NVR INC Form DEF 14A March 18, 2011

# SCHEDULE 14A (Rule 14a-101) INFORMATION REQUIRED IN PROXY STATEMENT SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Filed by the Registrant x Filed by a Party other than the Registranto Check the appropriate box: o Preliminary Proxy Statement

o Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))

b Definitive Proxy Statement

o Definitive Additional Materials

o Soliciting Material Pursuant to Rule 14a-11(c) or Rule 14a-12

# NVR, INC.

(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):

x No fee required.

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- (1) Amount previously paid:
- (2) Form, schedule or registration statement no.:
- (3) Filing party:
- (4) Date filed:

## NVR, INC. 11700 Plaza America Drive Reston, VA 20190 NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS To be held on Tuesday, May 3, 2011 11:30 A.M. Eastern Time

NVR, Inc. will hold its Annual Meeting of Shareholders at 11:30 A.M. (Eastern Time) on Tuesday, May 3, 2011. We will hold the meeting at our corporate headquarters located at 11700 Plaza America Dr., Suite 500, Reston, Virginia, 20190.

We are holding the meeting for the following purposes:

- 1. To elect eleven directors from the nominees named in the attached proxy statement;
- **2.** To ratify the appointment of the accounting firm of KPMG LLP as our independent auditor for the year ending December 31, 2011;
- **3.** To consider and act on an advisory vote regarding the approval of compensation paid to certain executive officers;
- **4.** To consider and act on an advisory vote on the frequency of future advisory votes regarding the approval of compensation paid to certain executive officers; and
- **5.** To transact other business that may properly come before the Annual Meeting or any adjournment or postponement of the Annual Meeting.

The above items are fully described in the proxy statement, which is part of this notice. We have not received notice of any other matters that may properly be presented at the meeting.

Only shareholders of record at the close of business on March 4, 2011 will be entitled to vote at the meeting. Whether or not you plan to attend the meeting, you are urged to date and sign the enclosed proxy card and return it promptly in the accompanying envelope. You are invited to attend the meeting in person. If you do attend the meeting, you may withdraw your proxy and vote in person.

By order of the Board of Directors,

March 21, 2011

James M. Sack Secretary and General Counsel

# NVR, INC. 11700 Plaza America Drive Suite 500 Reston, VA 20190 PROXY STATEMENT

This Proxy Statement, Proxy Card and the Annual Report for the year ended December 31, 2010 are being mailed to our shareholders on or about March 21, 2011 in connection with the solicitation on behalf of the Board of Directors of NVR, Inc., a Virginia corporation, of proxies for use at our Annual Meeting of Shareholders. The Annual Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 3, 2011, at our corporate headquarters located at 11700 Plaza America Dr., Suite 500, Reston, Virginia, 20190, at 11:30 A.M., Eastern Time, and at any and all postponements and adjournments thereof. Shareholders should contact NVR s Investor Relations Department at the same address to obtain directions to be able to attend the Annual Meeting in person.

We bear the cost of proxy solicitation, including expenses in connection with preparing, assembling and mailing the proxy solicitation materials and all papers accompanying them. We may reimburse brokers or persons holding shares in their names or in the names of their nominees for their expenses in sending proxies and proxy material to beneficial owners. In addition to solicitation by mail, certain of our officers, directors and regular employees, who will receive no extra compensation for their services, may solicit proxies by telephone, facsimile transmission, internet or personally. We have retained Georgeson Inc. to assist in the solicitation of brokers, bank nominees and institutional holders for a fee of approximately \$4,500 plus out-of-pocket expenses.

All voting rights are vested exclusively in the holders of our common stock, par value \$.01 per share (the Common Stock ). Only shareholders of record as of the close of business on March 4, 2011 (the Record Date ) are entitled to receive notice of and to vote at the Annual Meeting. Shareholders include holders (the Participants ) owning stock in our Profit Sharing Trust Plan and Employee Stock Ownership Plan (together, the Plans ).

The accompanying proxy card should be used to instruct the persons named as the proxy to vote the shareholder s shares in accordance with the shareholder s directions. The persons named in the accompanying proxy card will vote shares of Common Stock represented by all valid proxies in accordance with the instructions contained thereon. In the absence of instructions, shares represented by properly executed proxies will be voted:

FOR the election of the eleven director nominees,

FOR the ratification of KPMG LLP as our Independent Auditor for 2011,

FOR the advisory vote on compensation paid to certain executive officers,

**3 Years** under the advisory vote on the frequency of future advisory votes on approval of compensation paid to certain executive officers, and

in the discretion of the named proxies with respect to any other matters presented at the Annual Meeting. With respect to the tabulation of proxies, for the election of directors, the ratification of the appointment of KPMG LLP as our independent auditor, the advisory vote on compensation paid to certain executive officers and the advisory vote on the frequency of future advisory votes on approval of compensation paid to certain executive officers, abstentions and broker non-votes are counted for the

purpose of establishing a quorum, but are not counted in the number of votes cast and will have no effect on the result of the vote. In addition, under the current New York Stock Exchange rules, most intermediaries that do not receive voting instructions from their customers who hold NVR common stock may not vote the shares they hold on behalf of those customers on any of the proposals other than ratification of the appointment of KPMG LLP as our independent auditor. Accordingly, we strongly encourage all of our shareholders who hold shares of NVR common stock in a brokerage account or through a bank, trust or other nominee, to provide voting instructions to their broker, bank, trustee or other nominee to assure that their shares are voted at the Annual Meeting.

Any shareholder may revoke his or her proxy at any time prior to its use by 1) providing our Secretary, at 11700 Plaza America Drive, Suite 500, Reston, Virginia 20190, written notice of revocation, 2) duly executing a proxy bearing a later date than the date of the previously duly executed proxy, or 3) by attending the Annual Meeting and voting in person (attendance at the Annual Meeting alone will not act to revoke a prior proxy). Execution of the enclosed proxy will not affect your right to vote in person if you should later decide to attend the Annual Meeting.

The proxy card also should be used by Participants to instruct the trustee of the Plans how to vote shares of Common Stock held on their behalf. The trustee is required under the applicable trust agreement to establish procedures to ensure that the instructions received from Participants are held in confidence and not divulged, released or otherwise utilized in a manner that might influence the Participants free exercise of their voting rights. Proxy cards representing shares held by Participants must be returned to the tabulator by April 28, 2011 using the enclosed return envelope and should not be returned to us. If shares are owned through the Plans and the Participant does not submit voting instructions by April 28, 2011, the trustee of the Plans will vote such shares in the same proportion as the voting instructions received from other Participants. Participants who wish to revoke a proxy card will need to contact the trustee and follow its instructions.

As of the Record Date, we had a total of 5,935,873 shares of Common Stock outstanding, each share of which is entitled to one vote. The presence, either in person or by proxy, of persons entitled to vote a majority of the outstanding Common Stock is necessary to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at the Annual Meeting. Under our Restated Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, holders of Common Stock are not entitled to vote such shares on a cumulative basis, including with respect to the voting for directors.

# Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the Shareholder Meeting to Be Held on May 3, 2011:

This Proxy Statement and our Annual Report for the year ended December 31, 2010 are available at www.edocumentview.com/nvr.

#### Election of Directors (Proposal 1)

Formerly, our Board of Directors, or the Board, was divided into three classes. At the 2010 Annual Meeting, our shareholders approved the declassification of the Board, the result of which is that all directors will be elected to one year terms beginning at the 2011 Annual Meeting. To facilitate the transition from classified three-year terms to non-classified one-year terms, each director whose term does not expire at the 2011 Annual Meeting has agreed to tender his resignation effective immediately prior to the 2011 Annual Meeting. The following persons have been nominated by the Board of Directors to be elected to hold office for a one-year term ending at the 2012 Annual Meeting and until their successors are duly elected and qualified:

Dwight C. Schar	Alfred E. Festa	W. Grady Rosier
C. E. Andrews	Manuel H. Johnson	John M. Toups
Robert C. Butler	William A. Moran	Paul W. Whetsell
Timothy M. Donahue	David A. Preiser	

Our Restated Articles of Incorporation state that the number of directors on our Board will be no less than seven and no more than thirteen, as established from time to time by Board resolution. Our Board has currently set the size of the Board at eleven members.

All of the director nominees are current directors standing for reelection. Each nominee has consented to serve as one of our directors if elected. Our Board of Directors has affirmatively determined that each of the proposed nominees is independent, with the exception of Mssrs. Schar and Moran. Mr. Schar was an employee of NVR in the capacity of Executive Chairman within the last three years, and Mr. Moran is the chairman of Elm Street Development, Inc., an entity from which we periodically purchase land upon which to build our homes (*see the section captioned Transactions with Related Persons*). Our Board does not contemplate that any of its proposed nominees listed above will be unwilling to serve or become unavailable for any reason, but if any such circumstance should occur before the Annual Meeting, proxies may be voted for another nominee selected by the Board of Directors.

#### **Required Vote**

Each director shall be elected by a majority of the votes cast in the election at the Annual Meeting, assuming that a quorum is present. A majority of the votes cast means that the number of shares voted for a director must exceed the number of shares voted against that director. Unless marked otherwise, proxies received will be voted **FOR** the election of the eleven nominees designated above. Shareholders may abstain from voting for any particular nominee by so indicating in the space provided on the attached proxy card. An abstention will not be counted as a vote cast for or against a director s election.

Pursuant to our Corporate Governance Guidelines, the Board expects a director to tender his or her resignation if he or she fails to receive the required number of votes for re-election. Under the Guidelines, the Board shall nominate for election or re-election as a director only candidates who agree to tender their resignation if they fail to receive the required number of votes for re-election. In addition, the Board shall fill director vacancies and new directorships only with candidates who agree to tender their resignation if they fail to receive the required number of votes for re-election.

The Nominating Committee shall promptly consider the resignation offer of any such director and recommend to the Board whether to accept the tendered resignation or reject it. The Board shall take

action with respect to the Nominating Committee s recommendation no later than 90 days following the submission of any such resignation offer.

Following the Board s action regarding the Nominating Committee s recommendation, the Company shall promptly file a Current Report on Form 8-K with the Securities and Exchange Commission which shall detail the Board s decision regarding a tendered resignation. This disclosure shall include an explanation of the process by which the Board s decision was reached and the reasons for the Board s decision.

To the extent that one or more directors resignations are accepted by the Board, the Nominating Committee will recommend to the Board whether to fill the vacancy or vacancies or to reduce the size of the Board.

The Board expects that any director who tenders his or her resignation pursuant to this Policy will not participate in the Nominating Committee recommendation or Board action regarding whether to accept or reject the tendered resignation. If, however, a majority of the members of the Nominating Committee fails to receive the required number of votes for re-election in the election, the independent directors who did not fail to receive the required number of votes for re-election in the election shall form a committee amongst themselves for the purposes of evaluating the tendered resignations and recommending to the Board whether to accept or reject them.

# THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS VOTING FOR ALL OF THE FOREGOING NOMINEES AS DIRECTORS OF NVR

# CORPORATE GOVERNANCE PRINCIPLES AND BOARD MATTERS

We are committed to having sound corporate governance principles and practices. Having and acting on that commitment is essential to running our business efficiently and to maintaining our integrity in the marketplace. Our primary corporate governance documents, including our Corporate Governance Guidelines, Code of Ethics and all of our Board of Directors Committee Charters, are available to the public on our internet website at <a href="http://www.nvrinc.com">http://www.nvrinc.com</a>.

#### Board Leadership Structure, Committee Composition and Role in Risk Oversight

#### **Board Leadership Structure**

Our Restated Articles of Incorporation state that the number of directors on our Board will be no less than seven and no more than thirteen, as established from time to time by Board resolution. Our Board has currently set the size of the Board at eleven members.

Dwight C. Schar, our chairman, leads our Board, which meets at least quarterly. In addition, our Corporate Governance Guidelines require that each year our Board name an independent lead director to chair meetings of our independent directors. The independent directors of our Board meet as a group at least annually. Non-management directors meet as a group at least twice a year. Our independent lead director position rotates annually among the Audit, Compensation, Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee chairmen. The lead director chairs any meetings held by the independent directors. Robert C. Butler, the Chairman of our Corporate Governance Committee, served as our independent lead director for calendar year 2010. David A. Preiser, the Chairman of our Nominating Committee, assumed the independent lead director role for the 2011 calendar year. Our Board is



comprised solely of non-management directors. Information regarding how to communicate with the lead director or the non-management or independent directors as a group is available on our website at <u>http://www.nvrinc.com</u>.

In June 2005, we separated the roles of the Chairman of the Board and the Chief Executive Officer. Mr. Schar continues to perform as the Chairman, and Paul C. Saville is currently the CEO. We separated the roles at that time because we believed it was a leading corporate governance best practice to reduce the concentration of power in one person and it allowed us to strengthen our senior management team as we positioned NVR for future growth. In addition, transferring the operational day to day management functions to Mr. Saville enabled Mr. Schar to spend more time developing long term strategies, and it allowed him more time to recruit new Board of Director candidates. Those same reasons hold true today. As a result, we expect that the roles of Chairman and CEO will remain separated for the foreseeable future.

#### **Board Committee Composition**

Our Board has the following six committees: Audit, Compensation, Corporate Governance, Executive, Nominating, and Qualified Legal Compliance. Each committee, other than the Executive Committee, meets at least annually to review its charter. During 2010, the full Board of Directors met seven times, the Audit Committee met five times, the Compensation Committee met seven times, the Nominating Committee met twice, the Corporate Governance Committee met twice, and the Qualified Legal Compliance Committee met once. The Executive Committee did not meet during 2010. Our non-management directors met twice during 2010 in executive session without the presence of management, and the independent directors met once. Each of our Board members attended at least 75% of our Board meetings and their respective Committee meetings during 2010. Further, each of our Board members and each then-standing director attended the 2010 Annual Meeting of shareholders. Our Board requires that all current Board members and all nominees for election to our Board of Directors put forth in our proxy statement by our Board attend in person our annual meeting of shareholders, unless personal circumstances affecting such Board member or director nominee make such attendance impractical or inappropriate.

#### Board Role in Risk Oversight

Our Board provides constant oversight of our business risks and operational performance through regularly scheduled Board and Committee meetings, as well as through frequent and informal communications between management and the Board. Further, our Bylaws and each of the various Board Committee Charters (referenced above and discussed in detail below) provide additional detail regarding the areas, duties and functions for which the Board or a Board Committee provides specific oversight of specified areas of risk.

That oversight includes a variety of operational and regulatory matters, including: the approval of the annual business plan and the periodic review of our actual performance in comparison to the approved plan, approval of all short-term and long-term management incentive compensation plans, review and analysis of our operational and financial performance compared to our peer group, review of our five year business plan, review of management succession planning throughout our organization for key management positions, review of our response to new laws, rules or regulations to which we are subject, direct oversight of our internal audit function and our whistleblower hotline and many other items. Following is a discussion of how the Board oversees certain of our more significant business risks:

# Land Acquisition:

Our continued success is contingent upon our ability to control an adequate supply of finished lots on which to build. We expend substantial monetary resources to place deposits under lot acquisition contracts, typically ranging up to 10% of the aggregate purchase price of the finished lots. The lot acquisition policy under which management operates is a Board-approved policy. The policy requires Board pre-approval of any lot acquisition contract that is above certain parameters set by the Board, measured by the aggregate size of the deposit or investment to be made. The policy also includes the parameters under which we can acquire zoned, unimproved raw land. Further, all related-party lot acquisition contracts require Board approval (see *Transactions with Related Persons* below).

# Liquidity:

Being in a cyclical industry, it is imperative that we focus on our liquidity needs throughout the various stages of the cycle, while maintaining an efficient capital structure. The Board s role in ensuring that Management prudently manages our cash includes the following:

We invest our excess cash pursuant to a Board-approved policy that specifies the types of investments allowed. The primary objective of the policy is to minimize risk and to adequately provide for daily liquidity needs.

Stock repurchase programs and debt repurchases must be pre-approved by the Board.

All capital transactions for the issuance of debt or equity must be pre-approved by the Board.

The Board reviews our long-term cash needs in connection with its review of our five year business plan. *Financial Reporting, Internal Control and Regulatory Matters:* 

Our Audit Committee takes a lead role in overseeing a number of risks that we face as enumerated within its Charter.

Our Internal Audit function performs a primary role in risk management. Our Vice President of Internal Audit and Corporate Governance reports directly to the Audit Committee, and the Audit Committee formally approves the annual internal audit budget and staffing.

Our annual internal audit plan is reviewed with and approved by the Audit Committee. It is prepared using a comprehensive risk-based approach in the following areas: Finance and Accounting; Homebuilding Operations; Mortgage and Settlement Services Operations; Manufacturing Operations; Human Resources; Legal; and Information Technology. The entire risk matrix (which includes the major individual risks identified, each risk s rating of low, medium or high, whether the area is currently audited by internal audit, and what other risk mitigation techniques are present) is reviewed in detail with the Audit Committee.

On a quarterly basis, Internal Audit Senior Management and our external independent auditors each have a private session with the Audit Committee without the presence of Management.

Management reports to the Audit Committee the occurrence of any governmental regulatory reviews or audits conducted on any of our operations, including mortgage regulatory matters and SEC comment letters. The Audit Committee also obtains a report from Management at the conclusion of any such review.

Management reports to the Audit Committee any matter concerning a violation of our Code of Ethics or our Standards of Business Conduct.

# **Related Party Transactions:**

Our Bylaws require that the disinterested, independent members of the Board approve any related party transaction. This has been a requirement since we incorporated in 1993.

#### **Board Member Information**

The following sets forth certain pertinent information with respect to our current directors, all of whom are director nominees.

		Year First Elected or Appointed/
Name	Age	Term Expires (***)
Dwight C. Schar (3*)	69	1993/2011
C. E. Andrews (1) (5) (6)	59	2008/2011
Robert C. Butler (1) (4) (5*) (6)	80	2002/2011
Timothy M. Donahue (2) (4)	62	2006/2012
Alfred E. Festa (1) (4) (6)	51	2008/2012
Manuel H. Johnson (1*) (2)(3) (6*)	62	1993/2013
William A. Moran (3)	64	1993/2012
David A. Preiser (2) (4*) (**)	54	1993/2013
W. Grady Rosier (2) (5)	62	2008/2012
John M. Toups (2*) (3) (5)	85	1993/2013
Paul W. Whetsell (2)(5)	60	2007/2013

- (1) Member of Audit Committee
- (2) Member of Compensation Committee
- (3) Member of Executive Committee
- (4) Member of Nominating Committee
- (5) Member of Corporate Governance Committee
- (6) Member of Qualified Legal Compliance Committee
- (\*) Chairperson
- (\*\*) Independent Lead Director
- (\*\*\*) As noted above, to facilitate the transition from classified three-year terms to non-classified one-year terms, each director whose term does not expire at the 2011 Annual Meeting has agreed to tender his resignation effective immediately prior to the 2011 Annual Meeting.

*Dwight C. Schar* has been Chairman of the Board since September 30, 1993. Effective February 4, 2009, Mr. Schar relinquished his executive officer title with NVR, but remains the Chairman of the Board. Mr. Schar also served as the President and Chief Executive Officer of NVR from September 30, 1993 through June 30, 2005. Within the last five years, Mr. Schar served as a director of Six Flags, Inc.

The Board believes that Mr. Schar is uniquely qualified to serve on the Board, based on his founding status with NVR, his approximately 40 years of homebuilding industry and real estate experience, his successful senior leadership experience from being a Chief Executive Officer of NVR and its predecessors, his experience on another public board, his brand marketing expertise and his expertise in managing a company within a cyclical industry.

*C. E. Andrews* has been a director since May 6, 2008. Mr. Andrews was named president of RSM McGladrey on June 29, 2009. Prior to that, Mr. Andrews served as the president of SLM Corporation (Sallie Mae). He joined Sallie Mae in 2003 as the executive vice president of accounting and risk management, and held the title of chief financial officer from 2006 to 2007. Prior to joining Sallie Mae, Mr. Andrews spent approximately 30 years at Arthur Andersen. He served as managing partner for Arthur Andersen s mid-Atlantic region, and was promoted to global managing partner for audit and advisory services in 2002. Mr. Andrews serves on the board of Junior Achievement. He is also a member of the Advisory Boards of the R.B. Pamplin College of Business and Accounting Department at Virginia Tech. Within the last five years, Mr. Andrews was also a member of the Board of Directors of U-Store-It Trust, where he was a member of the Audit Committee, and Six Flags, Inc., where was the Chair of the Audit Committee.

The Board believes that Mr. Andrews is well qualified to serve on our Board based on the varied business experience that he obtained over his thirty year career in public accounting, his financial and accounting expertise, and his experience on other public boards.

*Robert C. Butler* has been a director since May 1, 2002. Prior to his retirement, Mr. Butler served as Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Celgene Corporation from 1996 through 1998. Previously, Mr. Butler served as Chief Financial Officer of International Paper Co. In addition, Mr. Butler was the Chairman of the Financial Accounting Standards Advisory Council from 1997 through 2001. Mr. Butler is a director of Studio One Networks, Inc. and Hanley and Associates, a privately held investor relations company. He also serves on the Board of Trustees of COPE Center, Inc. and the Montclair Foundation, both being non-profit social services agencies in New Jersey.

The Board believes that Mr. Butler is highly qualified to serve on our Board due to the accounting and financial reporting expertise gained from his involvement with the Financial Accounting Standards Advisory Council, his financial expertise while operating as a chief financial officer of several large companies, his manufacturing experience, and his other board experience.

*Timothy M. Donahue* has been a director since January 1, 2006. Prior to his retirement, Mr. Donahue was Executive Chairman of Sprint Nextel Corporation from August 2005 to December 2006. He previously served as president and chief executive officer of Nextel Communications, Inc. He began his career with Nextel in January 1996 as president and chief operating officer. Before joining Nextel, Mr. Donahue served as northeast regional president for AT&T Wireless Services operations from 1991 to 1996. Prior to that, he served as president for McCaw Cellular s paging division in 1986 and was named McCaw s president for the U.S. central region in 1989. He is also a director of Eastman Kodak, Covidien Limited, and Tyco International LTD. Within the last five years, Mr. Donahue had also served as the Executive Chairman of Sprint Nextel Corporation.

The Board considered Mr. Donahue s senior leadership experience from being a Chief Executive Officer of a publicly-traded company, his operational expertise in providing global strategic vision to the overall operating entity, his experience serving on other public boards, and his brand marketing expertise in concluding that Mr. Donahue is highly qualified to serve as one of our directors.

*Alfred E. Festa* was appointed to our Board effective December 1, 2008. Mr. Festa is Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of W. R. Grace & Co (Grace). He joined Grace as president and chief operating officer in November 2003, assumed the CEO role in June 2005, and became Chairman of the Board of Grace on January 1, 2008. From November 2002 until November 2003, Mr. Festa was a partner in Morgenthaler Private Equity Partners (Morgenthaler), a venture/buy out firm focused on mid-market industrial build-ups.

The Board believes that Mr. Festa is well-suited to serve on our Board based on his experience of managing Grace during different business cycles, his senior leadership experience as a Chief Executive Officer of a publicly-traded company and his role setting global strategic vision for the entire organization, his business development and mergers and acquisitions experience from his work at Morgenthaler, and his experience serving on another public board.

*Manuel H. Johnson* has been a director since September 30, 1993. Dr. Johnson has been co-chairman and senior partner in Johnson Smick International, Inc., an international financial policy-consulting firm, since 1990. From August 1, 1997 until December 2003, Dr. Johnson was the chairman of the Board of Trustees and president of the Financial Accounting Foundation, which oversees the Financial Accounting Standards Board. Also during 1997, Dr. Johnson was named a member of the Independence Standards Board (which was dissolved on July 31, 2001), formed jointly by the Securities and Exchange Commission and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Dr. Johnson is a founder and co-chairman of the Group of Seven Council, an international commission supporting economic cooperation among the major industrial nations. He is a director of Morgan Stanley Funds and Evergreen Energy, Inc (formerly KFX, Inc.). Within the last five years, Mr. Johnson was also a member of the Board of Directors of Greenwich Capital Markets, Inc.

The Board believes that Mr. Johnson is well-qualified to serve on our board based on his financial and macroeconomic expertise, his knowledge of governmental and financial regulatory matters, his ability to access multiple high level information channels in the public and private sectors, his public board experience, and his lengthy experience as one of our directors.

*William A. Moran* has been a director since September 30, 1993. Mr. Moran has been the chairman of Elm Street Development, Inc. (Elm Street) since 1996. Until January 1, 2010, Mr. Moran was a director of Craftmark, Inc., a homebuilder in Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania and Delaware and Craftstar, Inc., which develops, invests in and periodically sells apartments, condominiums, single family homes and townhomes in Virginia and Maryland. Mr. Moran is also a director of ESD, Inc.

The Board considered Mr. Moran s lengthy homebuilding, real estate and land development experience, his senior leadership experience from being a Chief Executive Officer, his operational expertise and his expertise in managing a company within a cyclical industry in concluding that Mr. Moran is highly qualified to serve as one of our directors.

*David A. Preiser* has been a director since September 30, 1993. Mr. Preiser has been a senior managing director and a member of the Board of Directors of the investment banking firm of Houlihan Lokey Howard & Zukin (Houlihan Lokey) since 2001. Prior to that date, Mr. Preiser was a

managing director of Houlihan Lokey. Since January 1, 2005, Mr. Preiser has served as Chairman of Houlihan Lokey Howard and Zukin Europe, pursuant to which he leads Houlihan Lokey s European investment banking activities, with a particular focus on Houlihan Lokey s European restructuring business. Mr. Preiser is also active in Houlihan Lokey s restructuring activities in the United States. From 1990, Mr. Preiser had been active in coordinating Houlihan Lokey s real estate and financial restructuring activities as a senior managing director. Mr. Preiser is also a director of AIT Holding Company, LLC. Within the last five years, Mr. Preiser was also a member of the Board of Directors of Jos. A. Bank Clothiers, Inc.; Akrion, Inc.; Tremesis Energy Investment Company; and Collective Licensing International, LLC.

The Board believes that Mr. Preiser is well-suited to serve as one of our directors based on his expertise of managing workouts of distressed companies, his senior leadership experience of setting global strategic vision for an organization, his financial expertise from working in the investment banking field, his knowledge of capital markets, his business development and mergers and acquisitions experience, his experience sitting on other public boards, and his lengthy experience as one of our directors during different points in our business cycle.

*W. Grady Rosier* was appointed to our Board effective December 1, 2008. Mr. Rosier has been the president and CEO of McLane Company, Inc. (McLane), a supply chain services company, since 1995. Prior to that date, Mr. Rosier has held various senior management roles since joining McLane in 1984. Mr. Rosier is a director of Tandy Brands Accessories, Inc. Within the last five years, Mr. Rosier was also a director of Evergreen Energy, Inc.

The Board believes that Mr. Rosier is highly qualified to serve as one of our directors because of his senior leadership experience from being a Chief Executive Officer, his other public board experience, and his operational expertise of being responsible for setting global strategic vision for an entire organization.

*John M. Toups* has been a director since September 30, 1993. Prior to his retirement, Mr. Toups held various management positions with Planning Research Corporation from 1970 through 1987, for which he was chief executive officer from 1978 to 1987 and chairman from 1982 to 1987. He is also a director of GTSI, Inc., Dewberry & Davis, and Willdan Group, Inc. Within the last five years, Mr. Toups also served as a member of the Board of Directors for Dinte Resources and Halifax Corporation.

The Board considered Mr. Toup s senior leadership experience from being a Chief Executive Officer of a publicly-traded company, his public board experience, and his lengthy experience as one of our directors in concluding that Mr. Toups is highly qualified to serve as one of our directors.

*Paul W. Whetsell* has been a director since March 1, 2007. Mr. Whetsell has been the president and chief executive officer of Capstar Hotel Company since 2006. From August 1998 until May 2006, Mr. Whetsell served as the chairman and chief executive officer of Meristar Hospitality Corporation, and as the Chairman of Interstate Hotels and Resorts, Inc. (Interstate) from August 1998 until March 2009. From August 1998 until October 2003, he also served as the chief executive officer of Interstate and its predecessor. He also serves on the Board of Virgin Hotels North America, LLC and the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, and is a member of that Board s Audit Committee.

The Board considered Mr. Whetsell s senior leadership experience from being a Chief Executive Officer of a publicly-traded company, his public board service experience, his operational

expertise, his real estate experience, and his brand marketing expertise in concluding that Mr. Whetsell is highly qualified to serve as one of our directors.

# **Board Independence**

Our Board has established Director independence standards to assist us in determining director independence, the standards of which meet the independence requirements of the New York Stock Exchange s ( NYSE ) corporate governance listing standards (our common stock is listed on the NYSE). Our independence standards are included within our Corporate Governance Guidelines, which are available on our website at <u>http://www.nvrinc.com</u>. Our Board considers all relevant facts and circumstances in making an independence determination. As required by the rules of the NYSE, to be considered independent under our independence standards, a director must be determined, by a resolution of our Board, to have no material relationship with us (other than as a director) directly or indirectly.

Our Board has affirmatively determined that Mssrs. Andrews, Butler, Donahue, Festa, Johnson, Preiser, Rosier, Toups, and Whetsell are independent pursuant to our independence standards and have no material relationship with us that would affect their independence. Mr. Schar, our former Executive Chairman, and Mr. Moran, who controls a company from which we acquire a small portion of our finished lots upon which to build our homes, have been determined by our Board not to be independent.

When our Board analyzed the independence of its members, it considered two transactions that it deemed immaterial to the independence of the director involved based on the amounts involved and the ordinary course business nature of the transactions:

Mr. Toups is a director of Dewberry & Davis ( Dewberry ), a privately held professional services firm that provides engineering, surveying and environmental sciences services. Previously, the independent, disinterested members of our Board authorized us to obtain services in the ordinary course of business from Dewberry, the services of which included engineering and surveying of certain finished lots upon which we build our homes. In 2010, we paid Dewberry \$75,033 for such services. The Board concluded that NVR s relationship with Dewberry does not affect the independence of Mr. Toups because his position as a director of Dewberry does not enable him to derive any benefit from the relationship.

Mr. Donahue is a director of Tyco International LTD. (Tyco), a publicly traded company that wholly owns certain home security and fire protection systems and services companies. Previously, the independent, disinterested members of our Board authorized us to obtain services in the ordinary course of business from Tyco for model home security monitoring systems as well as built-in security and fire protection systems within homes sold to customers. In 2010, we paid Tyco \$2,761 for such services. The Board concluded that NVR s relationship with Tyco does not affect the independence of Mr. Donahue because his position as a director of Tyco does not enable him to derive any benefit from the relationship.

# **Board Committees**

# Audit Committee

We have a separately designated standing Audit Committee comprised of four members, each of whom satisfies the independence standards specified above and Rule 10A-3(b)(1) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (1934 Act). All current members of our Audit Committee are financially literate and are able to read and understand fundamental financial statements, including a balance sheet, income statement and cash flow statement. Our Board has determined that Manuel H. Johnson, our current Audit Committee Chairman, qualifies as an audit committee financial expert as defined within Item 407(d)(5) of Regulation S-K under the 1934 Act. This designation does not impose on Mr. Johnson any duties, obligations or liability that are any greater than are generally imposed on him as a member of our Audit Committee and our Board, and his designation as an audit committee financial expert pursuant to this Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) requirement does not affect the duties, obligations or liability of any other member of our Audit Committee or our Board.

Our Audit Committee operates pursuant to a charter adopted by our Board that is available at <a href="http://www.nvrinc.com">http://www.nvrinc.com</a>. As enumerated in the Charter, our Audit Committee was established to assist our Board s oversight of (1) the integrity of our accounting and financial reporting processes, (2) our compliance with legal and regulatory requirements, (3) our independent external auditor s qualifications and independence, and (4) the performance of our internal audit function and of our independent external auditors. Among other things, our Audit Committee prepares the Audit Committee Report for inclusion in our proxy statement; annually reviews our Audit Committee Charter and the Audit Committee s performance; appoints, evaluates and determines the compensation of our independent external auditors; maintains written procedures for the receipt, retention and treatment of complaints on accounting, internal accounting controls or auditing matters, as well as for the confidential, anonymous submissions by our employees of concerns regarding questionable accounting or auditing matters; reviews substantiated complaints received from internal and external sources regarding accounting, internal accounting controls, audit department, and reviews reports from management regarding significant accounting, internal accounting controls, auditing, legal and regulatory matters. Our Audit Committee has the authority and available funding to engage any independent legal counsel and any accounting or other expert advisors, as our Audit Committee deems necessary to carry out its duties.

#### **Compensation Committee**

We have a separately designated standing Compensation Committee comprised of six members, each of whom satisfies our independence standards specified above. Our Compensation Committee operates pursuant to a charter adopted by our Board that is available at <u>http://www.nvrinc.com</u>.

# Description of Duties

Among other things, our Compensation Committee (1) reviews and determines all compensation of our Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and, based in part on the recommendation of the CEO, of all of our other executive officers; (2) periodically reviews and makes recommendations to the Board with respect to the compensation of our directors; (3) administers and interprets incentive compensation and equity plans for our employees (except as otherwise described below); (4) assists in preparing the Compensation Discussion and Analysis and prepares our Compensation Committee Report for inclusion in our annual meeting proxy statement in accordance with applicable rules and regulations of the SEC; (5) makes recommendations to our Board about succession planning for our CEO, and in conjunction with the CEO, also considers succession planning for other of our key positions; (6) reviews and approves any

employment agreements, or amendments thereto, with our CEO and other applicable executive officers; and (7) annually reviews our Compensation Committee Charter and the Compensation Committee s performance.

The Compensation Committee charter provides that the Committee may delegate its authority to one or more members of the Committee. Any person to whom authority is delegated must report any actions taken by him or her to the full Committee at its next regularly scheduled meeting. During 2010, the Compensation Committee did not delegate any of its authority to any individual member(s) of the Committee.

The Committee s charter also provides that the Compensation Committee may delegate to a senior executive officer of NVR the authority to grant options to non-executive employees, within limits prescribed by the full Board of Directors. Any options granted by a senior executive officer pursuant to delegated authority must be reported to the Compensation Committee at its next regularly scheduled meeting. Our Compensation Committee, by resolution, delegated authority to Mr. Saville, acting jointly with the Senior Vice President of Human Resources, to grant options to new and existing employees below the executive officer rank during 2010. The Senior Vice President of Human Resources is required to report any options granted pursuant to this delegated authority to the Compensation Committee at their next scheduled meeting after the delegated authority is exercised.

For a discussion of the role of Mr. Saville in recommending the amount or form of compensation paid to our named executive officers during 2010, see the Compensation Discussion and Analysis below. <u>Compensation Consultants</u>

Pursuant to its charter, the Compensation Committee has the sole authority and available funding to obtain advice and assistance from compensation consultants, as well as internal or outside legal, accounting or other expert advisors, that it determines necessary to carry out its duties. Periodically the Compensation Committee engages compensation consultants to provide advice regarding executive officer compensation on an as needed basis. In 2010, the Compensation Committee engaged Hewitt Associates to assist us in formulating the terms and structure of a long term incentive plan for adoption in 2010, which included an analysis of the base pay, annual incentive opportunities and long-term incentive compensation awarded to our named executive officers as compared to a peer group, as well as a Board compensation analysis. Hewitt does not perform any other services for us. Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation

During 2010, our compensation committee was comprised of Mr. Toups, Mr. Donahue, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Preiser, Mr. Rosier and Mr. Whetsell, all of who are independent directors. None of our executive officers served as a member of the board of directors or compensation committee of any entity that has one or more executive officers serving as a member of our Board or our Compensation Committee; accordingly, there were no interlocks with other companies within the meaning of the SEC s proxy rules during 2010.

#### Nominating Committee

We have a separately designated standing Nominating Committee comprised of four members, each of whom satisfies our independence standards specified above. The Nominating Committee operates pursuant to a charter adopted by the Board that is available at <u>http://www.nvrinc.com</u>.

Among other things, the Nominating Committee (1) identifies individuals qualified to become Board members; (2) recommends that our Board select the director nominees for the next annual meeting of shareholders; (3) recommends to our Board names of individuals to fill any vacancies on our Board that arise between annual meetings of shareholders; (4) considers from time to time our Board committee structure and makeup; and (5) annually reviews our Nominating Committee Charter and the Nominating Committee s performance. Our Nominating Committee also has the sole authority and appropriate funding to obtain advice and assistance from executive search firms, and internal or outside legal, accounting or other expert advisors that it determines necessary to carry out its duties.

Attached as <u>Appendix A</u> are our Policies and Procedures for the Consideration of Board of Directors Candidates, including nominations submitted by our security holders. This material is also available at <u>http://www.nvrinc.com</u>. These policies and procedures include minimum qualifications for director nominees and the process for identifying and evaluating director nominees. Our Nominating Committee has a stated goal of identifying well-qualified director candidates that would enhance the Board s diversity. In searching for potential director candidates, the Nominating Committee first seeks the most qualified candidates with a record of success. The Committee also searches for candidates that promote diversity of views, backgrounds, experience and skills to the Board.

#### **Corporate Governance Committee**

We have a separately designated standing Corporate Governance Committee comprised of five members, each of whom satisfies our independence standards specified above. The Corporate Governance Committee operates pursuant to a charter adopted by our Board that is available at <u>http://www.nvrinc.com</u>. Our Corporate Governance Guidelines are also available at <u>http://www.nvrinc.com</u>.

Among other things, the Corporate Governance Committee (1) develops and recommends to our Board a set of corporate governance principles; (2) annually reviews and assesses the adequacy of our Corporate Governance Guidelines, including ensuring that they reflect best practices where appropriate; (3) manages the Board s annual self-evaluation process, and (4) annually reviews our Corporate Governance Committee Charter and the Corporate Governance Committee s performance. Our Corporate Governance Committee must obtain Board approval for funding to obtain advice and assistance from internal or outside legal, accounting or other expert advisors that it determines necessary to carry out its duties.

#### Qualified Legal Compliance Committee

Our Qualified Legal Compliance Committee (QLCC) is a separately designated standing committee, currently consisting of all of the members of our Audit Committee. It was established to assist our Board in fulfilling its responsibilities relating to oversight of legal compliance by our employees and us and to meet the requirements for a qualified legal compliance committee under Part 205 of the rules of the SEC (the Part 205 Rules). The composition of the QLCC is intended to comply with all independence requirements under the Part 205 Rules. Our QLCC operates pursuant to a charter adopted by our Board and is available at <a href="http://www.nvrinc.com">http://www.nvrinc.com</a>. Our QLCC annually reviews the QLCC Charter and the QLCC is performance.

Our QLCC has adopted written procedures for the confidential receipt, retention and consideration of any report of evidence of a material violation of securities laws or material breach of fiduciary duty or similar material violation by us, or our directors, officers, employees or agents (Material Violation) under the Part 205 Rules, and has the authority and responsibility (1) to inform our chief legal officer (CLO), CEO and chief financial officer (CFO) of any report of evidence of a Material Violation; (2) to determine whether an investigation is necessary regarding any report of evidence of a Material Violation and; (3) if our QLCC determines an investigation is necessary or appropriate, initiate such investigation; (4) to obtain a written report from our CLO or outside counsel conducting any such investigation at the investigation is conclusion; (5) to recommend, by majority vote, that we implement an appropriate response to evidence of a Material Violation and inform our Board, CEO, CLO and CFO of the results of any such investigation and the appropriate remedial measures to be adopted; and (6) acting by majority vote, to take all other appropriate action, including the authority to notify the SEC in the event that we fail in any material respect to implement an appropriate response that our QLCC has recommended. Our QLCC has the authority and available funding to engage any independent legal counsel, accounting or other expert advisors as our QLCC deems necessary to carry out its duties.

# **Executive** Committee

Our Executive Committee was established pursuant to our Bylaws to have such powers, authority and responsibilities as may be determined by a majority of our Board of Directors. Our Executive Committee has never met, nor has our Board ever delegated any powers, authority or responsibilities to the Executive Committee. Our Board of Directors intends to continue the practice of considering corporate matters outside the scope of our other existing Board committees at the full Board level.

## **Communications with the Board of Directors**

Our Policies and Procedures Regarding Communications with the NVR, Inc. Board of Directors, the independent lead director and the non-management directors as a group are available at <u>http://www.nvrinc.com</u>.

# **Transactions With Related Persons**

During the year ended December 31, 2010, we entered into new forward lot purchase agreements to purchase finished building lots for a total purchase price of approximately \$55,000,000 with Elm Street Development, Inc. (Elm Street), which is controlled by one of our directors, Mr. Moran. The independent members of our Board approved these transactions, and we expect to purchase these finished lots over the next four years at the contract prices. During 2010, NVR also purchased 423 developed lots at market prices from Elm Street for approximately \$54,653,000, and forfeited an additional \$118,000 of deposit to restructure a forward lot purchase agreement to obtain reduced purchase prices for finished lots under the agreement. We also continue to control a parcel of raw land expected to yield at least 600 finished lots through a joint venture entered into with Elm Street during 2009. We did not make any additional capital contributions in addition to the \$8,000,000 invested in 2009 in the aforementioned joint venture.

During 2010, we also purchased a parcel of zoned, unimproved raw land from Elm Street for a total purchase price of approximately \$49,000,000. The independent members of our Board approved this transaction. The property is expected to yield 594 finished lots once development has been completed. Elm Street will also earn approximately \$4.0 million to manage the development of the property, the development costs of which will be borne by NVR, including the issuance of all bonding

obligations with local government agencies. However, Elm Street is obligated to pay the first \$3.0 million of development cost overruns. In addition to the 594 finished lots noted above, the purchase agreement also includes a right of first offer ( ROFO ) on 337 finished lots in an additional phase of the same planned unit development ( PUD ) still controlled by Elm Street. The transaction s primary strategic objective is to allow us to control market share in our most critical market, the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area, as we obtained sole control of the final two development phases in this mature PUD in which the property is located. Elm Street has already delivered 750 finished lots in this PUD for new home construction.

The property was independently appraised at \$31.0 million. We believe the appraisal was below market value and was influenced by the significant uncertainty created by current market conditions. Because of the lack of supply, relative to historic levels, of new lots in the approval process in Montgomery County, MD, our independent directors authorized us to bid competitively against other bidders. The 931 lots controlled through this transaction, through direct ownership and the ROFO, represent approximately 15% of the projected lot supply in Montgomery County, MD from 2011 through 2015, which is the expected remaining sales life of this community. The expected aggregate financial return from the planned land development and homebuilding activities meet our historical internal hurdle rates relative to the \$49 million investment made.

#### **Procedures for Approval of Related Person Transactions**

All related person transactions must be considered, reviewed and approved or ratified by the disinterested, independent directors of our Board, regardless of the type of transaction or amount involved. This requirement is contained within various written documents, including Section 7.05 of our Bylaws (available on our website at <a href="http://www.nvrinc.com">http://www.nvrinc.com</a>), Sections 1 and 4 of our Code of Ethics (available on our website at <a href="http://www.nvrinc.com">http://www.nvrinc.com</a>), and our internal Standards of Business Conduct, Human Resource and Financial Policies and Procedures.

#### Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management

The following tables set forth certain information as to the beneficial ownership of Common Stock by each person known by us to be the beneficial owner of more than 5% of the outstanding Common Stock as of the dates indicated, and each director, director nominee and executive officer and by all directors and executive officers as a group as of March 4, 2011. Except as otherwise indicated, all shares are owned directly and the owner has sole voting and investment power with respect thereto.

# **Certain Beneficial Owners**

Name and Address of Holder BlackRock Inc. 40 East 52 <sup>nd</sup> Street New York, NY 10022	<b>Number of</b> <b>Shares</b> 535,854 (1)	Percent of Class 9.0%
AllianceBernstein L.P. 1345 Avenue of the Americas New York, NY 10105	501,317 (2)	8.4%
Wellington Management Company, LLP 280 Congress Street Boston, MA 02210	428,383 (3)	7.2%

- (1) As reported within a Schedule 13G filed February 7, 2011, the entity has sole power to vote or direct the vote and the sole power to dispose or direct the disposition of all of the shares reported.
- (2) Of the shares that were reported within a Schedule 13G filed February 9, 2011, the entity has sole power to vote or direct the vote of 400,558 shares, sole power to dispose or direct the disposition of 500,967 shares and shared power to dispose or direct the disposition of 350 shares.
- (3) Of the shares that were reported within a Schedule 13G filed February 14, 2011, the entity has shared power to vote or direct the vote of 378,753 shares and shared power to dispose or direct the disposition of 424,995 shares. Directors and Management

Name	Number of Shares	Percent of Class
Dwight C. Schar	60,000	1.0%
C. E. Andrews	666(1)	*
Robert C. Butler	5,384(2)	*
Timothy M. Donahue	834(3)	*
Alfred E. Festa	724(4)	*
Manuel H. Johnson	10,899(5)	*
William A. Moran	28,559(3)	*
David A. Preiser	3,484(3)	*
W. Grady Rosier	830(4)	*
John M. Toups	13,093(6)	*
Paul W. Whetsell	699(3)	*
Paul C. Saville	153,682(7)	2.6%
Dennis M. Seremet	59,074(8)	1.0*
Robert W. Henley	7,319(9)	*
Robert A. Goethe	20(10)	*
All directors, director nominees and executive officers as a group (15		
persons)	345,267	5.8%

\* Less than 1%.

- (1) Includes 349 vested options issued under the NVR, Inc. 1998 Directors Long Term Stock Option Plan.
- (2) Includes 4,934 vested options issued under the NVR, Inc. 1998 Directors Long Term Stock Option Plan and 150 shares held in a Charitable Remainder Trust.
- (3) Includes 434 vested options issued under the NVR, Inc. 1998 Directors Long Term Stock Option Plan.
- (4) Includes 530 vested options issued under the NVR, Inc. 1998 Directors Long Term Stock Option Plan.
- (5) Includes 434 vested options issued under the NVR, Inc. 1998 Directors Long Term Stock Option Plan and 65 shares owned by his son.
- (6) Includes 434 vested options issued under the NVR, Inc. 1998 Directors Long Term Stock Option Plan and 43 shares owned by his wife.
- (7) Includes 30,100 vested options issued under the NVR, Inc. 2000 Broad-Based Stock Option Plan, 3,178 vested shares held by the NVR, Inc. Employee Stock Ownership Plan in trust, 4,411 shares held as a discretionary investment in the NVR, Inc. Profit Sharing Plan, and 105,883 vested shares held in a Deferred Compensation Rabbi Trust. Excludes 777 shares held in a Deferred Compensation Plan which are not distributable until six months subsequent to separation of service.
- (8) Includes 13,000 vested options issued under the NVR, Inc. 2000 Broad-Based Stock Option Plan, 3,060 vested shares held by the NVR, Inc. Employee Stock Ownership Plan in trust, 2,137 shares held as a discretionary investment in the NVR, Inc. Profit Sharing Plan and 40,527 vested shares held in a Deferred Compensation Rabbi Trust.
- (9) Includes 6,000 vested options issued under the NVR, Inc. 2000 Broad-Based Stock Option Plan, 1,071 vested shares held by the NVR, Inc. Employee Stock Ownership Plan in trust and 248 shares held as a discretionary investment in the NVR, Inc. Profit Sharing Plan.
- (10) Includes 10 vested shares held by the NVR, Inc. Employee Stock Ownership Plan in trust and 10 shares held as a discretionary investment in the NVR, Inc. Profit Sharing Plan.

# SECTION 16(a) BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP REPORTING COMPLIANCE

Section 16(a) of the 1934 Act requires our directors and executive officers and persons who own more than 10% of our Common Stock to file reports of ownership and changes in ownership of such stock with the SEC and the national securities exchange upon which our shares are publicly traded. Directors, executive officers and greater than 10% shareholders are required by SEC regulations to furnish us with copies of all such forms filed. To our knowledge, based solely on a review of the copies of such reports furnished to us during 2010 and written representations that no other reports were required, all directors, executive officers and greater than 10% shareholders complied with all applicable Section 16(a) filing requirements.

# THE FOLLOWING REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE SHALL NOT BE DEEMED TO BE SOLICITING MATERIAL OR TO BE FILED WITH THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933 OR THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 OR INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE IN ANY DOCUMENT SO FILED.

#### **Report of the Audit Committee**

NVR s Audit Committee is solely comprised of independent directors as defined by our independence standards (see above) and in the applicable SEC rules, and operates pursuant to a charter adopted by our Board, which is available at <u>http://www.nvrinc.com</u>.

Our management has primary responsibility for preparing our financial statements and establishing financial reporting systems and internal controls. Management also has the responsibility of reporting on the effectiveness of our internal controls over financial reporting. Our independent external auditor, KPMG LLP, is responsible for expressing opinions on the conformity of our audited financial statements with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and on the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting. In this context, the Audit Committee hereby reports as follows:

- 1. The Audit Committee has reviewed and discussed the audited financial statements and management s assessment of the effectiveness of our internal controls over financial reporting with management, and reviewed and discussed KPMG LLP s audit opinions with KPMG LLP;
- 2. The Audit Committee has discussed with KPMG LLP the matters required to be discussed under the rules adopted by the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board ( PCAOB );
- 3. The Audit Committee has received the written disclosures and the letter from KPMG LLP required by the applicable requirements of the PCAOB regarding KPMG LLP s communications with the Audit Committee concerning independence, and has discussed with KPMG LLP its independence; and
- 4. Based on the reviews and discussions referred to in paragraphs (1) through (3) above, the Audit Committee recommended to the Board, and the Board has approved, that the audited financial statements be included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2010, for filing with the SEC.

The undersigned, constituting all of the members of the Audit Committee, have submitted this report to the Board of Directors.

Manuel H. Johnson (Chairman), C.E. Andrews, Robert C. Butler, and Alfred E. Festa

#### COMPENSATION DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

#### **General Compensation Philosophy and Objectives**

Our philosophy for compensating our named executive officers is to place significant focus on, and reward achievement of, long-term objectives, which we believe is essential considering the cyclical nature of the industry in which we operate. Residential real estate projects often take a substantial period of time to mature. A typical community in which we sell and build homes may take anywhere from one year to five years to build out completely. For us to be successful, it is necessary for us to acquire control of land upon which to build our homes from land developers several years in advance of our sales and construction activities. The homebuilding industry is cyclical and exhibits peaks and troughs over a long-term period. Because we need to effectively manage our business over these lengthy time periods and during different stages of the homebuilding cycle and economic cycles, we believe that the majority of our named executive officers compensation should be based on accomplishing our long-term plans and objectives, and not on short-term quarterly or annual measures. We do this by limiting short-term cash compensation opportunities and emphasizing long-term earning opportunities through ownership of our common stock. Specifically, we have historically:

paid cash compensation to our named executive officers based on their positions, and in amounts that we believe to be less than the 50th percentile relative to comparable positions in other publicly traded companies within our industry;

capped the annual cash bonus opportunity of our named executive officers at 100% of their base salary, and have not provided any opportunity to exceed that amount for short-term quarterly or annual performance in excess of our business plan (for 2009, the maximum cap was reduced to 50% as a cost savings measure); and

issued our named executive officers periodic (though not annual) equity grants that vest over a long period of time. Historically, we have layered our equity grants such that each named executive officer has one grant that is actively vesting over a four-year period and another grant that will begin vesting in the following four to five year period.

A long-term equity interest in our company by our named executive officers is the major thrust of our philosophy. We believe that providing the majority of their compensation in the form of equity grants with a long-term vesting schedule is an effective way to retain their services, and the services of all of our other management employees compensated in the same manner, over a long-term period. Additionally, each equity grant agreement contains non-compete provisions that protect our interests. Retention of our experienced management team, which includes our named executive officers, has been and will continue to be one of our key strategic goals in managing our business.

To encourage further equity ownership, we give each of our named executive officers, at his choice, the opportunity to defer salary and any earned annual bonus awards into our deferred compensation plan. All deferred amounts must be invested solely in our common stock and are paid out only after separation of service. We also require our named executive officers to own continuously common stock with a market value of four to eight times their respective base salaries (see the *Deferred Compensation Plan and Stock Holding Requirement* discussions below, respectively). We believe that fostering a long-term focus through equity compensation and ownership effectively aligns our named executive officers interests with those of our shareholders.

#### **Current Year Overview**

As stated above, the homebuilding industry is cyclical. In 2010, NVR, like other U.S. homebuilders, continued to experience the impact of the severe downturn in the U.S. housing market and the overall economy that began in the latter half of 2005. Due to the long duration of the housing downturn, we took certain actions in 2010 to assure retention of our named executive officers and key managers so that they would be in place to continue our high level of performance for the remainder of the downturn and beyond. Some specific compensation-related measures carried out in 2010 include:

The maximum annual incentive opportunity for all annual incentive-eligible employees, including our named executive officers, was restored to 100% of base salary from the temporary 50% maximum cap installed in 2009 as a cost savings measure; and

Our shareholders approved the 2010 Equity Incentive Plan at the 2010 Annual Meeting, and we were able to issue to our key employees and named executive officers restricted share units that vest on December 31, 2011 and 2012, and fixed-price stock options that vest on December 31, 2013 and 2014; and