Precipio, Inc. Form PRE 14A May 18, 2018
UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549
SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION
Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the
Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No. )
Filed by the Registrant x Filed by a Party other than the Registrant "
Check the appropriate box:
x 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 §240.14a-12
Precipio, Inc.
(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

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

1

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(2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:
(3) Filing Party:
(4) Date Filed:

4 Science Park
New Haven, Connecticut 06511
May 18, 2018
Dear Stockholder:
You are cordially invited to attend our 2018 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, which will be held at our principal executive offices, 4 Science Park, New Haven, Connecticut, on Friday, June 15, 2018 at 9:30 a.m. local time.
At the 2018 Annual Meeting, stockholders will be asked to vote on each of the six proposals set forth in the Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders and the proxy statement, which describe the formal business to be conducted at the 2018 Annual Meeting and follow this letter.
It is important that your shares are represented and voted at the 2018 Annual Meeting regardless of the size of your holdings. Whether or not you plan to attend the 2018 Annual Meeting, please complete, sign, date and return the accompanying proxy card in the enclosed postage-paid envelope or vote electronically via the Internet or by telephone, if permitted by the broker or other nominee that holds your shares. Voting electronically, by telephone, or by returning your proxy card in advance of the 2018 Annual Meeting does not deprive you of your right to attend the 2018 Annual Meeting.

If you have any questions concerning the 2018 Annual Meeting and you are the stockholder of record of your shares, please contact Precipio's CEO Ilan Danieli at (203) 787 7888 ex. 536. If your shares are held by a broker or other nominee (that is, in "street name"), please contact your broker or other nominee for questions concerning the 2018

Annual Meeting.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to seeing those of you who will be able to attend the 2018 Annual Meeting.

Sincerely yours, /S/ ILAN DANIELI Ilan Danieli Chief Executive Officer

New Haven, Connecticut 06511

#### NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

Notice is hereby given that the 2018 Annual Meeting of Stockholders of Precipio, Inc. (the "Company") will be held at our principal executive offices, 4 Science Park New Haven Connecticut, on Friday, June 15, 2018 at 9:30 a.m. local time, for the following purposes:

- (1) To elect Michael A. Luther, Ph.D. and Mark Rimer as Class III directors for terms to expire in 2021;
- (2) To hold an advisory (non-binding) vote to approve named executive compensation;
- (3) To hold an advisory (non-binding) vote on the frequency of future advisory votes on executive compensation;
- To ratify the appointment of Marcum LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the year ending December 31, 2018;

To approve, for purposes of complying with applicable NASDAQ Listing Rules, the potential issuance of more than 20% of the Company's common stock pursuant to a certain securities purchase agreement dated April 20,

- (5)2018 (the "Agreement") with certain investors whose names are set out in the Agreement pursuant to which the Company may issue up to approximately \$3,296,703.30 in 8% Senior Secured Convertible Promissory Notes with 100% common stock warrant coverage (the "Convertible Note Transaction");
- To approve, for purposes of complying with applicable NASDAQ Listing Rules, the potential issuance of more than 20% of the Company's common stock to certain of the Company's creditors and/or holders of claims against the Company in exchange for cancellation of indebtedness of the Company to such creditors and/or claim holders ("Settlement Issuances Transaction"); and

(7) To transact such other business as may properly come before the 2018 Annual Meeting or any adjournment or postponement thereof.

Only stockholders of record at the close of business on May 23, 2018 are entitled to notice of, and to vote at, the 2018 Annual Meeting.

By Order of the Board of Directors /S/ ILAN DANIELI Ilan Danieli, *Chief Executive Officer* 

Connecticut

May 18, 2018

Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the Stockholder Meeting to be held on June 15, 2018: This Proxy Statement, the accompanying form of proxy card and our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017, including financial statements, are available on the Internet at <a href="http://precipiodx.com">http://precipiodx.com</a>. Under rules issued by the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"), we are providing access to our proxy materials both by sending you this full set of proxy materials and by notifying you of the availability of our proxy materials on the Internet. The information contained on or that may be obtained from our website is not, and shall not be, deemed to be, a part of this Proxy Statement. You can review filings we make with the SEC at its website (www.sec.gov), including our annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K and amendments to those reports electronically filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"). Our Code of Conduct and Ethics and the charters of our Nominating and Governance Committee, Audit Committee, and Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors may be accessed within the Investor Relations section of our website.

4 Science Park
New Haven, Connecticut 06511
PROXY STATEMENT
for
ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS
of
PRECIPIO, INC.
GENERAL INFORMATION
We are sending this Proxy Statement to you in connection with our request for your proxy to use at the 2018 Annual Meeting of Stockholders (the "Annual Meeting") of Precipio, Inc. (the "Company"), to be held on June 15, 2018 at 9:30

Your proxy is being solicited by the Board of Directors of the Company (the "Board") and will give each member of the Board and our Chief Executive Officer the power to vote on your behalf at the Annual Meeting. All shares of the Company's voting stock represented by properly executed and unrevoked proxies will be voted by a member of the Board or the Chief Executive Officer in accordance with the directions given by those proxies. Where no instructions

a.m., local time, at our offices located at 4 Science Park New Haven, Connecticut 06511. Only stockholders of record as of the close of business on May 23, 2018 (the "Record Date") are entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting. This Proxy Statement, along with the Notice of the Annual Meeting, the Annual Report to Stockholders and a proxy card are

being first mailed to stockholders on or about May 29, 2018.

are indicated, the Board or the Chief Executive Officer will vote as follows: (1) "FOR" the elections of Michael A. Luther, Ph.D. and Mark Rimer as Class III directors for terms to expire in 2021 ("Proposal One"), (2) "FOR" the approval, on an advisory (non-binding) basis, of the compensation of our named executive officers, as set forth in this Proxy Statement ("Proposal Two"), (3) "FOR" the approval on an advisory (non-binding) vote on the frequency of future advisory votes on executive compensation ("Proposal Three"); (4) "FOR" the ratification of the appointment of Marcum LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the year ending December 31, 2018 ("Proposal Four"); (5) "FOR" the approval, for purposes of complying with applicable NASDAQ Listing Rules, of the potential issuance of more than 20% of the Company's common stock in respect of Convertible Note Transaction ("Proposal Five") and "FOR" the approval, for purposes of complying with applicable NASDAQ Listing Rules, of the potential issuance of more than 20% of the Company's common stock to certain of the Company's creditors and/or holders of claims against the Company in exchange for cancellation of indebtedness of the Company to such creditors and/or claim holders ("Settlement Issuances Transaction ("Proposal Six") (Proposals One to Six shall jointly be referred to herewith as the "Proposals"). In addition, the Board believes outstanding voting shares owned by current executive officers and directors of the Company will be voted "FOR" each of the Proposals.

You may revoke your proxy at any time before it is exercised by a member of the Board or the Chief Executive Officer at the Annual Meeting. If you decide to do this, you will need to give the Secretary of the Company written notice that you want to revoke the proxy or you can submit a new proxy to the Secretary, or submit a new vote electronically via the Internet or by telephone. In addition, if you attend the Annual Meeting in person, you may withdraw your proxy and vote in person. Stockholders entitled to vote and represented by properly executed, returned and unrevoked proxies will be considered present at the Annual Meeting for purposes of establishing a quorum. This includes shares for which votes are withheld, abstentions are cast or there are broker non-votes. The holders of our common stock representing at least a majority of our voting stock issued and outstanding on the Record Date must be present at the Annual Meeting, either in person or by proxy, in order for there to be a quorum.

Under rules that govern banks, brokers and others who have record ownership of company stock held in brokerage accounts for their clients who beneficially own the shares, these banks, brokers and other such holders who do not receive voting instructions from their clients have the discretion to vote uninstructed shares on certain matters ("discretionary matters") but do not have discretion to vote uninstructed shares as to certain other matters ("non-discretionary matters"). A broker may return a proxy card on behalf of a beneficial owner from whom the broker has not received voting instructions that casts a vote with regard to discretionary matters but expressly states that the broker is not voting as to non-discretionary matters. The broker's inability to vote with respect to the non-discretionary matters for which the broker has not received voting instructions from the beneficial owner is referred to as a "broker non-vote."

Under rules related to discretionary voting and broker non-votes, banks, brokers and other such record holders are no longer permitted to vote the uninstructed shares of their customers on a discretionary basis in the election of directors or on executive compensation program matters. Because broker non-votes are not considered under Delaware law to be entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting, they will have no effect on the outcome of the vote on Proposal One (election of the Class III directors), Proposal Two (advisory (non-binding) vote to approve named executive compensation), Proposal Three (advisory (non-binding) vote on the frequency of future advisory votes on executive compensation), Proposal Five (approval, in compliance with applicable NASDAQ Listing Rules, of the potential issuance of more than 20% of the Company's common stock in respect of the Convertible Note Transaction) and Proposal Six (approval, for purposes of complying with applicable NASDAQ Listing Rules, of the potential issuance of more than 20% of the Company's common stock to certain of the Company's creditors and/or holders of claims against the Company in exchange for cancellation of indebtedness of the Company to such creditors and/or claim holders ("Settlement Issuances Transaction). As a result, if you hold your shares in street name and you do not instruct your bank, broker or other such holder how to vote your shares for Proposals One through Three and Proposals Five and Six, no votes will be cast on your behalf on these proposals. Therefore, it is critical that you indicate your vote on these proposals if you want your vote to be counted. Proposal Four (ratification of the appointment of Marcum LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the year ending December 31, 2018) should be considered a routine matter. Therefore, your broker will be able to vote on this proposal even if it does not receive instructions from you, so long as it holds your shares in its name.

#### **Required Votes**

On the Record Date there were 19,668,572 issued and outstanding shares of our common stock. Each share of common stock is entitled to one vote on each matter to be voted on at the Annual Meeting.

**Proposal One – Election of Michael A. Luther, Ph.D. and Mark Rimer as Class III directors for terms to expire in 2021.** The directors must be elected by a plurality vote. Our stockholders do not have the right to cumulate votes in the election of directors. If a stockholder votes to "abstain" with respect to this proposal, such stockholder's shares will not be voted with respect to this proposal. Broker non-votes and withheld votes will not be counted as votes cast for this proposal and as such will have no impact on the outcome of this proposal.

*Proposal Two – Approval, on an advisory basis (non-binding), of the compensation of our named executive officers, as set forth in this Proxy Statement.* The affirmative vote of a majority of the voting power present in person or represented by proxy held by the holders of our common stock at the Annual Meeting is required to approve, on an advisory basis, the compensation of our named executive officers, as set forth in this Proxy Statement. Abstentions will be counted as votes against this proposal. Broker non-votes will not be counted as votes cast for this proposal.

**Proposal Three – Approval, on an advisory basis (non-binding), on the frequency of future advisory votes on executive compensation, as set forth in this Proxy Statement.** The affirmative vote of a majority of the voting power present in person or represented by proxy held by the holders of our common stock at the Annual Meeting is required to approve, on an advisory basis, the frequency of future advisory votes on executive compensation, as set forth in this Proxy Statement. Abstentions will be counted as votes against this proposal. Broker non-votes will not be counted as votes cast for this proposal.

*Proposal Four – Ratification of the appointment of Marcum LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the year ending December 31, 2018.* The affirmative vote of a majority of the voting power present in person or represented by proxy held by the holders of our common stock at the Annual Meeting is required to ratify the appointment of Marcum LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2018. Abstentions will be counted as votes against this proposal. Broker non-votes will have no effect on the outcome of this proposal.

Proposal Five – Approval of potential issuance of more than 20% of the Company's common stock for the purposes of compliance with applicable NASDAQ Listing Rules in resepct of the Convertible Note Transaction. The affirmative vote of a majority of the voting power present in person or represented by proxy held by the holders of our common stock at the Annual Meeting is required to approve the potential issuance of more than 20% of the Company's common stock for the purposes of compliance with applicable NASDAQ Listing Rules in respect of the Transaction. Abstentions will be counted as votes against this proposal. Broker non-votes will not be counted as votes cast for this proposal.

Proposal Six – Approval of potential issuance of more than 20% of the Company's common stock for the purposes of compliance with applicable NASDAQ Listing Rules in respect of the Settlement Issuances Transaction. The affirmative vote of a majority of the voting power present in person or represented by proxy held by the holders of our common stock at the Annual Meeting is required to approve the potential issuance of more than 20% of the Company's common stock for the purposes of compliance with applicable NASDAQ Listing Rules in respect of the Settlement Issuances Transaction. Abstentions will be counted as votes against this proposal. Broker non-votes will not be counted as votes cast for this proposal.

#### **VOTING SECURITIES AND BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP BY**

# PRINCIPAL STOCKHOLDERS, DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

### **Beneficial Ownership of Common Stock**

On the Record Date there were 19,668,572 issued and outstanding shares of our common stock.

The following table provides information known to the Company with respect to beneficial ownership of the Company's common stock by its directors, by its named executive officers, by all of its current executive officers and directors as a group, and by each person the Company believes beneficially owns more than 5% of its outstanding common stock as of April 13, 2018. Percentage ownership calculations for beneficial ownership for each person or entity are based on 19,668,572 shares outstanding as of April 13, 2018. The number of shares beneficially owned by each person or group as of April 13, 2018 includes shares of the Company's common stock that such person or group had the right to acquire on or within 60 days after April 13, 2018, including, but not limited to, upon the exercise of options, warrants to purchase common stock or the conversion of securities into common stock. Except as otherwise indicated in the table below, addresses of named beneficial owners are in care of Precipio, Inc., 4 Science Park, New Haven, CT 06511. Beneficial ownership information of persons other than our current executive officers and directors is based on available information including, but not limited to, Schedules 13D, 13F or 13G filed with the Securities

and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") or information supplied by these persons.

Name of Beneficial Owner	Number of Shares Beneficially Owned	Percent of Class	
Randal J. Kirk (1)	1,768,915	8.8	%
Executive Officers and Directors:			
Ilan Danieli (2)	169,714	*	
Carl R. Iberger (3)	17,060	*	
Jeffrey Cossman, M.D. (4)	15,776	*	
Dr. Michael A. Luther (5)	16,110	*	
David S. Cohen (6)	1,086,647	5.5	%
Samuel Riccitelli (4)	15,776	*	
Mark Rimer (7)	1,252,673	6.3	
Douglas Fisher, M.D. (4)	15,776	*	
All executive officers and directors as a group (8 persons) (8)	2,589,532	13.1	%

<sup>\*</sup>Represents beneficial ownership of less than 1% of the shares of Common Stock.

- Consists of (i) 1,359,121 shares of Common Stock and (ii) 409,794 shares of Common Stock issuable upon exercise of warrants to purchase shares of Common Stock that are currently exercisable. Based solely on information provided to the Company by the stockholder and disclosed in a Schedule 13D/A filed on September 5, 2017. The total of the shares of Common Stock and the warrants to purchase shares of Common Stock are held by the following companies: Third Security Senior Staff 2008 LLC, Third Security Staff 2010 LLC, Third Security Incentive 2010 LLC and Third Security Staff 2014 LLC. These companies are managed by Third Security, LLC, which is managed by Randal J. Kirk, Mr. Randal J. Kirk could be deemed to have indirect beneficial ownership of
- (2) Consists of 169,714 shares of Common Stock owned by IDP Holdings, LLC. Mr. Danieli is the sole member and manager of IDP Holdings, LLC.

these shares. The business address of these beneficial owners is 1881 Grove Avenue, Radford, Virginia 24141.

- (3) Consists of 17,060 shares of Common Stock owned by Mr. Iberger.
- (4) Consists of 15,776 shares of Common Stock issuable upon the exercise of stock options that are exercisable or will become exercisable within 60 days after April 13, 2018.
- (5) Consists of 16,110 shares of Common Stock issuable upon the exercise of stock options that are exercisable or will become exercisable within 60 days after April 13, 2018.
- Consists of (i) 860,881 shares of Common Stock; (ii) 210,379 shares of Common Stock issuable upon exercise of warrants to purchase shares of Common Stock that are currently exercisable; and (iii) 15,387 shares of Common Stock issuable upon the exercise of stock options that are exercisable or will become exercisable within 60 days after April 13, 2018. Based on information provided to the Company by the stockholder and disclosed in a Schedule 13G filed on July 11, 2017. The business address for David S. Cohen is 299 Bishop Avenue, Bridgeport, Connecticut 06610.
  - Consists of (i) 686,874 shares of Common Stock held by Chenies Investor LLC; (ii) 340,913 shares of Common Stock held by Chenies Management LLC; (iii) 4,179 shares of Common Stock held by Precipio Employee Holdings, LLC; (iv) warrants to purchase 175,390 shares of Common Stock held by Chenies Investor LLC; (v)
- (7) warrants to purchase 29,541 shares of Common Stock held by Chenies Management LLC; and (vi) 15,776 shares of Common Stock issuable upon the exercise of stock options that are exercisable or will become exercisable within 60 days after April 13, 2018 held directly by Mr. Rimer. Mr. Rimer is managing member of Chenies Investor LLC and Chenies Management LLC. Based on information provided to the Company by the stockholder and disclosed in a Schedule 13D/A filed on October 17, 2017.
- (8) Includes shares which may be acquired by executive officers and directors as a group within 60 days after April 13, 2018 through the exercise of stock options or warrants.

#### PROPOSAL ONE: ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

#### **Board of Directors and Committees**

Our Board consists of seven directors. The Board is divided into three classes with directors in each class serving for a term of three years. The terms of office of the current Class I, Class II and Class III directors will expire in 2019, 2020 and 2018, respectively. Our directors are elected by the holders of our common stock. There are two directors in each of Class I and Class III and three directors in Class II.

Ilan Danieli and David Cohen are Class I directors, Samuel Riccitelli, Douglas Fisher, M.D. and Jeffrey Cossman, M.D. are Class II directors and Michael A. Luther, Ph.D. and Mark Rimer are Class III directors.

The Board has nominated Michael A. Luther, Ph.D. and Mark Rimer for election by the stockholders as the Class III directors to serve three-year terms expiring in 2021. Each of the nominated directors has expressed his intention to continue to serve on the Board if elected. There are no arrangements or understandings between each of the directors and any other person pursuant to which they were selected as nominees.

Our Amended and Restated Bylaws provide that directors are elected by a plurality vote. Therefore, our directors will be elected as if they are the nominees receiving the highest number of affirmative votes. This means that votes withheld and broker non-votes with respect to the election of the directors will have no effect on the election of such directors. If one of the directors is unable to serve as a director, the Board may nominate a substitute nominee. In that case, the Board will vote all valid proxies that voted in favor of the director that is unable to serve, for the election of the substitute nominee.

Certain biographical information regarding our director nominees and directors continuing in office after the Annual Meeting, including their ages as of May 23, 2018 and the dates that they were first elected to our Board, is set forth below. In each individual's biography we have highlighted specific experience, qualifications, and skills that have led the Board to conclude that such individual is a valued member of our Board. In addition to these specific attributes, all of our directors have significant expertise in one or more areas of importance to our business and have high-level managerial experience in relatively complex organizations or are accustomed to dealing with complex problems. We believe all of our directors are individuals of high character and integrity, are able to work well with others, and have sufficient time to devote to the affairs of our company.

The Board of Directors recommends that you vote "FOR" the director nominees named in Proposal One.

## **Vote Required**

The directors must be elected by the affirmative vote of a plurality of the outstanding common stock. Our stockholders do not have the right to cumulate votes in the election of directors. If a stockholder votes to "abstain" with respect to this proposal, such stockholder's shares will not be voted with respect to this proposal. Broker non-votes and withheld votes will not be counted as votes cast for this proposal and as such will have no impact on the outcome of this proposal.

#### **Information about our Board of Directors**

NAME	AGI	<b>E Position</b>	Board member since year	Term expiry
Ilan Danieli	46	Chief Executive Officer and Director	2017	2019
Michael Luther, Ph.D.	61	Director, Member of Audit Committee and Compensation Committee	2014	2018
David Cohen	59	Director	2017	2019
Douglas Fisher, M.D.	41	Director, Member of the Compensation Committee and Audit Committee	2017	2020
Jeffrey Cossmar M.D.	<sup>1</sup> ,70	Director, Member of the Compensation Committee and the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee	2017	2020
Samuel Riccitelli	59	Chairman, Director, Member of the Audit Committee and the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee	2017	2020
Mark Rimer	36	Director, Member of the Compensation Committee and the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee	2017	2018

#### Samuel Riccitelli

Mr. Riccitelli has been an independent consultant since February 2017. Mr. Riccitelli served as President and Chief Executive Officer from October 2012 to February 2017 and on the Board of Directors since June 2014 of Miragen Therapeutics, Inc. (formerly Signal Genetics, Inc.), a publicly traded molecular diagnostic company. From July 2011 to October 2012, Mr. Riccitelli was an independent consultant. From October 2001 to June 2011, he served as the Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of Genoptix, Inc., a publicly traded diagnostic services company focused on the needs of community hematologists and oncologists. From 1995 to 2001, he served in a number of research and development and general management leadership positions for Becton, Dickinson and Company. From 1989 to 1994, he served in several positions at Puritan-Bennett Corporation, including, most recently, as general manager. Mr. Riccitelli has served as a member of the board of directors of Orthopediatrics, Inc. since December 2017. Mr. Riccitelli also served on the Board of Directors of Exagen Diagnostics, Inc. from October 2011 to September 2014. He received a B.A. in Biology from Washington and Jefferson College and a M.S. Eng. degree from The University of Texas in Mechanical & Biomedical Engineering. Mr. Riccitelli was appointed as director of the Company since the Merger on June 2017. We believe Mr. Riccitelli's deep experience in the diagnostics field, chiefly as COO of Genoptix, one of the industry's leading diagnostic companies; as well as his experience as CEO of Signal Genetics, a publicly-traded diagnostics company, provides substantial executive experience in both the industry, and knowledge of public markets.

#### Mark Rimer

Mr. Rimer has been a partner at Kuzari Group, a boutique private investment group with a broad mandate to invest in full or partial buy-outs, growth capital, and venture capital across a broad range of industries since September 2009. Mr. Rimer serves on the Board of Directors of several companies, including Precipio, and is actively involved in business development roles at numerous portfolio companies. Prior to joining Kuzari, Mr. Rimer worked for a London-based private equity group, RP Capital Group, managing a number of investments across several emerging markets. Mr. Rimer is a Chartered Accountant, earned an undergraduate degree in Politics and Economics from Bristol University and an MBA from the NY Stern School of Business. Mr. Rimer was appointed as director of the Company in March 2012. Mr. Rimer has been an investor in Precipio from its inception. He brings with him not only a strong financial, accounting and investment background, but also a deep familiarity with the Company's business model and its evolution over the years.

### Jeffrey Cossman, M.D.

Dr. Cossman was a founder of and served as Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board at United States Diagnostic Standards, Inc. from 2009 to 2014, and as a member of the Board of The Personalized Medicine Coalition from 2008 to 2014. Prior to that, he served as Chief Scientific Officer and as member of the Board of Directors of The Critical Path Institute, and as Medical Director of Gene Logic, Inc. He was Professor and Chairman of the Department of Pathology at Georgetown University Medical Center where he held the Oscar Benwood Hunter Chair of Pathology and he served as Senior Investigator in Hematopathology at the National Cancer Institute. He is currently a medical advisor to Epigenomics AG. Dr. Cossman holds a B.S. from the University of Michigan and an M.D. from the University of Michigan Medical School. He is board-certified in pathology and trained in pathology and hematopathology at the University of Michigan, Stanford University and the National Institutes of Health. Dr. Cossman was appointed as director of the Company since September 2017. The Board believes that, as former chair of the department of pathology of Georgetown University, a premier academic institution, Dr. Cossman provides significant insight and guidance as to how the company should execute on its model. Furthermore, his experience in the molecular field is significant to the Company's strategy.

#### Douglas Fisher, M.D.

Dr. Fisher is currently an Executive in Residence at InterWest Partners LLC, a venture capital firm, where he has worked since March 2009. Dr. Fisher also works and serves as the Chief Business Officer at Sera Prognostics, Inc. since January 2015. Prior to joining InterWest, Dr. Fisher served as Vice President of New Leaf Venture Partners LLC, a private equity and venture capital firm, from January 2006 to March 2009. Prior to joining New Leaf, Dr. Fisher was a project leader with The Boston Consulting Group, Inc., a global management consulting firm, from November 2003 to February 2006. He currently serves on the board of Obalon Therapeutics, Inc., Gynesonics, Inc. and Indi Molecular, Inc., and previously served on the board of QuatRx Pharmaceuticals Company, Cardiac Dimensions, PMV Pharmaceuticals, Inc. and Sera Prognostics, Inc. Dr. Fisher holds an A.B. and a B.S. from Stanford University, an M.D. from the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine and an MBA from The Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania. Mr. Fisher was appointed as director of the Company since September 2017. Dr. Fisher's diverse background as both a physician, and an investor in biotech markets, is extremely beneficial to the Board in planning the Company's strategic growth and how to approach and manage the financial markets

#### David Cohen

Mr. Cohen is the Chief Operating Officer and co-owner of Standard Oil of Connecticut, Inc., the largest independent petroleum retailing company in Connecticut. He founded several highly successful ventures, including: Standard Security Systems, a provider of electronic security services; ResCom Energy, a multi-state supplier of deregulated electricity; Moneo Technology Solutions, a provider of security and network infrastructure solutions; and My Gene

Counsel, a cancer bioinformatics company. Mr. Cohen is also a highly experienced investor in numerous start-up and early stage businesses. He currently serves on the Boards of: eBrevia, Emme Controls, Foresite MSP, My Gene Counsel, The Platt & LaBonia Company, and Sirona Medical Technologies. Mr. Cohen holds a B.A. from Harvard College and an MBA from the Harvard Business School. Mr. Cohen was appointed as director of the Company since November 2017. Mr. Cohen brings to the Board a wealth of experience as a serial entrepreneur that has built several successful companies, as well as a strong investment track record. Mr. Cohen has been an early-stage investor in Precipio and brings his deep familiarity of the business to help guide management and the Board in its strategy.

#### Michael A Luther, Ph.D.

Dr. Luther has served as President and Chief Executive Officer of Bantam Pharmaceutical, LLC, a pharmaceutical company focused on the discovery and development of compounds to treat cancer with a focus on RNA translation, since March 2016. From October 2013 to October 2015, Dr. Luther was Senior Vice President and General Manager, Discovery and Development Services, at Albany Molecular Research, Inc. (NASDAQ: AMRI), a global contract research and manufacturing organization offering drug discovery, development and manufacturing services, where he was responsible for the strategic, operational and business development activities for Albany Molecular Research, Inc.'s global discovery and development divisions. From August 2012 to September 2013, Dr. Luther was Corporate Vice President of Global Discovery Research Services at Charles River Laboratories (NYSE: CRL), a global provider of products and services to pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, government agencies and academic institutions, where he served as the general manager of the firm's discovery business unit, including developing and implementing strategic and operating plans.

Prior to his role at Charles River, from March 2009 to August 2012, he was President and a member of the Board of Directors of the David H. Murdock Research Institute, a non-profit contract research organization located in Kannapolis, North Carolina, where he led and directed all activities of the institute, including applied research and development activities. From November 2006 to March 2009, Dr. Luther held the position of Vice President and Site Head at Merck Frosst, a pharmaceutical company in Montreal, Canada, focused on the delivery of Phase I product candidates from target to clinic for novel therapeutics in respiratory and metabolic disorders. Prior to Merck Frosst, from 1991 to 2006, he held positions of increasing responsibilities at GlaxoSmithKline, a global healthcare company that researches and develops a broad range of innovative medicines and brands, culminating in his appointment as Vice President, High Throughput Biology.

Dr. Luther holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology and Chemistry from North Carolina State University, a Master in Business Administration from Duke University, Fuqua School of Business, and a Ph.D. in Biophysical Chemistry from Saint Louis University School of Medicine. He served as a member of the Board of Directors of Islet Sciences, Inc., a biopharmaceutical company (OTC: ISLT), from March 2014 to June 2015. The Board selected Dr. Luther to serve as a director because it believes he possesses valuable experience in the healthcare and pharmaceutical industries and extensive strategic, scientific and business experience in such industries, which brings a unique and valuable perspective to the Board. Dr. Luther was appointed as director of the Company since April 2014.

#### Ilan Danieli

Mr. Danieli was the founder of Precipio Diagnostics LLC and has been its chief executive officer since 2011. Mr. Danieli assumed the role of Director of Precipio, Inc. at the time of the Merger. With over 20 years managing small and medium-size companies, some of his previous experiences include COO of Osiris, a publicly-traded company

based in New York City with operations in the US, Canada, Europe and Asia; VP of Operations for Laurus Capital Management, a multi-billion dollar hedge fund; and various other entrepreneurial ventures. Mr. Danieli holds an MBA from the Darden School at the University of Virginia, and a BA in Economics from Bar-Ilan University in Israel.

#### **Code of Business Conduct and Ethics**

Our Board has adopted a code of ethical conduct that applies to our principal executive officer, principal financial officer and senior financial management. This code of ethical conduct is embodied within our Code of Business Conduct and Ethics, which applies to all persons associated with our Company, including our directors, officers and employees (including our principal executive officer, principal financial officer, principal accounting officer and controller). The Code of Business Conduct and Ethics is available in the Investor Relations section of our website at www.precipiodx.com. In order to satisfy our disclosure requirements under Item 5.05 of Form 8-K, we will disclose amendments to, or waivers of, certain provisions of our Code of Business Conduct and Ethics relating to our chief executive officer, chief financial officer, chief accounting officer, controller or persons performing similar functions on our website promptly following the adoption of any such amendment or waiver. The Code provides that any waivers of, or changes to, the Code that apply to the Company's executive officers or directors may be made only by the Audit Committee. In addition, the Code includes updated procedures for non-executive officer employees to seek waivers of the Code.

### **Corporate Governance**

Our Board has determined that having an independent director serve as the Chairperson of the Board is in the best interests of our stockholders. Our Chairperson of the Board is Samuel Riccitelli. Ilan Danieli, CEO, is the only member of our Board who is not an independent director. We believe that this leadership structure enhances the accountability of our CEO to the Board and strengthens the Board's independence from management. While both Mr. Riccitelli and Mr. Danieli are actively engaged in significant matters affecting our Company, such as long-term strategy, we believe splitting these leadership positions enables Mr. Danieli to focus his efforts on running our business and managing our Company while permitting Mr. Riccitelli to focus on the governance of our Company, including Board oversight.

**Director Attendance at Meetings** 

Our Board conducts its business through meetings of our Board, both in person and telephonic, and actions taken by written consent in lieu of meetings. During the year ended December 31, 2017, our Board held four meetings. All directors attended at least 75% of the meetings of our Board and of the committees of our Board on which they served during 2017.

Our Board encourages all directors to attend our annual meetings of stockholders unless it is not reasonably practicable for a director to do so.

Committees of our Board of Directors

Our Board has established and delegated certain responsibilities to its standing Audit Committee, Compensation Committee and Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee.

#### Audit Committee

We have a separately designated standing Audit Committee established in accordance with Section 3(a)(58)(A) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"). The Audit Committee's primary duties and responsibilities include monitoring the integrity of our financial statements, monitoring the independence and

performance of our external auditors, and monitoring our compliance with applicable legal and regulatory requirements. The functions of the Audit Committee also include reviewing periodically with our independent registered public accounting firm the performance of the services for which they are engaged, including reviewing the scope of the annual audit and its results, reviewing with management and the auditors the adequacy of our internal accounting controls, reviewing with management and the auditors the financial results prior to the filing of quarterly and annual reports, reviewing fees charged by our independent registered public accounting firm and reviewing any transactions between our Company and related parties. Our independent registered public accounting firm reports directly and is accountable solely to the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee has the sole authority to hire and fire the independent registered public accounting firm and is responsible for the oversight of the performance of their duties, including ensuring the independence of the independent registered public accounting firm. The Audit Committee also approves in advance the retention of, and all fees to be paid to, the independent registered public accounting firm. The rendering of any auditing services and all non-auditing services by the independent registered public accounting firm is subject to prior approval of the Audit Committee.

The Audit Committee operates under a written charter which is available in the Investor Relations section of our website at <a href="https://www.precipiodx.com">www.precipiodx.com</a>. The Audit Committee is required to be composed of directors who are independent under the rules of the SEC and the listing standards of The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC ("NASDAQ").

The current members of the Audit Committee are directors Mr. Riccitelli, the Chairperson of the Audit Committee, Dr. Fisher and Dr. Luther, all of whom have been determined by the Board to be independent under the NASDAQ listing standards and rules adopted by the SEC applicable to audit committee members. The Board has determined that Mr. Riccitelli, Dr. Fisher and Dr. Luther each qualifies as an "audit committee financial expert" under the rules adopted by the SEC and the Sarbanes Oxley Act of 2002. The Audit Committee met one time during 2017 and did not take any actions by written consent.

# REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Company's management is responsible for the preparation of the Company's financial statements and for maintaining an adequate system of internal controls and processes for that purpose. Marcum LLP ("Marcum") acts as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm and they are responsible for conducting an independent audit of the Company's annual financial statements in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and issuing a report on the results of their audit. The Audit Committee is responsible for providing independent, objective oversight of both of these processes.

The Audit Committee has reviewed and discussed the Company's audited financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2017 with management of the Company and with representatives of Marcum. The Audit Committee's discussions with Marcum also included the matters required by Auditing Standard No. 16, *Communications with Audit Committees*, as adopted by the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB). In addition, the Audit Committee received the written disclosures and the letter from Marcum required by applicable requirements of the PCAOB regarding its communications with the Audit Committee concerning independence, and has discussed with Marcum its independence from the Company and its management.

Based on the foregoing, the Audit Committee has recommended to the Board of Directors, and the Board of Directors has approved, that the audited financial statements of the Company for the year ended December 31, 2017 be included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for filing with the SEC.

Samuel Riccitelli Douglas Fisher, M.D. Dr. Michael Luther

# Compensation Committee

The primary duties and responsibilities of our standing Compensation Committee are to review, modify and approve the overall compensation policies for the Company, including the compensation of the Company's Chief Executive Officer and other senior management; establish and assess the adequacy of director compensation; and approve the adoption, amendment and termination of the Company's stock option plans, pension and profit sharing plans, bonus plans and similar programs. The Compensation Committee may delegate to one or more officers the authority to make grants of options and restricted stock to eligible individuals other than officers and directors, subject to certain limitations. Additionally, the Compensation Committee has the authority to form subcommittees and to delegate authority to any such subcommittee. The Compensation Committee also has the authority, in its sole discretion, to select, retain and obtain, at the expense of the Company, advice and assistance from internal or external legal,

accounting or other advisors and consultants. Moreover, the Compensation Committee has sole authority to retain and terminate any compensation consultant to assist in the evaluation of director, Chief Executive Officer or senior executive compensation, including sole authority to approve such consultant's reasonable fees and other retention terms, all at the Company's expense.

The Compensation Committee operates under a written charter which is available on our website at www.precipiodx.com. All members of the Compensation Committee must satisfy the independence requirements of NASDAQ applicable to compensation committee members.

The Compensation Committee currently consists of directors Dr. Luther, Mr. Rimer, Dr. Cossman and Dr. Fisher. Dr. Luther was Chairperson of the Compensation Committee form the Merger date to February 8, 2018. On February 8, 2018, Dr. Fisher was appointed Chairperson of the Compensation Committee. Each of the Compensation Committee members has been determined by the Board to be independent under NASDAQ listing standards applicable to compensation committee members. The Compensation Committee met two times during 2017 and did not take any actions by written consent.

# Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee

The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee identifies, reviews and evaluates candidates to serve on the Board; reviews and assesses the performance of the Board and the committees of the Board; and assesses the independence of our directors. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee is also responsible for reviewing the composition of the Board's committees and making recommendations to the entire Board regarding the chairpersonship and membership of each committee. In addition, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee is responsible for developing corporate governance principles and periodically reviewing and assessing such principles, as well as periodically reviewing the Company's policy statements to determine their adherence to the Company's Code of Business Conduct and Ethics.

The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee has adopted a Director Nominees Consideration Policy, whereby Board candidates are identified primarily through suggestions made by directors, management and stockholders of the Company. We have implemented no material changes to the procedures by which stockholders may recommend nominees for the Board. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee will consider director nominees recommended by stockholders that are submitted in writing to the Company's Corporate Secretary in a timely manner and which provide necessary biographical and business experience information regarding the nominee. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee does not intend to alter the manner in which it evaluates candidates, including the criteria considered by the Nominating Committee, based on whether or not the candidate was recommended by a stockholder. The Board does not prescribe any minimum qualifications for director candidates, and all candidates for director will be evaluated based on their qualifications, diversity, age, skill and such other factors as deemed appropriate by the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee given the current needs of the Board, the committees of the Board and the Company. Although the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee does not have a specific policy on diversity, it considers the criteria noted above in selecting nominees for directors, including members from diverse backgrounds who combine a broad spectrum of experience and expertise. Absent other factors which may be material to its evaluation of a candidate, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee expects to recommend to the Board for selection incumbent directors who express an interest in continuing to serve on the Board. Following its evaluation of a proposed director's candidacy, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee will make a recommendation as to whether the Board should nominate the proposed director candidate for election by the stockholders of the Company.

The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee operates under a written charter which is available on our website at www.precipiodx.com. No member of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee may be an employee of the Company and each member must satisfy the independence requirements of NASDAQ and the SEC.

The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee currently consists of directors Dr. Cossman, Mr. Riccitelli and Mr. Rimer, each of whom has been determined by the Board to be independent under NASDAQ listing standards. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee did not meet or take any actions by written consent during 2017.

#### Oversight of Risk Management

Risk is inherent with every business, and how well a business manages risk can ultimately determine its success. We face a number of risks, including economic risks, financial risks, legal and regulatory risks and others, such as the impact of competition. Management is responsible for the day-to-day management of the risks that we face, while our Board, as a whole and through its committees, has responsibility for the oversight of risk management. In its risk oversight role, our Board is responsible for satisfying itself that the risk management processes designed and implemented by management are adequate and functioning as designed. Our Board assesses major risks facing our Company and options for their mitigation in order to promote our stockholders' interests in the long-term health of our Company and our overall success and financial strength. A fundamental part of risk management is not only understanding the risks a company faces and what steps management is taking to manage those risks, but also understanding what level of risk is appropriate for us. The involvement of our full Board in the risk oversight process allows our Board to assess management's appetite for risk and also determine what constitutes an appropriate level of risk for our Company. Our Board regularly includes agenda items at its meetings relating to its risk oversight role and meets with various members of management on a range of topics, including corporate governance and regulatory obligations, operations and significant transactions, risk management, insurance, pending and threatened litigation and significant commercial disputes.

While our Board is ultimately responsible for risk oversight, various committees of our Board oversee risk management in their respective areas and regularly report on their activities to our entire Board. In particular, the Audit Committee has the primary responsibility for the oversight of financial risks facing our Company. The Audit Committee's charter provides that it will discuss our major financial risk exposures and the steps we have taken to monitor and control such exposures. Our Board has also delegated primary responsibility for the oversight of all executive compensation and our employee benefit programs to the Compensation Committee. The Compensation Committee strives to create incentives that encourage a level of risk-taking behavior consistent with our business strategy.

We believe the division of risk management responsibilities described above is an effective approach for addressing the risks facing our Company and that our Board's leadership structure provides appropriate checks and balances against undue risk taking.

#### Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance

Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act and the rules of the SEC require our directors, certain officers and beneficial owners of more than 10% of our outstanding common stock to file reports of their ownership and changes in ownership of our common stock with the SEC. We believe all Section 16 reports were filed in a timely manner during 2017.

### **Review and Approval of Related Person Transactions**

We recognize that related person transactions can present potential or actual conflicts of interest and create the appearance that our decisions are based on considerations which may not be in our best interests or the best interests of our stockholders. Accordingly, as a general matter, we prefer to avoid related person transactions. Nevertheless, we recognize that there are situations where related person transactions may be in, or may not be inconsistent with, our best interests. Pursuant to the Audit Committee Charter, the Audit Committee is responsible for reviewing and overseeing related-party transactions as required by NASDAQ and SEC rules. Related persons include our directors, executive officers, 5% beneficial owners of our common stock or their respective immediate family members. Our Board will also review related party transactions in accordance with applicable law and the provisions of our Third Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation, as amended.

In addition, our Audit Committee has adopted a written Related Party Transactions Policy. Under our Related Party Transactions Policy, if any director or executive officer or any immediate family member or related entity of a related person proposes to enter into a transaction, or if the Company proposes to enter into a transaction with a 5% beneficial

owner of our common stock, then, prior to entering into such transaction, the related person must notify the Company's Compliance Officer (currently, the Chief Financial Officer) and provide sufficient knowledge regarding the proposed transaction as is reasonably available to assist the Compliance Officer in determining whether approval of the Audit Committee is required. The Audit Committee must review and consider any proposed related person transaction, and the Audit Committee will only approve the transactions it deems are fair to and in the best interests of the Company. Additionally, the Audit Committee may ratify transactions that were previously unapproved if it finds the transactions are fair to and in the best interests of the Company.

#### **Director Independence**

Our Company is governed by our Board, Currently, each member of our Board, other than Ilan Danieli, Chief Executive Officer, is an independent director and all standing committees of our Board are composed entirely of independent directors, in each case under NASDAO's independence definition applicable to boards of directors. For a director to be considered independent, our Board must determine that the director has no relationship which, in the opinion of our Board, would interfere with the exercise of independent judgment in carrying out the responsibilities of a director. Members of the Audit Committee also must satisfy a separate SEC independence requirement, which provides that they may not accept directly or indirectly any consulting, advisory or other compensatory fee from us or any of our subsidiaries other than their directors' compensation. In addition, under SEC rules, an Audit Committee member who is an affiliate of the issuer (other than through service as a director) cannot be deemed to be independent. In determining the independence of members of the Compensation Committee, NASDAQ listing standards require our Board to consider certain factors, including but not limited to: (1) the source of compensation of the director, including any consulting, advisory or other compensatory fee paid by us to the director, and (2) whether the director is affiliated with us, one of our subsidiaries or an affiliate of one of our subsidiaries. Under our Compensation Committee Charter, members of the Compensation Committee also must qualify as "outside directors" for purposes of Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), and as "non-employee directors" for purposes of Rule 16b-3 under the Exchange Act. The independent members of the Board are Dr. Michael Luther, Jeffrey Cossman, M.D., Douglas Fisher, M.D., David Cohen, Mark Rimer and Samuel Riccitelli.