318, respectively)		52,466		54,453
Prepaid expenses and other current assets		32,517		29,945
Total current assets		347,922		761,661
Property and equipment, net		427,306		377,367
Operating lease right-of-use assets		68,985		34,183
Goodwill		218,653		159,196
Intangible assets, net		742,190		312,389
Notes receivable (net of allowance for credit losses of \$6,047 and \$12,461, respectively)		55,577		66,451
Investments, employee benefit plans, at fair value		31,645		33,946
Investments in affiliates		30,647		27,967
Deferred income taxes		88,182		68,643
Other assets		91,068		90,021
Total assets	\$	2,102,175	\$	1,931,824
LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY				
Current liabilities				
Accounts payable	\$	118,863	\$	81,169
Accrued expenses and other current liabilities		131,410		104,472
Deferred revenue		92,695		81,538
Liability for guest loyalty program		89,954		86,765
Current portion of long-term debt		2,976		216,351
Total current liabilities		435,898		570,295
Long-term debt		1,200,547		844,123
Long-term deferred revenue		134,149		105,785
Deferred compensation and retirement plan obligations		36,673		38,690
Income taxes payable		15,482		20,642
Operating lease liabilities		70,994		35,492
Liability for guest loyalty program		47,381		41,785
Other liabilities		6,391		9,130
Total liabilities		1,947,515		1,665,942
Commitments and Contingencies				
Common stock, \$0.01 par value; 160,000,000 shares authorized; 95,065,638 shares issued at December 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021; 52,200,903 and 55,609,226 shares outstanding at December 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021, respectively		951		951
Additional paid-in-capital		298,053		259,317
Accumulated other comprehensive loss		(5,211)		(4,574)
Treasury stock, at cost; 42,864,735 and 39,456,412 shares at December 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021, respectively		(1,694,857)		(1,265,032)
Retained earnings		1,555,724		1,275,220
Total shareholders' equity		154,660		265,882
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	S	2,102,175	\$	1,931,824

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

# CHOICE HOTELS INTERNATIONAL, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (IN THOUSANDS)

		Years Ended December 31,					
	2022	2021	2020				
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES							
Net income	\$ 332,152	\$ 288,957	\$ 75,387				
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:							
Depreciation and amortization	30,425	24,773	25,831				
Depreciation and amortization - marketing and reservation system	33,488	25,721	22,625				
Franchise agreement acquisition cost amortization	15,666	13,222	11,310				
Impairment of long-lived assets	_	282	14,751				
Loss on extinguishment of debt	_	_	16,565				
(Gain) loss on sale and disposal of assets, net	(16,251)	530	_				
Non-cash stock compensation and other charges	42,974	35,731	9,690				
Non-cash interest, investment, and affiliate (income) loss, net	7,365	(13,509)	(6,723)				
Deferred income taxes	(19,642)	(1,006)	(44,826)				
Equity in net loss of affiliates, less distributions received	489	23,985	15,439				
Franchise agreement acquisition costs, net of reimbursements	(54,527)	(38,230)	(36,479)				
Change in working capital and other, net of acquisition	(5,078)	23,240	6,491				
Net cash provided by operating activities	367,061	383,696	110,061				
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES							
Investment in property and equipment	(89,954)	(74,294)	(33,603)				
Investment in intangible assets	(3,631)	(3,573)	(1,359)				
Proceeds from sales of assets	166,568	6,119	_				
Asset acquisitions, net of cash acquired	(856)	_	_				
Cash received from extinguishment of notes receivable	` <b>-</b>	301	_				
Proceeds from sale of tax credits for rehabilitation of historic building	_	_	9,197				
Business acquisition, net of cash acquired	(550,431)	_	_				
Proceeds from termination of intangibles	44,711	_	_				
Contributions to investments in affiliates	(3,148)	(2,778)	(5,454)				
Distributions and sales proceeds from investments in affiliates		15,554	10,798				
Purchases of investments, employee benefit plans	(4,185)	(1,705)	(2,562)				
Proceeds from sales of investments, employee benefit plans	1,908	2,609	2,478				
Issuance of notes receivable	(5,647)	(20,133)	(9,845)				
Collections of notes receivable	975	213	6,494				
Other items, net	1,260	(1,239)	(623)				
Net cash used in investing activities	(442,430)	(78,926)	(24,479)				
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES							
Proceeds from issuance of Term Loan	_	_	249,500				
Proceeds from issuance of 2020 Senior Notes	_	_	447,723				
Net borrowings (repayments) pursuant to revolving credit facilities	360,000	_	(18,480)				
Principal payments on long-term debt	(216,571)	_	(473,857)				
Payments to extinguish long-term debt	` _	_	(14,347)				
Payments to extinguish acquired debt	(55,975)	_					
Proceeds from acquired derivative	1,943	_	_				
Debt issuance costs	(44)	(365)	(4,620)				
Purchases of treasury stock	(434,767)	(13,365)	(55,450)				
Dividends paid	(52,545)	(25,044)	(25,274)				
Proceeds from exercise of stock options	3,809	11,054	10,203				
Net cash (used in) provided by financing activities	(394,150)	(27,720)	115,398				
(	(574,130)	(27,720)	115,576				

Net change in cash and cash equivalents		(469,519)	277,050	200,980
Effect of foreign exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents		(520)	(224)	33
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period		511,605	234,779	33,766
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	s	41,566	\$ 511,605	\$ 234,779
Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:				
Cash payments during the year for				
Income taxes, net of refunds	S	115,972	\$ 106,539	\$ 8,605
Interest, net of capitalized interest	S	46,908	\$ 43,939	\$ 45,145
Non-cash investing and financing activities				
Dividends declared but not paid	S	13,136	\$ 13,208	\$ _
Asset acquisition from extinguishment of note receivable	S	20,446	\$ 21,133	\$ _
Investment in property, equipment and intangibles acquired in accounts payable and accrued liabilities	S	5,383	\$ 3,518	\$ 1,421

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

## CHOICE HOTELS INTERNATIONAL, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY (DEFICIT) (IN THOUSANDS, EXCEPT SHARE AMOUNTS)

	Common Stock - Shares Outstanding	(	Common Stock - Par Value	A	Additional Paid-in- Capital		Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss		Treasury Stock		Retained Earnings		Total
Balance as of December 31, 2019	55,702,628	S	951	\$	231,160	3	\$ (4,550)	\$	(1,219,905)	\$	968,833	\$	(23,511)
Cumulative-effect adjustment (1)							_			_	(6,831)		(6,831)
Net income	_		_		_		_		_		75,387		75,387
Other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax	_		_		_		(96)		_		_		(96)
Share-based payment activity (2)	506,953		_		2,761		_		14,877		(437)		17,201
Dividends declared (2)	_		_		_		_		_		(12,452)		(12,452)
Treasury purchases	(674,027)		_		_		_		(55,450)		_		(55,450)
Balance as of December 31, 2020	55,535,554	\$	951	\$	233,921	3	\$ (4,646)	\$	(1,260,478)	\$	1,024,500	\$	(5,752)
Net income						•		_			288,957		288,957
Other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax	_		_		_		72		_		_		72
Share-based payment activity (2)	185,867		_		25,396		_		8,811		8		34,215
Dividends declared (2)	_		_		_		_		_		(38,245)		(38,245)
Treasury purchases	(112,195)		_		_		_		(13,365)		_		(13,365)
Balance as of December 31, 2021	55,609,226	\$	951	\$	259,317	3	\$ (4,574)	\$	(1,265,032)	\$	1,275,220	\$	265,882
Net income										Τ	332,152		332,152
Other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax	_		_		_		(637)		_		_		(637)
Share-based payment activity (2)	294,095		_		38,736		_		4,941		_		43,677
Dividends declared (\$0.2375 per share) (2)	_		_		_		_		_		(51,648)		(51,648)
Treasury purchases	(3,702,418)								(434,766)				(434,766)
Balance as of December 31, 2022	52,200,903	S	951	\$	298,053	3	\$ (5,211)	\$	(1,694,857)	S	1,555,724	S	154,660

<sup>(1)</sup> Reflects the cumulative effect of ASU 2016-13, Financial Instruments - Credit Losses (Topic 326) and subsequent amendments issued thereafter (collectively "Topic 326"), which was adopted on January 1, 2020. Refer to Note 4.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

<sup>(2)</sup> On February 28, 2020, the Company's Board of Directors declared a quarterly cash dividend of \$0.225 per share of common stock payable on April 16, 2020. In April 2020, subsequent to the payment of the dividend and in light of uncertainty resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, we suspended future, undeclared dividends. In May 2021, the Company resumed payment of quarterly dividends, subject to future declarations by the Company's Board of Directors, and declared a quarterly cash dividend of \$0.225 per share of common stock. On December 6, 2021, the Company's Board of Directors approved a 6% increase in the quarterly cash dividend and declared a quarterly cash dividend of \$0.2375 per share of common stock. During the year ended December 31, 2022, the Company declared cash dividends at a quarterly rate of \$0.2375 per share of common stock. During certain periods presented, accumulated dividends were paid to certain shareholders upon vesting of certain performance vested restricted stock units ("PVRSU") which are captured in Share-based payment activity.

## CHOICE HOTELS INTERNATIONAL, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

## Basis of Presentation

The accompanying consolidated financial statements of Choice Hotels International, Inc. and its subsidiaries (together the "Company") have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP") pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"). All significant intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

The preparation of consolidated financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make certain estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates. In the opinion of management, the accompanying consolidated financial statements include all adjustments that are necessary to fairly present the Company's consolidated financial statements.

## Acquisition of Radisson Hotels Americas

On August 11, 2022, the Company completed the acquisition (the "Transaction") of (1) all of the issued and outstanding shares of Radisson Hospitality, Inc. and (2) certain trademarks held by Radisson Hospitality Belgium BV/SRL (collectively referred to as "Radisson Hotels Americas"). With the close of this Transaction, Choice Hotels International has added approximately 67,000 rooms across the United States, Canada, Caribbean and Latin America. The Transaction expands the Company's footprint in international markets and the upper-upscale and upscale full-service chain scales and enhances guest offerings in the core upper-midscale chain scale. The Transaction also accelerates our asset-light strategy of growth in higher revenue travel chain scales and locations.

The Company has determined it is the accounting acquirer of Radisson Hotels Americas and has accounted for the Transaction as a business combination using the acquisition method of accounting. Accordingly, assets acquired and liabilities assumed were recorded at their fair values as of the acquisition date, with the exception of certain asset and liabilities which were accounted for in accordance with provisions of ASU 2021-08, *Business Combinations (Topic 805):*Accounting for Contract Assets and Contract Liabilities from Contracts with Customers ("ASU 2021-08"). Refer to Note 24.

The Company's significant accounting policies herein address elements attributable to Radisson Hotels Americas balances and activity.

#### Revenue Recognition

#### Franchise agreements

Revenues are primarily derived from franchise agreements with third-party hotel owners. The majority of the Company's performance obligations are a series of distinct services, as described in more detail below, for which the Company receives variable consideration through franchise fees. The Company enters into franchise agreements to provide franchisees with a limited non-exclusive license to utilize the Company's registered brand trade names and trademarks, marketing and reservation services, and other miscellaneous franchise services. These agreements typically have an initial term from 10 to 30 years, with provisions permitting franchisees or the Company to terminate the franchise agreement upon designated anniversaries of the hotel opening before the end of the initial term. An up-front initial franchise fee is assessed to third-party hotel owners to affiliate with our brands, which is typically paid prior to agreement execution and is non-refundable. After hotel opening, fees are typically generated based on a percentage of gross room revenues or as designated transactions and events occur (such as when a reservation is delivered to the hotel through a specified channel) and are invoiced by the Company in the following month.

The franchise agreements are comprised of multiple performance obligations, which may require significant judgment in identifying. The primary performance obligations are as follows:

- License of brand intellectual property and related services ("brand intellectual property"): Grants the right to access the Company's
  intellectual property associated with brand trade names, trademarks, reservation systems, property management systems and related services.
- Material rights for free or discounted goods or services to hotel guests: Primarily consists of the points issued under the Company's guest loyalty programs, Choice Privileges and Radisson Rewards Americas.

## Brand intellectual property

Fees generated from brand intellectual property are recognized to revenue over time as hotel owners pay for access to these services for the duration of the franchise agreement. Franchise fees are typically based on the sales or usage of the underlying hotel (i.e., after the completion of a hotel stay), with the exception of fixed up-front fees that usually represent an insignificant portion of the transaction price. Variable transaction price is determined for the period when the underlying gross room revenues and transactions or events which generate fees are known.

#### Franchise fees include the following:

- Royalty fees. Royalty fees are earned in exchange for a license to brand intellectual property typically based on a percentage of gross room
  revenues. These fees are billed and collected monthly and revenues are recognized in the same period that the underlying gross room
  revenues are earned by the Company's franchisees. Royalty fees are recognized within royalty, licensing and management fees revenue in the
  consolidated statements of income.
- Initial franchise fees. Initial franchise fees are charged when (i) new hotels enter the franchise system; (ii) there is a change of ownership; or
   (iii) existing franchise agreements are extended. These fees are recognized as revenue ratably as services are provided over the enforceable
   period of the franchise agreement. The enforceable period is the period from hotel opening to the first point the franchise or the Company
   can terminate the franchise agreement without incurring a significant penalty. Deferred revenues from initial and relicensing fees are typically
   recognized over a five to ten-year period, unless the franchise agreement is terminated and the hotel exits the franchise system whereby
   remaining deferred amounts will be recognized to revenue in the period of termination.
- Other revenue. Other revenue is a combination of miscellaneous non-marketing and reservation system fees, inclusive of quality assurance, non-compliance and franchisee training fees, and is recognized in the period the designated transaction or event has occurred.

The Company's franchise agreements require the payment of marketing and reservation system fees. The Company is obligated to use these marketing and reservation system fees to provide marketing and reservation services such as advertising, access to centralized reservation and property management systems, revenue management services and/or software, and certain franchise services to support the operation of the overall franchise system. The marketing and reservation system revenues are recognized within other revenues from franchised and managed properties in the consolidated statements of income. These services are comprised of multiple fees including the following:

- Fees based on a percentage of gross room revenues are recognized in the period the gross room revenue was earned, based on the underlying hotel's sales or usage.
- Fees based on the occurrence of a designated transaction or event are recognized in the period the transaction or event occurred.
- System implementation fees charged to franchisees are deferred and recognized as revenue over the enforceable period of the franchise
  agreement.
- Marketing and reservation system activities also include revenues generated from the Company's guest loyalty programs. The revenue
  recognition of these programs is discussed in Material rights for free or discounted goods or services to hotel guests below.

Marketing and reservation system expenses are those expenses incurred to facilitate the delivery of marketing and reservation system services, including direct expenses and an allocation of costs for certain administrative activities required to carry out marketing and reservation services. Marketing and reservation system expenses are recognized as services are incurred or goods are received within other expenses from franchised and managed properties in the consolidated statements of income, and as such may not equal marketing and reservation system revenues in a specific period but are expected to equal revenues earned from franchisees over time. The Company's franchise agreements provide the Company the right to advance monies to the franchise system when the needs of the system surpass the balances currently available and recover such advances in future periods through additional fee assessments or reduced spending.

#### Material rights for free or discounted goods or services to hotel guests

Choice Privileges and Radisson Rewards Americas are the Company's frequent guest loyalty programs, which enable members to earn points based on their spending levels with the Company's franchisees or certain vendors (refer to Partnership agreements header below). The points, which the Company accumulates and tracks on the members' behalf, may be redeemed for free accommodations or other benefits (e.g., gift cards to participating retailers). The Company collects from franchisees a percentage of loyalty program members' gross room revenue from completed

stays to operate the programs. At such time points are redeemed for free accommodations or other benefits, the Company reimburses franchisees or third parties based on a rate derived in accordance with the franchise or vendor agreement.

Loyalty points represent a performance obligation attributable to usage of the points, and thus revenues are recognized at the point in time when the loyalty points are redeemed by members for benefits. The transaction price is variable and determined in the period when the loyalty points are earned and the underlying gross room revenues are known. No loyalty program revenues are recognized at the time the loyalty points are issued.

The Company is an agent in coordinating delivery of the services between the loyalty program member and franchisee or third party, and as a result, revenues are recognized net of the cost of redemptions. The estimated value of future redemptions is reflected in current and non-current liability for guest loyalty program in our consolidated balance sheets. The liability for guest loyalty programs is developed based on an estimate of the eventual redemption rates and point values using various actuarial methods. These significant judgments determine the required point liability attributable to outstanding points, which is relieved as redemption costs are processed. The amount of the loyalty program fees in excess of the point liability represents current and non-current deferred revenue, which is recognized to revenue as points are redeemed including an estimate of future forfeitures ("breakage"). The anticipated redemption pattern of the points is the basis for current and non-current designation of each liability. As of December 31, 2022, the current and non-current deferred revenue balances are \$61.0 million and \$32.5 million, respectively. Loyalty points are typically redeemed within three years of issuance. Loyalty program point redemption revenues are recognized within other revenues from franchised and managed properties in the consolidated statements of income.

The Company also earns revenues on contracts incidental to the support of operations for franchised hotels, including purchasing operations.

## Partnership Agreements

The Company maintains various agreements with third-party partners, including the co-branding of the Choice Privileges credit card. The agreements typically provide for use of the Company's marks, limited access to the Company's distribution channels, and sale of loyalty points, in exchange for fees primarily comprising variable consideration paid each month. Loyalty members can earn points through participation in the partner's program.

Partnership agreements include multiple performance obligations. The primary performance obligations are brand intellectual property and material rights for free or discounted goods or services to hotel guests. Allocation of fixed and variable consideration to the performance obligations is based on standalone selling price as estimated based on market and income methods, which represent significant judgments. The amounts allocated to brand intellectual property are recognized on a gross basis over time using the output measure of time elapsed, primarily within royalty, licensing and management fees and procurement services revenue. The amounts allocated to material rights for free or discounted goods or services to hotel guests are recognized to revenue as points are redeemed including an estimate of breakage, primarily within other revenues from franchised and managed properties.

## Qualified Vendors

The Company generates procurement services revenues from qualified vendors. Qualified vendor revenues are generally based on marketing services provided by the Company on behalf of and access provided to the qualified vendors to hotel owners and guests. The Company provides these services in exchange for either fixed consideration or a percentage of revenues earned by the qualified vendor pertaining to purchases by the Company's franchisees or guests. Fixed consideration is paid in installments based on a contractual schedule, with an initial payment typically due at contract execution. Variable consideration is typically paid quarterly after sales to franchisees or guests have occurred.

Qualified vendor agreements comprise a single performance obligation, which is satisfied over time based on the access afforded and services provided to the qualified vendor for the stated duration of the agreement. Fixed consideration is allocated and recognized ratably to each period over the term of the agreement. Variable consideration is determined and recognized in the period when sales to franchisees or guests from vendors are known or cash payment has been remitted. Qualified vendor revenues are recognized within procurement services revenue in the consolidated statements of income.

## Other

The Company is party to other non-franchising agreements that generate revenue within other revenue in the consolidated statements of income which are primarily SaaS arrangements for non-franchised hoteliers. SaaS agreements typically include fixed consideration for installment and other initiation fees paid at contract onset, and variable consideration for recurring subscription revenue paid monthly. SaaS agreements comprise a single performance obligation, which is satisfied over time

based on the access to the software for the stated duration of the agreement. Fixed consideration is allocated and recognized ratably to each period over the term of the agreement. Variable consideration is determined at the conclusion of each period, and allocated to and recognized in the current period.

## Managed Hotels

The Company manages 13 legacy Radisson Hotels Americas hotels (inclusive of the three Radisson Hotels Americas branded owned hotels). The management agreements provide for use of the Company's marks and hotel management services, include providing day-to-day management services in the operation of the hotels for the hotel owners. Fees generated from management agrees are recognized to revenue over time as hotel owners pay for access to these services for the duration of the management agreement, and include base and incentive management fees. Base management fees are generally based on a percentage of the hotel's monthly gross revenue and invoiced and collected monthly. Incentive management fees are generally based on a percentage of the hotel's operating profits as measured and invoiced on an annual basis. Base and incentive management fee revenues are recognized within royalties, licensing and management fees in the consolidated statements of income. Refer to Note 23 regarding discussion of management agreement guarantees.

The Company's management agreements include contemplation of amounts that are contractually reimbursed to us by property owners, either directly or indirectly, relating to certain costs and expenses paid by us in support of the operations of these properties. These reimbursements include payroll and related costs and certain other operating costs of the managed properties' operations, which are reimbursed to us by the property owners as expenses are incurred. Revenue related to these direct reimbursements is recognized based on the amount of expenses incurred by the Company, which are presented as other expenses from managed and franchised properties in our consolidated statements of operations, that are then reimbursed to us by the property owner typically on a monthly basis, which results in no net effect on operating income or net income. Revenues related to marketing and reservations are recognized over time and are intended to reimburse us, indirectly, for expenses incurred in the execution of marketing and reservation services. These managed revenues are presented within other revenues from managed and franchised properties in our consolidated statements of operations.

## Owned Hotels

The Company owned nine hotels (inclusive of three acquired in the Radisson Hotels Americas transaction) at December 31, 2022 and six hotels at December 31, 2021, from which the Company derives revenues. As a hotel owner, the Company has performance obligations to provide accommodations to hotel guests and in return the Company earns a nightly fee for an agreed upon period that is generally payable at the time the hotel guest checks out of the hotel. The Company typically satisfies the performance obligations over the length of the stay and recognizes the revenue on a daily basis, as the hotel rooms are occupied and services are rendered. Other ancillary goods and services at owned hotels are purchased independently of the hotel stay at standalone selling prices and are considered separate performance obligations, which are satisfied at the point in time when the related good or service is provided to the guest. These primarily consist of food and beverage, incidentals and parking fees. Hotel room night and other ancillary hotel ownership revenues are recognized within owned hotels revenue in the consolidated statements of income.

## Sales Taxes

The Company presents taxes collected from customers and remitted to governmental authorities on a net basis and, therefore, they are excluded from revenues in the consolidated financial statements.

## Notes & Accounts Receivable and Allowances for Credit Losses

The Company provides financing in the form of notes receivable loans to franchisees to support the development of properties in strategic markets. The Company has developed a systematic methodology to determine its allowance for credit losses across our portfolio of notes receivable loans. The Company monitors the risk and performance of our portfolio by the level of security in collateral (i.e., senior, subordinated or unsecured), which is the Company's credit quality indicator. As each of the Company's notes receivable loans has unique risk characteristics, the Company deploys its methodology to calculate allowances for credit losses at the individual notes receivable loan level.

The Company primarily utilizes a discounted cash flow ("DCF") technique to measure the credit allowance, influenced by the key economic variables of each note receivable loan. The Company identified the key economic variables for these loans to be loan-to-cost ("LTC") or loan-to-value ("LTV") ratios and debt service coverage ratio ("DSCR"). The LTC or LTV ratio represents the loan principal relative to the project cost or value and is an indication of the ability to be re-paid principal at loan maturity. The DSCR represents property-specific net operating income as a percentage of the interest and principal payments incurred (i.e., debt service) on all debt of the borrower for the property and is an indication of the ability of the borrower to timely pay amounts due during the term of the loan. The LTC or LTV ratios and DSCR are considered during loan underwriting as indications of risk and, accordingly, we believe these factors are the most representative risk indicators for calculating the

allowance for credit loss. Loans with higher LTC or LTV ratios and lower DSCR ratios generally are representative of loans with greater risk and, accordingly, have higher credit allowances as a percentage of loan principal. Conversely, loans with lower LTC or LTV ratios and higher DSCR ratios generally are representative of loans with lesser risk and, accordingly, have lower credit allowances as a percentage of loan principal. In preparing or updating a DCF model as the basis for the credit allowance, the Company develops various recovery scenarios and, based on the key economic variables and present status of the loan and underlying collateral, applies a probability-weighting to the outputs of the scenarios.

Collateral-dependent financial assets are financial assets for which repayment is expected to be derived substantially through the operation or sale of the collateral and where the borrower is experiencing financial difficulty. For collateral-dependent loans, expected credit losses are based on the fair value of the collateral, less selling costs if repayment will be from the sale of the collateral. The Company calculates fair value of the collateral using a DCF technique to project cash flows or a market approach via quoted market prices. In developing cash flow projections, the Company will review the borrower's financial statements for the property, economic trends, industry projections for the market where the property is located, and comparable sales capitalization rates.

Management assesses the credit quality of the notes receivable portfolio and adequacy of credit loss allowances on an at least quarterly basis and records provisions for credit losses in SG&A expenses. Significant judgment is required in this analysis.

Accounts receivable consist primarily of franchise and related fees due from hotel franchisees and are recorded at the invoiced amount. The allowance for credit losses is the Company's best estimate of the amount of expected credit losses inherent in the accounts receivable balance. The Company determines the allowance considering historical write-off experience, review of aged receivable balances and customer payment trends, the economic environment, and other available evidence. The Company records provisions for credit losses on accounts receivable in SG&A expenses and marketing and reservation system expenses in the accompanying consolidated statements of income.

When the Company determines that a trade or note receivable is not collectible, the account is written-off to the associated allowance for credit losses.

Refer to Note 4 for further discussion of receivables and allowances for credit losses.

## Advertising Costs

The Company expenses advertising costs as the advertising occurs. Advertising expense was \$170.4 million, \$81.5 million, and \$88.5 million for the years ended December 31, 2022, 2021 and 2020, respectively. The Company includes advertising costs primarily in marketing and reservation system expenses in the consolidated statements of income.

#### Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Company considers all highly liquid investments purchased with a maturity of three months or less at the date of purchase to be cash equivalents.

The Company maintains cash balances in domestic banks, which, at times, may exceed the limits of amounts insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. In addition, the Company also maintains cash balances in international banks which do not provide deposit insurance.

## Capitalization Policies

Property and equipment are generally recorded at cost and depreciated for financial reporting purposes using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets. Leasehold improvements are amortized over the shorter of the lease term or their useful lives. Major renovations and replacements incurred during construction are capitalized. Costs for computer software developed for internal use are capitalized during the application development stage and amortized using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the software. Software licenses pertaining to cloud computing arrangements that are capitalized are amortized using the straight-line method over the shorter of the cloud computing arrangement term or their useful lives. The Company capitalizes interest incurred during construction and development of property and equipment, including software. Interest capitalized as a cost of property and equipment totaled \$2.0 million and \$0.7 million during the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, respectively.

As construction in progress and software development are completed and placed in service, they are transferred to appropriate property and equipment categories and depreciation begins. Upon sale or retirement of property, the cost and related accumulated depreciation are eliminated from the accounts and any related gain or loss is recognized in the consolidated statements of income. Maintenance, repairs and minor replacements are charged to expense as incurred.

The Company has made certain acquisitions of hotel assets which are recorded at the fair value of consideration exchanged. Refer to Note 24.

A summary of the ranges of estimated useful lives from original place in service date for depreciation and amortization purposes are as follows:

Computer equipment and software	2 - 7 years
Buildings and leasehold improvements	10 - 40 years
Furniture, fixtures, vehicles and equipment	3 - 10 years

## Assets Held for Sale

The Company considers assets to be held for sale when all of the following criteria are met:

- · Management commits to a plan to sell an asset;
- · It is unlikely that the disposal plan will be significantly modified or discontinued;
- · The asset is available for immediate sale in its present condition;
- · Actions required to complete the sale of the asset have been initiated;
- · Sale of the asset is probable and the Company expects the completed sale will occur within one year; and
- · The asset is actively being marketed for sale at a price that is reasonable given its current market value.

Upon designation as an asset held for sale, the Company records the carrying value of each asset as a component of other current assets at the lower of its carrying value or its estimated fair value, less estimated costs to sell, and ceases recording depreciation. Refer to Note 3.

If at any time these criteria are no longer met, subject to certain exceptions, the assets previously classified as held for sale are reclassified as held and used and measured individually at the lower of (a) the carrying amount before the asset was classified as held for sale, adjusted for any depreciation or amortization expense that would have been recognized had the asset been continuously classified as held and used, or (b) the fair value at the date of the subsequent decision not to sell.

## Valuation of Long-Lived Assets, Intangibles, and Goodwill

The Company groups its long-lived assets, including property and equipment and definite-lived intangible assets (e.g., franchise rights, franchise agreement acquisition costs), at the lowest level for which identifiable cash flows are largely independent of the cash flows of other assets and liabilities. The Company evaluates the potential impairment of its long-lived asset groups annually as of December 31 or earlier when other circumstances indicate that the Company may not be able to recover the carrying value of the asset group. When indicators of impairment are present, recoverability is assessed based on undiscounted expected cash flows. If the undiscounted expected cash flows are less than the carrying amount of the asset group, an impairment charge is measured and recorded, as applicable, for the excess of the carrying value over the fair value of the asset group. The fair value of long-lived asset groups are estimated primarily using discounted cash flow analyses representing the highest and best use by an independent market participant. Significant management judgment is involved in evaluating indicators of impairment and developing any required projections to test for recoverability or estimate fair value. Furthermore, if management uses different projections or if different conditions occur in future periods, future-operating results could be materially impacted.

The Company did not identify any indicators of impairment of long-lived assets from the Hotel Franchising reporting unit during the years ended December 31, 2022, 2021 and 2020, other than impairments on franchise sales commission assets and franchise agreement acquisition cost intangibles recorded within SG&A expenses and marketing and reservation system expenses as discussed in Note 2.

During 2020, the Company recognized impairments of long-lived assets attributable to a commercial office building and a real estate parcel. Refer to Note 6.

The Company evaluates the impairment of goodwill and intangible assets with indefinite lives annually as of December 31 or earlier upon the occurrence of substantive unfavorable changes in economic conditions, industry trends, costs, cash flows, or ongoing declines in market capitalization that indicate that the Company may not be able to recover the carrying amount of the asset. In evaluating these assets for impairment, the Company may elect to first assess qualitative factors to determine whether it is more likely than not that the fair value of the reporting unit or the indefinite lived intangible asset is less than its carrying amount. If the conclusion is that it is not more likely than not that the fair value of the asset is less than its carrying value, then no further testing is required. If the conclusion is that it is more likely than not that the fair value of the asset is less than its carrying value, then a quantitative impairment test is performed whereby the carrying value is compared to the fair value of the asset and an impairment charge is recognized, as applicable, for the excess of the carrying value over the fair value. The Company may elect to forgo the qualitative assessment and move directly to the quantitative impairment tests for goodwill and indefinite-lived intangibles. The Company determines the fair value of its reporting units and indefinite-lived intangibles using income and market methods.

Goodwill is allocated to the Company's reporting units. The Company's reporting units are determined primarily by the availability of discrete financial information relied upon by chief operating decision maker ("CODM") to assess performance and make operating segment resource allocation decisions. As of December 31, 2022, the Company's goodwill is allocated solely to the Hotel Franchising reporting unit. The Company performed the qualitative impairment analysis for the Hotel Franchising reporting unit, concluding that it is more likely than not that the fair value of the reporting unit is greater than its carrying amount. As such, a quantitative test was not required and no impairment was recorded.

#### Variable Interest Entities

In accordance with the guidance for the consolidation of variable interest entities ("VIE"), the Company identifies its variable interests and analyzes to determine if the entity in which the Company has a variable interest is a VIE. The Company's variable interests include equity investments, loans, and guaranties. Determination if a variable interest is a VIE includes both quantitative and qualitative consideration. For those entities determined to be VIEs, a further quantitative and qualitative analysis is performed to determine if the Company is deemed the primary beneficiary. The primary beneficiary is the party who has the power to direct the activities of a VIE that most significantly impact the entity's economic performance and who has an obligation to absorb losses of the entity or a right to receive benefits from the entity that could potentially be significant. The Company would consolidate those entities in which it is determined to be the primary beneficiary. As of December 31, 2022, the Company is not the primary beneficiary of any VIE. The Company based its qualitative analysis on its review of the design of the entity, its organizational structure including decision-making ability and the relevant development, operating management and financial agreements.

Investments in unconsolidated affiliates where the Company is not deemed to be the primary beneficiary but where the Company exercises significant influence over the operating and financial policies of the investee are accounted for using the equity method.

## Valuation of Investments in Affiliates

The Company evaluates an investment in an affiliate for impairment when circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable (for example, due to loan defaults), significant under performance relative to historical or projected operating performance, and significant negative industry, market or economic trends. When there is indication that a loss in value has occurred, the Company evaluates the carrying value compared to the estimated fair value of the investment. Fair value is based upon internally-developed discounted cash flow models, third-party appraisals, and if appropriate, current estimated net sales proceeds from pending offers. There are judgments and assumptions in each of these fair value determinations, including our selection of comparable market transactions, the amount and timing of expected future cash flows, long-term growth rates, and sales capitalization rates. These nonrecurring fair value measurements are classified as level three of the fair value measurement hierarchy, as the Company utilized unobservable inputs which are significant to the overall fair value. If the estimated fair value is less than carrying value, management uses its judgment to determine if the decline in value is other-than-temporary. In determining this, the Company considers factors including, but not limited to, the length of time and extent of the decline, loss of values as a percentage of the cost, financial condition and near-term financial projections, the Company's intent and ability to recover the lost value, and current economic conditions. For declines in value that are deemed other-than-temporary, impairment charges are recorded to earnings. During the years ended December 31, 2022, 2021 and 2020, the Company recognized impairment charges of \$0.2 million, \$19.3 million and \$7.3 million, respectively, related to multiple investments in affiliates accounted for under the equity method. The impairment charges are classified as equity in net (gain) loss of affiliates in the consolidated stat

## Foreign Operations

The United States dollar is the functional currency of the consolidated entities operating in the United States. The functional currency for the consolidated entities operating outside of the United States is generally the currency of the primary economic environment in which the entity primarily generates and expends cash. The Company translates the financial statements of consolidated entities whose functional currency is not the United States dollar into United States dollars. The Company translates assets and liabilities at the exchange rate in effect as of the financial statement date and translates income statement accounts using the approximate weighted average exchange rate for the period. The Company includes translation adjustments from foreign exchange and the effect of exchange rate changes on intercompany transactions of a long-term investment nature as a separate component of shareholders' equity (deficit). The Company reports foreign currency transaction gains and losses and the effect of inter-company transactions of a short-term or trading nature within other gains in the consolidated statements of income. Foreign currency transaction losses (gains) for the years ended December 31, 2022, 2021 and 2020 were \$1.0 million, \$0.4 million, and \$(0.4) million, respectively.

#### Leases

The Company determines if an arrangement is a lease and classification as operating or financing at lease inception. Operating leases are included in operating lease right-of-use ("ROU") assets, accrued expenses and other current liabilities, and operating lease liabilities on our consolidated balance sheets. At December 31, 2022 and 2021, the Company did not have any leases classified as financing.

Operating lease ROU assets and operating lease liabilities are recognized based on the present value of the future minimum lease payments over the lease term at commencement date. Operating lease ROU assets are further offset by any prepaid rent, lease incentives and initial direct costs incurred. When a lease agreement does not provide an implicit rate, the Company utilizes its incremental borrowing rate based on the information available at commencement date in determining the present value of future minimum lease payments.

Lease expense for minimum lease payments is recognized on a straight-line basis over the lease term. Variable lease payments include certain index-based changes in rent, certain non-lease components (such as maintenance and other services provided by the lessor), and other charges included in the lease. Variable lease payments are excluded from future minimum lease payments and expensed as incurred.

The Company has made elections to not separate lease and non-lease components for all classes of underlying assets in which it is the lessee nor account for leases with an initial term of 12 months or less on the balance sheet. These short-term leases are expensed on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

## Recently Adopted & Issued Accounting Standards

In October 2021, the FASB issued ASU 2021-08 which requires an acquirer in a business combination to recognize and measure contract assets and contract liabilities in accordance with *Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606)*, as if the acquirer had originated the contracts at the date of the business combination. ASU 2021-08 is effective for annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2022 and interim periods within those fiscal years. Early adoption is permitted.

The Company elected to early adopt ASU 2021-08 in the second quarter of 2022. There was no retrospective impact to our consolidated financial statement as a result of the adoption. ASU 2021-08 was applied in the accounting for the acquisition of Radisson Hotels Americas, and accordingly, the Company utilized the carrying values of contract assets and contract liabilities of Radisson Hotels Americas in application of acquisition accounting (refer to Note 24).

In March 2022, the FASB issued ASU 2022-02, Financial Instruments - Credit Losses ("ASU 2022-02"). ASU 2022-02 eliminates the recognition and measurement guidance on troubled debt restructuring for creditors that have adopted ASU 2016-13, Financial Instruments - Credit Losses (Topic 326) ("Topic 326"), requires enhanced disclosures about loan modifications for borrowers experiencing financial difficulty, and includes new guidance on current-period gross write-offs presentation. ASU 2022-02 is effective for annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2022 and interim periods within those fiscal years. Early adoption is permitted. The Company is currently assessing the potential impact that ASU 2022-02 will have on the consolidated financial statements and disclosures.

#### 2. Revenue

## Contract Liabilities

Contract liabilities relate to (i) advance consideration received, such as initial franchise fees paid when a franchise agreement is executed and system implementation fees paid at time of installation, for services considered to be part of the brand intellectual property performance obligation and (ii) amounts received when loyalty points are issued but for which revenue is not yet recognized since the related loyalties have not been redeemed.

Deferred revenues from initial fees and system implementation fees are typically recognized over a five- to ten-year period, unless the franchise agreement is terminated and the hotel exits the franchise system whereby remaining deferred amounts are recognized to revenue in the period of termination. Loyalty points are typically redeemed within three years of issuance.

Significant changes in the contract liabilities balances during the year ended December 31, 2022, inclusive of balances assumed in the acquisition of Radisson Hotels Americas (refer to Note 24), are as follows:

#### (in thousands)

\$ 175,425
27,682
124,103
 (117,851)
\$ 209,359
\$ <u>\$</u>

## Remaining Performance Obligations

The aggregate amount of transaction price allocated to unsatisfied or partially unsatisfied performance obligations is \$209.4 million as of December 31, 2022. This amount represents fixed transaction price that will be recognized as revenue in future periods, which is primarily captured in the consolidated balance sheet as current and non-current deferred revenue.

Based on practical expedient elections permitted by ASU 2014-09, Revenue From Contracts with Customers (Topic 606) and subsequent amendments ("Topic 606"), the Company does not disclose the value of unsatisfied performance obligations for (i) variable consideration subject to the sales or usage-based royalty constraint or comprising a component of a series (including franchise, partnership, qualified vendor, and software as a service ("SaaS") agreements), (ii) variable consideration for which we recognize revenue at the amount to which we have the right to invoice for services performed, or (iii) contracts with an expected original duration of one year or less.

## Capitalized Franchise Agreement Costs

Sales commissions earned by Company personnel upon execution of a franchise agreement ("franchise sales commissions") meet the requirement to be capitalized as an incremental cost of obtaining a contract with a customer. Capitalized franchise sales commission are amortized on a straight-line basis over the estimated benefit period of the arrangement, unless the franchise agreement is terminated and the hotel exits the system whereby remaining capitalized amounts will be expensed in the period of termination. The estimated benefit period is the Company's estimate of the duration a hotel will remain in the Choice system. Capitalized franchise sales commissions of \$57.6 million and \$55.5 million are recorded within Other assets as of December 31, 2022 and 2021, respectively. Amortization expense and impairment charges for the years ended December 31, 2022, 2021 and 2020 were \$13.0 million, \$11.9 million and \$9.7 million, respectively, and are recorded within SG&A expenses.

The Company makes certain payments to customers as an incentive to enter into new franchise agreements ("franchise agreement acquisition cost"). These payments are recognized as an adjustment to transaction price and capitalized as an intangible asset. Franchise agreement acquisition cost intangibles are amortized on a straight-line basis over the estimated benefit period of the arrangement as an offset to royalty, licensing and management fees and other revenues from franchised and managed properties. Impairments from adverse franchise agreement activity, including terminations and significant delinquencies in construction or invoice payments, for the years ended December 31, 2022, 2021 and 2020 were \$2.5 million, \$11.1 million and \$2.0 million, respectively, and are recorded within SG&A expenses and other expenses from franchised and managed properties.

## Disaggregation of Revenue

The following table presents our revenues by over time and point in time recognition:

	Year Ended December 31, 2022							
(in thousands)		Over time Point in time		Point in time		Total		
Royalty, licensing and management fees	\$	471,601	\$	158	\$	471,759		
Initial franchise fees		28,074		_		28,074		
Procurement services		60,768		3,032		63,800		
Owned hotels		55,197		15,398		70,595		
Other		64,740		_		64,740		
Other revenues from franchised and managed properties		596,668		106,082		702,750		
Topic 606 revenues	\$	1,277,048	\$	124,670		1,401,718		
Non-Topic 606 revenues						231		
Total revenues					\$	1,401,949		

	Year Ended December 31, 2021							
(in thousands)	Over time Point in time				Total			
Royalty, licensing and management fees	\$	397,218	\$		\$	397,218		
Initial franchise fees		26,342		_		26,342		
Procurement services		47,878		2,515		50,393		
Owned hotels		31,747		5,642		37,389		
Other		28,669		_		28,669		
Other revenues from franchised and managed properties		465,184		63,659		528,843		
Topic 606 revenues	\$	997,038	\$	71,816		1,068,854		
Non-Topic 606 revenues						444		
Total revenues					\$	1,069,298		

	Year Ended December 31, 2020						
(in thousands)	Over time Point in time				Total		
Royalty, licensing and management fees	\$	263,308	\$		\$	263,308	
Initial franchise fees		25,906		_		25,906	
Procurement services		42,919		2,323		45,242	
Owned hotels		16,824		2,912		19,736	
Other		15,838		_		15,838	
Other revenues from franchised and managed properties		325,785		76,783		402,568	
Topic 606 revenues	\$	690,580	\$	82,018		772,598	
Non-Topic 606 revenues			_			1,474	
Total revenues					\$	774,072	

Owned hotels point in time revenues represent goods and services purchased independently of the hotel stay, such as food and beverage, incidentals, and parking fees. The remaining point in time revenue captions represent loyalty points redeemed by members for benefits (with both franchisees and third-party partners), net of the cost of redemptions. For the years ended December 31, 2022, 2021 and 2020, these loyalty net revenues, inclusive of adjustments to estimated redemption rates, were \$109.3 million, \$66.2 million, and \$79.1 million, respectively.

For the year ended December 31, 2022, other revenues include contract termination fees of \$22.6 million related to the termination of 110 WoodSpring units. The termination fee revenue represents \$67.4 million in consideration received, less the \$44.7 million carrying basis of the related contract intangibles initially established at the time of the WoodSpring acquisition.

As presented in Note 20, the Corporate & Other segment amounts represent \$108.9 million, \$45.7 million, and \$28.3 million for the years ended December 31, 2022, 2021 and 2020, respectively, and are included in the Over time column of Other revenues and the Owned hotels and Non-Topic 606 revenues rows. The remaining revenues relate to the Hotel Franchising & Management reportable segment. Royalty, licensing and management fees and Other revenues from franchised and managed

properties net of intersegment revenues of \$5.5 million, \$2.9 million, and \$1.5 million for the years ended December 31, 2022, 2021 and 2020, respectively.

## 3. Prepaid Expenses and Other Current Assets

Prepaid expenses and other current assets consist of the following:

	December 31,				
(in thousands)	2022		2021		
Prepaid expenses	\$ 29,640	\$	15,610		
Other current assets	2,877		5,870		
Land held for sale	 		8,465		
Total prepaid expenses and other current assets	\$ 32,517	\$	29,945		

Land held for sale represents a parcel of land previously acquired to support the Company's program to stimulate development of certain brands. In October 2021, the Company committed to a plan to market the land for sale and executed a purchase and sale agreement. As a result, the land was deemed to meet held for sale classification during the fourth quarter of 2021, and the Company recognized a \$0.3 million charge, reflected within Impairment of long-lived assets on the consolidated statements of income, for the carrying value in excess of fair value less costs to sell. The agreed upon transaction price in the purchase and sale agreement was determined to approximate fair value under a market valuation approach. The impairment of the land is included in the Corporate & Other segment in Note 20. The land was subsequently sold on January 18, 2022.

#### 4. Receivables and Allowance for Credit Losses

## Notes Receivable

The composition of notes receivable balances based on the level of security credit quality indicator and the allowances for credit losses is as follows:

	Dec	ember 31,
(in thousands)	2022	2021
Senior	\$ 95,46	\$ 108,370
Subordinated	17,07	27,801
Unsecured	5,67	1,512
Total notes receivable	118,21	137,683
Total allowance for notes receivable credit losses	10,17	16,779
Total notes receivable, net of allowance	\$ 108,04	\$ 120,904
Current portion, net of allowance	\$ 52,46	\$ 54,453
Long-term portion, net of allowance	\$ 55,57	7 \$ 66,451

Amortized cost basis by year of origination and level of security credit quality indicator are as follows:

(in thousands)	2022	2021	2020	Prior	Total
Senior	\$ 	\$ 7,909	\$ 	\$ 87,557	\$ 95,466
Subordinated	_	_	_	17,075	17,075
Unsecured	466	2,149	983	2,076	5,674
Total notes receivable	\$ 466	\$ 10,058	\$ 983	\$ 106,708	\$ 118,215

The following table summarizes the activity related to the Company's notes receivable allowance for credit losses:

(in thousands)		2022		2021
Beginning balance	\$	16,779	\$	19,484
Provisions for credit losses		(938)		709
Write-offs		(5,669)		(3,414)
Ending balance	\$	10,172	\$	16,779

As of December 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021, one and two loans, respectively, with senior and/or subordinated tranches met the definition of collateral-dependent and are collateralized by membership interests in the borrowing entities and either the associated land parcels or an operating hotel. The Company used a discounted cash flow ("DCF") market approach via quoted market prices to value the underlying collateral. The Company reviewed the borrower's financial statements, economic trends, industry projections for the market, and comparable sales capitalization rates, which represent significant inputs to the cash flow projections. These nonrecurring fair value measurements are classified as level three of the fair value measurement hierarchy, as there are unobservable inputs which are significant to the overall fair value. Based on these analyses, the fair value of collateral secures substantially all of the carrying value of each loan. Allowances for credit losses attributable to collateral-dependent loans are \$0.9 million and \$6.3 million as of December 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021, respectively.

The write-offs recorded in the year ended December 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021 are primarily associated with loans previously classified as collateral-dependent that were settled in exchange for an operating hotel on April 14, 2022 and October 1, 2021, respectively. Refer to Note 24 regarding the second quarter 2022 and third quarter 2021 asset acquisition accounting. Additionally, one loan was settled under negotiated terms and therefore written off. Two loans had revised provisions as a result of loan repayments being made timely and a favorable reassessment of the underlying collateral's performance.

The Company considers loans to be past due when payments are not made when due in accordance with then current loan provisions or terms extended to borrowers, including loans with concessions or interest deferral. Although the Company considers loans to be past due if payments are not received on the due date, the Company does not suspend the accrual of interest until those payments are more than 30 days past due. The Company applies payments received for loans on non-accrual status first to interest and then to principal. The Company does not resume interest accrual until all delinquent payments are received based on then current loan provisions. The amortized cost basis of notes receivable on non-accrual status was \$18.7 million and \$44.1 million at December 31, 2022 and 2021, respectively.

The Company has identified loans totaling approximately \$4.8 million and \$7.5 million, respectively, with stated interest rates that are less than market rate, representing a total discount of \$0.1 million and \$0.3 million as of the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, respectively. These discounts are reflected as a reduction of the outstanding loan amounts and are amortized over the life of the related loan.

The past due status by credit quality indicator of the notes receivable amortized cost basis are as follows:

(in thousands)	0 days st Due	31-89 days Past Due	> 90 days Past Due	Total Past Due	Current	Total Notes Receivable
As of December 31, 2022						
Senior	\$ _	\$ 15,200	\$ _	\$ 15,200	\$ 80,266	\$ 95,466
Subordinated	_	_	2,209	2,209	14,866	17,075
Unsecured	20	40	40	99	5,574	5,674
	\$ 20	\$ 15,240	\$ 2,249	\$ 17,508	\$ 100,706	\$ 118,215
As of December 31, 2021						
Senior	\$ _	\$ _	\$ _	\$ _	\$ 108,370	\$ 108,370
Subordinated	_	_	2,209	2,209	25,592	27,801
Unsecured	_	_	_	_	1,512	1,512
	\$ 	\$ 	\$ 2,209	\$ 2,209	\$ 135,474	\$ 137,683

The Company evaluated its off-balance-sheet credit exposure for loan commitments and determined the likelihood of having to perform is remote as of December 31, 2022. Refer to Note 23.

## Variable Interest through Notes Issued

The Company has issued notes receivables to certain entities that have created variable interests in these borrowers totaling \$103.2 million and \$120.2 million at December 31, 2022 and 2021, respectively. The Company has determined that it is not the primary beneficiary of these VIEs. These loans have stated fixed and/or variable interest amounts. For collateral-dependent loans, the Company has no exposure to the borrowing VIE beyond the note receivable and limited commitments addressed in Note 23.

#### Accounts Receivable

Accounts receivable consist primarily of franchise and related fees due from hotel franchisees and are recorded at the invoiced amount.

During the year ended December 31, 2022, the Company recorded provisions for credit losses on accounts receivable of \$0.4 million in SG&A expenses and \$1.4 million in marketing and reservation system expenses. During the year ended December 31, 2021, the Company recorded reversals of provisions for credit losses on accounts receivable of \$4.4 million in SG&A expenses and \$7.3 million in marketing and reservation system expenses, after considering improved collection patterns and economic and credit conditions. During the years ended December 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021, the Company recorded write-offs, net of recoveries, through the accounts receivable allowance for credit losses of \$12.4 million and \$13.5 million, respectively. The Company assumed \$41.7 million of trade accounts receivable as a result of the Radisson acquisition.

## 5. Property and Equipment

The components of property and equipment are:

	December 31,			,
(in thousands)		2022		2021
Land and land improvements	\$	37,335	\$	32,255
Construction in progress and software under development		76,700		66,832
Computer equipment and software		243,436		214,814
Buildings and leasehold improvements		261,669		233,255
Furniture, fixtures, vehicles and equipment		61,489		62,703
Property and equipment		680,629		609,859
Less: Accumulated depreciation and amortization		(253,323)		(232,492)
Property and equipment, net	\$	427,306	\$	377,367

Unamortized capitalized software development costs at December 31, 2022 and 2021 totaled \$58.5 million and \$52.0 million, respectively. Amortization of software development costs for the years ended December 31, 2022, 2021 and 2020 totaled \$26.6 million, \$14.1 million, and \$14.6 million, respectively.

Depreciation expense, excluding amounts attributable to marketing and reservation activities, for the years ended December 31, 2022, 2021 and 2020 was \$14.5 million, \$16.5 million and \$16.9 million, respectively.

In the first quarter of 2022, the Company acquired a hotel property through a deed in lieu foreclosure at the fair value of \$20.4 million as of the acquisition date of April 14, 2022. In the fourth quarter of 2021, the Company acquired a hotel property through a deed in lieu foreclosure at the fair value of \$21.1 million as of the acquisition date of October 1, 2021. The Company acquired owned hotel property and equipment at the fair value of \$125.4 million in the acquisition of Radisson Hotels Americas. Refer to Note 24.

## 6. Goodwill, Impairment of Assets, and Sale of Business and Assets

#### Goodwill

The following table details the carrying amount of the Company's goodwill, including goodwill arising from the acquisition of Radisson Hotels Americas (refer to Note 24):

	 December 31,				
(in thousands)	2022		2021		
Goodwill, excluding goodwill arising from Radisson Hotels Americas acquisition	\$ 166,774	\$	166,774		
Accumulated impairment losses	(7,578)		(7,578)		
Goodwill arising from Radisson Hotels Americas acquisition (refer to Note 24)	 59,457		_		
Goodwill, net carrying amount	\$ 218,653	\$	159,196		

As of December 31, 2022 and 2021, goodwill is entirely attributable to the Hotel Franchising reporting unit. The Company assessed the qualitative factors attributable to the Hotel Franchising reporting unit and determined it is not more likely than not that the fair value of the reporting unit is less than its carrying amount. The Hotel Franchising reporting unit is included in the Hotel Franchising & Management reportable segment in Note 20. There were no changes in the carrying amount of goodwill during the year ended December 31, 2021.

#### Long-lived asset group impairments

#### Real estate asset sales

Four separate owned Cambria hotel assets or land parcels met held for sale classification and had sales consummated to third-party franchisees, resulting in derecognition from the balance sheet, during the year ended December 31, 2022. We recognized gains on sale of business and assets, net for the four sales of \$16.2 million in the Corporate & Other segment during the year ended December 31, 2022.

## Commercial office building

On December 30, 2014, a court awarded the Company title to a commercial office building as settlement of a portion of an outstanding loan receivable for which the building was pledged as collateral. Prior to initial lease term expiration of the building's single tenant, the tenant provided notice that lease renewal options would not be exercised. Management identified this as a triggering event requiring the interim reevaluation of the commercial office building's long-lived assets. During the third quarter of 2020, recoverability of the long-lived asset group was assessed based on undiscounted expected cash flows of the asset group aligned with management's present long-term strategy for the building, and management concluded the undiscounted expected cash flows were less than the carrying amount of the asset group. An impairment charge was recorded for the excess of the carrying value over the fair value of the asset group. To estimate the fair value of the long-lived asset group, the Company utilized a combination of market and income approach valuation methods. The Company recognized a non-cash pretax long-lived asset group impairment charge in the amount of \$4.3 million during the third quarter of 2020.

In 2021, the Company committed to a plan to sell the commercial office building, meeting held for sale classification in the third quarter of 2021. The building was sold in November 2021 for \$6.1 million, resulting in a gain of \$13 thousand reflected within gain (loss) on sale of business and assets, net on the consolidated statements of income in the fourth quarter of 2021.

The results of the commercial office building are included in the Corporate & Other segment in Note 20.

## Real estate parcel

During the third quarter of 2018, the Company purchased the remaining membership interests in a VIE previously accounted for under the equity method of accounting. The VIE held a real estate parcel and the purchase was accounted for as an asset acquisition. The financial results of the 100% owned entity have been consolidated in the Company's financial statements since August 2018. The real estate parcel represents a long-lived asset group with a carrying value prior to recoverability evaluation of \$29.5 million in other assets as of December 31, 2020.

Based on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Company's assessment of the highest and best use of the real estate parcel changed and, therefore, the recoverability of the long-lived asset group was re-assessed based on undiscounted expected cash flows of the asset group from a sale, which were less than the carrying value of the asset group. An impairment charge was recorded for the excess of the carrying value over the fair value of the asset group. To estimate the fair value of the long-lived asset group, the Company utilized market approach valuation methods. The Company recognized a non-cash pre-tax long-lived asset group impairment charge in the amount of \$9.2 million during the fourth quarter of 2020.

The results of the real estate parcel are included in the Corporate & Other segment in Note 20.

#### 7. Intangible Assets

The components of the Company's intangible assets, including intangibles established from the acquisition of Radisson Hotels Americas (refer to Note 24), are as follows:

	As of December 31, 2022						As of December 31, 2021						
(in thousands)		ss Carrying Amount		Accumulated Amortization	No	et Carrying Value	Gr	oss Carrying Amount		Accumulated Amortization	Ne	t Carrying Value	
Franchise Rights(1)	\$	352,665	\$	104,836	\$	247,829	\$	190,641	\$	105,604	\$	85,037	
Franchise Agreement Acquisition Costs(2)		307,169		68,085		239,084		263,718		66,373		197,345	
Trademarks & Other(3)		19,236		12,888		6,348		16,152		12,403		3,749	
Capitalized SaaS Licenses(4)		17,807		15,592		2,215		14,773		11,529		3,244	
Total amortizing intangible assets		696,877		201,401		495,476		485,284		195,909		289,375	
Trademarks (non-amortizing)(5)		246,714		_		246,714		23,014		_		23,014	
Total intangible assets	\$	943,591	\$	201,401	\$	742,190	\$	508,298	\$	195,909	\$	312,389	

- (1) Represents the purchase price assigned to long-term franchise contracts. The unamortized balance relates primarily to franchise rights established from the Radisson Transaction, as well as WoodSpring franchise rights active since acquisition. The franchise rights are being amortized over lives ranging from 12 to 15 years on a straight-line basis.
- (2) Represents certain payments to customers as an incentive to enter into new franchise agreements generally amortized as an offset to royalty fees and marketing and reservation system fees over lives ranging from 5 to 30 years on a straight-line basis commencing at hotel opening. Gross and accumulated amortization amounts are written off upon full amortization recognition, including at termination of an associated franchise agreement. Refer to Note 2 for discussion of impairments recognized.
- (3) Represents definite-lived trademarks and other various amortizing assets, including management agreements, generally amortized on a straight-line basis over a period of 10 years to 30 years.
- (4) Represents software licenses capitalized under a SaaS agreement which are generally amortized on a straight-line basis over an average period of 3 years.
- (5) Represents the purchase price assigned to the Radisson, WoodSpring and Suburban trademarks established at the time of their respective acquisitions. The trademarks are expected to generate future cash flows for an indefinite period of time and therefore are non-amortizing.

Amortization expense for the years ended December 31, 2022, 2021 and 2020 amounted to \$35.1 million, \$25.2 million, and \$23.6 million, respectively.

The estimated annual amortization expense related to the Company's amortizing intangible assets for each of the next five years is as follows:

(in thousands)	
2023	\$ 41,092
2024	\$ 39,044
2025	\$ 38,497
2026	\$ 37,740
2027	\$ 36,608

## 8. Investments in Affiliates

The Company maintains equity method investments in affiliates related to the Company's program to offer equity support to qualified franchisees to develop and operate Cambria Hotels in strategic markets. The Company has investments in affiliates that represent VIEs totaling \$24.5 million and \$25.2 million on the consolidated balance sheets at December 31, 2022 and 2021, respectively. The Company has determined that it is not the primary beneficiary of any of these VIEs, however it does exercise significant influence through its equity ownership and as a result the investment in these affiliates is accounted for under the equity method. The Company's maximum exposure to losses related to its investments in VIEs is limited to its equity investments as well as certain guaranties as described in Note 23 of these financial statements.

For the years ended December 31, 2022, 2021 and 2020, the Company recognized losses from investments in VIEs, inclusive of impairments and gains/losses upon sales of ownership interests in or distributions resulting from sales of underlying assets of affiliates, totaling \$3.7 million, \$18.9 million and \$15.4 million, respectively. These amounts are classified as equity in net (gain) loss of affiliates in the consolidated statements of income and captured in the Hotel Franchising & Management reportable segment in Note 20.

During the years ended December 31, 2022, December 31, 2021, and December 30, 2020 the Company recognized impairment charges of \$0.2 million, \$19.3 million, and \$7.3 million, respectively, related to certain equity method investments. The Company estimated the fair value of each investment on an individual basis and derived the value from a combination of observable prices from offers received for either the underlying collateral or the ownership interest of the unconsolidated affiliate, comparable market transactions, and DCF techniques to project cash flows for the investment based upon the underlying property. There are judgments and assumptions in each of these fair value determinations, including our selection of comparable market transactions, the amount and timing of expected future cash flows, long-term growth rates, and sales capitalization rates. These nonrecurring fair value measurements are classified as level three of the fair value measurement hierarchy, as the Company utilized unobservable inputs which are significant to the overall fair value. Based on these analyses, in each case the Company determined that the fair market value declined below the carrying value and the decline is other-than-temporary. As a result, the Company recorded impairment charges from the carrying value to the estimated fair value for each investment.

During the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020, the Company recognized net gains (losses) upon sales of ownership interests in or distributions resulting from sales of underlying assets of affiliates of \$6.9 million, and \$0.5 million, respectively. The Company recognized no net gains (losses) during the year ended December 31, 2022.

Investment in affiliate ownership interests at December 31, 2022 and 2021 are as follows:

	Ownership	Interest
	December 31, 2022	December 31, 2021
Choice Hotels Canada, Inc. (1)	50 %	50 %
Main Street WP Hotel Associates, LLC	50 %	50 %
CS Hotel 30W46th, LLC (2)	— %	— %
CS Hotel West Orange, LLC	50 %	50 %
City Market Hotel Development, LLC	43 %	43 %
CS Woodlands, LLC (3)	50 %	50 %
926 James M. Wood Boulevard, LLC	75 %	75 %
CS Dallas Elm, LLC (2)	— %	—%
Pine Street Long Beach LLC (2)	—%	— %
SY Valley Vineyard Resorts LLC (2)	<b>— %</b>	<b>%</b>
CS Lakeside Santa Clara LLC	50 %	50 %
BL 219 Holdco, LP	50 %	50 %
Integrated 32 West Randolph LLC	20 %	20 %
EH Nampa JV LLC	80 %	— %
Radisson Hotel La Crosse (1)	14 %	— %

<sup>(1)</sup> Non-VIE investments

The following tables present summarized financial information for all unconsolidated ventures in which the Company holds an investment in affiliate that is accounted for under the equity method:

	Year Ended December 31,						
(in thousands)		2022	2021			2020	
Revenues	\$	58,821	\$	35,514	\$	30,364	
Operating income (loss)		7,977		2,299		(6,494)	
Income (loss) from continuing operations		1,837		(5,227)		(18,366)	
Net loss		(1,058)		(1,593)		(18,977)	

	As of December 31,				
(in thousands)		2022		2021	
Current assets	\$	39,870	\$	31,209	
Non-current assets		237,347		242,567	
Total assets	\$	277,217	\$	273,776	
Current liabilities	\$	38,660	\$	30,365	
Non-current liabilities		181,894		81,090	
Total liabilities	\$	220,554	\$	111,455	

<sup>(2)</sup> The Company sold its ownership interest in the equity method investment or received distributions resulting from the sale of underlying assets of the affiliate during 2021
(3) The Company received distributions from the sale of underlying assets of the affiliate in February 2023. The equity method investment will be derecognized in the first quarter of 2023.

## 9. Other Assets

Other assets consist of the following at:

(in thousands)		2022		2021
Land and buildings	\$	20,303	\$	20,303
Capitalized franchise sales commissions (refer to Note 2)		57,606		55,535
Other assets		13,159		14,183
Total other assets	\$	91,068	\$	90,021

Land and buildings represents the Company's purchase of real estate as part of its program to stimulate development of certain brands and is classified as Other assets as the real estate is not presently under active construction.

## 10. Accrued Expenses and Other Current Liabilities

Accrued expenses and other current liabilities consist of the following:

	December 31,				
(in thousands)		2022		2021	
Accrued compensation and benefits	\$	75,453	\$	54,911	
Accrued interest		9,628		15,140	
Dividends payable		13,136		13,435	
Termination benefits		1,242		509	
Income taxes payable		6,388		125	
Current operating lease liabilities		10,663		11,998	
Other liabilities		14,900		8,354	
Total	\$	131,410	\$	104,472	

## 11. Deferred Revenue

Deferred revenue consists of the following:

·	Dece	mber 31	nber 31,		
(in thousands)	2022		2021		
Initial franchise fees	\$ 123,790	\$	96,628		
Loyalty programs	93,419		82,742		
System implementation fees	4,675		5,865		
Procurement services fees	2,568		1,410		
Other	2,392		678		
Total deferred revenue	\$ 226,844	\$	187,323		
Current portion	\$ 92,695	\$	81,538		
Long-term portion	\$ 134,149	\$	105,785		

Refer to Note 2 for revenue recognition policies resulting in the deferral of revenue, including loyalty programs and the relationship between the loyalty programs deferred revenue and the liability for the guest loyalty program.

## 12. Debt

Debt consists of the following:

		Decen	ıber 31	,
(in thousands)		2022		2021
\$450 million senior unsecured notes due 2031 ("2020 Senior Notes") with an effective interest rate of 3.86%, less a discount and deferred issuance costs of \$4.9 million and \$5.5 million at December 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021, respectively	\$	445,080	\$	444,470
\$400 million senior unsecured notes due 2029 ("2019 Senior Notes") with an effective interest rate of 3.88%, less a discount and deferred issuance costs of \$4.2 million and \$4.8 million at December 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021, respectively	,	395,838		395,237
\$216.6 million senior unsecured notes due 2022 ("2012 Senior Notes") with an effective interest rate of 6.0% less deferred issuance costs of \$0.2 million at December 31, 2021 <sup>(2)</sup>		_		216,351
\$600 million senior unsecured credit facility with an effective interest rate of 5.37% less deferred issuance costs of \$1.8 million at December 31, 2022 <sup>(1)</sup>		358,189		_
Economic development loans with an effective interest rate of 3.0% at December 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021, respectively		4,416		4,416
Total debt (3)	\$	1,203,523	\$	1,060,474
Less current portion		2,976		216,351
Total long-term debt	\$	1,200,547	\$	844,123

<sup>(1)</sup> As there are no outstanding borrowings at December 31, 2021, deferred issuance costs for the senior unsecured revolving credit facility of \$2.3 million are presented in non-current Other assets in the consolidated balance sheets. Refer to Note 25 regarding an amendment to the senior unsecured revolving credit facility entered into on February 14, 2023

Scheduled principal maturities of debt, net of unamortized discounts, premiums and deferred issuance costs, as of December 31, 2022 were as follows:

(in thousands)	Senior Notes	Revolving Credit Facility	Other Notes Payable	Total
2022				_
2023	_	_	4,416	4,416
2024	_	_	_	_
2025	_	_	_	_
2026	_	358,189	_	358,189
Thereafter	840,918	_	_	840,918
Total payments	\$ 840,918	\$ 358,189	\$ 4,416	\$ 1,203,523

Senior unsecured credit facility

On August 11, 2022, to fund the Radisson Hotels Americas acquisition, the Company drew \$175.0 million on the senior unsecured revolving credit facility and funded the remainder with cash on hand. Refer to Note 24. At December 31, 2022, there is approximately \$360.0 million outstanding on the senior unsecured revolving credit facility.

Refer to Note 25 regarding an amendment to the senior unsecured revolving credit facility entered into on February 14, 2023.

Acquired debt and swap derivative asset

On August 11, 2022, in connection with the Radisson Hotels Americas acquisition, the Company also acquired three owned hotel properties, one of which had an encumbered mortgage loan with a mortgage principal in the amount of \$53.5 million with an original maturity date of August 7, 2024. In addition, the mortgage had an associated interest rate cap agreement ("Interest Swap") with an effective date of July 30, 2021 through August 6, 2024. On August 12, 2022, at Choice's election, cash on hand was wired to pay off the outstanding loan principal, outstanding interest, and certain prepayment, exit and related fees in the amount of \$56.0 million. At the same time, several of the loan related escrows were released in the amount of \$10.4 million. On August 16, 2022, the Interest Swap derivative was terminated, which resulted in a payment to Choice in the amount of \$1.9 million.

<sup>(2)</sup> The 2012 Senior Notes matured on July 1, 2022. The outstanding principal of \$216.6 million was re-paid at maturity.

<sup>(3)</sup> As part of the Radisson Transaction, we assumed debt that was subsequently paid off during the third quarter of 2022. For additional details, refer Acquired debt and swap derivative Asset sub-header below and Note 24.

## 13. Non-Qualified Retirement, Savings and Investment Plans

The Company sponsors two non-qualified retirement savings and investment plans for certain employees and senior executives. Employee and Company contributions are maintained in separate irrevocable trusts. Legally, the assets of the trusts remain those of the Company; however, access to the trusts' assets is severely restricted. The trusts cannot be revoked by the Company or an acquirer, but the assets are subject to the claims of the Company's general creditors. The participants do not have the right to assign or transfer contractual rights in the trusts.

In 2002, the Company adopted the Choice Hotels International, Inc. Executive Deferred Compensation Plan ("EDCP") which became effective January 1, 2003. Under the EDCP, certain executive officers may defer a portion of their salary into an irrevocable trust and invest these amounts in a selection of available diversified investment options. In 1997, the Company adopted the Choice Hotels International, Inc. Non-Qualified Retirement Savings and Investment Plan ("Non-Qualified Plan"). The Non-Qualified Plan allows certain employees who do not participate in the EDCP to defer a portion of their salary and invest these amounts in a selection of available diversified investment options. Under the EDCP and Non-Qualified Plan, (together, the "Deferred Compensation Plan"), the Company recorded current and long-term deferred compensation liabilities of \$37.4 million and \$40.8 million at December 31, 2022 and 2021, respectively, related to these deferrals and credited investment return under these two deferred compensation plans. Compensation expense is recorded in SG&A expense on the Company's consolidated statements of income based on the change in the deferred compensation obligation related to earnings credited to participants as well as changes in the fair value of diversified investments. The net decrease in compensation expense recorded in SG&A for the year ended December 31, 2022 was \$5.3 million. For the years ended December 31, 2021, and 2020, an increase in compensation expense was recorded in SG&A for \$6.1 million, and \$4.5 million, respectively.

Under the Deferred Compensation Plan, the Company has invested the employee salary deferrals in diversified long-term investments which are intended to provide investment returns that offset the earnings credited to the participants. The diversified investments held in the trusts totaled \$32.4 million and \$36.1 million as of December 31, 2022 and 2021, respectively, and are recorded at their fair value, based on quoted market prices. At December 31, 2022, the Company expects \$0.7 million of the assets held in the trust to be distributed during the year ended December 31, 2023 to participants. These investments are considered trading securities and therefore the changes in the fair value of the diversified assets is included in other gains, net in the accompanying consolidated statements of income. The Company recorded investment loss during December 31, 2022 of \$6.0 million and gains during the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020 of \$5.6 million, and \$4.2 million, respectively. The Deferred Compensation Plan held no shares of the Company's common stock at December 31, 2022 and 2021.

#### 14. Fair Value Measurements

The Company estimates the fair value of its financial instruments utilizing a three-tier fair value hierarchy, which prioritizes the inputs used in measuring fair value. The following summarizes the three levels of inputs, as well as the assets that the Company values using those levels of inputs on a recurring basis.

- Level 1: Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets and liabilities. The Company's Level 1 assets consist of marketable securities (primarily mutual funds) held in the Deferred Compensation Plan.
- Level 2: Observable inputs, other than quoted prices in active markets for identical assets and liabilities, such as quoted prices for similar assets and liabilities; quoted prices in markets that are not active; or other inputs that are observable. The Company's Level 2 assets consist of money market funds held in the Deferred Compensation Plan.
- Level 3: Unobservable inputs, supported by little or no market data available, where the reporting entity is required to develop its own assumptions to determine the fair value of the instrument. The Company does not currently have any assets recorded at fair value on a recurring basis whose fair value was determined using Level 3 inputs and there were no transfers of Level 3 assets during the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021.

As of December 31, 2022 and 2021, the Company had the following assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis:

	Fair Value Measurements at Reporting Date Using								
(in thousands)		Total		Level 1		Level 2	Level 3		
December 31, 2022									
Mutual funds(1)	\$	29,143	\$	29,143	\$	_	\$	_	
Money market funds(1)		3,242		<u> </u>		3,242		_	
Total	\$	32,385	\$	29,143	\$	3,242	\$		
December 31, 2021									
Mutual funds(1)	\$	33,555	\$	33,555	\$	_	\$	_	
Money market funds(1)		2,520		_		2,520		_	
Total	\$	36,075	\$	33,555	\$	2,520	\$		

<sup>(1)</sup> Included in Investments, employee benefit plans, at fair value and other current assets on the consolidated balance sheets.

## Other financial instruments disclosure

The Company believes that the fair values of its current assets and current liabilities approximate their reported carrying amounts due to the short-term nature of these items. In addition, the interest rates of the Company's Restated Credit Agreement adjust frequently based on current market rates; accordingly we believe its carrying amount, when amounts are drawn, approximates fair value.

The fair values of the Company's senior unsecured notes are classified as Level 2, as the significant inputs are observable in an active market. The Company's 2012 Senior Notes matured and were re-paid on July 1, 2022. Refer to Note 12 for further information on debt. At December 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021, the carrying amounts and fair values are as follows:

	December 31, 2022				December 31, 2021				
(in thousands)		Carrying Amount		Fair Value	Carrying Amount		Fair Value		
2020 Senior Notes	\$	445,080	\$	384,647	\$ 444,470	\$	477,675		
2019 Senior Notes		395,838		349,368	395,237		425,984		
2012 Senior Notes		_		_	216,351		221,702		

Fair value estimates are made at a specific point in time, are subjective in nature and involve uncertainties and matters of significant judgment. Settlement of such fair value amounts may not be possible or a prudent management decision.

## 15. Income Taxes

Total income before income taxes, classified by source of income, was as follows:

	Year Ended December 31,						
(in thousands)	2022 2021					2020	
U.S.	\$	409,666	\$	355,408	\$	38,475	
Outside the U.S.		27,140		21,084		14,531	
Income from continuing operations before income taxes	\$	436,806	\$	376,492	\$	53,006	

The provision for income taxes, classified by the timing and location of payment, was as follows:

	Year Ended December 31,						
(in thousands)	2022 2021			2020			
Current tax expense							
Federal	103,275	\$ 71,573	\$	14,345			
State	20,068	15,605		4,303			
Foreign	2,331	1,041		2,300			
Deferred tax (benefit) expense							
Federal	(18,974)	(2,690)		(12,333)			
State	(4,163)	(1,254)		(1,953)			
Foreign	2,117	3,260		(29,043)			
Income tax expense (benefit)	\$ 104,654	\$ 87,535	\$	(22,381)			

Net deferred tax assets as of December 31, 2022 were as follows:

	December 31,				
(in thousands)		2022		2021	
Deferred tax assets:					
Accrued compensation	\$	17,044	\$	13,997	
Deferred revenue		46,758		36,666	
Receivable, net		8,599		11,776	
Tax credits		16,379		14,217	
Operating lease liabilities		19,715		6,621	
Partnership interests		3,948		4,398	
Foreign net operating losses		8,245		7,478	
Non-U.S. intellectual property		17,642		21,402	
Other		5,589		5,727	
Total gross deferred tax assets		143,919		122,282	
Less: Valuation allowance		(21,402)		(19,734)	
Deferred tax assets	\$	122,517	\$	102,548	
Deferred tax liabilities:					
Property, equipment and intangible assets	\$	(15,585)	\$	(28,276)	
Operating lease ROU assets		(17,703)		(4,350)	
Other		(1,047)		(1,279)	
Deferred tax liabilities		(34,335)		(33,905)	
Net deferred tax assets	\$	88,182	\$	68,643	

The Company assesses all positive and negative evidence to estimate whether sufficient future taxable income will be generated to use deferred tax assets. Based on this evaluation, the Company recorded a net change to its valuation allowance of \$1.7 million due to a \$2.2 million increase related to state tax credits, partially offset by a \$0.5 million decrease related to foreign deferred tax assets.

The Company has \$16.4 million of state income tax credit carryforwards. It is more likely than not that these benefits will not be realized. Accordingly, the Company has provided a full valuation allowance against these credit carryforwards. The Company has also provided a tax-effected valuation allowance of \$5.0 million on its foreign deferred tax assets, as it believes it is more likely than not that some of these benefits will not be realized.

As of December 31, 2022, the Company had gross foreign net operating losses ("NOLs") of \$31.4 million, all of which have indefinite carryforward lives. The Company has recorded a tax-effected valuation allowance of \$1.8 million for these NOLs, primarily related to France and India. In addition, the Company has a Dutch deferred tax asset of \$17.6 million, for which it has recorded a valuation allowance of \$3 million. The Dutch valuation allowance did not change in 2022

The statutory United States federal income tax rate reconciles to the effective income tax rates for continuing operations as follows:

	Year Ended December 31,						
	2022	2021	2020				
Statutory U.S. federal income tax rate	21.0 %	21.0 %	21.0 %				
State income taxes, net of federal tax benefit	3.0 %	3.1 %	4.6 %				
Benefits related to foreign operations	0.1 %	(0.2)%	(4.2)%				
Expenses (benefits) related to compensation, net	1.0 %	0.5 %	(5.8)%				
Unrecognized tax positions	0.2 %	0.2 %	4.7 %				
International Reorganization	— %	1.1 %	(65.2)%				
Tax credits	(1.5)%	(1.8)%	(15.2)%				
Valuation allowance	0.5 %	(0.2)%	17.5 %				
Other	(0.3)%	(0.4)%	0.4 %				
Effective income tax rates	24.0 %	23.3 %	(42.2)%				

The Company's effective income tax rates from continuing operations were 24.0%, 23.3%, and (42.2)% for the years ended December 31, 2022, 2021 and 2020, respectively.

The effective income tax rates for the years ended December 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021 were higher than the U.S. federal income tax rate of 21.0% primarily due to state income taxes and tax expense related to compensation, partially offset by federal income tax credits. The effective income tax rate for the year ended December 31, 2021 was also higher due to a reduction in the net carrying value of its Dutch deferred tax asset.

As of December 31, 2022, 2021 and 2020, the Company's gross unrecognized tax benefits totaled \$11.9 million, \$11.1 million, and \$10.2 million, respectively. After considering the deferred income tax accounting impact, it is expected that approximately \$8.1 million of the total as of December 31, 2022 would favorably affect the effective tax rate if resolved in the Company's favor.

The following table presents a reconciliation of the beginning and ending amounts of unrecognized tax benefits:

(in thousands)	2022	2021		2020
Balance, January 1	\$ 11,147	\$	10,193	\$ 7,738
Changes for tax positions of prior years	(31)		156	1,174
Increases for tax positions related to the current year	1,650		1,618	1,281
Settlements and lapsing of statutes of limitations	(890)		(820)	_
Balance, December 31	\$ 11,876	\$	11,147	\$ 10,193

It is reasonably possible that the Company's unrecognized tax benefits could decrease within the next 12 months by as much as \$10.5 million due to settlements and the expiration of applicable statutes of limitations. The Company's federal income tax returns for tax years 2015 and 2016 are currently under examination by the Internal Revenue Service for a tax credit refund claim. The Company's federal income tax return for tax years 2017 and 2018 are also under examination by the Internal Revenue Service. Further, the Company's federal income tax returns for tax years 2019, 2020, and 2021 are subject to examination by the Internal Revenue Service.

The practice of the Company is to recognize interest and penalties related to income tax matters in the provision for income taxes. The Company did not incur any material interest or penalties for 2022, 2021, and 2020. The Company had \$0.3 million and \$0.4 million of accrued interest and penalties on December 31, 2022 and 2021, respectively.

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act subjects a U.S. shareholder to a minimum tax on "global intangible low-taxed income" ("GILTI") earned by certain foreign subsidiaries. The practice of the Company is to recognize the tax expense on GILTI as a period expense in the period the tax is incurred. The Company has incurred tax on GILTI for the year ended December 31, 2022.

## 16. Share-Based Compensation and Capital Stock

## Share-Based Compensation

The Company recognizes compensation cost related to share-based payment transactions in the financial statements based on the fair value of the equity or liability instruments issued. Compensation expense related to the fair value of share-based awards is recognized over the requisite service period. Over the life of the grant, the estimate of share-based compensation expense for awards with performance and/or service requirements is adjusted so that compensation cost is recognized only for awards that ultimately vest; for the grants with market conditions, the fair value of the award is determined at grant date and expensed over the life of the grant.

The Company has stock compensation plans pursuant to which it is authorized to grant stock-based awards of which 1.6 million shares of the Company's common stock remain available for grant as of December 31, 2022. The Company's policy allows the issuance of new or treasury shares to satisfy stock-based awards. Restricted stock, stock options, stock appreciation rights and performance share awards may be granted to officers, key employees and non-employee directors with contractual terms set by the Compensation and Management Development Committee of the Board of Directors.

## Stock Options

The Company granted approximately 0.2 million, 0.3 million and 0.2 million options to certain employees of the Company at a fair value of approximately \$7.4 million, \$7.9 million and \$2.7 million during the years ended December 31, 2022, 2021 and 2020, respectively. The stock options granted by the Company had an exercise price equal to the market price of the Company's common stock on the date of grant. The fair value of the options granted was estimated on the grant date using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model with the following weighted average assumptions:

	 2022	2021	2020
Risk-free interest rate	2.01 %	0.94 %	0.99 %
Expected volatility	29.46 %	29.23 %	20.88 %
Expected life of stock option	5.9 years	5.9 years	5.9 years
Dividend yield	0.66 %	0.82 %	0.99 %
Requisite service period	4 years	4 years	4 years
Contractual life	10 years	10 years	10 years
Weighted average fair value of options granted (per option)	\$ 42.66	28.00	\$ 17.25

The expected life of the options and volatility are based on the historical data which is believed to be indicative of future exercise patterns and volatility. Historical volatility is calculated based on a period that corresponds to the expected life of the stock option. The dividend yield and the risk-free rate of return are calculated on the grant date based on the then current dividend rate and the risk-free rate for the period corresponding to the expected life of the stock option. Compensation expense related to the fair value of these awards is recognized straight-line over the requisite service period based on those awards that ultimately vest.

The aggregate intrinsic value of stock options outstanding and exercisable as of December 31, 2022 was \$23.1 million and \$18.8 million, respectively. The total intrinsic value of options exercised during the years ended December 31, 2022, 2021 and 2020 was \$5.4 million, \$10.6 million and \$8.9 million, respectively.

The Company received \$3.8 million, \$11.1 million and \$10.2 million in proceeds from the exercise of 0.1 million, 0.2 million and 0.2 million employee stock options during the years ended December 31, 2022, 2021 and 2020, respectively.

The following table summarizes information about stock options outstanding as of December 31, 2022:

		Options Outstanding					Options Exercisable			
Range of Exercise Prices	Number Outstanding at December 31, 2022	Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Life (Years)		Weighted Average Exercise Price	Number Exercisable at December 31, 2022		Weighted Average Exercise Price			
\$45.59 to \$55.00	105,172	0.16	\$	51.49	105,172	\$	51.49			
\$55.01 to \$65.00	78,855	1.22		60.69	78,855		60.69			
\$65.01 to \$85.00	230,110	2.75		81.31	194,648		81.34			
\$85.01 to \$91.28	153,692	7.17		91.28	76,838		91.28			
\$91.29 to \$104.87	273,567	8.16		104.87	68,343		104.87			
\$104.88 to \$117.98	16,667	9.63		117.98	_		_			
\$117.99 to \$146.68	152,584	9.16		146.68			_			
	1,010,647	5.58	\$	94.97	523,856	\$	76.77			

#### Restricted Stock

The following table is a summary of activity related to restricted stock grants:

	For the Year Ended December 31,							
	2022			2021		2020		
Restricted shares granted		273,777		61,009		158,133		
Weighted average grant date fair value per share	\$	143.76	\$	111.25	\$	90.18		
Aggregate grant date fair value (in thousands)	S	39,357	\$	6,787	\$	14,260		
Restricted shares forfeited		14,443		19,209		36,860		
Vesting service period of shares granted	9 - (	0 months		9 - 48 months		12 - 48 months		
Fair value of shares vested (in thousands)	\$	13,784	\$	11,927	\$	9,000		

Compensation expense related to the fair value of these awards is recognized straight-line over the requisite service period based on those restricted stock grants that ultimately vest. The fair value of grants is measured by the market price of the Company's common stock on the date of grant. Restricted stock awards generally vest ratably over the service period beginning with the first anniversary of the grant date. Awards granted to retirement eligible non-employee directors are recognized over the shorter of the requisite service period or the length of time until retirement since the terms of the grant provide that awards will vest upon retirement.

## Performance Vested Restricted Stock Units

The Company has granted performance vested restricted stock units ("PVRSU") to certain employees. The Company grants three types of PVRSU awards: i) PVRSUs with performance conditions based on internal performance metrics, ii) PVRSUs with market conditions based on the Company's total shareholder return ("TSR") relative to a predetermined peer group, and iii) PVRSUs with both performance and market conditions. The vesting of PVRSU awards is contingent upon the Company achieving internal performance and/or TSR targets over a specified period and the employees' continued employment for a service period. These performance and market conditions affect the number of shares that will ultimately vest.

During the year ended December 31, 2022, the Company granted PVRSUs with market conditions, PVRSUs with performance conditions and PVRSUs with performance and market conditions with requisite service periods between 9 months and 60 months with award vesting ranges generally between 0% and 300% of the initial units granted.

The fair value of PVRSUs with only internal performance metrics is measured by the market price of the Company's common stock on the date of award grant. Compensation expense is recognized ratably over the requisite service period based on the Company's estimate of the achievement of the performance conditions. Management monitors current results and forecasts of the relevant internal performance metrics and, as necessary, adjusts the performance-based leveraging of unvested PVRSUs.

The fair value of PVRSUs with market conditions is estimated using a Monte Carlo simulation method as of the date of award grant. Compensation expense is recognized ratably over the requisite service period, regardless of whether the market conditions are achieved and the awards ultimately vest.

The fair value of PVRSUs with both performance and market conditions is estimated using a Monte Carlo simulation as of the date of award grant. Compensation is recognized ratable over the requisite service period based on the Company's estimate of the achievement of the performance conditions, with subsequent adjustments made for performance-based leveraging of unvested PVRSUs, as necessary. The Company has currently estimated that between 54% and 266.7% of the various award targets will be achieved.

The following table is a summary of activity related to PVRSU grants:

	For the Years Ended December 31,							
		2022		2021		2020		
PVRSUs granted at target		111,585		98,544		170,471		
Weighted average grant date fair value per share	\$	181.91	\$	108.75	\$	134.26		
Aggregate grant date fair value (in thousands)	\$	20,298	\$	10,716	\$	22,888		
PVRSUs forfeited & expired		83,563		78,500		33,080		
Requisite service period		9 - 60 months		9 to 60 months		31 to 36 months		

During the year ended December 31, 2022, no PVRSUs vested. During the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020, PVRSUs totaling 3,986 and 176,471 vested at a fair value of \$0.3 million and \$17.5 million, respectively. During the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020, an additional 920 and 30,116 units, respectively, were awarded because the Company's performance exceeded the conditions provided in the awards.

As a result of the Company's operating results not achieving certain performance conditions contained in the PVRSU awards, the number of PVRSUs that expired was 78,370 shares for the year ended December 31, 2022, 72,944 shares for the year ended December 31, 2021, and 16,117 shares for the year ended December 31, 2020.

A summary of stock-based award activity as of December 31, 2022, 2021 and 2020 and the changes during those years are presented below:

			2022			
Stock Options			Restrict	ted Stock		ance Vested Stock Units
Options	Weighted Average Exercise Price	Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Life	Shares	Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value	Shares	Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value
910,944	\$ 83.14		236,599	\$ 92.60	412,642	\$ 114.70
172,441	143.91		273,777	143.76	111,585	181.91
_	_		_	_	(3,484)	121.34
(66,192)	57.55		(96,834)	87.34	_	_
(986)	51.49		_	_	(78,370)	81.15
(5,560)	128.86		(14,443)	106.35	(5,193)	132.06
1,010,647	\$ 94.97	5.6 years	399,099	\$ 128.47	437,180	\$ 140.05
523,856	\$ 76.77	3.3 years				
	910,944 172,441 — (66,192) (986) (5,560) 1,010,647	Options         Weighted Average Exercise Price           910,944         \$ 83.14           172,441         143.91           —         (66,192)           (986)         51.49           (5,560)         128.86           1,010,647         \$ 94.97	Options         Weighted Average Exercise Price         Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Life           910,944         \$ 83.14           172,441         143.91           —         (66,192)           57.55         (986)           51.49           (5,560)         128.86           1,010,647         \$ 94.97           5.6 years	Stock Options         Restrict           Weighted Average Options         Weighted Average Exercise Price         Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Life         Shares           910,944         \$ 83.14         236,599           172,441         143.91         273,777           —         —         —           (66,192)         57.55         (96,834)           (986)         51.49         —           (5,560)         128.86         (14,443)           1,010,647         \$ 94.97         5.6 years         399,099	Stock Options         Restricted Stock           Weighted Average Options         Weighted Average Exercise Price         Weighted Average Contractual Life         Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value           910,944         \$ 83.14         236,599         \$ 92.60           172,441         143.91         273,777         143.76           —         —         —           (66,192)         57.55         (96,834)         87.34           (986)         51.49         —         —           (5,560)         128.86         (14,443)         106.35           1,010,647         \$ 94.97         5.6 years         399,099         \$ 128.47	Stock Options         Restricted Stock         Performance Restricted           Weighted Average Options         Weighted Average Exercise Price         Weighted Average Grant Life         Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value         Shares           910,944         \$ 83.14         236,599         \$ 92.60         412,642           172,441         143.91         273,777         143.76         111,585           —         —         —         —         (3,484)           (66,192)         57.55         (96,834)         87.34         —           (986)         51.49         —         —         (78,370)           (5,560)         128.86         (14,443)         106.35         (5,193)           1,010,647         \$ 94.97         5.6 years         399,099         \$ 128.47         437,180

<sup>\*</sup> PVRSU units outstanding have been adjusted by 3,484, net units during the year ended December 31, 2022, due to a decrease in outstanding PVRSU units due to the Company partially meeting the targeted performance conditions offset by an increase in outstanding PVRSU units due to the Company exceeding the targeted performance conditions in PVRSU's granted in prior periods.

2021 Performance Vested Restricted Stock Units Stock Options Restricted Stock Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Life Weighted Weighted Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value Average Grant Date Fair Value Average Exercise Price Options Shares Shares 84.48 109.25 Outstanding as of January 1, 2021 819,610 70.48 304,439 321,752 Granted 280,811 104.87 61,009 111.25 98,544 108.75 Performance-based leveraging\* 74,832 107.51 Exercised/vested (185,437)59.61 (109,640)80.83 (3,986)81.55 Expired (72,944)81.55 90.23 Forfeited (4,040)104.87 (19,209)(5,556)55.76 910,944 412,642 83.14 5.5 years 236,599 92.60 114.70 Outstanding as of December 31, 2021 421,592 67.09 2.8 years Options exercisable as of December 31, 2021

<sup>\*</sup> PVRSU units outstanding have been increased by 74,832 units during the year ended December 31, 2021, due to the Company exceeding the targeted performance conditions contained in PVRSU's granted in prior periods.

					2020					
	Stock Options Restricted Stock					ock	Performance Vested Restricted Stock Units			
	Options	1	Veighted Average ercise Price	Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Life	Shares	Ave	Weighted erage Grant e Fair Value	Shares	Ave	Weighted erage Grant e Fair Value
Outstanding as of January 1, 2020	873,895	\$	61.69		312,097	\$	75.23	330,716	\$	70.03
Granted	158,620		91.28		158,133		90.18	170,471		134.26
Performance-based leveraging*	_		_		_		_	30,116		60.68
Exercised/vested	(209,209)		49.17		(128,931)		69.80	(176,471)		58.68
Expired	_		_		_		_	(16,117)		60.50
Forfeited	(3,696)		91.28		(36,860)		81.98	(16,963)		82.25
Outstanding as of December 31, 2020	819,610	\$	70.48	4.2 years	304,439	\$	84.48	321,752	\$	109.25
Options exercisable as of December 31, 2020	480,255	\$	60.70	2.5 years						

<sup>\*</sup> PVRSU units outstanding have been increased by 30,116 units during the year ended December 31, 2020, due to the Company exceeding the targeted performance conditions contained in PVRSU's granted in prior periods.

The components of the Company's pretax stock-based compensation expense and associated income tax benefits are as follows:

	For the Year Ended December 31,					
(in thousands)		2022		2021		2020
Stock options	\$	4,674	\$	3,396	\$	1,975
Restricted stock		14,349		9,281		8,731
Performance vested restricted stock units		21,436		10,703		(3,466)
Total share-based compensation expense	\$	40,459	\$	23,380	\$	7,241

The total unrecognized compensation costs related to stock-based awards that have not yet vested and the related weighted average amortization period over which the costs are to be recognized as of December 31, 2022 are as follows:

(in thousands)	nrecognized Compensation xpense on Unvested Awards	Weighted Average Remaining Amortization Period
Stock options	\$ 10,528	3.0 years
Restricted stock	37,634	3.6 years
Performance vested restricted stock units	28,545	2.5 years
Total	\$ 76,707	

#### Dividends

On February 28, 2020, the Company's Board of Directors declared a quarterly cash dividend of \$0.225 per share of common stock for \$12.5 million. The dividend was payable on April 16, 2020 to shareholders of record on April 2, 2020. Subsequent to the payment of the dividend, in light of uncertainty resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, the Company's Board of Directors suspended future, undeclared dividends.

During the fourth quarter of 2021, the Company's Board of Directors announced a 6% increase to the quarterly dividend rate to \$0.2375 per share from \$0.225 per share, beginning with the dividend payable in the first quarter of 2022.

During the year ended December 31, 2022, the Company's quarterly dividend rate was \$0.2375 per share. Annual dividends declared during the year ended December 31, 2021 were \$0.95 per share or \$51.7 million. During the year ended December 31, 2021, the Company's quarterly dividend rate was \$0.225 per share for the second and third quarter and was \$0.2375 per share in the fourth quarter of 2021. Annual dividends declared during the year ended December 31, 2021 were \$0.688 per share or \$38.2 million. During the year ended December 31, 2020, the Company's quarterly dividend rate was \$0.225 per share. Annual dividends declared during the year ended December 31, 2020 were \$0.225 per share or \$12.5 million.

The Company may not declare or make any payment if under the Restated Credit agreement there is an existing event of default or if the payment would create an event of default.

In addition, during the years ended December 31, 2022, 2021 and 2020, the Company paid previously declared but unrecorded dividends totaling \$5 thousand, \$8 thousand, and \$0.4 million, respectively, that were contingent upon the vesting of performance vested restricted units.

## Share Repurchases and Redemptions

In 1998, we instituted a share repurchase program. The Company may purchase stock under the share repurchase program to return excess capital to its shareholders. Treasury stock activity is recorded at cost in the consolidated balance sheets.

During the three months ended March 31, 2020, the Company repurchased 0.5 million shares of common stock under the repurchase program at a total cost of \$43.3 million. In light of uncertainty resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, the Company subsequently temporarily suspended activity under the share repurchase program and no additional repurchases were made pursuant to the program for the balance of 2020. On May 7, 2021, the Company's Board of Directors approved resumption of the share repurchase program. During the year ended December 31, 2021, the Company repurchased 57,754 shares of its common stock under the repurchase program at a total cost of \$7.3 million.

During the year ended December 31, 2022, the Company repurchased 3,666,298 shares of its common stock under the repurchase program at a total cost of \$429.4 million. On a cumulative basis through December 31, 2022, the Company repurchased 88.4 million shares of its common stock (including 33.0 million prior to the two-for-one stock split effected in October 2005) under the share repurchase program at a total cost of \$1.9 billion.

During the year ended December 31, 2022, the Company redeemed 36,120 shares of common stock at a total cost of approximately \$5.4 million from employees to satisfy the option exercise price and statutory minimum tax-withholding requirements related to the exercising of stock options and vesting of performance vested restricted stock units and restricted stock grants. During 2021 and 2020, the Company redeemed 54,441 and 125,996 shares of common stock at a total cost of \$6.0 million and \$12.2 million, respectively, from employees to satisfy the option price and minimum tax-withholding requirements related to the exercising of options and vesting of performance vested restricted stock units and restricted stock grants. These redemptions were outside the share repurchase program.

## 17. Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss

The components of accumulated other comprehensive loss is as follows:

	December 31,				
(in thousands)	2022	2021	2020		
Foreign currency translation adjustments	\$ (5,211)	\$ (4,574)	\$ (4,646)		
Total accumulated other comprehensive loss	\$ (5,211)	\$ (4,574)	\$ (4,646)		

The following represents the changes in accumulated other comprehensive loss, net of tax by component:

	Year Ended December 31, 2022				Year Ended December 31, 2021				
(in thousands)	Foreign Currency Items		Total		Foreign Currenc Total Items			Total	
Beginning Balance	\$	(4,574)	\$	(4,574)	\$	(4,646)	\$	(4,646)	
Other comprehensive (loss) income before reclassification		(637)		(637)		72		72	
Ending Balance	\$	(5,211)	\$	(5,211)	\$	(4,574)	\$	(4,574)	

There were no amounts reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive loss during the year ended December 31, 2021 or December 31, 2022.

## 18. Earnings Per Share

The Company's shares of restricted stock contain rights to receive nonforfeitable dividends and thus are participating securities requiring the computation of basic earnings per share ("EPS") using the two-class method. As the shares of restricted stock are both potential shares of common stock and participating securities, the Company calculates diluted earnings per share by the more dilutive of the treasury stock method or the two-class method. The calculation of EPS for net income available to common shareholders excludes the distribution of dividends and undistributed earnings attributable to participating securities from the numerator. The diluted earnings weighted average shares of common stock outstanding includes stock options, PVRSUs and RSUs.

The computation of basic and diluted earnings per common share is as follows:

Year Ended December 31,					
	2022		2021		2020
\$	332,152	\$	288,957	\$	75,387
	(1,881)		(1,125)		(423)
\$	330,271	\$	287,832	\$	74,964
	54,595		55,379		55,175
\$	6.05	\$	5.20	\$	1.36
\$	332,152	\$	288,957	\$	75,387
	(1,881)		(1,125)		(423)
\$	330,271	\$	287,832	\$	74,964
	54,595		55,379		55,175
	526		504		354
	55,121		55,883		55,529
\$	5.99	\$	5.15	\$	1.35
	\$	\$ 332,152 (1,881) \$ 330,271 54,595 \$ 6.05 \$ 332,152 (1,881) \$ 330,271 54,595 526 55,121	\$ 332,152 \$ (1,881) \$ 54,595 \$ (1,881) \$ \$ 330,271 \$ \$ \$ 54,595 \$ 526 55,121	2022     2021       \$ 332,152     \$ 288,957       (1,881)     (1,125)       \$ 330,271     \$ 287,832       54,595     55,379       \$ 6.05     \$ 5.20       \$ 332,152     \$ 288,957       (1,881)     (1,125)       \$ 330,271     \$ 287,832       54,595     55,379       526     504       55,121     55,883	2022     2021       \$ 332,152     \$ 288,957     \$ (1,125)       \$ 330,271     \$ 287,832     \$ 55,379       \$ 6.05     \$ 5.20     \$ (1,125)       \$ 332,152     \$ 288,957     \$ (1,125)       \$ 330,271     \$ 287,832     \$ 55,379       \$ 54,595     55,379       526     504       55,121     55,883

The following securities have been excluded from the calculation of diluted weighted average common shares outstanding as the inclusion of these securities would have an anti-dilutive effect:

		Year Ended December 31,				
(in thousands)	2022	2022 2021				
Stock Options	153	_	155			
PVRSUs	_	155	231			

#### 19. Leases

#### Lessee

The Company has operating leases primarily for office space, buildings, and equipment. Our leases, excluding the assumed ground lease discussed below, have remaining lease terms of one month to ten years, some of which may include options to extend leases for up to five years and some which may include options to terminate the leases within one year.

Additionally, as part of the Radisson Transaction, the Company assumed a ground lease on an owned hotel with a remaining 89 year term. Inclusive of other assumed operating leases, the Radisson transaction resulted in a lease liability and right-of-use asset at acquisition of \$40.7 million and \$40.3 million, respectively (refer to Note 24).

The Company's lease costs were as follows:

	Year Ended December 31,				
(in thousands)	2022	2021			
Operating lease cost	\$ 12,073	\$ 9,499			
Short-term lease cost	40	325			
Sublease income	(559)	(134)			
Total lease cost	\$ 11,554	\$ 9,690			

Leases recorded on the consolidated balance sheet consist of the following:

	December 31,				
(in thousands)	2022		2021		
Assets:					
Operating lease right-of-use assets	\$ 68	8,985 \$	34,183		
Liabilities:					
Current operating lease liabilities	\$ 10	0,663 \$	11,998		
Long-term operating lease liabilities	70	0,994	35,492		
Total lease liabilities	\$ 81	1,657 \$	47,490		

On October 4, 2021, an office lease for an approximate 10-year term with an unrelated third party commenced. The Company accounted for this lease as an operating lease and established a lease liability and right-of-use asset of approximately \$34.6 million and \$25.3 million, respectively, during the fourth quarter of 2021.

Other information related to the Company's lease arrangements is as follows:

	 Year Ended December 31,				
(in thousands)	2022		2021		
Cash paid for amounts included in the measurement of lease liabilities:					
Operating cash flows from operating leases	\$ 14,145	\$	11,528		
ROU assets obtained in exchange for lease liabilities in non-cash transactions:					
Operating lease assets obtained in exchange for operating lease liabilities	\$ 44,481	\$	25,852		
Weighted-average remaining lease term	41.02 years		7.66 years		
Weighted-average discount rate <sup>(1)</sup>	4.77 %		2.79 %		

<sup>(1)</sup> Discount rates used for existing operating leases upon adoption of Topic 842 were established based on remaining lease term as of January 1, 2019.

Maturities of lease liabilities as of December 31, 2022 are as follows:

(in thousands)	
2023	<b>\$</b> 12,856
2024	6,517
2025	6,289
2026	6,205
2027	6,554
Thereafter	284,249
Total minimum lease payments	\$ 322,670
Less imputed interest	241,013
Present value of minimum lease payments	\$ 81,657

In the fourth quarter of 2021, the Company entered into one office lease agreement with an unrelated third-party that we expect to account for as an operating lease. This lease is not reflected in our consolidated balance sheets or in the table above as the lease has not commenced. The lease has an approximate 11-year term and expected to commence in the fourth quarter of 2023.

#### Related Party

The Company and family members of the Company's largest shareholder entered into an agreement that allows those family members to lease the Company aircraft from time to time for their personal use. The agreement provides for lease payments that contribute towards the fixed costs associated with the aircraft as well as reimbursement of the Company's variable costs associated with operation of the aircraft, in compliance with, and to the extent authorized by, applicable regulatory requirements. The terms of the lease agreements are consistent with the terms of lease agreements that the Company has entered into with unrelated third parties for use of the aircraft. During the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, the Company received \$48 thousand and \$0.2 million, respectively, pursuant to this arrangement.

## 20. Reportable Segments

The Hotel Franchising & Management reportable segment includes the Company's hotel franchising operations consisting of its 22 brands and brand extensions and hotel management operations of 13 Radisson Hotels Americas hotels (inclusive of 3 owned hotels). The 22 brands and brand extensions and hotel management operations are aggregated within this reportable segment considering their similar economic characteristics, types of customers, distribution channels and regulatory business environments. Revenues from the hotel franchising and management business include royalty fees, initial franchise and relicensing fees, cost reimbursement revenues, procurement services revenue, base and incentive management fees, and other hotel franchising and management related revenue. The Company provides certain services under its hotel franchise and management agreements which result in direct and indirect cost reimbursements. The cost reimbursement revenues received from franchisees are included in hotel franchising and management revenues and are offset by the related expenses to calculate hotel franchising operating income. Equity in earnings or losses from hotel franchising related investments in affiliates is allocated to the Company's Hotel Franchising & Management reportable segment.

The Company evaluates its Hotel Franchising & Management reportable segment based primarily on the results of the segment without allocating corporate expenses, indirect general and administrative expenses, interest expense, interest income, other gains and losses or income taxes, which are included in the Corporate & Other column. Corporate & Other revenues include owned hotel revenues and revenues related to the Company's SaaS technology solutions division which provide cloud-based property management software to non-franchised hoteliers.

The intersegment revenue adjustment is from the elimination of Hotel Franchising & Management revenue which include royalty, management and cost reimbursable fees charged to our owned hotels against franchise and management fee expense recognized by our owned hotels in Corporate & Other operating income (loss).

Our President and Chief Executive Officer, who is our CODM, does not use assets by operating segment when assessing performance or making operating segment resource allocation decisions and therefore assets by segment are not disclosed below.

The following tables present the financial information for the Company's segments:

	 For the Year Ended December 31, 2022							
(in thousands)	tel Franchising Management		Corporate & Other	Int	ersegment Eliminations		Consolidated	
Revenues	\$ 1,298,521	\$	108,879	\$	(5,451)	\$	1,401,949	
Operating income (loss)	552,905		(74,304)		_		478,601	
Depreciation and amortization	12,935		17,490		_		30,425	
Income (loss) before income taxes	554,637		(117,831)		_		436,806	

		For the Year Ended December 31, 2021						
(in thousands)	]	Hotel Franchising & Management		Corporate & Other	In	tersegment Eliminations		Consolidated
Revenues	\$	1,026,409	\$	45,740	\$	(2,851)	\$	1,069,298
Operating income (loss)		485,199		(56,266)		_		428,933
Depreciation and amortization		8,050		16,723		_		24,773
Income (loss) before income taxes		468,894		(92,402)		_		376,492

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	For the Year Ended December 31, 2020							
(in thousands)		el Franchising Management		Corporate & Other	Interse	gment Eliminations		Consolidated
Revenues	\$	747,329	\$	28,257	\$	(1,514)	\$	774,072
Operating income (loss)		191,301		(69,634)		_		121,667
Depreciation and amortization		8,000		17,831		_		25,831
Income (loss) before income taxes		176,012		(123,006)		_		53,006

The results of the Company's international operations are included in the Hotel Franchising & Management reportable segment and Corporate & Other. Revenues generated by foreign operations, including royalty, cost reimbursable fees and other revenues for the years ended December 31, 2022, 2021 and 2020 were \$70.2 million, \$46.8 million, and \$42.6 million, respectively.

## 21. Related Party Transactions

Transactions with Company's Largest Shareholder

Effective October 15, 1997, Choice Hotels International, Inc., which included both a franchising business and owned hotel business, separated the businesses via a spin-off into two companies: Sunburst Hospitality Corporation (referred to hereafter as "Sunburst") and the Company. Subsequent to the spin-off, the Company's largest shareholder retained significant ownership percentages in both Sunburst and the Company. As part of the spin-off, Sunburst and the Company entered into a strategic alliance agreement (as amended, the "Strategic Alliance Agreement"). Among other things, the Strategic Alliance Agreement provided for revised royalty and system fees and the determination of liquidated damages related to the termination of Choice branded Sunburst properties. The liquidated damage provisions extend through the life of the existing Sunburst franchise agreements.

On June 5, 2019, the Strategic Alliance Agreement was terminated and replaced with addenda to each of the five hotels under franchise at that time. The addenda preserve certain terms from the Strategic Alliance Agreement with respect to the five hotels, including the revised royalty and system fee and liquidated damage provisions, which would also apply to new franchise agreements signed for the five hotels (as either a renewal or a change to another Choice brand not contemplated at the time of original agreement execution). No terms were substantially modified with respect to the five operating hotels under franchise. In June 2019, the Company and Sunburst entered into master development agreements which provide Sunburst geographic exclusivity in two specified regions for development of five WoodSpring branded hotels. For the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, there were four and zero new franchise agreements signed between the Company and Sunburst and affiliates, respectively. As of December 31, 2022, Sunburst and affiliates operate five hotels under franchise with the Company.

Total franchise fees, including royalty and marketing and reservation system fees, paid by Sunburst and affiliates to the Company included in the accompanying consolidated financial statements were \$0.8 million, \$0.4 million, and \$0.5 million for the years ended December 31, 2022, 2021 and 2020, respectively. As of both December 31, 2022 and 2021, accounts receivable due from Sunburst and affiliates were \$0.1 million.

#### 22. Transactions with Unconsolidated Affiliates

The Company extends loans to various unconsolidated affiliates or members of our unconsolidated affiliates. The Company has a total principal balance on these loans of \$65.2 million and \$90.7 million as of December 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021, respectively. These loans mature at various dates and bear interest at fixed and variable rates.

The Company signed a management fee arrangement for marketing services with a partner in an unconsolidated affiliate. For the years ended December 31, 2022, 2021 and 2020, fees earned and payroll costs reimbursed under this arrangement totaled \$2.4 million, \$1.4 million and \$1.3 million, respectively.

The Company entered into franchise agreements with certain of the unconsolidated affiliates listed within Note 8. Pursuant to these franchise agreements, the Company recorded royalty and marketing and reservation system fees of approximately \$27.2 million, \$20.2 million, and \$13.9 million for the years ended December 31, 2022, 2021 and 2020, respectively. The Company recorded \$3.9 million and \$2.7 million as a receivable due from these unconsolidated affiliates as of December 31, 2022 and 2021, respectively.

#### 23. Commitments and Contingencies

The Company is not a party to any litigation other than litigation in the ordinary course of business. The Company's management and legal counsel do not expect that the ultimate outcome of any of its currently ongoing legal proceedings, individually or collectively, will have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

#### Contingencies

The Company entered into various limited payment guaranties with regards to the Company's VIEs supporting the VIE's efforts to develop and own hotels franchised under the Company's brands. Under these limited payment guaranties, the Company has agreed to guarantee a portion of the outstanding debt until certain conditions are met such as (a) the loan matures, (b) certain debt covenants are achieved, (c) the maximum amount guaranteed by the Company is paid in full, or (d) the Company, through its affiliates, ceases to be a member of the VIE. The maximum exposure of principal incidental to these limited payment guaranties is \$5.7 million, plus unpaid expenses and accrued unpaid interest. As of December 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021, the Company believed the likelihood of having to perform under the aforementioned limited payment guaranties was remote. In the event of performance, the Company has recourse for one of the transactions in the form of a membership interest pledge as collateral for the guaranty.

#### Commitments

The Company has the following commitments outstanding at December 31, 2022:

- The Company provides financing in the form of franchise agreement acquisition payments to franchisees for property improvements, hotel
  development efforts and other purposes. These payments are typically made at commencement of construction or hotel opening, in accordance with
  agreed upon provisions in individual franchise agreements. At December 31, 2022, the Company had commitments to extend an additional \$330.4
  million for these purposes provided the conditions of the payment are met by its franchisees.
- As part of the acquisition of Radisson Hotels Americas, the Company entered into a long-term management arrangement, with an expiration date of July 31, 2031, to manage eight hotel properties owned by a third-party. In conjunction with the management arrangement, the Company entered into a guarantee with the third-party to fund any shortfalls in the payment of the third-party owner's priority stipulated in the management agreement up to a specified maximum amount. On November 1, 2021, an amended and restated management agreement was executed between the Company and the third party. The maximum guarantee under the agreement is \$22 million. There are no potential guaranteed payments until January 2023 and future performance is expected to be sufficient to cover the terms of the agreement. Accordingly, no liability was recorded as of the acquisition date of Radisson Hotels Americas or December 31, 2022 in accrued liabilities within the consolidated balance sheets.
- To the extent existing unconsolidated affiliates proceed to the hotel construction phase, the Company is committed to make capital contributions totaling \$14.1 million to support their efforts to construct Cambria hotels.
- The Company committed to provide financing in the form of loans or credit facilities to franchisees for Choice brand development efforts. As of December 31, 2022, the Company has remaining commitments of approximately \$1.8 million, upon certain conditions being met.

• The Company's legacy Choice franchise agreements require the payment of franchise fees, which include marketing and reservation system fees. In accordance with terms of our legacy Choice franchise agreements, the Company is obligated to use the marketing and reservation system revenues it collects from the current franchisees comprising its various hotel brands to provide marketing and reservation services appropriate to support the operation of the overall system. The legacy Radisson Hotels Americas franchise agreements have similar provisions regarding marketing fees to be used for marketing activities. To the extent revenues collected exceed expenditures incurred, the Company has a commitment to the franchisee system to make expenditures in future years. Conversely, to the extent expenditures incurred exceed revenues collected, the Company has the contractual enforceable right to assess and collect such amounts.

In the ordinary course of business, the Company enters into numerous agreements that contain standard indemnities whereby the Company indemnifies another party for breaches of representations and warranties. Such indemnifications are granted under various agreements, including those governing (i) purchases or sales of assets or businesses, (ii) leases of real estate, (iii) licensing of trademarks, (iv) access to credit facilities, (v) issuances of debt or equity securities, and (vi) certain operating agreements. The indemnifications issued are for the benefit of the (i) buyers in sale agreements and sellers in purchase agreements, (ii) landlords in lease contracts, (iii) franchisees in licensing agreements, (iv) financial institutions in credit facility arrangements, (v) underwriters in debt or equity security issuances and (vi) parties under certain operating agreements. In addition, these parties are also generally indemnified against any third-party claim resulting from the transaction that is contemplated in the underlying agreement. While some of these indemnities extend only for the duration of the underlying agreement, many survive the expiration of the term of the agreement or extend into perpetuity (unless subject to a legal statute of limitations). There are no specific limitations on the maximum potential amount of future payments that the Company could be required to make under these indemnities, nor is the Company able to develop an estimate of the maximum potential amount of future payments to be made under these indemnifications as the triggering events are not subject to predictability. With respect to certain of the aforementioned indemnities, such as indemnifications of landlords against third-party claims for the use of real estate property leased by the Company, the Company maintains insurance coverage that mitigates potential liability.

# 24. Acquisitions

#### 2021 & 2022 Asset Acquisitions

In September 2021 and April 2022, the Company reached settlements with independent borrowers holding senior and mezzanine loans classified as collateral-dependent, collateralized by operating hotels. The key terms of the settlements resulted in a deed in lieu of foreclosure on each operating hotel in exchange for releasing obligations pursuant to the senior and mezzanine loans and the associated franchise agreements, as exchanged on October 1, 2021 and April 14, 2022, respectively.

As collateral-dependent financial assets, the expected credit losses as captured in Notes receivable, net of allowance for credit losses, on the consolidated balance sheets immediately prior to exchange were determined based on the fair value of the operating hotels. The acquisition accounting was also based on the fair value of the operating hotels. The fair values were estimated using an income approach valuation method based on discounted cash flows of the collateralized operating hotel utilizing historical operating performance, industry projections for the market, and comparable sales capitalization rates.

The acquisition dates for these hotels were October 1, 2021 and April 14, 2022 and had fair values at time of acquisition of \$21.1 million and \$20.4 million, respectively. In accordance with the provisions of ASU 2017-01, *Business Combinations (Topic 805): Clarifying the Definition of a Business* ("ASU 2017-01"), each purchase represented an asset acquisition based on the concentration of value in the acquired land and building. The Notes receivable, net of allowance for credit losses, balances were re-characterized and attributed to each asset class based on a relative fair value allocation to qualifying assets. The relative fair values for each asset class were estimated using a combination of income and market approach valuations methods. For the October 1, 2021 acquisition, the \$21.1 million balance was re-characterized as \$4.8 million to land, \$14.2 million to building and improvements, \$1.8 million to furniture, fixtures, and equipment, and \$0.3 million to net assets assumed. For the April 14, 2022 acquisition, the \$20.4 million balance was re-characterized as \$3.3 million to land, \$16.6 million to building and improvements, \$1.3 million to furniture, fixtures, and equipment, and \$(0.8) million to net liabilities assumed.

# August 2022 Radisson Hotels Americas Acquisition

On August 11, 2022, the Company completed the acquisition of Radisson Hotels Americas. The accounting purchase price for the Transaction was \$673.9 million, which includes the base purchase price of \$675.2 million, adjusted for Disclosed Leakage (as defined in the Share Sale and Purchase Agreement) and certain other prepaid expenses. To fund the Transaction, Choice drew \$175.0 million on the Company's existing \$600.0 million unsecured credit facility (the "Revolver"), and funded the remainder with cash on hand.

Additionally, in connection with the acquisition, we recorded \$39.6 million of transaction, transition, and severance expense, included within Selling, general and administrative, during the year ended December 31, 2022, respectively.

Preliminary Fair Values of Assets Acquired and Liabilities Assumed

The Company allocated the purchase price based upon a preliminary assessment of the fair value of the assets acquired and liabilities assumed as of August 11, 2022. These preliminary fair values are based on management's estimates and assumptions, using the best information available at the time of this filing. During the fourth quarter of 2022, the Company recorded net measurement period adjustments that decreased goodwill by \$9.1 million, as presented in the table below. The Company made these measurement period adjustments to reflect facts and circumstances that existed as of the acquisition date and did not result from intervening events subsequent to such date. The measurement period adjustments resulted in no impact to our consolidated statements of income.

The final valuation and related allocation of the purchase price will be completed no later than 12 months after the closing date. The final acquisition accounting adjustments may be materially different and may include (1) changes in fair value of property and equipment and associated salvage values, (2) changes in allocations to intangible assets, such trade names, acquired franchise and management agreements, above and below market leases, as well as goodwill; and (3) other changes to assets and liabilities, such as working capital.

The preliminary allocation of the purchase price including measurement period adjustments, as presented in our Consolidated Balance Sheet:

Assets acquired		August 11, 2022	Measurement Period Adjustments	August 11, 2022 (as adjusted)
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	113,023	<del>- \$</del>	113,023
Restricted cash		10,403	_	10,403
Accounts receivable		32,972	8,752	41,724
Notes receivables - current		1,709	_	1,709
Prepaid expenses and other current assets		8,139	_	8,139
Property and equipment		125,441	_	125,441
Operating lease right-of-use assets		42,315	(2,016)	40,299
Intangible assets		447,400	(300)	447,100
Notes receivable - noncurrent		2,592	_	2,592
Investment in affiliates		471	_	471
Other assets	_	2,129	_	2,129
Total assets acquired	\$	786,594	\$ 6,436 \$	793,030
	_			
Liabilities assumed				
Accounts payable		8,295	(1,566)	6,729
Accrued expenses and other current liabilities		15,987	425	16,412
Deferred revenue - current <sup>(1)</sup>		5,745	1,566	7,311
Liability for guest loyalty program - current(1)		3,542	3,792	7,334
Long-term debt		55,975	_	55,975
Long-term deferred revenue <sup>(1)</sup>		26,499	(3,915)	22,584
Deferred compensation and retirement plan obligations		9,265	_	9,265
Operating lease liabilities		42,705	(2,016)	40,689
Liability for guest loyalty program - noncurrent(1)		10,180	(1,443)	8,737
Other liabilities		3,052	543	3,595
Total liabilities assumed	\$	181,245	\$ (2,614) \$	178,631
Fair value of net assets acquired	\$	605 240	e 0.050.e	614 200
Goodwill	3	605,349		614,399
	_	68,507	(9,050)	59,457
Total purchase consideration	<u>\$</u>	673,856	<u> </u>	673,856

<sup>(1)</sup> The Deferred revenue (including deferred affiliation fees) and Liability for guest loyalty program balances were assumed at their carrying value at the date of the acquisition pursuant to the application of ASU 2021-08 (see Note 1).

# Property and Equipment

The following table presents the preliminary estimates of fair value of the acquired property and equipment, which is primarily concentrated at three acquired hotel properties, and their estimated weighted average remaining useful lives.

	Estimated Useful Life Estimated Fair V		Estimated Fair Value
	(in years)		(in thousands)
Land	N/A	\$	7,159
Construction in progress	N/A		3,190
Building and leasehold improvements	24.4		93,934
Site improvements	23.1		586
Furniture, fixtures and equipment	3.9		8,334
Computer equipment and software	2.0		12,238
Total		\$	125,441

We provisionally estimated the value of the property and equipment through a combination of income, cost and market approaches, which are primarily based on significant Level 2 and Level 3 assumptions, such as estimates of future income growth, discount rates, capitalization rates and capital expenditure needs of the hotels. We are continuing to assess the marketplace assumptions and property conditions, which could result in changes to these provisional values.

#### Identified Intangible Assets

The following table presents our preliminary estimates of the fair value of the acquired identified intangible assets and their estimated useful lives:

	Estimated Useful Life	Estim	ated Fair Value
	(in years)	(in	thousands)
Trade names	N/A	\$	223,700
Franchise agreements	15.5		220,100
Management agreements	15,5		3,300
Total		\$	447,100

The fair value of the trade names was provisionally estimated using the relief-from-royalty method. This method applies an estimated royalty rate to forecasted future cash flows, discounted to present value. The fair value of the franchise and management agreements was preliminarily estimated using a multi-period excess earnings method, a variation of the income approach. This method uses the present value of incremental after-tax cash flows attributable to the intangible asset to estimate fair value. These valuation methodologies utilize Level 3 assumptions, and we are continuing to assess the assumptions used in estimating these values as well as the respective useful lives, which could result in changes to these provisional values.

#### Debt Assumed

As part of the Transaction, we assumed a mortgage related to an acquired hotel property. The mortgage had an associated interest rate cap agreement with an effective date of July 30, 2021 through August 6, 2024. Subsequent to the acquisition closing date, the mortgage, inclusive of outstanding interest and fees, was repaid in full in the amount of \$56.0 million using cash we acquired. Additionally, the interest rate cap agreement was terminated, which resulted in a payment to Choice in the amount of \$1.9 million. Related to the mortgage, we acquired \$10.4 million in restricted cash, for which restrictions were lifted upon repayment.

# Operating Leases

The Company measured operating lease liabilities assumed at the present value of remaining payments as of the acquisition date, discounted using Choice's applicable incremental borrowing rate, in accordance with *Leases (Topic 842)*. The corresponding right-of-use assets acquired were measured at the value of the lease liabilities, further adjusted for favorable or unfavorable lease terms as compared to market terms. We are continuing to assess market assumptions, which could change our preliminary estimate.

#### Income Taxes

Pursuant to the terms of the Transaction, the parties agree to jointly make a valid, timely election under Section 338(h)(10) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code and under any similar provisions of state or local law with respect to the purchase of the shares of Radisson Hotels Americas. Under this election, the parties agreed to treat the Transaction for federal income tax purposes as if it had been structured as an asset sale and purchase. As a result of this election, the tax basis of the assets acquired and liabilities assumed by Choice were reset to fair value at the time of the acquisition, which results in the elimination of previously established deferred income tax balances and the establishment of new balances that reflect the new tax basis, including tax deductible goodwill. Because the accounting for the Transaction is ongoing, the resulting deferred tax balances are still being finalized.

## Pro Forma Results of Operations

The following unaudited pro forma information presents the combined results of operations of Choice and Radisson Hotels Americas as if we had completed the Transaction on January 1, 2021, but using our preliminary fair values of assets acquired and liabilities assumed as of the acquisition date. The unaudited pro forma information reflects adjustments relating to (i) the allocation of purchase price and related adjustments, including incremental depreciation and amortization expense based on the preliminary fair values of the property and equipment assets and intangible assets acquired; (ii) the incremental impact of the Revolver draw on interest expense and amortization of financing costs; (iii) nonrecurring transaction costs; and (iv) income tax impact of the aforementioned pro forma adjustments.

As required by GAAP, these unaudited pro forma results do not reflect any cost saving synergies from operating efficiencies. Accordingly, these unaudited pro forma results are presented for informational purposes only and are not necessarily indicative of what the actual results of operations of the combined company would have been if the transaction had occurred at the beginning of the period presented, nor are they indicative of future results of operations.

		Year Ended December 31,		
(in thousands)	2022		2021	
Revenues	\$ 1	1,551,775	\$ 1,2	263,988
Net income		368,449		207,023

## Radisson Hotels Americas Results of Operations

The results of Radisson Hotels Americas have been consolidated with the Company since August 11, 2022 and are included in the Company's Consolidated Statement of Income for the year ended December 31, 2022. The following table presents these results of the 142 days from the closing date through December 31, 2022.

(in thousands)	August 11, 2022- December 31, 2022
Revenues	\$ 104,201
Net income	1,249

#### Goodwill

The \$59.5 million excess value recorded in goodwill is primarily attributable to value we expect to realize from the existing customer base, improvements in RevPAR, cost synergies and new agreements signed with new franchisees and developers. Goodwill for the Transaction is fully attributable to the Hotel Franchising & Management reportable segment and is fully deductible for tax purposes. Refer to Note 6 for reconciliation of the Company's goodwill balance.

#### 25. Subsequent Events

On February 14, 2023, the Company entered into a Third Amendment to the Amended and Restated Senior Unsecured Credit Agreement. The Amendment provides, among other things, for (i) an increase in the aggregate amount of commitments under the Revolver by \$250 million (the "Increased Commitments") to an aggregate amount of \$850 million and (ii) the replacement of the interest reference rate for U.S. dollar-denominated borrowings under the Revolver from LIBOR to an adjusted Secured Overnight Financing Rate. The pricing and other terms applicable to the Increased Commitments are the same as those applicable to the existing revolving loan commitments that were in effect prior to the Amendment. Except as amended by the Amendment, the remaining terms of the unsecured credit facility remain in full force and effect.

# ITEM 9. Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure.

None.

#### Item 9A. Controls and Procedures

# Management's Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

The Company has a disclosure review committee whose membership includes the Chief Executive Officer ("CEO") and Chief Financial Officer ("CFO"), among others. The disclosure review committee's procedures are considered by the CEO and CFO in performing their evaluations of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures and in assessing the accuracy and completeness of the Company's disclosures.

Our management, with the participation of our CEO and CFO have evaluated the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures, as such term is defined in Rule 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, (the "Exchange Act"), as of the end of the period covered by this annual report as required by Rules 13a-15(b) or 15d-15(b) under the Exchange Act. Our management, including our CEO and CFO, does not expect that our disclosure controls and procedures or our internal control over financial reporting will prevent all errors and all fraud. A control system, no matter how well designed and operated, can provide only reasonable, not absolute, assurance that the control system's objectives will be met.

An evaluation was performed under the supervision and with the participation of the Company's CEO and CFO, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures. Based on that evaluation, the

Company's management, including the CEO and CFO, concluded that the Company's disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of December 31, 2022.

#### Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

There have been no changes in the Company's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the fourth quarter of 2022 that materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

## Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

The management of Choice Hotels International, Inc. and its subsidiaries (together "the Company") is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting as such term is defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f). The Company's internal control over financial reporting is designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

Management assessed the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2022. In making this assessment, management used the criteria set forth by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO) in *Internal Control-Integrated Framework (2013)*. Based on management's assessment under those criteria, management concluded that the Company's internal control over financial reporting was effective as of December 31, 2022.

On August 11, 2022, we completed our acquisition of Radisson Hotels Americas. We are in the process of evaluating the existing controls and procedures of Radisson Hotels Americas and integrating Radisson Hotels Americas into our internal control over financial reporting. In accordance with SEC Staff guidance permitting a company to exclude an acquired business from management's assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting for the year in which the acquisition is completed, we have excluded the business that we acquired in the Radisson Hotels Americas Transaction from our assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2022. The business that we acquired in the Radisson Hotels Americas Transaction represented 34% of the Company's total assets as of December 31, 2022, and 7% of the Company's revenues and less than 1% of the Company's net income for the year ended December 31, 2022. The scope of management's assessment of the effectiveness of the design and operation of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures as of December 31, 2022 includes all of the Company's consolidated operations except for those disclosure controls and procedures of Radisson Hotels Americas that are subsumed by internal control over financial reporting.

The effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2022 has been audited by Ernst & Young LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their report which appears herein.

## Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Shareholders and the Board of Directors of Choice Hotels International, Inc.

#### Opinion on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

We have audited Choice Hotels International, Inc. and subsidiaries' internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2022, based on criteria established in Internal Control—Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (2013 framework) (the COSO criteria). In our opinion, Choice Hotels International, Inc. and subsidiaries (the Company) maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2022, based on the COSO criteria.

As indicated in the accompanying Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting, management's assessment of and conclusion on the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting did not include the internal controls of Radisson Hotels Americas, which is included in the 2022 consolidated financial statements of the Company and constituted 34% of total assets as of December 31, 2022 and 7% of revenues and less than 1% of net income, respectively, for the year then ended. Our audit of internal control over financial reporting of the Company also did not include an evaluation of the internal control over financial reporting of Radisson Hotels Americas.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (PCAOB), the 2022 consolidated financial statements of the Company and our report dated March 1, 2023 expressed an unqualified opinion thereon.

#### **Basis for Opinion**

The Company's management is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting included in the accompanying Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company's internal control over financial reporting based on our audit. We are a public accounting firm registered with the PCAOB and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects.

Our audit included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk, and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

# Definition and Limitations of Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

A company's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A company's internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (2) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the company; and (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of the company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

/s/ Ernst & Young LLP Tysons, Virginia March 1, 2023



# CHOICE HOTELS INTERNATIONAL, INC. FRANCHISE AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT ("Agreement") is made in Maryland, effective as of	
("Effective Date"), between Choice Hotels International, Inc., a Delaware corporation ("we" or "us	s"), and
«LIC BLOCK» ("you").	

We and you agree as follows:

- **1. <u>Definitions</u>**. In addition to the terms that are defined in other parts of this Agreement, the following terms shall have the indicated meanings:
- a. "Brand Mark" means the trademark and trade name **«Brand\_Name»**® and the logo designated by us for use in association with the Hotel (including designs, stylized letters, colors and other elements that we permit you to use at the Hotel and in advertising for the Hotel) and/or any other trademarks, trade names, trade dress, service marks or logos (whether registered or not), or any domain name, as we may require from time to time be used in connection with the Hotel.
- b. "Choice Marks" means collectively all of our trademarks and trade names, including, but not limited to, the Brand Mark, the trademarks and trade names ASCEND HOTEL COLLECTION®, CAMBRIA®, CLARION HOTEL®, CLARION INN®, CLARION INN & SUITES®, CLARION SUITES®, CLARION RESORT®, CLARION COLLECTION®, CLARION POINTE®, COMFORT INN®, COMFORT INN & SUITES®, COMFORT SUITES®, COUNTRY INN & SUITES®, ECONO LODGE®, ECONO LODGE INN & SUITES®, EVERHOME SUITES®, MAINSTAY SUITES®, PARK INN®, PARK INN® RESIDENCES, PARK PLAZA®, QUALITY INN®, QUALITY INN & SUITES®, QUALITY SUITES®, QUALITY HOTEL®, RADISSON®, RADISSON BLU®, RADISSON INDIVIDUALS®, RADISSON INN & SUITES™, RADISSON RED®, RODEWAY INN®, RODEWAY INN & SUITES®, SLEEP INN®, SLEEP INN & SUITES®, SUBURBAN®, SUBURBAN STUDIOS®, WOODSPRING SUITES®, CHOICE HOTELS®, and the names of our Property Management System and Reservation System, together with all related logos, trade dress, and any other additional or substituted trademarks, trade names, service marks or logos (whether registered or not) currently owned, licensed or used by us or that we later adopt, purchase or develop.
- c. <u>"Controlling Interest"</u> means your interest if you are an individual and you own 50% or more ownership interest in the Hotel, any general partner's interest in a partnership entity, 50% or more of the voting stock of a corporate entity, 50% or more of the ownership interests in a limited liability company or a 50% or more undivided interest in the Hotel.
- d. "<u>Designated Representative</u>" means the person designated by you to represent you on all matters relating to this Agreement and to receive notices under this Agreement on your behalf. Unless you change the Designated Representative in accordance with <u>Section 15</u> of this Agreement, your Designated Representative is "LR1\_NAME\_FULL" whose address is "LR1\_ADDRESS1" "LR1\_ADDRESS2" "LR1\_ADDRESS3", "LR1\_CITY", "LR1\_STATE" "LR1\_POSTAL" and "LR2\_NAME\_FULL" whose address is "LR2\_ADDRESS1" "LR2\_ADDRESS2" "LR2\_ADDRESS3", "LR2\_CITY", "LR2\_STATE" "LR2\_POSTAL".
- e. "<u>Gross Room Revenues</u>" means all revenues from the rental, sale, in kind exchange, use or occupancy of any of the Sleeping Rooms, for whatever purpose, including cash and credit transactions, whether or not collected by you. Gross room revenues includes revenue derived from the redemption of points or rewards under any loyalty program, amounts attributable to breakfast (where the guest room rate includes breakfast), guaranteed no show revenue, early departure fees, late checkout fees, day use revenue, attrition or cancellation fees collected from unfulfilled reservations for Sleeping Rooms, proceeds

from any business interruption insurance, as required by <u>Section 12</u> of this Agreement, and other revenues allocable to rooms revenue under the then-current Uniform System of Accounting for the Lodging Industry or such accounting methods specified by us in the Rules and Regulations. Gross Room Revenues also includes the full market value of any Sleeping Rooms (based on the average daily rate for a comparable room on the applicable night) that is provided at a substantial discount compared to the lowest bookable rate on the applicable night in exchange for other items, goods, services, or other consideration. It does not include sales tax, hotel occupancy tax, or any other taxes or fees that you are legally required to collect on behalf of any state or local government agency. It also does not include revenues from telephone calls, movie rentals, vending machines, room service or food and beverages sales.

- f. "Hotel" means the property located at **"PROP\_ADDR1"**, **"PROP\_ADDR2" "PROP\_ZIP"** ("Location") and includes the building, land and all improvements, structures, fixtures, amenities, equipment, furniture and related rights, privileges and properties at such Location.
- g. "<u>Hotel Supplies</u>" means all furniture, fixtures, equipment (including, without limitation, computers, printers, telephones and facsimile machines), signs, amenities and other supplies used in the construction, renovation, maintenance and operation of the Hotel.
- h. "<u>Meeting Rooms</u>" means the total number of meeting, conference and/or banquet or similar rooms generally available for rent in the Hotel, subject to change only in accordance with <u>Section 8</u>, below.
- i. "Opening Date" means the date that you begin to rent any portion of the Rentable Rooms under this Agreement.
- j. "Other Choice Brand Hotels" means hotels other than the Hotel that are authorized by us to use the Choice Marks, our System and our Intellectual Property (as defined in <u>Section 7</u>).
- k. "<u>Property Management System</u>" means the then-current version of the automated system that we require or license to you on a non-exclusive basis to assist you to operate and manage the Hotel and to capture all data and record all transactions entered into by you and the Hotel in connection with the operation of the Hotel, including all transactions relating to the Rentable Rooms.
  - I. "Rentable Rooms" means the Sleeping Rooms and the Meeting Rooms, collectively.
- m. "Reservation System" means the then-current methods and automated systems that we use (including our call centers and any and all related telecommunications systems, e-commerce tools and techniques, websites or mobile applications, tablet reservation applications, interfaces with global distribution systems (including travel agencies), interfaces with other internet reservations sites (such as online travel agencies), call-forwarding or call-transfer programs and techniques or similar tools or methods used by us as modified from time to time) to take, hold, honor, and report advance reservations that are made in connection with the use of the Rentable Rooms at the Hotel and at the Other Choice Brand Hotels.
- n. "Rules and Regulations" means our then-current brand rules and regulations, as updated and/or modified by us in our discretion from time to time (and any supplements) and brand guidelines (including any manuals or policies that we may make available), which may contain, among other things, our standards and requirements for constructing, equipping, furnishing, supplying, operating, maintaining and marketing the Hotel. The Rules and Regulations shall apply to all hotels operating under the Brand Mark
- o. "<u>Sleeping Rooms</u>" means the number **«ROOM\_CNT»**, which is and shall be the total number of rentable sleeping rooms in the Hotel, subject to change only in accordance with <u>Section 8</u>, below.
- p. "System" means our then-current concepts and methods for providing hotel accommodations with a high standard of service, courtesy and cleanliness using the Choice Marks and any trade secrets and includes our Property Management System and Reservation System, our loyalty program, our business referral, gift card and credit card agreements, this Agreement, the Rules and

Regulations, and those identifying brand characteristics as we may from time to time reasonably designate.

- 2. Grant of License. Subject to your compliance with all of your obligations under this Agreement, we grant to you a non-exclusive, limited, revocable license to use (without the right to sublicense) our System and the Brand Mark to operate the Hotel during the Term. You do not have the right to use any of the Choice Marks other than the Brand Mark in connection with the operation of the Hotel, except as expressly authorized by us in writing. We, for ourselves and our affiliates, retain all rights and discretion with respect to the Brand Mark and the System, including, but not limited to, those specified in Section 19(b).
- 3. <u>Term.</u> The term of this Agreement ("<u>Term</u>") begins on the Effective Date and ends on the date that is 20 years after the Opening Date. You have no right or option to renew this Agreement or extend the Term. Both you and we have the right to terminate this Agreement, with or without cause, and as a matter of right, on the 10<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> anniversaries of the Opening Date. You or we may only exercise such termination right by giving prior written notice to the other party, provided, that you may not exercise your termination right under this <u>Section 3</u> unless you have paid all fees and charges due under this Agreement (and all related agreements, including any promissory notes or other incentive agreements, and any agreements relating to the use of our System) at the time you give us notice and at the time of the proposed termination. The written notice required by this <u>Section 3</u> shall be given at least 12 months prior to the date of the proposed termination as a matter of right would be effective. If you elect to terminate this Agreement in accordance with this <u>Section 3</u>, you must continue to remain current on all fees and charges under this Agreement through the date that such termination in order for your termination to be effective. Any termination in accordance with this <u>Section 3</u> will not be subject to liquidated damages as described in <u>Section 10(d)(2)</u>, as long as you are not in default of the Agreement at the time you exercise your option to terminate this Agreement

# 4. Fees and Reports.

- a. <u>Affiliation Fee.</u> By no later than the date you sign this Agreement, you will pay us an affiliation fee of **«AFFIL\_FEE».00** ("<u>Affiliation Fee</u>"), which is non-refundable except as provided in this <u>Section 4(a)</u>. The Affiliation Fee is fully earned upon our receipt, whether or not you open the Hotel. If we do not sign this Agreement for any reason, any monies that you have paid to us towards the Affiliation Fee, less \$10,000, will be refunded to you.
- b. <u>Monthly Fees</u>. Beginning on the Opening Date, you will pay us for each month during the Term each of the following monthly fees (collectively, "<u>Monthly Fees</u>"):
- 1. Royalty Fee. A royalty fee of 5% of the preceding month's Gross Room Revenues ("Royalty Fee") in consideration for the license granted to you in Section 2.
- 2. Marketing Fee. A marketing fee of 2% of the preceding month's Gross Room Revenues ("Marketing Fee") for all costs and expenses related to advertising, marketing, promoting, sales, public relations, and other similar services that we provide for the benefit of the System or Other Choice Brand Hotels, as further described in Section 19(h) below, as we determine in our sole discretion. You acknowledge and agree that (i) we may increase the Marketing Fee due to cost increases attributable to inflation, increases in the costs of advertising, publicity, public relations or marketing, additional costs of implementing new or improved programs or systems, or increases in our cost of providing any of the other aspects of our System, so long as the increases apply to all or most of the U.S. hotels that are authorized to use the Brand Mark; (ii) we may assess additional fees and charges for various components of the System and other services as described in this Agreement and the Rules and Regulations; and (iii) we may advance monies for the purposes described herein in an amount reasonably necessary to ensure the continuation of such services whether or not sufficient Marketing Fees are then available, and subsequently obtain reimbursement of such advances by utilizing future Marketing Fees or through the fee increases described above, provided that such increases shall be limited to the amount needed to recover the previous monies advanced;

- 3. Reservation Fee. A reservation fee of 2% of the preceding month's Gross Room Revenues ("Reservation Fee"); and
- 4. Other Fees and Commissions. Such other fees and commissions described in the Rules and Regulations which are reasonably charged by us in connection with the rights and obligations granted under this Agreement.
- Payments and Reports. Beginning on the Opening Date, within 5 days after the end of each calendar month during the Term, you will send us a statement on a form to be determined by us showing the Gross Room Revenues, occupancy and other related information that we request for the immediately preceding month or, in the alternative, at our election, we will gather the Gross Room Revenues, occupancy and other related information through any automated information reporting systems we establish. In the event we elect to have you send us a statement of the Gross Room Revenues, you will certify that your reports are true and accurate. If we elect to have you send us a statement of the Gross Room Revenues, and you do not send us the required reports on time, we will estimate your Gross Room Revenues for interim billing purposes, and you must pay us a late charge of 1.5% of your previous month's Monthly Fees. If we elect to gather the Gross Room Revenues through our automated reporting systems, and we are unable for whatever reason to obtain an accurate report of the Gross Room Revenues, we will estimate your Gross Room Revenues for interim billing purposes. Interim bills will be considered accurate until we receive any late monthly reports or acquire accurate information through our automated reporting systems, as appropriate. We will bill you for the Monthly Fees (and interest or other penalty, if any) due under this Agreement each month, and you will pay us those amounts by the 25th day of the same month. You agree that timely payment of the Monthly Fees and any other amounts and fees due to us is of the essence for the purposes of this Agreement. You also agree that we may apply payments that you make in any order we determine regardless of any contrary language you may indicate. You agree that you will participate in computerized or automated information reporting programs and make all payments via electronic fund transfers or centralized payment processing programs that we adopt for use by hotels that are authorized to use our System. If we adopt electronic fund transfer programs, you agree to make the necessary arrangements with your bank to participate in such programs and you agree to purchase computer hardware, computer software and related telephone or other network services reasonably required in order to properly participate in these programs. We also have the right to require you to pay all amounts due to us and/or our affiliates by electronic fund transfer, pre-authorized auto-draft arrangement ("EFT"), or such other methods as we may specify from time to time.
- d. <u>Hotel Data.</u> You will, in a manner and form satisfactory to us and utilizing accounting and reporting standards as reasonably required by us, prepare on a current basis (and preserve for no less than 7 years), complete and accurate records concerning Gross Room Revenues and all financial, operating, marketing and other aspects of the Hotel specified by us from time to time ("<u>Hotel Data</u>") and maintain an accounting system which fully and accurately reflects all financial aspects of the Hotel and its business. The Hotel Data includes, but is not limited to, all bank statements, federal tax returns, state tax returns, local occupancy tax returns, daily revenue reports, monthly and annual revenue summary reports, maid logs, guest registration folios, guest complaints, guest satisfaction survey results, any other operating reports or contracts regarding the occupancy of guest rooms, and complete annual financial statements (profit and loss statements, balance sheets and cash flow statements). The Hotel Data will be maintained at the Hotel, or, if you notify us in writing, at an alternate location suitable for inspection by us. All Hotel Data must be kept separate and apart from all other data. Nothing in the foregoing shall limit us from reviewing Hotel Data that is older than 7 years or from recovering amounts owed to us from any period of time.
- e. <u>Financial Statements and Audit</u>. You will send us (or our designee) copies of the Hotel Data and financial statements certified by you as true and accurate (including a profit and loss statement, balance sheet, cash flow statement, or such other financial data or reports on a monthly basis, in a form satisfactory to us, or which meets the Uniform System of Accounts for the Lodging Industry ("USALI")) for the Hotel for the prior fiscal year (or other time period), and you will have the Gross Room Revenues or other monies due hereunder computed and certified as accurate. During the Term and for 7 years afterward, we and our

authorized representatives will have the right to verify information required under this Agreement by requesting, receiving, inspecting, copying and auditing, the Hotel Data and any and all records or documents related to the Hotel Data wherever they may be located. If any inspection or audit discloses a deficiency in any payments due hereunder, you must pay us all deficiencies plus interest at the rate indicated in Section 4(f), below. If the deficiency in any payment is willful or exceeds 5% of the correct amount, you will also immediately pay to us the entire cost of the inspection and audit, including travel, lodging, meals, salaries, professional fees and other expenses of the inspecting or auditing personnel.

f. <u>Interest</u>. You will pay us interest on all charges, costs, fees and amounts due under this Agreement but not paid on time at the rate of 1.5% per month, but not more than the maximum interest rate permitted by applicable law.

# **5. Our Duties**. We will during the Term:

- a. Rules and Regulations. Make available to you an electronic copy of the Rules and Regulations;
- b. <u>Quality Assurance</u>. Administer quality assurance programs as described in the Rules and Regulations that may include periodic visits to the Hotel (by us or authorized third parties) and/or guest satisfaction surveys and guest reviews to evaluate your compliance with this Agreement and the Rules and Regulations and advise you of any defaults and on changes that you must make to the Hotel or its operations to comply with this Agreement or the Rules and Regulations;
- c. <u>System Services</u>. (i) Allow you to use the Property Management System and the Reservation System, (ii) provide marketing services, such as national, international and regional advertising, promotional programs, publicity, marketing research, and other related marketing activities, that we reasonably determine are appropriate for the promotion of the Hotel, our System and the Other Choice Brand Hotels; and (iii) periodically make available to the traveling public a directory or other listing of all hotels which are in good standing and that are authorized to use our System, which may be provided in an electronic format, including on the Internet, in our sole discretion. You acknowledge and agree that we may combine the services that we will provide to you in clauses (i), (ii) and (iii), above, with other hotels that are authorized to use the Brand Mark and/or our System, or other hotels that we or our affiliates operate in our sole, but reasonable, discretion. You also acknowledge and agree that we will not be obligated to permit or assist in making reservations for the Hotel for any dates following the scheduled date of expiration or termination of this Agreement, or during any period in which your rights are suspended under <u>Section 10(c)</u> of this Agreement; and
- d. <u>Consultation</u>. Make available to you, at our discretion, additional consultation and services to assist you to construct, renovate, maintain, operate, and/or market the Hotel on the same basis as provided to other hotels that are authorized to use our System under the Brand Mark; we reserve the right to charge you reasonable fees that we may establish in advance or on a project-by-project basis for such consultation and services. Any guidance, recommendations, or advice provided to you during such consultation shall be deemed suggestions only, and the decision to follow any such guidance, recommendations, or advice will be made by you in your sole discretion.

# **6. Your Duties**. You will during the Term:

a. <u>Compliance with Rules and Regulations</u>. Comply with the requirements of this Agreement and the Rules and Regulations, which you acknowledge we may modify and/or update in our sole discretion from time to time. You will not disclose this Agreement or the Rules and Regulations (including any copies of the Rules and Regulations that are no longer the then-current version) to anyone except your authorized employees (or the employees of your management company, if authorized by us), your attorneys, accountants, lenders, or authorized agents and advisors who have a need to know for the purpose of operating the Hotel and your lenders, investors and potential purchasers, each of whom have been clearly informed of their obligation to maintain the confidential status of such confidential information and who sign corresponding documentation protecting such confidential information from unauthorized disclosure without our written consent and which grants us the right to enforce such confidentiality agreement and pursue any

unauthorized disclosure by such parties;

- b. <u>Good Repair; Safe and Secure</u>. Construct, renovate, operate, furnish, maintain and advertise the Hotel according to this Agreement and the Rules and Regulations; undertake all repairs, cleaning, redecoration, repainting, and replacement of obsolete or outdated Hotel Supplies; take such other corrective action as is necessary to maintain the Hotel interior and exterior, including any parking areas and food and beverage facilities, in a clean, sound, and attractive condition and good repair at all times; and operate the Hotel in a safe and secure manner that optimizes public health and safety. You are solely responsible for determining and addressing all safety concerns relating to the condition of the Hotel and surrounding areas;
- c. <u>Ethical Standards</u>; <u>Performance</u>. Establish and maintain a high ethical and moral standard in connection with your operation of the Hotel and not allow or sponsor any activity at the Hotel that could reasonably be determined to negatively impact the Brand Mark, the Choice Marks, our System, the Other Choice Brand Hotels or our business reputation; operate the Hotel in a professional manner that meets or exceeds the generally accepted standards of performance of leading hotel operators in the industry, including any and all communications and interactions with employees and agents of Choice; refrain from disparaging or encouraging others to disparage Choice or its officers, directors, or employees, or otherwise making derogatory comments or statements, orally or in writing, concerning Choice's or its officers', directors', or employees' character or business practices intending to harm Choice's or such individual's goodwill, reputation or standing;
- d. <u>Compliance with Laws; Limited Use.</u> Comply with all local, state, and federal laws, rules, regulations and agency orders, and obtain all required permits and licenses, applicable to you, your employees, or the construction, renovation, operation, maintenance or promotion of the Hotel (including, but not limited to, all labor and employment laws), and not permit the Hotel to be used for any purpose or activity that is unlawful or that is not contemplated by this Agreement or the Rules and Regulations;
- e. <u>Training</u>. Comply with our training requirements by ensuring that you and the Hotel's general manager(s) attend (at the times required by us) our then-current training programs, including our annual national convention for hotels authorized to use the System ("<u>Training Programs</u>") and pay the cost of tuition, living expenses, and travel expenses associated with attendance at the Training Programs by you and the Hotel's general manager(s). You understand and agree that you will be solely responsible for training your employees in the operation of the Hotel;
- f. <u>Signage</u>. Subject to applicable governmental rules and regulations, obtain and display prominently at the Hotel our approved interior and exterior signage in compliance with the Rules and Regulations, which may be modified from time to time in our sole discretion, and maintain the signage in a clean and attractive condition, and in good working order at all times;
- g. Property Management and Reservation Systems. Use the then-current Property Management System we require (and the equipment, networks, software and procedures (including hardware and software refresh requirements) that are described in the Rules and Regulations) to operate and manage the Hotel and in connection with all guest transactions (including all transactions relating to the Rentable Rooms), and use our Reservation System to accept, hold, honor and track all reservations for the Rentable Rooms. You understand and agree that your use of the Property Management System is governed by a separate agreement, and you are required to comply with the then-current terms of use related to the Property Management System, which may be modified and/or updated from time to time. If, at any time, we grant you a license to use our proprietary property management system, you acknowledge and agree that the terms of use related to that property management system ("ChoiceAdvantage Software Terms of Use") are expressly incorporated herein by reference and made a part of this Agreement, and you agree that you will abide by the ChoiceAdvantage Software Terms of Use and pay all applicable fees described in the Rules and Regulations. You also acknowledge and agree that we and you have ownership rights in the data used or generated by the Property Management System or the Reservation System;
  - h. Evaluation. Allow us (or any third party authorized by us) to enter the Hotel at any reasonable

time to evaluate your compliance with this Agreement, the Rules and Regulations, and any quality assurance program we administer either directly or through an authorized third party. During such visit, you will assist us (or the authorized third party) in such manner as is required for us (or the authorized third party) to conduct our evaluation and, subject to availability, provide us (or the authorized third party) with one free Sleeping Room for one night. In addition, you agree that we (or the authorized third party) may evaluate your compliance with this Agreement, the Rules and Regulations, and any quality assurance program we administer, remotely and/or through data obtained from guest satisfaction surveys or programs. You agree to take all steps necessary to correct any deficiencies identified in our evaluation within the time periods that we reasonably specify;

- i. <u>Rate Information</u>. Upon our request, and in the manner and format we specify, send us a written description of your Hotel and its then-current rates so that we may include this information in directories and other listings and information that we periodically make available to the public. If you do not send us changes to the information that you provide to us by the deadlines that we indicate, you will honor the rates and descriptive information on record at the time of the deadlines;
- j. <u>Promotional Programs</u>. Participate in and honor the terms of any loyalty, discount or promotional program and pay all applicable fees or charges associated with such programs (including any room discounts, rewards programs, frequent traveler programs, photographic or virtual tour programs or gift card programs that are applicable to the Hotel or Other Choice Brand Hotels) that we offer to the public on your behalf and any room rate quoted to any guest at the time the guest makes an advance reservation. You agree that you will take all action necessary (including the supply to us of all information and the purchase of any supplies, equipment or services) to participate in any loyalty, discount or promotional programs, and that you will grant us all necessary rights in and to any photographs, video and/or other marketing materials that we may require in order to reasonably undertake such promotional programs on behalf of the Hotel, and/or some or all of the Other Choice Brand Hotels;
- k. <u>Travel Agent Commissions</u>. Promptly pay all travel agent commissions and global distribution system charges due from you in connection with the Hotel whether payable by you directly or collected by us on behalf of others, and abide by the Rules and Regulations related to travel agent and global distribution system procedures;
- I. <u>System Referrals</u>. Use commercially reasonable efforts to maximize and increase the business of the Hotel, and if you are unable to accommodate a potential guest, refer the guest to Other Choice Brand Hotels that are near to the Hotel, if any;
- m. <u>ADA Certification</u>. Ensure that the Hotel complies with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act ("<u>ADA</u>"). Prior to the Opening Date, you will provide to us, a certification from your architect, your general contractor, a consulting architect or you, on a form satisfactory to us, certifying that the Hotel is in compliance with all applicable provisions of the ADA. The Hotel may not open, use the Brand Mark or our System until this certification is properly completed and delivered to us;
- n. <u>Franchise Association</u>. Join and maintain membership in any franchise association we designate for hotels that are authorized to use the Brand Mark ("<u>Franchise Association</u>"), and pay monthly Franchise Association dues to us (or our designee) in an amount we reasonably require. You acknowledge and agree that the purpose of any Franchise Association created, sponsored, or endorsed by us will be to, among other things: affect a high-level relationship among all franchisees, and between individual franchisees and us, for the purpose of mutual advantage and cooperation; improve and encourage a high performance level and cooperative action among all franchisees; advance new ideas, discuss System-wide issues and focus attention on various matters as they relate to a significant number of franchisees; encourage an exchange of operational and promotional ideas; and make appropriate recommendations to us to assure that our plans and policies enhance our mutual interests. However, you acknowledge and agree that we are not required to obtain the consent of any Franchise Association on these or any other matters;

- o. Renovations. Undertake, at our written request, remodeling, renovations, and modifications to existing improvements, necessary to modernize and conform the Hotel to the Rules and Regulations or other requirements of our System ("Renovations") and sign a property improvement plan or other writing that we prepare to document your obligation to complete such Renovations. Within 90 days after receipt of our written request that your Hotel undergo Renovations, you will submit to us for our review and approval. complete and professional drawings and plans for such Renovations before beginning any work to complete the Renovations. You will complete the required Renovations within the time reasonably specified by us in our written request and failure to do so will be subject to notice and cure periods set forth in Section 10 hereof. Without limiting the foregoing, you agree to replace all Soft Goods at least every six (6) years after the date such Soft Goods are installed, and replace all Case Goods at least every twelve (12) years after the date such Case Goods are installed; provided, however, earlier or more frequent Renovations or replacements may be necessary to maintain the quality level of the Hotel in compliance with the Rules and Regulations as we determine in our reasonable discretion. Any such replacement of Soft Goods or Case Goods, as the case may be, must be performed within a limited time period (not to exceed 90 days) and not over an extended period of time in order to minimize disruption to guests and avoid inconsistency of product. For purposes of this Section 6(o), "Soft Goods" shall mean wall and floor coverings, window treatments, carpeting, bedspreads, lamps, artwork, decorative items, wall decorations, upholstery, textiles, fabrics, vinyl, and similar items used in the Sleeping Rooms, Meeting Rooms, and public areas of the Hotel; and "Case Goods" shall mean furniture and fixtures, such as cabinets, shelves, chests, armoires, chairs, beds, headboards, desks, tables, mirrors, lighting fixtures, and similar items used in the Sleeping Rooms, Meeting Rooms, and public areas of the Hotel. You acknowledge and agree that the obligations described in this Section 6(o) are in addition to your ongoing obligations to comply with Section 6(b) and Section 6(d);
- p. <u>Identifying Information</u>. Send us, before the Opening Date (and any time there is a change in any of the information), the following, as appropriate: (i) the legal name and business type (corporation, limited liability company, limited partnership, etc.) of the Hotel's operating entity; (ii) its federal TIN (taxpayer identifying number); (iii) its state income tax account number(s); (iv) its state payroll tax (withholding and unemployment tax) account number(s); (v) its state sales tax and occupancy tax account number(s); and (vi) its local (county and city) occupancy tax account number(s);
- q. <u>Guest Complaints</u>. Participate in, and pay all charges in connection with all required guest complaint resolution programs and ratings and review policies, which we may modify from time to time, as specified in the Rules and Regulations;
- r. <u>Construction and Substantial Renovation Related Duties</u>. If the Hotel has yet to be constructed or if the Hotel is to be substantially renovated:
- 1. Plans. Prepare 30% design development documents for the Hotel ("30% Plans") that satisfy the Rules and Regulations and the then-current prototype design specifications for hotels that are authorized to use the Brand Mark, and submit a copy of the 30% Plans to us for our review and approval within 3 months after the Effective Date. Prepare 60% design development documents for the Hotel ("60% Plans") that satisfy the Rules and Regulations and the then-current prototype design specifications for hotels that are authorized to use the Brand Mark, and submit a copy of the 60% Plans to us for our review and approval within 6 months after the Effective Date. "30% Plans" means drawings that, in accordance with the American Institute of Architects best practices, provide clear direction regarding the design intent for the size and character of the entire project, including the following preliminary drawings: civil plans; architectural floor and roof plans; concept building sections and elevations; conceptual structural, mechanical, electrical, and plumbing plans; unique conditions that are site specific; room type matrix and gross square footage of each quest room; estimations of area tabulation, construction type for budget, and cost estimation. "60% Plans" means drawings that, in accordance with the American Institute of Architects best practices, fix and describe the size and character of the entire project as to structural, landscape, mechanical, plumbing, and electrical systems; interior design concepts, finishes, and sample materials; materials, window and door locations; unique conditions that are site specific; and a construction cost estimation;

- 2. <u>Timing and Extensions</u>. Cause Construction Start to occur within **12 months** of the Effective Date, and within 5 days after Construction Start, inform us in writing that Construction Start has occurred. "<u>Construction Start</u>" means either: (i) for a new construction hotel, the date that construction permit(s) is(are) obtained, the Location has been fenced off and mobilized by the contractor, and construction activity is occurring daily at the Location; or (ii) for a conversion hotel, the date that demolition permit(s) is(are) obtained, the Location has been fenced off and mobilized by the contractor, and construction activity is occurring daily at the Location. If you do not cause Construction Start to occur within 12 months of the Effective Date of this Agreement, you may request, before the end of the 12 months, an additional 3 months for Construction Start. We are not obligated to extend the time for Construction Start. If we agree to extend the time for Construction Start beyond the original 12 month requirement, you will pay us an extension fee of \$5,000 for each 3-month extension that we grant to you;
- 3. <u>Model Room</u>. Build a model Sleeping Room for our review and approval prior to ordering any fixtures, furnishings or equipment for the Hotel;
- 4. <u>Completion</u>. Continue Hotel construction (or renovation) in accordance with the Plans subject to industry standard construction tolerances, after Construction Start, without unreasonable interruption, until the Hotel is ready for our inspection. You must complete Hotel construction (or renovation), including furnishing, equipping, and preparing for opening, by the Opening Deadline (as defined in <u>Section 6(s)(6)</u>);
- 5. <u>Progress Reports</u>. Send us, when we request during construction (or renovation), reports showing the progress made toward completing Hotel construction (or renovation); and
- 6. <u>Construction Schedule</u>. Provide to us a final construction schedule at Construction Start and an updated schedule as material changes in completion date occur.
  - s. Opening. Prior to the Opening Date:
- 1. <u>Use of Brand Mark</u>. Use the Brand Mark only as permitted in <u>Section 7(c)</u> of this Agreement;
- 2. <u>Cooperation/Inspection</u>. Cooperate with us, and use commercially reasonable efforts to require your architect, engineer, contractors and subcontractors to cooperate with us, and allow us to inspect the Location and the Hotel to determine whether construction (or renovation) satisfies the Rules and Regulations, the then-current prototype design specifications for hotels that are authorized to use the Brand Mark, and the Plans subject to industry standard tolerances;
- 3. <u>Hotel Supplies</u>. Order, purchase and/or lease and install all Hotel Supplies, related equipment, supplies and other required items to operate the Hotel;
- 4. <u>Advertising</u>. Advertise the Hotel locally, at your expense and in a manner meeting our specifications;
- 5. Opening Authorization. Notify us in writing at least 30 days before the Opening Date so that we can inspect, and if we reasonably determine it to be appropriate, authorize you to begin operating the Hotel under the Brand Mark and this Agreement. You will not begin operation of the Hotel using the Brand Mark or our System until you have received our specific written authorization to do so;
- 6. <u>Opening Deadline</u>. Ensure that the Opening Date occurs within **12 months** after Construction Start (if the Hotel has yet to be constructed), or the BES Deadline (if set forth in Attachment A) ("<u>Opening Deadline</u>"); and
- 7. <u>Pre-Opening Budget</u>. Provide us within 7 months prior to the Opening Deadline, and as an express condition of opening, a detailed property pro forma and segmented stub and first full year operating budget on a form to be determined by us.

- t. Management Company. Engage a professional hotel management company ("Management Company") before Construction Start and retain such Management Company to operate and manage the Hotel during the Term of the Agreement. Your selection of Management Company will be subject to our prior written consent. We will consider you or your affiliate as a Management Company using the same criteria we use in considering a third-party Management Company. Our consent of a Management Company selected by you does not constitute an endorsement, recommendation, or validation of such management company, and we provide no guaranty or assurance that such Management Company will be successful. Our consent is revocable at any time if we determine, in our sole discretion, that Management Company no longer complies with our standards and requirements. Within 30 days of such revocation, you must replace your then-current Management Company with a replacement Management Company that we approve in writing. To comply with the foregoing requirements, any hotel management company agreement you execute during the Term of this Agreement in connection with the Hotel must be terminable by you without cause. Choice is under no obligation to approve a proposed management company or replacement management company that is a franchisor or owner (or an affiliate of a franchisor or owner) of a hotel, resort or other lodging chain or brand.
- u. Marketing Plan. Provide us within 4 months prior to the Opening Deadline, and as an express condition of opening, a detailed sales, advertising and marketing plan ("Marketing Plan") for review and approval. The Marketing Plan must include a detailed market and demand overview, segmentation strategy along with supporting analysis, local marketing plan, and proposed rate positioning along with supporting strategy. You must also within 6 months prior to the Opening Deadline hire, employ and effectively integrate and onboard a Director of Sales and Marketing that is solely dedicated to the Hotel. You and we agree that we will have the right to evaluate the Marketing Plan during the Term of the Agreement no more than once every six months and we will have the right, in our sole discretion, to require revisions to the Marketing Plan that are commercially reasonable. You and the Management Company will be responsible for the implementation and execution of the Marketing Plan, including any revisions required by us that are commercially reasonable. We will base our revisions on your input and the performance of the hotel against its competitive indexes. We will notify you in writing of the required revisions to the Marketing Plan. You acknowledge that your failure to implement and execute the Marketing Plan, including any revisions required by us that are commercially reasonable within the period set forth in such notice and subject to the notice and cure periods set forth in Section 10 of the Agreement, will constitute a material default under the Franchise Agreement giving us the right to terminate the Agreement pursuant to Section 10 of the Franchise Agreement. The immediately preceding sentence does not apply to your failure to achieve property level sales results at the Hotel as they relate to the Marketing Plan.
- v. Sources of Products and Services. Ensure that all products and services sold or offered for sale at the Hotel, and other products, materials, supplies, paper goods, fixtures, furnishings and equipment used at the Hotel, meet our standards and specifications as set forth in the Rules and Regulations or as we may designate in writing. You must also purchase certain products and services that we may designate from time to time in the Rules and Regulations solely from suppliers (including manufacturers, distributors and other sources) approved by us (collectively, "Qualified Vendors"), which demonstrate, to our continuing reasonable satisfaction, the ability to meet our standards and specifications, who possess adequate quality controls and capacity to supply your needs promptly and reliably, and who have been approved by us in writing. Notwithstanding the foregoing, you may purchase products and services from another vendor so long as such products and services meet our Rules and Regulations and specifications. We reserve the right to require you to purchase any or all approved products or services solely from us or our designated affiliate. We also reserve the right to receive a rebate or other benefit from Qualified Vendors based on purchases by you and other franchisees. We may limit the number of Qualified Vendors to obtain volume discounts and to promote consistent quality and adequate supplies for the brand. If you desire to purchase designated products or services from a party other than a Qualified Vendor, you must submit to us a written request to approve the proposed supplier, together with such information as we may reasonably require. Among the criteria that we consider is the financial stability of the supplier, whether the product or service meets our standards and specifications, and whether the product or service is of use to our franchisees. Our complete written criteria are available for review upon your request. Where applicable, the proposed supplier must submit product samples and specifications to us. We will use our best efforts to notify the

proposed supplier within 90 days after we receive all required information and samples, although a longer period may be required for certain products or services due to their cost or importance to the brand or their financial impact on our franchisees. We may revoke our approval of particular products or Qualified Vendors when we determine, in our sole discretion, that such products or suppliers no longer meet our standards or specifications. By entering into this Agreement, you consent to Choice sharing your contact information with Qualified Vendors who provide services to franchisees under the Brand Mark. If such contact information is deemed "personal information" under state or federal law, and you do not want us to share this information, please contact us.

- w. <u>Reserve.</u> You must fund the cost of all repairs, renovations, and upgrades at the Hotel, including, but not limited to, those required by <u>Sections 6(b), 6(f), and 6(o)</u> above. For the purpose of periodically replacing Soft Goods, Case Goods, signage, fixtures, and equipment, you shall establish a cash reserve fund ("Reserve") at a bank selected by you and acceptable to us. All interest earned on funds in the Reserve will be deposited in and credited to the Reserve in addition to the other funds already in the Reserve. The Reserve will not be used for repairs, alterations, improvements, renewals, or replacements to the Hotel's building structure or to its mechanical, electrical, heating, ventilation, air conditioning, plumbing, or vertical transportation systems, which structure and operating systems will be maintained in good repair and condition from other funds of yours.
- 1. Commencing with the Opening Date and continuing through the Term, you must, within fifteen (15) days after the end of each month, transfer into the Reserve an amount equal to the following percentages of the preceding month's Gross Room Revenues:

Months	Percentage of Gross Room Revenues
1 – 12	1.5%
13 – 24	2.5%
25 – 60	3.5%
61 – 120	4.5%
121 and thereafter	5.0%

- 2. At the end of each 12-month period, any amounts remaining in the Reserve will be carried forward and will not be credited against or decrease the amount otherwise required to be deposited in the Reserve during the next 12-month period.
- 3. No later than thirty (30) days after the beginning of each 12-month period, you will prepare and submit to us a financial accounting of the Reserve for the prior 12-month period, including all contributions and expenditures.
- 4. You agree that the contributions to the Reserve required by <u>Section 6(w)(1)</u> may not be sufficient to keep the Reserve at the level necessary to make all repairs and replacements required by this Agreement or otherwise. If the funds in the Reserve are insufficient for such purpose, you agree to promptly contribute any necessary funds.
- x. <u>Revenue Management</u>. Enroll in then-current brand revenue management program or secure brand approval based on then-current requirements and qualifications for non-brand revenue management as set forth in the Rules and Regulations.
- y. <u>Confidential Information</u>. Maintain the absolute confidentiality of the Confidential Information (as defined below) during and after the term of this Agreement. You agree that you: (i) will not use the Confidential Information in any capacity or business or purpose other than what is explicitly authorized under the terms of this Agreement; (ii) will not make unauthorized copies of any Confidential Information disclosed in written form; and (iii) will adopt and implement all reasonable procedures we direct to prevent unauthorized use or disclosure of the Confidential Information. You shall divulge such Confidential Information only to such of your authorized employees (or the employees of your management company if authorized by us), attorneys, accountants, authorized agents, lenders, investors or prospective purchasers of the Hotel as must have access to it in order to operate, loan money in connection with, or purchase the

Hotel. "Confidential Information" includes the methods, techniques, formats, marketing and promotional techniques and procedures, specifications, information, Rules and Regulations, systems, costs and financial information that we communicate to you or that you otherwise acquire in operating the Hotel under the System. Confidential Information does not include information, processes or techniques that are generally known to the public, other than through disclosure (whether deliberate or inadvertent) by you.

z. Food and Beverage. You are required to manage all food and beverage operations and offerings at the Hotel in accordance with our Rules and Regulations. Any third-party operator ("Third-Party Operator") you designate to operate any restaurant, bar (including any rooftop bar), any retail bay outlet or other food establishment must be pre-approved by us in writing. Additionally, you must seek our prior written consent before executing any lease with any Third-Party Operator to ensure the lease meets our requirements. Our consent of a Third-Party Operator does not constitute an endorsement, recommendation, or validation of the Third-Party Operator. Our consent of your Third-Party Operator is revocable at any time if we determine in our sole discretion, that the Third-Party Operator no longer complies with our standards and requirements. Within 30 days of such revocation, you must replace your then-current Third-Party Operator with a replacement third-party operator approved in writing by us. To comply with the foregoing requirements, any lease agreement you execute during the Term of this Agreement must be terminable by you without cause. You and/or any Third-Party Operator must provide food and beverage at the Hotel in strict compliance with the Rules and Regulations, including: (1) operating the restaurant, bar, lounge, market and sundry area or any other food outlet at the Hotel in accordance with our requirements as provided in the Rules and Regulations to ensure the highest level of quality, safety, and service; (2) maintaining in sufficient supply all food and beverage products and ingredients (as well as other supplies, paper goods, dinnerware, and furnishings) that meet our requirements and conform to our Rules and Regulations; (3) selling or offering to sell only those food and beverage items in the restaurant, bar, lounge, or any other food outlet (including any rooftop bar or restaurant) at your Hotel that comply with our Rules and Regulations and applicable law (including abiding by applicable licensing and other requirements for the sale of alcoholic beverages); (4) maintaining hours of operation for the restaurant, bar, lounge, or any other food or beverage outlet (including rooftop) in accordance with our Rules and Regulations; and (5) using only menus, signs, promotional displays and other materials that comply with the design of our Rules and Regulations.

# 7. Intellectual Property.

- a. No Ownership Rights. You acknowledge and agree that except as expressly permitted by this Agreement or any ChoiceAdvantage Software Terms of Use, you do not have any right, title or interest in and to the Brand Mark or the Choice Marks, Rules and Regulations, System, our then current concept and method for providing hotel accommodations using any of the Choice Marks, Property Management System, Reservation System, trade secrets or business methods (collectively, "Intellectual Property") and you will not contest our rights in and to such Intellectual Property or to current or future derivations of or improvements made to the Intellectual Property, nor our right to register our rights in the Intellectual Property or to grant to others the right to use the Intellectual Property or any other intellectual property that we own. You understand that the Intellectual Property will remain our property, and that your use of any portion of the Intellectual Property inures to our benefit. You also agree that you will not sub-license the Intellectual Property rights we have granted to you under this Agreement, to any other person or entity and you will not use such Intellectual Property for any purpose other than in connection with the Hotel in accordance with the terms of this Agreement. You agree to assign and you do hereby assign any and all rights you or any other party working on your behalf may have or develop in the Intellectual Property at no cost to us. You acknowledge and agree that all rights to our Intellectual Property that have not been granted to you in this Agreement will remain ours.
- b. <u>Limited Use; Web Sites.</u> You acknowledge and agree that you will not include the Brand Mark (or any other Choice Marks), any words that constitute a portion of the Brand Mark (or any other Choice Marks), words that describe the Brand Mark (or any other Choice Marks), any portion of the names of our Property Management System or Reservation System, or anything confusingly similar to these marks or words ("<u>Choice-Related Words</u>") in your name or the name of any of your affiliates, whether a partnership, corporation, limited liability company, joint venture or any other type of business organization, or as (or

incorporated in) the name and/or design of any other building, business or business activity. You will not establish, or operate a previously established web site on the internet (or on any other network, wireless or otherwise) using any domain name (or other identifying characteristics) that contains any of the Choice-Related Words, or any other portion of our Intellectual Property or anything similar to our Intellectual Property or which does not comply with our then-current domain name policy or our property website guidelines, internet distribution policy, or such similar policies or regulations adopted by us from time to time and made available to you. You acknowledge and agree that the restrictions on your use of the Choice-Related Words will survive the expiration or earlier termination of this Agreement and that we retain the right to pre-approve your use of linking and framing between your internet (or other network) web pages and all other web sites. We have the right to determine the content and use of online or electronic media associated with any of the Choice Marks. You may not participate in any website or other electronic media (including social media) that markets goods and services under the Choice Marks unless it is first approved in writing by us.

- c. <u>Limited Use of Brand Mark</u>. After the Effective Date but before the Opening Date, you may make the following limited use of the Brand Mark:
- 1. <u>Temporary Signs</u>. Use the Brand Mark on a temporary sign, meeting our standards, at the Location advising the general public that a hotel authorized to use the Brand Mark is under construction;
- 2. <u>Local Media</u>. Use the Brand Mark to promote the Hotel construction and opening in the local media;
- 3. <u>Supplies</u>. No earlier than 90 days prior to the Opening Date, purchase operating supplies and equipment bearing the Brand Mark required for Hotel operation; and
- 4. <u>Permanent Signs</u>. No earlier than 30 days before the Opening Date and only with our written consent, install permanent Hotel signs meeting our standards bearing the Brand Mark and the designated logo.
- d. <u>Permitted Registration</u>. If you are required by law to register any of our Intellectual Property, your registration application must specify that you will use our Intellectual Property: (i) only at the Hotel and in advertising for the Hotel; (ii) only during the Term; and (iii) without claiming any rights in and to the Intellectual Property during or after the Term.
- e. Notice of Suit; Injunctive Relief; Survival. You will promptly notify us of any suit filed or demand made against you challenging the validity of our Intellectual Property ("IP Claim"). Following the receipt of such notice from you and using our attorneys, we agree to defend you against any IP Claim, and to defend and indemnify you against your loss, cost or expense related to such IP Claim, except where such IP Claim arose because you used our Intellectual Property in violation of our domain name policy, property website guidelines, internet distribution policy, this Agreement, the ChoiceAdvantage Software Terms of Use, or the Rules and Regulations. You will not settle or compromise any IP Claim without our prior written consent, and you agree to cooperate with us in defending against any such IP Claim. In connection with such IP Claim, you acknowledge and agree that if at any time during the Term you do not immediately discontinue the use of our Intellectual Property (including the Brand Mark) or the Choice-Related Words following our notice to you to discontinue such use, we will seek injunctive and equitable relief for your infringement (or use of the Choice-Related Words) and, in that event, you waive, to the maximum extent permitted by law, any requirement for any bond for the issuance of any injunction, and if a bond is required, you agree that it will not exceed \$1,000. The provisions of this Section 7 will survive the expiration or earlier termination of this Agreement.
- f. <u>Changes to Brand Mark</u>. You agree and acknowledge that we have the right, in our sole discretion, to modify, add to, or discontinue use of the Brand Mark, or to substitute different proprietary marks, for use in identifying the System and/or the Hotel. You shall promptly comply with such changes, revisions and/or substitutions, and bear all the costs of modifying your interior and exterior signage, advertising materials, interior graphics and any other items which bear the Brand Mark to conform therewith.

**8.** Change in Sleeping Room Count. You may change the Sleeping Rooms by 10% or less by constructing additional (or removing) Sleeping Rooms, but only after providing prior written notice to us. If you wish to change the Sleeping Rooms by more than 10% by constructing additional (or removing) Sleeping Rooms or if you wish to make substantial alterations to the Hotel as it relates to the number of Sleeping Rooms, you may not do so without our prior written consent, which may be conditioned on, among other things, our inspection of the Hotel and the applicable rooms. If we consent to your expansion of the Hotel or to substantial alterations to the Hotel as it relates to the number of Sleeping Rooms, you must send us your construction plans and pay us an expansion fee for each addition to the number of Sleeping Rooms equal to the then-current per-room charge for hotels that are permitted to use the Brand Mark, but the expansion fee will be not less than \$1,000. We will add any additional Sleeping Rooms or Meeting Rooms that you construct to the Rentable Rooms (or delete any Sleeping Rooms or Meeting Rooms that you remove from the Rentable Rooms), and you will include revenues from the additional Sleeping Rooms to calculate the Gross Room Revenues for determining the Monthly Fees due under this Agreement.

# 9. Assignment.

- a. <u>Our Assignment</u>. We may sell or assign all or part of our rights or obligations under this Agreement to any person or legal entity. Any such sale or assignment will inure to the benefit of any assignee or other successor.
- b. Your Assignment. Your rights and duties under this Agreement are personal to you. We entered into this Agreement and granted the rights outlined in this Agreement to you in reliance on the business skill, financial capacity and personal character of you and your principal owners. You may not sell, assign, transfer, lease, or otherwise encumber any direct or indirect interest that you have in the Hotel, in you, or in any rights or obligations under this Agreement without giving us at least 15 days prior written notice and obtaining our prior written consent, which will not be unreasonably withheld or delayed. Furthermore, if a Controlling Interest (as defined in Section 1(c)) of the originally approved ownership of the Hotel is being transferred or if you are conveying the Hotel or 50% or more of the undivided interest in the Hotel, you and the transferee must comply with all reasonable conditions we require before we will approve of such transfer, including, but not limited to, (i) the transferee signing our then-current form of the franchise agreement for hotels that are authorized to use the Brand Mark, (ii) the transferee signing a property improvement plan or other writing that we prepare to document the transferee's obligations to complete required Renovations (as defined in Section 6(o)), (iii) all of transferee's owners signing our then-current form of personal guaranty agreement, and (iv) payment of a re-licensing fee equal to the then-current affiliation fee we charge for new franchisees authorized to use the Brand Mark; if we do not sign our thencurrent form of the franchise agreement as required by Section 9(b)(i) or do not consent to the transfer or assignment, any monies that you have paid to us pursuant to Section 9(b)(iv), less \$10,000, will be refunded to you. We reserve the right to withhold our consent to any transfer if the Hotel fails to comply with our thencurrent brand image and standards or the transferee fails to demonstrate to our satisfaction that it meets our educational, managerial and business standards, possesses a good moral character, business reputation and credit rating, has the experience, aptitude and ability to operate the Hotel, and has adequate financial resources and capital to operate the Hotel. So long as you promptly provide us with written notice, our consent is not required for the following: (1) a mortgage, deed of trust or other encumbrance, pledge or other grant of security interest in any direct or indirect interests in you or the Hotel to a third party lender or third party preferred equity provider; or (2) the sale, assignment or transfer by you of securities in a publiclytraded corporation or entity that individually, or in the aggregate with other sales or transfers by you, constitute the sale or transfer of less than 5% of the outstanding capital stock or other equity interests in you or the Hotel. If you assign or transfer the Hotel or any rights granted to you or your obligations under this Agreement without our written consent, you breach this Agreement and we may terminate this Agreement pursuant to Section 10(b)(2)(d).
- c. <u>Transfer due to Death or Mental Incompetence; Transfer to Close Family Member</u>. If you, or any natural person with an ownership interest in you, dies or becomes mentally incompetent, the executor, administrator, or personal representative of that person must transfer that person's ownership interest in you or the Hotel (within 12 months after death or determination of mental incompetence) to one or more of

the remaining persons in your entity (if applicable) or to heirs of the deceased person that we approve. If you wish to transfer your ownership interest in the Hotel to a Close Family Member that Close Family Member must demonstrate to us that he or she has both the ethical and moral standards required by Section 6(c), he or she has both the financial ability and experience necessary to operate the Hotel as required by Section 9(b), and can satisfy the requirements of our customary credit and legal review before we will approve a transfer. For purposes of this Agreement, "Close Family Member" shall mean your adult spouse, parent, child, sibling, grandchild, or grandparent. No additional fees will be payable for any transfers of an ownership interest in the Hotel due to death or determination of mental incompetence. However, if you wish to transfer your ownership interest in the Hotel to a Close Family Member, an application fee (not to exceed \$7,500) will be due to us, which will be fully refundable if we do not approve the transfer. Our approvals under this Section 9(c) will not be unreasonably withheld or delayed.

d. <u>Right of First Refusal</u>. Notwithstanding any other section of this Agreement, you acknowledge and agree that if at any time during the Term you receive a good faith offer for the purchase, assignment, transfer, lease of the Hotel or your Controlling Interest in the Hotel by a third party that is acceptable to you, you will, prior to the acceptance of this offer, give us written notice of this offer (including a copy of the offer containing the terms of the offer and the name(s) and address of the proposed purchaser, assignee, transferee or lessee), and you agree that we will have the option and right of first refusal for 90 days after we receive this notice from you, to elect to purchase (or lease) the Hotel or your Controlling Interest therein, as the case may be, on the same terms as the offer made to you by the third party. If we elect to purchase or lease the Hotel or your Controlling Interest therein according to our option and our right of first refusal, we will give you notice of our decision within the 90 day period. You acknowledge and agree that if we decide not to exercise our option under our right of first refusal, this decision will not affect any of our other rights under this Agreement. Our rights under this Section 9(d) survive early termination of this Agreement for any reason and will apply to any purchase, assignment, transfer, lease of the Hotel or your Controlling Interest in the Hotel that occurs within six months after such early termination.

# 10. Default and Termination.

a. <u>Termination By You.</u> If we default in our material obligations under this Agreement, you may terminate this Agreement only if you first give us written notice of the defaults and of your intention to terminate this Agreement and we have not cured those defaults within 60 days after receiving your written notice. With regard to any defaults which are not reasonably capable of being cured within 60 days, the cure period shall be extended for a reasonable additional period of time provided that we have promptly commenced to cure or cause to be cured such default, and thereafter we diligently pursue our efforts in that regard.

# b. Termination By Us.

- 1. <u>Termination with Notice and Opportunity to Cure</u>. If you default in your material obligations under this Agreement, we may terminate this Agreement, effective on the date stated in our notice (or the earliest date permitted by applicable law) as follows:
- (a) <u>Non-Payment of Fees</u>. If you do not pay us the Monthly Fees or any other fees, charges and amounts due under this Agreement (including travel agent commissions and global distribution system fees) or file required monthly reports of Gross Room Revenues, within 10 days of our written notice of default to you; or
- (b) Other Breach. If you do not cure fully any other breach of your obligations or warranties under this Agreement, within 30 days of our written notice of default to you (or such longer period we designate in our sole discretion). Notwithstanding the foregoing, with regard to any defaults, breaches or causes for termination relating to your failure to meet minimum standards required by this Agreement which are not reasonably capable of being cured within said 30 day period, we will extend the cure period for a commercially reasonable period of time to cure the default, breach or cause for termination so long as we receive written notice and documentation satisfactory to us indicating the default, breach, or cause for termination cannot be cured within 30 days and you have begun to cure or cause to be cured such default,

breach or cause for termination and continuously and diligently maintain your efforts once begun.

- (c) <u>Cure Periods</u>. You acknowledge and agree that we may, in our sole discretion, extend the time period for you to cure any default but are under no obligation to do so, and any such extension shall not constitute a waiver of the cure periods set forth in this Agreement.
- 2. <u>Immediate Termination Effective on Notice</u>. Upon written notice to you, we may terminate this Agreement immediately, without giving you an opportunity to cure the default, if:
- (a) <u>Imminent Threat</u>. There is an imminent threat or danger to public health or the safety of persons or property resulting from the construction, renovation, maintenance, or operation of your Hotel;
- (b) <u>Abandonment; Loss of Possession; Failure to Open</u>. Subject to <u>Section 14</u> of this Agreement, you stop operating the Hotel using the Brand Mark or according to the requirements of our System or this Agreement for any period of time, you abandon the Hotel, you temporarily or permanently lose the right to possess the Hotel (including, without limitation, due to the appointment of a Receiver or an event of condemnation), you lose the right to operate the Hotel, you fail to open the Hotel using the Brand Mark or in accordance with this Agreement, or you lose the right to transact business in the jurisdiction in which the Hotel is located;
- (c) <u>Criminal Behavior</u>. You (or a beneficial owner of you) are charged with or plead guilty to a felony, a fraud, a crime involving moral turpitude or any other crime or offense that we reasonably believe is likely to have an adverse effect on the Brand Mark, the Choice Marks, our System, the Other Choice Brand Hotels, our business, our goodwill, our Intellectual Property, or our interest in this Agreement or any other instrument or agreement that we may have entered with you;
- (d) <u>Transfer</u>. You (or a beneficial owner of you) transfer or purport to transfer any rights or obligations under this Agreement, any Controlling Interest in you, your interest in the Hotel, or a Controlling Interest in the Hotel without our prior written consent, except as otherwise permitted under <u>Section 9(b) or</u> 9(c) hereof;
- (e) <u>False Records</u>. You maintain false books or records, send us false reports, or make any materially false statement in your franchise application or any other document you are required to submit to us:
- (f) <u>Bankruptcy</u>. You file a petition in bankruptcy, become insolvent, make a general assignment for the benefit of creditors, or are unable to pay your debts to creditors on a timely basis;
- (g) <u>Insurance</u>. You do not buy, maintain or send us evidence of insurance as required by this Agreement, or if we opt to procure, on your behalf, insurance required by this Agreement and you fail to reimburse us as we require under Section 12(f);
- (h) <u>Multiple Defaults</u>. We send you 2 or more written notices of default under this Agreement for the same or a similar cause or reason in any consecutive 12 month period during the Term, whether or not cured;
- (i) <u>Construction</u>. You do not (i) begin construction or renovation of the Hotel on or before the date required by <u>Section 6(r)(2)</u> of this Agreement, (ii) submit Plans to us for our approval prior to Construction Start, and in accordance with <u>Section 6(r)(1)</u>, or (iii) once begun, continue, without unreasonable interruptions, the construction or renovation of the Hotel;
- (j)  $\underline{\text{Opening Deadline}}$ . You fail to open the Hotel by the Opening Deadline in accordance with  $\underline{\text{Section 6(s)(6)}}$ ;
- (k) <u>Property Improvement Deadline</u>. You fail to complete required improvements and/or repairs to upgrade the Hotel by the deadline(s) set forth in a property improvement plan;

- (I) <u>Goodwill</u>. You engage in conduct that impairs the image, identity, value or goodwill associated with the Brand Mark (or any other Choice Marks) or the System;
- (m) <u>Confidential Information</u>. You make a material unauthorized disclosure of Confidential Information; or
- (n) Other Agreements. You or your affiliate (or a beneficial owner of you or your affiliate) materially breaches any other instrument or agreement with us or our affiliates, or any mortgage, deed of trust or lease covering the Hotel, unless cured within any applicable notice or grace periods contained in such document.
- c. <u>Suspension of Franchise Rights</u>. If you breach any material obligation required by this Agreement or are in default hereunder, we may, after 10 days from our written notice of default (or longer time required by law) for financial defaults, or after 30 days from our written notice of default (or longer time required by law) for non-financial defaults, or immediately in the case of a breach under <u>Section 10(b)(2)</u>, above: (i) suspend any or all services that we (or our authorized representative) provide to you in connection with our System including your access to our Central Reservations System; or (ii) suspend your right to use our Intellectual Property. In addition, while the default remains uncured, you will have no rights under the Fair Franchising Policy (as defined in <u>Section 19(b)</u>). In our sole discretion, we may reinstate the suspended System services or the right to use our Intellectual Property if you cure your default before this Agreement terminates and pay us the then-current reinstatement fee (as established in the Rules and Regulations). If we suspend System services or your right to use our Intellectual Property, we may use other remedies, including termination of this Agreement, after the appropriate time to cure, if any, has lapsed.

# d. Our Remedies.

- 1. <u>No System Services</u>. If this Agreement expires or is terminated, we will cease to provide you with any services in connection with our System, which will include removal of the Hotel from any directories, websites, and other distribution channels, cessation of promotion programs and advertising, and cessation of your right to use our Intellectual Property. In addition, we may notify guests holding reservations that the Hotel is no longer authorized to use the Brand Mark, use our Intellectual Property or receive services in connection with our System, and we may relocate such guests upon their request.
- 2. <u>Liquidated Damages Post-Opening Termination</u>. If we terminate this Agreement pursuant to Section 10(b), or you terminate this Agreement for any reason, except pursuant to Section 3 or Section 10(a), after the Opening Date, you will pay us, within 30 days after termination, as liquidated damages and not as a penalty for the premature termination of this Agreement, an amount equal to the product of (i) the average monthly Gross Room Revenues during the prior 12 full calendar months (or such shorter time that the Hotel has been open), multiplied by (ii) the maximum Royalty Fee payable under <u>Section 4(b)(1)</u>, multiplied by (iii) the number of months (including partial months, which will be prorated) between the date of termination and the next date that you could have terminated this Agreement under <u>Section 3</u>, not to exceed 60 months. However, the product of (i) multiplied by (ii) will not be less than the product of \$100.00 multiplied by the number of contractually approved Sleeping Rooms.
- 3. <u>Liquidated Damages Pre-Opening Termination</u>. If we terminate this Agreement pursuant to Section 10(b), or you terminate this Agreement for any reason, except pursuant to Section 3 or Section 10(a),prior to the Hotel opening with our authorization pursuant to Section 6(s)(5), you will pay us, within 30 days after the termination, as liquidated damages and not as a penalty for the premature termination of this Agreement, an amount equal to the product of (i) the number of contractually approved Sleeping Rooms, multiplied by (ii) \$100.00, multiplied by (iii) 60 months.
- 4. Reasonable Estimate. You acknowledge and agree that the injury to us caused by your breach of this Agreement and its termination is difficult or impossible to accurately estimate, and that the methods of calculating liquidated damages in Sections 10(d)(2), 10(d)(3), and 11(a) are reasonable estimates of our probable loss resulting from your breach of this Agreement and its termination. Liquidated

damages are the sole remedy available to us for loss of opportunity or similar damages. Payment of liquidated damages by you does not affect your obligation to pay us all Monthly Fees and other fees and amounts due to us that accrued before the termination of this Agreement nor does it affect your continuing indemnification obligations pursuant to <u>Section 13</u> of this Agreement.

- e. <u>Evidence of Breach</u>. If the validity of the termination of this Agreement is disputed, we may introduce evidence of a breach of this Agreement or evidence of any claim associated with the Hotel, including any facilities that are managed by others at the Hotel, whether or not stated in the default or termination notice.
- **11.** <u>Obligations on Termination</u>. On termination or expiration of this Agreement for any reason, you must, at your expense:
- a. <u>Intellectual Property.</u> Immediately discontinue all use of our Intellectual Property, refrain from using the Brand Mark to identify the Hotel and cease to use the Choice-Related Words. If you do not immediately discontinue use of our Intellectual Property (including the Brand Mark) or use of the Choice-Related Words following the expiration or termination of this Agreement, you will pay us, as liquidated damages and not as a penalty, the sum of \$2,500 for each day following the expiration or termination of this Agreement that you continue to use our Intellectual Property (including the Brand Mark) or the Choice-Related Words, and we will have the right to seek injunctive and equitable relief for your infringement (or use of the Choice-Related Words) and, in that event, you waive, to the maximum extent permitted by law, any requirement for any bond for the issuance of any injunction, and if a bond is required, you agree that it will not exceed \$1,000;
- b. <u>Registration</u>. Cancel any assumed name or similar registration containing our Intellectual Property (including the Brand Mark) or any variation or portion of our Intellectual Property (including the Brand Mark) or the Choice-Related Words, discontinue all use of any web sites or other electronic media (including social media) that markets goods and services under the Choice Marks and furnish us with reasonable evidence showing that you complied with these obligations within 30 days after termination or expiration of this Agreement;
- c. <u>Payment</u>. Promptly pay all sums owed to us and our subsidiaries or affiliates, and all damages, costs, and expenses, including reasonable attorneys' fees, that we incur, either before or following the termination of this Agreement, as a result of your default, including all outstanding Monthly Fees, any liquidated damages due under this Agreement, and any costs and expenses we incur to obtain injunctive relief for the enforcement of any portion of this Agreement; and
- d. Return or Destroy Materials. Immediately return to us, or at our option, destroy all originals and copies of any materials that we have provided to you relating to our System and your operation of the Hotel, including all copies of any manuals, the Rules and Regulations and any data stored in or generated by our Property Management System and Reservation System. Except for your copy of this Agreement and other documents that you reasonably need to comply with applicable laws, you may not retain any material that we provided to you during the Term.

# 12. Insurance.

- a. <u>Pre-Opening Coverage</u>. You must purchase by Construction Start and maintain until the Opening Date, at your expense, directly or through your general contractor, the types and amounts of insurance coverage as we may require in the Rules and Regulations or otherwise in writing, including, but not limited to:
- 1. <u>General Liability</u>. Commercial General Liability Insurance (including automobile liability, bodily injury and property damage) protecting you and naming us and our affiliates and subsidiaries, our and their respective officers, directors, agents and employees as Additional Insureds (as defined in <u>Section 12(c)</u>) from and against all types of liabilities, including personal injury and property damage, together with the costs of defense and/or adjustments arising out of the operations to construct or renovate the Hotel.

The insurance must include coverage for contractual liability, explosion, collapse and underground property damage hazard liability, personal injury liability, products and completed operations liability, owner's and contractor's protective liability, and independent contractor's liability and must be accompanied by waivers of subrogation in our favor and the favor of our affiliates and subsidiaries, the officers, directors, agents and employers of us, our affiliates and subsidiaries.

- 2. <u>Builder's Risk</u>. All-risk builder's risk coverage to insure the Hotel buildings under construction or renovation to 100% of their replacement cost value, protecting you, us and the Additional Insureds, and a workers' compensation policy as required by statute.
- b. <u>Post-Opening Coverage</u>. Beginning no later than the Opening Date and for the rest of the Term, you must purchase and maintain, at your expense, the types and amounts of insurance coverage as we may require in the Rules and Regulations or otherwise in writing, including, but not limited to:
- 1. <u>Physical Damage Coverage</u>. All-risk physical damage coverage, insuring the Hotel and its contents for its full replacement cost. If the Hotel is damaged or destroyed, and unless a mortgagee requires otherwise, the proceeds of any insurance will be used to repair or restore the Hotel in accordance with your plans that we approve. Your insurance must contain a waiver of subrogation in our favor and the favor of our affiliates and subsidiaries, the officers, directors, agents and employees of us, our affiliates and subsidiaries.
- 2. General Liability; Automobile. Commercial Automobile and Commercial General Liability Insurance policies written on an occurrence form protecting you and the Additional Insureds (as defined in Section 12(c)) from and against all manner of liability. The coverage described in the preceding sentence is primary to any coverage that we maintain and must include Contractual, Products and Completed Operations, Independent Contractors, Personal Injury, Property Damage, Bodily Injury and Host Liquor Liability coverage (if applicable), together with the costs and expenses of the defense and/or adjustment of injury or damage, without exception, from or in any way related to any operation or activity conducted under this Agreement and/or of the Hotel, including adjacent areas like swimming pools, parking lots, restaurants, and bars. Your Automobile Liability Policy must cover owned, hired and non-owned vehicles used in the operation of the Hotel. The policies described in this Section 12(b)(2) must cover lawsuits or actions brought anywhere in the world. These policies must provide limits per location and per occurrence as required in the Rules and Regulations and must be accompanied by a waiver of subrogation in favor of the Additional Insureds. You may meet the required total minimum limits through a combination of primary and umbrella policies. If alcoholic beverages are sold at the Hotel (whether or not you own the establishment that sells the alcohol), you must purchase and maintain Dram Shop/Liquor Liability Insurance with such limits as required in the Rules and Regulations.
- 3. <u>Workers' Compensation</u>. Statutory Workers Compensation and Employers Liability insurance with minimum Employers Liability limits per accident and per disease as required in the Rules and Regulations.
- 4. <u>Business Interruption</u>. Business interruption insurance which shall provide for coverage of a minimum of three (3) months in the event the Hotel is not operational at any time during the Term. Your business interruption insurance policy must name us as a specific loss payee.
- 5. <u>Cyber Liability</u>. Cyber Liability insurance providing minimum coverage as required by the Rules and Regulations.
- 6. Other Insurance. Pollution Legal Liability insurance covering bodily injury, property damage, cleanup costs and defense costs arising from, or associated with, a pollution condition at a covered location. In addition, Employment Practices Liability insurance, including coverage for third-party violation claims and prior acts.
- c. <u>Additional Insured Requirement</u>. You must also obtain and attach an endorsement for all commercial automobile, commercial general and umbrella policies used to meet the requirements in

<u>Sections 12(a) and 12(b)</u> adding us, our affiliates and subsidiaries, our and their respective officers, directors, agents, partners and employees, as additional insureds ("Additional Insureds").

- d. <u>Rating; Primary Coverage; Notice of Change</u>. You must place your insurance with insurance companies reasonably acceptable to us and with an A.M. Best Rating of A-, VI or better. All insurance, commercial automobile, commercial general liability, umbrella and dram shop/liquor liability (if applicable), that you purchase must be specifically endorsed to provide that the coverage will be primary and that any insurance carried by Additional Insureds will be excess and non-contributory. We may reasonably change the insurance coverage requirements set forth in this <u>Section 12</u> during the Term by giving you at least 30 days' notice of the change. You must comply with our directions, at your expense, and deliver to us evidence of your compliance before the change becomes effective.
- e. <u>Certificates of Insurance</u>. You must send us, by no later than Construction Start and/or the Opening Date, as applicable, certificates of insurance, endorsements, declarations and/or other documents requested by us, indicating your property code, the Hotel name and address, and proof that you have purchased the required insurance coverage and the Additional Insureds endorsement has been accepted by your insurance carrier. You must also provide us with evidence of renewal before the expiration date of each insurance policy. You are responsible for providing us with 30 days advanced written notice if the certificate of insurance by the insurer has been canceled, reduced in coverage, or otherwise altered. Acceptance by Choice of an improper certificate of insurance shall not constitute a waiver, release or modification of any of the insurance coverage and endorsements required under this Agreement.
- f. <u>Procurement of Insurance</u>. If you, for any reason, fail to procure or provide us with evidence that you maintain at least the minimum insurance required by <u>Section 12(a) or 12(b)</u>, as applicable (or as designated by us from time to time in the Rules and Regulations) together with the endorsement required by <u>Section 12(c)</u>, you acknowledge and agree that we will have the immediate right and authority, but not the obligation, to procure such insurance on your behalf, and charge you the cost of the insurance and, at our option, a reasonable penalty. You agree that you will reimburse us for the cost of such insurance and for any reasonable out-of-pocket costs that we incur should we elect to obtain such insurance within 30 days of receipt of our notice that such costs are due and payable to us. The foregoing shall not limit our right to terminate this Agreement pursuant to <u>Section 10(b)(2)(g)</u>.
- g. <u>No Waiver of Obligations</u>. Your purchase and maintenance of insurance and your performance of your obligations under this Agreement are in addition to your obligation to indemnify us. If applicable, you should obtain additional insurance coverage since we do not require insurance against all potentially insurable risks, such as Employment Practices Liability insurance; if you do, for your protection, you should name us as an Additional Insured on this additional coverage.
- 13. Indemnification. To the fullest extent permitted by law, you must defend, indemnify and hold harmless us, our affiliates and subsidiaries, our and their respective officers, directors, agents, partners and employees (each, an "Indemnified Party") from and against any claim, loss, cost, damage, expense judgment and liability, including, but not limited to, employment related liability and environmental liability (a "Claim"), including reasonable attorneys' fees (whether or not a lawsuit has been filed) and any court costs, resulting in whole or in part from any damage or loss, including personal injury, of any nature, connected with the Hotel construction, renovation or operation, or any facilities that are managed by others in the Hotel, or out of, or as a result of, in whole or in part your (or your agent's or employee's) error, omission, act or failure, even where negligence of an Indemnified Party is alleged, except to the extent that the loss, costs, damage, expense or liability is solely and proximately caused by the negligence of an Indemnified Party. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if we are required by a court of law to contribute to any Claim, the amount of our contribution will be calculated by applying principles of comparative negligence where a Claim was jointly caused by your negligence and by our negligence. You must reimburse us for all amounts we reasonably spend, including attorneys' fees and court costs, to protect the Indemnified Parties from, or to remedy, your defaults under this Agreement or claims arising out of your operation of the Hotel. We will have the sole and exclusive control (including the right to be represented by attorneys of our choosing) over the defense of any Claims against an Indemnified Party and over their settlement, compromise or other disposition. This provision will be deemed divisible, such that if it is in any way (or to

any extent) determined to be invalid or unenforceable, it will be deemed modified so as to be valid and enforceable and to be in full force and effect to the fullest extent permitted by law. This provision will survive the expiration or earlier termination of this Agreement.

- 14. <u>Casualty</u>. If the Hotel is damaged by fire, natural disaster or other casualty, you must promptly and properly repair the damage. If the damage or repair requires closing the Hotel, you must immediately notify us, begin reconstruction within 6 months after that closing; reopen the Hotel for continuous business operation in accordance with the Rules and Regulations as soon as practicable (but in any event within 12 months after the Hotel closing), and send us at least 30 days' prior written notice of the date of reopening. Upon your written request, we will extend the Term of this Agreement by the number of days between the date of the original closing of the Hotel and the date of reopening. If insurance proceeds are not available or are insufficient to repair or rebuild the Hotel and if you provide us with reasonable evidence that such proceeds are not available to you within 6 months after the original closing of the Hotel, and provided that you are not in default at the time of casualty and are not the cause of the insurance proceeds not being available, then we will terminate this Agreement without penalty to either party.
- 15. Notices. All notices required or permitted under this Agreement must be in writing, must be personally delivered or mailed by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, or by a nationally recognized delivery or courier service that allows tracking of packages or letters, to us at Choice Hotels International, Inc., 1 Choice Hotels Circle, Suite 400, Rockville, Maryland 20850, Attention: General Counsel, or at such other address we require upon written notice to you, and to you at the Designated Representative's address set forth in Section 1 of this Agreement. You authorize the Designated Representative to submit written notices to us or receive our written notices to you as your agent. Any notice by registered or certified mail or by delivery or courier service is deemed given and received at the date and time of sending. You may change the Designated Representative and/or the Designated Representative's address by written notice to us.
- **16.** Attorneys' Fees. Attorneys' fees must be paid according to the terms of this Section 16 and also, as may be applicable, Section 13 of this Agreement. The prevailing party (as determined by the court or arbitrator) in any arbitration or claim filed to enforce the terms of this Agreement will recover from the other party the reasonable expenses of its attorneys, whether that attorney is employed by you or us or specially retained in connection with the proceeding, along with any court costs, arbitration costs, arbitrator fees, the reasonable costs of necessary expert witnesses, and the reasonable travel costs (including food and lodging) of the prevailing party's witnesses in the proceeding. If such a claim seeks, in whole or in part, attorneys' fees under Section 13, that provision will control. Attorneys' fees, including those payable to any attorney who is an employee of yours or ours, will be determined by reference to the usual and customary rate for such attorney, and the rates charged by attorneys of similar background and experience performing similar work in the area where the proceeding is conducted. Any judgment or arbitration award for fees or other amounts owed to us to enforce our rights under Section 4, Section 10(d) or Section 21 of this Agreement will bear interest at the rate referred to in Section 4(f) until paid.

# 17. Taxes, Permits; Notice of Legal Actions.

- a. <u>Taxes</u>. You must pay when due all taxes related to the Hotel that may be levied or assessed by any federal, state, or local taxing authority, and all other indebtedness related to the Hotel. You shall comply with all federal, state, and local tax laws. You shall pay all property taxes imposed on your property when they are due. You shall be responsible for all state and local sales and transaction taxes that are imposed on, or measured by, the gross receipts paid to Choice pursuant to this Agreement.
- b. <u>Permits</u>. You must timely obtain and maintain all permits, certificates, and licenses necessary for the construction, renovation, operation and maintenance of the Hotel, including licenses to do business, fictitious name registration and sales tax permits, health and sanitation permits, and ratings and fire clearances. You must send us, within 10 days of your receipt, copies of all inspection reports, warnings, certificates, and ratings, received from any governmental entity.
  - c. Notice of Suit. You must notify us in writing and provide us with copies, within 5 days of your

receipt, of any actual or threatened criminal or civil action, suit, proceeding, or the issuance of any order, writ, injunction, award, or decree of any court, agency, or other governmental instrumentality affecting you or the Hotel.

# 18. Approvals and Waivers.

- a. <u>Approvals</u>. Our approvals and consents will not be effective unless signed by one of our duly-authorized representatives. We may withhold our consent in our reasonable discretion or at any time when you are in breach of any obligation under this Agreement.
- b. Reliance; No Liability. Except as otherwise expressly stated in this Agreement (including any addenda or amendments), we make no warranties or guarantees on which you may rely. We assume no liability or obligation to you by providing any waiver, approval, consent, suggestion to you, or by reason of any delay or denial of any request that you make to us.
- c. <u>No Waiver/Forbearance</u>. Failure to exercise any power or to insist on strict compliance with any obligation or condition under this Agreement is not a waiver of any future right to demand exact compliance with any of the terms in this Agreement. Waiver of any particular default or extension of any cure period will not affect or impair a party's rights with respect to any later default of the same, similar, or a different nature. No delay, forbearance, or omission to exercise any power or right of a party following any breach or default of any of the terms, sections, or covenants of this Agreement by the defaulting party, will affect or impair the rights of the party not in default.

# 19. Acknowledgments.

- a. <u>No Warranty or Guarantee</u>. You acknowledge and agree that you have conducted an independent investigation of the benefits of signing this Agreement, and you understand that the business venture contemplated by this Agreement involves business risks, and that its success will be largely dependent on your ability as an independent businessperson. We have not made, and you acknowledge that you have not received from us or our agents, any representations, projection, warranty or guarantee, express or implied, as to the profitability or other potential success of the business venture contemplated by this Agreement, except as expressly set forth in the Franchise Disclosure Document.
- b. <u>Limited Rights</u>. You acknowledge and agree that this Agreement and the limited rights to use the Intellectual Property granted to you under this Agreement relate only to the Hotel and the Location. Except as may be specifically set forth in <u>Section 2</u>, this Agreement does not grant you any protected area, market or territorial rights. Subject to the terms of our then-current version of the fair franchising policy ("<u>Fair Franchising Policy</u>"): (i) we may own, operate, or franchise other hotels and/or allow such hotels to use our Intellectual Property (including the Brand Mark), at any other location, either separately or combined; and (ii) we, and any of our affiliates and other franchisees may now or in the future engage in transient lodging or related business activities that may compete with the Hotel. The Incremental Impact Policy, which is referenced in the Fair Franchising Policy, does not apply to the Hotel.
- c. Control; No Duty; Independent Contractor. You acknowledge and agree that you are solely responsible for exercising ordinary, day-to-day business control over the Hotel, including all personnel and employment related matters and decisions and pricing of rooms and other services at the Hotel, regardless of any advice or consultation received from us. This includes, but is not limited to, hiring and firing employees, supervising and controlling employees' work schedules and conditions of employment, determining employees' rate and method of payment, and maintaining employees' employment records. Neither this Agreement nor the Rules and Regulations create a fiduciary or joint employer relationship between you and us or between your employees and us. You are an independent contractor. Nothing in this Agreement or the Rules and Regulations makes, or is intended to make, either party an agent, legal representative, subsidiary, joint venturer, partner, employee, joint employer or servant of the other (except that you agree that we may act as your agent when making reservations for your Hotel).
  - d. No Right to Contract; No Third Party Obligations; Truthfulness. You acknowledge and agree

that you are not authorized to make any contract, agreement, warranty, or representation on our behalf, or to incur any debt or other obligation in our name; and we shall in no event assume liability for, or be deemed liable hereunder as a result of, any such action. You acknowledge and agree that you will not represent in any proposed financing agreement or to any proposed lender or participant in a public or private investment offering that we or any of our affiliates is, or will, become responsible for your obligations under the financing agreement, nor that we are, or will be, participating in any private or public investment offering. Before you distribute a prospectus of your intended private or public offering, you must send us a copy for our prior written approval, not to be unreasonably withheld, of references made to us in the prospectus. You warrant the truth and completeness of all your statements in your application and the content of all other documents that you send to us as part of the application process and that you are required to submit to us under this Agreement.

- e. <u>Disclosure</u>. You acknowledge that you received from us the Franchise Disclosure Document required by the Federal Trade Commission and by the applicable state(s) in which you live and where the Hotel is located at least 14 days before you signed this Agreement or paid to us any consideration for the hotel franchise.
- f. Ownership. You warrant that you are the true owner of, and record holder of title to, the Hotel, or that you are currently leasing the Hotel under a lease that allows you the right to enter into this Agreement. If you are a corporation, limited liability company, partnership, or other entity, all owners of the entity, including any subsequent person or entity that becomes an owner at any time after the Effective Date, shall sign our then-current form of personal guaranty agreement, unless expressly waived by us in our sole discretion.
- g. Data Security. You acknowledge and agree that we and you each own the rights in and to any data captured by the Property Management System or Reservation System ("Guest Data") and that we may use Guest Data in any reasonable manner that we determine. You also acknowledge and agree that you are obligated to comply with all information security and data privacy standards and requirements contained in the Rules and Regulations and all applicable federal and state laws, regulations, and standards relating to information security and data privacy, including, without limitation, the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard ("PCI DSS"). You must secure all Guest Data against loss or theft and against unauthorized or unintended access, disclosure, copying, use or modification. You agree to notify us in writing as soon as practicable (and at least within 24 hours) of any known, suspected, or alleged security breach of Guest Data in your possession or custody or under your control. You also acknowledge and agree that you are obligated to indemnify us from and against any Claim resulting from any such data security breach pursuant to Section 13 of this Agreement. Without limiting the foregoing, to the extent we possess or otherwise provide services that allow for the storage, processing, or transmittal of Guest Data as defined by the PCI DSS ("Services"), or to the extent we could impact the security of the Guest Data environment, we will remain in compliance with the applicable PCI DSS requirements with respect to those Services. We will also remain aware of changes to the PCI DSS and implement all procedures and practices as may be reasonably necessary for the Services to remain in compliance with the PCI DSS, in each case at our sole cost and expense.
- h. Marketing Fee. You acknowledge and agree that we may use the Marketing Fee to meet all costs incident to providing the Hotel (and all Other Choice Brand Hotels) with advertising, marketing, promoting, sales and public relations, including researching, developing, producing, implementing, and administering standards, programs and initiatives that apply to or otherwise benefit the System or Other Choice Brand Hotels; developing and maintaining directories and web sites for the System or Other Choice Brand Hotels; developing and conducting training programs; providing reservation services; administering and maintaining guest reward or loyalty programs, such as Choice Privileges, and any successor or substitute program; sales and revenue management activities; administration of the Marketing Fee; and defraying expenses of any brand business conference. We have sole discretion over what specific activities serve these purposes, and the amounts to be paid for them to ourselves, our affiliates and third parties, including marketing efforts for Other Choice Brand Hotels that use any of the Choice Marks. The Marketing Fees are not held in trust or escrow for the benefit of you or other hotels using the Brand Mark. We have no fiduciary duty with respect to the use and administration of the Marketing Fees. You have no rights of

any kind with respect to the Marketing Fees. At your request, we will provide you with an unaudited annual statement of the receipts and disbursements of these fees for all Choice Brands for the previous calendar year, and we have no obligation to separate incomes or expenditures between Choice Brands. Although we may loan funds to the Marketing Fee fund on such terms as we determine appropriate, we have no obligation to supplement the Marketing Fee funds under any circumstances. You further acknowledge and agree that we are not obligated, in expending the Marketing Fee, to make expenditures for your Hotel or Brand Mark which are equivalent or proportionate to your contribution.

- i. ChoiceAdvantage Software Terms of Use. You acknowledge and agree that any future use of our proprietary property management system will be governed by the ChoiceAdvantage Software Terms of Use that are provided to you in an online format which you agree to review periodically. You acknowledge and agree that the ChoiceAdvantage Software Terms of Use are specifically incorporated as part of this Agreement and you will comply with the terms and conditions of the then-current ChoiceAdvantage Software Terms of Use. You agree that you, the Hotel's general manager, or any other authorized employee of the Hotel ("Authorized User") may accept and agree on behalf of you to the terms and conditions of the ChoiceAdvantage Software Terms of Use. You also acknowledge and agree that we have the right, in our sole discretion, to modify, add or remove any terms or conditions of the ChoiceAdvantage Software Terms of Use. Changes to the ChoiceAdvantage Software Terms of Use will be posted online and will be immediately effective. You agree that use by an Authorized User of the Property Management System after we post any such changes, will indicate that you accept and agree to the ChoiceAdvantage Software Terms of Use, as modified.
- j. <u>No Liability</u>. You acknowledge and agree that we will not assume liability for, or be deemed liable as a result of, any act or omission of yours relating to the construction, renovation, operation, maintenance or promotion of the Hotel or for any claim or judgment arising from such act or omission.
- k. Anti-Terrorism / Anti-Bribery Laws. You individually represent and warrant to us that neither you (including your directors and officers, senior management and shareholders (or other persons) having a controlling interest in you), nor any affiliates or funding sources are (a) owned or controlled by, or acting on behalf of, the government of any country that is subject to an embargo imposed by the United States government; or (b) an entity or individual ("Person") identified by any government or legal authority under applicable laws as a Person with whom dealings and transactions by us are prohibited or restricted, including Persons designated on the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) List of Specially Designated Nationals and Other Blocked Persons (including known terrorists and narcotics and human traffickers). You will promptly notify us in writing upon the occurrence of any event which would render the foregoing representations and warranties incorrect. You further represent and warrant to us that you, including persons having a controlling interest in you, are not in violation of any antimoney laundering laws, anti-terrorism, anti-bribery, trade sanctions or other laws or embargoes, including without limitation the U.S. Patriot Act and the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act and related regulations and executive orders. You represent and warrant that you are qualified to do business in the United States, have the authority to execute this Agreement, and are eligible under applicable United States laws to carry out the obligations under this Agreement and any subsequent assumption of your rights and obligations under this Agreement.
- I. <u>Child-Protection Code of Conduct</u>. We are a member of "The Code of Conduct for the Protection of Children from Sexual Exploitation in Travel and Tourism" (www.thecode.org) ("The Code"), which is an industry-driven responsible tourism initiative with a mission to provide awareness, tools, and support to the tourism industry in order to prevent the sexual exploitation of children. You agree to support the principles of The Code and to take all reasonable steps at the Hotel, including the training of staff, to recognize and prevent all forms of human trafficking.

# 20. Miscellaneous.

a. <u>Severability</u>. If any section of this Agreement is held to be illegal, invalid or unenforceable, both parties agree that (i) the section will be removed; (ii) this Agreement will be understood and enforced as if the illegal, invalid, or unenforceable section had never been in this Agreement; and (iii) the remaining

sections will remain in full force and effect and will not be affected by the illegal, invalid, or unenforceable section or by its removal. A section similar to the removed section will be automatically added as a part of this Agreement to the maximum extent enforceable.

- b. <u>No Third Party Beneficiaries</u>. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this Agreement, nothing in this Agreement is intended, nor will anything in this Agreement be deemed, to confer on any person or legal entity other than us or you, or our respective successors and permitted assigns, any rights or remedies under or by reason of this Agreement.
- c. <u>Headings</u>. All captions and headings in this Agreement are intended solely for the convenience of the parties and do not affect the meaning or construction of any section.
- d. <u>References</u>. All references to the masculine, neuter, or singular, include the masculine, feminine, neuter, or plural. The word "include" and its derivatives are not to be construed as terms of limitation. If "you" consists of more than one person or entity, your acknowledgments, promises, covenants, agreements, and obligations made or undertaken in this Agreement are jointly and severally undertaken by each of you.
- e. <u>Counterparts</u>. If this Agreement is executed in multiple counterparts, each executed copy is an original.
- f. Governing Law. This Agreement becomes valid and effective only when we have signed it, and it will be interpreted under the substantive laws of Maryland, not including its conflict of laws provision or such provisions of any other jurisdiction; except that nothing herein shall be construed to establish independently your right to pursue claims under Maryland's Franchise Registration and Disclosure Law.
- g. <u>Cumulative Rights and Remedies</u>. Rights and remedies stated in this Agreement are cumulative and not exclusive of any other right or remedy.
- h. <u>Attachments/Addenda</u>. All attachments, addenda and amendments to this Agreement are incorporated into and a part of this Agreement. Any addenda or amendments to this Agreement will not be effective unless signed by one of our duly-authorized representatives and by you. All duly-executed addenda and/or amendments are incorporated into and will become a part of this Agreement.
- i. <u>Survival</u>. Those of your obligations and our obligations under this Agreement which expressly or by their nature survive the expiration or earlier termination of this Agreement will survive such expiration or termination, including, but not limited to, <u>Sections 7, 10(d), 11, 13, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23 and 24.</u>
- j. <u>Seal</u>. This Agreement is a contract under seal and is intended by the parties to be a specialty under Maryland law.
- k. <u>Force Majeure</u>. If either party is delayed or prevented from the performance of any act required under this Agreement by reason of acts of war, acts of terrorism, acts of God, strikes or lockouts, inability to procure materials or a substitute thereof of equal or better quality, restrictive governmental laws or regulations, natural disaster, unusual delay in transportation, pandemic, or any other substantially similar event completely without the party's fault and beyond the party's control, the performance of that act will be extended for a period equivalent to the period of the delay; provided, however, the party experiencing the delay must exercise all reasonable efforts to remedy the cause of delay or cause preventing performance, and further provided, that this provision will not apply to any payment obligations of the party experiencing such delay.
- j. <u>Electronic Signatures</u>. The parties hereby acknowledge and agree that electronic signatures, facsimile signatures or signatures transmitted by electronic mail in so-called "pdf" format shall be legal and binding and shall have the same full force and effect as if an original of this Agreement had been signed and delivered by hand. You and we both (i) intend to be bound by the signatures (whether original, faxed or electronic) on any document sent by electronic means, (ii) are aware that the other party will rely on such

signatures, and (iii) hereby waive any defenses to the enforcement of the terms of this Agreement based on the foregoing forms of signature.

- 21. Arbitration. Except for our claims against you for indemnification or actions seeking to enioin you from using any of our Intellectual Property (including the Brand Mark) or the Choice-Related Words in violation of this Agreement or any other related agreements (including the ChoiceAdvantage Software Terms of Use), any controversy or claim arising out of or relating to this Agreement or any other related agreements, or the breach of this Agreement or any other related agreements, including any claim that this Agreement or any part of this Agreement or any related agreements is invalid, illegal, or otherwise voidable or void, as well as any claim that we violated any laws in connection with the execution or enforcement of this Agreement or any related agreements and any claim for declaratory relief, will be sent to final and binding arbitration in the state of Maryland before either the American Arbitration Association, J.A.M.S., or National Arbitration Forum in accordance with the Commercial Arbitration Rules of the American Arbitration Association, including its rules for emergency measures of protection, except to the extent that the Commercial Rules of the American Arbitration Association may be interpreted to require you or us to produce documents, witnesses, or information at a time other than at a hearing on the claim without our mutual consent. In the event more than one demand for arbitration is filed in connection with this Agreement or any related agreements, the demand filed with the American Arbitration Association, J.A.M.S., or National Arbitration Forum office having jurisdiction over Maryland proceedings shall take precedence, and any other demand shall be withdrawn and presented in the Maryland filing. The arbitrator will apply the substantive laws of Maryland, without reference to its conflict of laws provision, except that nothing herein shall be construed to establish independently your right to pursue claims under Maryland's Franchise Registration and Disclosure Law. Judgment on the arbitration award may be entered in any court having jurisdiction. If any party fails to appear at any properly noticed arbitration proceeding, an award may be entered against the party, notwithstanding its failure to appear. Any arbitration will be conducted at our headquarters office in Maryland and the parties agree that any state laws attempting to prohibit arbitration in Maryland are pre-empted by the Federal Arbitration Act. Nothing in this Section 21 will be construed as requiring you or us to make a claim in arbitration before exercising any rights you or we may have to give notice of default or termination in accordance with the terms of this Agreement or any related agreements.
- 22. NO CLASS ACTIONS. NEITHER YOU NOR WE SHALL SEEK TO LITIGATE OR ARBITRATE AGAINST THE OTHER PARTY TO THIS AGREEMENT OR SUCH PARTY'S AFFILIATES. EITHER AS A REPRESENTATIVE OF, OR ON BEHALF OF, ANY OTHER PERSON, CLASS, OR ENTITY. ANY DISPUTE, CONTROVERSY, OR CLAIM OF ANY KIND ARISING OUT OF, OR RELATING TO, THIS AGREEMENT, THE RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE PARTIES, THE SALE OF THE FRANCHISE, OR OTHER CLAIMS OR CAUSES OF ACTION RELATING TO THE PERFORMANCE OF EITHER PARTY TO THIS AGREEMENT. NO ARBITRATION OR OTHER ACTION OR PROCEEDING UNDER THIS AGREEMENT SHALL ADD AS A PARTY, BY CONSOLIDATION, JOINDER, OR IN ANY OTHER MANNER, ANY PERSON OR PARTY OTHER THAN US AND YOU AND ANY PERSON IN PRIVITY WITH, OR CLAIMING THROUGH, IN THE RIGHT OF, OR ON BEHALF OF, US OR YOU, UNLESS BOTH WE AND YOU CONSENT IN WRITING. WE HAVE THE ABSOLUTE RIGHT TO REFUSE SUCH CONSENT. YOU AGREE AND ACKNOWLEDGE THAT ANY PROCEEDING DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY ARISING FROM OR RELATING TO THIS AGREEMENT, THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE PARTIES. OR ANY AGREEMENT OR RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN YOU AND US OR ANY AFFILIATE OF OURS WILL BE CONSIDERED UNIQUE ON ITS FACTS AND MAY NOT BE BROUGHT AS A CLASS OR GROUP ACTION.
- 23. WAIVER OF JURY TRIAL. EACH PARTY HEREBY KNOWINGLY, VOLUNTARILY, INTENTIONALLY, AND IRREVOCABLY WAIVES TRIAL BY JURY IN ANY ACTION, PROCEEDING, OR COUNTERCLAIM, WHETHER AT LAW OR IN EQUITY, BROUGHT BY EITHER OF THEM AGAINST THE OTHER.
  - 24. INTEGRATION. THIS AGREEMENT, ALL OF ITS ATTACHMENTS, AND ANY AGREEMENT

SPECIFICALLY MADE A PART OF THIS AGREEMENT PURSUANT TO THE TERMS HEREOF, CONTAIN THE COMPLETE UNDERSTANDING OF THE PARTIES AND REPLACE ANY PREVIOUS WRITTEN OR ORAL AGREEMENT ON THE SAME SUBJECT MATTER. NO REPRESENTATION, INDUCEMENT, PROMISE OR AGREEMENT, ORAL OR OTHERWISE, NOT CONTAINED IN THIS AGREEMENT, WILL BE OF ANY FORCE OR EFFECT. NOTHING IN THIS AGREEMENT OR IN ANY RELATED AGREEMENT, HOWEVER, IS INTENDED TO DISCLAIM THE REPRESENTATIONS WE MADE IN THE FRANCHISE DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT THAT WE FURNISHED TO YOU.

#### **ATTACHMENT A**

### RIDER TO THE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT

[Other Modifications to the Franchise Agreement]

Attachment A

We and you agree to be bound by the terms and conditions of this Agreement, including all Attachments, by setting the hands and seals of our duly authorized and empowered representatives on this Agreement, effective as of the Effective Date.

Choice Hotels International, Inc., a Delaware corporation	
By: Name: Christopher J. Wallace Title: Vice President and Assistant General	_ (Seal
«LIC_BLOCK»	
«FRANCHISEE»	
By: Name: Title:	(Seal)
Date:	

## PLEASE INITIAL THE ATTACHED SCHEDULE A

#### Schedule A – for Individuals

By initialing this Schedule A that is attached to the Franchise Agreement, you certify that the information provided below is true and accurate. The following represents the names and percentages owned of the individual owners of the Hotel.

Name of Individual Hotel Owner	Percentage owne	<u>ed</u>
(type or print)	%	
	%	
(type or print)	%	
(type or print)		
(type or print)	%	
	INITIAL HERE	

30

## Schedule A – Entity Ownership Breakdown

By initialing this Schedule A that is attached to the Franchise Agreement, you certify that the information provided below is true and accurate. The following represents the names and percentages owned of **«FRANCHISEE»**.

Name of member/shareholder/part	ner Percentage owned
	%
(type or print)	
	%
(type or print)	
(1)	%
(type or print)	
(type or print)	%
(type or print)	
(type or print)	%
(7)	0/
(type or print)	%
	%
(type or print)	
	%
(type or print)	
	%
(type or print)	
(1)	%
(type or print)	
	INITIAI HERE

## Schedule A – Entity Ownership Breakdown

By initialing this Schedule A that is at information provided below is true ar percentages owned of	nd accurate.	The following	
Name of member/shareholder/partner	Percentage o	<u>owned</u> _%	
(type or print)			
(type or print)		_%	
(type or print)		_%	
(type or print)		_%	
(type or print)		_%	
(type or print)		_%	
(type or print)		_%	
(type or print)		_%	
IN	ITIAL HERE		

#### **GUARANTY**

This Guaranty ("Guaranty") is made as of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, by (name of guarantors) ("each, individually a Guarantor"), in favor of and for the benefit of Choice Hotels International, Inc., a Delaware corporation ("Choice"). In consideration of and as an inducement to Choice to execute a Franchise Agreement by and between Choice and «LIC\_BLOCK» ("Franchisee"), Guarantor agrees as follows:

- 1. Guarantor unconditionally warrants to Choice and its successor and assigns that all of Franchisee's representations and warranties in (a) any application submitted by Franchisee to Choice; and (b) the Franchise Agreement are true, accurate and complete as of the time made as of the date of this Guaranty.
- 2. Guarantor personally and unconditionally guarantees that all of Franchisee's obligations under the Franchise Agreement, as amended, and all related agreements will be punctually paid and performed.
- 3. Guarantor agrees that the obligations of Guarantor under this Guaranty shall not be reduced, limited, terminated, discharged, impaired or otherwise affected by: (a) the occurrence or continuance of a default under the Franchise Agreement or any related agreement; (b) any assignment of the Franchise Agreement; (c) any modification or amendment of, or waiver or consent or other action taken with respect to the Franchise Agreement or any related agreement; (d) the voluntary or involuntary liquidation, sale or other disposition of Franchisee's assets, or the receivership, insolvency, bankruptcy, reorganization or similar proceedings affecting Franchisee or its assets or the release or discharge of Franchisee from any of its obligations under the Franchise Agreement; or (e) any change of circumstances, whether or not foreseeable, and whether or not any such change does or might vary the risk of Guarantor hereunder. Any failure by Choice to exercise any power or right or to insist upon Guarantor's compliance with any term under this Guaranty shall not constitute a waiver of Choice's right to demand full compliance with any term of this Guaranty.
- 4. Guarantor unconditionally and irrevocably waives notice of acceptance of this Guaranty, presentment, demand, diligence, protest and notice of dishonor or of any other kind to which Guarantor otherwise might be entitled under applicable law.
- 5. Guarantor agrees to promptly pay all sums owed to Choice and its subsidiaries or affiliates, and all damages, costs, and expenses, including reasonable attorneys' fees, that Choice or its subsidiaries or affiliates incur as a result of any default under this Guaranty, the Franchise Agreement, or any related Agreement, including all outstanding fees, any liquidated damages due under the Franchise Agreement, and any costs and expenses that Choice or its subsidiaries or affiliates incur to obtain injunctive relief for the enforcement of any portion of this Guaranty, the Franchise Agreement, or any related Agreement.
- 6. If more than one person or entity has signed this Guaranty as a Guarantor, the liability of each such Guarantor shall be joint, several and primary. Each Guarantor shall be bound by his/her/its/their signature block below, and such Guarantor's obligations hereunder are not contingent on any other Guarantor being bound hereby.

- 7. All notices required or permitted under this Guaranty must be in writing, must be personally delivered or mailed by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, or by a nationally recognized courier service, to Choice at Choice Hotels International, Inc., 1 Choice Hotels Circle, Suite 400, Rockville, Maryland 20850, Attention: General Counsel, and to Guarantor care of the Designated Representative at the address set forth in the Franchise Agreement. Any notice by registered or certified mail or by courier service is deemed given and received at the date and time of sending. Guarantor may change its address only by written notice to Choice, and Choice may change our address by written notice to Guarantor.
- 8. This Guaranty will be interpreted under the substantive laws of Maryland, not including its conflict of laws provision or such provisions of any other jurisdiction.
- Except for our claims for indemnification or actions seeking to enjoin you the use of any of our Intellectual Property or the Choice-Related Words in violation of the Franchise Agreement, any controversy or claim founded upon or arising out of or relating to this Guaranty. the Franchise Agreement, or any related Agreement, or to the breach of this Guaranty, the Franchise Agreement, or any related Agreement, will be sent to final and binding arbitration before either the American Arbitration Association, J.A.M.S., or National Arbitration Forum in accordance with the Commercial Arbitration Rules of the American Arbitration Association, including its rules for emergency measures of protection, except to the extent that the Commercial Rules of the American Arbitration Association may be interpreted to require you or us to produce documents, witnesses, or information at a time other than at a hearing on the claim without our mutual consent. In the event more than one demand for arbitration is filed in connection with this Guaranty, the Franchise Agreement, or any related Agreement, the demand filed with the American Arbitration Association, J.A.M.S., or National Arbitration Forum office having jurisdiction over Maryland proceedings shall take precedence, and any other demand shall be withdrawn and presented in the Maryland filing. The arbitrator will apply the substantive laws of Maryland, without reference to its conflict of laws provision, except that nothing herein shall be construed to establish independently a right to pursue claims under Maryland's Franchise Registration and Disclosure Law. Judgment on the arbitration award may be entered in any court having jurisdiction. If any party fails to appear at any properly noticed arbitration proceeding, an award may be entered against the party, notwithstanding its failure to appear. Any arbitration will be conducted at Choice's headquarters office in Maryland. Nothing in this Section will be construed as requiring you or us to make a claim in arbitration before exercising any rights Choice or Guarantor may have to give notice of default or termination in accordance with the terms of this Guaranty.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned have set his/her/its/their hands and seals on the date noted above.

Add all Guarantors (entities & people individually) , Individually, Jointly and Severally

#### (name of entity)

Ву:	L.S.
Name: Title:	
Social Security No.	
Date:	
Address:	
, Individually	S L.S.
Social Security No.	
Date:	
Address:	

# ADDENDUM TO THE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT PURSUANT TO THE ILLINOIS FRANCHISE DISCLOSURE ACT

This Addendum to the Franchise Agreement (the "Agreement") pertains to franchises sold in the State of Illinois. If and to the extent that the Illinois Franchise Disclosure Act ("Illinois Franchise Disclosure Act" or "Act") applies to the Agreement, the following provisions supersede anything to the contrary in the Agreement:

- 1. Section 10 (Default Termination) of the Agreement is supplemented by the following:
  - If any of the provisions of this Section 10 governing termination are inconsistent with the provisions of Section 705/19 of the Illinois Franchise Disclosure Act, then such provisions of the Act will apply.
- 2. The provisions of Sections 20(f) and 21 of the Agreement and Section 8 of the MainStay Suites and Suburban Extended Stay Hotels Master Development Agreement, if applicable, that designate choice of law and jurisdiction for venue of any lawsuit in a forum outside of the State of Illinois, will be governed by the Illinois Franchise Disclosure Act, provided that the Agreement may provide for arbitration in a forum outside of Illinois.
- 3. Section 23 (WAIVER OF JURY TRIAL) of the Agreement is supplemented by the following:
  - If any provisions of this Section of the Agreement are inconsistent with the provisions of Section 705/41 of the Illinois Franchise Disclosure Act, then such provisions of the Act will apply to the extent such law is constitutional and the jurisdictional requirements of the Act (as amended) are met.
- 4. Franchisor reserves the right to challenge the applicability of any law that declares provisions in the Agreement void or unenforceable.
- 5. No statement, questionnaire, or acknowledgment signed or agreed to by a franchisee in connection with the commencement of the franchise relationship shall have the effect of (i) waiving any claims under any applicable state franchise law, including fraud in the inducement, or (ii) disclaiming reliance on any statement made by any franchisor, franchise seller, or other person acting on behalf of the franchisor. This provision supersedes any other term of any document executed in connection with the franchise.

The parties to this Addendum agree to be bound by the terms of this Addendum as of the effective date of the Agreement as evidenced by their signatures below.

Witness:	Choice Hotels International, Inc., a Delaware corporation	
	By:	L.S.
Name:	Name:	
Title:	Title:	
Date:	Date:	

# ADDENDUM TO THE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT PURSUANT TO THE MINNESOTA FRANCHISE INVESTMENT LAW

This Addendum to the Franchise Agreement (the "Agreement") pertains to franchises sold in the State of Minnesota. If and to the extent that the Minnesota Franchise Disclosure laws apply to the Agreement, the following provisions supersede anything to the contrary in the Agreement:

- 1. Minnesota Law may provide you with certain termination and non-renewal rights. Minnesota Statutes, Section 80C 14, Subdivisions 3, 4 and 5 require, except in certain specified cases, that you be given 90 days of notice of termination (with 60 days to cure) and 180 days' notice for non-renewal of the Agreement.
- 2. According to Minnesota Statute Section 2860.4400 (D), no release language in the Agreement will relieve us or any other person, directly or indirectly, from liability imposed by the laws on franchising in Minnesota, provided that this part will not bar the voluntary settlement of disputes.
- 3. Any provision in the Agreement that requires you to consent to liquidated damages and/or termination penalties is deleted from the Agreement if issued in Minnesota.
- 4. The Franchisor will protect the franchisee's rights to use the trademarks, service marks, trade names, logos, slogans and other commercial symbols, or indemnify the franchisee from any loss, costs, or expenses arising out of the use of any trade or service mark in compliance with the Agreement.
- 5. The following language will appear at the end of Section 20(f) of the Agreement if issued in Minnesota:

"Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 80C.21, this Section does not abrogate or reduce any rights of the franchisee as provided for in the Minnesota Statutes 1987, Chapter 80C."

- 6. All other rights, obligations and provisions of the Agreement remain in full force and effect. Only the Sections added to or amended by the Addendum are affected. This Addendum is incorporated in and made part of the Agreement if and to the extent the Minnesota Franchise Investment Law applies.
- 7. No statement, questionnaire, or acknowledgment signed or agreed to by a franchisee in connection with the commencement of the franchise relationship shall have the effect of (i) waiving any claims under any applicable state franchise law, including fraud in the inducement, or (ii) disclaiming reliance on any statement made by any franchisor, franchise seller, or other person acting on behalf of the franchisor. This provision supersedes any other term of any document executed in connection with the franchise.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned have executed this Addendum as of the date set forth above.

Witness:	a Delaware corporation	
	By:	L.S.
Name:	Name:	
Title:	Title:	
Date:	Date:	

#### ADDENDUM TO THE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT FOR NEW YORK

This Addendum to the Franchise Agreement (the "Agreement") pertains to franchises sold in the State of New York. If and to the extent that the New York General Business Law regarding franchises applies to the Agreement, the following provisions supersede anything to the contrary in the Agreement:

- 1. If the Agreement requires that it be governed by the law of a state, other than the State of New York, the choice of law provision will not be considered to waive any rights conferred upon the franchisor or upon the franchisee under New York General Business Law, Article 33, Sections 680 through 695.
- 2. We will not assign our rights under the Agreement except to an assignee who in our good faith and judgment is willing and able to assume our obligations under the Agreement.
- 3. If your franchise is located in the state of New York, you may terminate the Agreement on any ground available by law.
- 4. All other rights, obligations and provisions of the Agreement remain in full force and effect. Only the Sections added to or amended by this Addendum are affected. This Addendum is incorporated in and made part of the Agreement if and to the extent the New York General Business Law applies.
- 5. No statement, questionnaire, or acknowledgment signed or agreed to by a franchisee in connection with the commencement of the franchise relationship shall have the effect of (i) waiving any claims under any applicable state franchise law, including fraud in the inducement, or (ii) disclaiming reliance on any statement made by any franchisor, franchise seller, or other person acting on behalf of the franchisor. This provision supersedes any other term of any document executed in connection with the franchise.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned have executed this Addendum as of the date set forth above.

Witness:	Choice Hotels International, Inc., a Delaware corporation	
	By:	L.S
Name:	Name:	
Title:	Title:	
Date:	Date:	

# ADDENDUM TO THE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT FOR THE STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

This Addendum to the Franchise Agreement (the "Agreement") pertains to franchises sold in the State of North Dakota. If and to the extent that the North Dakota franchise statutes and regulations apply to the Agreement, the following provisions supersede anything to the contrary in the Agreement:

- The North Dakota Franchise Law prohibits a franchisor from requiring a franchisee to consent to liquidated damages and termination penalties. If the Agreement contains a provision that is inconsistent with the North Dakota Franchise Law, the provisions of the Agreement will be superseded by the North Dakota Franchise Law's requirements and Franchisee will not be deemed to have consented to the calculation of the amount of such damages.
- Sections 20(f) and 21 of the Agreement require: (a) the Agreement to be governed and interpreted under Maryland Law, and (b) certain disputes to be resolved by arbitration in Maryland. To the extent that such provisions conflict with the North Dakota Franchise Law, the North Dakota Franchise Law will control.
- Section 23 of the Agreement require Franchisee and Franchisor to waive their respective rights to a jury trial. To the extent such provisions violate North Dakota Franchise Law, such law will prevail and such provisions will not apply with respect to claims thereunder.
- 4. No statement, questionnaire, or acknowledgment signed or agreed to by a franchisee in connection with the commencement of the franchise relationship shall have the effect of (i) waiving any claims under any applicable state franchise law, including fraud in the inducement, or (ii) disclaiming reliance on any statement made by any franchisor, franchise seller, or other person acting on behalf of the franchisor. This provision supersedes any other term of any document executed in connection with the franchise.

The parties to this Addendum agree to be bound by the terms of this Addendum as of the effective date of the Agreement as evidenced by their signatures below.

Witness:	Choice Hotels International, Inc., a Delaware corporation	
	By:	L.S.
Name:	Name:	
Title:	Title:	
Date:	Date:	

# ADDENDUM TO THE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT FOR THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

This Addendum to the Franchise Agreement (the "Agreement") pertains to franchises sold in the State of Rhode Island. If and to the extent that the Rhode Island franchise statutes and regulations apply to the Agreement, the following provisions supersede anything to the contrary in the Agreement:

1. If Section 20(f) of the Agreement is inconsistent with § 19-28.1.-14 of the Rhode Island Franchise Investment Act, which states that a provision in a franchise agreement restricting jurisdiction or venue to a forum outside the state of Rhode Island or requiring the application of the laws of another state is void with respect to a claim otherwise enforceable under the Rhode Island Franchise Investment Act, then said Rhode Island law will apply.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned have executed this Addendum as of the date set forth above.

Witness:	Choice Hotels International, Inc., a Delaware corporation	
	Ву:	L.S
Name:	Name:	
Title:	Title:	
Date:	Date:	

#### Washington Franchise Agreement Addendum

In the event of a conflict of laws, the provisions of the Washington Franchise Investment Protection Act, Chapter 19.100 RCW will prevail.

RCW 19.100.180 may supersede the franchise agreement in your relationship with the franchisor including the areas of termination and renewal of your franchise. There may also be court decisions which may supersede the franchise agreement in your relationship with the franchisor including the areas of termination and renewal of your franchise.

In any arbitration or mediation involving a franchise purchased in Washington, the arbitration or mediation site will be either in the state of Washington, or in a place mutually agreed upon at the time of the arbitration or mediation, or as determined by the arbitrator or mediator at the time of arbitration or mediation. In addition, if litigation is not precluded by the franchise agreement, a franchisee may bring an action or proceeding arising out of or in connection with the sale of franchises, or a violation of the Washington Franchise Investment Protection Act, in Washington.

A release or waiver of rights executed by a franchisee may not include rights under the Washington Franchise Investment Protection Act or any rule or order thereunder except when executed pursuant to a negotiated settlement after the agreement is in effect and where the parties are represented by independent counsel. Provisions such as those which unreasonably restrict or limit the statute of limitations period for claims under the Act, or rights or remedies under the Act such as a right to a jury trial, may not be enforceable. Transfer fees are collectable to the extent that they reflect the franchisor's reasonable estimated or actual costs in effecting a transfer.

Pursuant to RCW 49.62.020, a noncompetition covenant is void and unenforceable against an employee, including an employee of a franchisee, unless the employee's earnings from the party seeking enforcement, when annualized, exceed \$100,000 per year (an amount that will be adjusted annually for inflation). In addition, a noncompetition covenant is void and unenforceable against an independent contractor of a franchisee under RCW 49.62.030 unless the independent contractor's earnings from the party seeking enforcement, when annualized, exceed \$250,000 per year (an amount that will be adjusted annually for inflation). As a result, any provisions contained in the franchise agreement or elsewhere that conflict with these limitations are void and unenforceable in Washington.

RCW 49.62.060 prohibits a franchisor from restricting, restraining, or prohibiting a franchisee from (i) soliciting or hiring any employee of a franchisee of the same franchisor or (ii) soliciting or hiring any employee of the franchisor. As a result, any such provisions contained in the franchise agreement or elsewhere are void and unenforceable in Washington.

Section 18(b) of the Franchise Agreement or Membership Agreement is hereby amended to delete the following language: "on which you may rely." The remainder of Section 18(b) remains intact.

No statement, questionnaire, or acknowledgment signed or agreed to by a franchisee in connection with the commencement of the franchise relationship shall have the effect of (i) waiving any claims under any applicable state franchise law, including fraud in the inducement, or (ii) disclaiming reliance on any statement made by any franchisor, franchise seller, or other person acting on behalf of the franchisor. This provision supersedes any other term of any document executed in connection with the franchise.

The undersigned does hereby	acknowledge receipt of this addendum. Dated this	
day of	20 .	

Franchisor	Franchisee

# ADDENDUM TO THE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT FOR THE STATE OF WISCONSIN

This Addendum to the Franchise Agreement pertains to franchises sold in the State of Wisconsin. If and to the extent that the Wisconsin franchise statutes and regulations apply to this Agreement, the following provisions supersede anything to the contrary in the Franchise Agreement:

- 1. The Wisconsin Fair Dealership Act, Wisconsin Statutes, Chapter 135 will apply to and govern the provisions of the Franchise Agreement.
- 2. That Act's requirement, including the requirements that, in certain circumstances, a franchisee receives ninety (90) days' notice of termination, cancellation, non-renewal or substantial change in competitive circumstances, and sixty (60) days to remedy claimed deficiencies, will supersede the requirements of the Franchise Agreement to the extent they may be inconsistent with the Act's requirements.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned have executed this Addendum as of the date set forth above.

Witness:	Choice Hotels International, Inc., a Delaware corporation		
	By:	L.S	
Name:	Name:		
Title:	Title:		
Date:	Date:		



# Call Forwarding Reservations Services Program — Terms of Use

Thank You for Your interest in the Choice Hotels International, Inc. ("Choice") Call Forwarding Reservations Services Program (the "Program"). To enroll one or more of Your hotel properties in the Program, please review the terms below that will govern Your participation in and use of the Program ("Terms of Use"), select one or more of the two service options ("Service Options") that fits Your needs, and click on the "I Accept" button to agree to the Terms of Use. You will repeat this process for each property You intend to enroll in the Program.

#### Terms of Use

By clicking "I Accept" below, You are confirming that You are either (1) an authorized franchisee in good standing of Choice or its subsidiaries or affiliated companies ("Franchisee"), or (2) the Franchisee's general manager or another authorized employee (in each case, an "Authorized Representative"), and You accept and agree to these Terms of Use on behalf of Yourself and/or the Franchisee for Your participation in the Program and Service Option(s) for the specific hotel property You identify on the Hotel Questionnaire (the "Hotel"). These Terms of Use shall govern Your participation in and use of the Program and shall be binding on You and Your employees and contractors. Choice has the right to and may, in its sole discretion and from time to time, modify, add or remove any of the provisions, rights or obligations in these Terms of Use without notice or liability to You. We will post any changes we make to the Terms of Use on this Call Forwarding Webpage on Choice Central and, once posted, the changes will be effective immediately. You agree to review these Terms of Use from time to time. By Your participation in the Program after Choice posts any changes to the Terms of Use, You accept and agree to the Terms of Use, as modified.

As used in these Terms of Use, the terms "You" and "Your" shall mean you, as the person accepting these Terms of Use, the Franchisee, or any and all Authorized Representatives as applicable by the context used herein. Additionally, "we" or "us" or "our" shall mean Choice.

1. The Program.

Subject to these Terms of Use, Choice will make available to Your Hotel each of the Service Options described below. You will select the Service Option that fits Your needs for Your Hotel (Premium or DiGITAL) by checking the appropriate box at the end of each Service Option description.

#### Service Option #1 — Premium

Premium is available on either a seasonal basis (from April 1 to September 30) or on an annual basis.

With Premium, callers to Your Hotel will continue to use Your existing Main Number as they did before You enrolled in the Program. With this Service Option, You will assign to us and we will assume that Main Number (also referred to as the "**Ported Number**") by executing a Letter of Agency we provide to you.

When calls are made to the Ported Number, they will be routed to an automated "interactive voice response" system (IVR) with a message specific to Your Hotel. The caller will be prompted to choose either "reservations" or "all other inquiries", or a third option of your choice if required. If the caller chooses the "reservations" option, then the call will be forwarded to our Reservation Center and You will be charged the standard fee detailed in Section 3. If the caller chooses the "all other inquiries" option, then the caller be routed to Your Hotel's front desk agent and no fee will apply. If you should also like to implement a third option on the IVR, calls will be transferred to a designated telephone number of your choice and no fee will apply.

To select Service Option #1 – Premium, Your Hotel must have, in addition to the Main Number, at least one other working phone number/phone line available at Your front desk ("**Secondary Number**"). Callers who chose the "all other inquiries" option will be routed to Your Hotel front desk via the Secondary Number.

You acknowledge that prior to activation of Service Option #1 – Premium, You are responsible for contacting Your phone company to ensure Your Secondary Number phone line is set up to roll all incoming calls to another available phone line if the Secondary Number phone line is in use. If this rollover feature (known as a "**Hunt Group**") isn't set up properly, calls to the Secondary Number while in use may go unanswered or fail. You are responsible for any fees charged by the phone company in connection with the implementation of Service Option #1, including fees for setting up the Ported Number or Hunt Group.

You agree to continue to list the Main Number as Your Hotel's published phone number throughout Your participation in the Program. You also acknowledge that Choice will use commercially reasonable efforts to reassign the Ported Number back to Your Hotel upon termination of Your participation in the Program or Service Option #1, in accordance with the terms stated below in Section 4, however, Choice does not guaranty this reassignment back to Your Hotel.

#### Service Option #2 — DiGITAL

DiGITAL is available on either a seasonal basis (from April 1 to September 30) or on an annual basis.

Choice will provide Your Hotel with its own unique Call Forwarding Number. Choice will substitute Your Hotel's published primary toll-number (the "Main Number") with a designated Call Forwarding Number for organic internet search results, and listings on the Choice Mobile App, ChoiceHotels.com and Choice reservation systems. This means that Incoming Calls can be made using the designated Call Forwarding Number. You must retain Your Hotel's Main Number and keep it operational throughout the course of Your participation in the Program.

Incoming Calls on Your Call Forwarding Number will be routed to an automated "interactive voice response" system (IVR) with a message specific to Your Hotel (similar to the Premium service). The caller will be prompted to choose either "reservations" or "all other inquiries," or a third option of your choice if required If the caller chooses the "reservations" option, then the call will be forwarded to our Reservation Center and You will be charged the standard fee detailed in Section 3. If the caller chooses the "all other inquiries" option, then the caller be routed to Your Hotel's front desk agent and no fee will apply. If you should also like to implement a third option on the IVR, calls will be transferred to a designated telephone number of your choice and no fee will apply.

You also have the option to also have Incoming Calls on Your Call Forwarding Number routed through Your Hotel's PBX system. You then can treat the Incoming Call as a Manual Transfer or an Automatic Transfer, as outlined under Service Option #2. Dependent on your agreement with your telephone provider, additional fees may apply.

Select Service Option #2 — DiGITAL

#### 2. Obligations and Representations

Once You accept these Terms of Use and select Your Service Option(s), You will be enrolled in the Program and You will receive an e-mail confirmation including the Call Forwarding Technical Requirements & Hotel Questionnaire. You represent and warrant that the Hotel Questionnaire You submit is and will be complete and accurate. You agree to notify Choice promptly of any changes to the information You provide in the Hotel Questionnaire. If You wish to enroll additional Hotels in the Program, You must accept these Terms of Use and complete a separate Hotel Questionnaire for each Hotel.

Call Forwarding representatives have access to all your local negotiated rate plans through our reservation system. This includes rate plans You have loaded as Property Direct. It is Your responsibility to ensure every local negotiated rate plan has a loaded rate description.

To enable the full functionality of the Program, You may be required to take additional actions, such as providing us with certain information, directions and preferences. We will provide You with a supplemental Hotel Questionnaire detailing the requirements and requests if necessary. If You fail to satisfy the enrollment requirements and our requests, You may impair Your Hotel's ability to implement/participate in the Program.

You agree to follow all operation instructions and the requirements of the Program as may be set forth in the Rules and Regulations that accompany Your franchise agreement with Choice (the "Franchise Agreement") and which may apply to any of the Program Service Options.

#### 3. Fees

You will pay Choice a fee of \$2.95 USD per call that is forwarded to the Reservation Center under any of the Service Options (the "Fee"). We have the right to increase the Fee at any time upon sixty (60) days' prior notice to You. The Fee is due and payable by You to us for each call that is forwarded to the Reservation Center, regardless of whether the forwarded call results in a booking. If You do not have room inventory available for the dates requested, the Reservation Center sales agent may cross-sell the caller to another hotel property within the Choice franchise system. We will invoice You monthly for the Fees and other amounts due under these Terms of Use and You must pay each invoice in full by the first day of the month following the month in which the invoice is issued. Choice reserves the right to suspend Your participation in and use of the Program if You fail to pay any invoice in a timely manner. Fees do not include any taxes. You are solely responsible for paying taxes applicable to Your participation in and use of the Program, which may include sales tax, gross receipts tax, use tax, transaction privilege tax or other taxes.

#### 4. Term and Termination

The initial term for Your participation in the Program under any Service Option is six (6) months (the "Initial Term"). Your Hotel must remain enrolled in the Program for at least six (6) months and You may not cancel before the end of the Initial Term except as detailed below. After the Initial Term, You will continue to be enrolled until either party provides the other with thirty (30) days advance written notice of an intent to terminate. If You wish to take Your Hotel out of the Program early, You may do so by notifying us and paying an early exit fee of \$500 for each month remaining in the Initial Term (plus a pro rata share for the remaining portion of the current month).

#### **Default and Termination**

*Non-payment*. We may terminate Your participation in the Program upon five (5) days written notice if You fail to timely pay any amounts due to Choice as a result of Your participation in the Program.

Franchise Agreement Default, Termination or Expiration. We may terminate Your participation in the Program immediately upon any default under the Program or Your Franchise Agreement and Your participation in and use of the Program will automatically terminate upon the expiration (or earlier termination) of the Franchise Agreement.

Removal of Call Forwarding Number Published Listings (Service Option #2 only). For Service Option #2, Your removal of the Call Forwarding Number from any or one of the following channels (or any other channel in which we list Your CF Number) constitutes a breach of these Terms of Use for which we may terminate immediately Your participation in the Program: organic internet search, Choice Mobile App, ChoiceHotels.com and Choice Reservations systems.

Change of Main Number (Service Option #1 only). For Service Option #1, it is a breach of these Terms of Use if Your Hotel takes on/publishes a new Main Number, in which case we may terminate immediately Your participation in the Program.

Additional Remedies. In addition to any damages to which it may be entitled, Choice will be entitled to reimbursement of all costs relating to the breach of the Terms of Use, including reasonable attorneys' and witness' fees. If, because of Your breach of the Terms of Use, we terminate Your participation in the Program during the first six months after Your enrollment, we will charge You the early exit fee. Your breach of these Terms of Use may also cause irreparable harm to Choice. You agree that damages may be an inadequate remedy and, therefore, in addition to its rights and remedies otherwise available at law, Choice will be entitled to equitable relief, including both a preliminary and permanent injunction, if such a breach occurs. You waive any requirement for the posting of a bond or other security if Choice seeks such an injunction.

Post Termination Reassignment of Ported Number (Service Option #1 only). Upon termination of Your participation in the Program under Service Option #1 – Premium, we will use commercially reasonable efforts for ninety (90) days thereafter ("**Transfer Window**") to reassign the Ported Number back to Your Hotel. If we are unable to reassign the Ported Number back to Your Hotel during the Transfer Window, we may retain the Ported Number and/or forward it to a non-working line. You acknowledge that the actual termination of the Hotel's commitment and responsibility under Service Option #1 (including Your payment of Fees) will only become effective upon the earlier of: (a) the date the Ported Number is actually reassigned back to the Hotel (which will be determined by several factors outside of Choice's control), or (b) the last day of the Transfer Window.

#### 5. Limitation of Liability

You expressly understand and agree that neither Choice, its licensors, nor related parties shall be liable for any indirect, punitive, consequential, incidental or special damages of any kind resulting from these terms, access to or any use of, or inability to use or access, or reliance on, or functioning of, the Program, regardless of the basis upon which liability is claimed, even if Choice has been advised of the possibility of such loss of damage. In no event shall Choice's liability for damages, regardless of the form of action, exceed the fees You actually paid in the six (6) months immediately preceding Your claim.

#### 6. No Warranty

Choice provides the Program "as is" and without warranties of any kind, either express or implied, except to the extent that any warranties implied by law cannot be validly waived or disclaimed. The disclaimed warranties, to the extent allowed by law, include but are not limited to the implied warranties of merchantability, non-infringement of intellectual property, and fitness for a particular purpose.

Choice makes no warranty that the Program will meet Your requirements or that it will be uninterrupted, timely, secure, or error free; nor does Choice make any warranty as to the results that may be obtained from Your participation in or use of the Program or as to the accuracy or reliability of any information obtained through Your participation in or use of the Program.

Choice shall be not responsible for any problems or technical malfunction of any telephone network or lines, computer on-line systems, servers, internet access providers, computer equipment, software, or any combination thereof including any injury or damage to Your or any other person's computer or networks as a result of using the Program. Choice makes no representations or warranties express or implied, with respect to the information received by or through Your participation in or use of the Program, including any representations or warranties as to the accuracy, completeness or timeliness of the information obtained by or through Your participation in or use of the Program.

#### 7. Indemnity

You agree, at Your expense, to indemnify, defend and hold Choice, as well as its officers, directors, employees, agents, subsidiaries, affiliates, distributors, franchisees, licensors and licensees harmless from and against any judgments, losses, deficiencies, damages, liabilities, costs, and expenses (including

reasonable attorneys' and witness' fees and expenses) incurred in connection with or arising from any claim, demand, suit, action, or proceeding arising out of Your breach of these Terms of Use or in connection with Your participation in or use of the Program or any product or service related to the Program. Choice reserves the right to assume the exclusive defense and control of any matter subject to indemnification by You, which shall not excuse Your indemnity obligations.

#### 8. Trademarks

You acknowledge that Choice Hotels International<sup>®</sup>, Choice Hotels<sup>®</sup> and the trademarks associated with our brands are the sole property of Choice and are registered in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and other trademark offices around the world. Any use of these trademarks by You requires the prior express written consent of Choice.

#### 9. Governing Law

Choice creates and controls the Program in the State of Maryland, U.S.A. Accordingly, these Terms of Use are governed by the laws of the United States and Maryland law, except the Maryland Uniform Computer Information Transactions Act, which is expressly disclaimed, and without regard to Maryland conflicts of law principles. Any controversy or claim arising out of or relating to these Terms of Use or relating to Your participation in or use of the Program and the materials related to the Program shall be resolved in a Maryland court. You agree that, regardless of any statute or law to the contrary, any claim or cause of action You may have against Choice arising out of or related to these Terms of Use must be filed within one (1) year after such claim or cause of action arises or this claim or cause of action will be forever barred.

#### 10. General

The waiver by Choice of a breach or right under these Terms of Use will not constitute a waiver of any subsequent breach or right. If any provision of these Terms of Use is found to be invalid or unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, such provision shall be severed from the remainder of these Terms of Use, which will otherwise remain in full force and effect. Choice will not be responsible for any delay or failure of the Program or any associated services, in whole or in part, due to the following factors as they affect Choice, its licensors, agents or representatives or the Program: federal, state or municipal action or regulation; strikes or other labor troubles; fire; damage; delay in transportation; shortages of raw materials, labor, fuel or supplies; sabotage; insurrection, riot or other acts of civil disobedience or public enemy; and failures or interruptions in Internet service, networks or other communication failures. You may not assign Your rights under these Terms of Use, in whole or in part, without the prior written consent

of Choice. If Choice finds it necessary to employ legal counsel or to bring an action at law or other proceeding against You to enforce any of the provisions of these Terms of Use, You agree to pay Choice, in addition to any damages for which You may be responsible, all reasonable attorneys' and witness' fees and expenses incurred by Choice, if Choice prevails in such action or proceeding. Your obligations under these Terms of Use will survive termination of Your participation in, right to access, and use of the Program. Any rights not expressly granted to You herein are reserved to Choice and its licensors. You acknowledge and agree that these Terms of Use are the complete and exclusive agreement between Choice and You relating to the Program, superseding all other agreements, proposals and communications (oral or written) related to the Program.

#### 11. Notices

Notices to Choice can be sent via email to: <a href="https://hotel.com">hotel.com</a> call forwarding support@choicehotels.com.



## «PROP\_CODE» - «CONTRACT\_ID» «Brand Name»

#### **Promissory Note**

		Issuance Date:
		Maturity Date:
\$	«PROP_CITY», «PRO	OP_ST»
	order of Choice Hotels Interna	ectively, " <u>Maker</u> "), jointly and severally, hereby national, Inc. (" <u>Holder</u> ") the principal sum of) (" <u>Principal Amount</u> ") as provided for herein.:
1. <u>Franchise Agre</u>		re parties to a franchise agreement dated supplemented from time to time, the "Franchise
Agreement"). The parties		tions pursuant to which Holder will make a loan
to Maker pursuant to a	promissory note in substantially s	similar form to this promissory note ("Note").
Capitalized terms used by	ut not defined herein will have the r	e meaning set forth in the Franchise Agreement.

- **2.** Payment. Unless otherwise accelerated pursuant to Section 3, this Note matures on the Maturity Date, at which time the entire Principal Amount will be due and payable in full.
- Default. The occurrence of any one or more of the following events shall constitute a "Default": (1) Maker's failure to observe or perform any covenant, condition or agreement under the terms of this Note; (2) if any representation or warranty made in connection with this Note is in Holder's opinion, false, misleading or incorrect in any material respect; (3) if for any reason, the Franchise Agreement terminates or is otherwise rendered ineffective prior to the Maturity Date; (4) the occurrence of any event(s) or existence of any situation that, after providing for any applicable notice/cure rights set forth in the Franchise Agreement, would provide Holder with a right to terminate the Franchise Agreement; (5) if all or any portion of the premises to which the Franchise Agreement applies ("Premises"), any interest in the Premises (including an ownership interest in any entity that owns the Premises), or any interest in this Note is transferred, leased, or conveyed, other than as security for a debt or other obligation, whether done by a direct or indirect method, or should Maker enter into any contractual arrangement to transfer or convey the Premises, any interest in the Premises (including an ownership interest in any entity that owns the Premises), any part of this Note, or any interest in this Note other than as security for a debt; and (6) the death of any Maker or the filing of any insolvency or bankruptcy proceeding by or against any Maker or the appointment of a receiver for any Maker or any Maker's assets. If a Default occurs, the entire Principal Amount will be due and payable in full within fifteen (15) days after Maker's receipt of a written Notice of Default from Holder.
- 4. Interest. If the Principal Amount, or any portion thereof, is not paid on or before the Maturity Date (or such earlier date required by Section 3), this Note will bear interest from the date on which funds are due until paid in full at the annual rate of eighteen percent (18%). The maximum interest rate in California is 10% annually. Interest will be computed on the basis of a 360-day year and charged for the actual number of days elapsed in each interest calculation period. Nothing in this Note will be construed or operate to require Maker to pay interest at a greater rate than the maximum allowed by law. Should any interest or other charges paid or payable by Maker under this Note result in the computation or earning of interest in excess of the maximum allowed by law, then all excess interest charges are waived by Holder, and any such excess interest received by Holder will be automatically credited against the Principal Amount, and any such remaining excess received by Holder that exceeds the Principal Amount will be credited by Holder against Royalty Fees payable to Holder pursuant to the Franchise Agreement.
- 5. <u>Confession of Judgment</u>. Upon the occurrence of a Default, Maker hereby irrevocably authorizes and empowers any attorney or clerk of any court of record in the United States or elsewhere to appear for and, with or without declaration filed, confess judgment against Maker in favor of Holder or an assignee or successor of Holder, of the Note, at any time, for the full or total Principal Amount under this Note, together with all indebtedness provided for therein, with interest, costs of suit, and reasonable attorneys' fees; and the undersigned expressly releases all errors, waives all stay of execution, rights of inquisition and extension upon any levy upon real estate and

all exemption of property from levy and sale upon any execution hereon; and Maker expressly agrees to condemnation and expressly relinquishes all rights to benefits or exemptions under any and all exemption laws now in force or which may hereafter be enacted. Maker acknowledges and agrees that Maker is voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently giving up its right to notice and hearing prior to the entry of judgment, is granting Holder, or Holder's assignee or successor, the right to confess judgment against Maker and is freely waiving its due process rights. Maker further consents to immediate execution on the judgment and waives all right of appeal, ratifying and confirming all that the attorney or clerk may do by virtue of this Note.

#### 6. General.

No failure or delay by Holder to insist on the strict performance of any term of this Note or to exercise any right, power or remedy upon the occurrence of a Default or any other breach of this Note, is a waiver of any term or agreement or of any breach, or will preclude Holder from exercising any right, power or remedy at any later time unless in writing. If Holder accepts any payment after its due date, this act will not be a waiver of Holder's right to receive timely payment of all other amounts or to declare a default for the failure to make any other payment when due.

If Holder or any future holder of this Note assigns its rights under this Note, the term "Holder" as used in this Note will refer to such then-current assignee. This Note is not assignable by Maker.

If any provision (or any part of any provision) in this Note is for any reason held to be invalid, illegal or unenforceable in any respect, the invalidity, illegality or unenforceability will not affect any other provision (or remaining part of the affected provision) of this Note, and this Note will be construed as if the invalid, illegal or unenforceable provision (or part of this Note) had never been contained in this Note but only to the extent it is invalid, illegal or unenforceable.

This Note shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Maryland.

Negotiable and payable at the office of: CHOICE HOTELS INTERNATIONAL, INC., 1 Choice Hotels Circle, Suite 400, Rockville, Maryland 20850, Attention: Billing Department.

In Witness Whereof, Maker acknowledges and agrees to the terms of this Note as evidenced by its signature under seal as of the day and year first above written.



# EXHIBIT G.A. CAPITAL SUPPORT PROMISSORY NOTE

#### **INCENTIVE PROMISSORY NOTE**

Data:

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FOR VALUE RECEIVED, each of the promises to pay to the order of Choillesser of (i)	ce Hotels International, In and 00/100 Dolla Rooms (such amount, the pitalized terms used but	ic. (" <u>Holder")</u> the principal sum Irs (\$), or (ii) the product e " <u>Principal Amount"</u> ), together not defined herein will have	n equal to the uct of \$r
dated "Franchise Agreement"), which Franchise Agreement"), which Franchise Agreement will make a form to this promissory note (the "No	, (as may be amend nchise Agreement, amon a loan to Maker pursuant t	g other items, set forth certa	e to time, the in conditions

#### 2. Interest.

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- 2.1 This Note will bear interest from the date on which funds are advanced to Maker (the "<u>Distribution Date</u>") until paid in full at the annual rate of Prime plus two percent (prime plus 2%) (the "<u>Rate of Interest</u>"). "<u>Prime</u>" initially refers to the prime rate quoted by the Wall Street Journal Prime Rate as of the Distribution Date, and during the period in which all or any portion of the Principal Amount remains outstanding, shall adjust from time to time as the rate quoted by the Wall Street Journal adjusts. Rate of Interest will be computed on the basis of a 360-day year and charged for the actual number of days elapsed in each interest calculation period. The maximum interest rate in California is 10% annually.
- 2.2 Nothing in this Note will be construed or operate to require Maker to pay interest at a greater rate than the maximum allowed by law. Should any interest or other charges paid or payable by Maker under this Note result in the computation or earning of interest in excess of the maximum allowed by law, then all excess interest charges are waived by Holder, and any such excess interest received by Holder will be automatically credited against the Principal Amount, and any such remaining excess received by Holder that exceeds the Principal Amount will be credited by Holder against Royalty Fees payable to Holder pursuant to the Franchise Agreement.
- 3. <u>Use of Proceeds</u>. Maker agrees that the entire proceeds of this Note will be used solely for purposes related to the construction and operation of a Cambria hotel pursuant to the Franchise Agreement.

#### 4. Payment.

- 4.1 Unless otherwise accelerated pursuant to Section 5.2, this Note matures fifteen (15) years from the Opening Date (the "Maturity Date"), at which time the entire Principal Amount, all accrued and unpaid interest on this Note and all other sums due under this Note will be due and payable in full.
- 4.2 Notwithstanding the foregoing, no payments (of either the Principal Amount or any associated interest) will be due or payable under this Note unless and until a Default (as defined in Section 5.1 hereof) occurs. If no Default (i) has occurred before the Maturity Date, or (ii) is occurring on the Maturity Date, then the entire Principal Amount and all accrued interest will be waived and forgiven by Holder as of the Maturity Date.
- 4.3 As of each anniversary of the Opening Date, unless a Default has occurred, the loan balance shall automatically be reduced by: (a) 1/15<sup>th</sup> of the Principal Amount (the "Forgiven Amount"), and (b) all accrued interest on the Forgiven Amount.

4.4 Payments on this Note shall be made in lawful currency of the United States of America to Holder, at the address set forth in Section 6.3 of this Note or such other address as Holder may designate by written notice to Maker.

#### 5. Default.

- 5.1 The occurrence of any one or more of the following events shall constitute a "Default": (1) Maker's failure to observe or perform any covenant, condition or agreement under the terms of this Note or under the terms of any documents signed in connection with this Note, if any, (including, but not limited to, any commitment, loan agreement, stock pledge agreement or guaranty) or any other note or other obligation payable by Maker to Holder; (2) if any representation or warranty made in connection with this Note or in any report, opinion, schedule or certification with this Note or later submitted to Holder is in Holder's opinion, false, misleading or incorrect in any material respect; (3) if for any reason, the Franchise Agreement terminates or is otherwise rendered ineffective prior to the Maturity Date; (4) the occurrence of any event(s) or existence of any situation that, after providing for any applicable notice/cure rights set forth in the Franchise Agreement, would provide Holder with a right to terminate the Franchise Agreement; (5) if all or any portion of the premises to which the Franchise Agreement applies (the "Premises"), any interest in the Premises (including an ownership interest in any entity that owns the Premises), or any interest in this Note is transferred, leased, or conveyed, other than as security for a debt or other obligation, whether done by a direct or indirect method, or should Maker enter into any contractual arrangement to transfer or convey the Premises, any interest in the Premises (including an ownership interest in any entity that owns the Premises), any part of this Note, or any interest in this Note other than as security for a debt, unless, within 30 days of such transfer, Holder enters into a new Cambria franchise agreement with the transferee for the Premises, and the transferee assumes all of Maker's obligations under this Note and executes Holder's then-current form of Assumption of Promissory Note; and (6) the filing of any insolvency or bankruptcy proceeding by or against any Maker or the appointment of a receiver for any Maker or any Maker's assets.
- 5.2 If a Default occurs, at Holder's option, the Default Payment Amount (as defined below) will immediately become due and payable by Maker to Holder without notice to Maker or any other person or entity. The "Default Payment Amount" means the sum of: (a) the original Principal Amount less an amount equal to the product resulting from multiplying the original Principal Amount by a fraction, the numerator of which is the number of full calendar years that have elapsed since the Opening Date, and the denominator of which is fifteen (15) (the amount resulting from this calculation is referred to as the "Amount Due"); plus (b) interest on the Amount Due calculated from the Distribution Date at the Rate of Interest.
- 5.3 Interest will accrue on the Default Payment Amount at the Rate of Interest until the Default Payment Amount has been paid in full; provided, that if such Default Payment Amount has not been paid in full by the date that is fifteen (15) days after the date such amount became due and payable, interest will begin to accrue at a default annual rate equal to Prime plus seven percent (prime plus 7%). The maximum interest rate in California is 10% annually.
- 5.4 The following provisions are applicable upon the occurrence of a Default: (A) Maker will pay Holder all expenses, costs and attorneys' fees that Holder incurs in connection with Holder's collection of any monies due under this Note or for the enforcement of any right under this Note or under any other agreement related to the loan evidenced by this Note, and (B) Holder may exercise any or all other rights, powers and remedies provided for in any instrument, document or agreement now or later evidencing security or otherwise relating to the loan evidenced by this Note or now or later existing at law or in equity or by statute or otherwise.
- 5.5 <u>CONFESSION OF JUDGMENT</u>. Upon the occurrence of a Default, Maker hereby irrevocably authorizes and empowers any attorney or clerk of any court of record in the United States or elsewhere to appear for and, with or without declaration filed, confess judgment against Maker in favor of Holder or an assignee or successor of Holder, of the Note, at any time, for the full or total Default Payment Amount under this Note, together with all indebtedness provided for

therein, with interest, costs of suit, and reasonable attorneys' fees; and the undersigned expressly releases all errors, waives all stay of execution, rights of inquisition and extension upon any levy upon real estate and all exemption of property from levy and sale upon any execution hereon; and Maker expressly agrees to condemnation and expressly relinquishes all rights to benefits or exemptions under any and all exemption laws now in force or which may hereafter be enacted. Maker acknowledges and agrees that Maker is voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently giving up its right to notice and hearing prior to the entry of judgment, is granting Holder, or Holder's assignee or successor, the right to confess judgment against Maker and is freely waiving its due process rights. Maker further consents to immediate execution on the judgment and waives all right of appeal, ratifying and confirming all that the attorney or clerk may do by virtue of this Note.

5.6 Maker waives demand, presentment for payment, protest and notice of dishonor and agrees that at any time and from time to time and with or without consideration, Holder may, without notice to or further consent of Maker and without in any manner releasing, lessening, or affecting the obligations of any of them: (1) release, surrender, waive, add, substitute, settle, exchange, compromise, modify, extend, or grant indulgences with respect to (a) this Note, (b) all or any part of any collateral or security for this Note, and (c) Maker or any of them; and (2) grant any extension or other postponements of the time of payment of this Note.

#### 6. General.

- 6.1 <u>Cumulative Rights</u>. Each right, power and remedy of Holder as provided for in this Note or now or hereafter existing at law or in equity or by statute or otherwise is cumulative and concurrent and is in addition to every other right, power or remedy, and Holder's exercise or beginning of exercise of any one or more of these rights, powers or remedies will not preclude Holder's simultaneous or later exercise of any or all these other rights, powers or remedies.
- 6.2 <u>No Waiver; Application of Payment.</u> No failure or delay by Holder to insist on the strict performance of any term of this Note or to exercise any right, power or remedy upon the occurrence of a Default or any other breach of this Note, is a waiver of any term or agreement or of any breach, or preclude Holder from exercising any right, power or remedy at any later time unless in writing. If Holder accepts any payment after its due date, this act will not be a waiver of Holder's right to receive timely payment of all other amounts or to declare a default for the failure to make any other payment when due. Any partial payments under this Note may be applied to pay interest, the Principal Amount, the Amount Due or costs as Holder, in its sole discretion determines.
- 6.3 <u>Notices</u>. All notices required under this Note must be in writing, must be personally delivered or mailed by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, or by a nationally recognized courier service, to Holder at Choice Hotels International, Inc., 1 Choice Hotels Circle, Suite 400, Rockville, MD 20850, Attention: General Counsel, and to Maker at the Designated Representative's address identified in the Franchise Agreement. Either Holder or Maker may change the applicable address to which such notices are to be sent by written notice to the other party; provided, that Maker may only change the Designated Representative by written notice to Holder delivered in compliance with the Franchise Agreement. Maker authorizes the Designated Representative to receive Holder's written notices to Maker as its agent. Any notice by registered or certified mail or by reputable national courier service is deemed given and received at the date and time of sending.
- 6.4 <u>Severability</u>. If any provision (or any part of any provision) in this Note is for any reason held to be invalid, illegal or unenforceable in any respect, the invalidity, illegality or unenforceability will not affect any other provision (or remaining part of the affected provision) of this Note, and this Note will be construed as if the invalid, illegal or unenforceable provision (or part of this Note) had never been contained in this Note but only to the extent it is invalid, illegal or unenforceable.
- 6.5 <u>Assignment</u>. If Holder or any future holder of this Note assigns its rights under this Note, the term "<u>Holder</u>" as used in this Note will refer to such then-current assignee.

- 6.6 <u>Choice of Law.</u> This Note is a contract made under, and for all purposes will be construed in accordance with, the internal laws and judicial decisions of the State of Maryland. Maker and Holder agree that any dispute arising out of this Note is subject to the jurisdiction of both the state and federal courts in the State of Maryland. For that purpose, Maker submits to the jurisdiction of the state and federal courts of the State of Maryland. Maker further agrees to accept service of process out of any of the beforementioned courts in any dispute by registered, certified mail or international courier service addressed to Maker.
- 6.7. <u>Confidentiality.</u> You agree to keep the provisions of this Note in strict confidence and will not disclose them to any persons other than your directors, officers, partners, employees, agents and advisors that have a need to know. Any unauthorized disclosure is a Default under this Note as defined in Section 5.1 hereto.
- 6.8 Waiver of Trial by Jury. THE MAKER AND THE HOLDER HEREBY WAIVE TRIAL BY JURY IN ANY ACTION OR PROCEEDING TO WHICH THE MAKER AND THE HOLDER MAY BE PARTIES, ARISING OUT OF OR IN ANY WAY PERTAINING TO THIS NOTE. IT IS AGREED AND UNDERSTOOD THAT THIS WAIVER CONSTITUTES A WAIVER OF TRIAL BY JURY OF ALL CLAIMS AGAINST ALL PARTIES TO SUCH ACTIONS OR PROCEEDINGS, INCLUDING CLAIMS AGAINST PARTIES WHO ARE NOT PARTIES TO THIS NOTE.

[Remainder of this page intentionally left blank]

signa	In Witness Whereof, Maker ac ure under seal as of the day and	knowledges and agrees to the terms of this Note as evidenced by its I year first above written.
		<u> </u>
		(Seal)
Date	:	

# EXHIBIT G.B. DIVERSITY INCENTIVE PROMISSORY NOTE

Date:

#### **INCENTIVE PROMISSORY NOTE**

City, State

FOR VALUE RECEIVED,	each of the unde	rsigned (collect	ively, " <u>Maker</u> ")	, jointly and s	everally
hereby promises to pay to	the order of Choi	ce Hotels Interr	national, Inc. (	"Holder") the p	rincipal
sum of	_ Dollars (\$	) (the " <u>Princi</u>	pal Amount"), o	or such lesser	amount
as shall then equal the out					
hereinafter, together with i	interest thereon, a	s provided for h	ierein. Pursua	ant to the term	s of the
Franchise Agreement (def	ined below), Holde	er will lend Make	er the sum of S	\$ u	pon the
occurrence of the Opening	J Date, as defined i	n the Franchise	: Agreement. C	apitalized tern	ns used
but not defined herein will	have the meaning	ascribed to sucl	h terms in the F	Franchise Agre	ement.
1. Background and	Certain Definitio	<u>ns</u> . Maker and	l Holder are p	parties to a fra	anchise
agreement dated	, (as may	be amended or	supplemented	I from time to ti	me, the
"Franchise Agreement"),	which Franchise	Agreement, am	nong other ite	ms, set forth	certain
conditions pursuant to whi	ch Holder will mak	e a loan to Mak	ker pursuant to	a promissory	note in
substantially similar form to	o this promissory n	ote (the " <u>Note</u> ")	).		

#### 2. <u>Interest</u>.

\$

- 2.1 This Note will bear interest from the date on which funds are advanced to Maker (the "<u>Distribution Date</u>") until paid in full at the annual rate of Prime plus two percent (2%) (the "<u>Rate of Interest</u>"). "<u>Prime</u>" initially refers to the prime rate quoted by the Wall Street Journal Prime Rate as of the Distribution Date, and during the period in which all or any portion of the Principal Amount remains outstanding, shall adjust from time to time as the rate quoted by the Wall Street Journal adjusts. Rate of Interest will be computed on the basis of a 360-day year and charged for the actual number of days elapsed in each interest calculation period. The maximum interest rate in California is 10% annually.
- 2.2 Nothing in this Note will be construed or operate to require Maker to pay interest at a greater rate than the maximum allowed by law. Should any interest or other charges paid or payable by Maker under this Note result in the computation or earning of interest in excess of the maximum allowed by law, then all excess interest charges are waived by Holder, and any such excess interest received by Holder will be automatically credited against the Principal Amount, and any such remaining excess received by Holder that exceeds the Principal Amount will be credited by Holder against Royalty Fees payable to Holder pursuant to the Franchise Agreement.
- **3.** <u>Use of Proceeds</u>. Maker agrees that the entire proceeds of this Note will be used solely for purposes related to the operation of a **«Brand\_Name»** hotel pursuant to the Franchise Agreement.

#### 4. Payment.

- 4.1 Unless otherwise accelerated pursuant to Section 5.2, this Note matures one hundred and twenty (120) months from the Opening Date (the "Maturity Date"), at which time the entire Principal Amount, all accrued and unpaid interest on this Note and all other sums due under this Note will be due and payable in full.
- 4.2 Notwithstanding the foregoing, no payments (of either the Principal Amount or any associated interest) will be due or payable under this Note unless and until a Default (as defined in Section 5.1 hereof) occurs. If no Default (i) has occurred before the Maturity Date, or (ii) is occurring on the Maturity Date, then the entire Principal Amount and all accrued interest will be waived and forgiven by Holder as of the Maturity Date.
- 4.3 As of each anniversary of the Opening Date, unless a Default has occurred, the loan balance shall automatically be reduced by: (a) 1/10<sup>th</sup> of the Principal Amount (the "Forgiven Amount"), and (b) all accrued interest on the Forgiven Amount.
- 4.4 Payments on this Note shall be made in lawful currency of the United States of America to Holder, at the address set forth in Section 6.3 of this Note or such other address as Holder may designate by written notice to Maker.

#### 5. <u>Default</u>.

The occurrence of any one or more of the following events shall constitute a "Default": (1) Maker's failure to observe or perform any covenant, condition or agreement under the terms of this Note or under the terms of any documents signed in connection with this Note, if any, (including, but not limited to, any commitment, loan agreement, stock pledge agreement or guaranty) or any other note or other obligation payable by Maker to Holder; (2) if any representation or warranty made in connection with this Note or in any report, opinion, schedule or certification with this Note or later submitted to Holder is in Holder's opinion, false, misleading or incorrect in any material respect; (3) if for any reason, the Franchise Agreement terminates or is otherwise rendered ineffective; (4) the occurrence of any event(s) or existence of any situation that, after providing for any applicable notice/cure rights set forth in the Franchise Agreement, would provide Holder with a right to terminate the Franchise Agreement; (5) if all of any portion of the premises to which the Franchise Agreement applies (the "Premises"), any interest in the Premises (including an ownership interest in any entity that owns the Premises), or any interest in this Note is transferred, leased, or conveyed, other than as security for a debt or other obligation, whether done by a direct or indirect method, or should Maker enter into any contractual arrangement to transfer or convey the Premises, any interest in the Premises (including an ownership interest in any entity that owns the Premises), any part of this Note, or any interest in this Note other than as security for a debt, unless, within 30 days of such transfer, Holder enters into a new «Brand Name» franchise agreement with the transferee for the Premises, and the transferee assumes all of Maker's obligations under this Note and executes Holder's then-current form of Assumption of Promissory Note; (6) the filing of any insolvency or bankruptcy proceeding by or against any Maker or the appointment of a receiver for any Maker or any Maker's assets; and (7) the death of any Maker unless (i) within 30 days upon death of a Maker, Holder is notified of such death, and (ii) within 60 days of said notification, this Note is transferred to and assumed by a new individual within Maker's family, that Holder approves in its sole discretion, by executing Holder's then-current form of Assumption of Promissory Note.

- 5.2 If a Default occurs, at Holder's option, the Default Payment Amount (as defined below) will immediately become due and payable by Maker to Holder without notice to Maker or any other person or entity. The "Default Payment Amount" means the sum of: (a) the original Principal Amount less an amount equal to the product resulting from multiplying the original Principal Amount by a fraction, the numerator of which is the number of full calendar months that have elapsed since the Opening Date, and the denominator of which is one hundred twenty (120) (the amount resulting from this calculation is referred to as the "Amount Due"); plus (b) interest on the Amount Due calculated from the Distribution Date at the Rate of Interest.
- 5.3 Interest will accrue on the Default Payment Amount at the Rate of Interest until the Default Payment Amount has been paid in full; provided, that if such Default Payment Amount has not been paid in full by the date that is fifteen (15) days after the date such amount became due and payable, interest will begin to accrue at a default annual rate equal to Prime plus seven percent (prime plus 7%). The maximum interest rate in California is 10% annually.
- 5.4 The following provisions are applicable upon the occurrence of a Default: (A) Maker will pay Holder all expenses, costs and attorneys' fees that Holder incurs in connection with Holder's collection of any monies due under this Note or for the enforcement of any right under this Note or under any other agreement related to the loan evidenced by this Note, and (B) Holder may exercise any or all other rights, powers and remedies provided for in any instrument, document or agreement now or later evidencing security or otherwise relating to the loan evidenced by this Note or now or later existing at law or in equity or by statute or otherwise.
- CONFESSION OF JUDGEMENT. Upon the occurrence of a Default, Maker 5.5 hereby irrevocably authorizes and empowers any attorney or clerk of any court of record in the United States or elsewhere to appear for and, with or without declaration filed, confess judgment against Maker in favor of Holder or an assignee or successor of Holder, of the Note, at any time, for the full or total Default Payment Amount under this Note, together with all indebtedness provided for therein, with interest, costs of suit, and reasonable attorneys' fees; and the undersigned expressly releases all errors, waives all stay of execution, rights of inquisition and extension upon any levy upon real estate and all exemption of property from levy and sale upon any execution hereon; and Maker expressly agrees to condemnation and expressly relinquishes all rights to benefits or exemptions under any and all exemption laws now in force or which may hereafter be enacted. Maker acknowledges and agrees that Maker is voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently giving up its right to notice and hearing prior to the entry of judgment, is granting Holder, or Holder's assignee or successor, the right to confess judgment against Maker and is freely waiving its due process rights. Maker further consents to immediate execution on the judgment and waives all right of appeal, ratifying and confirming all that the attorney or clerk may do by virtue of this Note.
- 5.6 Maker waives demand, presentment for payment, protest and notice of dishonor and agrees that at any time and from time to time and with or without consideration, Holder may, without notice to or further consent of Maker and without in any manner releasing, lessening, or affecting the obligations of any of them: (1) release, surrender, waive, add, substitute, settle, exchange, compromise, modify, extend, or grant indulgences with respect to (a) this Note, (b) all or any part of any collateral or security for this Note, and (c) Maker or any of them; and (2) grant any extension or other postponements of the time of payment of this Note.

#### 6. General.

- 6.1 <u>Cumulative Rights</u>. Each right, power and remedy of Holder as provided for in this Note or now or hereafter existing at law or in equity or by statute or otherwise is cumulative and concurrent and is in addition to every other right, power or remedy, and Holder's exercise or beginning of exercise of any one or more of these rights, powers or remedies will not preclude Holder's simultaneous or later exercise of any or all these other rights, powers or remedies.
- 6.2 <u>No Waiver; Application of Payment.</u> No failure or delay by Holder to insist on the strict performance of any term of this Note or to exercise any right, power or remedy upon the occurrence of a Default or any other breach of this Note, is a waiver of any term or agreement or of any breach, or preclude Holder from exercising any right, power or remedy at any later time unless in writing. If Holder accepts any payment after its due date, this act will not be a waiver of Holder's right to receive timely payment of all other amounts or to declare a default for the failure to make any other payment when due. Any partial payments under this Note may be applied to pay interest, the Principal Amount, the Amount Due or costs as Holder, in its sole discretion determines.
- 6.3 <u>Notices</u>. All notices required under this Note must be in writing, must be personally delivered or mailed by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, or by a nationally recognized courier service, to Holder at **Choice Hotels International, Inc., 1 Choice Hotels Circle, Suite 400, Rockville, MD 20850**, and to Maker at the Designated Representative's address identified in the Franchise Agreement. Either Holder or Maker may change the applicable address to which such notices are to be sent by written notice to the other party; provided, that Maker may only change the Designated Representative by written notice to Holder delivered in compliance with the Franchise Agreement. Maker authorizes the Designated Representative to receive Holder's written notices to Maker as its agent. Any notice by registered or certified mail or by reputable national courier service is deemed given and received at the date and time of sending.
- 6.4 <u>Severability</u>. If any provision (or any part of any provision) in this Note is for any reason held to be invalid, illegal or unenforceable in any respect, the invalidity, illegality or unenforceability will not affect any other provision (or remaining part of the affected provision) of this Note, and this Note will be construed as if the invalid, illegal or unenforceable provision (or part of this Note) had never been contained in this Note but only to the extent it is invalid, illegal or unenforceable.
- 6.5 <u>Assignment</u>. If Holder or any future holder of this Note assigns its rights under this Note, the term "<u>Holder</u>" as used in this Note will refer to such then-current assignee.
- 6.6 <u>Choice of Law.</u> This Note is a contract made under, and for all purposes will be construed in accordance with, the internal laws and judicial decisions of the State of Maryland. Maker and Holder agree that any dispute arising out of this Note is subject to the jurisdiction of both the state and federal courts in the State of Maryland. For that purpose, Maker submits to the jurisdiction of the state and federal courts of the State of Maryland. Maker further agrees to accept service of process out of any of the before-mentioned courts in any dispute by registered, certified mail or international courier service addressed to Maker.
- 6.7. <u>Confidentiality.</u> You agree to keep the provisions of this Note in strict confidence and will not disclose them to any persons other than your directors, officers, partners, employees, agents and advisors that have a need to know. Any unauthorized disclosure is a Default under this Note as defined in Section 5.1 hereto.

6.8 Waiver of Trial by Jury. THE MAKER AND THE HOLDER HEREBY WAIVE TRIAL BY JURY IN ANY ACTION OR PROCEEDING TO WHICH THE MAKER AND THE HOLDER MAY BE PARTIES, ARISING OUT OF OR IN ANY WAY PERTAINING TO THIS NOTE. IT IS AGREED AND UNDERSTOOD THAT THIS WAIVER CONSTITUTES A WAIVER OF TRIAL BY JURY OF ALL CLAIMS AGAINST ALL PARTIES TO SUCH ACTIONS OR PROCEEDINGS, INCLUDING CLAIMS AGAINST PARTIES WHO ARE NOT PARTIES TO THIS NOTE.

In Witness Whereof, Maker acknowledges and agrees to the terms of this Note as evidenced by its signature under seal as of the day and year first above written.



## Radisson Blu®

## **RULES AND REGULATIONS**

**307 WAIVERS** 

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Data Access Security: Level 3: Company Restricted - store under lock and key, use a secure courier, and dispose in shred bins Last Updated: December 20, 2022



## FAIR FRANCHISING POLICY

#### (Updated January 2023)

Choice Hotels International, Inc. ("Choice," "we," or "us") and our franchisee(s) ("Franchisee", "Franchisees", or "you") share substantial interests in the success of our brands, as well as the worldwide lodging system they comprise ("System"). Choice and its Franchisees all benefit when Choice considers System interests first when making policies. For these reasons, Choice has adopted the following guiding principles, which may be modified from time to time in our sole discretion. Any substantive changes to this policy will be conducted in consultation with our Franchisee Associations.

#### **Mission Statement**

Both Choice and our Franchisees have a responsibility to build and maintain the System. At the individual property level, it is your responsibility to represent your hotel's brand in a manner that continually builds brand equity; and we are responsible for confirming that general System and individual brand standards are met throughout the entire Choice franchise System.

Even under the best of circumstances, however, we realize that situations can arise that may create conflict between Choice and our Franchisees. Accordingly, Choice maintains this fair franchising policy ("Fair Franchising Policy") to help us mutually address these situations. The Fair Franchising Policy contains standards relating to the System and is available for review at any time. We also have an Ombudsperson and Vice President of Owner & Portfolio Strategy dedicated to addressing any conflicts between Choice and Franchisees in a manner that is fair and non-retaliatory to all parties concerned. We encourage you to contact any member of our Fair Franchising Department to discuss the Fair Franchising Policy or any concerns that you have regarding your relationship with Choice.

#### **Impact**

Choice and Franchisees agree that every Choice brand, each property, and the entire System benefit from strategic growth and strong brand awareness.

**Impact Policy.** In some cases, a Franchisee may believe that a third party's application for a new Choice franchise is too close in proximity to the Franchisee's existing property. To address this concern, Choice has instituted an incremental impact policy ("Impact Policy"), which has been benchmarked with our competitors and tailored to carefully balance the rights of existing Franchisees with the need for growth that benefits our entire System. The Impact Policy permits a Franchisee (in good standing) to object to the grant of a same-brand franchise, if the applying franchise is within a specified radius of the existing Franchisee's property.

Under the Impact Policy, we will notify both your designated representative and the general manager of your property: (i) by electronic mail, if we have received an application for a hotel of a different brand than your hotel, the proposed hotel is within 5 miles of your existing property, and your existing brand is covered by the Impact Policy; (ii) in writing (via express mail to the designated representative and via first-class mail to the general manager), if we have accepted an application for a same-brand hotel and the applying franchise is within a specified radius of your property; or (iii) by telephone, if you are an applicant and we have received an additional application for a same-brand hotel to be located within the Area of *Enhanced Protection (as defined more fully* in the Impact Policy) of your proposed hotel.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> As of the date of this Fair Franchising Policy, the Impact Policy applies only to the following brands: Clarion, Comfort, Econo Lodge, MainStay Suites, Quality, Rodeway Inn, and Sleep Inn.

First opportunity to develop in franchisee's Area of Enhanced Protection (AOEP). In addition to the objection rights described above, each existing franchisee in good standing with Choice will have the option of submitting an application for a new same-brand hotel within its AOEP before Choice will approve a same-brand application within that AOEP from another prospective franchisee. Specifically, Choice will permit existing franchisees to submit an application for a same-brand property within 15-calendar days of being notified of a proposed application by another prospective franchisee, and the existing franchisee will receive preference in the application for a same-brand property. In making a final decision, however, we will also consider other factors, such as site location, financing, relative strength of each application and Choice's past experience with the existing franchisee. Finally, our Franchise Development team will inform the existing franchisee of our decision before we grant final approval of an application for a same-brand hotel within that franchisee's AOEP.

**Consultation.** As has been our practice, we will continue to consult with our Franchisees on amendments and modifications to the Impact Policy. For more information, please refer to our **Impact Policy**, at www.choicecentral.com or call the Fair Franchising Department for a detailed explanation of our Impact Policy.

#### **Exercise of Contractual Outs**

Company Philosophy. Choice is committed to meeting the evolving needs of its guests across all of its brands and driving continued brand equity. It is imperative that each hotel delivers a top-notch, consistent experience to every guest, every time. Our brands are as strong as their weakest performer, so if a guest has a bad experience at one hotel, it adversely impacts us all and the System. Not only should each hotel be clean, in good condition and in working order, they should be modern, up-to-date, and competitive within their markets. Choice's contractual out evaluation process was created to ensure that we all meet these objectives.

**Contractual Out Evaluation Process.** For some brands the franchise agreement may include a mutual right to terminate the franchise agreement on the 5th, 10th, or 15th anniversary of the Opening Date by providing advance written notice. Choice reviews every active property prior to these anniversaries and evaluates the following aspects of the hotel:

- How well does the hotel meet guest expectations as measured by Guest Insight System ("GIS") scores and customer complaints?
- How do the hotel's GIS scores and guest complaints compare to other hotels within its brand?
- How strongly does the hotel compete in its local market as determined by Smith Travel Research (STR) reports compared to both local competitive set and tract chain scale?
- What is the hotel's historic pass/fail rate for Quality Assurance ("QA") inspections?
- Has the hotel been defaulted in the past for any reason, including but not limited to QA, After Entering System ("AES"), credit or legal reasons?
- How does the physical plant of the hotel compare to its competitive set within its market?
- How does the physical plant of the hotel compare to other hotels within its brand?
- If there are gaps between the property and its competitive set or peers, can the property be updated cost-effectively?

Risk Factors. In keeping with Choice's philosophy, we review in detail the aggregate results of these

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> As of the date of this Fair Franchising Policy, there is no mutual right of termination in our standard WoodSpring franchise agreement. For our Comfort brands, the standard franchise agreement includes an out on the 5th anniversary of the Opening Date for conversion properties only. For Cambria, the standard form franchise agreement includes outs at the 10th and 15th anniversary of the Opening Date for Mainstay and Sleep, the standard franchise agreement includes an out on the 10<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> anniversaries of the Opening Date for new construction properties only. For Rodeway, the standard franchise agreement includes annual outs on the anniversary of the Opening Date.

questions referenced above for each hotel. In particular, we take into account any unique aspects of the hotel's market or its guest base. There is no standardized formula that is applied to every hotel and each situation is evaluated independently. Furthermore, typically Choice reserves the right under the franchise agreement to exercise its contractual out for any reason or no reason at all, subject to state law. There are certain factors, however, that place a property at greater risk that Choice typically will exercise its contractual out, including but not limited to (subject to state law):

- The property's Likelihood to Recommend ("LTR") score places it in the bottom third of its brand for the most recent 12 month period.
- The property has guest complaints per thousand ("CPT") higher than the brand average for the most recent 12 month period.
- The property has a history of shifting between passing and failing scores on QA inspections.
- The property passes its QA inspections but only minimally.
- The property performs below the tract chain scale as determined by STR.
- The physical plant of the property is outdated, worn, and/or in poor condition.

Note on Comfort Inn: To achieve the brand's goal of becoming one of the top 3 brands in the Midscale without Food & Beverage segment, all Comfort Inn properties must be held to a higher standard in terms of both guest satisfaction and physical representation. For example, the outside appearance of the hotel must meet or be able to achieve a consistent, above-average guest experience when compared to other hotels within the brand and to its national competitive set, which includes Holiday Inn Express and Fairfield Inn.

If the physical plant of a Comfort Inn property resembles economy-level competitors in the market due to its room size, lobby size, public space, corridor type (interior v. exterior), single loaded v. double loaded, or other aspects, then Choice may elect to exercise its contractual out or, if desirable, discuss the potential for the property to reposition to another Choice brand.

**Management Committee.** Due to the importance of these decisions and their impact on both Choice and the Franchisee, no single person at Choice has the ability to exercise a contractual out. All decisions to exercise this right are made by a Committee and must be unanimously supported by each member of that Committee. The Management Committee is comprised of representatives from:

- Fair Franchising
- Owner & Portfolio Strategy
- Legal
- Development
- Services
- Credit

**Contractual Out Notification Process.** Approximately eighteen (18) months prior to a contractual out, a representative from Choice will contact the Franchisee's Designated Representative if:

- 1. Choice is considering whether to exercise its contractual out and feels that a Product Improvement Plan ("PIP") is necessary to continue the relationship.
  - The Franchisee's Designated Representative will receive a letter explaining Choice's position and the PIP process. A copy of the letter will be sent to the hotel's General Manager.
  - Once the PIP is prepared, the Franchisee's Designated Representative will receive a phone call from a member of Choice's Owner & Portfolio Strategy department to discuss the scope of work to update the property. (See below)
- 2. Choice has decided to exercise its contractual out.
  - The Franchisee's Designated Representative will receive a phone call from Choice to discuss the decision.

• If Choice is unable to reach the Franchisee's Designated Representative by phone, Choice will send a letter notifying the hotel of its attempts to contact the Designated Representative by phone and requesting the hotel contact Choice immediately. If Choice is unsuccessful in contacting the Franchisee, then Choice will release a formal Notice of Termination letter generally twelve (12) months prior to the contractual out date. Individual franchise agreements may contain different notice periods. If that is the case, those notice periods will apply, however Choice will attempt to provide as much notice as is reasonably possible.

Please note that each Franchisee is obligated to maintain accurate contact information with Choice. If the Franchisee's Designated Representative name, address, or telephone number on file is no longer valid, then Choice cannot be held responsible for any resulting delays in reaching the Franchisee.

**Product Improvement Plans.** In many cases, Choice will agree to continue its relationship based on an agreed scope of work to update and refresh the property and/or additional training. These requirements will be detailed in the PIP. If Choice and the Franchisee's Designated Representative cannot finalize and execute the PIP twelve (12) months prior to the contractual out date, then Choice may issue a Notice of Termination to the Franchisee's Designated Representative.

This Notice of Termination can be rescinded if subsequent discussions result in a mutually agreeable PIP Addendum that is executed by both parties within 30 days of the Notice of Termination letter.

**Options Available to Properties.** There are 4 options available to properties where Choice has exercised its contractual out:

1. Reposition to Another Choice Brand

In many cases, there will be another Choice brand available in the market for the hotel to consider. There may be many financial benefits to remaining with the Choice System rather than exiting the System completely. When Choice calls the Franchisee's Designated Representative to inform them that Choice is exercising its contractual out, he or she will discuss the availability of this option.

#### 2. Replace the Existing Hotel

Many owners prefer to replace their hotel with a newer product in their market. Please let a Choice representative know your interest in this option and the appropriate person will contact you.

#### 3. Appeal the Decision

If a Franchisee's Designated Representative would like to appeal a contractual out decision, then a letter detailing the request and the reasons for appeal should be emailed to the contact person on the termination notice. Upon receipt of the appeal request, a confirmation email will be sent within approximately 48 hours. The Management Committee will generally review the appeal within 7-10 business days following the receipt confirmation. The Franchisee's Designated Representative will receive the results of the Committee review via email.

4. Early Termination following Choice's exercise of a window.

When Choice exercises its option to terminate a franchise agreement at a contractual out, and a franchisee in good standing wishes to leave the Choice system before the agreed-upon termination date, Choice will take special consideration, on a case-by-case basis, in reviewing a franchisee's request to discount or waive any liquidated damages that may be owed due to the early termination.

**Non-retaliation.** In deciding whether to exercise our contractual out, Choice will not discriminate or retaliate against a property that has requested or is in the process of requesting an impact study or has

challenged some other action taken by Choice.

#### **Marketing and Reservation Services Funds:**

**Consultation.** Choice is committed to the practice of consulting with its applicable franchisee association(s) on certain marketing campaigns the company undertakes and generally on the use of monthly fees designated for marketing, and reservation services. The franchise associations also are consulted on changing the amounts of those fees.

**Disclosure.** Upon request, Choice will make available to Franchisees its unaudited financial statements for those portions of System fees that are designated for marketing and reservation services purposes. Choice has no obligation to separate incomes or expenditures between Choice brands. Moreover, as a public company, Choice will continue to report its System fees (including marketing and reservations fees) in accordance with GAAP (generally accepted accounting principles) on its income statements, which are reviewed and published quarterly.

#### **Corporate Ethics:**

**Ethical Conduct.** Choice expects all Choice associates, franchisees and vendors to practice "good faith and fair dealing" in all business matters. All Choice associates are subject to a corporate ethics policy that mandates certain standards of conduct. In addition, your franchise agreement contains provisions that require you to operate your franchise in a manner that does not negatively impact Choice and the brand or violate any laws.

#### **Termination for Cause:**

**Liquidated Damages.** For most brands, if the standard franchise agreement is terminated before the end of its term, we have generally capped both pre-opening and post-opening liquated damages at 36 months of historical royalty fees (membership fees for Ascend properties) and the formula applicable to each brand.<sup>3</sup> In addition, under certain circumstances and for certain brands, a 20% discount on liquidated damages will be applied as an incentive for quickly settling accounts unless the franchise agreement was terminated due to your abandonment of the hotel or your cessation of operating the hotel as our brand. Moreover, Choice's approach to liquidated damages seeks only to recoup future lost royalty fees, not lost system fees. Individual franchise agreements may contain different terms, and your agreement will control the amount of liquidated damages you will have to pay.

**Extraordinary Circumstances.** If you encounter extraordinary, unforeseen circumstances (such as the death of franchisee, environmental issues, permanent disabilities, etc.) that affect your ability to operate your franchise in good standing, it is your responsibility to contact us in a timely manner to work towards possible resolutions. In these instances, we will attempt in good faith to find a mutually acceptable resolution to the particular situation.

#### **Transfers:**

**Family Transfer.**<sup>4</sup> If you wish to transfer your franchise to a close adult family member (*e.g.*, current spouse, parent, child, sibling, grandchild or grandparent) ("Close Family Member"), that Close Family Member must demonstrate to us that he or she has both the financial ability and experience necessary to operate your franchise in accordance with Choice standards before we will approve a transfer, among

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Typically, 60 months of historical royalty fees for Cambria. In addition, typically 60 months historical royalty fees for Post-Opening liquidated damages for Suburban and MainStay Hotels.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Ascend Membership Agreements allow a transfer to a close family member for estate planning purposes and does not include a transfer to a Close Family Member based on death and mental incapacity.

other requirements. If the transfer to a Close Family Member occurs outside of circumstances involving death and/or mental incapacity, you must pay an application fee (not to exceed \$7,500), which will be fully refunded if we do not approve the transfer. The terms of your franchise agreement may differ and, in that case, the terms of your agreement may override the family transfer provision described above.

#### **Supplier Options:**

**Vendor Exclusivity.** Our Procurement Services Department maintains a list of "Qualified Vendors" of products and services for our franchisees. Certain Qualified Vendors are designated in the Rules and Regulations as exclusive suppliers. Unless required by the Rules and Regulations, you do not have to purchase products that otherwise meet brand standards from Qualified Vendors. We frequently solicit feedback from the elected members of our franchisee associations before implementing new brand standards or vendor requirements. Additionally, for most products and services, we attempt to identify 3 or more vendors who are capable of meeting our brand standards.

#### **Building Brand Equity:**

**Quality Assurance Reviews.** Our entire System benefits from positive brand equity. Building brand equity begins at the local level with how you operate your hotel and also includes Brand Standards or Rules and Regulations that we communicate to you in order to ensure that each of our hotels is meeting or exceeding customer expectations.

Brand Standards or Rules and Regulations, as applicable, change from time to time to reflect changing customer trends and in response to our competition. Where applicable, we will consult with the various brand associations regarding significant changes contemplated for the Brand Standards/Rules and Regulations before implementation, and we will provide our franchisees with a reasonable period to absorb such changes financially.

In addition, each of us has an obligation to your guests to require that your hotel meets or exceeds our brand-specific performance and quality standards. In that regard, we will continue to apply our Quality Assurance process in a fair and impartial manner. If at any time you wish to dispute your Quality Assurance scores, you may make an appeal to the Brand Standards & Compliance.

#### **Database Information:**

**Prohibited Uses.** We have agreed not to share individual, hotel-specific property reservation data for the sole purpose of selling new franchises.

#### **Dispute Resolution:**

There are two mechanisms for handling disputes. The first is an informal process, and the second is through arbitration.

**Informal Process.** We have found that certain disputes with our franchisees can be handled locally or through our established organizational structure. Our Ombudsperson and Vice President of Owner & Portfolio Strategy both provide a retribution-free outlet for our franchisees to share their concerns regarding fairness.

**Arbitration.** The terms of the franchise agreement (which control) generally require all franchise disputes to be resolved by submitting the claim to binding arbitration before the American Arbitration Association or alternative arbitration groups.

\*\*\*\*



## Radisson Blu List of All Current Outlets for Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2022

	State Name	Property	Owner	Status	Class
1	Ilinois	Radisson Blu Aqua Hotel, Chicago 221 North Columbus Drive Chicago, IL 60601 1-312-638-6686	Radisson Hotels Management Corporation	Active	Manage
2	Minnesota	Radisson Blu Mall of America 2100 Killebrew Drive Bloomington, MN 55425 Phone: +1 952 881-5258	Radisson Blu MOA Management, LLC	Active	Manage
3	North Dakota	Radisson Blu Fargo 201 Fifth Street North Fargo, ND 58102 1-701-232-7363	201 Hospitality LLC	Active	Franchise
4	Utah	Radisson Blu Sandy - Salt Lake City 10220 S Monroe Street Sandy, Utah 84070	RD Sandy Management, LLC	Signed but not open	Manage





March 10, 2022

Lender Name Lender Address Lender Address

Attention: Lender contact name/title

Dear Lender:

Choice Hotels International, Inc. ("Franchisor") and **«Customer\_Customer\_Name»** ("Franchisee") are parties to a Franchise Agreement dated **«Contract\_EffectiveExecution\_Date»** (as amended, the "Franchise Agreement"). The Franchise Agreement permits Franchisee to operate the Hotel as a **«Contract\_Brand» «Contract\_Product»**® hotel.

As of the date of this letter agreement, the Franchise Agreement is in full force and effect, Franchisee is in good standing with Franchisor, and Franchisor has not issued a notice of default under the Franchise Agreement which has not been cured; and to the best of Franchisor's knowledge and belief, Franchisee is not currently in default of the Franchise Agreement. "Franchisor's knowledge" means the actual knowledge of obvious Hotel development, construction, and operational matters regularly reviewed by company employees who have given their attention to such matters in the ordinary course of business and does not include any investigation by those employees or others of other matters or beyond their usual and customary reviews of the Hotel, nor does it include constructive notice of matters or information located in public or Hotel records. "Default" means matters which have been the subject of an actual notice of default under the Franchise Agreement and does not include matters which are or may be in process, under discussion, or otherwise addressed.

("Lender") and Franchisee have informed Franchisor that Lender has issued a commitment to loan funds (the "Loan") to Franchisee to be used for the direct benefit of the Hotel and secured by the Hotel.

Lender and Franchisee have requested that Franchisor enter into this letter agreement (the "Comfort Letter") and have submitted the nonrefundable current processing fee. The undersigned parties agree as follows:

#### 1. Opportunity to Cure Defaults.

(a) <u>Notice and Cure Period</u>. Franchisor will copy Lender on any notice of default or termination issued to Franchisee under the Franchise Agreement. To the extent any default is curable, Lender shall have the right, but not the obligation, to cure the default within a cure period of fifteen (15) calendar days for monetary defaults or forty-five (45) days for non-monetary defaults beyond the expiration of the cure period, if any, given to Franchisee ("Lender's Cure Period"). For non-monetary default, Lender must provide notice to Franchisor of Lender's intended method to cure the non-monetary default.

- Non-Monetary Default Requiring Possession to Cure. In the event of a non-monetary default, Lender must obtain Franchisor's prior written consent to apply for the right to acquire the Hotel (the "Acquisition"). Lender must provide notice to Franchisor in accordance with Section 1(a) of this Comfort Letter, and has, upon request, one hundred eighty (180) calendar days ("Additional Period") commencing at the expiration of Lender's Cure Period to complete the Acquisition, through foreclosure or other appropriate proceedings. To request the Additional Period, Lender must: (i) notify Franchisor no later than the date it commences proceedings (or promptly after action is stayed or enjoined) that Lender wants the Additional Period; (ii) commence proceedings within Lender's Cure Period and diligently prosecutes such proceedings to completion; and (iii) comply with the obligations of Franchisee under the Franchise Agreement not being performed by Franchisee during the Additional Period, including payment of all monetary obligations but excluding those obligations that can only be performed by Franchisee or which Lender cannot perform without ownership of the Hotel. If requested by Lender, Franchisor may extend the Additional Period, at Franchisor's determination taking into consideration the period of time that may be necessary to complete the foreclosure or other proceeding in the applicable jurisdiction and any period of time during which such action has been stayed or enjoined. If Lender fails to timely request the Additional Period. Lender acknowledges that the Franchise Agreement terminates pursuant to Franchisor's notice of default and termination.
- (c) <u>Foreclosure</u>. If Lender commences a foreclosure or other proceeding intended to result in the Acquisition but Franchisor has not issued a default notice to Franchisee or Lender has cured Franchisee's default during Lender's Cure Period, Lender may exercise the rights under this Comfort Letter if Lender (i) notifies Franchisor of its proceeding as required by this Comfort Letter and confirms its intention to proceed under the terms of this Comfort Letter and (ii) subsequently completes its Acquisition within one hundred eighty (180) calendar days of the date Lender commenced its proceeding (as such one hundred eighty (180) day period may be extended by Franchisor in its determination if requested by Lender, which determination shall take into consideration the period of time required to complete a foreclosure in the applicable jurisdiction, and any period of time in which Lender's action has been stayed or enjoined). Lender must also comply with the obligations in Paragraph 1(b)(iii) while the Acquisition is pending. Franchisor acknowledges and agrees that an Acquisition shall not be deemed a sale or lease of the Hotel under the Franchise Agreement, nor a violation of any control or transfer provisions of the Franchise Agreement, and shall not be subject to any right of first refusal or right of first offer contained in the Franchise Agreement.
- (d) Franchisor's Rights to Terminate Franchise Agreement. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Comfort Letter, and without limiting Franchisor's right to terminate the Franchise Agreement, Franchisor may terminate the Franchise Agreement if any of the following occur: (i) Franchisee's default or any subsequent default, in the sole opinion of Franchisor, damages the image or reputation of Franchisor or any brand name owned and/or licensed by Franchisor; (ii) Franchisor is required to terminate the Franchise Agreement by court order or action of any trustee in bankruptcy or debtor in possession of the Hotel; (iii) the Additional Period expires without other arrangements, satisfactory to Franchisor in its sole discretion, having been entered into between Franchisor and Lender; or (iv), as applicable, Franchisor has the right to terminate the Franchise Agreement without cause under Section 3 of the Franchise Agreement.
- (e) <u>Expiration of Franchise Agreement</u>. Nothing in this Comfort Letter will extend the Franchise Agreement beyond its stated Term.

#### 2. Elections Upon Lender Acquisition.

(a) <u>Election Not to Operate</u>. If Lender completes its Acquisition before the expiration of the applicable time periods set forth in Paragraph 1, Lender may elect not to continue operating the Hotel under the terms of the Franchise Agreement. In such event, Lender must give written notice to Franchisor within thirty (30) calendar days after the Acquisition of its election not to operate. Upon receipt by Franchisor of such notice, Franchisor shall terminate the Franchise Agreement in accordance with the terms thereof.

Upon such termination of the Franchise Agreement pursuant to this Paragraph, Lender shall not be liable for any termination fees or liquidated damages for early termination. Lender shall be solely liable for all fees and obligations of Franchisee that accrued during the time period from the date of the Acquisition through the date of Lender's notice not to operate, and Lender shall be responsible for complying with the de-identification obligations contained in the Franchise Agreement.

(b) <u>Election to Operate</u>. If Lender completes its Acquisition before the expiration of the applicable time periods set forth in Paragraph 1 and Lender elects to continue operating the Hotel as a **«Contract\_Brand» «Contract\_Product»** hotel, Lender may, by notice and payment to Franchisor of an affiliation fee in the amount of \$15,000 by no later than thirty (30) days after the Acquisition and, enter into a new franchise agreement on Franchisor's then-current form. Lender and Franchisor will execute the new franchise agreement within thirty (30) days of Lender's Acquisition. Such franchise agreement shall be dated as of the later of (i) the date that Lender acquired the Hotel or (ii) the date that we sign the new franchise agreement.

The conditions contained in the Section 9 transfer provisions of the Franchise Agreement relevant to a new franchisee as determined appropriate by Franchisor shall apply with respect to the transfer to Lender, including but not limited to submission by Lender of its ownership structure, evidence of ADA compliance and evidence of insurance. Any renovation requirements imposed by Franchisor will not exceed those which Franchisor could have imposed had Franchisee remained as the Franchisee under the Franchise Agreement. Lender must diligently cure all defaults which it could not cure before the Acquisition under the terms of Paragraph 1(b), except for personal and non-curable defaults as defined below, within the time period determined by Franchisor based on the nature of the default and/or the condition of the Hotel at the time of Lender's Acquisition. The term "personal and non-curable defaults" as used in this Paragraph shall mean such defaults that (i) occurred before the date of Lender's Acquisition; (ii) are non-curable; (iii) are purely personal to Franchisee (e.g., failure to provide adequate notice or past failure to maintain Franchisee's company status); and (iv) are unrelated to the operation of the Hotel. However, Lender shall not be liable for any termination fees or liquidated damages.

- **Receivership.** If a receiver is appointed by court order to operate the Hotel, and Lender desires the Hotel to continue to be operated as a **«Contract\_Brand» «Contract\_Product»** hotel, Lender may, by notice and payment to Franchisor of a non-refundable \$7,500 administrative fee within thirty (30) days of receiver's appointment and subject to Paragraph 2(b) above, elect to have receiver enter into an assumption of the franchise agreement on Franchisor's then-current form. The receiver must execute an assumption of the Franchise Agreement within thirty (30) days of receiver's appointment. Before Franchisor approves such assumption of the Franchise Agreement pursuant to this Paragraph 3, (i) Franchisor, Lender and receiver must reach agreement concerning the cure of any quality, service or other deficiencies in Franchisee's prior performance of its obligations under the Franchise Agreement, including any deficiencies under any other agreements with Franchisor and/or its affiliates relating to the Hotel but excluding liquidated damages; (ii) receiver must enter into an assumption of the Franchise Agreement containing all terms required by Franchisor, which will be dated as of receiver's possession date; and (iii) receiver must specifically be authorized by court order to operate the Hotel and enter into and comply with the agreements referenced in subsection (ii) above.
- 4. <u>Notifications to Franchisor</u>. Lender agrees to notify Franchisor: (i) contemporaneously with commencement of foreclosure proceedings regarding the Hotel; (ii) contemporaneously with the filing of any petition for appointment of a receiver, to obtain the entry of an order for relief, or take any action under federal or state bankruptcy laws or similar laws with regard to the Hotel; (iii) contemporaneously with the acceptance of a deed for the Hotel in lieu of foreclosure; and (iv) promptly, after taking ownership, possession or control of the Hotel, directly or indirectly, in any manner. Lender's notice to Franchisor must identify the court in which any such action referred to in subsection (i) or subsection (ii) is or will be filed. Lender shall promptly notify Franchisor in writing of the commencement by another party of foreclosure proceedings or the filing of an action for the appointment of a receiver or petition for relief under state or federal bankruptcy laws after Lender receives notice of commencement of such proceedings.

- 5. No Consent to Assignment of Franchise Agreement. Lender and Franchisee acknowledge and agree that any current and any future collateral assignment, pledge, grant of a security interest or other transfer to Lender or its Affiliates of any interest in the Franchise Agreement: (i) has not been and will not be consented to by Franchisor; (ii) does not and will not affect Franchisor's rights under the Franchise Agreement; (iii) does not and will not grant Lender or any person gaining ownership or possession of the Hotel any rights under the Franchise Agreement or with respect to the license granted thereunder, including the right to operate the Hotel as a «Contract\_Brand» «Contract\_Product» hotel; and (iv) is and will be limited by the terms and conditions of this Comfort Letter. If the Hotel is acquired by anyone other than Lender neither Lender nor Franchisee will have the right or authority to sell, convey, assign or in any manner transfer any rights under this Comfort Letter or under the Franchise Agreement without the prior written consent of Franchisor. Lender's only rights with respect to the Franchise Agreement and the license granted thereunder, including the right to operate the Hotel as a «Contract\_Brand» «Contract\_Product» hotel, are stated in this Comfort Letter.
- **Subsequent Sale.** Any subsequent sale, assignment or transfer of the Hotel by Lender to a third party who desires to continue to operate the Hotel as a **«Contract\_Brand» «Contract\_Product»** Hotel must be in accordance with the transfer and assignment provisions of the Franchise Agreement, which require, among other things, submission of a relicensing application, payment of an affiliation fee, and payment of all amounts due to Franchisor. Franchisor will require the transfer applicant to sign the thencurrent form of franchise agreement, which will include a new property improvement plan.
- 7. No Claims. Franchisor may discuss with Lender or its designee the status of the Hotel, the Franchise Agreement, the terms of any agreement contemplated by this Comfort Letter and any of the matters to which Lender is entitled to notice. Franchisor and its respective owners, affiliates, agents, employees, officers, directors, successors, assigns and representatives ("Released Persons") shall not be liable to any person for taking any action or providing any information required or contemplated by this Comfort Letter ("Comfort Letter Acts") and Franchisee, on behalf of itself and its owners, affiliates, agents, officers, directors, employees, representatives, successors and assigns, hereby releases the Released Persons of and from any and all actions, causes of action, suits, claims, demands, contingencies, debts, accounts and judgments whatsoever, at law or in equity, for any Comfort Letter Acts.
- **8.** <u>Notices</u>. All notices required under this Comfort Letter shall be in writing, sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, or by Federal Express or other national express delivery service and addressed, if to Lender, to:

Lender name Lender address Lender address

Attention: Lender contact/title

if to Franchisee, to:

«Customer\_Customer\_Name»
«Licensee\_Rep\_Account\_Billing\_Address\_Li»
«Licensee\_Rep\_Account\_Billing\_Address\_Li1»
«Licensee\_Rep\_Account\_Billing\_Address\_Li2»
«Licensee\_Rep\_Account\_City»,
«Licensee\_Rep\_Account\_ZipPostal\_Code»
Attention: «Licensee Rep\_Contact»

«Licensee Rep Account StateProvince»

If to Franchisor, to:

Choice Hotels International, Inc. 1 Choice Hotels Circle, Suite 400

Lender Comfort Letter|2022- **«Contract\_Property»** 3/10/22 Page 4 Rockville, MD 20850 Attention: Legal Department

Any notice sent pursuant to this Comfort Letter shall be deemed to be given three (3) days after mailing or on the next business day after such notice is deposited with a national express delivery service.

- **9.** Franchisee Estoppel and Release. As consideration for this Comfort Letter relating to the Loan, Franchisee hereby:
- (a) certifies to Franchisor that the Franchise Agreement is in full force and effect, and no default, claim, breach, offset, defense to full and strict enforcement, waiver, or estoppel (collectively, a "Claim"), or condition that could with passage of time, giving notice or otherwise become a Claim, currently exists or has existed against Franchisor under the Franchise Agreement;
- (b) agrees that this Comfort Letter will remain in full force and effect in favor of Lender with respect to the Loan, as the Loan may periodically be modified, amended, extended, supplemented, or restated;
  - (c) agrees that this Comfort Letter was provided to Lender at Franchisee's request; and
- (d) fully and forever releases, discharges, and agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless Franchisor, its predecessors, successors and assigns and each of their respective former and present officers, employees, directors, shareholders, partners, members, parents, subsidiaries, affiliates, alter egos, representatives, agents, and attorneys (collectively, the "Released Parties"), from any and all Claims, demands, liens, actions, agreements, suits, causes of action, obligations, controversies, debts, costs, attorney's fees, expenses, damages, judgments, orders, and liabilities of whatever kind or nature in law, equity, or otherwise, whether now known or suspected which have, may or do exist ("Released Claims"), based on any facts, events, or omissions occurring before the execution of this Comfort Letter which arise out of, concern, pertain, or relate in any way to the subject matter of this Comfort Letter. Franchisee acknowledges that it may hereafter discover Claims presently unknown or unsuspected, or facts in addition to or different from those which it now knows or believes to be true, with respect to the matters released by this Comfort Letter. Nevertheless, Franchisee fully and finally settles and releases all such matters, and all Claims relative thereto, which do now exist, may exist or have existed between the Released Parties and Franchisee.
- **10.** <u>Lender Estoppel and Release</u>. As consideration for this Comfort Letter relating to the Loan, Lender hereby:
- (a) certifies to Franchisor that Lender is not a Sanctioned Person. "Sanctioned Person" means any person or entity (including financial institutions) who is: (i) or is controlled by or acting on behalf of the Government of any country subject to comprehensive U.S. sanctions in force and which currently include the Government of Cuba, Iran, North Korea, Sudan, and Syria ("Sanctioned Countries"); (ii) located in, organized under the laws of or ordinarily resident in Sanctioned Countries; and/or (iii) identified by any government or legal authority under applicable Trade Restrictions as a person with whom dealings and transactions by Lender and/or its affiliates are prohibited or restricted, including but not limited to persons designated under United Nations Security Council Resolutions, the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control ("OFAC") List of Specially Designated Nationals and Other Blocked Persons; the U.S. Department of State's lists of persons subject to non-proliferation sanctions; the European Union Financial Sanctions List; persons and entities subject to Special Measures regulations under Section 311 of the USA PATRIOT Act and the Bank Secrecy Act;
- (b) agrees that this Comfort Letter shall remain in full force and effect in favor of Lender with respect to the Loan, as the Loan may periodically be modified, amended, extended, supplemented or restated; and

- (c) fully and forever releases and discharges the Released Parties from any and all Released Claims by or through Lender based on any facts, events, or omissions occurring before the execution of this Comfort Letter which arise out of, concern, pertain, or relate in any way to this Comfort Letter.
- 11. No Representations or Warranties. In no event shall this Comfort Letter or any other circumstances surrounding the provision of financing by Lender be construed to involve: (i) any representation by Franchisor that Franchisor endorses, approves, recommends or otherwise concurs in the financing; (ii) any guarantee or assurance by Franchisor that Franchisee or any other party to the Loan will be able to repay the Loan in accordance with its terms; (iii) any endorsement, approval, recommendation or concurrence in any financial projections submitted to Lender in connection with the Loan; or (iv) any endorsement, approval or recommendation of Franchisee's character or reputation. Franchisor's representation in the second paragraph of this Comfort Letter regarding the status of the Franchise Agreement pertains to the status of the Franchise Agreement as of the date of this Comfort Letter only. As a result, Lender acknowledges that Franchisor makes no representation that it has or has not issued any default notice after the date hereof, and Lender is not relying on any such representation (or absence of a representation) in making any decision or representation or warranty in connection with any material modification, securitization, or sale of the Loan.
- **Replacement Comfort Letter.** Franchisor will issue a replacement comfort letter, substantially similar in form to Franchisor's then current comfort letter and then current fee if Lender (a)(i) appoints a third-party loan servicing agent to service the Loan, (ii) transfers the Loan to a successor mortgagee that is a financial institution in the business of routinely financing real estate transactions, or (iii) designates a trustee of a trust established in connection with the securitization of the Loan, provided that such transferee, designee, or appointee is not a Competitor, an affiliate of a Competitor, or a Person as defined in Section 19(k) of the Franchise Agreement (the "Anti-Terrorism/Anti-Bribery Laws"), and is not an affiliate of Franchisee, and (b) Franchisor receives a written request to issue a replacement comfort letter within sixty (60) days of the date of such appointment or transfer, setting forth the name, address of the entity for which the replacement comfort letter is requested, the name, address, telephone number and email address for the contact person for such entity, and the date of such appointment or transfer.

"Competitor" means an individual person who directly, or indirectly through an affiliate, owns or controls a hotel brand (or brands) and brands hotels through branded management, licensing and/or franchising (or similar means) for at least ten (10) hotels; provided, however, that a financial investor (such as an investment bank, private equity fund, pension fund, hedge fund or similar institution or any investor therein) shall not be deemed a competitor solely because of its financial investment in any competitor so long as either such financing investor is a passive investor or such financial investor is not actively involved in the day-to-day business operations of the brand and an appropriate and sufficient barrier is established to prevent such financial investor from receiving any confidential information of Franchisee, as applicable. In addition, a bank or other institutional lender that provides commercial financing to a competitor shall not be deemed a competitor solely because in the ordinary course of business it has financed a competitor, whether or not such financing results in, or has the potential to result in, such lender having control of a competitor as a result of the enforcement of remedies in the applicable financing documents, provided that such lender does not assume active management of the day to day operations of such competitor. Franchisor reserves the right to require representations and warranties or certifications that the conditions in this Paragraph are satisfied prior to issuing any replacement comfort letter. Any such replacement comfort letter shall supersede and replace this Comfort Letter.

13. <u>Possession of the Hotel</u>. If Lender owns, controls or possesses the Hotel after termination of the Franchise Agreement for any reason and Lender has not entered into a franchise agreement with Franchisor pursuant to Paragraph 2(b) herein, Lender will (i) upon Franchisor's request immediately perform the requirements of the Franchise Agreement with respect to de-identifying the Hotel as a **«Contract\_Brand» «Contract\_Product»** hotel and (ii) indemnify, defend and hold harmless Franchisor and its affiliates from and against any loss, claim or other liability of any kind arising from or in connection

with the operation of the Hotel as a **«Contract\_Brand» «Contract\_Product»** hotel during such ownership, control or possession. Lender's obligations under this Paragraph shall survive termination of this Comfort Letter, and nothing herein shall limit Franchisor's rights to seek legal redress for any unauthorized use of Franchisor's trademarks, service marks, or systems.

- **14. Termination**. This Comfort Letter shall terminate and Lender shall have no rights hereunder if:
  - (i) Lender has been taken over in any manner by any state or federal agency or is in a receivership, conservatorship, reorganization, or liquidation, or Lender or any of its officers or directors has entered into or is subject to a cease and desist order or any other formal or informal written agreement with a federal or state regulatory agency;
  - (ii) Lender no longer holds a valid first mortgage or security deed for the Hotel unless (a) Lender has acquired the Hotel by foreclosure, deed in lieu of foreclosure, or any other exercise of its rights as a secured lender, in which case Lender will have the rights stated in Paragraph 2 for the period stated in such Paragraph, or (b) there has been a securitization or transfer of the Loan, in which case Lender will have the rights stated in Paragraph 12 for the period stated in such Paragraph;
  - (iii) the Franchise Agreement has expired or the Franchisee has exercised its right to terminate;
  - (iv) the Franchise Agreement has been terminated, unless such a termination is the result of the timely exercise of Lender's rights under Paragraph 2 or Paragraph 3, in which case this comfort letter will terminate on the exercise or expiration of such rights, but in no event later than forty-five (45) days after such termination of the Franchise Agreement; or
  - (v) Lender breaches this Comfort Letter.
- 15. <u>Confidentiality</u>. You agree to keep the grant of modifications contained in the Comfort Letter in strict confidence and to not disclose them to any persons other than your directors, officers, partners, employees, agents and advisors who have a need to know for the sole purpose of the servicing, sale, administration, or securitization of the Loan. Any unauthorized disclosure is a default under the terms of the Comfort Letter, and we may, at our option, immediately terminate the Comfort Letter upon notice to you. The modifications outlined in this Comfort Letter are for the Hotel only and do not indicate that other hotels owned by you or by others will receive similar modifications. You acknowledge and agree that nothing in the Comfort Letter prohibits us from disclosing the terms of the Comfort Letter to any vendors, lenders, or other third parties as we determine in our reasonable discretion.
- **16. <u>Final Agreement.</u>** Except as otherwise expressly set forth, this Comfort Letter is the final integration of the agreements between the parties with respect to the matters covered by it and supersedes any prior understanding or agreement, oral or written, with respect to the matters covered by the Comfort Letter.
- 17. <u>Effectiveness</u>. Franchisor shall have no obligations hereunder unless Lender and Franchisee have executed and delivered to the other parties this Comfort Letter, which may be executed in a number of identical counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original for all purposes and all of which shall constitute, collectively, one and the same letter agreement. Delivery of an executed signature page to this Comfort Letter by electronic transmission is as effective as delivery of an original signed counterpart. This Comfort Letter is effective as of the date the Franchisor signs the letter agreement. Franchisor's offer to enter into this Comfort Letter will be automatically withdrawn if (i) Franchisor does not receive signed copies from lender and Franchisee within 30 days of the date on page 1 herein, or (ii) Franchisor does not receive proof of the date of Loan closing within 60 days of the date on page 1 herein.

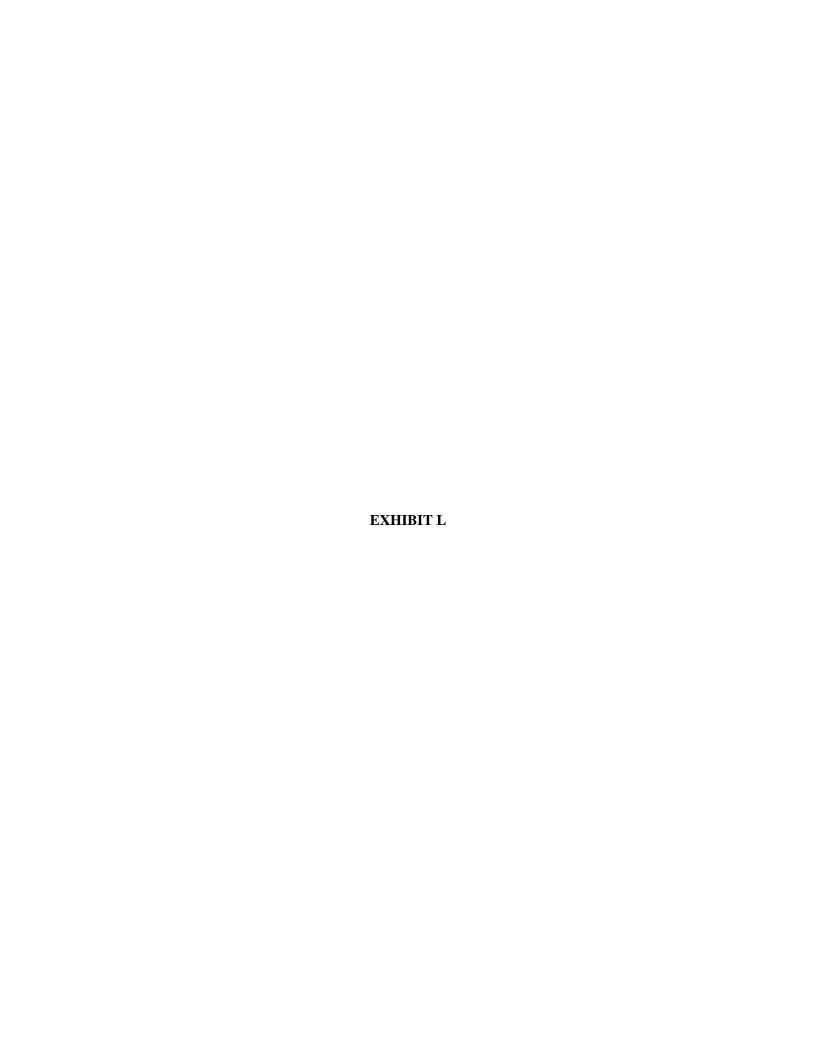
Very tru	Very truly yours,		
CHOIC	CHOICE HOTELS INTERNATIONAL, INC.		
Ву:	Name: Iris Figueroa Rosario Title: Senior Counsel		
Date:			

(signatures continue on following page)

# By:\_\_\_\_\_\_Name: Title: Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_ By:\_\_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

FRANCHISEE:



#### FRANCHISE DISCLOSURE ACKNOWLEDGMENT FORM

<u>Do not sign this Acknowledgment Form</u> if you are a Maryland or California resident or the franchise is located (or to be located) in either Maryland or California. If any California franchisee completes this Acknowledgment Form, it is against California public policy and it will be void and unenforceable, and Choice Hotels International, Inc. will destroy, disregard and will not rely on this Acknowledgment Form.

Choice Hotels International, Inc. ("Choice") and you are preparing to enter into a Franchise Agreement for a hotel operating under the Choice system. The purpose of this Acknowledgment Form is to confirm that you are making an informed investment decision and to determine whether any improper statements or promises were made to you that Choice has not authorized. Please review each of the following acknowledgments carefully and provide your initials to indicate your understanding of, and agreement with, the statements made.

	standing of, and agreement with, the statements made.
1.	You acknowledge and agree that you received a copy of the Franchise Disclosure Document at least 14 calendar days before you signed any agreement with Choice or made any payment to Choice.
	Initial
2.	You acknowledge and agree that you received and personally reviewed the Franchise Agreement and each of its attachments.
	Initial
3.	You acknowledge and agree that you consulted an attorney before signing the Franchise Agreement, or that you voluntarily declined to do so.
	Initial
4.	You acknowledge and agree that you understand the risks of operating a hotel under the Choice system and understand that the success or failure of your business will depend in large part upon on a number of factors, including your skills and abilities, competition from other businesses, interest rates, inflation, labor and supply costs, the overall economy, and other economic and business factors.
	Initial
5.	You acknowledge and agree that no Choice employee or representative has made any oral, written or visual claim or representation concerning the revenues, profits or earnings of a hotel (or hotels) operating in the Choice system that is different from or inconsistent with the information contained in the Franchise Disclosure Document.
	Initial
6.	You acknowledge and agree that no Choice employee or representative has made any oral, written or visual promise or guaranty regarding the amount of money you may earn, the amount of revenue a hotel operating under the Choice system may generate, or the likelihood of your success.
	Initial
7.	You acknowledge and agree that no Choice employee or representative has made any oral, written or visual statement or promise concerning the advertising, marketing, training, support service or other assistance that Choice will furnish to you that is different from or inconsistent with the information contained in the Franchise Disclosure Document.
	Initial
8.	If the Franchisee is a corporation, partnership, limited liability or other entity, you acknowledge and agree that (a) you have the authority to bind the entity for purposes of this Acknowledgment Form, and (b) you have discussed this Acknowledgment Form with all principal owners and have obtained their oral or written agreement with the statements made in this Acknowledgment Form.

Initial \_\_\_\_\_

9.	You understand that this Acknowledgment Form is important to Choice and that we are relying on the accuracy and
	truthfulness of your acknowledgments as a condition of signing the Franchise Agreement.

Initial	
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This Acknowledgment Form is not intended to disclaim any representations made in the Franchise Disclosure Document that was furnished to you. This Acknowledgment Form is not intended nor will it act as a release, estoppel, or waiver of any liability incurred under the Illinois Franchise Disclosure Act or the Maryland Franchise Registration and Disclosure Law.

\* \*



## **STATE EFFECTIVE DATES**

The following states have franchise laws that require that the Franchise Disclosure Document be registered or filed with the state, or be exempt from registration: California, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, North Dakota, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Virginia, Washington, and Wisconsin.

This document is effective and may be used in the following states, where the document is filed, registered or exempt from registration, as of the Effective Date stated below:

State	Effective Date
California	Pending
Hawaii	Pending
Illinois	Pending
Indiana	Pending
Maryland	Pending
Michigan	Pending
Minnesota	Pending
New York	Pending
North Dakota	Pending
Rhode Island	Pending
South Dakota	Pending
Virginia	Pending
Washington	Pending
Wisconsin	Pending

Other states may require registration, filing or exemption of a franchise under other laws, such as those that regulate the offer and sale of business opportunities or seller-assisted marketing plans.

#### **RECEIPT**

This Radisson Blu Disclosure Document summarizes certain provisions of the franchise agreement and other information in plain language. Read this Radisson Blu Disclosure Document and all agreements carefully.

If Choice Hotels International, Inc. ("Choice") offers you a franchise, it must provide this Radisson Blu Disclosure Document to you 14 calendar days before you sign a binding agreement with, or make a payment to, Choice or an affiliate in connection with the proposed franchise sale.

New York and Rhode Island require that Choice gives you this Radisson Blu Disclosure Document at the earlier of the first personal meeting or 10 business days before the execution of the franchise agreement or the payment of any consideration that relates to the franchise relationship. Michigan requires that Choice gives you this Radisson Blu Disclosure Document at the earlier of 10 business days before the execution of any binding franchise agreement or the payment of any consideration.

If Choice does not deliver this Radisson Blu Disclosure Document on time or if it contains a false or misleading statement, or a material omission, a violation of federal law and state law may have occurred and should be reported to the Federal Trade Commission, Washington, DC 20580 and the state agency listed in Exhibit B.

Franchise Seller(s): Mark Shalala and/or

Address Before December 1, 2023
Choice Hotels International, Inc.
1 Choice Hotels Circle, Suite 400
Rockville, Maryland 20850
301,592,5000

Address On or about December 1, 2023

Choice Hotels International, Inc. 915 Meeting Street North Bethesda, Maryland 20852 301.592.5000

Issuance Date: April 1, 2023

We authorize the respective agents and/or state agencies identified in Exhibit B to receive service of process for us. This Radisson Blu Disclosure Document is for use in all states and the District of Columbia (see state Effective Dates at the beginning of this document).

I have received a Radisson Blu disclosure document dated April 1, 2023 that included the following Exhibits: (A) State Addenda; (B) Regulatory Agencies and Registered Agents for Service of Process; (C) Audited Financial Statements; (D) the Franchise Agreement, Personal Guaranty and State Addenda; (E) Call Forwarding Terms of Use; (F) Promissory Note; (G) Incentive Promissory Note; (H) Rules and Regulations Table of Contents; (I) Fair Franchising Policy; (J) List of Franchisees; (K) Comfort Letter; (L) Franchise Disclosure Acknowledgement Form; and (M) Receipt Page.

Location in which you	re interested:(City	y, State)
Date Received:		
ENTITY:	Entity Name:	
	Print Name:	
	Title:	
	Signature:	
<u>INDIVIDUALS</u> : All j	rsons signing a Franchise Agreement must sign Receipt (Owners, Partners, Membe	ers)
Signature:	Signature:	
Name:	Name:	

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Location in which yo	are interested:(City, State)
Date Received:	
ENTITY:	Entity Name:
	Print Name:
	Title:
	Signature:
INDIVIDUALS: All	persons signing a Franchise Agreement must sign Receipt (Owners, Partners, Members)
Signature:	Signature:
Name:	Name: