

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, DC 20549

SCHEDULE 14A  
(RULE 14a-101)

SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION  
PROXY STATEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 14(a) OF THE SECURITIES  
EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Filed by the Registrant

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

- Preliminary Proxy Statement.
- Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2)).**
- Definitive Proxy Statement.
- Definitive Additional Materials.
- Soliciting Material Pursuant to Section 240.14a-12.

Triangle Capital Corporation

(Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement if other than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

- No fee required.
- Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.

(1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:

(2) Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:

(3) Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (Set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):

(4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:

(5) Total fee paid:

- Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.
- Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the form or schedule and the date of its filing.

(1) Amount previously paid:

(2) Form, schedule or registration statement no.:

(3) Filing party:

(4) Date filed:



**3700 Glenwood Avenue, Suite 530  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27612  
(919) 719-4770**

March [ ], 2010

Dear Stockholder:

You are cordially invited to attend Triangle Capital Corporation's 2010 Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held on Wednesday, May 5, 2010 at 8:30 a.m., Eastern Time, at the Woman's Club of Raleigh, 3300 Woman's Club Drive, Raleigh, North Carolina 27612.

The notice of Annual Meeting and proxy statement accompanying this letter provide an outline of the business to be conducted at the meeting. I will also report on the progress of the Company during the past year and answer stockholders' questions.

It is important that your shares be represented at the Annual Meeting. If you are unable to attend the meeting in person, I urge you to vote your shares by completing, dating and signing the enclosed proxy card and promptly returning it in the envelope provided. Your vote is important.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Garland S. Tucker, III'. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Garland S. Tucker, III  
President & Chief Executive Officer

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## TRIANGLE CAPITAL CORPORATION

3700 Glenwood Avenue, Suite 530  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27612  
(919) 719-4770

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### NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS To Be Held On Wednesday, May 5, 2010

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To the Stockholders of Triangle Capital Corporation:

The 2010 Annual Meeting of Stockholders of Triangle Capital Corporation (the "Company") will be held at the Woman's Club of Raleigh, 3300 Woman's Club Drive, Raleigh, North Carolina 27612, on Wednesday, May 5, 2010, at 8:30 a.m. (Eastern Time) for the following purposes:

1. To elect eight directors to serve for one year and until their successors have been duly elected and qualified (Proposal No. 1);
2. To approve a proposal to authorize the Company, pursuant to approval of its Board of Directors, to sell shares of its common stock during the next year at a price below the Company's then current net asset value (i.e., book value) per share (Proposal No. 2);
3. To ratify the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2010 (Proposal No. 3); and
4. To transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

You have the right to receive notice of and to vote at the meeting if you were a stockholder of record at the close of business on March 1, 2010. Whether or not you expect to be present in person at the meeting, please sign the enclosed proxy and return it promptly in the self-addressed envelope provided. Instructions are shown on the proxy card. In the event there are not sufficient votes for a quorum or to approve or ratify any of the foregoing proposals at the time of the Annual Meeting, the Annual Meeting may be adjourned in order to permit further solicitation of the proxies by the Company.

By order of the Board of Directors,



Steven C. Lilly  
Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer and Secretary

Raleigh, North Carolina  
March [ ], 2010

**This is an important meeting. To ensure proper representation at the meeting, please complete, sign, date and return the proxy card in the enclosed, self-addressed envelope. Even if you vote your shares prior to the meeting, you still may attend the meeting and vote your shares in person.**

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## TRIANGLE CAPITAL CORPORATION

3700 Glenwood Avenue, Suite 530  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27612  
(919) 719-4770

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### PROXY STATEMENT 2010 Annual Meeting of Stockholders

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This proxy statement is furnished in connection with the solicitation of proxies by the Board of Directors of Triangle Capital Corporation (the “Company,” “Triangle,” “we,” “us” or “our”) for use at our 2010 Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held on Wednesday, May 5, 2010, at 8:30 a.m. (Eastern Time) at the Woman’s Club of Raleigh, 3300 Woman’s Club Drive, Raleigh, North Carolina 27612, and at any adjournments thereof (the “Annual Meeting”). The Notice of Annual Meeting, this proxy statement, the accompanying proxy card and our annual report for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2009 are first being sent to stockholders on or about March [ ], 2010.

We encourage you to vote your shares, either by voting in person at the meeting or by granting a proxy (i.e., authorizing someone to vote your shares). If you properly sign and date the accompanying proxy card, and we receive it in time for the meeting, the persons named as proxies will vote the shares registered directly in your name in the manner that you specified. **If you give no instructions on the proxy card, the shares covered by the proxy card will be voted FOR the election of the nominees as directors and FOR the other matters listed in the accompanying Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders.**

**YOUR VOTE IS IMPORTANT. WHETHER OR NOT YOU PLAN TO ATTEND THE MEETING, PLEASE PROMPTLY VOTE YOUR SHARES EITHER BY MAIL OR BY TELEPHONE.**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING THE AVAILABILITY OF PROXY MATERIALS FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING TO BE HELD ON MAY 5, 2010:**

The Notice of Annual Meeting, this proxy statement and our annual report for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2009 are available at the following Internet address: <http://ir.tcap.com/annual-proxy.cfm>.

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## INFORMATION ABOUT THE MEETING

### When is the Annual Meeting?

The Annual Meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 5, 2010, at 8:30 a.m. (Eastern Time).

### Where will the Annual Meeting be held?

The Annual Meeting will be held at the Woman's Club of Raleigh, 3300 Woman's Club Drive, Raleigh, North Carolina 27612.

### What items will be voted on at the Annual Meeting?

There are three matters scheduled for a vote:

1. To elect eight directors to serve for one year and until their successors have been duly elected and qualified (Proposal No. 1);
2. To approve a proposal to authorize the Company, pursuant to approval of our Board of Directors, to sell shares of its common stock during the next year at a price below the Company's then current net asset value (i.e., book value) per share (Proposal No. 2); and
3. To ratify the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2010 (Proposal No. 3).

As of the date of this proxy statement, we are not aware of any other matters that will be presented for consideration at the Annual Meeting.

### What are the Board of Directors' recommendations?

Our Board of Directors recommends that you vote:

*"FOR"* the election of each of the eight nominees named herein to serve on the Board of Directors;

*"FOR"* the proposal to authorize the Company to sell shares of its common stock during the next year at a price below the Company's then current net asset value per share (i.e., book value); and

*"FOR"* the ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2010.

### Will Triangle's directors be in attendance at the Annual Meeting?

Triangle encourages, but does not require, its directors to attend annual meetings of stockholders. However, Triangle anticipates that all of its directors will attend the Annual Meeting.

## INFORMATION ABOUT VOTING

### Who is entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting?

Only stockholders of record at the close of business on the record date, March 1, 2010, are entitled to receive notice of the Annual Meeting and to vote the shares for which they are stockholders of record on that date at the Annual Meeting, or any postponement or adjournment of the Annual Meeting. As of the close of business on March 1, 2010, we had 11,934,594 shares of common stock outstanding and 72 stockholders of record.

*Stockholders of Record: Shares Registered in Your Name.* If on March 1, 2010, your shares were registered directly in your name with Triangle's transfer agent, The Bank of New York Mellon, then you are a stockholder of record. As a stockholder of record, you may vote in person at the Annual Meeting or vote by

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proxy. Whether or not you plan to attend the Annual Meeting, we urge you to fill out and return the enclosed proxy card to ensure your vote is counted.

*Beneficial Owners: Shares Registered in the Name of a Broker or Bank.* If on March 1, 2010, your shares were held in an account at a brokerage firm, bank, dealer or other similar organization, then you are the beneficial owner of shares held in “street name,” and these proxy materials are being forwarded to you by that organization. The organization holding your account is considered the stockholder of record for purposes of voting at the Annual Meeting. As a beneficial owner, you have the right to direct your broker or other agent on how to vote the shares in your account. You are also invited to attend the Annual Meeting. However, since you are not the stockholder of record, you may not vote your shares in person at the Annual Meeting unless you request and obtain a valid proxy from your broker or other agent.

### **How do I vote?**

With respect to Proposal No. 1, you may either vote “FOR” all the nominees to the Board of Directors, or you may vote “WITHHOLD AUTHORITY” for all nominees or for any nominee you specify. For each of the other proposals to be voted on, you may vote “FOR” or “AGAINST,” or abstain from voting altogether. The procedures for voting are fairly simple:

*Stockholders of Record: Shares Registered in Your Name.* If you are a stockholder of record, you may vote in person at the Annual Meeting or vote by proxy using the enclosed proxy card. Whether or not you plan to attend the Annual Meeting, we urge you to fill out and return the enclosed proxy card to ensure your vote is counted. You may still attend the Annual Meeting and vote in person if you have already voted by proxy.

- To vote in person, come to the Annual Meeting, and we will give you a ballot when you arrive.
- To vote using the enclosed proxy card, simply complete, sign and date the enclosed proxy card and return it promptly in the postage paid envelope provided. If you return your signed proxy card to us before the Annual Meeting, we will vote your shares as you direct.

*Beneficial Owners: Shares Registered in the Name of a Broker or Bank.* If you are a beneficial owner of shares registered in the name of your broker, bank or other agent, you should have received a proxy card and voting instructions with these proxy materials from that organization rather than from Triangle. Simply complete and mail the proxy card to ensure that your vote is counted. Alternatively, you may be able to vote by telephone or over the Internet as instructed by your broker or bank. To vote in person at the Annual Meeting, you must obtain a valid proxy from your broker, bank or other agent. Follow the instructions from your broker or bank included with these proxy materials, or contact your broker or bank to request a proxy form.

### **How many votes do I have?**

On each matter to be voted upon, you have one vote for each share of common stock for which you are the stockholder of record as of March 1, 2010.

### **What if I return a proxy card but do not make specific choices?**

If you return a signed and dated proxy card without marking any voting selections, your shares will be voted: “FOR” the election of each of the eight nominees named herein to serve on the Board of Directors; “FOR” the proposal to authorize the Company to sell shares of its common stock during the next year at a price below the Company’s then current net asset value (i.e., book value) per share; and “FOR” the ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as Triangle’s independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2010.

If any other matter is properly presented at the meeting, your proxy (one of the individuals named on your proxy card) will vote your shares as recommended by the Board of Directors or, if no recommendation is given, will vote your shares using his or her best judgment.

### **Can I change my vote after submitting my proxy card?**

Yes. You can revoke your proxy at any time before the final vote at the Annual Meeting. If you are the record holder of your shares, you may revoke your proxy in any one of three ways:

- You may submit another properly completed proxy bearing a later date;
- You may send a written notice that you are revoking your proxy to Triangle Capital Corporation, 3700 Glenwood Avenue, Suite 530, Raleigh, North Carolina 27612, Attention: Steven C. Lilly, Corporate Secretary; or
- You may attend the Annual Meeting and notify the election officials at the Annual Meeting that you wish to revoke your proxy and vote in person. Simply attending the Annual Meeting, however, will not, by itself, revoke your proxy.

If your shares are held by your broker or bank as a nominee or agent, you should follow the instructions provided by your broker or bank.

### **How are votes counted?**

Votes will be counted by the inspector of election appointed for the Annual Meeting, who will separately count “FOR” and “WITHHOLD AUTHORITY” votes, and, with respect to proposals other than the election of directors, “AGAINST,” “ABSTAIN” and broker non-votes. A broker non-vote occurs when a nominee, such as a broker or bank, holding shares for a beneficial owner does not vote on a particular proposal because the nominee does not have discretionary voting power with respect to that proposal and has not received instructions with respect to that proposal from the beneficial owner. In the event that a broker, bank, custodian, nominee or other record holder of our common stock indicates on a proxy that it does not have discretionary authority to vote certain shares on a particular proposal, then those shares will be treated as broker non-votes with respect to that proposal. Accordingly, if you own shares through a nominee, such as a broker or bank, please be sure to instruct your nominee how to vote to ensure that your vote is counted on each of the proposals.

If your shares are held by your broker as your nominee (that is, in “street name”), you will need to obtain a proxy form from the institution that holds your shares and follow the instructions included on that form regarding how to instruct your broker to vote your shares. Please note that brokers that have not received voting instructions from their clients cannot vote on their clients’ behalf on “non-routine” proposals, such as the proposals to elect eight directors and to allow the Company to issue shares of common stock below net asset value (Proposal Nos. 1 and 2), but may vote their clients’ shares on Proposal No. 3.

Abstentions and broker non-votes will be treated as shares present for the purpose of determining the presence of a quorum for the transaction of business at the Annual Meeting.

### **How many votes are needed to approve each proposal?**

- For Proposal No. 1, the eight nominees receiving the most “FOR” votes, among votes properly cast in person or by proxy, will be elected. If you vote “WITHHOLD AUTHORITY” with respect to one or more nominees, your shares will not be included in determining the number of votes cast and, as a result, will have no effect on this proposal. In addition, for purposes of the vote on this proposal, broker non-votes will have the same effect as votes to withhold authority for all nominees, which, as stated in the previous sentence, would have no effect on this proposal.
- To be approved, Proposal No. 2 must receive “FOR” votes from (1) a majority of the outstanding shares of common stock entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting and (2) a majority of the outstanding shares of common stock entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting which are not held by affiliated persons of the Company. With respect to Proposal No. 2 only, Section 2(a)(42) of the Investment Company Act of 1940, or the 1940 Act, defines “a majority of the outstanding shares” as the lesser of: (1) 67% or more of the common stock of Triangle present or represented by proxy at the Annual Meeting, if the holders of more than 50% of Triangle’s common stock are present or represented by proxy; or (2) more than



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50% of the outstanding common stock of Triangle. For purposes of the vote on this proposal, abstentions and broker non-votes will have the effect of votes against the proposal, although they will be considered present for purposes of determining the presence of a quorum.

- To be approved, Proposal No. 3 must receive “FOR” votes from a majority of all votes cast at the Annual Meeting, whether in person or by proxy. For purposes of the vote on this proposal, abstentions and broker non-votes will not be counted as votes cast and will have no effect on the result of the vote, although they will be considered present for the purpose of determining the presence of a quorum.

### **How many shares must be present to constitute a quorum for the Annual Meeting?**

A quorum of stockholders is necessary to hold a valid meeting. A quorum will be present if at least a majority of the outstanding shares entitled to vote are represented by stockholders present at the Annual Meeting or by proxy. On March 1, 2010, the record date, there were 11,934,594 shares outstanding and entitled to vote. Thus, 5,967,298 shares must be represented by stockholders present at the Annual Meeting or by proxy to have a quorum.

Your shares will be counted towards the quorum only if you submit a valid proxy (or one is submitted on your behalf by your broker, bank or other nominee) or if you vote in person at the Annual Meeting. Abstentions and broker non-votes will be counted towards the quorum requirement.

If a quorum is not present at the Annual Meeting, or if a quorum is present but there are not enough votes to approve one or more of the proposals, the person named as chairman of the Annual Meeting may adjourn the meeting to permit further solicitation of proxies. A stockholder vote may be taken on one or more of the proposals in this proxy statement prior to any such adjournment if there are sufficient votes for approval on such proposal(s).

### **How can I find out the results of the voting at the Annual Meeting?**

Preliminary voting results will be announced at the Annual Meeting and filed on Form 8-K within four business days of the Annual Meeting. Final results will be published on an amended Form 8-K within four days after the final voting results are established.

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

### **How and when may I submit a stockholder proposal for Triangle’s 2011 Annual Meeting?**

Our annual meeting of stockholders generally is held in May of each year. We will consider for inclusion in our proxy materials for the 2011 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, stockholder proposals that are received at our executive offices, in writing, no earlier than [ ], 2010, and no later than 5:00 p.m. (Eastern Time) on [ ], 2010, and that comply with our bylaws and all applicable requirements of Rule 14a-8 promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act. Proposals must be sent to our Corporate Secretary at Triangle Capital Corporation, 3700 Glenwood Avenue, Suite 530, Raleigh, North Carolina 27612.

On February 24, 2009, our Board of Directors approved and adopted our Second Amended and Restated Bylaws of the Company. Pursuant to our Second Amended and Restated Bylaws, stockholders wishing to submit proposals or director nominations that are not to be included in our proxy materials must have given timely notice thereof in writing to our Corporate Secretary. To be timely for the 2011 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, you must notify our Corporate Secretary, in writing, no earlier than [ ], 2010, and no later than 5:00 p.m. (Eastern Time) on [ ], 2010. We also advise you to review Triangle’s bylaws, which contain additional requirements about advance notice of stockholder proposals and director nominations, including the different notice submission date requirements in the event that our 2011 Annual Meeting of Stockholders is held before April 6, 2011 or after June 5, 2011. In accordance with our bylaws, the chairman of the 2011 Annual Meeting of Stockholders may determine, if the facts warrant, that a matter has not been properly brought before the meeting and, therefore, may not be considered at the meeting.

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If a stockholder is recommending a candidate to serve on the Board of Directors, the recommendation must include all information specified in our bylaws, including the following:

1. Information as to each individual whom the stockholder proposes to nominate for election or reelection:

- all information relating to the candidate that would be required to be disclosed in connection with the solicitation of proxies for the election of the candidate as a director in an election contest (even if an election contest is not involved), or would otherwise be required in connection with such solicitation, in each case pursuant to Regulation 14A (or any successor provision) under the Exchange Act and its rules (including the candidate's written consent to being named in the proxy statement as a nominee and to serving as a director if elected).

2. As to the stockholder giving the notice, any candidate and any stockholder associated person (a "stockholder associated person" is a person who acts in concert with the stockholder giving notice, owns Triangle's securities with such stockholder (other than a stockholder that is a depository) or directly or indirectly controls, or is controlled by, or is under common control with such stockholder):

- the class, series and number of all shares of stock or other securities of Triangle or any of its affiliates, which are owned (beneficially or of record) by such stockholder, candidate or stockholder associated person;
- the date on which each security of Triangle was acquired and the investment intent of such acquisition, and any short interest (including any opportunity to profit or share in any benefit from any decrease in the price of such stock or other security) in any stockholder associated person of any such person;
- the candidate holder for, and number of, any security of Triangle owned beneficially but not of record by such stockholder, candidate or stockholder associated person;
- whether and the extent to which such stockholder, candidate or stockholder associated person, directly or indirectly, is subject to or during the last six months has engaged in any hedging, derivative or other transaction or series of transactions or entered into any other agreement, arrangement or understanding (including any short interest, any borrowing or lending of securities or any proxy or voting agreement), the effect or intent of which is (1) to manage risk or benefit of changes in the price of any security of Triangle or the security of any entity that was listed in the peer group in the stock performance graph in the most recent annual report to security holders of Triangle for such stockholder, candidate or stockholder associated person or (2) to increase or decrease the voting power of such stockholder, candidate or stockholder associated person of Triangle or any of its affiliates disproportionately to such person's economic interest in Triangle's securities;
- any substantial interest, direct or indirect, by security holdings or otherwise, of such stockholder, candidate or stockholder associated person, in Triangle or any of its affiliates, other than an interest arising from the ownership of any security of Triangle where such stockholder, candidate or stockholder associated person receives no extra or special benefit not shared on a pro rata basis by all other holders of the same class or series; and
- whether such stockholder believes any candidate is, or is not, an "interested person" of Triangle, as defined in the 1940 Act, and information regarding such candidate that is sufficient, in the discretion of our board or any of its committees or any authorized officer of Triangle, to make such determination.

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3. As to the stockholder giving the notice, any stockholder associated person with an interest or ownership and any candidate:

- the name and address of such stockholder, as they appear on Triangle's stock ledger, and the current name and business address, if different, of each such stockholder associated person and any candidate;
- the investment strategy or objective, if any, of such stockholder and each such stockholder associated person who is not an individual and a copy of the prospectus, offering memorandum or similar document, if any, provided to investors or potential investors in such stockholder, and each such stockholder associated person; and
- to the extent known by the stockholder giving the notice, the name and address of any other stockholder supporting the candidate for election or reelection as a director or the proposal of other business on the date of such stockholder's notice.

The above procedures regarding stockholder nominations of directors in our Second Amended and Restated Bylaws reflect the material changes and clarifications to those procedures which were in place pursuant to our previous bylaws.

### **How can I obtain Triangle's Annual Report on Form 10-K?**

A stockholders' letter and a copy of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2009, which together constitute our 2009 Annual Report to stockholders, are being mailed along with this proxy statement. Our 2009 Annual Report is not incorporated into this proxy statement and shall not be considered proxy solicitation material.

**We will also mail to you without charge, upon written request, a copy of any specifically requested exhibit to our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2009.** Requests should be sent to: Corporate Secretary, Triangle Capital Corporation, 3700 Glenwood Avenue, Suite 530, Raleigh, North Carolina 27612. A copy of our Annual Report on Form 10-K has also been filed with the SEC and may be accessed from the SEC's homepage (<http://www.sec.gov>).

### **Who is paying for this proxy solicitation?**

We will pay for the entire cost of soliciting proxies. We estimate that we will pay The Altman Group, Inc., our proxy solicitor, a fee of approximately \$30,000 to solicit proxies, though the costs of this proxy solicitation process could be lower or higher than our estimate. In addition to these written proxy materials, our proxy solicitor, directors and employees may also solicit proxies in person, by telephone or by other means of communication; however, our directors and employees will not be paid any additional compensation for soliciting proxies. We may also reimburse brokerage firms, banks and other agents for the cost of forwarding proxy materials to beneficial owners.

### **How many copies should I receive if I share an address with another stockholder?**

The SEC has adopted rules that permit companies and intermediaries, such as brokers, to satisfy the delivery requirements for proxy statements and annual reports with respect to two or more stockholders sharing the same address by delivering a single proxy statement addressed to those stockholders. This process, which is commonly referred to as "householding," potentially provides extra convenience for stockholders and cost savings for companies.

Brokers may be householding our proxy materials by delivering a single proxy statement and Annual Report to multiple stockholders sharing an address unless contrary instructions have been received from the affected stockholders. Once you have received notice from your broker that they will be householding materials to your address, householding will continue until you are notified otherwise or until you revoke your consent. If at any time you no longer wish to participate in householding and would prefer to receive a separate proxy statement and Annual Report, or if you are receiving multiple copies of the proxy statement

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and Annual Report and wish to receive only one, please notify your broker if your shares are held in a brokerage account or us if you are a stockholder of record. You can notify us by sending a written request to: Steven C. Lilly, Corporate Secretary, Triangle Capital Corporation, 3700 Glenwood Avenue, Suite 530, Raleigh, North Carolina 27612, or by calling (919) 719-4770. In addition, Triangle will promptly deliver, upon written or oral request to the address or telephone number above, a separate copy of the annual report and proxy statement to a stockholder at a shared address to which a single copy of the documents was delivered.

### **Whom should I contact if I have any questions?**

If you have any questions about the Annual Meeting, these proxy materials or your ownership of our common stock, please contact Steven C. Lilly c/o Triangle Capital Corporation, 3700 Glenwood Avenue, Suite 530, Raleigh, North Carolina 27612, Telephone: 919-719-4770, or by Fax: 919-719-4777.

## **PROPOSAL NO. 1**

### **ELECTION OF DIRECTORS**

Our bylaws provide that our Board of Directors will consist of no less than one director and no greater than twelve directors. The number of directors is set at eight. Directors are elected for a term of one year, with each director's term of office expiring the following year. Directors serve until their successors are elected and qualified.

The current directors, Messrs. Burgess, Dunwoody, Gambill, Goldstein, Lilly, Rich, Smith and Tucker, have been nominated by our Board of Directors (upon the recommendation by our nominating and corporate governance committee) for election for a one-year term expiring in 2011. With the exception of Mr. Gambill who was appointed by the Board in August of 2009, each director was initially elected as a director by the sole stockholder of the Company prior to our initial public offering in February 2007. No person being nominated as a director is being proposed for election pursuant to any agreement or understanding between us and any such person. Each director has agreed to serve as a director if elected and has consented to be named as a nominee.

A stockholder can vote for or withhold his or her vote from any or all of the nominees. **In the absence of instructions to the contrary, it is the intention of the persons named as proxies to vote such proxy for the election of all the nominees named below. If any of the nominees should decline or be unable to serve as a director, it is intended that the proxy will be voted for the election of such person or persons who are nominated as replacements. The Board of Directors has no reason to believe that any of the persons named will be unable or unwilling to serve.**

### **Information about the Nominees**

Certain information, as of March [ ], 2010, with respect to each of the eight nominees for election at the Annual Meeting, all of whom currently serve as our directors, is set forth below, including their names, ages, a brief description of their recent business experience, including present occupations and employment, certain directorships that each nominee holds, and the year in which each nominee became a director of the Company. Each director's current term expires on May 5, 2010, the Annual Meeting date.

Certain of our directors who are also officers of the Company may serve as directors of, or on the boards of managers of, certain of our portfolio companies. In addition, the Board of Directors of Triangle Mezzanine Fund LLLP, our wholly-owned consolidated subsidiary that has elected to be treated as a business development company, or BDC, under the 1940 Act ("Triangle Mezzanine Fund"), is composed of all of the Company's directors. The business address of each nominee listed below is 3700 Glenwood Avenue, Suite 530, Raleigh, North Carolina 27612.

## Nominees for Directors

### Interested Directors

*Messrs. Tucker, Burgess and Lilly are interested persons as defined in the 1940 Act due to their positions as officers of the Company.*

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Background Information</u>
Garland S. Tucker, III	62	Mr. Tucker has served as Chairman of our Board of Directors, Chief Executive Officer and President since 2006 and is a member of our investment committee. Mr. Tucker was a co-founder of Triangle Capital Partners, LLC, the former external manager of Triangle Mezzanine Fund prior to our IPO. Prior to co-founding Triangle Capital Partners, LLC in 2000, Mr. Tucker and an outside investor group sold First Travelcorp, a corporate travel services company that he and the investors founded in 1991. For the two years preceding the founding of First Travelcorp, Mr. Tucker served as Group Vice President, Chemical Bank, New York, with responsibility for southeastern corporate finance. Prior to Chemical Bank, Mr. Tucker spent a decade with Carolina Securities Corporation, serving as President and Chief Executive Officer until 1988. During his tenure, Carolina Securities Corporation was a member of the New York Stock Exchange, and Mr. Tucker served a term as President of the Mid-Atlantic Securities Industry Association. Mr. Tucker entered the securities business in 1975 with Investment Corporation of Virginia. He is a graduate of Washington & Lee University and Harvard Business School.
Brent P.W. Burgess	44	Mr. Burgess has served as our Chief Investment Officer and member of our Board of Directors since 2006 and is a member of our investment committee. Mr. Burgess was a co-founder of Triangle Capital Partners, LLC. Prior to joining Triangle, he was Vice President for five years at Oberlin Capital, an SBIC mezzanine fund. He began his private equity career in 1996 with Cherokee International Management, a Raleigh based private equity firm, where he worked as an analyst and associate. He previously served on the Board of Governors of the National Association of SBICs and is a past president of the Southern Regional Association of SBICs. He is a graduate of the University of Regina and Regent College, Vancouver.
Steven C. Lilly	40	Mr. Lilly has served as our Chief Financial Officer, Secretary, Treasurer and member of our Board of Directors since 2006 (as well as our Chief Compliance Officer since our IPO in 2007) and is a member of our investment committee. From 2005 to 2006, Mr. Lilly served as Chief Financial Officer of Triangle Capital Partners, LLC. Prior to joining Triangle Capital Partners in December, 2005, Mr. Lilly spent six and a half years with SpectraSite, Inc., which prior to its sale in August, 2005, was the third largest independent wireless tower company in the United States. At SpectraSite, Mr. Lilly served as Senior Vice President-Finance & Treasurer and Interim Chief Financial Officer. On November 15, 2002, SpectraSite Holdings, Inc. (SpectraSite's predecessor company) filed a voluntary petition for relief under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina to implement a pre-negotiated financial restructuring pursuant to the company's Plan of Reorganization, confirmed by the Bankruptcy Court on January 28, 2003. Prior to SpectraSite, Mr. Lilly was Vice President of the Media & Communications Group with First Union Capital Markets (now Wells Fargo and Company), specializing in arranging financings for high growth, financial sponsor driven companies across the media and telecommunications sector. Mr. Lilly is a graduate of Davidson College and has completed the executive education program at the University of North Carolina's Kenan-Flagler School of Business.

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### Independent Directors

*Messrs. Dunwoody, Gambill, Goldstein, Rich and Smith are considered independent for purposes of the 1940 Act.*

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Background Information</u>
W. McComb Dunwoody	65	Since 2007, Mr. Dunwoody has served on our Board of Directors and is a member of our compensation committee. He is the founder of The Inverness Group Incorporated and a Managing Member of Inverness Management LLC, a private equity investment firm that specializes in management buyout transactions. Inverness is not a parent, subsidiary or other affiliate of Triangle. Prior to Inverness, Mr. Dunwoody began the Corporate Finance Department of First City National Bank of Houston as a Senior Vice President. From 1968 to 1975, he worked in New York as an investment banker with The First Boston Corporation and Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette. Mr. Dunwoody currently serves on various corporate boards of directors and was formerly the Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors of National-Oilwell, Inc. Mr. Dunwoody's community involvement includes the co-founding of Imagine College, an education program serving over 5,000 inner-city students. He received an undergraduate degree in Business Administration from the University of Texas Honors Program.
Mark M. Gambill	59	On August 5, 2009, Mark M. Gambill was elected by our Board of Directors to fill a vacant seat created in August 2008. In addition, he has been appointed as a member of our nominating and corporate governance committee. Mr. Gambill is a co-founder and current Chairman of Cary Street Partners, a Richmond, Virginia based advisory and wealth management firm. From 1972 to 1999, Mr. Gambill was employed by Wheat First Butcher Singer ("Wheat"). He served as head of Wheat's capital markets group in the late 1980s, where he was responsible for investment banking, public finance, taxable fixed income, municipal sales and trading, equity sales, trading and research. He became President of Wheat in 1996. Wheat merged with First Union Corporation in January 1998. Subsequent to Wheat's merger with First Union, Mr. Gambill served as President of Wheat First Union. He later was named Head of Equity Capital Markets of Wheat First Union. He currently serves on the Board of Directors of Speedway Motorsports, Inc. (NYSE: TRK) where he is Chairman of its audit committee and a member of its compensation committee. Mr. Gambill is also a director of NewMarket Corporation (NYSE: NEU) and serves on its audit committee. Mr. Gambill graduated summa cum laude from Hampden-Sydney College.

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<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Background Information</u>
Benjamin S. Goldstein	54	<p>Mr. Goldstein has served on our Board of Directors since 2007 and is a member of our compensation committee and chairs our audit committee. He is currently the President and co-founder of The Advisory Group, LLC, a real estate advisory, development and investment firm based in Raleigh, North Carolina. The Advisory Group is not a parent, subsidiary or other affiliate of Triangle. Mr. Goldstein is also active in his community, as he currently serves on the boards of the Wake Education Partnership, based in Raleigh, North Carolina, as well as Paragon Commercial Bank. Prior to co-founding The Advisory Group, Mr. Goldstein was President and Partner of Roanoke Properties, the developer of a residential resort real estate community on the Outer Banks of North Carolina, which had a build out value of over \$300 million. He spent three years in the securities business, serving as the Chief Financial Officer of Carolina Securities Corporation for one year, and later named to head the Carolina Securities Division of Thomson McKinnon Corporation, which had acquired Carolina Securities. He began his career at KPMG, where he worked with audit and consulting clients with an emphasis on the real estate industry. A native of North Carolina, Mr. Goldstein is a CPA and graduated from UNC-Chapel Hill with a degree in business.</p>
Simon B. Rich, Jr.	65	<p>Mr. Rich has served on our Board of Directors since 2007 and is a member of our audit committee and our nominating and corporate governance committee. Mr. Rich is also a director of Verenum Corporation, a company traded on the Nasdaq Global Market under the symbol, "VRNM." He retired in 2001 from his positions as Chief Executive Officer of Louis Dreyfus Holding Co. and Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Louis Dreyfus Natural Gas, two affiliated Delaware and Oklahoma companies, respectively, neither of which was a parent, subsidiary or other affiliate of Triangle. As CEO, Mr. Rich's companies' combined operations included roles such as oil refinery processing, petroleum product storage and distribution, natural gas production and distribution and the merchandising and distribution of electricity in North America and Europe, as well as the merchandising and processing of agricultural products in North America, South America and Europe. During Mr. Rich's tenure, his companies successfully partnered with Electricite de France, creating EDF Trading, a company that currently dispatches France's electric generation system. From 2005 to 2006, Mr. Rich also served as a director and member of the audit committee of Fisher Scientific. His work experience, which spans more than thirty years, includes all aspects of the energy and agriculture industries. His expertise involves private equity investments with an emphasis on sustainability in energy and agriculture. In addition to Mr. Rich's career in the energy and agriculture industries, he currently serves as a trustee of Warren Wilson College and serves on the Board of Directors of Environmental Defense. Mr. Rich is also the former Chairman of the Board of Visitors of The Nicholas School of the Environment and Earth Sciences at Duke University, where he is now Emeritus and an adjunct instructor. Mr. Rich holds an undergraduate degree in Economics from Duke University.</p>

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<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Background Information</u>
Sherwood H. Smith, Jr.	75	Mr. Smith has served on our Board of Directors since 2007 and is a member of our audit committee, nominating and corporate governance committee and our compensation committee. He currently serves as a director of Franklin Street Partners, a privately held investment management firm in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. Until 2000 he served as a director of Carolina Power & Light Company (now Progress Energy Corporation), a company for which he has also served as Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer. In addition, Mr. Smith has served as a director of Wachovia Corporation (now Wells Fargo and Company), Nortel Networks, Springs Industries, and Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company (Trustee). Other than his current position as director, Mr. Smith has never been employed by a parent, subsidiary or other affiliate of Triangle. He has been a member of the Business Roundtable and The Business Council and has served as Chairman of the North Carolina Citizens for Business and Industry. Mr. Smith has both an undergraduate and law degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

***The Board of Directors recommends that you vote “FOR” the election of the nominees named in this proxy statement.***

### **Qualifications of Director Nominees**

When considering whether our director nominees have the experience, qualifications, attributes and skills, taken as a whole, to enable our Board of Directors to satisfy its oversight responsibilities effectively in light of our operational and organizational structure, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and the Board of Directors focused primarily on the information discussed in each of the director nominees’ individual biographies set forth above and on the following particular attributes:

- *Mr. Tucker:* The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and Board of Directors considered his prior service to the Company as its Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer and his thirty-five years of experience in the financial and investment industries and determined that his intimate knowledge of the Company and his familiarity with the financial and investment industries are critical to the oversight of our strategic goals and the evaluation of our operational performance.
- *Mr. Burgess:* The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and Board of Directors considered his successful history with the Company as its Chief Investment Officer and member of our Board of Directors and extensive experience in leading and managing investments and determined that his strong leadership and comprehensive knowledge of the investment industry are integral to the oversight of our investment goals.
- *Mr. Lilly:* The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and Board of Directors considered his prior service to the Company as its Chief Financial Officer, Secretary, Treasurer and Chief Compliance Officer and his broad experience and leadership in the financial industry and determined that his intimate knowledge of the Company and extensive experience in the financial industry are crucial to the evaluation of our operational performance and financial goals.
- *Mr. Dunwoody:* The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and Board of Directors considered his extensive experience and leadership in public and private companies and determined that his broad experience enhances his participation to the Board and oversight of our compensation objectives.
- *Mr. Gambill:* The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and Board of Directors considered his involvement in the capital markets for over thirty-five years, supervising various areas including financing and research, and determined that his experience in serving as an advisor to internal operations and proper capitalization and structure in a variety of settings bring crucial skills and contributions to the Board.



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- *Mr. Goldstein:* The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and Board of Directors considered his extensive experience in directly auditing engagements of private and public companies and determined that his experience of over twenty years of public accounting and work with various financial and accounting matters enhances his ability to provide effective leadership as chairman of our audit committee and to provide effective oversight of compensation decisions in his capacity as member of our compensation committee.
- *Mr. Rich:* The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and Board of Directors considered his public company experience, as well as his successful leadership of a variety of entities and determined that his leadership and public company experience provide valuable contributions to the oversight of our company's governance guidelines and financial records.
- *Mr. Smith:* The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and Board of Directors considered his extensive experience as officer and director of various public companies his extensive business knowledge and determined that his public company experience and knowledge are important in providing effective oversight in light of our operational and organizational structure.

### DIRECTOR COMPENSATION

Our directors are divided into two groups — interested directors and independent directors. Interested directors are “interested persons” as defined in Section 2(a)(19) of the 1940 Act. The compensation table below sets forth compensation that our independent directors earned during the year ended December 31, 2009. Our interested directors are not compensated for their service as Board members.

Name	Year	Fees Earned or Paid in Cash	Restricted Stock Awards(1)	All Other Compensation	Total
W. McComb Dunwoody	2009	\$ 13,250	\$ 30,000	—	\$43,250
Mark M. Gambill(2)	2009	\$ 16,250	—	—	\$27,500
Benjamin S. Goldstein	2009	\$ 29,000	\$ 30,000	—	\$59,000
Simon B. Rich, Jr.	2009	\$ 24,000	\$ 30,000	—	\$54,000
Sherwood H. Smith, Jr	2009	\$ 25,000	\$ 30,000	—	\$55,000

- (1) Grant date fair value of restricted stock awards granted to each non-employee director on May 6, 2009. Proxy disclosure rules require reporting of the aggregate grant date fair value computed in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718.
- (2) On August 8, 2009, Mr. Gambill was elected to fill a vacant board seat by our Board of Directors. He was therefore only compensated for board service from August 8, 2009, through December 31, 2009.

#### Director Fees

In 2009, each of our directors (other than Mr. Gambill) who were not one of our employees or an employee of our subsidiaries earned an annual fee of \$30,000 worth of restricted stock in Triangle, calculated based on the share price of our common stock as of the close of the Nasdaq Global Market May 6, 2009, the date of grant. Based on this calculation, each of our independent directors (other than Mr. Gambill) received 2,953 shares of restricted stock, which will vest on May 6, 2010, so long as each individual is still a director at that time. Mr. Gambill's pro-rata portion of his annual fee was paid in cash for 2009.

In addition, independent directors received a fee of \$2,500 for each board meeting attended in person and \$1,250 for each board meeting attended by conference telephone or similar communications equipment; audit committee members receive a fee of \$1,500 for each audit committee meeting attended in person and \$750 for each audit committee meeting attended by conference telephone or similar communication equipment; and members of our compensation committee and nominating and corporate governance committee receive a fee of \$1,000 for each committee meeting attended in person and \$500 for each committee meeting attended by conference telephone or similar communication equipment. Finally, our audit committee chairman receives an

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annual fee of \$10,000, and each of our compensation committee and nominating and corporate governance committee chairmen receive an annual fee of \$5,000 for their services as chairmen of their respective committees. The Director Compensation Table above takes into account all changes in director compensation made during the 2009 fiscal year. We also reimbursed our independent directors for all reasonable direct out-of-pocket expenses incurred in connection with their service on the Board. Directors who are also our employees or employees of our subsidiaries did not receive compensation for their services as directors.

### **Non-Employee Director Equity Compensation**

Our Board of Directors and sole stockholder approved Triangle's 2007 Equity Incentive Plan, or the Original Plan, effective February 13, 2007, for the purpose of attracting and retaining the services of executive officers, directors and other key employees. During our fiscal year ended December 31, 2007, no equity incentive awards were granted under the Original Plan, in part due to certain 1940 Act restrictions which disallow the issuance of certain types of compensation to a business development company's employees and non-employee directors without having first obtained exemptive relief. In 2007, we filed a request with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC, for such exemptive relief with respect to our ability to issue restricted stock to our employees and non-employee directors. On March 18, 2008 we received an order from the SEC authorizing such issuance of restricted stock to our employees and non-employee directors pursuant to the terms of the Amended and Restated Plan and as otherwise set forth in the exemptive order. In 2008, our Board approved, and at the 2008 Annual Stockholders Meeting the stockholders voted to approve, the Triangle Capital Corporation Amended and Restated 2007 Equity Incentive Plan, or the Amended and Restated Plan. During our fiscal year ended December 31, 2009, we granted restricted share awards to our officers, directors and key employees as compensation related to performance in 2008.

The following is a summary of the material features of the Amended and Restated Plan. It may not contain all of the information important to you. The Amended and Restated Plan includes provisions allowing the issuance of restricted stock to all key employees and directors. Restricted stock refers to an award of stock that is subject to forfeiture restrictions and may not be transferred until such restrictions have lapsed. The Amended and Restated Plan will also allow us to issue options to our key employees in the future should our Board and compensation committee choose to do so.

Under the Amended and Restated Plan, up to 900,000 shares of our common stock are authorized for issuance. Participants in the Amended and Restated Plan who are employees and employee directors may receive awards of options to purchase shares of common stock or grants of restricted stock, as determined by the Board. Participants who are non-employee directors may receive awards of restricted stock in accordance with certain parameters as discussed below under "Restricted Stock Awards to Non-Employee Directors." The basis of such participation is to provide incentives to our employees and directors in order to attract and retain the services of qualified professionals.

Options granted under the Amended and Restated Plan entitle the optionee, upon exercise, to purchase shares of common stock at a specified exercise price per share. Options must have a per share exercise price of no less than the fair market value of a share of stock on the date of the grant, subject to forfeiture provisions as determined by the Board. The exercise period of each stock option awarded will expire on a date determined by the Board, such date to be specified in the stock option award agreement; however, the Plan also states that no stock option award will be exercisable after the expiration of ten years from the date such stock option was granted.

The Amended and Restated Plan permits the issuance of restricted stock to employees and directors consistent with such terms and conditions as the Board shall deem appropriate, subject to the limitations set forth in the plan. With respect to awards issued to our employees and officers, the Board will determine the time or times at which such shares of restricted stock will become exercisable and the terms on which such shares will remain exercisable. Shares granted pursuant to a restricted stock award will not be transferable until such shares have vested in accordance with the terms of the award agreement, unless the transfer is by will or by the laws of descent and distribution.

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The Amended and Restated Plan provides that our non-employee directors each receive an automatic grant of restricted stock at the beginning of each one-year term of service on the Board, for which forfeiture restrictions lapse one year from the grant date. The number of shares granted to each non-employee director in 2009 was automatically the equivalent of \$30,000 worth of shares, taken at the market value at the close of the Nasdaq Global Market on the date of grant, which historically has been the date of our annual stockholders meeting. Consistent with the Amended and Restated Plan, the grants of restricted stock to non-employee directors will be automatic (that is, the grants will equal \$30,000 worth of restricted stock each year), and the terms thereunder will not be changed without SEC approval. Shares granted pursuant to a restricted stock award will not be transferable until such shares have vested in accordance with the terms of the award agreement, unless the transfer is by will or by the laws of descent and distribution.

Our Board of Directors has delegated administration of the Amended and Restated Plan to its compensation committee, currently comprised solely of three (3) independent directors who are independent pursuant to the listing requirements of the Nasdaq Global Market. Our Board may abolish such committee at any time and revert in our Board the administration of the Amended and Restated Plan. Our Board administers the Amended and Restated Plan in a manner that is consistent with the applicable requirements of the Nasdaq Global Market and the exemptive order.

### **EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

As of March [ ], 2010, we do not have any executive officers who are not directors of Triangle Capital Corporation. Our executive officers, Messrs. Tucker, Lilly and Burgess, serve as directors and executive officers of the Company, as well as directors, managers and/or officers of Triangle Mezzanine Fund.

### **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE**

#### **Director Independence**

In accordance with rules of the Nasdaq Global Market, our Board of Directors annually determines each director's independence. We do not consider a director independent unless our Board of Directors has determined that he or she has no material relationship with us. We monitor the relationships of our directors through the activities of our nominating and corporate governance committee and through a questionnaire each director completes no less frequently than annually and updates periodically if information provided in the most recent questionnaire changes.

In order to evaluate the materiality of any such relationship, the Board of Directors uses the definition of director independence set forth in the listing standards promulgated by the Nasdaq Global Market. Rule 4200(a)(15)(G) provides that a director of an investment company (i.e., a business development company) shall be considered to be independent if he or she is not an "interested person" of the Company, as defined in Section 2(a)(19) of the 1940 Act.

In addition, our chief compliance officer reviews, no less than quarterly, a list of each director's securities transactions and holdings in order to ensure that our directors have not entered into any transactions with, or own any interest in, companies that would cause one or more of them to be considered "interested persons" as defined in Section 2(a)(19) of the 1940 Act. For a more detailed description of these policies, please see "Certain Relationships and Related Party Transactions" herein.

The Board of Directors has determined that Messrs. Dunwoody, Gambill, Goldstein, Rich and Smith are independent and have no relationship with us, except as directors and stockholders. All of the members of our audit committee, compensation committee and nominating and corporate governance committee are independent as defined in Section 2(a)(19) of the 1940 Act.

## **Meetings of the Board of Directors and Committees**

During 2009, our Board of Directors held five board meetings. Our Board of Directors has established an audit committee, a compensation committee, a nominating and corporate governance committee and an investment committee. Each of the audit committee, compensation committee and nominating and corporate governance committee operates pursuant to a charter, each of which is available under “Corporate Governance” on the Investor Relations section of our website at the following URL: <http://ir.tcap.com>, and is also available in print to any stockholder who requests a copy. All directors attended 100% of the aggregate number of meetings of the Board and of the respective committees on which they served.

We expect each director to make a diligent effort to attend all Board and committee meetings, as well as each Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

We have designated Simon B. Rich, Jr. as the presiding director of all executive sessions of non-employee directors. Executive sessions of non-employee directors are held each board meeting. Stockholders may communicate with Mr. Rich by writing to: Board of Directors, Triangle Capital Corporation, 3700 Glenwood Avenue, Suite 530, Raleigh, North Carolina 27612.

### **Audit Committee**

We have a separately-designated standing audit committee established in accordance with Section 3(a)(58)(A) of the Exchange Act. The audit committee is responsible for compliance with legal and regulatory requirements, selecting our independent registered public accounting firm, reviewing the plans, scope and results of the audit engagement with our independent registered public accounting firm, approving professional services provided by our independent registered public accounting firm, reviewing the independence of our independent registered public accounting firm, reviewing the integrity of the audits of the financial statements and reviewing the adequacy of our internal accounting controls.

Our Board of Directors adopted the Audit Committee Charter on January 31, 2007. The Audit Committee Charter is publicly available under “Corporate Governance” on the Investor Relations section of our website at the following URL: <http://ir.tcap.com>.

The members of the audit committee are Messrs. Goldstein, Rich and Smith, each of whom is independent for purposes of Section 2(a)(19) of the 1940 Act and the Nasdaq Global Market corporate governance listing standards. Mr. Goldstein serves as the chairman of the audit committee. Our Board of Directors has determined that Mr. Goldstein is an “audit committee financial expert” as defined under Item 407(d)(5) of Regulation S-K of the Exchange Act. Mr. Goldstein meets the current independence requirements of Rule 10A-3 of the Exchange Act, Nasdaq listing standards, and, in addition, is not an “interested person” of the Company, as defined in Section 2(a)(19) of the 1940 Act. Our audit committee held five meetings during 2009.

### **Compensation Committee**

The compensation committee is appointed by the Board to discharge its responsibilities relating to the compensation of our executive officers and other key employees. The compensation committee has the responsibility for recommending appropriate compensation levels for our executive officers, evaluating and approving executive officer compensation plans, policies and programs, reviewing benefit plans for executive officers and other employees and producing an annual report on executive compensation for inclusion in our proxy statement. The compensation committee may form and delegate any of its responsibilities to a subcommittee so long as such subcommittee is solely composed of one or more members of the compensation committee. The Compensation Committee Charter is available under “Corporate Governance” on the Investor Relations section of our website at the following URL: <http://ir.tcap.com>.

Members of our compensation committee review annually and approve goals and objectives relevant to our executive officers’ compensation, including annual performance objectives. They evaluate annually the performance of the chief executive officer and other executive officers, and recommend to the independent directors of the Board the compensation level for each such person based on this evaluation. They review on a

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periodic basis our executive compensation programs to determine whether they are properly coordinated and achieve their intended purposes. They review and recommend to the Board for approval any changes in incentive compensation plans and equity-based compensation plans. The members of the compensation committee review and approve all equity-based compensation plans of Triangle, whether or not final approval rests with the Company's stockholders, and grant equity-based awards pursuant to such plans in compliance with the 1940 Act. They review and approve employment agreements and any special supplemental benefits or perquisites for our executive officers. They review broadly employee compensation strategies, including salary levels and ranges and employee fringe benefits, in conjunction with compensation consultants.

In determining executive compensation levels for our executive officers, the compensation committee meets at least annually with management, and may meet with independent compensation consultants, in order to determine whether current methods of executive compensation are effective in achieving Triangle's short and long term strategies. The compensation committee, in conjunction with a compensation consultant if necessary, will analyze the compensation of executive officers and directors of other BDCs in order to establish the compensation levels necessary to attract and retain quality executive officers and investment professionals. For more information regarding the role of Triangle's management in determining compensation, please see the discussion in "Compensation Discussion & Analysis — Establishing Compensation Levels — Role of the Compensation Committee and Management."

The members of the compensation committee are Messrs. Dunwoody, Goldstein and Smith, each of whom is independent for purposes of Section 2(a)(19) the 1940 Act and the Nasdaq Global Market corporate governance listing standards. Mr. Smith serves as the chairman of the compensation committee. Our compensation committee held two meetings during 2009.

### **Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee**

The nominating and corporate governance committee is responsible for identifying, researching and nominating directors for election by our stockholders, selecting nominees to fill vacancies on our Board of Directors or a committee of the Board, developing and recommending to the Board of Directors a set of corporate governance principles and overseeing the evaluation of the Board of Directors and our management. The nominating and corporate governance committee's policy is to consider nominees properly recommended by our stockholders in accordance with our charter, bylaws and applicable law. For more information on how our stockholders may recommend a nominee for a seat on our Board, see our answer to the question "How and when may I submit a stockholder proposal for Triangle's 2011 Annual Meeting?" under "Additional Information" section in this proxy statement.

In considering possible candidates for nomination, the nominating and corporate governance committee will consider certain factors including whether the composition of the Board contains a majority of independent directors as determined by the Nasdaq Global Market standards and the 1940 Act, the candidate's character and integrity, whether the candidate possesses an inquiring mind, vision and the ability to work well with others, conflicts of interest interfering with the proper performance of the responsibilities of a director, a candidate's experience and what type of diversity he or she brings to the Board, whether the candidate has sufficient time to devote to the affairs of Triangle, including consistent attendance at Board and committee meetings and advance review of materials and whether each candidate can be trusted to act in the best interests of us and all of our stockholders.

The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee Charter is publicly available under "Corporate Governance" on the Investor Relations section of our website at the following URL: <http://ir.tcap.com>.

The members of the nominating and corporate governance committee are Messrs. Gambill, Rich and Smith, each of whom is independent for purposes of Section 2(a)(19) the 1940 Act and the Nasdaq Global Market corporate governance listing standards. Mr. Dunwoody served on the nominating and corporate governance committee until August 2009, at which time Mr. Gambill became a member of the nominating and corporate governance committee, relieving Mr. Dunwoody of such duties. Each nominee for election under Proposal No. 1 at the 2010 Annual Meeting was recommended by the members of the nominating and corporate governance committee to our Board of Directors, which approved such nominees. Mr. Rich serves as

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the chairman of the nominating and corporate governance committee. Our nominating and corporate governance committee held one meeting during 2009.

### **Investment Committee**

Our investment committee is responsible for all aspects of our investment process. The members of the Triangle Capital Corporation investment committee are Messrs. Tucker, Burgess, Lilly, Jeffrey A. Dombcik, Douglas A. Vaughn and David F. Parker. Triangle Mezzanine Fund has a separate investment committee that is responsible for all aspects of our investment process relating to investments made by Triangle Mezzanine Fund. The members of the Triangle Mezzanine Fund investment committee are also Messrs. Tucker, Burgess, Lilly, Dombcik, Vaughn and Parker. Mr. Vaughn's appointment to the Triangle Mezzanine Fund investment committee is contingent upon our receiving approval from the United States Small Business Administration (which regulates Small Business Investment Companies, or SBICs, such as Triangle Mezzanine Fund). For purposes of the discussion herein, any reference to the "investment committee" refers to both the investment committee of Triangle Capital Corporation and the investment committee of Triangle Mezzanine Fund.

Our investment committee generally meets once a week but also meets on an as needed basis depending on transaction volume. Our investment committee is involved in all significant stages of the investment process, including, origination, due diligence and underwriting, approval, documentation and closing, and portfolio management and investment monitoring.

### **Communication with the Board of Directors**

Stockholders with questions about Triangle Capital Corporation are encouraged to contact Steven C. Lilly, at 3700 Glenwood Avenue, Suite 530, Raleigh, North Carolina 27612, (919) 719-4770. However, if stockholders feel their questions have not been addressed, they may communicate with our Board of Directors by sending their communications to: Triangle Capital Corporation Board of Directors, c/o Simon B. Rich, Jr., 3700 Glenwood Avenue, Suite 530, Raleigh, North Carolina 27612. In addition, stockholders may communicate with us by clicking "Contact IR" on the Investor Relations section of our website at the following URL: <http://ir.tcap.com>. All stockholder communications received by our corporate secretary in this manner will be delivered to one or more members of the Board of Directors.

### **Corporate Leadership Structure**

Mr. Tucker serves jointly as the Chairman of our Board of Directors and President and Chief Executive Officer. In addition, we have designated Mr. Rich as our lead independent director to preside over all executive sessions of non-employee directors. We believe that consolidating our leadership structure without an independent chairman provides an efficient and effective management model which fosters direct accountability, effective decision-making and alignment of corporate strategy between our Board of Directors and management. Mr. Tucker is, and Mr. Rich is not, an "interested person" as defined Section 2(a)(19) of the 1940 Act.

### **Oversight of Risk Management**

On behalf of the Board of Directors, the Audit Committee oversees our enterprise risk management function. To this end, the Audit Committee meets at least annually (i) as a committee to discuss the Company's risk management guidelines, policies and exposures and (ii) with our independent auditors to review our internal control environment and other risk exposures. Additionally, on behalf of the Board of Directors, the Compensation Committee oversees the management of risks relating to our executive compensation program and other employee benefit plans. In fulfillment of its duties, the Compensation Committee reviews at least annually our executive compensation program and meets regularly with our chief executive officer to understand the financial, human resources and stockholder implications of all compensation decisions. The Audit Committee and the Compensation Committee each report to the Board of Directors on a quarterly basis to apprise the Board of Directors regarding the status of remediation efforts of known risks and of any new risks that may have arisen since the previous report.

## **Compliance Policies and Procedures**

In accordance with the 1940 Act, we have adopted and implemented written policies and procedures reasonably designed to prevent violation of the U.S. federal securities laws, and we review these compliance policies and procedures annually for their adequacy and the effectiveness of their implementation. In addition, we have designated Mr. Lilly as our Chief Compliance Officer. As such, Mr. Lilly is responsible for administering our compliance program and meeting with our Board of Directors at least annually to assess its effectiveness.

## **Code of Conduct and Corporate Governance Guidelines**

We have adopted a code of conduct and corporate governance guidelines covering ethics and business conduct. These documents apply to our directors, officers and employees. Our code of conduct and corporate governance guidelines are available on the Investor Relations section of our website at the following URL: <http://ir.tcap.com>. We will report any material amendments to or waivers of a required provision of our code of conduct and/or corporate governance guidelines on our website and/or in a Current Report on Form 8-K.

## **COMPENSATION DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

### **General**

In 2009, our senior management team consisted of Garland S. Tucker, Brent P.W. Burgess and Steven C. Lilly. We refer to these three officers in 2009 as our named executive officers, or “NEOs.” Each of our NEOs entered into employment agreements with us in 2007 for two-year terms, was compensated according to the terms of such agreements, which are described herein, and each employment expired on February 20, 2009. In February 2009, upon determination by our compensation committee that it would be in the best interests of the Company and its stockholders for the Company to operate without employment agreements, we requested that our NEOs waive all notice requirements pursuant to their employment agreements and agree not to renew them on a going-forward basis in 2009. After consideration, Messrs. Tucker, Burgess, and Lilly agreed with our compensation committee, voluntarily waiving their notice rights as to the renewal of their employment agreements. As a result, since February 21, 2009, none of our employees is party to an employment agreement with us. Each executive officer continues to be paid a base salary and is eligible to receive cash bonuses and equity incentives in the discretion of our board of directors and compensation committee.

Our executive compensation program is designed to encourage our executive officers to think and act like stockholders of the Company. The structure of the NEOs’ employment agreements and our incentive compensation programs were designed to encourage and reward the following:

- sourcing and pursuing attractively priced investment opportunities in all types of securities of lower middle market privately-held companies;
- participating in comprehensive due diligence with respect to our investments;
- ensuring we allocate capital in the most effective manner possible; and
- working efficiently and developing relationships with other professionals.

Our compensation committee reviewed and approved all of our compensation policies for 2009.

We completed our initial public offering, or IPO, in February 2007. As our first three years of operation as a publicly traded business development company, or BDC, 2007, 2008 and 2009 represented a period of constant development and growth for us, and we worked to create an executive compensation program that would effectively achieve our desired objectives stated above. We intend to continue the process of aligning executive compensation and our goals in 2010.

As a BDC, we must comply with the requirements of the 1940 Act. The 1940 Act imposes certain limitations on the structure of our compensation programs, including limitations on our ability to issue certain equity-based compensation to our employees and directors. In 2008, we received an exemptive order from the

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SEC which permits us to issue restricted share awards as part of the compensation packages for our employees and directors. In 2008, we revised our 2007 Equity Incentive Plan in accordance with the SEC's comments. Our Board has approved the Triangle Capital Corporation Amended and Restated 2007 Equity Incentive Plan, or the Amended and Restated Plan, and our stockholders voted to approve the Amended and Restated Plan at our 2008 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

### **Executive Compensation Policy**

In 2009, we compensated our NEOs through a combination of base salary, cash bonuses and restricted stock awards. Our integration of restricted stock awards into our overall compensation philosophy is designed to make us competitive with comparable employers and to align management's incentives with the long-term interests of our stockholders. In allocating among these elements the compensation committee believes that the compensation of our NEOs should be based predominately on company and individual performance.

### **Overview**

Our performance-driven compensation policy consists of the following three components:

- Base salary;
- Annual cash bonuses; and
- Long-term compensation pursuant to our equity incentive plan.

We designed each NEO's compensation package to appropriately reward the NEO for his contribution to the Company. Our compensation philosophy has not historically been, and going forward will not be, a mechanical process, and our compensation committee will continue to use its judgment and experience, working in conjunction with our chief executive officer and an independent compensation consultant, to determine the appropriate mix of compensation for each individual. Cash compensation consisting of base salary and discretionary cash bonuses tied to achievement of performance goals set by the compensation committee are intended to incentivize NEOs to remain with us in their roles and work hard to achieve our goals. Stock-based compensation in the form of restricted stock was awarded based on individual performance expectations set by the compensation committee.

### **Establishing Compensation Levels**

#### ***Role of the Compensation Committee and Management***

As set forth in the Compensation Committee Charter, our compensation committee's primary responsibility is to evaluate the compensation of our executive officers and assure that they are compensated effectively and in a manner consistent with our stated compensation objectives. The compensation committee also periodically reviews our corporate goals and objectives relevant to executive compensation, our executive compensation structure to ensure that it is designed to achieve the objectives of rewarding the company's executive officers appropriately for their contributions to corporate growth and profitability and our other goals and objectives. At least annually, the compensation committee will evaluate the compensation of our executive officers and determine the amounts and individual elements of total compensation for executive officers consistent with our corporate goals and objectives and will communicate to stockholders the factors and criteria on which the executive officers' compensation is based, including the relationship of our performance to the executive officers' compensation. With respect to the compensation of our executive officers other than the chief executive officer, the committee works with the chief executive officer to conduct these reviews. The committee will also periodically evaluate the terms and administration of our annual and long-term incentive plans, including equity compensation plans, to ensure that they are structured and administered in a manner consistent with our goals and objectives as to participation in such plans, target annual incentive awards, corporate financial goals, actual awards paid to executive officers, and total funds allocated for payment under the compensation plans.



### ***Assessment of Market Data***

To assess the competitiveness of our executive compensation levels, we developed a comparative group of internally managed BDCs and performed comprehensive analyses of competitive performance and compensation levels. In 2009, this comparative group included the following: Capital Southwest Corporation; Hercules Technology Growth Capital, Inc.; Kohlberg Capital Corporation; Main Street Capital Corporation; MCG Capital Corporation; Medallion Financial Corp.; Patriot Capital Funding, Inc.; and Utek Corporation. In addition, our compensation committee reviewed various independent consulting reports regarding compensation within the private equity industry.

Our analysis centered around key elements of compensation practices within the BDC industry in general and, more specifically, compensation practices at internally managed BDCs closer in asset size, typical investment size, typical investment type, market capitalization, and general business scope to our Company. Items we reviewed included, but were not necessarily limited to, base compensation, bonus compensation and restricted stock awards. In addition to actual levels of compensation, we also analyzed the approach other BDCs were taking with regard to their compensation practices. Items we reviewed included, but were not necessarily limited to, the use of employment agreements for certain employees, the targeted mix of cash and equity compensation, the use of a third party compensation consultant, and certain corporate and executive performance measures established to achieve total returns for stockholders.

Using the above data, we ranked below the median of the comparative group in market capitalization, below the median in net income, and in the lower quartile in assets and number of employees. Although each of the comparative companies is not exactly comparable in size, scope and operations, the compensation committee believes that they were the most relevant comparable companies available with disclosed executive compensation data, and they provide a good representation of competitive compensation levels for our executives.

### ***Assessment of Company Performance***

We believe that the alignment of (i) a company's business plan, (ii) its stockholders expectations and (iii) its employee compensation is essential to long term business success in the interest of our stockholders and employees. We typically make three to seven year investments in privately held businesses. Our business plan involves taking on investment risk over an extended period of time, and a premium is placed on our ability to maintain stability of net asset values and continuity of earnings to pass through to stockholders in the form of recurring dividends. Our strategy is to generate income and capital gains from our portfolio of investments in the debt and equity securities of our customers. This income supports the payment of dividends to our stockholders. Therefore, a key element of our return to stockholders is in the form of current income through the payment of dividends. This recurring payout requires a methodical asset acquisition approach and active monitoring and management of our investment portfolio over time. A meaningful part of our employee base is dedicated to the maintenance of asset values and expansion of this recurring revenue to support and grow dividends.

### ***Compensation Determination***

We analyzed the competitiveness of the previously described components of compensation individually, as well as in total, in conjunction with our peer group of BDCs listed above. Our comparative analysis indicated that in aggregate, for 2009, our base salaries plus target bonuses resulted in total annual cash compensation below the market median. We believe this is primarily due to the fact that the Company is smaller than the other BDCs in our peer group. As the Company grows and matures we would expect our compensation levels would, over time, more closely approximate the median of our peer group.

## **Classes of Executive Compensation**

### ***Base salary***

Base salary is used to recognize particularly the experience, skills, knowledge and responsibilities required of the executive officers in their roles. In establishing the 2009 base salaries of the NEOs, the compensation committee and management considered a number of factors including the seniority of the individual, the functional role of the position, the level of the individual's responsibility, the ability to replace the individual and the base salary of the individual in 2008. In addition, we considered the base salaries paid to comparably situated executive officers in other BDCs and other competitive market practices. Finally, we used a compensation consultant in order to get an objective third party expert's insight into our NEOs' base salaries.

The salaries of the NEOs are reviewed on an annual basis, as well as at the time of promotion or other changes in responsibilities. The leading factors in determining increases in salary level are relative cost of living and competitive pressures.

On February 21, 2007, we entered into employment agreements with Messrs. Tucker, Burgess and Lilly, and each employment agreement's term ended without renewal on February 20, 2009. Each of our NEOs is now employed on an at-will basis. In general the agreements provided for the compensation of each NEO, as discussed above, payments to each executive upon various termination scenarios and contained certain restrictive covenants on competition and solicitation of our employees and clients. The 2009 base salaries and target bonus levels for the three NEOs were the same as they were in 2008.

Pursuant to these agreements, each executive would have received compensation for termination due to death or disability, termination by us other than for cause, termination by the executive for good reason or termination upon a change in control. See "Employment Agreements" and "Potential Payments upon Termination or Change in Control" for additional information regarding the material terms of these agreements.

In February 2009, upon determination by our compensation committee that it would be in the best interests of the Company and its stockholders for the Company to operate without employment agreements, we requested that our NEOs waive all notice requirements pursuant to their employment agreements and agree not to renew them on a going-forward basis in 2009. After consideration, Messrs. Tucker, Burgess, and Lilly agreed with our compensation committee, voluntarily waiving their notice rights as to the renewal of their employment agreements. As a result, since February 21, 2009, none of our employees is party to an employment agreement with us.

### ***Determination of 2009 Annual Base Salary***

The compensation committee annually reviews the base salary for each of our executive officers and determines whether or not to adjust it in its sole discretion. Increases to base salary are awarded to recognize levels of responsibilities and related individual performance, and to address changes in the external competitive market for a given position.

Mr. Tucker was paid an annual base salary of \$265,000. Mr. Tucker's base salary did not increase from 2008 to 2009. Mr. Tucker's base salary recognizes his overall responsibility for the Company and his continued leadership which enabled us to achieve the majority of our operational and financial objectives in 2009.

Mr. Burgess was paid an annual base salary of \$240,000 for 2009. Mr. Burgess' base salary did not increase from 2008 to 2009. Mr. Burgess' base salary recognizes his lead role in managing all investment activity of the Company, including marketing, structuring, closing and monitoring portfolio company investments.

Mr. Lilly was paid an annual base salary of \$240,000 for 2009. Mr. Lilly's base salary did not increase from 2008 to 2009. Mr. Lilly's base salary recognizes his lead role in managing all financial aspects of our

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Company, including his leadership in matters relating to our capital structure, the media and investor relations. Mr. Lilly's base salary also reflected his service as our Company's Chief Compliance Officer.

### ***Annual Cash Bonuses***

We pay annual cash bonuses to reward corporate and individual achievements for the prior fiscal year. We determined that annual cash bonuses will be based on the compensation committee's discretionary assessment of the Company's and the NEO's performance, with recommendations from the chief executive officer for NEOs other than himself. For 2009, NEOs were eligible for cash bonuses, ranging from 0% to up to 139.6% of their highest annual rate of base salary, depending on the NEO's position. Performance achievements which were considered in the determination of cash bonuses for fiscal 2009 include individual performance and Company performance (based upon a comparison of actual performance to budgeted performance).

### ***Determination of Annual Cash Bonuses***

Cash bonuses for 2009 were paid in February of 2010 and were typically determined as a percentage of each employee's salary, based on individual performance and each employee's level within the Company. Our NEOs' annual cash bonuses paid for performance in 2009 are disclosed in the bonus column of the Summary Compensation Table. All of our NEOs' cash bonuses earned during 2009 were determined based on performance goals adopted by the compensation committee. The potential bonus ranges for each of our NEOs are presented below, as well as the actual percentage of bonuses paid as compared to salary paid in 2009 for each of our NEOs:

NEO	Minimum Performance % of 2009 Salary	Target Performance % of 2009 Salary	Actual % of 2009 Salary Awarded
Garland S. Tucker, III	0%	139.6%	139.6%
Brent P.W. Burgess	0%	129.2%	129.2%
Steven C. Lilly	0%	108.3%	108.3%

All of our NEOs' cash bonuses for 2009 were determined based on the compensation committee's analysis of certain individual performance-based elements including how efficiently capital was deployed and the establishment of meaningful operational policies and procedures, including but not limited to, portfolio valuation, portfolio monitoring processes, asset management processes, transaction monitoring processes and maintaining appropriate dividend payouts to stockholders.

*Mr. Tucker* was paid an annual cash bonus of \$370,000 for 2009, which is a \$105,000 increase from his annual cash bonus for 2008. Mr. Tucker's cash bonus reflects his overall responsibility for the Company and his continued leadership in 2009, which enabled us to achieve the majority of our operational and financial objectives.

*Mr. Burgess* was paid an annual cash bonus of \$310,000 for 2009, which is a \$70,000 increase from his annual cash bonus for 2008. Mr. Burgess' cash bonus reflects his ability to manage the Company's investment process, including sourcing new investments, monitoring our portfolio and guiding all of the investments we made during 2009 to a successful closing on terms we believe will be favorable to the Company.

*Mr. Lilly* was paid an annual cash bonus of \$260,000 for 2009, which is a \$20,000 increase from his annual cash bonus for 2008. Mr. Lilly's cash bonus reflects his lead role in managing all financial aspects of our Company, including his leadership in matters relating to our capital structure, the media and investor relations. Mr. Lilly's cash bonus also reflected his service as our Chief Compliance Officer during 2009.

### **Long Term Incentive Compensation**

#### ***General***

Our Board of Directors adopted the Amended and Restated Plan in order to provide stock-based awards as incentive compensation to our employees and non-employee directors. Since our IPO, our compensation

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committee has chosen to utilize shares of our restricted stock, rather than stock options or other equity-based incentive compensation, as its long term incentive compensation strategy.

We use stock-based awards to (i) attract and retain key employees, (ii) motivate our employees by means of performance-related incentives to achieve long-range performance goals, (iii) enable our employees to participate in our long-term growth and (iv) link our employees' compensation to the long-term interests of our stockholders. The compensation committee has been delegated exclusive authority by our Board of Directors to select the persons to receive stock-based awards. At the time of each award granted to each NEO, the compensation committee determines the terms of the award in its sole discretion, including their performance period (or periods) and the performance objectives relating to the award.

### ***Options***

Since our IPO, our compensation committee has not utilized options to purchase our common stock as a form of compensation to our NEOs and other employees. As such, we did not grant any stock options to our employees in 2009.

Our compensation committee may, however, in its sole discretion (upon delegation by the Board) grant our employees options to purchase our common stock (including incentive stock options and non-qualified stock options). We expect that, if granted, options will represent a fixed number of shares of our common stock, will have an exercise, or strike, price equal to the fair market value of our common stock on the date of such grant, and will be exercisable, or "vested," at some later time after grant. Upon any stock option grant, its exercise price will not be changed absent specific SEC approval that we may do so. The "fair market value" will be defined as either (i) the closing sales price of the our common stock on the Nasdaq Global Market, or any other such exchange on which the shares are traded, on such date, (ii) in the absence of reported sales on such date, the closing sales price on the immediately preceding date on which sales were reported or (iii) in the event there is no public market for the shares on such date, the fair market value as determined, in good faith, by our Board in its sole discretion (which will in no event will be less than the net asset value of such shares of common stock on such date), and for purposes of a sale of a share of common stock as of any date, the actual sales price on that date. Some stock options granted by our compensation committee may vest simply by the holder remaining with the Company for a period of time, and some may vest based on meeting certain performance goals. We anticipate that our options, if granted in the future, will be valued for financial reporting purposes using the Black Scholes valuation method, and charges to earnings will be taken over the relevant service period pursuant to Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") ASC Topic 718, *Stock Compensation* (formerly Statement of Accounting Standards No. 123R, *Share-Based Payment*).

Specific performance factors that the compensation committee may consider in determining the vesting of options may include individual employee performance objectives such as work ethic, business development, proficiency and overall contribution to the Company.

### ***Restricted Stock***

Upon obtaining the requisite exemptive relief from the SEC in 2008, our compensation committee has utilized restricted shares of our common stock as the sole form of equity-based incentive compensation to our NEOs and other employees.

Generally BDCs, such as us, may not grant shares of their stock for services without an exemptive order from the SEC. In 2007, we filed a request with the SEC for exemptive relief with respect to our ability to issue restricted stock to our employees and non-employee directors. On February 6, 2008, the Board voted to approve the Triangle Capital Corporation Amended and Restated 2007 Equity Incentive Plan, or the Amended and Restated Plan, and to recommend approval of the Amended and Restated Plan by stockholders, subject to an order from the SEC granting exemptive relief. On March 18, 2008, we received an order from the SEC authorizing such issuance of restricted stock to our employees and non-employee directors, subject to certain restrictions. As such, we were able to begin the implementation of our long-term compensation strategies

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through granting restricted stock to our non-employee directors, NEOs and other key employees in 2008 and continued to do so in 2009.

The Amended and Restated Plan allows our Board (and compensation committee, after delegation of administrative duties) to grant shares of restricted stock to our employees. Each restricted stock award is for a fixed number of shares as set forth in an award agreement between the grantee and us. Award agreements set forth time and/or performance vesting schedules and other appropriate terms and/or restrictions with respect to awards, including rights to dividends and voting rights.

### ***Determination of Restricted Stock Awards***

Specific performance factors that the compensation committee considered in determining the granting of restricted stock in 2009 included individual employee performance objectives such as work ethic, proficiency and overall contribution to the Company during our fiscal year ended December 31, 2008.

*Mr. Tucker* was awarded 29,182 shares of restricted stock in 2009, which is an increase of 7,128 shares of restricted stock from that which was granted to him in 2008. This award reflects Mr. Tucker's leadership during 2008, which enabled us to achieve the majority of our operational and financial objectives. Mr. Tucker's performance during this time period was vital to our Company's success.

*Mr. Burgess* was awarded 23,636 shares of restricted stock in 2009, which is an increase of 3,663 shares of restricted stock from that which was granted to him in 2008. This award reflects Mr. Burgess' leadership in implementing our investment strategy during 2008, including the expansion of our investment team, the deal sourcing of certain portfolio investments and guidance of each investment through our internal investment process from inception to closing.

*Mr. Lilly* was awarded 21,091 shares of restricted stock in 2009, which is an increase of 1,118 shares of restricted stock from that which was granted to him in 2008. This award reflects Mr. Lilly's role in managing all financial aspects of our Company, including his leadership in matters relating to our capital structure, the media and investor relations. Mr. Lilly's cash bonus also reflected his service as our Chief Compliance Officer during 2009.

### **Change in Control and Severance**

Effective February 2009, resulting from the determination by our compensation committee that it would be in the best interests of the Company and our stockholders for the Company to operate without employment agreements, none of our employees is party to an employment agreement with us, and, as such, our NEOs are no longer entitled to any severance or other compensation upon the termination of their employment, including any such compensation as a result of a change in control of the Company. However, since each of our NEOs was party to an employment agreement with us from January 1, 2009 through February 20, 2009, we are required to describe certain terms of their former employment agreements, which we have set forth below.

#### ***Change in Control***

Upon termination of employment after a change of control, the NEOs would have received severance payments pursuant to their employment agreements entered into in connection with our IPO Effective February 20, 2009, however, our NEOs voluntarily waived their rights to the renewal of their employment agreements. As a result, effective February 21, 2009, none of our NEOs is eligible to receive severance upon a change of control.

Upon specified covered transactions involving a change of control (as defined in the Amended and Restated Plan), all outstanding awards under the Amended and Restated Plan will either be assumed or substituted for by the surviving entity. If the surviving entity does not assume or substitute similar awards, the awards held by the participants will be accelerated in full and then terminated to the extent not exercised prior to the covered transaction.

### *Severance*

Under specified covered transactions involving a change in control (as defined in each NEO's employment agreement), if an NEO had terminated his employment with us within two years following such change in control, or if we had terminated or given the NEO notice of non-renewal of the NEO's employment within the two years commencing with a change in control, he would have received a severance package beginning on the date of termination. The severance package would have included monthly payments equal to one-twelfth of (i) the NEO's annual salary at that time plus (ii) the NEO's bonus compensation as described in the employment agreement, and (iii) the Company would have continued to provide the NEO with all of the benefits provided to him immediately prior to the termination, as described in the employment agreement. The severance package would have continued to be in effect for thirty-six months. In the event that an NEO's severance pay had been triggered under his employment agreement, he would have continued to receive his respective severance package even if he had been hired by another employer, including a competing business development company or other fund; however, the Company's obligation to continue the NEO's then-existing benefits under the severance package would have terminated on the date the NEO became eligible to receive such equal benefit from another employer.

In addition, a separate severance package existed in the event the NEO's employment had been terminated as a result of death or disability, or in the event that the Company had terminated the NEO's employment outside of the two-year period after a specified covered transaction involving a change in control. The same severance package referenced in the immediately preceding paragraph would have been provided to the NEO, except that the severance package would have only continued to be in effect for twenty-four months.

Each NEO's employment agreement also included a right to allow the executive officer the opportunity to evaluate his position with the Company for a one-month period beginning at the end of one year after a change in control had occurred, in order to determine whether at that time it would have been in the best interests of the Company and the executive officer for the executive officer to continue serving in his then current position. If the NEO had been dissatisfied with his responsibilities one year after the change in control had occurred, he could have terminated his employment with the Company without good reason and still would have received a severance package. The severance package would have included monthly payments equal to one-twelfth of (i) the NEO's annual salary at that time plus (ii) the NEO's bonus compensation as described in the employment agreement, and (iii) the Company would have continued to provide the NEO with all of the benefits provided to him immediately prior to the termination, as described in the employment agreement. The severance package would have continued to be in effect for thirty-six months.

Finally, if we had failed to renew any NEO's employment agreement outside of the two-year period after a specified covered transaction involving a change in control (causing such NEOs employment to terminate), any severance payment or benefit would have been payable at the absolute discretion of the Board.

The rationale behind providing a severance package in certain events was to attract talented executives who would be assured that they would not be financially injured if they physically relocated and/or left another job to join us but were forced out through no fault of their own and to ensure that our business would be operated and governed for our stockholders by a management team, and under the direction of a Board of Directors, who were not financially motivated to frustrate the execution of a change in control transaction. For more discussion regarding executive compensation in the event of a termination or change of control, please see the table entitled "2009" Potential Payments Upon Termination or Change in Control" and accompanying discussion.

### *Tax and Accounting Considerations*

Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (the "IRC") limits our deduction for federal income tax purposes to not more than \$1 million of compensation paid to certain executive officers in a calendar year. Compensation above \$1 million may be deducted if it is "performance-based compensation" as defined in the IRC and the Treasury Regulations thereunder. Our compensation committee has not established a policy for determining which forms of incentive compensation awarded to our executive officers should be designated to qualify as "performance-based compensation" for tax purposes. To maintain flexibility in compensating our

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executive officers in a manner designed to promote our objectives, the compensation committee has not adopted a policy that requires all compensation to be deductible. However, the compensation committee evaluates the effects of the compensation limits of Section 162(m) on all compensation it proposes to grant, and the compensation committee intends to provide all executive compensation in a manner consistent with our best interests and those of our stockholders. In 2009, none of our executive officers received compensation that would exceed the \$1 million limit on deductibility under Section 162(m).

In awarding restricted stock awards for performance in 2009, we accounted for share-based awards under the provisions of FASB ASC Topic 718, *Stock Compensation* (formerly Statement of Accounting Standards No. 123R, *Share-Based Payment*). ASC Topic 718 establishes accounting for stock-based awards exchanged for goods or services. Accordingly, stock-based compensation cost is measured at grant date, based on the fair value of the awards, and is recognized as an expense ratably over the requisite service period. Accounting rules also require us to record cash compensation as an expense at the time the obligation is incurred.

### **Conclusion**

Our compensation policies are designed to fairly compensate, retain and motivate our NEOs. The retention and motivation of our NEOs should enable us to grow strategically and position ourselves competitively in our market.

## **COMPENSATION COMMITTEE REPORT**

The compensation committee determines the compensation for our executive officers and the amount of salary and bonus to be included in the compensation package for each of our executive officers. The compensation committee currently consists of Messrs. Dunwoody, Goldstein and Smith, all of whom are considered independent under the rules promulgated by the Nasdaq Global Market and are not “interested persons” of Triangle Capital Corporation, as defined in Section 2(a)(19) of the 1940 Act.

The compensation committee of our Board of Directors has reviewed and discussed with management the information contained in the Compensation Discussion & Analysis section of this proxy statement and, based on their review and discussion, has recommended to our Board of Directors that the Compensation Discussion and Analysis be included in this proxy statement to be filed with the SEC.

The Compensation Committee:

Sherwood H. Smith, Jr., Chair  
W. McComb Dunwoody  
Benjamin S. Goldstein

*The information contained in the report above shall not be deemed to be “soliciting material” or to be “filed” with the SEC, nor shall such information be incorporated by reference into any future filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, except to the extent specifically incorporated by reference therein.*

## EXECUTIVE OFFICER COMPENSATION

Due to the fact that we consummated our initial public offering of common stock in February 2007, we only have executive officer compensation data for a portion of 2007, in addition to the 2008 and 2009 data. The respective compensation of our named executive officers in 2007, 2008 and 2009 was as follows:

**Summary Compensation Table**

Name	Principal Position	Year	Base Salary	Bonus	Restricted Stock Awards	All Other Compensation	Total
Garland S. Tucker, III	CEO	2009	\$265,000	\$370,000	\$309,913(1)	\$ 109,254(2)	\$1,054,167
		2008	\$265,000	\$265,000	\$245,020(3)	\$ 60,389(4)	\$ 835,409
		2007	\$231,875(5)	\$265,000	—	\$ 18,277	\$ 515,152
Brent P.W. Burgess	CIO(6)	2009	\$240,000	\$310,000	\$251,014(1)	\$ 85,568(2)	\$ 886,582
		2008	\$240,000	\$240,000	\$221,900(3)	\$ 46,290(4)	\$ 748,190
		2007	\$210,000(5)	\$240,000	—	\$ 12,318	\$ 462,318
Steven C. Lilly	CFO	2009	\$240,000	\$260,000	\$223,986(1)	\$ 81,187(2)	\$ 805,173
		2008	\$240,000	\$240,000	\$221,900(3)	\$ 46,054(4)	\$ 747,954
		2007	\$210,000(5)	\$280,416(7)	—	\$ 11,488	\$ 501,904

- (1) Grant date fair value of restricted stock awards granted during 2009.
- (2) Includes (i) value of benefits in the form of 401(k) contributions, health, life and disability insurance premiums paid by the Company in 2009 and (ii) value of dividends received or earned in respect of each executive officer's restricted stock awards received in 2009.
- (3) Grant date fair value of restricted stock awards granted during 2008.
- (4) Includes (i) value of benefits in the form of 401(k) contributions, health, life and disability insurance premiums paid by the Company in 2008 and (ii) value of dividends received or earned in respect of each executive officer's restricted stock awards received in 2008.
- (5) Includes base salary paid from February 21, 2007 through December 31, 2007.
- (6) "CIO" stands for Chief Investment Officer.
- (7) Includes a tax gross-up bonus approved by the compensation committee.

### Equity Incentive Plan

Our Board of Directors and sole stockholder approved Triangle's 2007 Equity Incentive Plan, or the Original Plan, effective February 13, 2007, for the purpose of attracting and retaining the services of executive officers, directors and other key employees. During our fiscal year ended December 31, 2007, no equity incentive awards were granted under the Original Plan, in part due to certain 1940 Act restrictions which disallow the issuance of certain types of compensation to a business development company's non-employee directors and employees without having first obtained exemptive relief. In 2007, we filed a request with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC, for such exemptive relief with respect to our ability to issue restricted stock to our employees and non-employee directors. On March 18, 2008 we received an order from the SEC authorizing such issuance of restricted stock to our employees and non-employee directors pursuant to the terms of the Amended and Restated Plan and as otherwise set forth in the exemptive order. In 2008, our Board approved, and the stockholders voted to approve, the Triangle Capital Corporation Amended and Restated 2007 Equity Incentive Plan, or the Amended and Restated Plan. During our fiscal year ended December 31, 2009, we granted restricted share awards to our officers, directors and key employees in accordance with the Amended and Restated Plan.

The following is a summary of the material features of the Amended and Restated Plan. It may not contain all of the information important to you. The Amended and Restated Plan includes provisions allowing the issuance of restricted stock to all key employees and directors. Restricted stock refers to an award of stock that is subject to forfeiture restrictions and may not be transferred until such restrictions have lapsed. The



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Amended and Restated Plan will also allow us to issue options to our key employees in the future should our Board and compensation committee choose to do so.

Under the Amended and Restated Plan, up to 900,000 shares of our common stock are authorized for issuance. Participants in the Amended and Restated Plan who are employees may receive awards of options to purchase shares of common stock or grants of restricted stock, as determined by the Board. Participants who are non-employee directors may receive awards of restricted stock in accordance with certain parameters as discussed below. The basis of such participation is to provide incentives to our employees and directors in order to attract and retain the services of qualified professionals.

Options granted under the Amended and Restated Plan entitle the optionee, upon exercise, to purchase shares of common stock at a specified exercise price per share. Options must have a per share exercise price of no less than the fair market value of a share of stock on the date of the grant, subject to forfeiture provisions as determined by the Board. The exercise period of each stock option awarded will expire on a date determined by the Board, such date to be specified in the stock option award agreement; however, the Plan also states that no stock option award will be exercisable after the expiration of ten years from the date such stock option was granted.

The Amended and Restated Plan permits the issuance of restricted stock to employees and directors consistent with such terms and conditions as the Board shall deem appropriate, subject to the limitations set forth in the plan. With respect to awards issued to our employees, the Board will determine the time or times at which such shares of restricted stock will become exercisable and the terms on which such shares will remain exercisable. Shares granted pursuant to a restricted stock award will not be transferable until such shares have vested in accordance with the terms of the award agreement, unless the transfer is by will or by the laws of descent and distribution.

The Amended and Restated Plan provides that our non-employee directors each receive an automatic grant of restricted stock at the beginning of each one-year term of service on the Board, for which forfeiture restrictions lapse one year from the grant date. From 2008 forward, the grants of restricted stock to non-employee directors under the Amended and Restated Plan are automatic, that is, the grants will equal \$30,000 worth of restricted stock each year, taken at the market value at the close of the Nasdaq Global Market on the date of grant, which historically has been the date of our annual stockholders meeting. The terms thereunder will not be changed without SEC approval. Shares granted pursuant to a restricted stock award will not be transferable until such shares have vested in accordance with the terms of the award agreement, unless the transfer is by will or by the laws of descent and distribution.

Our Board of Directors has delegated administration of the Amended and Restated Plan to its compensation committee, currently comprised solely of three (3) independent directors who are independent pursuant to the listing requirements of the Nasdaq Global Market. Our Board may abolish such committee at any time and revest in our Board the administration of the Amended and Restated Plan. Our Board administers the Amended and Restated Plan in a manner that is consistent with the applicable requirements of the Nasdaq Global Market and the exemptive order.

The following tables and discussions thereunder provide information regarding the Amended and Restated Plan generally and the restricted stock awards granted to our executive officers in 2009:

### **Grants of Plan-Based Awards**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Grant Date</b>	<b>Stock Awards: Number of Shares of Stock</b>	<b>Grant Date Fair Value of Stock</b>
Garland S. Tucker, III	February 4, 2009	29,182(1)	\$309,913
Brent P.W. Burgess	February 4, 2009	23,636(1)	\$251,014
Steven C. Lilly	February 4, 2009	21,091(1)	\$223,986

(1) Consists of restricted stock which vests ratably over four years from the date of grant.

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On February 4, 2009, the Board of Directors, upon recommendation of our compensation committee, approved grants of restricted stock awards to the Company's non-employee directors and executive officers as set forth above. All of these restricted shares of stock were valued at \$10.62, the closing price of our common stock on the Nasdaq Global Market on February 4, 2009, the grant date. The restricted share awards granted to the executive officers vest ratably over four years from this grant date.

None of these shares of restricted Stock may be sold, assigned, transferred, pledged, hypothecated or otherwise encumbered or disposed of prior to their vesting date, and, except as otherwise determined by our board or compensation committee at or after the grant of each executive officer's award of restricted stock, any of the shares which have not fully vested will be forfeited, and all rights of the executive officer to such shares shall terminate, without further obligation on the part of Triangle, unless the executive officer remains employed with us for the entire vesting period relating to the restricted stock.

In addition, in accordance with the Amended and Restated Plan and each individual award agreement, any share of the Company's stock distributed with respect to the restricted stock reflected in the table above is subject to the same ratable vesting restrictions, terms and conditions as the restricted stock awarded to each executive officer.

For additional information regarding the restricted stock awards granted to each of our executive officers, please refer to our Compensation Discussion & Analysis.

### **Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year-End**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Number of Shares of Stock That Have Not Vested</b>	<b>Market Value of Shares of Stock That Have Not Vested(1)</b>	<b>Equity Incentive Plan Awards: Number of Unearned Shares That Have Not Vested</b>	<b>Equity Incentive Plan Awards: Market or Payout Value of Unearned Shares That Have Not Vested(1)</b>
Garland S. Tucker, III	45,723(2)	\$ 552,791	45,723(2)	\$ 552,791
Brent P.W. Burgess	38,616(3)	\$ 466,867	38,616(3)	\$ 466,867
Steven C. Lilly	36,071(4)	\$ 436,098	36,071(4)	\$ 436,098

- (1) The values of the unvested common stock listed are based on a \$12.09 closing price of our common stock as reported on the Nasdaq Global Market on December 31, 2009.
- (2) 16,541 of the shares listed will vest ratably on May 6 of each year until May 6, 2013, and 29,182 of the shares listed will vest ratably on February 4 of each year until February 4, 2014, at which respective times such shares will be fully vested, subject to the executive officer still being employed with us at such vesting dates.
- (3) 14,980 of the shares listed will vest ratably on May 6 of each year until May 6, 2013, and 23,636 of the shares listed will vest ratably on February 4 of each year until February 4, 2014, at which respective times such shares will be fully vested, subject to the executive officer still being employed with us at such vesting dates.
- (4) 14,980 of the shares listed will vest ratably on May 6 of each year until May 6, 2013, and 21,091 of the shares listed will vest ratably on February 4 of each year until February 4, 2014, at which respective times such shares will be fully vested, subject to the executive officer still being employed with us at such vesting dates.

### **Employment Agreements**

Effective February 2009, resulting from the determination by our compensation committee that it would be in the best interests of the Company and our stockholders for the Company to operate without employment agreements, none of our employees is party to an employment agreement with us. However, since each of our NEOs was party to an employment agreement with us from January 1, 2009 through February 20, 2009, we are required to describe certain terms of their former employment agreements, which we have done herein.

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Upon consummation of our IPO, we entered into employment agreements with Messrs. Tucker, Burgess, and Lilly that provide for a two year term. The initial base salaries under the employment agreements for Messrs. Tucker, Burgess, and Lilly were \$265,000, \$240,000, and \$240,000, respectively.

In addition, in 2008, each executive officer was eligible to receive an annual bonus of up to a maximum of 100% of the executive officer's 2008 base salary for achieving certain performance objectives. Our compensation committee established such performance objectives, as well as the bonus awarded to each executive officer, the details of which are discussed in the Compensation Discussion & Analysis section above.

After recent consideration, our board of directors and compensation committee determined that it would be in the best interests of the Company and our stockholders if these employment agreements were not renewed for additional one-year terms. Accordingly, on February 20, 2009, each executive officer affirmatively waived his non-renewal notice rights set forth in his employment agreement, and the Company formally acknowledged such waivers.

For additional information regarding the total compensation for each of our executive officers, please refer to our Compensation Discussion & Analysis.

### **Potential Payments upon Termination or Change in Control**

Effective February 2009, resulting from the determination by our compensation committee that it would be in the best interests of the Company and our stockholders for the Company to operate without employment agreements, none of our employees is party to an employment agreement with us and, as such, our NEOs are no longer entitled to any severance or other compensation upon the termination of their employment, including any such compensation as a result of a change in control of the Company. However, since each of our NEOs was party to an employment agreement with us from January 1, 2009 through February 20, 2009, we are required to describe certain terms of their former employment agreements, including potential payments to our NEOs upon their termination or a change in control, which we have set forth below.

Under their respective employment agreements (which, as explained above in the section entitled "Employment Agreements," are no longer in effect as of February 21, 2009), each NEO was entitled to certain payments upon termination of employment or in the event of a change in control. The following table sets forth those potential payments with respect to each NEO between January 1, 2009 and February 21, 2009. In providing the estimated potential payments, we have made the following general assumptions in all circumstances where applicable:

- change in control event would have occurred, and the date of termination was February 21, 2009;
- the annual salary at the time of termination would have been as follows: Garland S. Tucker, III, \$265,000; Brent P.W. Burgess, \$240,000; and Steven C. Lilly \$240,000;
- there would have been no unpaid bonus for the prior year;
- there would have been no accrued and unpaid salary; and
- there would have been no unpaid reimbursement for expenses incurred prior to the date of termination.

**2009 Potential Payments Upon Termination or Change in Control (through February 20, 2009)**

Name	Benefit	Outside of Two Years After Change in Control; Termination w/o Cause(3)	Within Two Years	Death	Disability	Thirteenth Month After Change in Control; Termination w/o Good Reason(5)
			After Change in Control; Termination w/o Cause or Reason(4)			
Garland S. Tucker, III	Severance Pay(1)	\$ 530,000	\$ 795,000	\$530,000	\$530,000	\$ 795,000
	Bonus Compensation(2)	\$ 530,000	\$ 795,000	\$530,000	\$530,000	\$ 795,000
Brent P.W. Burgess	Severance Pay(1)	\$ 480,000	\$ 720,000	\$480,000	\$480,000	\$ 720,000
	Bonus Compensation(2)	\$ 480,000	\$ 720,000	\$480,000	\$480,000	\$ 720,000
Steven C. Lilly	Severance Pay(1)	\$ 480,000	\$ 720,000	\$480,000	\$480,000	\$ 720,000
	Bonus Compensation(2)	\$ 480,000	\$ 720,000	\$480,000	\$480,000	\$ 720,000

- (1) Severance pay would have included an NEO's annual salary and applicable multiple thereof paid monthly beginning at the time of termination, plus the employee's benefits in the form of medical, health or other employee welfare benefit plan adopted by us.
- (2) Bonus compensation would at most have been equal to 100% of an employee's annual salary, multiplied by the number of years in which the employee would have been eligible to receive severance pay as defined above.
- (3) Change in control was defined in each employee's employment agreement.
- (4) Good Reason was defined in each employee's employment agreement.
- (5) The intent of this particular provision in each of our executive officers' employment agreements was to allow the executive officer the opportunity to evaluate his position with the Company one year after a change in control had occurred, in order to determine whether at that time it would have been in the best interests of the Company and the executive officer for the executive officer to continue serving in his then current position.

Under specified covered transactions involving a change in control, if an NEO had terminated his employment with us within two (2) years following such change in control, or if we had terminated or given the NEO notice of non-renewal of the NEO's employment within the two years commencing with a change in control, he would have received a severance package beginning on the date of termination. The severance package would have included monthly payments equal to one-twelfth of (i) the NEO's annual salary at that time plus (ii) the NEO's bonus compensation as described in the employment agreement, and (iii) the Company would have continued to provide the NEO with all of the benefits provided to him immediately prior to the termination, as described in the employment agreement. The severance package would have continued to be in effect for thirty-six months.

In addition, a separate severance package existed in the event the NEO's employment had been terminated as a result of death or disability, or in the event that the Company had terminated the NEO's employment outside of the two-year period after a specified covered transaction involving a change in control. The same severance package referenced in the immediately preceding paragraph would have been provided to the NEO, except that the severance package would have only continued to be in effect for twenty-four months.

Each NEO's employment agreement also included a right to allow the executive officer the opportunity to evaluate his position with the Company for a one-month period beginning at the end of one year after a change in control had occurred, in order to determine whether at that time it would have been in the best interests of the Company and the NEO for the NEO to continue serving in his then current position. If the NEO had been dissatisfied with his responsibilities under the management after the change in control had occurred, he could have terminated his employment with the Company without good reason and still would have received a severance package. The severance package would have included monthly payments equal to one-twelfth of (i) the NEO's annual salary at that time plus (ii) the NEO's bonus compensation as described in the employment agreement, and (iii) the Company would have continued to provide the NEO with all of the

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benefits provided to him immediately prior to the termination, as described in the employment agreement. The severance package would have continued to be in effect for thirty-six months.

Finally, if we had failed to renew any NEO's employment agreement outside of the two-year period after a specified covered transaction involving a change in control (thereby terminating such NEO's employment with us), any severance payment or benefit would have been payable at the absolute discretion of the Board.

In addition to severance compensation, each NEO's employment agreement provided noncompetition, nonsolicitation, non-interference and confidentiality covenants in the event an NEO's employment had been terminated. Under the applicable employment agreements, for a period of two years after an NEO's employment with Triangle terminated for any reason whatsoever, the NEO would have been prohibited from competing with our Company, soliciting our employees and interfering with our business relationships. Further, each executive officer was required to keep confidential, whether during or after employment, all of our Company's "confidential information," as such term was defined in each employment agreement.

After recent consideration, our board of directors and compensation committee determined that it would be in the best interests of the Company and our stockholders if these employment agreements were not renewed for additional one-year terms; however, we had not given any of our executive officers the requisite three-month notice in accordance with the terms of their employment agreements. To that end, Messrs. Tucker, Burgess and Lilly were in agreement with us that non-renewal of their employment agreements is desirable, and accordingly, on February 20, 2009, each executive officer affirmatively waived his non-renewal notice rights set forth in his employment agreement, and we formally acknowledged such waivers.

Effective February 21, 2009, none of the executive officers is employed by us pursuant to an employment agreement. Rather, each executive officer is currently employed by us on an at-will basis. Each executive officer will continue to be paid his respective salary set forth in his previously effective employment agreement (as described herein) and is eligible to receive cash bonuses and equity incentives in the discretion of our board of directors and compensation committee.

### **401(k) Plan**

In 2009, we maintained a 401(k) plan in which all full-time employees who were at least 21 years of age were eligible to participate. Only full-time employees who are at least 21 years of age and have 90 days of service are eligible to participate and receive certain employer contributions. Eligible employees have the opportunity to contribute their compensation on a pretax salary basis into the 401(k) plan up to \$16,500 for the plan year, and to direct the investment of these contributions. Plan participants who reach the age of 50 prior to or during the plan year are eligible to defer up to an additional \$5,500 for the plan year.

### **Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation**

All members of our compensation committee (Messrs. Dunwoody, Goldstein and Smith) are independent directors, and none of the members are present or past employees of the Company. No member of the compensation committee: (i) has had any relationship with the Company requiring disclosure under Item 404 of Regulation S-K under the Exchange Act; (ii) is an executive officer of another entity, at which one of our executive officers serves on the compensation committee; or (iii) is an executive officer of another entity, at which one of our executive officers serves on the Board of Directors.

## SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT

The following table sets forth information with respect to the beneficial ownership of our common stock as of March 1, 2010, the record date, by each of our executive officers and independent directors and all of our directors and executive officers as a group. As of March 1, 2010, we are not aware of any 5% beneficial owners of our common stock.

Beneficial ownership is determined in accordance with the rules of the SEC and includes voting or investment power with respect to the securities. There is no common stock subject to options or warrants that are currently exercisable or exercisable within 60 days of March 1, 2010. Percentage of beneficial ownership is based on 11,934,594 shares of common stock outstanding as of March 1, 2010. The business address of each person below is 3700 Glenwood Avenue, Suite 530, Raleigh, North Carolina 27612.

<u>Name of Beneficial Owner</u>	<u>Number of Shares Beneficially Owned(1)</u>	<u>Percentage of Class(2)</u>
<i>Executive Officers</i>		
Garland S. Tucker, III	195,284(3)	1.6%
Brent P.W. Burgess	183,774(4)	1.5%
Steven C. Lilly	139,649(5)	1.2%
<i>Independent Directors:</i>		
W. McComb Dunwoody	137,850(6)	1.2%
Mark M. Gambill	—	—
Benjamin S. Goldstein	14,962(7)	*
Simon B. Rich, Jr.	27,771(8)	*
Sherwood H. Smith, Jr.	59,241(9)	*
All Directors and Executive Officers as a Group	758,531	6.4%

\* Less than 1.0%

(1) Beneficial ownership has been determined in accordance with Rule 13d-3 of the Exchange Act.

(2) Based on a total of 11,934,594 shares issued and outstanding as of March 1, 2010.

(3) Includes 69,261 shares of restricted stock and 812 shares held by Mr. Tucker's wife.

(4) Includes 59,374 shares of restricted stock.

(5) Includes 51,632 shares of restricted stock.

(6) Includes 6,771 shares of restricted stock.

(7) Includes 6,771 shares of restricted stock.

(8) Includes 6,771 shares of restricted stock and 3,500 shares held by Mr. Rich's wife.

(9) Includes 6,771 shares of restricted stock.

### SECTION 16(A) BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP REPORTING COMPLIANCE

Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act and the disclosure requirements of Item 405 of SEC Regulation S-K require that our directors and executive officers, and any persons holding more than 10% of any class of our equity securities report their ownership of such equity securities and any subsequent changes in that ownership to the SEC, The Nasdaq Stock Market and to us. Based solely on a review of the written statements and copies of such reports furnished to us by our executive officers, directors and greater than 10% beneficial owners, we believe that during fiscal year 2009 all Section 16(a) filing requirements applicable to the executive officers, directors and stockholders were timely satisfied.

## PROPOSAL NO. 2

### APPROVAL TO SELL SHARES OF COMMON STOCK BELOW NET ASSET VALUE (BOOK VALUE)

The Company is a closed-end investment company that has elected to be treated as a business development company, or BDC, under the 1940 Act. The 1940 Act prohibits the Company from selling shares of its common stock at a price below the current net asset value (i.e., book value) per share of such stock, with certain exceptions. One such exception would permit the Company to sell shares of its common stock during the next year at a price below the Company's then current net asset value per share if its stockholders approve such a sale and the Company's directors make certain determinations. Pursuant to this provision, the Company is seeking the approval of its common stockholders so that it may, in one or more public or private offerings of its common stock, sell shares of its common stock at a price below its then current net asset value per share, subject to certain conditions discussed below. If approved, the authorization would be effective for a period expiring on the earlier of the anniversary of the date of this Annual Meeting and the date of the Company's 2011 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, which is expected to be held in May 2011.

Generally, equity securities sold in public securities offerings are priced based on public market prices quoted on exchanges such as Nasdaq, rather than net asset value, or book value, per share. Since the Company's IPO, at times the Company's common stock has traded above its net asset value per share, and at times the Company's common stock has traded below its net asset value per share. At each of the Company's 2008 and 2009 Annual Meetings of Stockholders, the Company requested and received approval from its stockholders to sell its stock at a price per share below net asset value under certain circumstances. This year, the Company is again seeking the approval of a majority of its common stockholders of record to offer and sell shares of its common stock at prices that, net of underwriting discount or commissions, may be less than net asset value so as to permit the flexibility in pricing that market conditions may require.

#### Reasons to Offer Common Stock Below Net Asset Value

We believe that market conditions will continue to provide opportunities to invest new capital at potentially attractive returns. In 2008 and 2009, U.S. credit markets, including many lending institutions, experienced significant difficulties resulting in large part from the default in payments on sub-prime residential mortgages and concerns generally about the decline in the U.S. economy. This contributed to significant stock price volatility for capital providers such as our Company and has made access to capital more challenging for many smaller businesses. However, the change in credit market conditions also has had beneficial effects for capital providers like us because small businesses are sometimes selling for lower prices, in certain circumstances, willing to pay higher interest rates and generally are generally accepting more contractual terms that we believe will be favorable to us. Accordingly, for firms that continue to have access to capital, we believe that the current environment could provide investment opportunities on more favorable terms than have been available in recent periods. Our ability to take advantage of these opportunities, however, is dependent upon our access to equity capital.

As a BDC and RIC, the Company is dependent on its ability to raise capital through the issuance of common stock. RICs generally must distribute substantially all of their earnings to stockholders as dividends in order to achieve pass-through tax treatment, which prevents the Company from using those earnings to support new investments. Further, BDCs must maintain a debt to equity ratio of less than 1:1, which requires the Company to finance its investments with at least as much equity as debt in the aggregate. To continue to build the Company's investment portfolio, and thereby support maintenance and growth of the Company's dividends, the Company endeavors to maintain consistent access to capital through the public and private equity markets enabling it to take advantage of investment opportunities as they arise.

Although the Company's common stock has had a limited trading history, it has traded both at a premium and at a discount in relation to its net asset value, which is the equivalent of "book value," rather than market or publicly-traded value. The possibilities that shares of our common stock will trade at a discount from net asset value or at premiums that are unsustainable over the long term are separate and distinct from the risk that our net asset value will decrease. It is not possible to predict whether any shares of our common stock issued in the future will trade at, above, or below net asset value. The following table, reflecting the entire public trading history of our common stock since our initial public offering in February 2007, lists the high and low sales

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prices for our common stock, and the sales prices as percentages of net asset values. On March 1, 2010, the record date, the last reported closing sale price of our common stock on the Nasdaq Global Market was \$13.50.

	Net Asset Value(1)	Sales Price		Premium of High Sales Price to Net Asset Value(2)	Discount of Low Sales Price to Net Asset Value(2)
		High	Low		
<b>Year Ended December 31, 2007</b>					
First Quarter	\$ 13.57	\$16.00	\$13.45	117.9%	99.1%
Second Quarter	\$ 13.75	\$15.79	\$13.58	114.8%	98.8%
Third Quarter	\$ 13.99	\$14.99	\$11.95	107.1%	85.4%
Fourth Quarter	\$ 13.74	\$14.50	\$10.75	105.5%	78.2%
<b>Year ended December 31, 2008</b>					
First Quarter	\$ 13.85	\$13.40	\$12.94	96.8%	93.4%
Second Quarter	\$ 13.73	\$12.25	\$11.85	89.2%	86.3%
Third Quarter	\$ 13.76	\$13.75	\$ 9.91	99.9%	72.0%
Fourth Quarter	\$ 13.22	\$13.18	\$ 4.00	99.7%	30.3%
<b>Year ended December 31, 2009</b>					
First Quarter	\$ 12.46	\$12.92	\$ 5.21	103.7%	41.8%
Second Quarter	\$ 11.31	\$12.38	\$ 7.50	109.5%	66.3%
Third Quarter	\$ 10.60	\$12.77	\$10.26	120.5%	96.8%
Fourth Quarter	\$ 11.05	\$13.28	\$10.95	120.2%	99.1%
<b>Year ended December 31, 2010</b>					
First Quarter (through March 10, 2010)	*	\$14.17	\$11.45	*	*

\* Net asset value has not yet been calculated for this period

- (1) Net asset value per share is determined as of the last day in the relevant quarter and therefore may not reflect the net asset value per share on the date of the high and low sales prices. The net asset values shown are based on outstanding shares at the end of each period.
- (2) Calculated as the respective high or low sales price divided by net asset value.

The unprecedented nature of the recent credit market dislocation and uncertainty surrounding the U.S. economy has led to significant stock market volatility, particularly with respect to the stock of financial services companies. During times of increased price volatility, the Company's common stock may periodically trade below its net asset value, which is not uncommon for BDCs like the Company. As noted above, however, the recent market uncertainties have created, and we believe will continue to create, favorable opportunities to invest, including opportunities that, all else being equal, may increase net asset value over the longer-term, even if financed with the issuance of common stock below net asset value, although there is no assurance that this will occur. The Company expects that it will be periodically presented with attractive opportunities that require the Company to make an investment commitment quickly. The Company may be unable to capitalize on investment opportunities presented to it unless it is able to quickly raise capital. Stockholder approval of the proposal to sell shares below net asset value subject to the conditions detailed below will provide the Company with the flexibility to invest in such opportunities.

The Board of Directors believes that having the flexibility to issue its common stock below net asset value in certain instances is in the best interests of stockholders. If the Company were unable to access the capital markets as attractive investment opportunities arise, the Company's ability to grow over time and continue to pay steady or increasing dividends to stockholders could be adversely affected. It could also have the effect of forcing the Company to sell assets that the Company would not otherwise sell, and such sales could occur at times that are disadvantageous to sell.



### **Conditions to Sales Below Net Asset Value**

If this proposal is approved, the Company will only sell shares of its common stock at a price below net asset value per share if the following conditions are met:

- a majority of the Company's directors who have no financial interest in the sale and a majority of such directors who are not interested persons of the Company have determined that any such sale would be in the best interests of the Company and its stockholders; and
- a majority of the Company's directors who have no financial interest in the sale and a majority of such directors who are not interested persons of the Company, in consultation with the underwriter or underwriters of the offering if it is to be underwritten, have determined in good faith, and as of a time immediately prior to the first solicitation by or on behalf of the Company of firm commitments to purchase such securities or immediately prior to the issuance of such securities, that the price at which such securities are to be sold is not less than a price which closely approximates the market value of those securities, less any distributing commission or discount.

As a stockholder, you should also be aware that no conflict of interest exists as to any entity affiliated with the Company such that any such entity would receive fees as a direct result of assets under management increasing from any sale of the Company's stock at a price per share below net asset value. As an internally managed BDC, we do not pay asset management fees to third party investment advisors.

Finally, in determining whether or not to sell additional shares of the Company's common stock at a price below the net asset value per share, the Board of Directors will have duties to act in the best interests of the Company and its stockholders.

### **Key Stockholder Considerations**

Before voting on this proposal or giving proxies with regard to this matter, common stockholders should consider the dilutive effect of the issuance of shares of the Company's common stock at less than net asset value per share on the net asset value per outstanding share of common stock. Any sale of common stock at a price below net asset value would result in an immediate dilution to existing common stockholders. Since under this proposal shares of the Company's common stock could be issued at a price that is substantially below the net asset value per share, the dilution could be substantial. This dilution would include reduction in the net asset value per shares as a result of the issuance of shares at a price below the net asset value per share and a proportionately greater decrease in a stockholder's interest in the earnings and assets of the Company and voting interest in the Company than the increase in the assets of the Company resulting from such issuance. If this Proposal No. 2 is approved, the Board of Directors of the Company may, consistent with its fiduciary duties, approve the sale of the Company's common stock at any discount to its then-current net asset value per share; however, the Board will consider the potential dilutive effect of the issuance of shares at a price below the net asset value per share when considering whether to authorize any such issuance and will act in the best interests of the Company and its stockholders in doing so.

The 1940 Act establishes a connection between common share sale price and net asset value because, when stock is sold at a sale price below net asset value per share, the resulting increase in the number of outstanding shares is not accompanied by a proportionate increase in the net assets of the issuer. Further, if current stockholders of the Company do not purchase any shares to maintain their percentage interest, regardless of whether such offering is above or below the then current net asset value, their voting power will be diluted. For an illustration of the potential dilutive effect of an offering of our common stock at a price below net asset value, please see the table below under the heading "Examples of Dilutive Effect of the Issuance of Shares Below Net Asset Value."

Finally, any sale of substantial amounts of our common stock or other securities in the open market may adversely affect the market price of our common stock and may adversely affect our ability to obtain future financing in the capital markets. In addition, future sales of our common stock to the public may create a potential market overhang, which is the existence of a large block of shares readily available for sale that could lead the market to discount the value of shares held by other investors.

**Examples of Dilutive Effect of the Issuance of Shares Below Net Asset Value**

The following table illustrates the level of net asset value dilution that would be experienced by a nonparticipating stockholder in three different hypothetical offerings of different sizes and levels of discount from net asset value per share, although it is not possible to predict the level of market price decline that may occur. Actual sales prices and discounts may differ from the presentation below.

The examples assume that Company XYZ has 1,000,000 common shares outstanding, \$15,000,000 in total assets and \$5,000,000 in total liabilities. The current net asset value and net asset value per share are thus \$10,000,000 and \$10.00. The table illustrates the dilutive effect on nonparticipating Stockholder A of (1) an offering of 50,000 shares (5% of the outstanding shares) at \$9.50 per share after offering expenses and commission (a 5% discount from net asset value), (2) an offering of 100,000 shares (10% of the outstanding shares) at \$9.00 per share after offering expenses and commissions (a 10% discount from net asset value) and (3) an offering of 200,000 shares (20% of the outstanding shares) at \$8.00 per share after offering expenses and commissions (a 20% discount from net asset value). The acronym “NAV” stands for “net asset value.”

	Prior to Sale Below NAV	Example 1 5% Offering at 5% Discount		Example 1 10% Offering at 10% Discount		Example 1 20% Offering at 20% Discount	
		Following Sale	% Change	Following Sale	% Change	Following Sale	% Change
<b>Offering Price</b>							
Price per Share to Public	—	\$ 10.00	—	\$ 9.47	—	\$ 8.42	—
Net Proceeds per Share to Issuer	—	\$ 9.50	—	\$ 9.00	—	\$ 8.00	—
<b>Decrease to NAV</b>							
Total Shares Outstanding	1,000,000	1,050,000	5.00%	1,100,000	10.00%	1,200,000	20.00%
NAV per Share	\$ 10.00	\$ 9.98	(0.24)%	\$ 9.91	(0.91)%	\$ 9.67	(3.33)%
<b>Dilution to Stockholder</b>							
Shares Held by Stockholder A	10,000	10,000	—	10,000	—	10,000	—
Percentage Held by Stockholder A	1.0%	0.95%	(4.76)%	0.91%	(9.09)%	0.83%	(16.67)%
<b>Total Asset Values</b>							
Total NAV Held by Stockholder A	\$ 100,000	\$ 99,762	(0.24)%	\$ 99,091	(0.91)%	\$ 96,667	(3.33)%
Total Investment by Stockholder A (Assumed to Be \$10.00 per Share)	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	—	\$ 100,000	—	100,000	—
Total Dilution to Stockholder A (Total NAV Less Total Investment)	—	\$ (288)	—	\$ (909)	—	\$ (3,333)	—
<b>Per Share Amounts</b>							
NAV per Share Held by Stockholder A	—	\$ 9.98	—	\$ 9.91	—	\$ 9.67	—
Investment per Share Held by Stockholder A (Assumed to be \$10.00 per Share on Shares Held Prior to Sale)	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00	—	\$ 10.00	—	\$ 10.00	—
Dilution per Share Held by Stockholder A (NAV per Share Less Investment per Share)	—	\$ (0.02)	—	\$ (0.09)	—	\$ (0.33)	—
Percentage Dilution to Stockholder A (Dilution per Share Divided by Investment per Share)	—	—	(0.24)%	—	(0.91)%	—	(3.33)%

**Required Vote**

Approval of this proposal requires the affirmative vote of (1) a majority of the outstanding shares of common stock entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting; and (2) a majority of the outstanding shares of common stock entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting which are not held by affiliated persons of the Company.

For purposes of this proposal, the 1940 Act defines “a majority of the outstanding shares” as: (1) 67% or more of the voting securities present at the Annual Meeting if the holders of more than 50% of the outstanding voting securities of such company are present or represented by proxy; or (2) 50% of the outstanding voting securities of such company, whichever is the less. Abstentions and broker non-votes will have the effect of a vote against this proposal.

***The Board of Directors recommends a vote “FOR” the proposal to authorize the Company to sell shares of its common stock during the next year at a price below the Company’s then current net asset value (i.e., book value) per share.***

**PROPOSAL NO. 3**

**RATIFICATION OF APPOINTMENT OF  
INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM**

The audit committee of the Board of Directors has selected Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2010, and the Board of Directors has further directed that management should submit the appointment of the independent registered public accounting firm for ratification by the stockholders at the Annual Meeting. Ernst & Young LLP also will serve as the independent registered public accounting firm for all of our wholly-owned subsidiaries.

Ernst & Young LLP has advised us that neither the firm nor any present member or associate of it has any material financial interest, direct or indirect, in us or our wholly-owned subsidiaries. It is expected that a representative of Ernst & Young LLP will be present at the Annual Meeting and will have an opportunity to make a statement if he or she chooses and will be available to answer appropriate questions.

Stockholder ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm is not required by our bylaws or other governing documents. However, the Board is submitting the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP to the stockholders for ratification as a matter of good corporate governance. Our audit committee is therefore not bound by a vote either for or against the proposal. The audit committee will consider a vote against the firm by the stockholders in selecting our independent registered public accounting firm in the future. Even if the stockholders do ratify the appointment, the audit committee in its discretion may direct the appointment of a different independent registered public accounting firm at any time during the year if it believes that such a change would be in the best interest of Triangle and our stockholders.

***On behalf of the audit committee, the Board recommends a vote “FOR” the ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as the Company’s independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2010.***

**Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm’s Fees**

We have paid or expect to pay the following fees to Ernst & Young LLP for work performed in 2009 and 2008 or attributable to the audit of our 2009 and 2008 financial statements:

	<b>Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2009</b>	<b>Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2008</b>
Audit Fees	\$ 447,500(1)	\$ 280,000
Audit Related Fees	—	—
Tax Fees	\$ 38,000	\$ 49,000
Other Fees	\$ 31,600	—
<b>TOTAL FEES:</b>	<b>\$ 517,100</b>	<b>\$ 329,000</b>

(1) Includes approximately \$170,700 in audit fees related to our three public offerings of common stock which closed in 2009.

*Audit Fees.* Audit fees include fees for services that normally would be provided by the accountant in connection with statutory and regulatory filings or engagements and that generally only the independent accountant can provide. In addition to fees for the audit of our annual financial statements, the audit of the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting and the review of our quarterly financial statements in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, this category contains fees for comfort letters, statutory audits, consents, and assistance with and review of documents filed with the SEC.

*Audit Related Fees.* Audit related fees are assurance related services that traditionally are performed by the independent accountant, such as attest services that are not required by statute or regulation.

*Tax Fees.* Tax fees include corporate and subsidiary compliance and consulting.

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*All Other Fees.* Fees for other services would include fees for products and services other than the services reported above.

During 2008 and 2009, 100% of our audit fees and tax fees associated with our independent registered public accounting firm were approved by our audit committee.

### **Pre-Approval Policies and Procedures**

The audit committee has established, and our Board of Directors has approved, a pre-approval policy that describes the permitted audit, audit-related, tax and other services to be provided by Ernst & Young LLP, the Company's independent registered accounting firm. The policy requires that the audit committee pre-approve the audit and non-audit services performed by the independent registered accounting firm in order to assure that the provision of such service does not impair the firm's independence. Our audit committee formally adopted this pre-approval policy on March 12, 2008. Prior to March 12, 2008, our audit committee specifically reviewed and approved Ernst & Young LLP's services between February 21, 2007 and December 31, 2007.

Any requests for audit, audit-related, tax and other services that have not received general pre-approval must be submitted to the audit committee for specific pre-approval, irrespective of the amount, and cannot commence until such approval has been granted. Normally, pre-approval is provided at regularly scheduled meetings of the audit committee. However, the audit committee may delegate pre-approval authority to one or more of its members. The member or members to whom such authority is delegated shall report any pre-approval decisions to the audit committee at its next scheduled meeting. The audit committee does not delegate its responsibilities to pre-approve services performed by the independent registered accounting firm to management.

### **AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT**

The audit committee of the Board of Directors of Triangle Capital Corporation operates under a written charter adopted by the Board of Directors, which is available on our website at the following URL: <http://ir.tcap.com>. The audit committee is currently comprised of Messrs. Goldstein, Rich and Smith.

Management is responsible for the Company's internal controls and the financial reporting process. The Company's independent registered public accounting firm is responsible for performing an independent audit of the Company's consolidated financial statements in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States and expressing an opinion on the conformity of those audited financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. The audit committee's responsibility is to monitor and oversee these processes. The audit committee is also directly responsible for the appointment, compensation and oversight of the Company's independent registered public accounting firm.

### **Review with Management**

The audit committee has reviewed the audited financial statements and met and held discussions with management regarding the audited financial statements. Management has represented to the audit committee that the Company's consolidated financial statements were prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States.

### **Review and Discussion with Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**

The audit committee has discussed with Ernst & Young LLP matters required to be discussed by Statement on Auditing Standards No. 114, Communication with Audit Committees (which supersedes Statement on Auditing Standards No. 61, as amended). The audit committee received and reviewed the written disclosures and the letter from Ernst & Young LLP required by Independence Standard No. 1, Independence Discussions with Audit Committees, as amended by the Independence Standards Board, and has discussed with Ernst & Young LLP its independence and the compatibility of non-audit services with the firm's independence. The audit committee also reviewed the requirements and the Company's implementation of

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Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 including the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board's Auditing Standard No. 2 regarding the audit of internal controls over financial reporting.

### **Conclusion**

Based on the audit committee's discussion with management and the Company's independent registered public accounting firm, the audit committee's review of the audited financial statements, the representations of management and the report of the independent registered public accounting firm to the audit committee, the audit committee recommends that the Board of Directors include the audited consolidated financial statements in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009 for filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The audit committee also appoints Ernst & Young LLP to serve as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for the year ended December 31, 2010, subject to ratification of such appointment by the stockholders of the Company.

The Audit Committee

Benjamin S. Goldstein, Chair  
Simon B. Rich, Jr.  
Sherwood H. Smith, Jr.

## **CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

### **Related Party Transactions Policy and Procedure**

The Company has procedures in place for the review, approval and monitoring of transactions involving the Company and certain related persons of the Company. As a BDC, the Company is prohibited by the 1940 Act from participating in transactions with any persons affiliated with the BDC, including, officers, directors, and employees of the BDC and any person controlling or under common control with the BDC, or its affiliates, absent an exemptive order from the SEC.

In order to ensure that the Company does not engage in any prohibited transactions with any persons affiliated with Company, the Company has implemented the following procedures:

- The Company's investment committee will distribute (via email) to the chief compliance officer and chief executive officer information memoranda for all transactions for which non-binding term sheets have been issued.
- The chief compliance officer and/or chief executive officer will then distribute (via email) such nonbinding term sheets to our list of affiliated persons.
- Next, the chief compliance officer and/or chief executive officer will distribute (via email) the written requirements of Section 57 of the 1940 Act to the Company's affiliated persons.
- Finally, the chief compliance officer and/or chief executive officer will request that the affiliated persons (i) review the information memoranda, (ii) review the requirements of Section 57 of the 1940 Act, (iii) determine whether there is a related party conflict as to themselves and (iv), if such a related party conflict exists, the applicable affiliated person must communicate such conflict with the chief compliance officer and/or chief executive officer as soon as reasonably possible.
- The chief compliance officer will review all affiliated transactions before they occur and make a recommendation to the Board regarding whether the transactions comply with all applicable rules and regulations. The chief compliance officer will also review the Board minutes to ensure that any approval by the Board of an affiliated transaction is made upon the requisite legal basis.
- The chief compliance officer will review all affiliated transactions after they occur to verify that they comply with the proposed terms and all applicable regulations. The chief compliance officer will notify

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the Board should any affiliated transaction occur without proper approval or with terms different than those approved. The Board will have the discretion to reverse the transaction or require the affiliated party to reimburse any detriment suffered by the Company as a result of such transaction.

In addition, the Company's code of conduct, which has approved by the Board of Directors and acknowledged in writing by all employees, requires that all employees and directors avoid any conflict, or the appearance of a conflict, between an individual's personal interests and the interests of the Company. Pursuant to the code of conduct, each employee and director must disclose any conflicts of interest, or actions or relationships that might give rise to a conflict, to our chief compliance officer. The nominating and corporate governance committee is charged with monitoring and making recommendations to the Board of Directors regarding policies and practices relating to corporate governance. Certain actions or relationships that might give rise to a conflict of interest are reviewed and approved by the Board of Directors.

### **Certain Transactions With or Involving Related Persons**

During 2009, we did not enter into any transactions with related persons that would be required to be disclosed under this caption pursuant to Item 404(a) of Regulation S-K. For additional information regarding the amount of common stock owned by members of management, see "Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management."

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

The Board of Directors knows of no other business to be presented for action at the 2010 Annual Meeting of Stockholders. If any matters do come before the meeting on which action can properly be taken, it is intended that the proxies shall vote in accordance with the judgment of the person or persons exercising the authority conferred by the proxy at the meeting. The submission of a proposal does not guarantee its inclusion in our proxy statement or presentation at the meeting unless certain securities law requirements are met.

**You are cordially invited to attend the 2010 Annual Meeting of Stockholders in person. Whether or not you plan to attend the meeting, you are requested to complete, date, sign and promptly return the accompanying proxy card in the enclosed postage-paid envelope.**

By order of the Board of Directors



Steven C. Lilly  
Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer and Secretary

Raleigh, North Carolina  
March [ ], 2010

**THIS PROXY IS SOLICITED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF  
TRIANGLE CAPITAL CORPORATION FOR THE 2010 ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS**

**May 5, 2010**

The undersigned stockholder of Triangle Capital Corporation (the "Company") acknowledges receipt of the Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders of the Company and hereby appoints Garland S. Tucker, III and Steven C. Lilly, or any one of them, and each with full power of substitution, to act as attorneys and proxies for the undersigned to vote all the shares of common stock of the Company that the undersigned is entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting of Stockholders of the Company to be held on May 5, 2010, at 8:30 a.m., Eastern Time, at the Woman's Club of Raleigh, 3300 Woman's Club Drive, Raleigh, North Carolina 27612, and at any adjournment thereof, as indicated on this proxy.

**THIS PROXY IS REVOCABLE AND WILL BE VOTED AS DIRECTED BY THE UNDERSIGNED BELOW; where no choice is specified, it will be voted "FOR" Proposals 1, 2 and 3.**

Please sign and date this proxy on the reverse side and return it in the enclosed envelope.

(CONTINUED ON REVERSE SIDE)

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**ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS  
TRIANGLE CAPITAL CORPORATION**

**May 5, 2010**

Mark, sign and date your proxy card and return it in the postage-paid envelope we have provided or return it to Triangle Capital Corporation, c/o The Altman Group, Inc., Attn: Charlotte Brown, 1200 Wall Street West, 3rd Floor, Lyndhurst, New Jersey 07071.

**PLEASE DATE, SIGN AND MAIL YOUR  
PROXY CARD IN THE ENVELOPE PROVIDED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!**

**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS A VOTE "FOR" PROPOSALS 1, 2 and 3**

1. The election of the following eight persons (except as marked to the contrary) as Directors who will serve as directors of Triangle Capital Corporation until the 2011 Annual Meeting and until their successors have been duly elected and qualified.	Nominees:		FOR	WITHHOLD AUTHORITY	FOR ALL EXCEPT
		Garland S. Tucker, III	Mark M. Gambill	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Brent P.W. Burgess	Benjamin S. Goldstein	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Steven C. Lilly	Simon B. Rich, Jr.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	W. McComb Dunwoody	Sherwood M. Smith, Jr.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

INSTRUCTIONS: To withhold authority to vote for any individual, mark, "For All Except" and write the nominee's name(s) on the line below.

	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN
2. To approve a proposal to authorize the Company, pursuant to approval of its Board of Directors, to sell shares of its common stock during the next year at a price below the Company's then current net asset value (i.e., book value) per share	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. The ratification of the selection of Ernst & Young LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2010.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**THIS PROXY IS REVOCABLE AND WILL BE VOTED AS DIRECTED BY THE UNDERSIGNED BELOW; where no choice is specified, it will be voted "FOR" Proposals 1, 2 and 3.**

IMPORTANT: Please sign exactly as your name appears on this proxy. For joint accounts, each joint owner should sign. When signing as attorney, executor, administrator, trustee or guardian, please give your full title as such. If the signer is a corporation or partnership, please sign in full corporate or partnership name by a duly authorized officer or partner.

SIGNATURE	DATE	SIGNATURE	DATE
_____	_____	_____	_____
IF HELD JOINTLY			





**Sehrish Siddiqui**

phone: (901) 543-5979  
fax: (877) 521-2816  
e-mail: [ssiddiqui@bassberry.com](mailto:ssiddiqui@bassberry.com)

The Tower at Peabody Place  
100 Peabody Place, Suite 900  
Memphis, TN 38103-3672  
(901) 543-5900

March 11, 2010

United States Securities & Exchange Commission  
Division of Investment Management  
100 F. Street, N.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20549-4041

*VIA EDGAR and FEDEX*

**Re: Triangle Capital Corporation's Preliminary Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A**

Ladies and Gentlemen:

On behalf of Triangle Capital Corporation (the "Company"), please find enclosed a copy of the Company's Preliminary Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A, filed via EDGAR today, March 11, 2010. We have also filed this cover letter via EDGAR.

Should you have any questions regarding the enclosed, please do not hesitate to contact me by telephone directly at 901-543-5979, by email at [ssiddiqui@bassberry.com](mailto:ssiddiqui@bassberry.com), or by fax at 877-521-2816.

Best regards,

/s/ Sehrish Siddiqui  
Sehrish Siddiqui

Enclosure

cc: Steven C. Lilly (via email)  
C. Robert Knox, Jr. (via email)  
John A. Good, Esq. (via email)