Ellington Residential Mortgage REIT Form 10-Q August 12, 2014

**UNITED STATES** 

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-Q

QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the quarterly period ended June 30, 2014

OR

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from

Commission file number 001-35896

Ellington Residential Mortgage REIT

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Maryland 46-0687599

(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation) (IRS Employer Identification No.)

to

53 Forest Avenue

Old Greenwich, CT 06870

(Address of principal executive offices, zip code)

(203) 698-1200

(Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes x No "Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§ 232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes x No "

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large Accelerated Filer "Accelerated Filer"

Non-Accelerated Filer (do not check if a smaller x Smaller Reporting Company .

reporting company)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes "No x

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable

date.

Class Outstanding at August 8, 2014

Common Shares of Beneficial Interest, \$0.01 par value per share 9,139,842

# ELLINGTON RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE REIT

# FORM 10-Q

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# PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION Item 1. Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited) ELLINGTON RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE REIT CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET (UNAUDITED)

	June 30, 2014	December 31, 2013
(In thousands except share amounts)		
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$49,908	\$50,112
Mortgage-backed securities, at fair value	1,344,444	1,326,036
Due from brokers	13,338	18,347
Financial derivatives–assets, at fair value	10,115	34,963
Receivable for securities sold	100,267	76,692
Interest receivable	5,769	4,766
Other assets	468	174
Total Assets	\$1,524,309	\$1,511,090
LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY		
LIABILITIES		
Repurchase agreements	\$1,285,593	\$1,310,347
Payable for securities purchased	46,467	2,776
Due to brokers	7,320	22,788
Financial derivatives–liabilities, at fair value	6,807	1,069
Dividend payable	5,027	4,570
Accrued expenses	930	996
Management fee payable	567	600
Interest payable	605	764
Total Liabilities	1,353,316	1,343,910
SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Preferred shares, par value \$0.01 per share, 100,000,000 shares authorized;	_	
(0 shares issued and outstanding, respectively)		
Common shares, par value \$0.01 per share, 500,000,000 shares authorized;	91	91
(9,139,842 shares issued and outstanding, respectively)	91	91
Additional paid-in-capital	181,203	181,147
Accumulated deficit	(10,301	) (14,058
Total Shareholders' Equity	170,993	167,180
Total Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity	\$1,524,309	\$1,511,090

# ELLINGTON RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE REIT CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS (UNAUDITED)

	Three Month Period Ended June 30, 2014	Three Month Period Ended June 30, 2013	Six Month Period Ended June 30, 2014	Six Month Period Ended June 30, 2013
(In thousands except per share amounts)				
INTEREST INCOME (EXPENSE)				
Interest income	\$11,575	\$4,310	\$23,534	\$4,592
Interest expense	(1,070 )	(525)	(2,225)	(525)
Total net interest income	10,505	3,785	21,309	4,067
EXPENSES				
Management fees	567	703	1,159	823
Professional fees	137	237	276	268
Other operating expenses	613	421	1,276	466
Total expenses	1,317	1,361	2,711	1,557
OTHER INCOME (LOSS)				
Net realized gains (losses) on mortgage-backed securities	382	(3,006)	(2,643)	(2,117)
Net realized gains (losses) on financial derivatives	(11,155)	8,376	(14,564)	8,376
Change in net unrealized gains (losses) on mortgage-backed securities	25,424	(45,784)	43,005	(45,629 )
Change in net unrealized gains (losses) on financial	(12.700	20.206	(20.505	20.206
derivatives	(12,789)	28,286	(30,585)	28,286
Total other income (loss)	1,862	(12,128)	(4,787)	(11,084)
NET INCOME (LOSS)	\$11,050	\$(9,704)	\$13,811	\$(8,574)
NET INCOME (LOSS) PER COMMON SHARE:				
Basic	\$1.21	\$(1.55)	\$1.51	\$(2.17)
CASH DIVIDENDS PER COMMON SHARE:				
Dividends declared	\$0.55	0.14	\$1.10	\$0.14

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

# ELLINGTON RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE REIT CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY (UNAUDITED)

	Common Shares	Common Shares, par value	Preferred Shares	Preferred Shares, par value	Additional Paid-in-Capital	Accumulated Deficit	<sup>l</sup> Total
(In thousands except share amounts)							
BALANCE, December 31, 2012	1,633,378	\$16	_	<b>\$</b> —	\$ 32,674	\$ (1,726 )	\$30,964
Issuance of common shares Offering costs Dividends declared Net loss	7,500,000	75	_	_	149,925 (1,538 )	(1,279 ) (8,574 )	150,000 (1,538 ) (1,279 ) (8,574 )
BALANCE, June 30, 2013	9,133,378	\$91	_	<b>\$</b> —	\$ 181,061	\$ (11,579)	\$169,573
BALANCE, December 31, 2013	9,139,842	\$91	_	<b>\$</b> —	\$ 181,147	\$ (14,058 )	\$167,180
Share based compensation Dividends declared Net income					56	(10,054 ) 13,811	56 (10,054 ) 13,811
BALANCE, June 30, 2014	9,139,842	\$91		<b>\$</b> —	\$ 181,203	\$ (10,301 )	\$170,993
See Notes to Consolidated F	inancial Stat	ements					

# ELLINGTON RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE REIT CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS (UNAUDITED)

	Six Month Period Ended June 30, 2014	Six Month Period Ended June 30, 2013
(In thousands)		
Cash flows provided by (used in) operating activities:		
Net income (loss)	\$13,811	\$(8,574
Reconciliation of net income to net cash provided by (used in) operating		
activities:		
Net realized (gains) losses on mortgage-backed securities	2,643	2,117
Change in net unrealized (gains) losses on mortgage-backed securities	(43,005	) 45,629
Net realized (gains) losses on financial derivatives	14,564	(8,376
Change in net unrealized (gains) losses on financial derivatives	30,585	(28,286
Amortization of premiums and accretion of discounts (net)	3,186	719
Share based compensation	56	
(Increase) decrease in assets:		,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,
Due from brokers	5,009	(41,604
Interest receivable	(1,003	) (3,904
Other assets	(435	) (367
Increase (decrease) in liabilities:		
Due to brokers	(15,468	) 27,887
Accrued expenses	107	(212
Interest payable	(159	) 353
Management fees payable	(33	) 587
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	9,858	(14,031
Cash flows provided by (used in) investing activities:		
Purchases of mortgage-backed securities	(963,724	) (1,596,310
Proceeds from sale of mortgage-backed securities	958,571	266,465
Principal repayments of mortgage-backed securities	44,051	4,663
Proceeds from investments sold short	13,036	2,042
Repurchase of investments sold short	(13,049	) (2,036
Proceeds from disposition of financial derivatives	6,989	11,437
Purchase of financial derivatives	(21,553	) (3,060
Payments made on reverse repurchase agreements	(29,129	) (4,098
Proceeds from reverse repurchase agreements	29,129	4,098
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	24,321	(1,316,799
Cash flows provided by (used in) financing activities:		
Proceeds from issuance of common shares		150,000
Offering costs paid	(32	) (682
Dividends paid	(9,597	) —
Borrowings under repurchase agreements	3,065,991	1,977,370
Repayments of repurchase agreements	(3,090,745	) (761,674
Cash provided by (used in) financing activities	(34,383	) 1,365,014
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	(204	) 34,184
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, BEGINNING OF PERIOD	50,112	18,161
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, END OF PERIOD	\$49,908	\$52,345
Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:		

Interest paid \$2,385 \$171

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

#### ELLINGTON RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE REIT NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS June 30, 2014 (UNAUDITED)

#### 1. Organization and Investment Objective

Ellington Residential Mortgage REIT, or "EARN," was formed as a Maryland real estate investment trust, or "REIT," on August 2, 2012, and commenced operations on September 25, 2012. EARN conducts its business through its wholly owned subsidiaries, EARN OP GP LLC, or the "General Partner," and Ellington Residential Mortgage LP, or the "Operating Partnership," which were formed as a Delaware limited liability company and a Delaware limited partnership, respectively, on July 31, 2012 and commenced operations on September 25, 2012. The Operating Partnership conducts its business of acquiring, investing in, and managing residential mortgage-related and real estate-related assets through its wholly owned subsidiaries.

EARN, the General Partner, the Operating Partnership, and their consolidated subsidiaries are hereafter defined as the "Company."

Ellington Residential Mortgage Management LLC, or the "Manager," serves as the Manager of the Company pursuant to the terms of the Second Amended and Restated Management Agreement effective as of March 13, 2014, or the "Management Agreement." The Manager is an affiliate of Ellington Management Group, L.L.C., or "EMG," an investment management firm that is registered as an investment adviser with a 19-year history of investing in a broad spectrum of mortgage-backed securities and related derivatives, with an emphasis on the residential mortgage-backed securities, or "RMBS," market. In accordance with the terms of the Management Agreement and the Services Agreement, as discussed in Note 10, the Manager is responsible for administering the Company's business activities and day-to-day operations, and performs certain services, subject to oversight by the Board of Trustees. The Company was formed through an initial strategic venture among affiliates of EMG and the Blackstone Tactical Opportunity Funds, or the "Blackstone Funds." These initial investors made an aggregate investment of approximately \$11.5 million on September 25, 2012. On May 1, 2013, the Company priced an initial public offering of its common shares, pursuant to which it sold 6,450,000 shares to the public at a price of \$20.00 per share. Concurrent with the initial public offering, the Company completed a private placement of 1,050,000 common shares to its initial investors at a purchase price of \$20.00 per share which generated gross proceeds of \$21.0 million. Proceeds to the Company, net of offering costs, were approximately \$148.5 million.

The Company acquires and manages Agency and non-Agency RMBS, including Agency pools and Agency collateralized mortgage obligations, or "CMOs," and non-Agency CMOs, both investment grade and non-investment grade. The Company may also acquire and manage mortgage servicing rights, residential mortgage loans, and other mortgage- and real estate-related assets. The Company may also invest in other instruments including, but not limited to, forward-settling To-Be-Announced Agency pass-through certificates, or "TBAs," interest rate swaps and swaptions, U.S. Treasury securities, Eurodollar and U.S. Treasury futures, other financial derivatives, and cash equivalents. The Company's targeted investments may range from unrated (first loss) securities to AAA senior securities.

The Company intends to make the election to be taxed as a REIT under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or "the Code" commencing with the Company's short taxable year ended December 31, 2013. As a REIT, the Company is required to distribute annually at least 90% of its taxable income. As long as the Company continues to qualify as a REIT, it will not be subject to U.S. federal or state corporate taxes on its taxable income to the extent that it distributes all of its annual taxable income to its shareholders. It is the intention of the Company to distribute at least 100% of its taxable income, after application of available tax attributes, within the limits prescribed by the Code, which may extend into the subsequent taxable year.

#### 2. Significant Accounting Policies

(A) Basis of Presentation: The Company's unaudited interim consolidated financial statements have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States of America, or "U.S. GAAP." Entities in which the Company has a controlling financial interest, through ownership of the majority of the entities' voting equity interests, or through other contractual right that give the Company control, are consolidated by the Company.

All inter-company balances and transactions have been eliminated. The preparation of consolidated financial statements in conformity with U.S. GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the consolidated financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates and those differences could be material. Interim results are not necessarily indicative of

the results that may be expected for the entire fiscal year. The information included in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q should be read in conjunction with the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013.

(B) Valuation: The Company applies Accounting Standards Codification, or "ASC," ASC 820-10, Fair Value Measurement and Disclosures ("ASC 820-10"), to its holdings of financial instruments. ASC 820-10 establishes a three-level valuation hierarchy for disclosure of fair value measurements. The valuation hierarchy is based upon the transparency of inputs to the valuation of an asset or liability as of the measurement date. The three levels are defined as follows:

Level 1—inputs to the valuation methodology are observable and reflect quoted prices (unadjusted) for identical assets or liabilities in active markets,

Level 2—inputs to the valuation methodology other than quoted prices included in Level 1 are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly, and

Level 3—inputs to the valuation methodology are unobservable and significant to the fair value measurement. A financial instrument's categorization within the valuation hierarchy is based upon the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurement. The inputs or methodology used for valuing securities are not necessarily an indication of the risk associated with investing in these securities.

(C) Accounting for Mortgage-Backed Securities: Investments in mortgage-backed securities are recorded on trade date. The Company has chosen to make a fair value election pursuant to ASC 825-10, Financial Instruments, for its mortgage-backed securities portfolio. Electing the fair value option allows the Company to record changes in fair value in the Consolidated Statement of Operations, which, in management's view, more appropriately reflects the results of operations for a particular reporting period as all securities activities will be recorded in a similar manner. As such, the mortgage-backed securities are recorded at fair value on the Consolidated Balance Sheet and the period change in fair value is recorded in current period earnings on the Consolidated Statement of Operations as a component of Change in net unrealized gains (losses) on mortgage-backed securities.

Realized gains or losses on sales of mortgage-backed securities are included in Net realized gains (losses) on mortgage-backed securities on the Consolidated Statement of Operations, and are recorded at the time of disposition. The cost of positions sold is calculated based on identified cost.

- (D) Interest Income: The Company accretes market discounts and amortizes market premiums on debt securities using the effective yield method. Accretion of market discount and amortization of market premiums requires the application of several assumptions including, but not limited to, prepayment assumptions and default rate assumptions, which are re-evaluated not less than quarterly and require the use of a significant amount of judgment. Principal write-offs are generally treated as realized losses. The Company's accretion of discounts and amortization of premiums for U.S. federal and other tax purposes is likely to differ from the financial accounting treatment under U.S. GAAP of these items as described above.
- (E) Cash and Cash Equivalents: Cash and cash equivalents include cash and short term investments with original maturities of three months or less at the date of acquisition. Cash equivalents are recorded at cost plus accrued interest, which approximates fair value. Cash accounts are maintained with financial institutions and these balances generally exceed insured limits.
- (F) Due from brokers/Due to brokers: Due from brokers and Due to brokers accounts on the Consolidated Balance Sheet include collateral paid or received from counterparties, including clearinghouses, along with receivables and payables for open and or closed derivative positions.
- (G) Financial Derivatives: The Company may enter into various types of financial derivatives subject to its investment guidelines, which include restrictions associated with maintaining qualification as a REIT. The Company's derivatives are predominantly subject to bilateral collateral arrangements or clearing in accordance with the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010. The Company may be required to deliver or may receive cash or securities as collateral upon entering into derivative transactions. In addition, changes in the relative value of

derivative transactions may require the Company or the counterparty to post or receive additional collateral. In the case of cleared derivatives, the clearinghouse becomes the Company's counterparty and a futures commission merchant, or "FCM," acts as intermediary between the Company and the clearinghouse with respect to all facets of the related transaction, including the posting and receipt of required collateral. Collateral received by the Company is reflected on the Consolidated Balance Sheet as "Due to Brokers." Conversely, collateral posted by the Company is reflected as "Due from Brokers" on the Consolidated Balance Sheet. The types of derivatives that have been utilized by the Company to date are interest rate swaps, TBAs, swaptions, and futures.

Swaps: The Company has entered into interest rate swaps, which are contractual agreements whereby one party pays a floating rate of interest on a notional principal amount and receives a fixed rate on the same notional principal, or vice versa, for a fixed period of time.

While the Company does not intend to operate its non-Agency RMBS investment strategy on a credit hedged basis, the Company may opportunistically enter into various credit hedging transactions, such as involving credit default swaps, total return swaps, or other derivative contracts. The Company may use credit default swaps to hedge non-Agency RMBS credit risk by buying protection on a basket or index of non-Agency RMBS assets or on a single non-Agency RMBS. For credit hedging purposes the Company may also enter into credit default swaps which reference other mortgage-backed securities, or "MBS," or the corporate credit of certain corporations, or indices on the foregoing. In addition, the Company may enter into various other derivative contracts, including total return swaps. Generally, a total return swap would reference either the corporate credit or equity of certain corporations. However, the Company's ability to use credit hedges is subject to the Company's qualifying and maintaining its qualification as a REIT and maintaining its exclusion from regulation as an investment company under the Investment Company Act.

Swaps change in value with movements in interest rates or total return of the reference securities. During the term of swap contracts, changes in value are recognized as unrealized gains or losses on the Consolidated Statement of Operations. When a contract is terminated, the Company realizes a gain or loss equal to the difference between the proceeds from (or cost of) the closing transaction and the Company's basis in the contract, if any. Periodic payments or receipts required by swap agreements are recorded as unrealized gains or losses when accrued and realized gains or losses when received or paid. Upfront payments paid and/or received by the Company to open swap contracts are recorded as an asset and/or liability on the Consolidated Balance Sheet and are recorded as a realized gain or loss on the termination date.

TBA Securities: The Company has transacted in the TBA RMBS market. A TBA position is a forward contract for the purchase ("long position") or sale ("short position") of Agency RMBS at a predetermined price, face amount, issuer, coupon, and maturity on an agreed-upon future delivery date. For each TBA contract and delivery month, a uniform settlement date for all market participants is determined by the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association. The specific Agency RMBS to be delivered into the contract at the settlement date are not known at the time of the transaction. The Company typically does not take delivery of TBAs, but rather enters into offsetting transactions and settles the associated receivable and payable balances with its counterparties. The Company primarily uses TBAs to hedge interest rate risk, but from time to time it also holds net long positions in certain TBA securities as a means of acquiring exposure to Agency RMBS.

TBAs are accounted for as financial derivatives. The difference between the contract price and the fair value of the TBA position as of the reporting date is included in Change in net unrealized gains (losses) on financial derivatives, in the Consolidated Statement of Operations. The Company estimates the fair value of TBA positions based on similar methods used to value mortgage-backed securities. Upon settlement of the TBA contract, the realized gain (loss) on the TBA contract is equal to the net cash amount received (paid).

Options: The Company has entered into swaption contracts. It may purchase or write put, call, straddle, or other similar options contracts. The Company enters into options primarily to help mitigate interest rate risk. When the Company purchases an option, the option asset is initially recorded at an amount equal to the premium paid, if any, and is subsequently marked-to-market. Premiums paid for purchasing options that expire unexercised are recognized on the expiration date as realized losses. If an option is exercised, the premium paid is subtracted from the proceeds of the sale or added to the cost of the purchase to determine whether the Company has realized a gain or loss on the related investment transaction. When the Company writes an option, the option liability is initially recorded at an amount equal to the premium received, if any, and is subsequently marked-to-market. Premiums received for writing options that expire unexercised are recognized on the expiration date as realized gains. If an option is exercised, the premium received is subtracted from the cost of the purchase or added to the proceeds of the sale to determine whether the Company has realized a gain or loss on the related investment transaction. When the Company enters into a closing transaction, the Company will realize a gain or loss depending upon whether the amount from the closing transaction is greater or less than the premiums paid or received. In general, the Company's options contain

forward-settling premiums. In this case, no money is exchanged upfront; instead, the agreed-upon premium is paid by the buyer upon expiration of the option, regardless of whether or not the option is exercised.

Financial derivative assets are included in Financial derivatives—assets, at fair value on the Consolidated Balance Sheet while financial derivative liabilities are included in Financial derivatives—liabilities, at fair value on the Consolidated Balance Sheet.

Futures Contracts: A futures contract is an exchange-traded agreement to buy or sell an asset for a set price on a future date. Initial margin deposits are made upon entering into futures contracts and can be either in the form of cash or securities. During the period the futures contract is open, changes in the value of the contract are recognized as unrealized gains or losses

by marking-to-market to reflect the current market value of the contract. Variation margin payments are made or received periodically, depending upon whether unrealized losses or gains are incurred. When the contract is closed, the Company records a realized gain or loss equal to the difference between the proceeds of the closing transaction and the Company's basis in the contract.

- (H) Repurchase Agreements and Reverse Repurchase Agreements: The Company enters into repurchase agreements with third-party broker-dealers, whereby it sells securities under agreements to repurchase at an agreed upon price and date. The Company may also enter into reverse repurchase agreement transactions with third-party broker-dealers, whereby it purchases securities under agreements to resell at an agreed upon price and date. The Company accounts for repurchase agreements as collateralized borrowings, with the initial sale price representing the amount borrowed, and with the future repurchase price consisting of the amount borrowed plus interest, at the implied interest rate of the repurchase agreement, on the amount borrowed over the term of the repurchase agreement. The interest rate on a repurchase agreement or a reverse repurchase agreement is based on competitive market rates (or competitive market spreads, in the case of agreements with floating interest rates) at the time such agreement is entered into. When the Company enters into a repurchase agreement, the lender establishes and maintains an account containing cash and securities having a value not less than the repurchase price, including accrued interest, of the repurchase agreement. Repurchase and reverse repurchase agreements that are conducted with the same counterparty can be reported on a net basis if they meet the requirements under the authoritative guidance. Repurchase agreements and reverse repurchase agreements are carried at their contractual amounts, which approximate fair value.
- (I) U.S. Treasury Securities: The Company may purchase or sell short U.S. Treasury securities to help mitigate the potential impact of changes in interest rates on the performance of its portfolio. The Company may borrow securities under reverse repurchase agreements to enable it to deliver U.S. Treasury securities that it has sold short.
- (J) Offering Costs/Deferred Offering Costs: Offering costs are charged against shareholders' equity and typically include legal, accounting, printing, and other fees associated with the cost of raising equity capital.
- (K) Share Based Compensation: The Company applies the provisions of ASC 718, Compensation—Shares Compensation ("ASC 718"), with regard to its equity incentive plans. ASC 718 covers a wide range of share-based compensation arrangements including share options, restricted share plans, performance-based awards, share appreciation rights, and employee share purchase plans. ASC 718 requires that compensation cost relating to share-based payment transactions be recognized in financial statements. The cost is measured based on the fair value of the equity or liability instruments issued.
- (L) Dividends: Dividends payable are recorded on the declaration date.
- (M) Earnings Per Share: In accordance with the provisions of ASC 260, Earnings per Share, the Company calculates basic income (loss) per share by dividing net income (loss) for the period by the weighted average of the Company's common shares outstanding for that period. Diluted income (loss) per share takes into account the effect of dilutive instruments, such as share options and warrants, and uses the average share price for the period in determining the number of incremental shares that are to be added to the weighted average number of shares outstanding.
- (N) Share Repurchases: Common shares that are repurchased by the Company subsequent to issuance decrease the total number of shares issued and outstanding.
- (O) Income Taxes: Prior to May 1, 2013, the Company, as a business trust with more than one owner, was considered a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes. In general, partnerships are not subject to entity-level tax on their income, but the income of a partnership is taxable to its owners on a flow-through basis. Interest, dividend, and other income realized by the Company from non-U.S. sources and capital gains realized on the sale of securities of non-U.S. issuers may be subject to entity level tax such as withholding and other taxes levied by the jurisdiction in which the income is sourced. For the periods September 25, 2012 (commencement of operations) through December 31, 2012 and January 1, 2013 through April 30, 2013, the Company filed its tax return as a partnership. Effective May 1, 2013, the Company made the election to be taxed as a corporation. In addition, the Company intends to elect to be taxed as a REIT under Sections 856 to 860 of the Code commencing with the short taxable period May 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013. To qualify as a REIT, the Company must meet certain requirements, including the distribution of at least 90% of its annual taxable income to shareholders.

The Company follows the authoritative guidance on accounting for and disclosure of uncertainty on tax positions, which requires management to determine whether a tax position of the company is more likely than not to be sustained upon examination by the applicable taxing authority, including resolution of any related appeals of the litigation process, based on the technical merits of the position. For uncertain tax positions, the tax benefit to be recognized is measured as the largest amount of benefit that is greater than fifty percent likely of being realized upon ultimate settlement. The Company did not have any unrecognized tax benefits at December 31, 2013. In the normal course of business, the Company may be subject to examination by federal, state, local, and foreign jurisdictions, where applicable, for the current period, 2013, and 2012 (its open tax years).

The Company may take positions with respect to certain tax issues which depend on legal interpretation of facts or applicable tax regulations. Should the relevant tax regulators successfully challenge any of such positions, the Company might be found to have a tax liability that has not been recorded in the accompanying consolidated financial statements. Also, management's conclusions regarding the authoritative guidance may be subject to review and adjustment at a later date based on changing tax laws, regulations, and interpretations thereof. There were no amounts accrued for penalties or interest as of or during the periods presented in these consolidated financial statements. (P) Recent Accounting Pronouncements: Under the Jumpstart Our Business Startups Act, or the "JOBS Act," the Company meets the definition of an "emerging growth company." The Company has elected to follow the extended transition period for complying with new or revised U.S. accounting standards pursuant to Section 107(b) of the JOBS Act. As a result, the Company will comply with new or revised accounting standards on the relevant dates on which adoption of such standards is required for non-public entities.

In June 2014, the FASB issued ASU No. 2014-11, Repurchase-to-Maturity Transactions, Repurchase Financings, and Disclosures ("ASU 2014-11"). This amends ASC 860, Transfers and Servicing ("ASC 860"), to require disclosure of repurchase-to maturity transactions to be accounted for as secured borrowings rather than sales of an asset, and transfers of financial assets with a contemporaneous repo will no longer be evaluated to determine whether they should be accounted for on a combined basis as forward contracts. The new guidance also prescribes additional disclosures particularly on the nature of collateral pledged under repurchase agreements accounted for as secured borrowings. ASU 2014-11 is effective for interim and annual periods beginning after December 15, 2014. The adoption of ASC 860, as amended by ASU 2014-11 is not expected to have a material impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

#### 3. Mortgage-Backed Securities

The following tables present details of the Company's mortgage-backed securities portfolio at June 30, 2014 and December 31, 2013, respectively. The Company's Agency RMBS include mortgage pass-through certificates and CMOs representing interests in or obligations backed by pools of residential mortgage loans issued or guaranteed by a U.S. government agency or government-sponsored enterprises, or "GSEs." The non-Agency RMBS portfolio is not issued or guaranteed by the Federal National Mortgage Association, the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, or any agency of the U.S. Government and is therefore subject to greater credit risk.

By RMBS Type -	-
June 30, 2014:	

(\$ in thousands)				Gross U	nrealized		Weighted Average		
	Current Principal	Unamortize Premium (Discount)	ed Amortized Cost	Gains	Losses	Fair Value	Coupon	Yield	Weighted Average Life(Years) <sup>(1)</sup>
Agency RMBS:									
15-year fixed									
rate mortgages	\$166,910	\$7,816	\$174,726	\$1,147	\$(290	\$175,583	3.36%	2.46%	5.64
20-year fixed									
rate mortgages	10,158	604	10,762	174	_	10,936	4.00%	2.71%	7.11
30-year fixed									
rate mortgages	957,162	52,577	1,009,739	14,530	(4,185	) 1,020,084	4.07%	3.27%	9.05
Adjustable									
rate mortgages	66,864	3,722	70,586	152	(198	) 70,540	4.20%	3.52%	7.33
	15,824	1,284	17,108	249		17,357	4.77%	2.48%	4.17

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Reverse									
mortgages									
Interest only	n/a	n/a	12,469	2,484	(677	) 14,276	4.20%	15.26%	3.86
securities			12,407	2,707	(077	) 14,270	7.20 /0	13.20 //	5.00
Total Agency RMBS	1,216,918	66,003	1,295,390	18,736	(5,350	1,308,776	4.00%	3.27%	7.99
Non-Agency RMBS	55,395	(23,307)	32,088	3,821	(241	35,668	2.38%	9.83%	5.97
Total RMBS	\$1,272,313	\$42,696	\$1,327,478	\$22,557	\$(5,591	) \$1,344,444	3.94%	3.43%	7.91

Total RMBS \$1,272,313 \$42,696 \$1,327,478 \$22,557 \$(5,591) \$1,344,444 3.94% 3.43% 7.91 Average lives of RMBS are generally shorter than stated contractual maturities. Average lives are affected by the (1)contractual maturities of the underlying mortgages, scheduled periodic payments of principal, and unscheduled prepayments of principal.

For the three month and six month periods ended June 30, 2014, the weighted average holdings of RMBS investments based on amortized cost were \$1.350 billion and \$1.362 billion, respectively.

# December 31, 2013:

(\$ in thousands)			Gross Unrealized			Weighted Average			
	Current Principal	Unamortize Premium (Discount)	d Amortized Cost	Gains	Losses	Fair Value	Coupon	Yield	Weighted Average Life(Years) <sup>(1)</sup>
Agency RMBS	:								
15-year fixed rate mortgages	\$179,906	\$7,153	\$187,059	\$65	\$(3,252)	\$183,872	3.09%	2.52%	5.76
30-year fixed rate mortgages	1,029,629	41,565	1,071,194	490	(28,111)	1,043,573	3.79%	3.30%	