

# **Exhibit A**

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK  
COUNTY OF NEW YORK

In the matter of the application of

U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON, THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON TRUST COMPANY, N.A., WILMINGTON TRUST, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, LAW DEBENTURE TRUST COMPANY OF NEW YORK, WELLS FARGO BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, HSBC BANK USA, N.A., and DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY (as Trustees under various Pooling and Servicing Agreements and Indenture Trustees under various Indentures), AEGON USA Investment Management, LLC (intervenor), Bayerische Landesbank (intervenor), BlackRock Financial Management, Inc. (intervenor), Cascade Investment, LLC (intervenor), the Federal Home Loan Bank of Atlanta (intervenor), the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (Freddie Mac) (intervenor), the Federal National Mortgage Association (Fannie Mae) (intervenor), Goldman Sachs Asset Management L.P. (intervenor), Voya Investment Management LLC (f/k/a ING Investment LLC) (intervenor), Invesco Advisers, Inc. (intervenor), Kore Advisors, L.P. (intervenor), Landesbank Baden-Wuerttemberg (intervenor), Metropolitan Life Insurance Company (intervenor), Pacific Investment Management Company LLC (intervenor), Sealink Funding Limited (intervenor), Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association of America (intervenor), The Prudential Insurance Company of America (intervenor), the TCW Group, Inc. (intervenor), Thrivent Financial for Lutherans (intervenor), and Western Asset Management Company (intervenor),

Petitioners,

-against-

TRIAXX PRIME CDO 2006-1, LTD., TRIAXX PRIME CDO 2006-2, LTD., TRIAXX PRIME CDO 2007-1, LTD. (intervenor), QVT FUND V LP, QVT FUND IV LP, QUINTESSENCE FUND L.P., QVT FINANCIAL LP (intervenor), BREVAN HOWARD CREDIT CATALYSTS MASTER FUND LIMITED AND BREVAN HOWARD CREDIT VALUE MASTER FUND LIMITED (intervenor), THE NATIONAL CREDIT UNION ADMINISTRATION BOARD AS LIQUIDATING AGENT FOR U.S. CENTRAL FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, WESTERN CORPORATE FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, MEMBERS UNITED CORPORATE FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, SOUTHWEST CORPORATE FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, AND CONSTITUTION CORPORATE FEDERAL CREDIT UNION (intervenor), and AMBAC ASSURANCE CORPORATION, THE SEGREGATED ACCOUNT OF AMBAC ASSURANCE CORPORATION (intervenor), AND W&L INVESTMENTS, LLC (intervenor),

Respondents,

for an order, pursuant to CPLR § 7701, seeking judicial instruction, and approval of a proposed settlement.

Index No. 652382/2014

The Honorable  
Marcy S. Friedman, J.S.C.

**AFFIRMATION OF HON. STEPHEN G. CRANE (RET.)**

HON. STEPHEN G. CRANE (RET.), an attorney duly admitted to practice in the State of New York, hereby affirms as true, under penalty of perjury, the following:

1. The parties in the above-captioned action have selected me to serve as a Special Discovery Master by a (proposed) Order Appointing Special Master to the Supreme Court of the State of New York, New York County (Hon. Marcy S. Friedman), filed August 24, 2015 (the "Appointment Order").

2. On August 27, 2015, the Court entered the Appointment Order with certain modifications.

3. The Appointment Order directs that by September 4, 2015, I submit an affidavit disclosing any ground for disqualification pursuant to NY CLS Jud § 14.

4. I have made such investigation as is necessary for me to make this Affirmation. Based on such investigation, I am not aware of any ground for disqualification pursuant to NY CLS Jud § 14.

*except I am the owner of a \$5000 debt security issued by Deedman Sachs Group, Inc.*

Dated: New York, New York  
September 3, 2015

*Stephen G. Crane*  
Hqn. Stephen G. Crane (Ret.)