**MERS language has been inserted as Blue text**

After Recording Return To:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ [Space Above This Line For Recording Data] \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**MORTGAGE**

DEFINITIONS

Words used in multiple sections of this document are defined below and other words are defined under the caption TRANSFER OF RIGHTS IN THE PROPERTY and in Sections 3, 4, 10, 11, 12, 16, 19, 24, and 25. Certain rules regarding the usage of words used in this document are also provided in Section 17.

**Parties**

**(A)** **“Borrower”** is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, currently residing at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Borrower is the mortgagor under this Security Instrument.

**(B)** **“Lender”** is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Lender is a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ organized and existing under the laws of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Lender’s address is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. The term “Lender” includes any successors and assigns of Lender.

**(C) “MERS”** is Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. MERS is a separate corporation that is acting solely as a nominee for Lender and Lender’s successors and assigns. **MERS is the mortgagee under this Security Instrument.** MERS is organized and existing under the laws of Delaware, and has an address and telephone number of P.O. Box 2026, Flint, MI 48501-2026, tel. (888) 679-MERS.

**Documents**

**(D)** **“Note”** means the promissory note dated \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and signed by each Borrower who is legally obligated for the debt under that promissory note, that is in either (i) paper form, using Borrower’s written pen and ink signature, or (ii) electronic form, using Borrower’s adopted Electronic Signature in accordance with the UETA or E-SIGN, as applicable. The Note evidences the legal obligation of each Borrower who signed the Note to pay Lender \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Dollars (U.S. $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_) plus interest. Each Borrower who signed the Note has promised to pay this debt in regular monthly payments and to pay the debt in full not later than \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

**(E)** **“Riders”** means all Riders to this Security Instrument that are signed by Borrower. All such Riders are incorporated into and deemed to be a part of this Security Instrument. The following Riders are to be signed by Borrower [check box as applicable]:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  Adjustable Rate Rider   1-4 Family Rider   Second Home Rider |  Condominium Rider   Planned Unit Development Rider |  Other(s) [specify]  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |

**(F)** **“Security Instrument”** means this document, which is dated \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, together with all Riders to this document.

**Additional Definitions**

**(G)** **“Applicable Law”** means all controlling applicable federal, state, and local statutes, regulations, ordinances, and administrative rules and orders (that have the effect of law) as well as all applicable final, non-appealable judicial opinions.

**(H)** **“Community Association Dues, Fees, and Assessments”** means all dues, fees, assessments, and other charges that are imposed on Borrower or the Property by a condominium association, homeowners association, or similar organization.

**(I) “Default”** means: (i) the failure to pay any Periodic Payment or any other amount secured by this Security Instrument on the date it is due; (ii) a breach of any representation, warranty, covenant, obligation, or agreement in this Security Instrument; (iii) any materially false, misleading, or inaccurate information or statement to Lender provided by Borrower or any persons or entities acting at Borrower’s direction or with Borrower’s knowledge or consent, or failure to provide Lender with material information in connection with the Loan, as described in Section 8; or (iv) any action or proceeding described in Section 12(e).

**(J)** **“Electronic Fund Transfer”** means any transfer of funds, other than a transaction originated by check, draft, or similar paper instrument, which is initiated through an electronic terminal, telephonic instrument, computer, or magnetic tape so as to order, instruct, or authorize a financial institution to debit or credit an account. Such term includes, but is not limited to, point-of-sale transfers, automated teller machine transactions, transfers initiated by telephone or other electronic device capable of communicating with such financial institution, wire transfers, and automated clearinghouse transfers.

**(K) “Electronic Signature”** means an “Electronic Signature” as defined in the UETA or E- SIGN, as applicable.

**(L) “E-SIGN”** means the Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act (15 U.S.C. § 7001 *et seq*.)*,* as it may be amended from time to time, or any applicable additional or successor legislation that governs the same subject matter.

**(M)** **“Escrow Items”** means: (i) taxes and assessments and other items that can attain priority over this Security Instrument as a lien or encumbrance on the Property; (ii) leasehold payments or ground rents on the Property, if any; (iii) premiums for any and all insurance required by Lender under Section 5; (iv) Mortgage Insurance premiums, if any, or any sums payable by Borrower to Lender in lieu of the payment of Mortgage Insurance premiums in accordance with the provisions of Section 11; and (v) Community Association Dues, Fees, and Assessments if Lender requires that they be escrowed beginning at Loan closing or at any time during the Loan term.

**(N)** **“Loan”** means the debt obligation evidenced by the Note, plus interest, any prepayment charges, costs, expenses, and late charges due under the Note, and all sums due under this Security Instrument, plus interest.

**(O) “Loan Servicer”** means the entity that has the contractual right to receive Borrower’s Periodic Payments and any other payments made by Borrower, and administers the Loan on behalf of Lender. Loan Servicer does not include a sub-servicer, which is an entity that may service the Loan on behalf of the Loan Servicer.

**(P)** **“Miscellaneous Proceeds”** means any compensation, settlement, award of damages, or proceeds paid by any third party (other than insurance proceeds paid under the coverages described in Section 5) for: (i) damage to, or destruction of, the Property; (ii) condemnation or other taking of all or any part of the Property; (iii) conveyance in lieu of condemnation; or (iv) misrepresentations of, or omissions as to, the value and/or condition of the Property.

**(Q)** **“Mortgage Insurance”** means insurance protecting Lender against the nonpayment of, or Default on, the Loan.

**(R)** “**Partial Payment**” means any payment by Borrower, other than a voluntary prepayment permitted under the Note, which is less than a full outstanding Periodic Payment.

**(S)** **“Periodic Payment”** means the regularly scheduled amount due for (i) principal and interest under the Note, plus (ii) any amounts under Section 3.

**(T)** **“Property”** means the property described below under the heading “TRANSFER OF RIGHTS IN THE PROPERTY.”

**(U) “Rents”** means all amounts received by or due Borrower in connection with the lease, use, and/or occupancy of the Property by a party other than Borrower.

**(V)** **“RESPA”** means the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act (12 U.S.C. § 2601 *et seq.*) and its implementing regulation, Regulation X (12 C.F.R. Part 1024), as they may be amended from time to time, or any additional or successor federal legislation or regulation that governs the same subject matter. When used in this Security Instrument, “RESPA” refers to all requirements and restrictions that would apply to a “federally related mortgage loan” even if the Loan does not qualify as a “federally related mortgage loan” under RESPA.

**(W)** **“Successor in Interest of Borrower”** means any party that has taken title to the Property, whether or not that party has assumed Borrower’s obligations under the Note and/or this Security Instrument.

**(X) “UETA”** means the Uniform Electronic Transactions Act, as enacted by the jurisdiction in which the Property is located, as it may be amended from time to time, or any applicable additional or successor legislation that governs the same subject matter.

TRANSFER OF RIGHTS IN THE PROPERTY

This Security Instrument secures to Lender (i) the repayment of the Loan, and all renewals, extensions, and modifications of the Note, and (ii) the performance of Borrower’s covenants and agreements under this Security Instrument and the Note. For this purpose, Borrower does hereby mortgage, grant, and convey to MERS (solely as nominee for Lender and Lender’s successors and assigns) and to the successors and assigns of MERS, the following described property located in the

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_:

[Type of Recording Jurisdiction] [Name of Recording Jurisdiction]

which currently has the address of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

[Street]

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, South Carolina \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (“Property Address”);

[City] [Zip Code]

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD this property unto MERS (solely as nominee for Lender and Lender’s successors and assigns) and to the successors and assigns of MERS, forever, together with all the improvements now or subsequently erected on the property, including replacements and additions to the improvements on such property, all property rights, including, without limitation, all easements, appurtenances, royalties, mineral rights, oil or gas rights or profits, water rights, and fixtures now or subsequently a part of the property. All of the foregoing is referred to in this Security Instrument as the “Property.” Borrower understands and agrees that MERS holds only legal title to the interests granted by Borrower in this Security Instrument, but, if necessary to comply with law or custom, MERS (as nominee for Lender and Lender’s successors and assigns) has the right: to exercise any or all of those interests, including, but not limited to, the right to foreclose and sell the Property; and to take any action required of Lender including, but not limited to, releasing and canceling this Security Instrument.

BORROWER REPRESENTS, WARRANTS, COVENANTS, AND AGREES that: (i) Borrower lawfully owns and possesses the Property conveyed in this Security Instrument in fee simple or lawfully has the right to use and occupy the Property under a leasehold estate; (ii) Borrower has the right to mortgage, grant, and convey the Property or Borrower’s leasehold interest in the Property; and (iii) the Property is unencumbered, and not subject to any other ownership interest in the Property, except for encumbrances and ownership interests of record. Borrower warrants generally the title to the Property and covenants and agrees to defend the title to the Property against all claims and demands, subject to any encumbrances and ownership interests of record as of Loan closing.

THIS SECURITY INSTRUMENT combines uniform covenants for national use with limited variations and non-uniform covenants that reflect specific South Carolina state requirements to constitute a uniform security instrument covering real property.