

RECEIVER'S UNOPPOSED MOTION TO SELL REAL PROPERTYAT PRIVATE SALE FREE AND CLEAR OF ALL LIENS, CLAIMS AND ENCUMBRANCES AND BRIEF IN SUPPORT (CREEKWOOD PROPERTY)

TO THE HONORABLE JEFF KAPLAN, UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE:

COMES NOW, Michael J. Quilling ("Receiver"), and files his Unopposed Motion to Sell Real Property at Private Sale Free and Clear of all Liens, Claims and Encumbrances and Brief in Support (Creekwood Property) and in support of such would respectfully show unto the Court as follows:

Background Facts

1. On November 13, 1998, the United States Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") initiated these proceedings and, in connection therewith, sought the appointment of a receiver. On November 13, 1998, the Court issued an Order appointing Michael J. Quilling Receiver as to the Defendants and the Equity Relief Defendants named in the Complaint at that time

("Receivership Order"). One of the entities to which the Receivership Order applies is Howe Financial Trust.

- 2. Subsequent to his appointment, the Receiver has taken control and possession of certain real property in which Howe Financial Trust has in interest located in Elkhart County, Indiana, having a street address of 30910 Creekwood Trail, Osceola, Indiana ("Property").
- 3. On March 27, 2001 the Receiver filed his Unopposed Motion to Sell Property at Private Sale and to Appoint Appraisers and Brief in Support. By Order dated March 28, 2001, the Court has scheduled a hearing on the Motion on April 12, 2001. The Receiver anticipates that the Court will grant the Motion. In anticipation of that approval and consistent with his duties as Receiver, the Receiver has already begun efforts to market the Property for private sale including, but not limited to, engaging the services of a realtor (Prudential One Realty) and executing a listing agreement with respect to the Property pursuant to which the Property has been offered for private sale at \$120,000.00.
- 4. Since the time the Receiver engaged the services of Prudential One and offered the Property for sale, he has received an offer to purchase for \$112,500.00, which offer the Receiver has accepted subject to court approval. A copy of the Proposed Contract for Sale is attached hereto as Exhibit "1". The written contract for sale is the result of substantial arms-length negotiation between the Receiver and the proposed buyer. Pursuant to the Contract for Sale, real estate commissions and normal closing costs are to be deducted from the gross sale proceeds at closing.
- 5. Howe Financial Trust obtained an interest in the Property by virtue of a Real Estate.

 Lease Option Purchase Agreement ("Purchase Agreement") dated October 30, 1998 between Thomas and Diana Weinkauf ("Weinkauf"), seller, and Ream Family Trust, a part of Howe Financial Trust, buyer. The Purchase Agreement was never recorded in the appropriate real property records.

The total purchase price of one-hundred sixteen thousand, nine hundred dollars (\$116,900.00) for the Property was to be paid in installments of eight thousand dollars (\$8,000.00) per month until paid in full. To date, only \$72,000.00 has been paid toward the purchase of the Property. Accordingly, Weinkauf is still owed \$44,900.00. In addition, since the purchase price for the Property has not been paid in full, Weinkauf is still the legal owner of the Property and Howe Financial Trust has an unrecorded equitable interest in the Property. Weinkauf consents to the proposed sale upon the condition that he is paid \$44,900.00 at closing which is agreeable to the Receiver.

6. Based upon the Receiver's review of the preliminary title report, there are outstanding real property taxes owed for 1999 and 2000 in the approximate amount of \$1,800.00 which will need to be paid by the Receiver at closing.

Argument and Authorities

- 7. 28 U.S.C. § 2001 provides that a Receiver may sell property at private sale if certain conditions are satisfied. First, a sale must be for at least two-thirds of the appraised value as established by three disinterested persons appointed by the Court to appraise the Property. The appointment of those appraisers is the subject of the Receiver's Motion which was filed on March 27,2001 to appoint appraisers which is to be heard on April 12, 2001. In anticipation that the Court will grant the Motion, and as allowed by the Order initially appointing the Receiver, he has engaged the services of appraisers and each of them have provided written appraisals to the Receiver. The average amount of the three appraisals is \$114,833.00. Accordingly, the proposed sale price (\$112,500.00) is well within the allowable two-thirds range.
- 8. The Court must also find that the proposed sale is such that the best interests of estate will be conserved thereby. This condition is easily satisfied because of the proposed sale. First, the Proposed Contract for Sale has been obtained very quickly as a result of which the estate

has not yet had to pay significant maintenance costs, utilities and insurance costs with respect to the Property. A sale now will allow future utility, maintenance and insurance costs as well as taxes to be avoided by the estate. In addition, allowing the sale to close at this time and allowing the Receiver to deposit those funds in his receivership account will allow interest to accrue on those funds to the benefit of the receivership estate.

- 9. The Court cannot confirm the private sale until the terms of the sale are published in a newspaper of general circulation. The Receiver is advised that the newspaper of general circulation in the area is the *Elkhart Truth*. The Receiver requests that the Court direct and order that the terms of the proposed private sale of the Property be published in the *Elkhart Truth* for 10 days. In that regard, the Receiver proposes to use the language in the form set forth in Exhibit 2 attached hereto. The Receiver is advised that the approximate cost of such an ad for 10 days is \$54.00.
- 10. 28 U.S.C. § 2001 also provides that the sale cannot be approved if a bona fide offer is received which is at least 10% more than the proposed published sale price. The Receiver requests that if no such increased offer is received after publication of the proposed sale that he be allowed to close the proposed sale.
- 11. The district court has wide discretion in judging whether a receiver's sale is fair in terms and result and serves the best interests of the estate. Fleet National Bank v. H&D Entertainment, Inc., 96 F.3d 532 (1st Cir. 1996), citing United States v. Peter, 777 F.2d 1294, 1298 n.6 (7th Cir. 1985) and United States v. Branch Coal, 390 F.2d 7, 10 (3rd Cir.), cert. Denied, 391 U.S. 966, 88 S.Ct. 2034 (1968). The court has broad discretion in setting the terms of conditions of a sale under 28 USC §2001. United States v. Hundwardsen, 39 F.Supp.2d 1157 (N.D. Iowa 1999), citing United States v. Branch Coal Corp., 390 F.2d 7, 10 (3rd Cir.), cert. Denied, 391 U.S. 966, 88 S.Ct. 2034 (1968); see United States v. Garcia, 474 F.2d 1202, 1206 (5th Cir. 1973). The court must

decide whether, based on the record made by the parties, the best interest of the estate will be served by a public or a private sale. *Id.* However, section 2001(b) "limits the receiver's ability to sell foreclosed property at a private sale for an unfair price" by setting in place appraisal procedures and acceptable price limits. *United States v. Stonehill*, 83 F.3d 1156 (9th Cir. 1996). Section 2001 "contemplates compliance with certain procedures designed to protect the best interest of the estate" *Tanzier v. Huffines*, 412 F.2d 221 (3rd Cir. 1969).

In general, the court has broad discretion to set the terms of a public sale; whereas it must generally follow the procedures in place for a private sale. *See Tanzier v. Huffines*, 412 F.2d 221 (3rd Cir. 1969)(federal statute expresses preferential course to be followed in connection with a court authorized sale of *personal property* and district court should not order otherwise except *under extraordinary circumstances*). In cases involving the <u>private</u> sale of realty, the courts have consistently adhered to the procedures outlined in section 2001(b). *See United States v. Garcia*, 474 f.2d 1202 (5th Cir. 1973)(court scrupulously adhered to statutory requirements of section 2001 for judicial sale of realty); *U.S. v. "A" Manufacturing Company*, 541 F.2d 504 (5th Cir. 1976)(affirming court confirmation of realty sale for greater price than highest appraisal value). Consequently, broad discretion of the court does not include bypassing the specific procedures set out in section 2001(b). To bypass the stringent requirements of 2001(b), the court can order a public sale under 2001(a) and set the terms and conditions as it so desires.

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Receiver respectfully prays that upon final hearing and consideration of this matter that the Court approve a private sale of the real Property located at 30910 Creekwood Trail, Osceola, Indiana, free and clear of all liens, claims and encumbrances, and that the Receiver be authorized to publish the proposed sale in the *Elkhart Truth*,

and for such other and further relief, general or special, at law or in equity, to which the Receiver may show himself to be justly entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

QUILLING, SELANDER, CUMMISKEY & LOWNDS, P.C.
2001 Bryan Street
Suite 1800
Dallas, Texas 75201-4240
(214) 871-2100 (Telephone)
(214) 871-2111 (Telecopier)

Bv:

Michael J. Quilling, SBN\16432300 D. Dee Raibourn, III, SBN 24009495

ATTORNEYS FOR RECEIVER

CERTIFICATE OF CONFERENCE

I have conferred with Robert Brunig of the SEC regarding the relief requested in this motion and he does not oppose the relief requested.

Michael J. Quilling

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on the 10 day of April, 2001, a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served via United States mail, first-class, postage pre-paid, on:

Robert B. Brunig Securities & Exchange Commission 801 Cherry Street, 19th Floor Fort Worth, Texas 76102

Wendell A. Odom, Jr. 440 Louisiana, Suite 880 Houston, Texas 77002

S. Cass Weiland Sheinfeld, Maley & Kay, P.C. 1700 Pacific Avenue, Suite 4400 Dallas, Texas 75201-4618 Deborah Goodall Goodall & Sooter 12830 Hillcrest Rd., Suite 111 Dallas, Texas 75230

Dan. R. Waller Secore & Waller, LLC 13355 Noel Road, Suite 2290 Dallas, Texas 75240

Thomas Weinkauf 29860 CR 24 Elkhart, Indiana 46517

Michael J. Quilling / D. Dee Raibourn, III

P. 0.2
This is a legally binding contract, if not understood, seek legal 20169.

| | CONTRACT TO PURCHASE | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| ١. | LISTING BROKER (CO.) Predented Otre (07) By Sally Hermonder (1320) | | | | | |
| | SELLING BROKER (Co.) Trudential (Co.) SELLING BROKER (Co.) Trudential (Co.) (#27) BY 3004 flamential (#20) | | | | | |
| ę. | as 17 Buver's Agent - SHimited Agent - Setting Broker compensated by (2-Setting Buyer | | | | | |
| 5. | The undersigned, hereinalter called "Purchaser", hereby agrees to purchase from the owner, hereinafter called "Seller", the real estate hower as: Address: 30900 (1000) (1000) | | | | | |
| 5. 7 | known as: Address: 30910 CARDELLES LA The abbreviated legal description is CARDELLES LOSSON | | | | | |
| B. | EST. 10+ 18 | | | | | |
| 3. | 1. Purchasa Price: (Utel Mandred Twelve Tostumed Hart hundred Ochais 15 118, 500.) | | | | | |
| , | Earnest Money Deposit: Carlo Thomas Carlo Color Color (\$ | | | | | |
| 2. | Additional Earnest Money Deposit: | | | | | |
| 3. | be paid on or before The earnest money deposit to be held by the Listing Broker and applied to | | | | | |
| 4. | the purchase price at the closing of this transaction. | | | | | |
| 5. | 2. Earnest Money. The Listing Broker shall deposit the earnest money into its escrow account within two (2) Earking days of accounted on this Contract and hold it until time of closing the transaction or termination of this Contract. If Purchaser fairs for any reason to submit | | | | | |
| 6. 7. | earnest money per the Contract, Seller may terminate this Contract. Earnest money shall be returned promptly in the event this offer is not | | | | | |
| 8. | accepted. If this Contract is accepted and the transaction does not close because a contingency to closing is not satisfied. Purchaser shall | | | | | |
| 9. | the state of the S | | | | | |
| 0. | legal and equilable remedies including specific performance. The Broker shall not be required to distribute the earnest money to the Seller | | | | | |
| 2. | or Purchaser unless the parties provide the Broker with mutual release or a Court issues a final, unappealed order for payment. If the | | | | | |
| 3. | parties do not mutually consent to the release of the earnest money, then they agree that the Broker holding the earnest money may the tegal action or an interpleader action with a Court regarding disposition of the earnest money and that the Broker's resulting cost (including | | | | | |
| 9. S. | attorney's fee) incurred in connection with legal action or interpleader shall be paid out of the samest money deposit before it is paid into | | | | | |
| 6. | | | | | | |
| 27. | 3. Method Of Payment (Circle letter of appropriate paragraph) | | | | | |
| 35. | A. Cash. The purchase price shall be paid in each at the time of closing the transaction with no financing required. | | | | | |
| 9 30 | B. New Mortgage. Completion of this transaction shall be subject to Purchaser's ability to obtain a 🗇 conventional 🖾 FNA 🗇 VA first mortgage upon the real estate in the amount of TBD % of purchase price or 8 | | | | | |
| 3; | dollars payable in not less than 30, years. Purchaser shall pay all costs of obtaining tinancing unless otherwise specified in this Contract. | | | | | |
| 1 2. | C. Assumption/Land Contract/Owner Financing/Other. (See Addendum) | | | | | |
| 33. | 4. Time Allowed for Financing. Purchaser agrees to make application or applications for any financing necessary to complete this | | | | | |
| 34. 35. | transaction within celender days after the acceptance of this Contract to Purchase, and to make a diligent effort in good faith to obtain financing. No more than _35_ calendar days after the acceptance of the Contract to Purchase shall be allowed for obtaining an appraisal and a written mortgage commitment, if written mortgage commitment is not obtained within the time specified above, this | | | | | |
| 36. | | | | | | |
| 17. | Contract shall then terminate at the written request of either party and the earnest money deposit shall be refunded to Purchase; without | | | | | |
| 35 | delay, less any expenses incurred on behalf of Purchaser. | | | | | |
| 33 | equipment, including, but not limited to, lighting fixtures, window shades, blinds, storm windows, ecreens, awnings, fences, clothes putes | | | | | |
| 10. 61. | | | | | | |
| 42. | central air conditioner, disposal, gas burner, oll burner, heat regulator, humblifler, water pump, sump pump, towal tacks and bars, Goor bells | | | | | |
| 43. 14. | and the control of th | | | | | |
| 45 | | | | | | |
| 32 | | | | | | |
| 47, 48. | | | | | | |
| 49. Which belong to the above property and are now on the premises or elsewhere. All said items will have been fully paid for by the Seller at | | | | | | |
| 50. | or before closing the transaction. | | | | | |
| | 6. Closing. The closing of the sale (the "Closing Date") shall be on or selection () or within () belander days whichever is later, or this Contract shall terminate unless an extension of time is mutually agreed to in writing. | | | | | |
| 52 . | 7. Ownorship And Possession. Cynerabile shell begin at the dete and time of closing. The possession of the Property shall be delivered | | | | | |
| 53. 54. | 7. Ownership And Possession. Ownership shall begin at the date and time of Closing. The possession of the Property shall be delivered to Purchaser Effectioning or D | | | | | |
| м. \$4 | possession; after which Seller agrees to pay as liquidated damages \$ 50. for each calendar day Purchaser shell not have been | | | | | |
| 58. | tendered complete possession. Purchaser reserves the right to a Walk through prior to closing. | | | | | |
| 57. | | | | | | |
| 58. 58. | following items to be tested: Copper Nitrate Other: | | | | | |
| 68. 80 | Certification, for St. Joseph County properties, shall be at expense of D Seller D Purchaser. Any necessary remedy required as a result of | | | | | |
| 81 64 | these reports may be done at Seller's expense. If the Seller is unwilling or unable to remedy the problem, then this Contract may be terminated by written notice. | | | | | |
| 62 | • | | | | | |
| 63. 54. | 9. Wood Destroying Insects. Purchaser @Shall C shall not, unless required by lender, obtain a written inspection report from a ficensed pest control inspector showing house and garage to be free from wood destroying insects within 15 calendar days of acceptance of this | | | | | |
| 65 | Contract. Any necessary wood infestation treatment or repair required as a result of this report may be done at Seller's expense, or at | | | | | |
| 66. | P:irchaser's option, this Contract may be terminated by written notice. | | | | | |
| | 10. Survey. Purchaser shall, at Purchaser's expense, receive a ZSURVEYOR LOCATION REPORT, which is a report where comer | | | | | |
| 68. 95. | | | | | | |
| "O. | | | | | | |
| 21 | 11. Flood Area. Buyer (Prinay D may not terminate this Contract If the Property requires flood insurance or is subject to building or use | | | | | |
| 72. | fimitations by reason of the location in a flood area. | | | | | |
| | (M) | | | | | |
| | (Furchmer's initials) (Setter's initials) | | | | | |

116. 117 121. 122

123. as they are now, ordinary wear and tear excepted. Any damage caused by the Seller to the real estate and/or its improvements, prior to 124. delivery of possession to Purchaser shall be the sole responsibility of the Saller. The risk of loss or damage to the real estate and improvements until delivery of the deed or Land Contract, is assumed by the Seller. If all or a substantial portion of said properly is so destroyed or damaged prior to the closing, this Contract may be rescinded at the election of the Purchaser and this Contract shall then be null and void. In such an event any earnest money deposited, less expenses, shall be returned promptly to the Purchaser, Current hazard insurance to be canceled at date of closing.

16. Taxes, Assessments And Improvements. The real property taxes for the current year, payable the next year, shall be profuted based upon the applicable assessments, credits and tax rates available on the day of closing. The Selfer is to be charged all other real estate 121. taxes which are now a lien against the real estate. WARNING: The succeeding year tax bill for estates, recently constructed homes 193. or following reassessment periods may greatly exceed the last tax bill available to the agent. The Purchaser shall be responsible for all taxes regardless of credits authorized following the closing. Seller shall be charged at closing for all assessments or charges upon or 134. applying to the said real estate for public or municipal improvements or service which on the date of closing are constructed or installed on 136. or about the real schate or are serving the real estate.

17. Rents, Dues And Deposits. Rents and Dues, if any, shall be prorated as of the date of closing. All leases, security and/or damage 137 deposits, if any, shall be transferred at the closing. Seller to provide any required occupancy permits. 139

18. Costs. Purchaser and Seller authorize the ordering of all documents necessary for the closing of this transaction and accept respective responsibilities for the payment of all charges incurred. Any costs for or on behalf of Purchaser or Seller shall be paid by the Purchaser or Selfer, respectively, at closing or upon termination of this Contract. The processing tee charged by Title Company to be paid by Saller and the closing fee charged by Title Company to be paid by Purchaser, unless otherwise agreed in writing, VA cost shall be charged to and paid for in accordance with existing VA regulations and requirements.

Brokers may refer Purchaser or Seller to professionals, service providers or product vendors, including landers, loan prokers, title companies, contractors and home warranty companies. Brokers do not guarantee the performance of any service provider. Purchaser and Seller are free to select providers aliner than those referred or recommended to them by Broker.

143

| 177. | 177. D Purchaser has not received an executed Selier's Residential Real Estate Sales Disclosure form. | | | | | |
|------------------------------|--|---|---|--|--|--|
| 178. 179. 180. | theday ofthis Contract To Purchase shall be null and void and all parties shall be | | | | | |
| 181 | The state of the s | | | | | |
| 183. 184. 185. 186. | 26. Complete Contract. It is expressly agreed that all terms, an verbal agreements of any kind shall be binding upon the parties, personal representatives, successors and assigns. The parties we Purchase and acknowledge receipt of a signed copy. The parties | and this Contract shall be bind erify that they have read, fully | ding upon the parties he understand, and approve | reto, their heirs. e this Contract to | | |
| 187 | Signature Purchaser Princed | | | | | |
| 188. | Signature Purchaser | Signature | Purchaser | | | |
| 189. | Printed | | | | | |
| 190. | Address | | | | | |
| 191. | ACCEPTANCE BY BELLER; To As Submitted By Purchaser To As Submitted By Purchaser Subject To Attached Counter Offer | | | | | |
| 192. 183. | And the state of t | | | | | |
| :94. | above described real estate in accordance with the terms and co | nditions specified herein. | | | | |
| 195. | Sellor represents and warrants that he is not a "foreign person" (individual or entity) and therefore is not subject to the Foreign investment fixed Property Tax Act. The parties acknowledge that they have not refled on any statement of the real estate Agent or Broker | | | | | |
| 195 | | | | | | |
| 187. | which are not expressed in this Coffinact. | | | | | |
| 198. | Seller acknowledges receipt of a goned copy of this Contract | l . | | | | |
| 199. | Signature Serier | SignatureS | eller | | | |
| 200. | Printed | Printed | | | | |
| 2,00. | | PHINEU | | | | |
| 201. | Address | Phone | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| 202 | □ REJECTED | | | | | |
| 203. | Selfer Signature | Seller Signature | Dule | Tiltrid | | |
| | | | | | | |

Legal Notice

Notice of Private Sale

| Notice is given pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §2001 in the case styled, Securities and Exchang Commission, Plaintiff, vs. Funding Resource Group, et al. Civil Action No. 3:98-CV-2689-M, it the Northern District of Texas, Dallas Division, that the Receiver for Howe Financial Trust, Incobtained court approval on April, 2001, to sell the following real property at private sale: |
|---|
| Lot Number Eighteen (18) as the said Lot is known and designated on the recorded Plat of CREEKWOOD ESTATES FIRST SECTION, a Subdivision in Baugo Township; said Platering recorded in Plat Book 9, page 61, in the Office of the Recorder of Elkhart, Count Indiana (30910 Creekwood Trail, Osceola, Indiana) |
| The sale shall be "as is" and "where is." Bona Fide offers in accordance with 28 U.S.C. §2001 must be received in writing on a before 5:00 p.m. on April, 2001. All persons having claims against the property are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law and advise the Receiver of same in writing on or before 5:00 p.m. on April, 2001. Dated the day of April, 2001. |
| Direct correspondence to: Howe Financial Trust, Inc c/o Michael J. Quilling, Receiver Quilling, Selander, Cummiskey, & Lownds, P.C. 2001 Bryan Street Suite 1800 |

Dallas, Texas 75201 (214) 871-2100

