

Santander Consumer USA Holdings Inc.
Form DEF 14A
April 30, 2018
Table of Contents

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

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

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

Preliminary Proxy Statement

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

Definitive Proxy Statement

Definitive Additional Materials

Soliciting Material Pursuant to Section 240.14a-12

Santander Consumer USA Holdings Inc.

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

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

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

No fee required.

Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.

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

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

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

(4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:

(5) Total fee paid:

Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.

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

(1) Amount Previously Paid:

(2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:

(3) Filing Party:

(4) Date Filed:

Table of Contents

Table of Contents

April 30, 2018

Dear Stockholders of Santander Consumer USA Holdings Inc.,

The last 18 months have been transformative for us. We made significant regulatory progress, marked by closing identified issues, passing CCAR/horizontal capital review, and closing a 2014 Written Agreement with the Federal Reserve, which allowed us to make our first capital distribution to stockholders since 2014. We also strengthened our management team and stabilized credit performance.

While these have been important milestones for us, there is still work to do. Key priorities for us include improving the dealer experience and market penetration, improving profitability for all segments for our business, improving efficiency and controlling costs, diligent capital management, and operating under heightened bank standards.

We are optimistic about our future, as our fundamentals continue to strengthen, and we remain committed to better serving our customers and creating value for all our stakeholders.

The Notice of Annual Meeting and Proxy Statement on the following pages contain information about the official business of the Annual Meeting. Whether or not you expect to attend, please vote your shares now. Of course, if you attend the Annual Meeting in person you will have the opportunity to revoke your proxy and vote your shares in person. This Proxy Statement is also available at <http://www.proxypush.com/SC>.

You are invited to attend the Annual Meeting of Stockholders on Tuesday, June 12, 2018. The Annual Meeting will begin promptly at 2 P.M. Central Time, at 1601 Elm Street, Suite 800, Dallas, TX 75201. We thank you for your continuing interest in Santander Consumer USA, and we hope you will attend the Annual Meeting.

We are proud to lead this dynamic and maturing company, which has been a leader in automotive finance for nearly two decades.

Sincerely,

William Rainer
Chairman of the Board

Scott Powell
President and CEO

Table of Contents

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

TO BE HELD JUNE 12, 2018

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual Meeting of Stockholders will be held at 1601 Elm Street, Suite 800, Dallas, Texas 75201, at 2 P.M. local time on June 12, 2018 for the following purposes:

1. To elect 10 directors named in the Proxy Statement to the Board of Directors;
2. To ratify the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the current fiscal year;
3. To approve, on a non-binding, advisory basis, named executive officer compensation; and
4. To vote on a stockholder proposal, if properly presented at the Annual Meeting, requesting that the Board of Directors prepare a report related to the monitoring and management of certain risks related to vehicle lending. Stockholders will also transact any other business as may properly come before the Annual Meeting in accordance with the terms of our Third Amended and Restated Bylaws.

The Board of Directors has fixed the close of business on April 16, 2018 as the record date for the determination of stockholders entitled to notice of, and to vote at, the Annual Meeting.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

Christopher Pfirman

Chief Legal Officer, General Counsel, and Corporate Secretary

April 30, 2018

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|---|-----------|
| <u>2018 Proxy Summary</u> | 1 |
| <u>Corporate Governance</u> | 7 |
| <u>Proposal 1: Election of Directors</u> | 7 |
| <u>Director Independence</u> | 13 |
| <u>Board Leadership Structure and Risk Oversight</u> | 14 |
| <u>Board Committees</u> | 15 |
| <u>Director Compensation</u> | 18 |
| <u>Nomination of Directors</u> | 19 |
| <u>Executive Officers</u> | 20 |
| <u>Audit</u> | 22 |
| <u>Proposal 2: Ratification of Appointment of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm</u> | 22 |
| <u>Audit Fees and Related Matters</u> | 23 |
| <u>Report of the Audit Committee</u> | 23 |
| <u>Compensation</u> | 25 |
| <u>Proposal 3: Non-Binding, Advisory Approval of NEO Compensation (Say-on-Pay)</u> | 25 |
| <u>Compensation Discussion and Analysis</u> | 26 |
| <u>Executive Compensation Tables</u> | 42 |
| <u>Equity Compensation Plan Information</u> | 50 |
| <u>Pay Ratio Disclosure</u> | 51 |
| <u>Stockholder Proposal</u> | 52 |
| <u>Additional Governance Information</u> | 55 |

| | |
|---|-----------|
| <u>Related Party Transactions</u> | 55 |
| <u>Stock Ownership Information</u> | 59 |
| <u>Other Governance Information</u> | 60 |
| <u>Questions and Answers</u> | 61 |
| <u>Annex A Reconciliation of Non-GAAP Financial Measures</u> | 65 |

SC 2018 Proxy Statement

i

Table of Contents

PROXY SUMMARY

2018 PROXY SUMMARY

THIS SUMMARY HIGHLIGHTS INFORMATION CONTAINED ELSEWHERE IN THIS PROXY STATEMENT. IT DOES NOT CONTAIN ALL OF THE INFORMATION THAT YOU SHOULD CONSIDER. PLEASE READ THE ENTIRE PROXY STATEMENT CAREFULLY BEFORE VOTING.

Important Terms

- » Banco Santander and SAN Banco Santander, S.A.
- » Board the Board of Directors of SC
- » BSI Banco Santander International, an affiliate of SC
- » BSPR Banco Santander Puerto Rico, an affiliate of SC
- » Bylaws the Third Amended and Restated Bylaws of SC
- » CCAR the United States Federal Reserve Board's Comprehensive Capital Analysis and Review
- » CD&A the Compensation Discussion and Analysis section of this Proxy Statement
- » Common Stock shares of SC common stock, par value \$0.01 per share
- » Company, us, we, our, and SC Santander Consumer USA Holdings Inc. and, where appropriate, Santander Consumer USA Holdings Inc. and its subsidiaries
- » Exchange Act the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended

Edgar Filing: Santander Consumer USA Holdings Inc. - Form DEF 14A

- » GAAP United States generally accepted accounting principles, the accounting standard adopted by the SEC
- » Independent Directors our independent directors as defined by the NYSE Listed Company Rules (as determined by the Board), including Mr. Ferriss, Ms. Holiday, Mr. McCarthy, Mr. Muir, and Mr. Rainer
- » NEOs our named executive officers, as determined under Rule 402 of Regulation S-K, and as designated in this Proxy Statement
- » NYSE the New York Stock Exchange
- » Omnibus Plan SC's Omnibus Incentive Plan
- » PwC PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
- » RSU restricted stock unit
- » SBNA Santander Bank, N.A., a subsidiary of SHUSA and an affiliate of SC
- » SEC the United States Securities and Exchange Commission
- » Securities Act the Securities Act of 1933, as amended
- » SHUSA Santander Holdings USA, Inc., SC's majority stockholder and a subsidiary of Banco Santander
- » SIS Santander Investment Securities, an affiliate of SC and formerly known as Santander Central Hispano Investment Services, Inc.

Your Vote

Your vote is very important. The Board is requesting you to allow your Common Stock to be represented at our 2018 annual meeting by proxies named on the proxy card.

This Proxy Statement is being sent to you in connection with this request and has been prepared for the Board by our management. This Proxy Statement is being sent to our stockholders on or about April 30, 2018.

Table of Contents

PROXY SUMMARY

How to Vote

You may vote your shares prior to the Annual Meeting via the Internet, by telephone, or by mail.

INTERNET

TELEPHONE

MAIL

Go to www.proxypush.com/sc
You will need the control number

included in your Proxy Card/Voting
Instruction Form.

Dial toll-free 855-782-8499
You will need the control number

included in your Proxy Card/Voting
Instruction Form.

Mark, sign, and date your
Proxy Card/Voting Instruction

Form and return it in the
postage-paid envelope provided.

Summary of Voting Proposals and Voting Recommendations

PROPOSALS

BOARD RECOMMENDATION

FOR ALL

PROPOSAL 1. Election of Directors (Page 7)

We are asking stockholders to vote on each director nominee to the Board named in this Proxy Statement. The Board and the Executive Committee believe that each director nominee has the qualifications, experience, and skills necessary to represent stockholders through

service on the Board.

PROPOSAL 2. Ratification of Appointment of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm (Page 22)

The Audit Committee has appointed PwC to serve as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2018. The Audit Committee and the Board believe that the continued retention of PwC to serve as our independent auditor is in the best interests of the Company and its stockholders. As a matter of good corporate governance, stockholders are being asked to ratify the Audit Committee's appointment of PwC.

FOR

PROPOSAL 3. Non-Binding, Advisory Approval of Compensation to NEOs (Say-on-Pay) (Page 25)

We are asking our stockholders to indicate their support for our executive compensation programs as described in this Proxy Statement. This vote is referred to as a "Say-on-Pay" vote.

FOR

PROPOSAL 4. Stockholder Proposal (if properly introduced at the Annual Meeting) (Page 52)

AGAINST

Table of Contents**PROXY SUMMARY****Nominees for Election as Directors**

The Board recommends a vote FOR the election of each of the following nominees for director:

| NAME | AGE | DIRECTOR SINCE | INDEPENDENT | COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP |
|---------------------------|------------|-----------------------|--------------------|---|
| William Rainer | 72 | 2015 | | Board Chair, EC (Chair) |
| Stephen A. Ferriss | 72 | 2013 | | Board Vice Chair, CC, RC (Chair), AC, EC |
| Mahesh Aditya | 55 | 2017 | | --- |
| José Doncel | 57 | 2015 | | --- |
| Victor Hill | 54 | 2015 | | RCOC, RC |
| Edith E. Holiday | 66 | 2016 | | CC (Chair), RCOC |

| | | | |
|-------------------------|----|------|--------------|
| Javier Maldonado | 55 | 2015 | CC, EC, RCOC |
|-------------------------|----|------|--------------|

| | | | |
|---------------------------|----|------|----------------------|
| Robert J. McCarthy | 64 | 2015 | RCOC (Chair), AC, CC |
|---------------------------|----|------|----------------------|

| | | | |
|------------------------|----|------|----------------------|
| William F. Muir | 63 | 2016 | AC (Chair), RC, RCOC |
|------------------------|----|------|----------------------|

| | | | |
|---------------------|----|------|----|
| Scott Powell | 56 | 2016 | EC |
|---------------------|----|------|----|

- » **AC: Audit Committee**
- » **CC: Compensation Committee**
- » **EC: Executive Committee**
- » **RC: Risk Committee**
- » **RCOC: Regulatory and Compliance Oversight Committee**

Table of Contents

PROXY SUMMARY

2017 BUSINESS HIGHLIGHTS*

- » Total auto originations of \$20.1 billion
- » Total funding of \$40.3 billion at the end of 4Q17
- » Received non-objection to CCAR submission
- » Totaled \$8.6 billion
- » More than 800,000 units originated
- » Banco Santander support totaling \$7.8 billion
- » Terminated 2014 Written Agreement with the Federal Reserve
- » Servicing fee income of \$118 million
- » Largest provider for Fiat Chrysler (FCA)
- » Issued and sold \$9.2 billion in bonds across three distinct platforms
- » Inaugural lease securitization

*Adjusted net income, adjusted ROA, and adjusted ROE are each non-GAAP financial measures. For an explanation and a reconciliation of adjusted net income, adjusted ROA, and adjusted ROE to net income, ROA, and ROE, respectively, the most directly comparable GAAP measures, please see Annex A.

Table of Contents

PROXY SUMMARY

Corporate Governance Highlights

Annual election of all directors

Annual joint evaluation of CEO by Board and SHUSA's Board of Directors

Annual Board and Committee self-evaluations and annual individual director evaluations

Strong Board providing challenge to management opinions

Strong independent Chairman of the Board

Orientation program for new directors and continuing education for all directors

Robust stock ownership guidelines for independent directors

Strong risk oversight by full Board and Board Committees

Regular executive sessions of non-management directors

Executive Compensation Program Overview

Our executive compensation program is designed to reinforce the link between the long-term interests of our executive officers and our stockholders. A significant portion of our executive officers' incentive compensation is deferred and payable in SC shares, and therefore directly aligned with the Company's performance, including total stockholder return.

| ELEMENT | KEY CHARACTERISTICS | PURPOSE |
|---|--|---|
| Base Salary | Fixed cash compensation component, reviewed at least annually, that reflects the executive's position, responsibilities, qualifications, tenure, and contributions to the Company | Offers security for executives and allows the Company to maintain a stable management team |
| Annual Incentive Award Program | Comprised of both short-term and long-term incentives; a significant portion of annual bonuses are deferred; half payable in cash and half payable in SC equity awards; includes a special regulatory incentive program intended to focus executives on regulatory and compliance transformation initiatives | Motivates and rewards executives for achievement of Company and individual performance goals, appropriately balances compensation risk, and aligns management and stockholder interests |
| Retirement Benefits; Welfare Benefits; Perquisites | Indirect compensation consisting of a retirement plan, health and welfare plans, and minimal perquisites | Provides executives with security during employment and into retirement and promotes employee health, which assists in the retention of our executives |

SC 2018 Proxy Statement

5

Table of Contents

20

Table of Contents

PROXY SUMMARY

Key Features of Our Executive Compensation Program

Ties annual incentive compensation to the achievement of meaningful Company and individual performance goals

Subjects a significant portion of annual incentive compensation to deferral

Pays a significant portion of annual incentive compensation in SC stock

Subjects Omnibus Plan awards to double-trigger change in control vesting

Subjects incentive compensation to a robust malus and clawback policy

Conditions a significant portion of compensation on the acceptance of confidentiality, non-solicit, and other restrictive covenants

Uses a prominent independent compensation consultant

Uses a representative and relevant peer group

Imposes annual limits on non-employee director compensation

Maintains independent non-employee director stock ownership guidelines

Conducts a robust annual compensation risk assessment

Does not reprice underwater stock options

Does not grant discounted stock options

Does not allow hedging or pledging of SC stock by executive officers or directors

Table of Contents

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE - PROPOSAL 1: ELECTION OF GOVERNANCE

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Proposal 1: Election of Directors

WHAT YOU ARE VOTING ON:

At the Annual Meeting, 10 directors are to be elected to hold office until the 2019 Annual Meeting and until their successors are elected and qualified, or until the directors either resign or are removed from office.

Introduction

As of the date of the Annual Meeting, the Board will consist of 10 members. The current members are Mahesh Aditya, José Doncel, Stephen A. Ferriss, Victor Hill, Edith E. Holiday, Javier Maldonado, Robert J. McCarthy, William F. Muir, Scott Powell, and William Rainer. Mr. Aditya and Mr. Powell are also members of the board of directors of Santander Consumer USA Inc., an Illinois corporation and wholly-owned subsidiary of SC (SC Illinois). Brian Gunn resigned as a member of the Board and of the SC Illinois board of directors effective April 19, 2018.

SHUSA has the right to nominate seven members of the Board. Please see *Corporate Governance Nomination of Directors* for more information. SHUSA has nominated Mr. Aditya, Mr. Doncel, Mr. Ferriss, Mr. Hill, Mr. Maldonado, Mr. Powell, and Mr. Rainer for election to the Board. The Board has nominated Ms. Holiday, Mr. McCarthy, and Mr. Muir for election to the Board. The Board has determined that Mr. Ferriss, Ms. Holiday, Mr. McCarthy, Mr. Muir, and Mr. Rainer are Independent Directors.

Each of the directors elected at the Annual Meeting will be elected for a one-year term, which expires at the next Annual Meeting, and will serve until the director's successor has been elected and qualified, or until the director's earlier resignation or removal.

Information Concerning the Nominees

Biographical information for each nominee for election to the Board appears below. The information is based entirely upon information provided by the respective nominees.

THE BOARD
RECOMMENDS A VOTE **FOR**
EACH OF THE NOMINEES.

SC 2018 Proxy Statement

7

Table of Contents

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE - PROPOSAL 1: ELECTION OF GOVERNANCE

MAHESH

ADITYA

DIRECTOR SINCE: 2017 AGE: 55

EXPERIENCE

Mr. Aditya has served as the Chief Operating Officer of SHUSA since May 2017 and as Chief Risk Officer of SBNA since April 2018. Prior to joining SHUSA, he served as the Chief Risk Officer and was a member of the Operating Committee of Visa Inc. from June 2014 to February 2017. Prior to that role, from April 2011 until June 2014, Mr. Aditya was employed by JPMorgan Chase, first as the Chief Risk Officer of Retail Banking and then later the Chief Risk Officer of Mortgage Banking. Previously, he was employed as the Head of Risk for Mortgage and Business Banking at Capital One Bank from 2009 to 2011. He currently serves on the board of directors of BSPR and has previously served as a member of the board of Early Warning Systems (EWS). Mr. Aditya holds a degree in Electrical Engineering from Bangalore University and a master's degree in business administration from the Faculty of Management Studies, Delhi University. Mr. Aditya has extensive experience in risk management and finance, and we believe he is qualified to serve on the Board.

JOSÉ

DONCEL

DIRECTOR SINCE: 2015 AGE: 57

EXPERIENCE

Mr. Doncel has served as a senior executive of Banco Santander and its predecessor companies since 1993, most recently as Senior Executive Vice President and Director of the Accounting and Control Division since October 2014, as Senior Executive Vice President and Director of the Corporate Division of Internal Audit from June 2013 to October 2014, and as Senior Executive Vice President and Director General of the Retail Banking Management Control Area from April 2013 to June 2013. He was previously employed by Arthur Andersen Auditores, S.A., Division of Financial Institutions. Mr. Doncel is currently a member of the boards of directors of SHUSA and SBNA. He is also a member of the boards of directors of multiple Banco Santander subsidiaries. Mr. Doncel holds a degree in economic and business sciences from the Universidad Complutense de Madrid. Mr. Doncel has extensive experience in leadership, finance, and risk management, and we believe he is qualified to serve on the Board.

Table of Contents

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE - PROPOSAL 1: ELECTION OF GOVERNANCE

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| STEPHEN A. FERRISS | DIRECTOR SINCE: 2013 AGE: 72 |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|

EXPERIENCE

**Vice-Chairman
of the Board**

Mr. Ferriss has served as a director of SHUSA since 2012. He also is the chairman of the boards of directors Santander BanCorp and BSPR and a director of BSI. Mr. Ferriss was also a director of SBNA from 2012 to 2015. Previously, he served as President and CEO of SIS (formerly known as Santander Central Hispano Investment Services, Inc.) from 1999 to 2002, and held various roles at Bankers Trust, including Managing Director and Partner of the Bankers Trust Global Investment Bank in London and New York. Prior to Bankers Trust, Mr. Ferriss spent 19 years at Bank of America. Mr. Ferriss graduated from Columbia College and received a master's degree in Latin American International Economics from Columbia University School of International and Public Affairs.

COMMITTEES

» Audit

Mr. Ferriss has extensive experience in management and international finance, and we believe he is qualified to serve on the Board.

» Compensation

» Executive

» Risk (Chair)

**VICTOR
HILL**

DIRECTOR SINCE: 2015 AGE: 54

EXPERIENCE

COMMITTEES

- » Regulatory and Compliance Oversight
- » Risk

Mr. Hill has worked within the UK motor finance industry for over 35 years, 18 of them at board level. He began his career within Lombard Motor Finance in 1982 and moved to First National Motor Finance in 1998, joining the board of directors in 2000. Mr. Hill was responsible for the launch of Santander Consumer Finance (UK) plc (SCUK), an affiliate of SC, in 2005, and continues to lead that business today as CEO. He led the acquisition of the UK motor finance portfolio from GE Money in 2009 and currently serves as chairman of two joint venture subsidiaries, Hyundai Capital UK and PSA Finance. Mr. Hill has held a number of directorships, registered at Companies House in London, but his current responsibilities include directorships of 5 companies in the Santander UK Group including SCUK, Hyundai Capital UK Ltd, PSA Finance UK Ltd, PSA Finance plc, and First National Motor plc. He qualified as a Chartered Director in 2007 and achieved Fellowship of the Institute of Directors, in London, during 2012. He also qualified as a Mediator for Civil and Commercial Disputes in 2008. Mr. Hill has extensive management experience within the auto finance industry, and we believe that he is qualified to serve on the Board.

Table of Contents

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE - PROPOSAL 1: ELECTION OF GOVERNANCE

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| EDITH E. HOLIDAY | DIRECTOR SINCE: 2016 AGE: 66 |
|-----------------------------|--|

EXPERIENCE

COMMITTEES

- » Compensation (Chair) Ms. Holiday is a member of the boards of directors of Hess Corporation (NYSE:HES), White Mountains Insurance Group Ltd. (NYSE:WTM), and Canadian National Railway (NYSE:CNI), and is a member of the boards of directors or trustees of various investment companies in the Franklin Templeton Group of Funds, serving as Lead Director of the Templeton Funds. She also served on the boards of directors of RTI International Metals, Inc. from 1999 to 2015, and of the H.J. Heinz Company from 1994 to 2013. Ms. Holiday was also the President, Secretary, and Treasurer of Comcast TW Holdings, Inc. from 2006 to 2007. From 1990 to 1993, Ms. Holiday was Assistant to the President of the United States and Secretary of the U.S. Cabinet. From 1989 to 1990, she served as General Counsel of the U.S. Treasury Department, and from 1988 to 1989 she served as Counselor to the Secretary and Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs and Public Liaison of the U.S. Treasury Department. Prior to that, Ms. Holiday held various other positions in government and in private practice. Ms. Holiday holds a bachelor of science and a law degree from the University of Florida and is a member of the state bars of Florida and Georgia and the District of Columbia Bar. Ms. Holiday has extensive experience in legal and regulatory matters and in public service, and we believe that she is qualified to serve on the Board.
- » Regulatory and Compliance Oversight

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| JAVIER MALDONADO | DIRECTOR SINCE: 2015 AGE: 55 |
|-----------------------------|--|

EXPERIENCE

COMMITTEES

» Compensation

» Executive

» Regulatory and
Compliance

Oversight

Mr. Maldonado has served as Senior Executive Vice President, Global Head of Cost Control of Banco Santander since October 2015. He has held numerous management positions at Banco Santander and its affiliates, including Senior Executive Vice President, Head of the New General Directorate for Coordination and Control of Regulatory Projects of Banco Santander; Executive Committee Director, Head of Internal Control and Corporate Development, for Santander (UK) plc from May 2012 to September 2014; Vice President in Charge of Closed Funds and Complaints for Banco Santander Brazil from October 2011 to April 2012; and General Manager for Banco Santander in the Middle East from January 2011 to September 2011. Previously, Mr. Maldonado was an attorney with Baker & McKenzie and Corporate and International Law Department Head at J.Y. Hernández-Canut Law Firm. Mr. Maldonado has served as a director of SHUSA since April 2015 and has served as vice-chairman of the board of directors of SHUSA since October 2015. He also currently serves as a director of SBNA, BSPR, Santander BanCorp and SIS. Mr. Maldonado also serves as a director of Alawwal Bank (formerly, Saudi Hollandi Bank). He holds law degrees from Northwestern University and UNED University. Mr. Maldonado has extensive knowledge and experience in international finance and legal and regulatory affairs, and we believe he is qualified to serve on the Board.

Table of Contents

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE - PROPOSAL 1: ELECTION OF GOVERNANCE

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| ROBERT J. McCARTHY | DIRECTOR SINCE: 2015 AGE: 64 |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|

EXPERIENCE

COMMITTEES

- » Audit
- » Compensation
- » Regulatory and Compliance Oversight (Chair)

In 2014, Mr. McCarthy retired from Marriott International, Inc., where he served as Chief Operations Officer since 2012. Mr. McCarthy joined Marriott in 1975, where he served in various leadership positions, including Senior Vice President, Northeast Region from 1995 to 2000; Executive Vice President, Operations from 2000 to 2002; President, North America from 2003 to 2009; Group President from 2009 to 2011; and Chief Operations Officer from March 2012 until February 2014. Mr. McCarthy has served as Chairman of Hotel Development Partners since March 2014. He currently is a member of the Board of Trustees at Villanova University and a member of the board of directors of RLJ Lodging Trust (NYSE:RLJ). Previously, Mr. McCarthy served as a director of the ServiceSource Foundation, as a member of the board of directors of the Autism Learning Center, as a member of the Dean’s Advisory Board at Cornell University School of Hotel Administration, as a member of the Dean’s Advisory Board at Villanova University School of Business, and as a member of the board of managers at Avendra, LLC. He holds a bachelor’s degree in business administration from Villanova University and is a graduate of the Advanced Management Program at the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania. Mr. McCarthy has extensive managerial and finance experience, and we believe he is qualified to serve on the Board.

| | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| WILLIAM F. MUIR | DIRECTOR SINCE: 2016 AGE: 63 |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|

EXPERIENCE

COMMITTEES

- » Audit (Chair)
 - » Risk
 - » RCOC
- In 2014, Mr. Muir retired from Ally Financial Inc. (formerly known as General Motors Acceptance Corporation (GMAC)), where he served as President and head of its Global Automotive Services business starting in 2004. In that role, he led Ally's automotive finance, insurance, vehicle remarketing, and servicing operations. Prior to that time, he served as Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of GMAC from 1998 to 2004. From 1996 to 1998, Mr. Muir served as Executive-in-Charge of Operations and then Executive Director of Planning at Delphi Automotive Systems, a former subsidiary of General Motors (GM). Prior to serving at Delphi Automotive Systems, he served in various executive capacities upon joining GMAC in 1992 and also served in a number of capacities with GM since joining GM in 1983. Mr. Muir also served as Chairman of the Ally Insurance Group from 1999 to 2014 and a member of the Ally Bank board of directors from 2004 to 2016. Mr. Muir received a bachelor's degree in industrial engineering and operations research from Cornell University in 1977. He earned a master's degree in business administration from Harvard University in 1983. Mr. Muir has extensive experience in management, finance, and the auto finance industry, and we believe that he is qualified to serve on the Board.

Table of Contents

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE - PROPOSAL 1: ELECTION OF GOVERNANCE

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| SCOTT POWELL | DIRECTOR SINCE: 2016 AGE: 56 |
|-------------------------|--|

EXPERIENCE

COMMITTEE

» Executive

Mr. Powell has served as our CEO since August 2017, and has also served as the CEO and a director of SHUSA since March 2015. Mr. Powell joined the Board in September 2016 and has been a member of SBNA's board of directors and Executive Committee since July 2015. He also served as CEO of SBNA from July 2015 until August 2017. From 2013 to 2014, before joining SHUSA, Mr. Powell was Executive Chairman of StoneRiver National Flood Services Inc. From 2002 to 2012, Mr. Powell held numerous management roles at JPMorgan Chase & Co. and its predecessor Bank One Corporation, including Head of Banking and Consumer Lending Operations, CEO of Consumer Banking and Retail Investments, Head of Consumer Lending, and Chief Risk Officer, Consumer. Mr. Powell also served at Citigroup and its predecessors from 1988 to 2002 in senior risk management positions. Mr. Powell is a member of the boards of directors of the Phipps Houses and the End Fund in New York City, as well as the Boys and Girls Clubs of Boston. Mr. Powell graduated from the University of Minnesota and received a master's degree in business administration from the University of Maryland. Mr. Powell has extensive experience in management, finance, risk management, and consumer and auto lending, and we believe he is qualified to serve on the Board.

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| WILLIAM RAINER | DIRECTOR SINCE: 2015 AGE: 72 |
|---------------------------|--|

EXPERIENCE

Chairman of the Board

Mr. Rainer has extensive experience and has held numerous leadership roles in the financial services industry. From 2001 to 2004, Mr. Rainer served as the Chairman and CEO of OneChicago, LLC, a regulated futures exchange. He also served as the Chairman of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission from 1999 to 2001, as Chairman of the United States Enrichment Corporation from 1994 to 1998, and as Founder of Greenwich Capital Markets, Inc. from 1981 to 1988. Previously, Mr. Rainer held various leadership positions at Kidder, Peabody & Co., Inc. From July 2015 to March 2016, he served as a director of BSI, and from December 2015 to March 2016, he served as chairman of the board of SIS. Mr. Rainer served as director of IQ Funds, a family of closed-end mutual funds, from 2004 until 2010. From 1996 to 2000 and from 2004 to 2008, Mr. Rainer served as a trustee for Southern Methodist University. He has served as a member of the Dean's Council of the Harvard Divinity School since 2004 and as its Chair from 2005 through June 2013. He is currently the Chairman of Shortridge Academy, Ltd. and New Braunfels Communications, Inc. Mr. Rainer received his bachelor's degree in economics and master's degree in business administration from Southern Methodist University. Mr. Rainer has extensive knowledge and experience in finance, regulatory affairs, and leadership of financial services firms, and we believe he is qualified to serve on the Board.

COMMITTEE

» Executive (Chair)

Table of Contents

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE - DIRECTOR INDEPENDENCE

Director Independence

Because we are a controlled company, we are exempt from the requirement in the NYSE Listed Company Rules that a majority of our directors must be independent. In addition, we are exempt from the requirements (i) that our Executive Committee (which under its charter has the responsibilities of a Nominating and Governance Committee) be composed solely of directors who meet the independence standards under the NYSE Listed Company Rules and (ii) that our Compensation Committee be composed solely of directors who meet additional, heightened independence standards under the NYSE Listed Company Rules and the rules of the SEC. The Company is subject to the requirement that all members of our Audit Committee satisfy independence requirements set forth under the NYSE Listed Company Rules and meet the additional criteria for independence of audit committee members set forth in Rule 10A-3(b)(1) under the Exchange Act.

Under the NYSE Listed Company Rules, to be considered independent, a director must not have a disqualifying relationship, as defined in the NYSE Listed Company Rules, and the Board must affirmatively determine that the director otherwise has no direct or indirect material relationship with the Company. In making independence determinations, the Board complies with all NYSE and SEC criteria and considers all relevant facts and circumstances. The Board has determined that Mr. Ferriss, Ms. Holiday, Mr. McCarthy, Mr. Muir, and Mr. Rainer are Independent Directors. The Board also determined that Wolfgang Schoellkopf and Mark Hurley, each of whom resigned from the Board during 2017, were independent as defined by the NYSE Listed Company Rules.

In assessing the independence of the Independent Directors, the Board considered, without limitation, the following transactions, relationships, and arrangements:

| DIRECTOR | ORGANIZATION | RELATIONSHIP | SC TRANSACTION/ RELATIONSHIP |
|----------|--------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| | SHUSA | Director | Majority Stockholder |
| | SBNA | Former Director | Affiliate |

| | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|---|
| | SIS | Former CEO | Affiliate |
| | Santander BanCorp | Chairman of the Board | Affiliate |
| | BSPR | Chairman of the Board | Affiliate |
| | BSI | Director | Affiliate |
| Ms. Holiday | SC | Independent Advisor | During 2016, SC paid Ms. Holiday \$18,739 for advisory services to the Board prior to her appointment as a director |
| Mr. Muir | SC | Independent Advisor | During 2016, SC paid Mr. Muir \$18,739 for advisory services to the Board prior to his appointment as a director |
| Mr. Rainer | BSI | Former Director | Affiliate |
| | SIS | Former Chairman | Affiliate |

The Board has also determined that each member of the Audit Committee (Mr. Ferriss, Mr. McCarthy, and Mr. Muir) is an audit committee financial expert in accordance with the definition established by the SEC.

Table of Contents

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE - BOARD LEADERSHIP STRUCTURE AND RISK OVERSIGHT

Board Leadership Structure and Risk Oversight

The Board is responsible for the oversight of management on behalf of our stockholders. The Board and its committees meet periodically throughout the year to (i) review strategy, business and financial performance, risk and control matters, and compensation and management development; and (ii) provide guidance to and oversight of, and otherwise assess and advise, the CEO and other senior executives. The Board's leadership structure, described below, is designed to ensure that authority and responsibility are effectively allocated between the Board and management.

The Board does not have any formal policy as to whether the same person should serve as both the CEO and Chairman of the Board, as the Board believes that it should have the flexibility to make the determination of the appropriate leadership for us at any given point in time. Currently, Mr. Rainer serves as the independent Chairman of the Board. We believe that having an independent Chairman can create an environment that leads to objective evaluation and oversight of management's performance, increases management accountability, and improves the ability of the Board to monitor whether management's actions are in the best interests of all stockholders. As a result, at this time, we believe that Mr. Rainer serving as our independent Chairman enhances the effectiveness of the Board as a whole. The Board will continue to review the Board's leadership periodically and may modify this structure from time to time if it is in the best interests of our Company and our stockholders.

The Chairman of the Board leads the Board, sets the tone for its culture, and ensures its effectiveness in overseeing the Company and its management. The Chairman presides at all meetings of the Board, as well as executive sessions of Independent Directors, and, in consultation with the CEO, other directors, and management, establishes the agenda for each Board meeting. The Chairman also has the power to call special meetings of the Board. Mr. Ferriss serves as the Board's Vice-Chairman, who acts as Chairman of the Board if Mr. Rainer is absent.

The Company has established a risk governance structure that assigns responsibility for risk management among front-line business personnel, an independent risk management function, and internal audit. According to this model, business owners maintain responsibility for identifying and mitigating the risks generated through their business activities. The Chief Risk Officer, who reports to the CEO and is independent of any business line, is responsible for developing and maintaining a risk framework that ensures risks are appropriately identified and mitigated, and for reporting on the overall level of risk in the Company. The Chief Risk Officer is also accountable to the Risk Committee and to SHUSA's Chief Risk Officer. The Chief Risk Officer is charged with the implementation and execution of the enterprise risk management (ERM) program under the oversight of the Board and its committees.

Risk management is overseen by the Board through four standing committees: the Risk Committee, the Audit Committee, the Compensation Committee, and the Regulatory and Compliance Oversight Committee, each of which is chaired by an Independent Director. Committee chairs are responsible for calling meetings of their committees, presiding at meetings of their committees, approving agendas and materials for their committee meetings, serving as a liaison between committee members and the Board and between committee members and senior management (including the CEO and Chief Risk Officer), and working directly with the senior management responsible for committee matters. Each Board committee provides regular reports to the Board regarding matters reviewed by the Board committee.

In addition to receiving and discussing reports of risks under the purview of a particular committee, the Board monitors our risk culture and reviews specific and aggregate risks the Company faces. Further, at least annually, the Board approves, at the recommendation of the Risk Committee, a Risk Appetite Statement (a RAS), which defines the levels and types of risks the Company is willing to assume to achieve its business plans while controlling risk exposures within our risk capacity. In addition, the RAS establishes principles for risk-taking in the aggregate and for each risk type, and is supported by a comprehensive system of risk limits, escalation triggers, and control programs.

The Risk Committee is charged with responsibility for establishing governance over the ERM process and provides oversight of risk policies and risk management performance. The Risk Committee monitors our aggregate risk position and reviews reports from management on the comprehensive portfolio of risk categories and the potential impact these risks can have on our risk profile. A comprehensive risk report is submitted regularly by the Chief Risk Officer to the Risk Committee and to the Board, providing management's view of our risk position. Further, the Risk Committee reviews and recommends for the Board's approval the RAS and the ERM Policy along with various sub-policies governing, without limitation, enterprise risk, credit risk, information risk, market and liquidity risk, operational risk, model risk, and strategic risk. The Risk Committee also provides oversight of our impact on SHUSA's compliance with its capital adequacy assessment process, including its CCAR submissions and resolution planning. In addition, the Risk Committee oversees the Company's information and cyber risk management program. The Risk Committee also reviews and concurs in the appointment, replacement, performance, and compensation of the Chief Risk Officer.

The Audit Committee is charged with oversight relating to the integrity of our financial statements and financial reporting process, the integrity of our systems of internal accounting and financial controls, and internal and external auditing, including the qualifications and independence of our independent registered public accounting firm. Please see *Audit Proposal 2: Ratification of Appointment of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm* for discussion of PwC, our proposed independent registered public accounting firm for 2018. The Audit Committee oversees the performance of our internal audit function; reviews and concurs in the appointment, replacement, performance, and compensation of our Chief Audit Executive; and approves our internal audit function's

Table of Contents

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE - BOARD COMMITTEES

annual audit plan, charter, policies, and budget. The Audit Committee also receives regular updates on the audit plan's status and results including significant reports issued by our internal audit function and the status of management's corrective actions.

The Compensation Committee works to ensure that the compensation programs covering our executives, business units, and risk-taking employees appropriately balance risk with incentives such that business performance is achieved without taking imprudent or inefficient risks. At least annually, the Compensation Committee conducts an assessment of the compensation policies and practices for our employees, including our executive officers. The assessment includes whether such compensation policies and practices created risks that were reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on the Company.

The Regulatory and Compliance Oversight Committee is charged with the oversight of risk relating to the effectiveness of our compliance management system. The Regulatory and Compliance Oversight Committee also oversees our progress in remediating risks identified in risk assessment findings, internal audit findings, and outstanding corrective actions identified by regulators in examination reports, enforcement actions, and other communications.

In addition to the Board and the Risk Committee, the CEO and Chief Risk Officer delegate risk responsibility to management committees. These committees include the Asset Liability Committee and the Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) Committee. The Chief Risk Officer participates on each of these committees.

Board Committees

The Board has five standing committees: the Audit Committee, the Compensation Committee, the Executive Committee, the Regulatory and Compliance Oversight Committee, and the Risk Committee. The charters for each committee may be found on SC's website at <http://investors.santanderconsumerusa.com>.

| | REGULATORY | | |
|---------------|------------|--------------|-------------------------------|
| NAME | AUDIT | COMPENSATION | EXECUTIVE AND COMPLIANCE RISK |
| | OVERSIGHT | | |
| Mahesh Aditya | | | |

José Doncel

Stephen A. Ferriss

Chair

Victor Hill

Edith E. Holiday

Chair

Javier Maldonado

Robert J. McCarthy

Chair

William F. Muir

Chair

Scott Powell

William Rainer

Chair

Table of Contents

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE - BOARD COMMITTEES

The following summarizes the membership of each Board committee, as well as the primary roles and responsibilities of each committee and the number of times each committee met in 2017.

AUDIT COMMITTEE

NUMBER OF MEETINGS IN 2017: 12

MEMBERS

» Mr. Muir (Chair)

» Mr. Ferriss

» Mr. McCarthy

AMONG OTHER THINGS, OUR AUDIT COMMITTEE:

» Reviews financial reporting policies, procedures, and internal controls.

» Administers the appointment, compensation, and oversight of our independent registered public accounting firm.

» Pre-approves audit, audit-related, and non-audit services to be performed by our independent registered public accounting firm.

» Reviews and approves or ratifies all related-party transactions.

» Oversees our internal audit function, including approval of the annual internal audit plan and the review of the performance of our Chief Audit Executive.

» Oversees our compliance with legal and regulatory requirements as well as ethical standards adopted by the Company.

» Reviews certain risk management policies and procedures; certain policies, processes, and procedures regarding compliance matters; and our Supplemental Statement of Ethics and Code of Ethics for the CEO and Senior Financial Officers.

The Board has determined that each of the Audit Committee members is independent as defined by Section 10A(m)(3) of the Exchange Act, Rule 10A-3 under the Exchange Act, and the NYSE Listed Company Rules. The Board has also determined that each of the members is financially literate as required by Section 303A.07 of the NYSE Listed Company Rules and is an audit committee financial expert as defined in the SEC's rules.

**COMPENSATION
COMMITTEE**

NUMBER OF MEETINGS IN 2017: **11**

MEMBERS

AMONG OTHER THINGS, OUR COMPENSATION COMMITTEE:

- » Ms. Holiday (Chair)
 - » Reviews and approves the compensation of the CEO and each other executive officer.
- » Mr. Ferriss
 - » Reviews and makes recommendations to the Board regarding the compensation of the Independent Directors.
- » Mr. Maldonado
 - » Approves and evaluates all compensation plans, policies, and practices of the Company as they affect our CEO and other executive officers.
- » Mr. McCarthy
 - » Sets performance measures and goals and verifies the attainment of performance goals under performance-based incentive compensation arrangements applicable to our executive officers.
 - » Monitors and assesses whether the overall design and performance of our compensation plans, policies, and programs do not encourage employees, including our NEOs, to take excessive risk.
 - » Oversees the management development, succession planning, and retention practices for our executive officers.

The Board has determined that Mr. Ferriss, Ms. Holiday, and Mr. McCarthy are independent as defined by the NYSE Listed Company Rules and qualify as non-employee directors within the meaning of Rule 16b-3 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (Rule 16b-3). Mr. Ferriss, Ms. Holiday, and Mr. McCarthy constitute a subcommittee of the Compensation Committee when considering issues governed by Rule 16b-3.

Table of Contents

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE - BOARD COMMITTEES

**EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE**

NUMBER OF MEETINGS IN 2017: 1

MEMBERS

AMONG OTHER THINGS, OUR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

- » Mr. Rainer (Chair)
 - » Acts on the Board's behalf between Board meetings on all matters that may be lawfully delegated.
- » Mr. Ferriss
 - » Considers and recommends candidates for election to the Board.
 - » Leads the annual performance evaluations of the Board and Board committees.
- » Mr. Maldonado
 - » Reviews and advises the Board on our corporate governance.
- » Mr. Powell

The Board has determined that Mr. Rainer and Mr. Ferriss are independent as defined by the NYSE Listed Company Rules.

**REGULATORY
AND COMPLIANCE
OVERSIGHT
COMMITTEE**

NUMBER OF MEETINGS IN 2017: 7

MEMBERS

AMONG OTHER THINGS, OUR REGULATORY AND COMPLIANCE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE:

- » Mr. McCarthy (Chair)
- » Mr. Hill
 - » Provides oversight of the Company’s significant banking and consumer regulatory compliance issues.
- » Ms. Holiday
 - » Oversees our compliance function including the Chief Compliance Officer.
- » Mr. Maldonado
 - » Oversees our progress in responding to internal audit findings, risk assessment findings, and outstanding corrective actions identified by regulators in examination reports, enforcement actions, and other communications.
- » Mr. Muir
 - » Reviews our regulatory correspondence and reports received from or submitted to regulators to ensure effective communication between the Company and its respective regulators.

The Board has determined that Mr. McCarthy, Ms. Holiday, and Mr. Muir are independent as defined by the NYSE Listed Company Rules.

RISK COMMITTEE

NUMBER OF MEETINGS IN 2017: 13

MEMBERS

AMONG OTHER THINGS, OUR RISK COMMITTEE:

- » Mr. Ferriss (Chair)
 - » Assesses and manages our enterprise risk, credit risk, market risk, operational risk, liquidity risk, and other risk matters.
- » Mr. Hill
 - » Provides oversight of our risk governance structure in order to evaluate and control our risks, including the approval of our Risk Appetite Statement.
- » Mr. Muir
 - »

Oversees our risk management function including appointment and evaluation of the Chief Risk Officer and annual review of the Chief Risk Officer's proposed priorities, budget and staffing plans.

» Oversees and manages our activities related to capital planning and analysis.

The Board has determined that Mr. Ferriss and Mr. Muir are independent as defined by the NYSE Listed Company Rules.

Table of Contents

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE - DIRECTOR COMPENSATION

Director Compensation

Only Independent Directors are compensated for their service on the Board. The 2017 compensation program for Independent Directors was approved by our non-independent, disinterested directors, who do not receive any compensation for their Board service. The program provided the following compensation for Independent Directors:

- » An annual cash retainer of \$100,000 (paid quarterly in arrears); plus

- » An annual grant of RSUs with a grant date fair market value equal to \$50,000, vesting on the earlier of the 1st anniversary of the grant date or the 1st annual stockholder meeting following the grant date (with the grant date occurring at or around the start of the applicable term of service); plus

- » \$70,000 in cash annually for serving as the chair of any committee of the Board (paid quarterly in arrears); plus

- » \$20,000 in cash annually for serving as a non-chair member of any committee of the Board (paid quarterly in arrears); plus

- » \$450,000 in cash annually if the director also serves as the Chairman of the Board (paid quarterly in arrears).

The Compensation Committee periodically reviews the form and amount of director compensation and recommends changes to the non-independent, disinterested Board members (who do not receive any director compensation from us), as appropriate. There were no changes to the Independent Director compensation program in 2017.

Independent Director Stock Ownership Guidelines

In order to align the economic interests of our Independent Directors with those of our stockholders, the Board has determined that our Independent Directors should hold a meaningful equity stake in SC. To that end, our Independent Non-Employee Director Stock Ownership Guidelines (adopted by the Board in 2016) require each of our Independent Directors to acquire and retain shares or share equivalents of our Common Stock with a target value not less than five times the annual equity retainer of \$50,000.

There is no required time period within which an Independent Director must attain the applicable stock ownership target. However, until the stock ownership target is achieved, an Independent Director is required to retain 100% of all shares of our Common Stock received under SC's Independent Director compensation program, other than shares received with a value equal to the amount of taxes due on income realized in connection with the vesting or exercise of awards.

As of the date hereof, all directors are in compliance with the Independent Non-Employee Director Stock Ownership Guidelines.

Director Compensation Table for 2017

The following table provides information regarding compensation for each Independent Director in 2017. Under our director compensation program, only Independent Directors are compensated for their service on the Board.

| NAME | FEES EARNED OR | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|---------|
| | PAID IN CASH | STOCK AWARDS ⁽¹⁾ | TOTAL |
| | (\$) | (\$) | (\$) |
| Stephen A. Ferriss | 211,549 | 50,000 | 261,549 |
| Edith E. Holiday | 143,451 | 50,000 | 193,451 |
| Mark P. Hurley⁽²⁾ | 189,542 | 33,845 | 222,387 |
| Robert J. McCarthy | 210,000 | 50,000 | 260,000 |
| William F. Muir | 191,359 | 50,000 | 241,359 |
| William Rainer | 620,000 | 50,000 | 670,000 |

| | | | |
|---|--------|---|--------|
| Wolfgang Schoellkopf⁽³⁾ | 49,231 | 0 | 49,231 |
|---|--------|---|--------|

- ⁽¹⁾ To align our Independent Directors' compensation with stockholder interests, each Independent Director is granted RSUs upon election or re-election. In 2017, all director RSUs were granted on June 12, 2017. Each award will vest upon the earlier of (i) the first anniversary of the grant date and (ii) the first annual stockholder meeting following the grant date. This column represents the aggregate grant date fair value computed in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718, based on the closing price of our Common Stock on the applicable grant date, but excluding the effect of potential forfeitures. Except for Mr. Ferriss, who holds 5,207 vested options, the stock awards reflected above comprise all outstanding equity awards held by our Independent Directors at the end of 2017.

Table of Contents

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE - NOMINATION OF DIRECTORS

(2) Mr. Hurley resigned from the Board effective November 27, 2017, so he received a pro rata portion of the equity retainer earned from June 12, 2017 until his resignation from the Board.

(3) Mr. Schoellkopf resigned from the Board effective April 21, 2017, so he did not receive an equity retainer for 2017.

Nomination of Directors

The Shareholders Agreement, by and among SC, SHUSA, and certain other holders of our Common Stock, which we refer to as the Shareholders Agreement, provides SHUSA with special rights to nominate directors to the Board. Please see *Additional Governance Information Related Party Transactions Shareholders Agreement* for further information. Pursuant to the Shareholders Agreement, SHUSA is entitled to nominate seven members of the Board. The Shareholders Agreement provides further that SHUSA may remove any director nominated by SHUSA with or without cause. In addition, SHUSA has the right to designate a replacement to fill a vacancy on the Board created by the departure of a director that was nominated by SHUSA, and we are required to take all action within our power to cause such vacancy to be filled by such designated replacement (including by promptly appointing such designee to the Board).

With respect to directors not nominated by SHUSA, the Board is responsible for selecting nominees for election to the Board by our stockholders. Generally, the Board begins identifying nominees by first evaluating the current members of the Board willing to continue in service. Current members of the Board with skills and experience that are relevant to our business and who are willing to continue in service are considered for re-nomination. If any member of the Board does not wish to continue in service or if the Board decides not to re-nominate a member for re-election, the Board then identifies the desired skills and experience of a new nominee in light of the criteria described below. Generally, the Board identifies candidates for director nominees in consultation with sitting members of the Board and with management, through the use of search firms or other advisors, through recommendations submitted by other directors or stockholders, and through such other methods as the Board deems appropriate. In identifying and evaluating a potential director nominee, the Board considers, among other things, the following factors:

- » Our needs with respect to the particular talents and experience of our directors;

- » The nominee's knowledge, skills, and experience, including experience in finance, administration, or public service, in light of prevailing business conditions and the knowledge, skills, and experience already possessed by other members of the Board;

- » Whether the nominee is independent, as that term is defined under the NYSE Listed Company Rules;

- » The familiarity of the nominee with our industry;

- » The nominee's experience in legal and regulatory affairs;

- » The nominee's experience with accounting rules and practices; and

- » The desire to balance the benefit of continuity with the periodic injection of the fresh perspective provided by new Board members.

In its identification and evaluation process, the Board collects information about candidates through interviews, detailed questionnaires, and other means that the Board deems helpful in such process.

The Board's goal is to assemble a Board that brings together a variety of perspectives and skills derived from high quality business and professional experience. In doing so, the Board will also consider candidates with appropriate non-business backgrounds.

The Board is also committed to diversified Board membership. The Board will not discriminate, including on the basis of race, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, religion, or disability, in selecting nominees. Diversity and inclusion are values embedded into our culture and are fundamental to our business. In keeping with those values, when assessing a candidate, the Board considers the different viewpoints and experiences that a candidate could bring to the Board and how those viewpoints and experiences could enhance the Board's effectiveness in the execution of its responsibilities. The Board is also committed to seeking highly qualified women and individuals from minority groups to include in the pool from which new candidates are selected. In addition, the Board assesses the diversity of the Board and committees as a part of its annual self-evaluation process.

Other than the foregoing, there are no stated minimum criteria for director nominees. The Board may also consider such other factors as it may deem in our best interests and the best interests of our stockholders. We also believe it may be appropriate for key members of our management to participate as members of the Board.

Subject to the rights of our majority stockholder, stockholders may nominate candidates for election to the Board. In order to nominate a candidate for election to the Board, stockholders must follow the procedures set forth in our Bylaws, including timely receipt by the Secretary of the Company of notice of the nomination and certain required disclosures with respect both to the nominating stockholder and the recommended director nominee. For a complete description of the requirements and procedures for stockholder nominations, please refer to our Bylaws.

Directors may be elected by a plurality of votes cast at any meeting called for the election of directors at which a quorum is present. The presence of a majority of the holders of our Common Stock, whether in person or by proxy, constitutes a quorum. The Board did not receive any recommendations from stockholders (other than SHUSA) requesting that the Board consider a candidate for inclusion among the nominees in this Proxy Statement. However, our policy is that we will consider any such recommendation as long as the stockholder making the recommendation provides to us the information concerning the recommended individual that is required under our Bylaws.

Table of Contents**EXECUTIVE OFFICERS****EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

The names, ages, and current positions of our executive officers as of the date of this Proxy Statement are listed in the table below. Each executive officer, including the CEO, is elected by the Board. Each executive officer holds office until his or her successor is elected and qualified, or until he or she is removed from, or resigns from, that office. There are no family relationships among the executive officers nor is there any agreement or understanding between any officer and any other person pursuant to whom the officer was elected.

| NAME | AGE | POSITION |
|------------------------------------|------------|--|
| Scott Powell | 56 | President and Chief Executive Officer |
| Juan Carlos Alvarez de Soto | 47 | Chief Financial Officer |
| Joshua Baer | 43 | Chief Risk Officer |
| Sandra Broderick | 60 | Executive Vice President, Head of Operations |

Reza Leaali

59

Chief Technology Officer

Richard Morrin

48

President, Chrysler Capital and Auto Relationships

Christopher Pfirman

58

Chief Legal Officer, General Counsel, and Corporate Secretary

Lisa VanRoekel

48

Chief Human Resources Officer

Scott Powell

President and Chief Executive Officer

Mr. Powell is discussed above under *Corporate Governance Proposal 1: Election of Directors Information Concerning the Nominees*.

Juan Carlos Alvarez de Soto

Chief Financial Officer

Mr. Alvarez de Soto joined us as our Chief Financial Officer in October 2017. Prior to joining us, Mr. Alvarez de Soto served as Corporate Treasurer for SHUSA from 2009 to 2017, overseeing SHUSA's liquidity risk management, asset liability management, and treasury functions. Prior to joining SHUSA, from 2005 to 2008, he was Senior Vice President and Head of Treasury and Investments for Banco Santander's International Private Banking at BSI and Banco Santander Suisse. In this role he managed a team of investment professionals, overseeing the assets of Banco Santander's international high-net-worth clients. From 2000 to 2004, Mr. Alvarez de Soto held the position of Directeur Adjoint for Santander Central Hispano Suisse, Geneva and was Head of Treasury, Trading and Asset-Allocation. Mr. Alvarez de Soto holds a master's degree in finance from George Washington University and a bachelor's degree in management from Tulane University, and is a Chartered Financial Analyst.

Joshua Baer

Chief Risk Officer

Mr. Baer has served as our Chief Risk Officer since March 2018, joining us from SHUSA, where he served as Head of Operations and Risk Strategy since May 2017. Prior to SHUSA, Mr. Baer worked at Capital One for 13 years, most recently as the Head of Consumer Credit Risk Analytics since 2010. Mr. Baer holds a bachelor's degree in finance from James Madison University and a master's degree in business administration from the Haas School of Business at the University of California, Berkeley.

Sandra Broderick

Executive Vice President, Head of Operations

Ms. Broderick has served as our Executive Vice President, Head of Operations since October 2017. Ms. Broderick joins us from U.S. Bank, where she served as Executive Vice President, Operations Executive since March 2017. Prior to that, Ms. Broderick served as Managing Director, Operations Executive at JP Morgan Chase from March 2002 to March 2017, where she also served as Head of Operations for their Automotive Finance business beginning in 2012. Ms. Broderick was also a Senior Operations Director at GE Capital from December 1995 to September 1998 and a Senior Vice President of Operations Executive at Bank One from September 1998 to March 2002. Ms. Broderick attended State University of New York at Buffalo.

Table of Contents

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Reza Leali

Chief Technology Officer

Mr. Leali has served as our Chief Technology Officer since February 2018. He previously served as Chief Information Officer for Wells Fargo from 2002 to 2018 and for PurchasePro from 2001 to 2002. Prior to that, Mr. Leali held the position of Chief Architect at Ingram Micro from 1995 to 2001. Mr. Leali holds a bachelor's degree in computer science from North London University.

Richard Morrin

President, Chrysler Capital and Auto Relationships

Mr. Morrin has served as our President, Chrysler Capital and Auto Relationships since October 2017. He previously served as our Chief Operating Officer since February 2016, having joined us as our Executive Vice President, New Business in August 2011. Prior to joining us, Mr. Morrin held a variety of management positions in 21 years of combined service at Ally Financial and General Motors Acceptance Corp. Most recently, he managed the commercial lending operations for Ally automotive dealers in the United States and Canada. Mr. Morrin holds a bachelor's degree in economics from the University of Pennsylvania and a master's degree in business administration from the University of Virginia.

Christopher Pfirman

Chief Legal Officer, General Counsel, and Corporate Secretary

Mr. Pfirman has served as our Chief Legal Officer, General Counsel, and Corporate Secretary since September 2015. He was previously employed by SHUSA, and most recently, served as Senior Executive Vice President and General Counsel of SHUSA and of SBNA from January 2012 to September 2015. He served as SBNA's Senior Vice President and Deputy General Counsel from January 2000 to January 2012, and he was an attorney in the law firm of Edwards & Angell, LLP (now Locke Lord LLP) from 1996 to 2000. He received a bachelor's degree from Fairfield University in Connecticut and a law degree from the College of William and Mary in Virginia. He is a member of the Massachusetts and Connecticut bars.

Lisa VanRoekel

Chief Human Resources Officer

Ms. VanRoekel has served as our Chief Human Resources Officer since March 2016, having previously served as our Head of Human Resources from 2006 to 2009. Previously, she served as the Interim Chief Human Resources Officer of SHUSA from December 2015 to February 2016; as the Chief Human Resources Officer of SBNA from December 2013 to February 2016; as the Deputy Managing Director, Human Resources of SBNA from July 2012 to December

Edgar Filing: Santander Consumer USA Holdings Inc. - Form DEF 14A

2013; and as the HR Corporate Business Director of SBNA from March 2009 to July 2012. Ms. VanRoekel holds bachelor's and master's degrees in journalism from East Texas State University.

SC 2018 Proxy Statement

21

Table of Contents

AUDIT - PROPOSAL 2: RATIFICATION OF APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

AUDIT

Proposal 2: Ratification of Appointment of Independent Registered

Public Accounting Firm

WHAT YOU ARE VOTING ON:

We are asking our stockholders to ratify the appointment of PwC as our independent registered public accounting firm for 2018.

Our Audit Committee is responsible for the appointment, compensation, retention, and oversight of the independent registered public accounting firm retained to perform the audit of our financial statements and our internal control over financial reporting. The Audit Committee has appointed the accounting firm of PwC to serve as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2018.

Stockholder Ratification of Appointment of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

A proposal to ratify the appointment of PwC to serve as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2018 will be presented at the 2018 Annual Meeting. PwC audited our consolidated financial statements for 2017. Representatives of PwC are expected to be present at the meeting. They will have the opportunity to make a statement if they desire to do so and will be available to respond to appropriate questions from stockholders.

Stockholder ratification of the selection of PwC as our independent registered public accounting firm is not mandated by our Bylaws or otherwise required. However, the Board is submitting the selection of PwC to our stockholders for ratification as a matter of good corporate governance. If our stockholders fail to ratify the selection, the Audit Committee will reconsider whether or not to retain that firm. Even if the selection is ratified, the Audit Committee at its discretion may direct the appointment of a different independent registered public accounting firm at any time during the year if it determines that such a change would be in our best interests and our stockholders' best interests.

The affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the shares of Common Stock entitled to vote on this matter at the 2018 Annual Meeting, whether in person or represented by proxy, will approve the proposal to ratify PwC as our independent registered accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2018.

THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS A VOTE
FOR THE RATIFICATION OF OUR APPOINTMENT OF PWC
AS OUR INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM
FOR THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR.

Table of Contents**AUDIT - REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE****AUDIT FEES AND RELATED MATTERS****Audit and Non-Audit Fees**

The following tables present fees for professional audit services rendered by PwC for the audits of our annual financial statements and the effectiveness of internal controls for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016, and fees for other services rendered by PwC during 2017 and 2016.

| | 2017 (\$) | 2016 (\$) |
|---|-----------|------------|
| Audit Fees⁽¹⁾ | 8,407,000 | 10,523,000 |
| Audit-Related Fees⁽²⁾ | 897,500 | 1,892,000 |
| Tax Fees⁽³⁾ | 485,000 | 210,000 |
| All Other Fees | | |

- (1) Represents fees billed, or expected to be billed, for the audit of our financial statements included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K, review of financial statements included in our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, and the audit of our internal control over financial reporting.
- (2) Represents fees billed, or expected to be billed, for assurance-related services. Such services during 2017 and 2016 principally included attestation reports required under services agreements, consent to use the auditor's report in connection with various documents filed with the SEC, comfort letters issued to underwriters for securities offerings, and certain other agreed-upon procedures.
- (3) Represents fees billed, or expected to be billed, for tax compliance, tax advice, and tax planning.

Audit Committee Pre-Approval of Audit and Non-Audit Services of Independent Auditor

The Audit Committee has implemented procedures to ensure that all audit and permitted non-audit services provided to us are pre-approved by the Audit Committee. Specifically, the Audit Committee pre-approves the use of an independent accountant for specific audit and non-audit services, within approved monetary limits. If a proposed service has not been pre-approved, then it must be specifically pre-approved by the Audit Committee before it may be provided by our independent accountant. Any pre-approved services exceeding the pre-approved monetary limits require specific approval by the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee may delegate pre-approval authority to one or more of its members when expedition of services is necessary.

All of the audit-related, tax, and other services provided by PwC to us in 2017 were approved by the Audit Committee by means of specific pre-approvals or under procedures established by the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee has determined that all non-audit services provided by PwC in 2017 were compatible with maintaining its independence in the conduct of its auditing functions.

REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

This report reviews the actions taken by our Audit Committee with regard to the Company's financial reporting process during 2017 and particularly with regard to the Company's audited consolidated financial statements as of December 31, 2017 and 2016 and for the three years ended December 31, 2017.

The Audit Committee is comprised of three non-management Board members. The Board has determined that each member of our Audit Committee has no material relationship with the Company under the Board's director independence standards and that each is independent under the NYSE's listing standards and the SEC's standards relating to the independence of audit committees. The Board has also determined that each member is financially literate and is an audit committee financial expert as defined by the SEC.

The Audit Committee operates under a written charter adopted by the Board that is published on the investor relations section of our website at <http://investors.santanderconsumerusa.com>. The Audit Committee annually reviews its written charter and practices, and has determined that its charter and practices are consistent with the listing standards of the NYSE and the provisions of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

The purpose of the Audit Committee is to assist Board oversight of (i) our independent registered public accounting firm's qualifications and independence, (ii) the performance of the internal audit function and that of the independent registered public accounting firm, (iii) management's responsibilities to ensure that there is in place an effective system of controls reasonably designed to safeguard the assets and income of the Company, (iv) the integrity of our financial

statements, and (v) compliance with our ethical standards, policies, plans, and procedures, and with laws and regulations.

The Audit Committee discussed with PwC the matters required to be discussed by Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB) Auditing Standard No. 1301 (Communications with Audit Committees), including PwC s overall audit scope and audit approach as set forth in the terms of their engagement letter, PwC s overall audit strategy for significant audit risks identified by them, and the nature and extent of the specialized skills necessary to perform the planned audit. In addition, the Audit Committee monitors

Table of Contents

AUDIT - REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

the audit, audit-related, and tax services provided by PwC. Details of the fees paid to PwC can be found in this Proxy Statement under *Audit Audit Fees and Related Matters*.

PwC provided the Audit Committee the written disclosures and the letter required by PCAOB's Ethics and Independence Rule 3526 (Communications with Audit Committees Concerning Independence), and the Audit Committee discussed and confirmed with PwC their independence. The Audit Committee has considered whether PwC's provision of any non-audit services to us is compatible with maintaining auditor independence. The Audit Committee has concluded that the provision of any non-audit services by PwC was compatible with PwC's independence in the conduct of its auditing functions.

Management is responsible for our internal control over financial reporting, the financial reporting process, and our consolidated financial statements. The independent auditor is responsible for performing an independent audit of our consolidated financial statements and of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting in accordance with auditing standards promulgated by the PCAOB. Our Internal Audit Department, under the Chief Audit Executive, is responsible to the Audit Committee for preparing an annual audit plan and conducting internal audits intended to evaluate our internal control structure and compliance with applicable regulatory requirements. The members of the Audit Committee are not professionally engaged in the practice of accounting or auditing; as noted above, the Audit Committee's responsibility is to monitor and oversee these processes.

The Audit Committee regularly meets and holds discussions with our management and internal auditors and with the independent auditor, including sessions with the internal auditors and with the independent auditor without members of management present. Management represented to the Audit Committee that our consolidated financial statements were prepared in accordance with GAAP. The Audit Committee reviewed and discussed our consolidated financial statements with management and PwC.

The Audit Committee also discussed with PwC the quality of our accounting principles, the reasonableness of critical accounting estimates and judgments, and the disclosures in our consolidated financial statements, including disclosures relating to significant accounting policies. Based on the Audit Committee's discussions with our management, internal auditors, and PwC, as well as a review of the representations given to the Audit Committee and PwC's reports, the Audit Committee recommended to the Board, and the Board approved, inclusion of the audited consolidated financial statements in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017, as filed with the SEC on February 28, 2018.

Submitted by the Audit Committee of the Board:

William F. Muir, Chair

Stephen A. Ferriss

Robert J. McCarthy

This report shall not be deemed to be incorporated by reference by any general statement incorporating by reference this Proxy Statement into any filing under the Securities Act or Exchange Act, and shall not otherwise be deemed filed under these Acts.

Table of Contents

**COMPENSATION - PROPOSAL 3: NON-BINDING, ADVISORY APPROVAL OF NEO COMPENSATION
(SAY-ON-PAY)**

COMPENSATION

Proposal 3: Non-Binding, Advisory Approval of NEO Compensation (Say-on-Pay)

WHAT YOU ARE VOTING ON:

At the Annual Meeting, stockholders are being asked to approve the compensation of our NEOs as disclosed in this Proxy Statement.

As described in detail in the CD&A and the related compensation tables and narrative discussion beginning on page 26 of this Proxy Statement, our executive compensation programs are designed to reward our NEOs for the achievement of short-term and long-term strategic and operational goals, align NEO and stockholder interests, attract and retain quality leadership, and support a pay-for-performance philosophy, while at the same time avoiding the encouragement of unnecessary or excessive risk taking.

In accordance with Section 14A of the Exchange Act, the Board is asking our stockholders to indicate their support for our executive compensation programs as described in this Proxy Statement. This vote is referred to as a

Say-on-Pay vote. This vote is not intended to address any specific term of compensation, but rather the overall compensation of our NEOs and the philosophy, policies, and practices described in this Proxy Statement.

Accordingly, the Board is asking our stockholders to vote FOR the following resolution at the 2018 Annual Meeting:

RESOLVED, that the stockholders of Santander Consumer USA Holdings Inc. (the Company) hereby approve, on an advisory basis, the compensation paid to the Company's named executive officers, as disclosed pursuant to the SEC's compensation disclosure rules, including in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis and the compensation tables and related narrative discussion included in the Proxy Statement for the 2018 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

Although this vote regarding the compensation of our NEOs is not binding, the Board values the opinions of our stockholders and will consider the result of the vote when determining future executive compensation arrangements.

At the 2015 Annual Meeting, our stockholders approved a non-binding, advisory proposal to hold triennial Say-on-Pay votes. In consideration of the results of this advisory vote, the Board has adopted a policy providing for triennial Say-on-Pay votes. Unless the Board modifies this policy, our next Say-on-Pay vote following this vote will be held at our 2021 Annual Meeting.

The affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the shares of Common Stock entitled to vote on this matter at the Annual Meeting, whether in person or represented by proxy, will approve, on an advisory basis, the compensation paid to the Company's NEOs.

THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS A VOTE **FOR**
APPROVAL, ON AN ADVISORY BASIS, OF THE
COMPENSATION PAID TO THE COMPANY'S NEOs AS
DISCLOSED IN THIS PROXY STATEMENT.

Table of Contents

COMPENSATION - COMPENSATION DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Compensation Discussion and Analysis

Executive Summary

Introduction. This CD&A describes the material elements of compensation awarded to, earned by, or paid to each of our NEOs, and focuses on the information contained in the following tables and related footnotes primarily for the year 2017.

| NAMED EXECUTIVE OFFICER | TITLE |
|---|--|
| <p>Scott Powell</p> | <p>President and CEO</p> |
| <p>Juan Carlos Alvarez de Soto</p> | <p>Chief Financial Officer</p> |
| <p>Richard Morrin</p> | <p>President, Chrysler Capital and Auto Relationships</p> |
| <p>Christopher Pffirman</p> | <p>Chief Legal Officer, General Counsel, and Corporate Secretary</p> |
| <p>Jason A. Kulas</p> | <p>Former President and CEO</p> |
| <p>Ismail Dawood</p> | <p>Former Chief Financial Officer</p> |

Dale Cochran*

Former Chief Risk Officer

*Mr. Cochran was serving as our Chief Risk Officer at the end of 2017 and was one of our three highest paid executive officers for 2017. However, he ceased serving as our Chief Risk Officer in February 2018. For more information, please see *Compensation Executive Compensation Tables Potential Payments upon Termination or Change in Control Table Illustrating Potential Payments upon Termination or Change in Control*.

This CD&A explains the overall objectives of our executive compensation program, how each element of our executive compensation program is designed to satisfy these objectives, and the policies underlying our 2017 compensation program.

The Compensation Committee designs our executive compensation program to be consistent with best practices, support our businesses in achieving their key goals and imperatives, and drive stockholder value. The Compensation Committee believes that our compensation programs, which are intended to comply with all applicable laws and regulations and directives from our regulators, are governed by a set of sound principles and are designed to mitigate excessive risk-taking.

2017 Business Performance Highlights. With net income of \$1.2 billion (\$627 million adjusted net income) and \$20.1 billion in total originations, our full year 2017 financial results demonstrate our continued profitability and strong returns. Additionally, we achieved a return on average assets (ROA) of 3% (1.6% adjusted ROA) and a return on average equity (ROE) of 21.0% (11.1% adjusted ROE), and issued \$9.2 billion in securitizations.

Net income for the full year 2017 was \$1.2 billion, or \$3.30 per diluted common share. Adjusted net income, which excludes the impact of significant items, including tax reform and other tax-related items, legal reserves, and a settlement with our former CEO Thomas G. Dundon, was \$627 million, or \$1.74 per diluted common share.

The Federal Reserve Bank of Boston terminated its 2014 Written Agreement with our majority owner, SHUSA, following its non-objection to SHUSA's CCAR submission. SHUSA and SC now operate within a normal capital cycle and we completed our first cash dividend payments to stockholders since 2014.

SHUSA and Banco Santander reaffirmed their commitment to SC by increasing their total ownership in SC to approximately 68.1%, following Banco Santander's acquisition from our former CEO Thomas G. Dundon of 9.6% of our outstanding shares, which it transferred to SHUSA.

We launched a flow program with Banco Santander allowing us to execute prime auto loan sales of \$2.6 billion, and through Banco Santander increased FCA dealer receivables 14% year-over-year (YoY), to \$2.0 billion.

We were a leading auto loan ABS issuer with \$9.2 billion in ABS offered and sold, including our inaugural lease securitization, Santander Retail Auto Lease Trust, and our first public DRIVE securitization.

We achieved a retail installment contract (RIC) gross charge-off ratio of 17.9%, up 60 basis points YoY, stabilizing compared to a 230 basis point increase from 2015 to 2016 and RIC net charge-off ratio of 8.9%, up 60 basis points YoY, compared to a 140 basis point increase from 2015 to 2016.

We achieved ROA of 3.0% and adjusted ROA of 1.6%.

In line with the Compensation Committee s goal of balancing risk/reward management with income and profitability, the above results were accomplished while also taking a measured approach to originations in a competitive market and improving the credit quality of our balance sheet.

¹ Adjusted net income, adjusted ROA, and adjusted ROE are each non-GAAP financial measures. For an explanation and a reconciliation of adjusted net income, adjusted ROA, and adjusted ROE to net income, ROA, and ROE, respectively, the most directly comparable measures reported under GAAP, please see Annex A.

Table of Contents

COMPENSATION - COMPENSATION DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

2017 Compensation Highlights. The Compensation Committee's compensation decisions for 2017 reflect the direct relationship between the pay opportunities for our NEOs and performance for our stockholders. Based on our strong financial performance in an increasingly competitive market, consistent economic stability, robust customer relations, and steady regulatory compliance, the Compensation Committee approved funding of 95% of the target amount of the SC Executive Bonus Pool (the Bonus Pool).

The 95% funding of the Bonus Pool was further supported by the accomplishment of key goals related to our survey and program to measure and report customer satisfaction and completion of critical regulatory, compliance, and risk milestones.

As part of the continual assessment and evolution of our compensation programs for NEOs, the Compensation Committee oversaw the first performance year of a Special Regulatory Incentive Program (the SRIP) in 2017. Under the SRIP, specified NEOs are eligible to receive a multi-year targeted award based on their performance at SC and achievement of companywide objectives. For 2017, the SRIP was tailored to incentivize NEOs to achieve key regulatory milestones and each of our NEOs participated in the program. For more information, please see *Principal Components of Executive Compensation SRIP* in this CD&A.

Allocation of Compensation Between SC and SHUSA for Mr. Powell. On August 27, 2017, the Board appointed Scott Powell to succeed Jason Kulas as our CEO. Mr. Powell also continued (and continues) to serve as the CEO of our parent, SHUSA. In connection with his appointment, our Compensation Committee and SHUSA's compensation committee jointly determined the following approach to allocating Mr. Powell's compensation between SC and SHUSA for 2017:

- » **Cash Compensation.** Mr. Powell has remained on SHUSA's payroll and continued to participate in SHUSA's benefit plans. However, a portion of Mr. Powell's salary has been allocated to his service as our CEO during 2017, which appears in our financial statements as a compensation expense. As for the cash portion of his 2017 annual bonus (including the SRIP award for 2017, described below), we have paid and will continue to pay the allocated portion directly. Through August 27, 2017, 100% of Mr. Powell's time was attributed to SHUSA. For the remainder of the year, Mr. Powell spent approximately 69% of his time on SC matters and 31% of his time on SHUSA matters. As a result, for 2017, in total approximately 23% of Mr. Powell's cash compensation was attributed to his service as our CEO. These amounts for 2017 are shown in the salary and bonus columns (for the non-deferred cash portion of the bonus) in the Summary Compensation Table below. This same allocation applies to the deferred cash portion of Mr. Powell's 2017 bonus, which amounts will be reported in the Summary Compensation Table for the year earned and paid.
- » **Equity Compensation.** As discussed below, 50% of Mr. Powell's 2017 annual bonus (including the portion under the SRIP) is provided in the form of equity awards that are subject to certain vesting conditions. For 2017, to reflect Mr. Powell's split in service between SHUSA and SC, but also to give Mr. Powell an additional initial stake in SC

to further align his interests with the interests of our long-term stockholders, the Compensation Committee, together with the SHUSA compensation committee, jointly decided that the equity portion of Mr. Powell's 2017 bonus would be provided half in awards of RSUs under our equity compensation plan and half in awards of Banco Santander ADRs under SHUSA's compensation program. The grant date fair value of our RSU awards for 2017 service will be shown in the stock awards column in the Summary Compensation Table for 2018 (the year the RSUs were granted).

Given the allocation of compensation between us and SHUSA for Mr. Powell's services, the assessment of Mr. Powell's performance and decisions about the total amount of his 2017 bonus were made jointly by our Compensation Committee and SHUSA's compensation committee. Please see SHUSA's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017 for information about Mr. Powell's total compensation paid by SHUSA, including the amounts reported in this Proxy Statement for amounts attributable to his service as our CEO. Our Compensation Committee will review this allocation approach for 2018 compensation with SHUSA and, depending on the expected allocation of Mr. Powell's duties for 2018, may change the approach next year.

Key Executive Compensation Principles. The fundamental principles that the Compensation Committee follows in designing and implementing compensation programs for our NEOs are to:

- » Attract, motivate, and retain highly skilled executives with the business experience and acumen necessary for achieving our long-term business objectives;
- » Link pay to performance and, to an appropriate extent, align the interests of management with those of our stockholders;
- » Appropriately balance risk and financial results; and
- » Support our core values, strategic mission, and vision.

The Compensation Committee aims to provide a total compensation package that is comparable to that of other financial institutions with whom we compete for business and for talent, taking into account publicly available information provided by our independent compensation consultant. Within this framework, the Compensation Committee considers each component of each NEO's compensation package independently; that is, the Compensation Committee does not evaluate what percentage each component comprises of the total compensation package. In 2017, the Compensation Committee took into account SC's performance and each NEO's individual performance, level of responsibility, and track record within the organization in setting the NEO's compensation.

Table of Contents**COMPENSATION - COMPENSATION DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS****2017 Compensation Actions****How we compensated our CEO serving at the end of 2017****SCOTT POWELL****AGE: 56 TITLE: President and CEO**

As discussed in *Compensation Discussion and Analysis Executive Summary Allocation of Compensation Between SC and SHUSA for Mr. Powell*, Mr. Powell's performance in 2017 was evaluated collectively by the Board and SHUSA's Board of Directors. Our decision to pay a pro rata portion of Mr. Powell's compensation for 2017 was reached after substantial discussion, review of peer group data presented by the Compensation Committee's independent consultant, and a thorough review of Mr. Powell's performance throughout the year. Mr. Powell received a base salary of \$2,000,000 for his work as CEO of both SHUSA and SC, with \$455,400 allocated for time spent as SC's CEO. His annual bonus award of \$2,395,000 for his work as CEO of both SHUSA and SC (114% of Mr. Powell's target bonus of \$2,104,000) was provided in a mix of current and deferred cash and RSU awards, with \$871,421 allocated to us. Mr. Powell also received a SRIP bonus award of \$500,000 for his work as CEO of both SHUSA and SC, provided in a mix of current and deferred cash and RSU awards, with half of the equity portion and approximately 23% of the cash portion allocated to us, for a total of approximately \$181,925. As discussed above, the cash allocation was based on Mr. Powell's time as our CEO in 2017, while the equity allocation was intended to give Mr. Powell an additional stake in SC to more fully align his interests with those of our stockholders.

How we compensated our other NEOs serving at the end of 2017**JUAN CARLOS ALVAREZ DE SOTO****AGE: 47 TITLE: Chief Financial Officer**

Mr. Alvarez de Soto joined us in October 2017 from SHUSA, where he served as Treasurer. For his service to us in 2017, Mr. Alvarez de Soto received a salary of \$250,000 as well as an annual bonus award of \$205,000 (160% of

Mr. Alvarez de Soto's prorated target bonus), which was provided in a mix of current and deferred cash and RSU awards. Mr. Alvarez de Soto also received a prorated SRIP bonus award of \$51,453, which was provided in a mix of current and deferred cash and RSU awards.

RICHARD MORRIN

AGE: 48 TITLE: President, Chrysler Capital and Auto Relationships

In setting Mr. Morrin's compensation for 2017, the Compensation Committee recognized that Mr. Morrin made significant progress on the collection, tracking, and handling of customer complaints. The Compensation Committee also noted that JD Power dealer satisfaction results showed progress in some areas and continued room for improvement in others, and that Mr. Morrin put significant work into improving SC's hiring, training, and development program for servicing sites as well as to improve competitiveness of program pricing and approach against key competitors. The Compensation Committee also determined that Mr. Morrin has managed our relationship with Chrysler well, fostered a strong working relationship with our regulators, and demonstrated a high level of awareness of and compliance with risk management activities, particularly by reinforcing staff within the first line in coordination with business operators. For 2017, the Compensation Committee increased Mr. Morrin's base salary from \$650,000 to \$850,000 to align with market. Mr. Morrin was also compensated with an annual bonus award of \$784,125 (90% of Mr. Morrin's target bonus) and a SRIP bonus award of \$250,000, in each case provided in a mix of current and deferred cash and RSU awards.

CHRISTOPHER PFIRMAN

AGE: 57 TITLE: Chief Legal Officer, General Counsel, and Corporate Secretary

In deciding on compensation for 2017, the Compensation Committee specifically recognized that Mr. Pfirman improved Board processes and completed an inclusive, external survey of customers. The Compensation Committee further considered that, under Mr. Pfirman's leadership, we have settled or minimized several legal disputes, as well as successfully navigated important funding and liquidity initiatives. The Compensation Committee noted that Mr. Pfirman consistently demonstrated a high level of awareness of risk management activities and deliberation in his evaluations of legal risks to SC. For 2017, the Compensation Committee increased Mr. Pfirman's base salary from \$649,418 to \$659,018 in order to align with market. Mr. Pfirman was also compensated with an annual bonus award of \$520,000 (97.7% of Mr. Pfirman's target bonus) and a SRIP bonus award of \$139,813, in each case provided in a mix of current and deferred cash and RSU awards.

Table of Contents

COMPENSATION - COMPENSATION DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

DALE COCHRAN

AGE: 52 TITLE: **Former Chief Risk Officer**

Mr. Cochran joined us in May 2017. Per the terms of his offer letter, he received \$461,058 in base salary in 2017 and a \$970,000 sign-on bonus upon hire, 50% in cash and 50% in RSUs vesting in equal installments over three years. In 2018, as part of his separation agreement, Mr. Cochran also received an annual bonus award of \$400,000 and SRIP award of \$250,000 for performance year 2017, provided in a mix of current and deferred cash and RSU awards.

PROCESS FOR DETERMINING EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

Compensation Committee

The Compensation Committee sets the compensation for our executive officers, including our NEOs, and has oversight of, among other things, adoption, modification, and termination of the terms of our executive incentive plan(s), and approval of amounts paid to our NEOs under those plans. The Compensation Committee operates under a written charter adopted by the Board that is published on the investor relations section of our website at <http://investors.santanderconsumerusa.com>. Pursuant to its charter, the Compensation Committee may delegate responsibilities to subcommittees consisting of one or more of its members, who must report on their activities to the Compensation Committee.

The Compensation Committee conducts an in-depth assessment of each NEO's performance against his or her individual goals, as well as against SC's performance, and then applies its judgment to make compensation decisions. The Compensation Committee utilizes a formula to approve a bonus pool for executive officers and certain other senior members of management (please see *Principal Components of Executive Compensation Annual Bonuses SC Bonus Pool* in this CD&A for further information), but does not otherwise rely on a formula or matrix to make individual compensation decisions. The Compensation Committee believes this process provides accountability for performance against SC and individual goals and enables the Compensation Committee to assess effectively the quality of the performance and leadership demonstrated by each NEO. Importantly, the Compensation Committee believes that the process also differentiates among each NEO's performance and motivates each NEO's short-term and long-term results as well as promotes innovation and business transformation within SC.

To advise the Compensation Committee in fulfilling its duties and responsibilities, the Compensation Committee retained Pay Governance LLC (Pay Governance) in July 2017 to act as its independent consultant and advise on executive compensation. Pay Governance reported directly to the Compensation Committee and performed no other work for SC in 2017. As part of its 2017 engagement of Pay Governance, the Compensation Committee analyzed Pay Governance 's independence from management and whether hiring Pay Governance would raise a conflict of interest. The Compensation Committee performed this analysis by taking into consideration the following factors set forth in Section 303A.05 of the NYSE Listed Company Manual:

- » Any other services provided to us by Pay Governance;
- » The amount of fees Pay Governance received from us as a percentage of Pay Governance 's total revenue;
- » Policies and procedures Pay Governance utilizes to prevent conflicts of interest;
- » Any business or personal relationship of the individual compensation advisor of Pay Governance with any member of the Compensation Committee or an executive officer of ours;
- » Any business or personal relationship of Pay Governance with an executive officer of ours;
- » Any SC stock owned by Pay Governance or the Compensation Committee 's individual advisor at Pay Governance; and
- » Any business or personal relationship of Pay Governance with an executive officer of ours.

The Compensation Committee determined, based on its analysis of the above factors, that Pay Governance is independent from management and that the work of Pay Governance and the individual compensation advisors employed by Pay Governance as compensation consultants to the Compensation Committee have not presented any conflict of interest.

Pay Governance assisted the Compensation Committee in 2017 by providing market and industry information regarding executive compensation. In providing such information, Pay Governance identified consumer finance and banking companies with which we compete directly for both business and talent. In identifying those companies, Pay Governance considered institutions in comparable industries and product markets, with comparable business models, and of comparable sizes. While the Compensation Committee considered all available information when determining NEO compensation for 2017, including the data provided by Pay Governance, it did not engage in any benchmarking of NEO compensation for 2017.

Table of Contents

COMPENSATION - COMPENSATION DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Consideration of Say-on-Pay Vote

The Compensation Committee values input from our stockholders on our executive compensation program and our principles and objectives when determining executive compensation. One way the Compensation Committee receives that input is through the results of an advisory stockholder vote on executive compensation (the Say-on-Pay vote). We hold a Say-on-Pay vote every three years, most recently in 2015, based on the preference expressed by our stockholders at our 2015 Annual Meeting. In the 2015 Say-on-Pay vote, a significant majority of our stockholders approved, on an advisory basis, the compensation for our NEOs. The Compensation Committee did not take any specific actions with respect to 2017 compensation decisions for our NEOs as a result of the 2015 Say-on-Pay vote.

As in 2015, the Compensation Committee will assess the results of this year's Say-on-Pay Vote with careful consideration of our stockholders' preferences and will determine what, if any, changes should be made to our executive compensation programs currently in place. Even with a full ratification of the compensation decisions, the Compensation Committee will continue to review our NEOs' performance against their individual goals and the goals of SC.

Table of Contents**COMPENSATION - COMPENSATION DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS****PRINCIPAL COMPONENTS OF EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION****Overview of Components**

The Compensation Committee uses the following elements of compensation to attract and retain NEOs and maintain a stable team of effective leaders, to balance the compensation of our NEOs with the short-term and long-term objectives of SC, and to align the interests of our NEOs with the interests of all of our stockholders. For 2017, the compensation that we paid to our NEOs consisted primarily of base salary and short- and long-term incentive opportunities, as described more fully below. In addition, our NEOs were eligible for participation in company-wide health and welfare benefits plans, and provided with certain health and welfare benefits and perquisites not available to our employees generally, as described more fully below. The principal elements of compensation available to our NEOs in 2017 were as follows:

| ELEMENT | DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE |
|---------------------|---|
| Base Salary | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Fixed cash compensation component that reflects the NEO's position and responsibilities. » Offers stability for NEOs. |
| Annual Bonus | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Annual bonus program designed to motivate and reward the achievement of SC and/or individual performance goals. » The annual bonus is comprised of both short-term and long-term incentives. A portion of the bonus is deferred in cash and RSUs as part of a balanced design intended to appropriately balance compensation risk. Payment of the deferred cash and RSUs is specifically conditioned upon the absence of several negative risk and/or legal events, including, but not limited to, any of the following: (i) material failures with respect to risk management by us and any of our affiliates; (ii) any material, negative restatement of our financial statements as a result of activities carried out on or after January 1, 2017; |

(iii) material breach of any of our internal rules or regulations; or (iv) a material, negative change in our capitalization or risk profile.

- » In 2018, the Compensation Committee awarded bonuses to our NEOs for their performance in 2017 based upon a bonus pool methodology adopted by the Compensation Committee. For bonuses awarded to Mr. Powell and Mr. Pfirman, a portion of the deferred cash and RSUs are also subject to future Banco Santander and SC performance goals to further encourage long-term, sustainable performance. Part of Mr. Cochran's separation agreement includes what would have been his annual bonus for 2017, a portion of which is subject to the same performance goals as Mr. Pfirman's bonus. Part of Mr. Kulas's severance package also includes what would have been his annual bonus for 2017, a portion of which is subject to the same performance goals as Mr. Powell's bonus. Mr. Dawood, who separated from us in 2017, was not awarded a bonus.

**Long-Term
Incentive
Compensation**

- » No awards under the SAN Performance Award program were made in 2017, and none are expected moving forward. In November 2016, we made final grants of performance-based RSUs (PSUs) under the program to certain NEOs. The awards are scheduled to vest in March 2019 based on a scorecard of Banco Santander performance goals. Awards previously made under the SAN Performance Award program in 2015 became earned in 2017.
- » Aligns long-term NEO and stockholder interests and encourages retention.

SRIP Awards

- » The Compensation Committee designed the SRIP to incentivize and reward our NEOs for meeting key regulatory commitments, as part of our long-term business strategy. Under the SRIP, our NEOs are eligible to receive awards that track the same payment procedure and timing as annual bonus awards. For performance in 2017, we granted SRIP awards to all of the NEOs except for Mr. Dawood.
- » Aligns long-term NEO and stockholder interests, encourages retention, and incentivizes achievement of regulatory goals.

**Retirement Benefits;
Health and Welfare
Benefits; Perquisites**

- » Provide NEOs with stability during employment and into retirement and are competitive with overall market practices.

- » Severance benefits provided to certain NEOs upon certain terminations of employment.

**Employment
Agreements**

- » Facilitates retention of NEOs by providing income stability in the event of job loss.

SC 2018 Proxy Statement

31

Table of Contents**COMPENSATION - COMPENSATION DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS****Base Salary**

Base salary reflects each NEO's level of responsibility, leadership, and tenure, as well as the Compensation Committee's evaluation of each NEO's contribution to the performance and profitability of SC. In establishing each NEO's annual base salary, the Compensation Committee considered market salary data, our budget, achievement of performance objectives, and our CEO's assessment of the other NEOs' performance.

The following table provides detail regarding each NEO's annual base salary rate for 2017:

| NEO | ANNUAL BASE SALARY RATE (\$)* |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Scott Powell** | 2,000,000 |
| Juan Carlos Alvarez de Soto*** | 1,000,000 |
| Richard Morrin | 850,000 |
| Christopher Pfirman | 659,018 |
| Jason Kulas | 1,809,600 |

| | |
|----------------------|-----------|
| Ismail Dawood | 1,052,250 |
|----------------------|-----------|

| | |
|------------------------|---------|
| Dale Cochran*** | 685,000 |
|------------------------|---------|

* This table provides the annual base salary rate for each NEO as of their last date of employment with us in 2017. For Mr. Kulas and Mr. Dawood, those figures are as of the dates of separation from service. For the other NEOs, those figures are as of December 31, 2017. The base salary actually paid to each NEO in 2017 is reflected in the Summary Compensation Table below.

**Mr. Powell's 2017 salary of \$2,000,000 was set by SHUSA's compensation committee, but only \$455,400 was allocated to time spent on SC matters, as described above in *Compensation Discussion and Analysis Executive Summary Allocation of Compensation Between SC and SHUSA for Mr. Powell*.

***Mr. Alvarez de Soto joined us in October 2017 and was paid a pro rata share of his annual base salary \$250,000. Mr. Cochran joined us in May 2017 and was also paid a pro rata share of his base salary \$461,058. The Compensation Committee approved increases in base salaries for certain NEOs during 2017. For more information regarding these base salary increases, please see *2017 Compensation Actions* in this CD&A.

Annual Bonuses

Introduction. For 2017, the annual compensation of our NEOs included bonuses payable in cash and RSUs under SC's Senior Executive Annual Bonus Plan (the *Bonus Plan*).

The Bonus Plan is intended to provide an incentive for superior work and to motivate covered key executives toward even greater achievement and business results, to tie their goals and interests to the long-term interests of our stockholders, and to enable us to attract and retain highly-qualified executives. Under the Bonus Plan, our executive officers, including our NEOs and certain senior members of management, are eligible to receive bonus payments for a specified period (for example, our fiscal year), which may be performance-based or discretionary.

Table of Contents**COMPENSATION - COMPENSATION DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

Individual Bonus Targets. The Compensation Committee assigned to each NEO a target bonus award opportunity under the Bonus Plan for 2017 based on the NEO's role and responsibilities, rate of base salary, and competitive practices at our compensation peer groups. The following table provides detail regarding each NEO's target bonus under the Bonus Plan for performance in 2017:

| NEO | TARGET BONUS* (\$) |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Scott Powell** | 2,104,000 |
| Juan Carlos Alvarez de Soto*** | 128,125 |
| Richard Morrin | 871,250 |
| Christopher Pfirman | 532,180 |
| Jason Kulas | 2,070,000 |

Ismail Dawood 750,000

Dale Cochran 497,125

* Target bonuses for 2017 were increased by 2.5% in December 2017 for our NEOs serving at that time in response to CRD IV regulations, which no longer allowed us to pay dividend equivalents or interest on deferred amounts starting with the 2017 performance year.

**Mr. Powell's full 2017 bonus target of \$2,104,000 was set by SHUSA's compensation committee, as described above in *Compensation Discussion and Analysis Executive Summary Allocation of Compensation Between SC and SHUSA for Mr. Powell*.

***Mr. Alvarez de Soto joined us after the start of the 2017 performance year and his pro rata target bonus is shown above.

SC Bonus Pool. The Compensation Committee approved the Bonus Pool as a methodology for setting the overall funding of Bonus Plan awards with respect to 2017 for our executive officers, including our NEOs, and certain senior members of management. The target amount of the Bonus Pool is the sum of the individual target bonus amounts. The Bonus Pool methodology incorporates a balanced, scorecard approach that considers our financial performance against budgeted financial goals, as well as performance related to customer satisfaction, regulatory compliance, employees, and culture. The Compensation Committee approved the following metrics for the Bonus Pool for 2017:

| SC BONUS POOL METRIC | WEIGHTING OF SC BONUS POOL METRIC |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Customers & Employees | 10% |

Consumer Customer Satisfaction 2.50%

Chrysler Capital (CCAP) Dealer Loyalty 1.25%

Core Dealer Satisfaction 1.25%

Employee Engagement 5.00%

Regulatory & Risk 20%

Cost of Credit Ratio⁽¹⁾ 5.00%

Completed Action Plans for Regulatory Commitments and Written Agreements 15.00%

Capital 15%

Contribution to Group Capital⁽¹⁾ 15.00%

Profitability 55%

Net Profit⁽¹⁾ 27.50%

RoRWA⁽¹⁾ 27.50%

SHUSA Scorecard Modifier

Formulaic

Discretionary Adjustment

+/- 20%

SC 2018 Proxy Statement

33

Table of Contents

COMPENSATION - COMPENSATION DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

(1) We generally assess our performance based on financial measures calculated under GAAP. However, due to our relationship with Banco Santander, for purposes of the 2017 Bonus Pool, financial measures were calculated under International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). Differences between IFRS and GAAP in the accounting treatment of certain transactions can result in differences between financial measures calculated under IFRS and those calculated under GAAP. We believe using financial measures calculated under IFRS rather than GAAP did not significantly impact the Compensation Committee's ability to assess our NEOs' performance for purposes of determining 2017 Bonus Pool awards.

Cost of Credit Ratio is defined as the ratio of the sum of total provision over the prior 12 months to the average 12-month customer loan balances (excluding all of the public balance sheet). Contribution to Group Capital is defined as net profit minus capital deductions and 11% of change in risk-weighted assets. Net Profit is defined as net profit after tax, prior to minority interests, and adjusted for significant one-time items, including tax reform and other tax-related items, hurricane-related provisions, certain legal reserves, a settlement with Thomas G. Dundon, and other non-recurring items. RoRWA (or return on risk-weighted assets) is defined as the ratio of net income to total risk-weighted assets. (Under certain banking regulators' risk-based capital guidelines, assets and credit equivalent amounts of derivatives and off-balance sheet exposures are assigned to broad risk categories. The aggregate dollar amount in each risk category is multiplied by the associated risk weight of the category. The resulting weighted values are added together with the measure for market risk, resulting in our total risk-weighted assets.)

For 2017, we performed below target on our Net Profit and RoRWA goals. For purposes of the Bonus Plan:

» Our Net Profit for 2017 was \$660 million, below our 2017 goal Net Profit of \$819 million, and

» Our RoRWA for 2017 was 1.82%, below our 2017 goal RoRWA of 2.15%.

We performed above target on both categories in the Regulatory & Risk metric. On the Customers & Employees metric, we performed only slightly below target on two categories, and below target on the other two categories. As for capital creation, while performance was slightly below target, our capabilities in 2017 continued to be strong and show signs of improving going into 2018.

The final calculated score of the Bonus Pool before the exercise of any discretionary adjustment was 89.64%. The Bonus Pool provides that this final calculated score be adjusted by the difference between our bonus plan score and the final score under SHUSA's bonus plan, multiplied by 20%. After reviewing SHUSA's bonus plan score, the Compensation Committee determined that an adjustment of 2.50% was appropriate.

While some of the metrics for the Bonus Pool were below target, net income was strong in an increasingly competitive market and our NEOs made significant strides in achieving their individual goals, instilling a culture of compliance and balancing risk/reward management with income and profitability. As noted above, the Compensation

Committee may use its discretion to adjust the final Bonus Pool funding up or down by 20 percentage points in either direction. Accordingly, the Compensation Committee in its discretion determined that the Bonus Pool should be funded at 95% of target for 2017, summarized as follows:

| SC BONUS POOL METRIC | RESULTS | TARGET WEIGHTING | FINAL SC BONUS POOL |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Customers & Employees | | 10% | 9.50% |
| Consumer Customer Satisfaction | Slightly below target | 2.50% | 2.40% |
| CCAP Dealer Loyalty | Below target | 1.25% | 1.14% |
| Core Dealer Satisfaction | Below target | 1.25% | 1.11% |
| Employee Engagement | Slightly below target | 5.00% | 4.85% |
| Regulatory & Risk | | 20% | 20.00% |
| Cost of Credit Ratio | Above target | 5.00% | 5.00% |

Edgar Filing: Santander Consumer USA Holdings Inc. - Form DEF 14A

| | | | |
|--|--------------|--------|--------|
| Completed Action Plans for Regulatory Commitments and Written Agreements | Above target | 15.00% | 15.00% |
|--|--------------|--------|--------|

| | | | |
|----------------|--|------------|---------------|
| Capital | | 15% | 14.70% |
|----------------|--|------------|---------------|

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|--------|--------|
| Contribution to Group Capital | Slightly below target | 15.00% | 14.70% |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|--------|--------|

| | | | |
|----------------------|--|------------|---------------|
| Profitability | | 55% | 45.44% |
|----------------------|--|------------|---------------|

| | | | |
|------------|--------------|--------|--------|
| Net Profit | Below target | 27.50% | 22.16% |
|------------|--------------|--------|--------|

| | | | |
|-------|--------------|--------|--------|
| RoRWA | Below target | 27.50% | 23.28% |
|-------|--------------|--------|--------|

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------|----------------|---------------|
| SHUSA Scorecard Modifier | Applied | +/- 20% | 2.50% |
| Discretionary Adjustment | Exercised | +/- 20% | 2.86% |
| TOTAL | | | 95.00% |

Table of Contents**COMPENSATION - COMPENSATION DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

Individual Performance Assessments and Award Determinations. As described above, our performance resulted in an approved funding of 95% of the Bonus Pool target. This Bonus Pool percentage is multiplied by the applicable target bonus amount of each executive officer, including each NEO, to establish an initial starting point for each executive subject to the Bonus Pool.

Each executive's award under the Bonus Plan is subject to a discretionary adjustment, either positive or negative, based on the evaluation of the executive's performance by the Compensation Committee. In no event, however, will the aggregate total of the actual bonus amounts exceed the aggregate total of the Bonus Pool. The Compensation Committee believes that this individual performance review and these discretionary adjustments serve stockholder interests by providing the Compensation Committee with a means to differentiate compensation outcomes among our NEOs based on the quality of the performance and leadership demonstrated by each NEO.

The Compensation Committee conducted a detailed evaluation and assessment of each NEO's 2017 performance against pre-established performance measures that were tied to financial performance and strategic initiatives, including risk and compliance measures. Please see *2017 Compensation Actions* in this CD&A for the additional information on the individual performance goals and assessments.

For 2017, following the review of our performance and each NEO's individual performance, the Compensation Committee approved awards under the Bonus Plan for each NEO as follows:

| NEO* | 2017 BONUS PLAN AWARD (\$) | TARGET BONUS AWARDED (%) |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Scott Powell** | 871,421 | 113.8 |
| Juan Carlos Alvarez de Soto*** | 205,000 | 160.0 |

| | | |
|-----------------------|---------|------|
| Richard Morrin | 784,125 | 90.0 |
|-----------------------|---------|------|

| | | |
|----------------------------|---------|------|
| Christopher Pfirman | 520,000 | 97.7 |
|----------------------------|---------|------|

* Neither Mr. Kulas nor Mr. Dawood is listed above because neither was employed as of December 31, 2017. Mr. Kulas was awarded 100% of his target bonus, \$2,070,000, under his separation agreement, whereas Mr. Dawood was not awarded a bonus under his separation agreement. Mr. Cochran, who was employed as our Chief Risk Officer on December 31, 2017 but transitioned into a non-executive role in February 2018, was guaranteed a \$400,000 annual bonus award for 2017 pursuant to an addendum to his offer letter made in December 2017, constituting 80.5% of his pro rata target annual bonus award of \$497,125. Mr. Cochran's bonus award will be paid as part of his separation package.

**Mr. Powell's 2017 full bonus amount of \$2,395,000 was in recognition of his service as CEO of both SHUSA and SC. As described above in *Compensation Discussion and Analysis Executive Summary Allocation of Compensation Between SC and SHUSA for Mr. Powell*, half of the equity portion of Mr. Powell's 2017 bonus was provided in RSUs under our equity compensation plan, while approximately 23% of the cash portion of Mr. Powell's 2017 bonus was allocated to his service as our CEO.

***Mr. Alvarez de Soto joined us in October 2017 and his pro rata target bonus of \$128,125 was used to calculate the percentage of his target bonus awarded.

For 2017, awards under the Bonus Plan were payable in cash and RSUs as discussed below. These amounts will appear in the Summary Compensation Table of our proxy statements over several years as follows:

- » The immediately payable cash amounts of the Bonus Plan awards are reflected for 2017 in the *Bonus* column of the 2017 Summary Compensation Table.
- » The deferred cash amounts of the Bonus Plan awards are subject to additional vesting requirements discussed below and will be reflected in the *All Other Compensation* column of the summary compensation tables for subsequent years to the extent vested and paid.
- » The RSU portion of the Bonus Plan awards was granted under the Omnibus Plan in March 2018 and will be reflected in the *Stock Awards* column of the summary compensation table for 2018.

Form of Awards: Mix of Current and Deferred Cash and RSUs. As we are a controlled company, owned indirectly by Banco Santander, certain of our executive officers, including our NEOs, and other identified staff are subject to Directive 2013/36/EU (*CRD IV*) promulgated by the European Parliament and Council of the European Union. Under Banco Santander's Management Board Compensation Policy and Identified Staff Plan, certain identified staff, including all of our executive officers and all of our NEOs, are required to defer receipt of a portion of their variable compensation (including all bonuses paid under the Bonus Plan) in order to comply with CRD IV. Ultimately, these policies are intended to ensure that annual bonus awards encourage sustainable, long-term

performance consistent with our risk appetite and risk management policies, and are aligned with long-term stockholder interests.

Accordingly, each NEO's aggregate award under the Bonus Plan for 2017 (except for Mr. Powell, whose bonus award's cash and equity mix is described above under *Compensation Discussion and Analysis Executive Summary Allocation of Compensation Between SC and SHUSA for Mr. Powell*) was payable 50% in cash (a portion of which was paid immediately and a portion of which was deferred) and 50% in the form of stock-settled RSUs (a portion of which was vested and settled immediately and a portion of which was subject to vesting). After the shares subject to the RSUs are settled, they will remain subject to transfer and sale restrictions for one year.

Table of Contents**COMPENSATION - COMPENSATION DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

The following table reflects the portions of each NEO's bonus award for 2017 that were payable in the form of cash and RSUs:

| NEO* | CASH PORTION OF 2017 BONUS AWARD (\$) | RSU PORTION OF 2017 BONUS AWARD (\$) |
|------------------------------------|--|---|
| Scott Powell | 272,671 | 598,750 |
| Juan Carlos Alvarez de Soto | 102,500 | 102,500 |
| Richard Morrin | 392,063 | 392,063 |
| Christopher Pfirman | 260,000 | 260,000 |

*Neither Mr. Kulas nor Mr. Dawood is listed above because neither was employed as of December 31, 2017.

Mr. Kulas's award of \$2,070,000, under his separation agreement, was awarded half in cash and half in RSUs.

Mr. Cochran's annual bonus award of \$400,000, which was provided as part of his separation package, will also be awarded half in cash and half in RSUs. Mr. Dawood did not receive an award.

The portion of the total award deferred is based on Banco Santander policies as implemented by SC. Under those policies, each of Mr. Powell and Mr. Kulas had 50% of his Bonus Plan award deferred, and each of the other NEOs had 40% of his respective Bonus Plan awards deferred.

The deferred portion (whether cash or RSUs) becomes earned and vested annually over a vesting period of five years for Mr. Powell and Mr. Kulas, and three years for the other NEOs. Generally, an executive must remain continuously employed with us through each vesting date; however, under the terms of their separation agreements, Mr. Kulas's and Mr. Cochran's bonus plan awards will continue to vest without regard to their continued employment.

There are additional corporate performance goals in order for Mr. Powell and Mr. Kulas to earn the vesting installments in years three, four, and five, and for certain other NEOs (for 2017, Mr. Cochran and Mr. Pfirrmann) to earn the vesting installment for year three. These performance goals further encourage sustainable, long-term performance. Mr. Alvarez de Soto's and Mr. Morrin's awards for 2017 are not subject to additional performance goals. The performance metrics are weighted 50% towards Banco Santander performance and 50% towards SC performance and follow a balanced, scorecard approach:

- » The SAN goals relate equally to (1) growth in SAN earnings per share (EPS) over 2016-2019; (2) SAN's relative total shareholder return (TSR) over 2017-2019; and (3) attainment by SAN of certain capital ratio goals by December 31, 2019.
- » The SC goals relate equally to (1) SC attaining a specified level of EPS by December 31, 2019; (2) SC attaining certain capital ratio goals by December 31, 2019; (3) SC attaining a specified level of return on assets by December 31, 2019; and (4) SC attaining a specified level of expense ratio by December 31, 2019.

Performance below target goals for any component will result in below-target payouts, and performance below certain threshold goals will result in no payout for the component. No amount greater than the target award can be earned.

The payment of the deferred portion of the 2017 awards under the Bonus Plan is conditioned on avoidance of certain events or conduct, including: (1) our deficient financial performance; (2) material breach of any of our material internal rules or regulations; (3) material negative restatement of our financial statements (other than any restatement undertaken as a result of a change in accounting standards); (4) material negative change in our capitalization or risk profile prior to the applicable settlement date; and (5) certain other detrimental conduct. These conditions are intended to further reinforce a business culture that promotes conduct based on the highest ethical standards consistent with our risk management policies.

Our NEOs had the following amounts of their variable compensation for 2017 deferred under the design described above:

| NEO* | TOTAL (\$) | CASH DEFERRED (\$) | RSUs DEFERRED (\$) |
|---------------------|---------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Scott Powell | 435,710 | 136,335 | 299,375 |

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| Juan Carlos Alvarez de Soto | 82,000 | 41,000 | 41,000 |
|------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|

| | | | |
|-----------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Richard Morrin | 313,650 | 156,825 | 156,825 |
|-----------------------|---------|---------|---------|

| | | | |
|----------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Christopher Pfirman | 208,000 | 104,000 | 104,000 |
|----------------------------|---------|---------|---------|

*Neither Mr. Kulas nor Mr. Dawood is listed above because neither was employed as of December 31, 2017. Half of Mr. Kulas's award of \$2,070,000, under his separation agreement, was deferred, half in cash and half in RSUs. Mr. Dawood did not receive an award. Both the cash and RSU portions of Mr. Cochran's annual bonus award of \$400,000, which was provided as part of his separation package, will be 40% deferred (\$160,000).

Long-Term Incentive Compensation

Introduction. In addition to RSUs granted as a portion of the Bonus Plan award, which are a form of long-term equity incentive, the Compensation Committee may, in its discretion, grant additional long-term incentive awards under our Omnibus Plan. These awards

Table of Contents**COMPENSATION - COMPENSATION DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

may be in the form of restricted stock, RSUs, stock options, or other forms of award permitted under the Omnibus Plan. The Compensation Committee did not grant any such awards in 2017.

2016 SAN Performance Awards. Although no performance-based RSU (PSU) awards were made under the SAN Performance Award program in 2017, and none are expected to be made going forward, awards made in 2015 became earned in 2017 and awards made in 2016 continue to vest until 2019. The PSUs become earned based on the multi-year performance of Banco Santander. The awards made in 2015 became earned based on Banco Santander's relative TSR performance over 2014-2017. PSUs granted in 2016 vest in March 2019 based on the achievement of a range of performance goals by Banco Santander:

| GOAL | WEIGHT |
|---|--------|
| SAN EPS growth, 2015-2017, relative to a competitor group | 25% |
| SAN return on tangible equity in 2017 | 25% |
| SAN employee satisfaction (# of markets in which SAN group member is within top 3 banks to work for in 2017) | 20% |
| SAN customer satisfaction (# of markets in which SAN group member is within top 3 banks in customer satisfaction index in 2017) | 15% |

Individual customer loyalty goals, as of 12/31/17

7.5%

Corporate customer loyalty goals, as of 12/31/17

7.5%

Settlement of the PSUs is contingent on the NEOs remaining employed through the March 2019 settlement date. As with Bonus Plan RSUs, the PSUs are also conditioned on avoidance of certain events or conduct by the executive, including: (1) our deficient financial performance; (2) material breach by the NEO of any of our material internal rules or regulations; (3) material negative restatement of our financial statements (other than any restatement undertaken as a result of a change in accounting standards); (4) material negative change in our capitalization or risk profile prior to the applicable settlement date; or (5) certain other detrimental conduct by our NEO. After the shares subject to the PSUs are settled, they will remain subject to transfer and sale restrictions for one year.

SRIP

Introduction. We, in conjunction with SHUSA, instituted a Special Regulatory Incentive Program (SRIP) in 2017 to provide a multi-year targeted award tied to participants' status and standing at SC, as well as our general financial stability and our passing key regulatory milestones. The SRIP is tailored to maximize incentives for performance. Participants are eligible to receive awards that track the same payment procedure and timing as annual bonus awards. SRIP awards are essentially additional discretionary bonuses that our high-performing senior executives are eligible for, contingent upon accomplishing entity-wide performance goals.

Target Opportunities. Under the SRIP, we set total target opportunities for each NEO over the life of the multi-year program, a percentage of which would be at stake during separate performance cycles. We set \$2,000,000 as Mr. Powell's total target award; \$1,000,000 as the total target award for Mr. Morrin, Mr. Cochran, Mr. Kulas, and Mr. Dawood; \$823,250 as the total target award for Mr. Alvarez de Soto, and \$559,250 as the total target award for Mr. Pfirman.

Performance Cycles. While a multi-year award, the SRIP will be evaluated in cycles and awards will be evaluated and settled on an annual basis. Like our annual bonuses, SRIP awards will be made early in the year following each performance year. For the 2017 performance year, 25% of each NEO's multi-year target award was at stake. The goals for the NEOs to earn 2017 SRIP awards included our passing the CCAR (an annual review or stress test of financial institutions) and securing approval of the capital plan's external dividends and capital distributions.

Performance Assessments and Award Determinations. Because we achieved both of the SRIP goals for 2017, the Compensation Committee granted the NEOs 25% of their respective SRIP awards at stake for 2017 performance, as follows:

| | 2017 SRIP AWARD |
|------|-----------------|
| NEO* | (\$) |

Scott Powell**

181,925

Juan Carlos Alvarez de Soto***

51,453

Richard Morrin

250,000

Christopher Pfirman

139,813

* Other than Mr. Dawood (who separated from us before the end of the year), all NEOs received a SRIP grant. Mr. Kulas, who also separated from us in 2017, received a SRIP award of \$250,000 as part of his separation agreement. Mr. Cochran, who is no longer an executive officer as of the date of this Proxy Statement and will separate from us effective May 4, 2018, was provided a SRIP award of \$250,000 as part of his separation agreement.

Table of Contents**COMPENSATION - COMPENSATION DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

**Mr. Powell's full 2017 SRIP award of \$500,000 was in recognition of his service as CEO of both SHUSA and SC. As described above in *Compensation Discussion and Analysis Executive Summary Allocation of Compensation Between SC and SHUSA for Mr. Powell*, half of the equity portion of Mr. Powell's 2017 SRIP award was provided in RSUs under our equity compensation plan (the other half was in SAN ADRs), while approximately 23% of the cash portion of Mr. Powell's 2017 SRIP award was allocated to his service as our CEO.

***Mr. Alvarez de Soto's SRIP award was pro-rated based on his hire date in October 2017.

Form of Awards: Mix of Current and Deferred Cash and RSUs. As with our annual bonuses, in order to comply with CRD IV, each NEO's aggregate award under the SRIP for 2017 was payable 50% in cash (a portion of which was paid immediately and a portion of which was deferred) and 50% in the form of stock-settled RSUs (a portion of which was settled immediately and a portion of which was subject to vesting). After the shares subject to the RSUs are settled, they will remain subject to transfer and sale restrictions for one year. The following table reflects the portions of each NEO's SRIP award for 2017 that was payable in the form of cash and RSUs:

| NEO* | CASH PORTION OF 2017 SRIP AWARD | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|---------|
| | (\$) | (\$) |
| Scott Powell | 56,925 | 125,000 |
| Juan Carlos Alvarez de Soto | 25,727 | 25,727 |
| Richard Morrin | 125,000 | 125,000 |

Christopher Pffirman

69,907

69,907

*Mr. Kulas and Mr. Cochran were each granted SRIP awards of \$250,000, half in cash and half in RSUs, under their respective separation agreements.

The portion of the total SRIP award deferred is based on Banco Santander policies as implemented by SC. Under those policies, Mr. Powell and Mr. Kulas have 50% of their SRIP awards deferred, and the other NEOs have 40% of their SRIP awards deferred.

The deferred portion of the SRIP (whether cash or RSUs) becomes earned and vested annually over a vesting period of three years (for Mr. Alvarez de Soto, Mr. Morrin, Mr. Pffirman, and Mr. Cochran) or five years (for Mr. Powell and Mr. Kulas). Generally, an executive must remain continuously employed with us through each vesting date; however, under the terms of their separation agreements, Mr. Kulas' and Mr. Cochran's SRIP awards will continue to vest as though they were still employed.

The additional corporate performance goals applicable to certain NEOs' annual bonuses are also applicable to the deferred portions of those NEOs' SRIP awards. In order for Mr. Powell and Mr. Kulas to earn the vesting installments in years three, four, and five, and for other NEOs (for 2017, Mr. Cochran and Mr. Pffirman) to earn the vesting installment for year three, they must meet performance goals. These performance goals further encourage sustainable, long-term performance. Mr. Alvarez de Soto's and Mr. Morrin's awards for 2017 are not subject to performance goals.

As with payment of the deferred portion of Bonus Plan awards, payment of the deferred portion of SRIP awards is also conditioned on avoidance of certain events or conduct by the executive, including: (1) our deficient financial performance; (2) material breach of any of our material internal rules or regulations; (3) material negative restatement of our financial statements (other than any restatement undertaken as a result of a change in accounting standards); (4) material negative change in our capitalization or risk profile prior to the applicable settlement date; and (5) certain other detrimental conduct. After the shares subject to the SRIP RSUs are settled, they will remain subject to transfer and sale restrictions for one year.

Our NEOs had the following amounts of their SRIP awards for 2017 deferred under the design described above:

| NEO* | TOTAL AMOUNT OF SRIP DEFERRED (\$) | SRIP CASH DEFERRED (\$) | SRIP RSUs DEFERRED (\$) |
|---------------------|--|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Scott Powell | 90,962 | 28,462 | 62,500 |
| | 20,581 | 10,291 | 10,291 |

**Juan Carlos Alvarez
de Soto**

| | | | |
|-----------------------|---------|--------|--------|
| Richard Morrin | 100,000 | 50,000 | 50,000 |
|-----------------------|---------|--------|--------|

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| Christopher Pfirman | 55,925 | 27,963 | 27,963 |
|--------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|

*Mr. Kulas was granted a SRIP award of \$250,000, half in cash and half in RSUs, under his separation agreement. Mr. Cochran was also granted a SRIP award of \$250,000, half in cash and half in RSUs, under his separation agreement.

Other Compensation

In addition to the benefits that all of our employees are eligible to receive, our NEOs are eligible to receive certain other benefits and perquisites. For 2017, the additional benefits and perquisites included company-paid annual premiums for executive medical, dental, and disability benefits. These benefits and perquisites are generally consistent with those paid to our similarly situated executives.

Table of Contents

COMPENSATION - COMPENSATION DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Retirement Benefits

Each of our NEOs is eligible to participate in our qualified defined contribution retirement plan (the 401(k) Plan) under the same terms as our other eligible employees, including with respect to the SC matching contribution under the 401(k) Plan. We provide these benefits in order to foster the development of our NEOs long-term careers with SC. We do not provide defined benefit pension benefits, or nonqualified or excess retirement benefits to any of our NEOs.

Employment Agreements

We have entered into employment agreements with some of our NEOs, establishing key elements of compensation in addition to our generally applicable plans and programs, which include certain restrictive covenants, such as those prohibiting post-employment competition or solicitation. We believe that these agreements provide stability to SC and further the objectives of our compensation programs, including our objective of attracting and retaining the highest quality executives to manage and lead us. Please see *Compensation Potential Payments upon Termination or Change in Control Employment Agreements* in this Proxy Statement for additional information regarding our NEO employment agreements.

CLAWBACK POLICY

We maintain a robust Policy on Malus and Clawback Requirements (the Clawback Policy). The Clawback Policy contains a framework under which we will implement into our incentive compensation arrangements (1) provisions that can cause unvested compensation to be reduced or forfeited during the applicable vesting period (often referred to as malus provisions) and (2) provisions that can cause previously earned and paid compensation to be repaid (often referred to as clawback provisions). Malus and clawback provisions serve several purposes, such as ensuring that our incentive compensation awards are based on sustainable, appropriate, and compliant performance; that such performance is achieved consistently within applicable risk frameworks; and that our employees are discouraged from manipulating performance or financial metrics or engaging in other behaviors that could adversely impact us.

Employees covered by the Clawback Policy include, at a minimum: (1) employees or employee groups identified as covered employees under the Guidance on Sound Incentive Compensation Policies adopted by U.S. banking agencies, (2) employees determined to be identified staff under CRD IV, and (3) any other employees who receive incentive compensation awards that the Compensation Committee determines should be subject to malus or clawback requirements.

Incentive compensation covered by the Clawback Policy will include, at a minimum: (1) incentive compensation arrangements within the meaning of the Guidance on Sound Incentive Compensation Policies, (2) variable remuneration within the meaning of CRD IV, and (3) any other incentive compensation arrangements that the Compensation Committee determines should be covered by malus or clawback requirements.

The Clawback Policy requires our applicable incentive compensation agreements to reflect all design features of any malus and clawback requirements, including triggering events, covered employees, and time periods during which

compensation may be subject to malus and clawback provisions. All of our malus and clawback requirements are intended to be enforceable to the maximum extent permitted by applicable law.

Under the Clawback Policy, malus provisions include, at a minimum, the following triggering events: (1) detrimental conduct (as described below), (2) breach of post-employment covenants, and (3) the malus triggering events required by Banco Santander's remuneration policies as in effect from time to time, which currently include the following categories of events:

- » Significant risk management failures at or by us, or by a business unit or control or support function of ours;
- » Material restatement of our financial statements, except when appropriate due to a change in accounting standards;
- » Violation by the beneficiary of internal regulations, policies, or codes of conduct;
- » Significant changes in the financial capital or risk profile of Banco Santander;
- » Significant increases in requirements to our economic or regulatory capital base when not foreseen at the time of generation of exposures;
- » Regulatory sanctions or criminal convictions for acts that could be attributable to us or to the personnel responsible for the acts;
- » Any misconduct, whether individual or collective, in particular with respect to marketing of unsuitable products; and
- » Poor financial performance of Banco Santander.

The malus triggering events under the Clawback Policy are not limited to the foregoing and will be customized and adjusted as appropriate.

Under the Clawback Policy, clawback provisions include, at a minimum, the following triggering events: (1) detrimental conduct (as described below), (2) breach of post-employment covenants, and (3) breach of applicable anti-hedging policies. The clawback triggering events under the Clawback Policy are not limited to the foregoing and will be customized and adjusted as appropriate.

Table of Contents

COMPENSATION - COMPENSATION DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Detrimental conduct under the Clawback Policy refers to categories of employee conduct specified in incentive compensation agreements that may trigger a right to apply malus or clawback provisions against the employee. The following lists categories of conduct that are considered detrimental conduct under the Clawback Policy:

- » An employee's conduct that would permit us to terminate the employee for cause ;
- » An employee's commission of a criminal act that victimizes us or a customer, employee, or counterparty of ours or subjects us to public ridicule or embarrassment;
- » Improper or intentional conduct by an employee causing reputational harm to us or our customers;
- » An employee's breach of a fiduciary duty owed to us or a customer or former customer of ours;
- » An employee's intentional violation of, or grossly negligent disregard for, our policies, rules, or procedures, including in connection with the supervision or oversight of other employees; or
- » An employee taking or maintaining trading positions, or executing his or her duties or responsibilities in a manner that results in a need to restate financial results in a subsequent reporting period or that results in a significant financial loss to us.

The Clawback Policy is administered by our Chief Human Resources Officer, with the advice of our executive-level management human resources committee, subject to oversight and governance by our Compensation Committee.

TAX CONSIDERATIONS

Section 162(m) limits the deductibility of compensation in excess of \$1 million paid to certain covered employees in any calendar year. Under the tax rules in effect before 2018, compensation that qualified as performance-based under Section 162(m) was deductible without regard to this \$1 million limit. However, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, which was signed into law December 22, 2017, eliminated this performance-based compensation exception effective January 1, 2018, subject to a special rule that grandfathers certain awards and arrangements that were in effect on or before November 2, 2017. As a result, compensation that our Compensation Committee structured in 2017 and prior years with the intent of qualifying as performance-based compensation under Section 162(m) that is paid on or after January 1, 2018 may not be fully deductible, depending on the application of the special grandfather rules. Moreover, from and after January 1, 2018, compensation awarded in excess of \$1 million to certain covered employees generally will not be deductible. While the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act may limit the deductibility of compensation paid to certain

covered employees, our Compensation Committee will consistent with its past practice continue to retain flexibility to design compensation programs that are in the best long-term interests of the Company and our stockholders, with deductibility of compensation being one of a variety of considerations taken into account.

COMPENSATION RISK ASSESSMENT

At least annually, the Compensation Committee conducts an assessment of the compensation policies and practices for our employees, including our executive officers, and whether such policies and practices create risks that are reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on us. Our management compensation team and an executive-level management human resources committee assist the Compensation Committee with such risk assessment and help ensure our compensation programs align with our goals and compensation philosophies and, along with other factors, operate to mitigate against the risk that such programs would encourage excessive risk-taking.

We believe our compensation programs strike the appropriate balance between short-term and long-term components. We consider the potential risks in our business when designing and administering our compensation programs, and we believe our balanced approach to performance measurement and compensation decisions works to mitigate the risk that individuals will be encouraged to undertake excessive or inappropriate risk. Our compensation program is also subject to internal controls, and we rely on principles of sound governance and good business judgment in administering our compensation programs.

Based on its assessment, the Compensation Committee has determined, in its reasonable business judgment, that our compensation policies and practices as generally applicable to our executive officers and employees do not create risks that are reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on us and instead promote behaviors that support long-term sustainability and stockholder value creation.

Table of Contents

COMPENSATION - COMPENSATION DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

COMPENSATION COMMITTEE REPORT

The Compensation Committee has reviewed this CD&A as required by Item 402(b) of Regulation S-K and discussed it with SC's management. Based on such review and discussions with management, the Compensation Committee has recommended to the Board that this CD&A be included in this Proxy Statement.

Submitted by the Compensation Committee:

Edith E. Holiday, Chair

Stephen A. Ferriss

Javier Maldonado

Robert J. McCarthy

COMPENSATION COMMITTEE INTERLOCKS AND INSIDER PARTICIPATION

During 2017, our Compensation Committee consisted of Stephen A. Ferriss, Edith E. Holiday, Javier Maldonado, and Robert McCarthy. No member of the Compensation Committee was during that time or in the past an executive officer or employee of the Company or any of its subsidiaries. In addition, none of our executive officers served on the compensation committee of any other entity for which any executive officers of such other entity served on either the Board or on our Compensation Committee, and no member of our Compensation Committee had any relationship requiring disclosure under Item 404 of Regulation S-K.

Table of Contents**COMPENSATION - EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION TABLES****EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION TABLES****Summary Compensation Table**

The following table sets forth the compensation for 2017 for each individual who served as our Chief Executive Officer or Chief Financial Officer during 2017, and our three other most highly compensated executive officers who were serving as executive officers on December 31, 2017. These officers are referred to throughout this Proxy Statement as our NEOs. Compensation information for 2016 and 2015 is presented for individuals who were also our NEOs in those years.

| NAME AND PRINCIPAL POSITION | YEAR | SALARY | BONUS | STOCK AWARDS | OPTION AWARDS | ALL OTHER COMPENSATION | TOTAL (\$) |
|--|------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|------------|
| | | (\$) ⁽¹⁾ | (\$) ⁽²⁾ | (\$) ⁽³⁾ | (\$) ⁽⁴⁾ | (\$) ⁽⁵⁾ | |
| Scott Powell | | | | | | | |
| President and Chief Executive Officer | 2017 | 455,400 | 164,798 | | | | 620,198 |
| Juan Carlos Alvarez de Soto | | | | | | | |
| Chief Financial Officer | 2017 | 250,000 | 76,936 | | | 11,136 | 338,072 |
| Richard Morrin | | | | | | | |
| President, Chrysler Capital and Auto | 2017 | 770,911 | 310,238 | 357,499 | | 69,932 | 1,508,580 |
| | 2016 | 531,923 | 214,500 | 765,372 | | 43,772 | 1,555,567 |

Edgar Filing: Santander Consumer USA Holdings Inc. - Form DEF 14A

| | | | | | | | |
|---------------|------|---------|---------|---------|--|--------|-----------|
| Relationships | 2015 | 391,631 | 535,818 | 127,520 | | 27,895 | 1,082,864 |
|---------------|------|---------|---------|---------|--|--------|-----------|

Christopher Pfirman

| | | | | | | | |
|---|------|---------|---------|---------|--|---------|-----------|
| | 2017 | 659,018 | 197,944 | 259,995 | | 227,837 | 1,344,794 |
| Chief Legal Officer and General Counsel | 2016 | 649,418 | 256,000 | 541,515 | | 122,100 | 1,569,033 |

Jason Kulas

| | | | | | | | |
|--|------|-----------|---------|-----------|---------|---------|-----------|
| | 2017 | 1,183,200 | | 983,486 | | 672,120 | 2,838,806 |
| | 2016 | 1,800,000 | 491,750 | 1,139,658 | | 30,002 | 3,461,410 |
| Former President and Chief Executive Officer | 2015 | 1,392,581 | 446,304 | 540,479 | 764,000 | 25,541 | 3,168,905 |

Ismail Dawood

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|------|---------|-----------|-----------|--|-----------|-----------|
| | 2017 | 789,188 | | 700,736 | | 2,662,556 | 4,152,480 |
| Former Chief Financial Officer | 2016 | 724,750 | 1,642,005 | | | 18,312 | 2,385,067 |
| | 2015 | 32,500 | | 1,330,018 | | | 1,362,518 |

Dale Cochran

| | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|------|---------|---------|---------|--|--------|-----------|
| Former Chief Risk Officer | 2017 | 461,058 | 485,000 | 484,992 | | 40,020 | 1,471,070 |
|---------------------------|------|---------|---------|---------|--|--------|-----------|

(1) The amounts in this column reflect base salary earned during the year or through the date of separation, as applicable.

(2) The amounts in this column include the non-deferred cash portion of the annual bonus earned under the Bonus Plan, as well as the non-deferred cash portion of awards earned under the SRIP. Please see *Compensation Discussion and Analysis Principal Components of Executive Compensation Annual Bonuses and Compensation Discussion and Analysis Principal Components of Executive Compensation SRIP* for additional information. Mr. Kulas's 2017 annual bonus award and SRIP award are not reflected here because he became entitled to them under his separation agreement (and they are not reflected in the All Other Compensation column because his right to them had not accrued by December 31, 2017). The immediately vesting cash portions of Mr. Cochran's annual bonus and SRIP award are similarly excluded because the awards were granted as part of his separation agreement. However, Mr. Cochran's amount in this column includes the \$485,000 cash portion of his one-time sign-on bonus.

(3) The amounts in this column represent the aggregate grant date fair value of the awards detailed under *2017 Grants of Plan-Based Awards* in this Proxy Statement, which consisted of the approximately \$485,000 RSU portion of Mr. Cochran's sign-on bonus and, for the other NEOs (except Mr. Powell and Mr. Alvarez de Soto), RSU awards granted in early 2017 as the equity portion of annual bonuses granted for performance in 2016. Neither Mr. Powell

nor Mr. Alvarez de Soto received an equity grant from us in 2017. SEC rules require the Summary Compensation Table to include in each year's amount the aggregate grant date fair value of stock awards granted during the year. Typically, we grant RSU awards early in the year as part of the annual bonus award for prior year performance. As a result, the amounts for RSU awards generally appear in the Summary Compensation Table for the year after the performance year upon which they were based and, therefore, the Summary Compensation Table does not fully reflect the Compensation Committee's view of its pay-for-performance executive compensation program for a particular performance year. For example, amounts for Mr. Morrin, Mr. Pfirman, Mr. Kulas, and Mr. Dawood shown as 2017 compensation in the "Stock Awards" column reflect RSU awards granted in March 2017 for 2016 performance. Please see *Compensation Discussion and Analysis - Principal Components of Executive Compensation* for a discussion about how the Compensation Committee viewed its 2017 compensation decisions for our NEOs.

The grant date fair value of the stock awards included in the Summary Compensation Table represents the aggregate grant date fair value computed in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718, based on the closing price of our Common Stock on the applicable grant date, but excluding the effect of potential forfeitures. Additional details on accounting for equity-based compensation can be found in Note 1 ("Description of Business, Basis of Presentation, and Significant Accounting Policies and Practices - Stock Based Compensation") and Note 16 ("Employee Benefit Plans") of our consolidated financial statements filed with the SEC on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017.

- (4) The amounts in this column represent the grant date fair value of stock options computed in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718, but excluding the effect of potential forfeitures. No stock options were granted to our NEOs in 2017. For details on the assumptions for computing the grant date fair value of stock options granted in prior years, please see Note 1 ("Description of Business, Basis of Presentation, and Significant Accounting Policies and Practices - Stock Based Compensation") and Note 16 ("Employee Benefit Plans") to our consolidated financial statements filed with the SEC on Form 10-K for the applicable fiscal year.
- (5) The amounts in this column for the most recent year are detailed below under "All Other Compensation Table." The amounts in this column include long-term cash awards granted in prior years as the deferred cash portion of annual bonus awards under the Bonus Plan that became earned and vested in the applicable year, as well as payments granted to certain of our NEOs upon termination of their employment.

Table of Contents

COMPENSATION - EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION TABLES

All Other Compensation Table

| NAME | SC CONTRIBUTIONS TO 401(k) PLAN (\$) | LIFE & DISABILITY BENEFITS \$(a) | HOUSING ALLOWANCE (\$) | DEFERRED ANNUAL VARIABLE COMPENSATION \$(b) | OTHER \$(c) | PAYMENTS UPON TERMINATION (\$) | TOTAL (\$) |
|------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|--|----------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| Scott Powell | | | | | | | |
| Juan Carlos Alvarez de Soto | | | 11,136 | | | | 11,136 |
| Richard Morrin | 13,754 | 7,260 | | 48,918 | | | 69,932 |
| Christopher Pfirman | 16,200 | 9,121 | 74,364 | 28,152 | 100,000 | | 227,837 |
| Jason Kulas | 16,200 | 7,562 | | 153,975 | | 494,383 ^(d) | 672,120 |

| | | | | | |
|----------------------|--------|-------|------------------------|--------------------------|-----------|
| Ismail Dawood | 15,770 | 8,478 | 250,000 ^(e) | 2,388,308 ^(f) | 2,662,556 |
|----------------------|--------|-------|------------------------|--------------------------|-----------|

| | | | | | |
|---------------------|--|-------|--------|--|--------|
| Dale Cochran | | 6,595 | 33,425 | | 40,020 |
|---------------------|--|-------|--------|--|--------|

- (a) Amount represents the annual premiums paid by SC for NEO executive life and disability benefits.
- (b) Reflects the amount of long-term cash awards granted in prior years as the deferred cash portion of annual bonus awards under the Bonus Plan that became earned and vested in 2017. Please see *Compensation Discussion and Analysis Principal Components of Executive Compensation Annual Bonuses* for additional information.
- (c) Represents the deferred cash portion of retention award granted to Mr. Pfirman in 2016 that vested in part in 2017.
- (d) Represents the portion of 12 months' worth of base salary paid to Mr. Kulas in 2017 in bi-weekly installments between his separation and December 31, 2017, as well as the accrued value of 12 months' worth of continued medical, dental, and life insurance coverage at our expense due to his separation from SC.
- (e) Represents a lump sum cash payment in lieu of a housing allowance and relocation expenses under Mr. Dawood's offer letter.
- (f) Represents a lump sum cash payment equal to 225% of Mr. Dawood's annual salary, as well as the cost of 12 months' worth of healthcare for Mr. Dawood and his dependents, paid pursuant to Mr. Dawood's separation agreement.

Table of Contents

COMPENSATION - EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION TABLES

2017 Grants of Plan-Based Awards

The following table provides information regarding plan awards granted to our NEOs in 2017. Please see the *Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year-End* table below for additional information regarding the vesting parameters that are applicable to these awards.

| NAME | GRANT DATE | ALL OTHER STOCK AWARDS: NUMBER OF | |
|-----------------------------|------------|---|---|
| | | SHARES OF STOCK OR UNITS (#) ⁽¹⁾ | GRANT DATE FAIR VALUE OF STOCK AWARDS (\$) ⁽²⁾ |
| Scott Powell | | | |
| Juan Carlos Alvarez de Soto | | | |
| Richard Morrin | 3/1/17 | 23,913 | 357,499 |
| Christopher Pfirman | 3/1/17 | 17,391 | 259,995 |
| Jason Kulas | 3/1/17 | 65,785 | 983,486 |
| | 3/1/17 | 46,872 | 700,736 |

Ismail Dawood

| | | | |
|---------------------|--------|--------|---------|
| Dale Cochran | 5/1/17 | 37,890 | 484,992 |
|---------------------|--------|--------|---------|

- (1) All of the plan-based awards that we granted to our NEOs in 2017 were RSUs. For RSUs granted under the Bonus Plan to Mr. Morrin, Mr. Pfirman, and Mr. Dawood on March 1, 2017, 60% vested and were settled immediately and the remainder will vest and be settled in three equal installments on the first three anniversaries of the grant date, with Mr. Pfirman's and Mr. Dawood's vesting installments on March 1, 2020 contingent on achievement of certain performance goals. For RSUs granted under the Bonus Plan to Mr. Kulas on March 1, 2017, 50% vested and were settled immediately and the remainder will vest and be settled in five equal installments on the first five anniversaries of the grant date, with vesting installments on March 1, 2020, 2021, and 2022 contingent on achievement of certain performance goals. RSUs granted to Mr. Cochran on May 1, 2017 as part of a one-time sign-on bonus will vest in equal installments on the first three anniversaries of the grant date.
- (2) This column shows the aggregate grant date fair value of RSUs granted to our NEOs in 2017, which is calculated based on the closing price of our Common Stock on the NYSE on the grant date (\$14.95 on March 1, 2017 and \$12.80 on May 1, 2017). Generally, the aggregate grant date fair value is the amount that SC expects to expense in its financial statements over the award's vesting schedule.

Table of Contents

COMPENSATION - EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION TABLES

Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year-End

The following table provides information regarding all outstanding equity awards held by our NEOs as of December 31, 2017. Vesting of option and stock awards reflected in the table is generally subject to continuous service with SC, except that awards may vest (or continue to vest) upon termination by us without cause, termination by the officer for good reason, or termination due to the officer's disability or death (in each case as defined in the applicable award agreement). The termination vesting provisions generally are covered in the footnotes below. Vesting of awards may also be impacted by a change in control of SC, as more fully described in

Compensation Potential Payments upon Termination or Change in Control Equity Compensation Plans in this Proxy Statement.

| NAME | OPTION AWARDS | | | STOCK AWARDS | | | |
|------|--|--|---------------------------------|---|---|---|---|
| | NUMBER OF UNDERLYING UNEXERCISED OPTIONS (#) | NUMBER OF UNDERLYING UNEXERCISED OPTIONS (#) | OPTION EXERCISE PRICE (\$) DATE | NUMBER OF SHARES OR UNITS OF STOCK THAT HAVE NOT VESTED (#) | MARKET VALUE OF SHARES OR UNITS OF STOCK THAT HAVE NOT VESTED (\$) ^(a) | EQUITY INCENTIVE PLAN AWARDS: NUMBER OF UNEARNED SHARES, OR OTHER RIGHTS THAT HAVE NOT VESTED (#) | EQUITY INCENTIVE PLAN AWARDS: MARKET OR PAYOUT VALUE OF UNEARNED SHARES, OR OTHER RIGHTS THAT HAVE NOT VESTED (\$) ^(a) |
| | | | | | | | |

Scott Powell

**Juan Carlos
Alvarez de Soto**

| | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|--------|-------|----------|-----------------------|---------|----------------------|--------|
| Richard Morrin | 85,982 | 9.21 | 12/31/21 | 755 ^(b) | 14,058 | | |
| | 41,048 | 9.21 | 12/31/21 | 36,076 ^(c) | 671,735 | | |
| | 18,112 | 12.10 | 12/31/21 | 5,679 ^(d) | 105,743 | | |
| | | | | 9,566 ^(e) | 178,119 | | |
| | | | | | | 5,172 ^(f) | 96,303 |

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|--|--|--|----------------------|---------|----------------------|--------|
| | | | | 5,191 ^(d) | 96,656 | | |
| | | | | 6,957 ^(e) | 129,539 | | |
| Christopher Pfirman | | | | 7,215 ^(g) | 134,343 | | |
| | | | | | | 3,118 ^(f) | 58,057 |

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------------|--|--|--|-----------------------|---------|-----------------------|---------|
| | | | | 5,975 ^(b) | 111,255 | | |
| | | | | 32,893 ^(e) | 612,468 | | |
| | | | | 26,099 ⁽ⁱ⁾ | 485,963 | | |
| Jason Kulas | | | | 2,219 ⁽ⁱ⁾ | 41,318 | | |
| | | | | | | 20,536 ^(f) | 382,380 |
| | | | | | | 1,970 ⁽ⁱ⁾ | 36,681 |

| | | | | | | | |
|----------------------|--|--|--|-----------------------|---------|--|--|
| Ismail Dawood | | | | 18,749 ^(e) | 349,106 | | |
|----------------------|--|--|--|-----------------------|---------|--|--|

| | | | | | | | |
|---------------------|--|--|--|-----------------------|---------|--|--|
| Dale Cochran | | | | 37,890 ^(h) | 705,512 | | |
|---------------------|--|--|--|-----------------------|---------|--|--|

Notes Relating to Stock Awards (all granted under the Omnibus Plan)

(a) The market value of the stock awards or units is based on the closing price per share of our Common Stock on the NYSE on December 29, 2017 (the last trading day of 2017), which was \$18.62.

- (b) Reflects RSUs granted (to Mr. Morrin on February 27, 2015 and to Mr. Kulas on April 10, 2015) in settlement of the deferred stock portion of the NEO's 2014 annual bonus. Mr. Kulas's outstanding RSUs vested on April 10, 2018. Mr. Morrin's outstanding RSUs vested on February 27, 2018. All RSUs continue to vest under their original schedule in the event of termination by us without cause, termination by the NEO for good reason, or termination due to disability or death.
- (c) Reflects RSUs granted to Mr. Morrin on March 29, 2016 as a retention award. The RSUs vest in equal installments on March 29, 2018 and 2019. The RSUs also vest fully if we terminate Mr. Morrin's employment without cause, if he terminates his employment for good reason, or if his employment terminates due to his disability or death.
- (d) Reflects RSUs granted on April 5, 2016 in settlement of the deferred stock portion of the NEO's 2015 annual bonus. The RSUs vest in equal installments on April 5, 2018 and 2019. All RSUs continue to vest under their original schedule in the event of termination by us without cause, termination by the NEO for good reason, or termination due to disability or death.
- (e) Reflects RSUs granted on March 1, 2017 in settlement of the deferred stock portion of the NEO's 2016 annual bonus. Mr. Kulas's outstanding RSUs vest in equal installments on March 1, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022, with vesting installments on March 1, 2020, 2021, and 2022 contingent on achievement of certain performance goals. Mr. Morrin's, Mr. Pfirman's, and Mr. Dawood's outstanding RSUs vest in equal installments on March 1, 2018, 2019, and 2020, with Mr. Pfirman's and Mr. Dawood's vesting installments on March 1, 2020 contingent on achievement of certain performance goals. All RSUs continue to vest under their original schedule in the event of termination by us without cause, termination by the NEO for good reason, or termination due to disability or death.
- (f) Reflects PSUs granted on November 1, 2016 as part of the SAN Performance Award program for 2016. The PSUs vest in one installment on March 15, 2019 based on SAN's achievement of a number of performance conditions related to earnings per share (25% of the PSUs), return on tangible equity (25% of the PSUs), employee satisfaction (20% of the PSUs), customer satisfaction (15% of the PSUs), individual customer loyalty goals (7.5% of the PSUs), and corporate customer loyalty goals (7.5% of the PSUs). All PSUs

Table of Contents

COMPENSATION - EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION TABLES

continue to vest under their original schedule and subject to their original performance conditions in the event of termination by us without cause, termination by the NEO for good reason, or termination due to disability or death.

- (g) Reflects RSUs granted to Mr. Pfirman on November 16, 2016 as a retention award. The remaining RSUs vest on November 16, 2018. The RSUs continue to vest under their original schedule if we terminate Mr. Pfirman's employment without cause or if his employment terminates due to his disability or death.
- (h) Reflects RSUs granted to Mr. Cochran on May 1, 2017 as part of a sign-on bonus. The RSUs vest in equal installments on May 1, 2018, 2019, and 2020 (their original schedule) under the terms of Mr. Cochran's separation agreement.
- (i) Reflects RSUs granted on April 7, 2016 and April 28, 2016 in settlement of the deferred stock portion of Mr. Kulas's 2015 annual bonus. The unvested RSUs granted on April 7, 2016, vest in equal installments on April 7, 2018 and 2019. The unvested RSUs granted on April 28, 2016 vest in equal installments on April 28, 2018 and 2019. All RSUs continue to vest under their original schedule under Mr. Kulas's separation agreement.
- (j) Reflects PSUs granted on June 17, 2015 as part of the SAN Performance Award program for 2015. The PSUs vest on June 17, 2018 based on SAN's achieving a certain TSR position relative to its peer group for the applicable performance period. All PSUs continue to vest under their original schedule and subject to their original performance conditions in the event of termination by us without cause, termination by the officer for good reason, or termination due to disability or death.

2017 Option Exercises and Stock Vested

The following table provides information regarding the exercise of stock options by our NEOs and shares acquired by our NEOs upon the vesting of stock awards in 2017.

| NAME | OPTION AWARDS | STOCK AWARDS | TOTAL VALUE REALIZED ON EXERCISE AND VESTING |
|------|--|---|--|
| | NUMBER OF SHARES ACQUIRED ON EXERCISE (#) | NUMBER OF SHARES ACQUIRED ON VESTING (#) | |
| | VALUE REALIZED ON EXERCISE | VALUE REALIZED ON VESTING | |

| | (\$) ⁽¹⁾ | (\$) ⁽²⁾ | (\$) |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------|
| Scott Powell | | | |

Juan Carlos

Alvarez de Soto

| | | | |
|-----------------------|--------|---------|---------|
| | 754 | 11,287 | |
| Richard Morrin | 14,347 | 214,488 | |
| | 18,038 | 237,921 | |
| | 2,839 | 34,721 | |
| Totals (\$) | | 498,417 | 498,417 |

Christopher Pffirman

| | |
|--------|---------|
| 10,434 | 155,988 |
| 2,595 | 31,737 |
| 7,215 | 116,522 |

| | | | |
|--------------------|--|---------|---------|
| Totals (\$) | | 304,247 | 304,247 |
|--------------------|--|---------|---------|

| | | | | |
|--------------------|------------------------|-----------|--------|---------|
| Jason Kulas | 7,417 | 30,521 | 32,892 | 491,735 |
| | 36,090 | 252,630 | 13,050 | 163,256 |
| | 15,920 | 65,431 | 5,975 | 73,433 |
| | 51,978 | 363,846 | 1,109 | 14,129 |
| | 49,915 ⁽³⁾ | 206,399 | 68,918 | 962,784 |
| | 187,118 ⁽³⁾ | 1,309,620 | | |
| | 129,929 ⁽³⁾ | 909,230 | | |

| | | | |
|-------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Totals (\$) | 3,137,677 | 1,705,337 | 4,843,014 |
|-------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|

| | | | |
|----------------------|--------|---------|--|
| Ismail Dawood | 28,123 | 420,439 | |
| | 56,911 | 874,722 | |

| | | | |
|-------------|--|-----------|-----------|
| Totals (\$) | | 1,295,161 | 1,295,161 |
|-------------|--|-----------|-----------|

Dale Cochran

- (1) Amounts reflect the aggregate difference between the market price of our Common Stock at the exercise date and the exercise price of the options.
- (2) Amounts reflect the market value of our Common Stock on the day on which the stock awards vested.
- (3) Represents the total number of shares underlying the exercised options; however, such options were disposed of in a cashless exercise, resulting in zero net shares received by Mr. Kulas.

Table of Contents

COMPENSATION - EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION TABLES

POTENTIAL PAYMENTS UPON TERMINATION OR CHANGE IN CONTROL

Equity Compensation Plans

We originally adopted our current equity compensation plan, the Omnibus Plan, on December 28, 2013, and we restated the Omnibus Plan effective June 16, 2016, with the approval of our stockholders.

For Omnibus Plan awards granted before June 16, 2016, in the event of a change in control (as defined in the plan) of us, unless otherwise provided by the Compensation Committee: (1) all time-vesting options will become fully exercisable, (2) all time-vesting restricted stock awards and RSUs will become fully vested, and (3) all performance-vesting awards will become vested to the extent that the applicable performance targets are met through the date of the change in control.

For Omnibus Plan awards granted on or after June 16, 2016, in the event of a change in control (as defined in the restated plan) of SC, (1) awards granted to non-employee directors will fully vest, and (2) for awards granted to all other service providers, vesting will depend on whether the awards are assumed, converted, or replaced by the resulting entity:

- » For awards that are not assumed, converted, or replaced, (i) time-vesting awards will fully vest upon the change in control; and (ii) performance-vesting awards will vest based on the greater of achievement of all performance goals at the target level or the actual level of achievement of performance goals as of the change in control, and will be prorated based on the portion of the performance period that had been completed through the date of the change in control.
- » For awards that are assumed, converted, or replaced, no automatic vesting will occur upon the change in control. Instead, the awards, as adjusted in connection with the transaction, will continue to vest in accordance with their terms. In addition, time-vesting awards will fully vest if the award recipient has a termination of employment within two years after the change in control by the company other than for cause or by the recipient for good reason (each as defined in the applicable award agreement). For performance-vesting awards, the amount vesting upon involuntary termination within two years of a change in control will be based on the greater of (i) achievement of all performance goals at the target level or (ii) the actual level of achievement of performance goals as of the change in control.

All awards under the Omnibus Plan are also subject to any change in control and employment termination provisions contained in applicable award agreements and employment agreements. Please see the footnotes to the *Compensation Executive Compensation Tables Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year-End* table of this Proxy Statement for information regarding vesting of outstanding equity awards upon termination of employment.

Employment Agreements

We are party to an employment agreement with Mr. Morrin, and were previously party to employment agreements with Mr. Kulas and Mr. Dawood. These agreements provide (or provided) these individuals with, among other things, payments and benefits in the event of a termination of employment under the various circumstances described below. Mr. Alvarez de Soto, Mr. Pfirman, and Mr. Cochran all received offer letters in connection with their employment, which provide basic terms such as base salary and bonus eligibility, at-will employment status terminable at will by either party, and restrictive covenants. Their agreements do not provide for severance benefits in the context of termination or a change in control, and so are not discussed in this section. Mr. Cochran's actual separation benefits are discussed below.

A change in control does not affect the timing or amount of severance payments to any of our currently employed NEOs under their employment agreements.

Employment Agreement with Richard Morrin

We entered into an employment agreement with Mr. Morrin on August 24, 2011, which set forth the terms and conditions of his employment with us. The employment agreement had an initial term of three years, which has passed, and automatically extends annually for additional one-year terms, unless either party provides notice of non-renewal at least three months prior to the extension date.

Mr. Morrin will be entitled to the following under his employment agreement if terminated by us without cause (as defined in the agreement) (but excluding termination due to death or disability) or upon resignation because of a reduction in base salary or target bonus opportunity, in each case subject to the execution of a general release and waiver in favor of SC.

- » 12 months of salary continuation;
- » Full annual performance bonus for the calendar year in which the termination of employment occurs;
- » Certain deferred bonus payments;
- » Accelerated vesting and settlement of equity-related awards; and
- » 12 months of continued medical, dental, and life insurance coverage.

Table of Contents

COMPENSATION - EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION TABLES

Mr. Morrin will be entitled to the following under his employment agreement if his employment terminates due to disability (as defined in the agreement): (1) participation in our short-term salary continuation program for 13 weeks; (2) subsequent participation in our long-term and individual disability insurance program under its terms; and (3) prorated annual bonuses for the year of termination and, in certain cases, for subsequent years.

Mr. Morrin's beneficiaries or estate will be entitled to the following under his employment agreement if his employment terminates due to death:

- » 12 months of salary continuation;
- » Full annual performance bonus for the calendar year in which the termination of employment occurs;
- » Certain deferred bonus payments; and
- » 12 months of continued medical and dental insurance coverage.

Mr. Morrin is subject to the following restrictive covenants under his employment agreement:

- » Perpetual confidentiality;
- » Non-solicitation of our employees and our affiliate employees during employment and for one year after;
- » Non-competition during employment and for any period while receiving severance payments under the agreement;
- » Cooperation in the context of litigation involving our affiliates or us during employment and for the pendency of any such litigation or other proceeding; and
- » Perpetual non-disparagement of us, our affiliates, and our officers and directors and our affiliates' officers and directors.

Terminated Employment Agreement with Ismail Dawood

On October 3, 2017, we entered into a separation agreement with Mr. Dawood, which treated his departure as a termination without cause effective September 29, 2017. In accordance with his amended and restated employment letter agreement dated December 1, 2016, Mr. Dawood received separation benefits consisting of the following: (1) a lump sum payment equal to 225% of his annual base salary; (2) a lump sum cash payment equal to 12 months of company-paid healthcare coverage for Mr. Dawood and his eligible dependents; (3) full vesting of the RSU award granted upon his joining us; and (4) continued vesting for his deferred and unearned cash award and RSUs that were granted in settlement of the deferred portion of his annual bonus for the 2016 performance year. Mr. Dawood's receipt of these benefits was contingent on his execution of a release of all claims against SC and its affiliates. Mr. Dawood also remains subject to the confidentiality and non-disparagement restrictive covenants, as well as the one-year non-competition, non-solicitation, and anti-raiding restrictive covenants of his employment agreement. Mr. Dawood also remains required to cooperate in the context of matters he was involved in during his employment.

Terminated Employment Agreement with Jason Kulas

On August 30, 2017, Mr. Kulas executed a separation agreement in our favor, which treated his departure as a termination without cause effective August 27, 2017. Under his May 1, 2009 employment agreement, Mr. Kulas received the following separation benefits, subject to the execution of a general release and waiver in favor of SC and its affiliates:

- » 12 months of salary continuation;
- » Target annual performance bonus for 2017;
- » Continued vesting of certain deferred bonus payments \$250,000 in deferred cash bonus payments payable in accordance with the SRIP and \$789,286 of the deferred cash portion of certain bonus awards (\$295,050 of which is subject to the achievement of specified Company performance goals for the years 2020-2022);
- » Accelerated vesting and settlement of equity-related awards (a portion of which will continue to be subject to the satisfaction of specific performance measures in future periods); and
- » 12 months of continued medical, dental, and life insurance coverage, valued at \$7,183.

Mr. Kulas remains subject to the following restrictive covenants under his employment agreement:

- » Perpetual confidentiality;
- » Non-solicitation of our employees and our affiliate employees for one year after termination;
- » Non-competition while still receiving severance payments;
- »

Cooperation in the context of litigation involving our affiliates or us during employment and for the pendency of any such litigation or other proceeding; and

» Perpetual non-disparagement of us, our affiliates, our officers and directors, and our affiliates officers and directors.

Table of Contents

COMPENSATION - EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION TABLES

Table Illustrating Potential Payments upon Termination or Change in Control

The following table provides information regarding the payments and benefits to which our NEOs would be entitled in the event of termination of such individual's employment with SC under specified circumstances and in the event of a change in control of SC. Except as otherwise noted, the amounts shown (1) are estimates only and (2) assume that the applicable termination of employment was effective, or that the change in control occurred, as of December 31, 2017.

| NAME | CASH (\$) | EQUITY (\$) ⁽⁶⁾ | PERQUISITES/ BENEFITS (\$) | TOTAL (\$) |
|--|--------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|------------|
| Scott Powell ⁽¹⁾ | | | | |
| Juan Carlos Alvarez de Soto ⁽¹⁾ | | | | |
| Richard Morrin | | | | |
| Termination due to death | 1,853,632 ⁽²⁾ | 1,065,958 | 1,004,392 ⁽⁷⁾ | 3,923,982 |

| | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------|--|-----------|
| Termination due to disability | 857,007 ⁽³⁾ | 1,065,958 | | 1,922,965 |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------|--|-----------|

| | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|-----------|-----------------------|-----------|
| Termination by SC without cause | 1,853,632 ⁽²⁾ | 1,065,958 | 19,984 ⁽⁸⁾ | 2,939,574 |
|--|--------------------------|-----------|-----------------------|-----------|

| | | | | |
|---|------------------------|-----------|--|-----------|
| Termination by NEO for good reason | 219,507 ⁽⁴⁾ | 1,065,958 | | 1,285,465 |
|---|------------------------|-----------|--|-----------|

| | | | | |
|---|--|---------|--|---------|
| Change in control (no termination) | | 791,536 | | 791,536 |
|---|--|---------|--|---------|

Christopher Pfirman

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|---------|--|---------|
| Termination due to death | 258,400 ⁽⁵⁾ | 418,596 | | 676,996 |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|---------|--|---------|

| | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|---------|--|---------|
| Termination due to disability | 258,400 ⁽⁵⁾ | 418,596 | | 676,996 |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|---------|--|---------|

| | | | | |
|--|------------------------|---------|--|---------|
| Termination by SC without cause | 258,400 ⁽⁵⁾ | 418,596 | | 676,996 |
|--|------------------------|---------|--|---------|

| | | | | |
|---|------------------------|---------|--|---------|
| Termination by NEO for good reason | 258,400 ⁽⁵⁾ | 284,253 | | 542,653 |
|---|------------------------|---------|--|---------|

| | | | | |
|---|--|--------|--|--------|
| Change in control (no termination) | | 96,656 | | 96,656 |
|---|--|--------|--|--------|

- (1) Mr. Powell and Mr. Alvarez de Soto joined SC in 2017. As of December 31, 2017, we had no employment agreements in place with either Mr. Powell or Mr. Alvarez de Soto.
- (2) Includes annual base salary of \$850,000, \$784,125 for the 2017 annual performance bonus, and continued vesting of deferred cash portion of bonus awards totaling \$219,507.
- (3) Assumes that: (i) the NEO first receives compensation under our short-term salary continuation program 13 weeks prior to December 31, 2017 and begins receiving compensation and benefits under our long-term and individual disability insurance program on December 31, 2017; (ii) target level of annual cash performance bonus is achieved in 2017 and no bonus is payable for subsequent years due to our NEO receiving compensation and benefits under our long-term and individual disability insurance program; and (iii) the NEO is eligible for our short-term salary continuation benefits. Please see *Compensation Potential Payments upon Termination or Change in Control Employment Agreements* for additional information.
- (4) Represents the unpaid deferred cash portion of the 2014, 2015, and 2016 bonus awards.
- (5) Represents the unpaid deferred cash portions of the 2015 and 2016 bonus awards, and 2016 retention award.
- (6) Represents the value of accelerated vesting of option awards and stock awards. Please see the footnotes to the *Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year-End* table of this Proxy Statement for information regarding vesting upon employment termination and see *Compensation Potential Payments upon Termination or Change in Control Equity Compensation Plans* above for information regarding vesting upon change in control. Amounts reflected assume that all applicable performance targets for any performance-vesting awards are achieved.
- (7) Represents payment of life insurance proceeds and 12 months of continued dependent medical and dental benefits. Assumes no increase in the cost of welfare benefits
- (8) Represents 12 months of continued medical and dental benefits and life insurance coverage. Assumes no increase in the cost of welfare benefits.

Because Mr. Kulas separated from us in 2017, he is not included in the table immediately above. In connection with his separation, Mr. Kulas received \$1,809,600 in cash, representing 12 months' base salary; \$2,070,000, representing his bonus for 2017 (half in cash, half in RSUs; half payable on March 1, 2018, the remainder settled in five equal installments on the first five anniversaries of March 1, 2018); \$250,000, representing an award under the SRIP (settled on the same terms as his 2017 bonus); and \$789,286 in deferred cash bonuses from previous years, subject to the same vesting conditions originally in place. For more details, please see Exhibit 10.1 to the Form 8-K filed with the SEC on September 13, 2017.

Similarly, because Mr. Dawood separated from us in 2017, he is not included in the table immediately above. In connection with his separation, Mr. Dawood received \$2,367,563, representing 225% of his annual base salary; \$20,745, representing 12 months of healthcare coverage for him and his dependents; full vesting of the 56,911 remaining unvested RSUs granted upon his joining us; and continued vesting of the deferred portion of his annual bonus for the 2016 performance year. For more details, please see Exhibit 10.1 to the Form 8-K filed with the SEC on

October 6, 2017.

SC 2018 Proxy Statement

49

Table of Contents**COMPENSATION - EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION TABLES**

Mr. Cochran, who was an executive officer serving at the end of 2017, is not included in the table immediately above because, as of the date of this Proxy Statement, he is no longer an executive officer. Mr. Cochran entered into a separation agreement with us effective February 2, 2018 under which he will continue serving us as a non-executive employee until May 4, 2018. During this transition period, Mr. Cochran will continue to receive his base salary and remain eligible to participate in the benefit plans to the same extent as immediately prior to February 2, 2018. In connection with his separation, Mr. Cochran will receive: (1) a lump sum cash payment of \$342,500, representing six months of base salary, paid on the first regular payroll date after May 4, 2018; (2) a lump sum cash payment of \$6,600, representing three months of Company-paid healthcare coverage for Mr. Cochran and his dependents, paid at the same time as (1); (3) \$400,000 in cash and RSUs, representing his guaranteed annual bonus for performance year 2017, paid out in accordance with the same terms except the requirement of his continued employment; (4) \$250,000 in cash and RSUs, representing a SRIP award for performance year 2017, paid out in accordance with the same terms except the requirement of his continued employment; and (5) continued vesting of his sign-on RSU grant. Mr. Cochran will be subject to confidentiality and non-disparagement restrictive covenants, as well as one-year non-solicitation and anti-raiding restrictive covenants, as part of his separation agreement.

EQUITY COMPENSATION PLAN INFORMATION

We currently administer one equity plan: our Omnibus Plan. The following table provides information as of December 31, 2017 regarding shares of our Common Stock that may be issued under these equity plans.

| PLAN CATEGORY | NUMBER OF SECURITIES TO BE ISSUED UPON EXERCISE OF OUTSTANDING OPTIONS, WARRANTS, AND RIGHTS | WEIGHTED-AVERAGE EXERCISE PRICE OF OUTSTANDING OPTIONS, WARRANTS, AND RIGHTS | NUMBER OF SECURITIES REMAINING AVAILABLE FOR FUTURE ISSUANCE UNDER EQUITY COMPENSATION PLANS (EXCLUDING SECURITIES REFLECTED IN COLUMN (a)) |
|--|--|--|---|
| | (#) | (\$)(1) | (#) |
| | (a) | (b) | (c) |
| Equity compensation plans approved by security | 1,695,008 | 12.39 | 2,976,545 |

holders

**Equity compensation plans
not approved by security
holders**

| | | | |
|--------------|-----------|-------|-----------|
| Total | 1,695,008 | 12.39 | 2,976,545 |
|--------------|-----------|-------|-----------|

(1) Weighted-average exercise price is based solely on outstanding options.

Table of Contents

COMPENSATION - PAY RATIO DISCLOSURE

PAY RATIO DISCLOSURE

As required by SEC rules, we are providing the following information about the relationship of the annual total compensation of our employees and the annual total compensation of Scott Powell, our CEO as of December 31, 2017.

For 2017, the median of the annual total compensation of all our employees (other than our CEO) was \$54,483; and the annual total compensation of our CEO, as reported in the Summary Compensation Table included above, then annualized for purposes of this pay ratio disclosure and adjusted as noted below, was \$2,696,513. As a result, the ratio of our CEO's annual total compensation to the annual total compensation of our median employee was approximately 49 to 1.

The SEC's rules for identifying the median employee and calculating the pay ratio based on that employee's annual total compensation allow companies to adopt a variety of methodologies, to apply certain exclusions, and to make reasonable estimates and assumptions that reflect their employee populations and compensation practices. As a result, the pay ratio reported by other companies may not be comparable to the pay ratio reported above, as other companies have different employee populations and compensation practices and may utilize different methodologies, exclusions, estimates, and assumptions in calculating their pay ratios. The pay ratio reported above is a reasonable estimate calculated in a manner consistent with SEC rules based on the methodology described below.

We took the following steps to identify the median of the annual total compensation of all our employees, as well as to determine the annual total compensation of our median employee and our CEO.

1. To identify the median employee from our employee population, we used the amount of gross wages for the identified employees as reflected in our payroll records for the nine-month period beginning January 1, 2017. For gross wages, we generally used the total amount of compensation the employees were paid before any taxes, deductions, insurance premiums, and other payroll withholding. We did not use any statistical sampling techniques.
2. For the annual total compensation of our median employee, we identified and calculated the elements of that employee's compensation for 2017 in accordance with the requirements of Item 402(c)(2)(x), resulting in annual total compensation of \$54,483.
3. For the annual total compensation of our CEO, we used the amount reported in the Total column of our 2017 Summary Compensation Table included above, adjusted as follows.

- a) Mr. Powell began serving as our CEO effective August 27, 2017, upon the resignation of Jason Kulas, our former CEO. We identified Mr. Powell as our CEO for this pay ratio disclosure because he was serving in that position on October 1, 2017, the date that we selected to identify our median employee.

- b) As Mr. Powell served as our CEO for only a portion of 2017, in accordance with applicable SEC rules, we annualized the amount reported in the Summary Compensation Table for him (in other words, we estimated the compensation that Mr. Powell would have earned if he served as our CEO for all of 2017, based on the level of compensation he actually earned for the portion of 2017 that he did serve as our CEO). This resulted in annual total compensation for purposes of determining the ratio in the amount of \$2,696,513, which is \$2,076,315 higher than the amount reported in our 2017 Summary Compensation Table.

Table of Contents

STOCKHOLDER PROPOSAL

STOCKHOLDER PROPOSAL

WHAT YOU ARE VOTING ON:

At the Annual Meeting, stockholders may be asked to vote on a stockholder proposal,
which the Board recommends a vote **AGAINST**.

Proposal 4: Stockholder Proposal

The following stockholder proposal has been submitted to the Company for action at the Annual Meeting by the AFL-CIO Reserve Fund, 815 16th St., NW, Washington, DC 20006. We have been notified the proponent has continuously owned no fewer than 500 shares of our Common Stock since March 12, 2017. In accordance with the proxy regulations, the following text set forth below in italics is the complete text of the proposal, which is reproduced as submitted to us other than minor formatting changes. All statements contained in the stockholder proposal and supporting statement are the sole responsibility of the proponent. If properly presented at the Annual Meeting, the Board unanimously recommends a vote **AGAINST** the proposal, which the Board believes is unnecessary and not in the best interests of the Company or our stockholders.

RESOLVED: Shareholders of Santander Consumer USA Holdings Inc. (the Company) request that the Board of Directors prepare a report on the risk of racial discrimination in vehicle lending and any steps that the Company has taken to prevent racial discrimination against borrowers. The report shall be prepared at reasonable cost omitting proprietary information and shall be made available on the Company's website no later than the 2019 annual meeting of shareholders.

Supporting Statement

In the United States, vehicle loans are the third largest source of consumer debt after mortgages and student loans. The Equal Credit Opportunity Act was enacted in 1974 to prohibit racial discrimination in all forms of lending, including vehicle lending. However, the longstanding problem of racial discrimination in vehicle lending remains a significant policy issue.

According to the Center for Responsible Lending, dealer interest rate markups on vehicle loans have resulted in racial disparities for African American and Latino borrowers compared to similarly situated white borrowers. A

dealer interest rate markup is the practice of adding additional interest to a vehicle loan that is not related to a borrower's creditworthiness. Borrowers of color are more likely to be charged dealer interest rate markups. (Delvin Davis and Chris Kukla, Road to Nowhere: Car Dealer Interest Rate Markups Lead to Higher Interest Rates, Not Discounts, November 2015; Delvin Davis, Non-Negotiable: Negotiation Doesn't Help African Americans and Latinos on Dealer-Financed Car Loans, January 2014)

A recent experiment by the National Fair Housing Alliance illustrates the frequency of racial discrimination for vehicle loans. The National Fair Housing Alliance sent eight pairs of testers, one white and one non-white, to auto dealerships in Virginia to inquire about purchasing the same vehicle. It found that 62.5 percent of non-white testers who were more qualified than their white counterparts received more costly pricing options. Non-white testers who experienced discrimination would have paid an average of \$2,662.56 more over the life of the loan than less-qualified white testers. (Lisa Rice and Erich Schwartz Jr., Discrimination When Buying A Car: How the Color of Your Skin Can Affect Your Car-Shopping Experience, January 2018)

The issue of racial discrimination in vehicle lending is significantly related to our Company's business because our Company is an indirect vehicle lender through auto dealerships. In 2015, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau alleged that there were statistical disparities in markups charged by vehicle dealers to protected groups on loans originated by those dealers and purchased by the Company. In response, the Department of Justice initiated an investigation of our Company's pricing of auto loans. Our Company resolved this investigation by entering into a confidential agreement with the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. (Company Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017)

For these reasons, we urge you to vote FOR the proposal.

Table of Contents

STOCKHOLDER PROPOSAL

Board Response to the Stockholder Proposal

The Board unanimously recommends a vote AGAINST the proposal.

In keeping with the Company's long-standing commitment to fair lending and treating all consumers, customers, and vendors with the utmost respect and fairness, the Board and the Company's management share the proponent's concern about, and are opposed to, discrimination on any prohibited basis, including on the basis of race, in connection with vehicle lending. However, in light of the significant disclosure that the Company already provides, the Board believes that the preparation of the report requested by the proposal is both unnecessary and not in the best interests of the Company or our stockholders.

The Company already publicly discloses detailed information about how the Company manages significant risks associated with the Company's business, including risks associated with our compliance management system. As disclosed in this Proxy Statement, as part of our risk management process, we regularly review and seek to further enhance our compliance and risk management policies and procedures.

The Company is a specialized consumer finance company focused on vehicle finance and third-party servicing, and we engage in both direct and indirect lending activities. As a participant in the U.S. consumer lending industry, the Company is subject to regulation under various U.S. federal laws, including the Equal Credit Opportunity Act (the ECOA), and is subject to supervision and regulation by U.S. financial services and other regulatory agencies, including the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (the CFPB). Under the ECOA, we are prohibited from discriminating in any aspect of credit transactions on prohibited bases, including race.

As described in this Proxy Statement, the Company maintains robust risk management policies and procedures, including compliance risk management policies and procedures, developed and maintained by our Chief Risk Officer and our Chief Compliance Officer, in coordination with our majority stockholder, Santander Holdings USA, Inc. (SHUSA), itself a highly regulated entity. Under our risk governance structure, the Company's risk management program is overseen by the Board and its standing committees. The Board's Regulatory and Compliance Oversight Committee oversees risk relating to the effectiveness of our compliance management system, including our compliance with the ECOA and other applicable laws and regulations, and oversees our progress in remediating risks identified in our risk assessment findings or by regulators, such as the CFPB. The Regulatory and Compliance Oversight Committee regularly updates the full Board with its findings. Moreover, SHUSA provides further resources to bolster our risk and compliance oversight. Our Chief Risk Officer has a functional reporting line to SHUSA's Chief Risk Officer. Our Chief Risk Officer also serves on SHUSA's Enterprise Risk Management Committee, a management committee that receives regular reports from all of the chief risk officers of SHUSA's subsidiaries and oversees adherence to risk frameworks, policies, and standards of SHUSA and its subsidiaries (including the Company). In addition, the Risk Committee of SHUSA's Board of Directors reviews risk topics, enterprise-wide risk issues, and the operations of significant business lines and products of SHUSA's subsidiaries.

As we discuss on the Company's website at <https://santanderconsumerusa.com/legal/fair-lending>, the Company is committed to compliance with the ECOA and to fair lending in both our direct and indirect lending activities. Our

Enterprise Fair Lending Policy (the Fair Lending Policy) provides a framework for Company compliance with the ECOA and sets forth policies specifically designed to prevent discrimination on the basis of race and all other protected bases in all our consumer lending activities. Under the Fair Lending Policy, the Company makes credit and lending products and services available to all qualified applicants without discrimination on any prohibited basis, encourages all customers to complete and submit applications for credit, without any regard to any prohibited basis, and offers assistance to and treats customers in a fair and consistent manner in all aspects of lending and servicing. Importantly, our Fair Lending Policy is not limited to our direct lending business all of our business lines are required to comply with our Fair Lending Policy. In order to implement our Fair Lending Policy across all of our businesses, including our indirect lending activities, we have developed and implemented business-specific processes and controls to monitor and ensure compliance with the ECOA and all other applicable laws and regulations. Under our Fair Lending Policy, we have developed outreach programs to educate individual automotive dealers who originate loans to ensure compliance with our Fair Lending Policy and prevent overt discrimination, disparate treatment, and disparate impact on any prohibited basis, including on the basis of race.

Compliance with our Fair Lending Policy is overseen by our Fair Lending Officer, who monitors fair lending compliance across the Company and manages our dedicated Fair Lending Team in implementing our ECOA compliance programs and practices. Our Fair Lending Officer conducts regular trainings of business personnel ranging from associates to the Board to help our workforce and leaders understand their and the Company s duties and responsibilities under our Fair Lending Policy and under the ECOA. Because the majority of our vehicle lending activity relates to vehicle loans originated through individual automotive dealers, we have limited control and insight over dealer compliance with the ECOA. Nevertheless, as part of our commitment to fair lending and to preventing discrimination in lending, we have taken additional steps to monitor the activities of the individual automotive dealers with whom we engage to assess their compliance with the ECOA. The Company takes appropriate action with respect to dealers found not to be complying with the Company s fair lending or other policies, up to and including termination of the dealer relationship.

Table of Contents

STOCKHOLDER PROPOSAL

Consistent with regulatory expectations, we have renewed our commitment to ongoing improvement of our already robust ECOA compliance programs and practices, particularly with respect to our indirect origination and securitization of vehicle loans. Going forward we will continue our companywide efforts to enhance our risk management and regulatory compliance framework in furtherance of our policy of treating all consumers with respect and fairness.

In light of what we already disclose regarding the Company's risk management program and the policies and procedures we have in place to ensure compliance with the ECOA and to prevent racial and other forms of prohibited discrimination in vehicle lending, the Board believes that preparation of a separate report is unnecessary and duplicative of existing disclosures. Accordingly, the Board believes that this proposal is not in the best interests of the Company or our stockholders.

The Board recommends a vote **AGAINST** this proposal for the reasons discussed above.

THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS A VOTE

AGAINST

PROPOSAL 4.

Table of Contents

ADDITIONAL GOVERNANCE INFORMATION - RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

ADDITIONAL GOVERNANCE INFORMATION

Related Party Transactions

Transactions by us with related parties are subject to a formal written policy, as well as regulatory requirements and restrictions. Under our written policy, our directors and director nominees, executive officers, and holders of more than 5% of our Common Stock, including their immediate family members, will not be permitted to enter into a related party transaction with us, as described below, without the consent of our Audit Committee. Any request for us to enter into a transaction in which the amount involved exceeds \$120,000 and any such party has a direct or indirect material interest, subject to certain exceptions, will be required to be presented to our Audit Committee for review, consideration, and approval. Management will be required to report to our Audit Committee any such related party transaction and such related party transaction will be reviewed and approved or disapproved by the disinterested members of our Audit Committee.

The following is a summary of material provisions of various transactions we have entered into with our executive officers, directors (including nominees), 5% or greater stockholders and any of their immediate family members or entities affiliated with them. We believe the terms and conditions set forth in such agreements are reasonable and customary for transactions of this type.

Shareholders Agreement

In connection with our initial public offering in January 2014, we entered into the Shareholders Agreement with SHUSA, DDFS, LLC (DDFS), Sponsor Auto Finance Holdings Series LP (Sponsor Auto), and Mr. Dundon. The Shareholders Agreement, as amended, provides SHUSA with, among other things, certain rights related to director nominations, approvals over certain actions taken by us, and registration rights. DDFS, Sponsor Auto, and Mr. Dundon no longer have rights under the Shareholders Agreement.

Board Composition

The Shareholders Agreement provides that SHUSA has the right to nominate a number of directors equal to the product (rounded up to the nearest whole number of directors) of (i) a fraction, the numerator of which is the number of shares of our Common Stock then-held by SHUSA and the denominator of which is the total number of our then-outstanding shares of Common Stock and (ii) the number of directors constituting our entire Board if there were no vacancies.

The Shareholders Agreement provides that we will take all action within our power to cause the individuals nominated under the provisions of the Shareholders Agreement to be included in the slate of nominees recommended by the Board to our stockholders for election as directors at each Annual Meeting of our stockholders and to cause the election of each such nominee, including soliciting proxies in favor of the election of such nominees. In addition, SHUSA has the right to designate a replacement to fill a vacancy on the Board created by the departure of a director who was nominated by SHUSA, and we are required to take all action within our power to cause such vacancy to be

filled by such designated replacement (including by promptly appointing such designee to the Board).

Approval Rights

The Shareholders Agreement also provides that the following actions by us will require the approval of a majority of the directors nominated by SHUSA for so long as SHUSA's share ownership is greater than 20% of our outstanding shares of Common Stock:

- » Except as required by changes in law or GAAP, any change to our material accounting policies;

- » Except as required by changes in law or changes which are consistent with changes to the tax policies or positions of affiliates of Banco Santander in the United States, any change to our material tax policies or positions; and

- » Any change in our principal line of business or of certain of our material subsidiaries.

Put and Call Rights

The Shareholders Agreement also provided DDFS and SHUSA certain put and call rights relating to the shares of Common Stock previously owned by DDFS, an affiliate of Mr. Dundon. On July 2, 2015, Mr. Dundon entered into a Separation Agreement with the Company, DDFS, SHUSA, and Banco Santander, under which his roles as Chairman of the Board and CEO were terminated effective as of July 2, 2015. The Separation Agreement provided, among other things, that Mr. Dundon resign as Chairman of the Board, as our CEO and as an officer and/or director of any of our subsidiary companies. Also, under the Separation Agreement, on July 2, 2015, Mr. Dundon, the Company, DDFS, SHUSA, and Banco Santander entered into an amendment to the Shareholders Agreement (Second Amendment). The Second Amendment amended, for purposes of calculating the price per share to be paid in the event that a put or call option was exercised with respect to the shares of our Common Stock owned by DDFS in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Shareholders Agreement, the definition of the term Average Stock Price to mean \$26.83.

Pursuant to the Separation Agreement, SHUSA was deemed to have delivered as of July 3, 2015 an irrevocable notice to exercise a call option with respect to all 34,598,506 shares of our Common Stock owned by DDFS and consummate the transactions contemplated by such call option notice, subject to the receipt of required regulatory approvals and any other approvals required by law (the Call

Table of Contents

ADDITIONAL GOVERNANCE INFORMATION - RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Transaction). The parties to the Separation Agreement agreed that interest would accrue on the call price, commencing after October 15, 2015 (the Call End Date).

On August 31, 2016, Mr. Dundon, DDFS, the Company, Banco Santander, and SHUSA entered into a Second Amendment to the Separation Agreement, and Mr. Dundon, DDFS, Banco Santander, and SHUSA entered into a Third Amendment to the Shareholders Agreement (the Third Amendment), whereby the price per share to be paid to DDFS in connection with the Call Transaction was reduced from \$26.83 to \$26.17.

On November 15, 2017, the parties to the Separation Agreement entered into a settlement agreement and release (the Settlement Agreement) that, among other things, altered certain portions of the economic arrangements set forth in the Separation Agreement. Pursuant to the Settlement Agreement, (i) the amounts payable by SC to Mr. Dundon were reduced by \$50,000,000 to \$66,114,588; and (ii) Banco Santander confirmed its prior commitment to complete the Call Transaction. The Call Transaction was consummated at the aggregate price of \$941,945,420, representing the aggregate of the previously agreed price per SC share of \$26.17, as set forth in the Third Amendment, plus the interest accruing after the Call End Date. All transactions contemplated by the Settlement Agreement, including the Call Transaction, were completed on November 15, 2017.

Other Arrangements

Guarantees

Banco Santander has provided guarantees of the covenants, agreements, and our obligations under the governing documents of our warehouse facilities and privately issued amortizing notes. These guarantees are limited to our obligations as servicer. Beginning in fiscal year 2015, we have agreed to pay Banco Santander and SHUSA a fee of 12.5 basis points on such facilities and notes in exchange for providing such guarantees. For fiscal years 2017 and 2016, we incurred \$6.0 million and \$6.4 million, respectively, in fees under this arrangement.

Borrowing Arrangements

Banco Santander has extended various credit facilities (the Santander Credit Facilities) to us.

Santander Consumer Funding 3 LLC (a subsidiary of ours) had a committed facility in an initial amount of \$1,750 million established with the New York Branch of Banco Santander in December 2011. In March 2016, this facility was amended to reduce the committed amount from \$1,750 million to \$1,000 million. In 2017, the largest outstanding principal balance on this facility was \$1,000 million and we paid \$22.9 million in interest and fees. This credit facility was terminated in December 2017 and has no outstanding balance.

Santander Consumer Funding 5 LLC (a subsidiary of ours) has a committed facility in an initial amount of \$1,750 million established with the New York Branch of Banco Santander in December 2011. In March 2016, this facility was amended to reduce the committed amount from \$1,750 million to \$1,000 million. In 2017, the largest outstanding principal balance on this facility was \$1,000 million and as of December 31, 2017, the balance of the line

was zero. In 2017, we paid \$16.5 million in interest and fees on this line of credit. The effective interest rate on this facility in 2017 was 3.09%. The current maturity of the facility is December 31, 2018.

Santander Consumer Captive Auto Funding LLC (a subsidiary of ours) had a committed facility of \$500 million established with the New York branch of Banco Santander in May 2013. In 2017, the largest outstanding principal balance on this facility was \$500 million and we paid \$6.9 million in interest and fees. This credit facility was terminated in May 2017 and has no outstanding balance.

Santander Consumer Captive Auto Funding 5 LLC (a subsidiary of ours) had a committed facility of \$500 million established with the New York branch of Banco Santander in May 2013. In 2017, the largest outstanding principal balance on this facility was \$500 million and we paid \$3.5 million in interest and fees. This credit facility was terminated in August 2017 and has no outstanding balance.

Santander Consumer ABS Funding 2, LLC (a subsidiary of ours) established a committed facility of \$300 million with SHUSA on March 6, 2014. In 2017, the largest outstanding principal balance on this facility was \$300 million and we paid \$1.6 million in interest and fees. This facility matured on March 6, 2017 and was replaced on the same day with a \$300 million term promissory note executed by SC Illinois as the borrower and SHUSA as the lender. In 2017, the largest outstanding principal balance on the note was \$300 million, and as of December 31, 2017, the outstanding principal balance on the note was \$300 million. In 2017, we paid \$5.9 million in interest and fees on this note. The effective interest rate on this note was 2.67% in 2017. The note has a maturity date of March 6, 2019.

The Company has a committed facility in an initial amount of \$1,500 million established with SHUSA on March 4, 2016. On November 1, 2016, this facility was amended to increase the committed amount to \$3,000 million. In 2017, the largest outstanding principal balance on this facility was \$750 million, and as of December 31, 2017, the balance of the line was zero. In 2017, we paid \$41.0 million in interest and fees on this line of credit. The effective interest rate on this facility in 2017 was 3.94%. The current maturity of this facility is March 1, 2019.

SPAIN Revolving Funding LLC (a subsidiary of ours) established a committed facility of \$750 million with the New York branch of Banco Santander on April 3, 2017. In 2017, the largest outstanding principal balance on this facility was \$750 million, and as of December 31, 2017, the outstanding principal balance of the facility was \$750 million. In 2017, we paid \$3.6 million in interest and

Table of Contents

ADDITIONAL GOVERNANCE INFORMATION - RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

fees on this line of credit. The effective interest rate on this facility in 2017 was 1.33%. The current maturity date of the facility is December 31, 2018.

SC Illinois as borrower executed a \$650 million term promissory note with SHUSA as lender on March 31, 2017. In 2017, the largest outstanding principal balance on the note was \$650 million, and as of December 31, 2017, the outstanding principal balance on the note was \$650 million. In 2017, we paid \$14.0 million in interest and fees on this note. The effective interest rate on this facility in 2017 was 4.20%. The note has a maturity date of March 31, 2022.

SC Illinois as borrower executed a \$500 million term promissory note with SHUSA as lender on May 11, 2017. In 2017, the largest outstanding principal balance on the note was \$500 million, and as of December 31, 2017, the outstanding principal balance on the note was \$500 million. In 2017, we paid \$9.0 million in interest and fees on this note. The effective interest rate on this facility in 2017 was 3.49%. The note has a maturity date of May 11, 2020.

SC Illinois as borrower executed a \$650 million term promissory note with SHUSA as lender on August 4, 2017. In 2017, the largest outstanding principal balance on the note was \$650 million, and as of December 31, 2017, the outstanding principal balance on the note was \$650 million. In 2017, we paid \$5.9 million in interest and fees on this note. The effective interest rate on this facility in 2017 was 3.44%. The note has a maturity date of August 3, 2021.

SC Illinois as borrower executed a \$400 million term promissory note with SHUSA as lender on October 10, 2017. In 2017, the largest outstanding principal balance on the note was \$400 million, and as of December 31, 2017, the outstanding principal balance on the note was \$400 million. In 2017, we did not make any payments for interest or fees on this note. The effective interest rate on this facility in 2017 was 3.10%. The note has a maturity date of October 10, 2020.

SC Illinois as borrower executed a \$250 million term promissory note with SHUSA as lender on December 19, 2017. In 2017, the largest outstanding principal balance on the note was \$250 million, and as of December 31, 2017, the outstanding principal balance on the note was \$250 million. In 2017, we did not make any payments for interest or fees on this note. The effective interest rate on this facility in 2017 was 3.70%. The note has a maturity date of December 20, 2021.

SC Illinois as borrower executed a \$250 million term promissory note with SHUSA as lender on December 19, 2017. In 2017, the largest outstanding principal balance on the note was \$250 million, and as of December 31, 2017, the outstanding principal balance on the note was \$250 million. In 2017, we did not make any payments for interest or fees on this note. The effective interest rate on this facility in 2017 was 3.95%. The note has a maturity date of December 19, 2022.

Any secured drawings outstanding under the Santander Credit Facilities at the time of the facilities' maturity will amortize to match the maturities and expected cash flows of the corresponding collateral. The current maturity of each facility is listed above. Banco Santander has the option to allow us to renew these facilities. These facilities currently permit unsecured borrowing.

Servicing Arrangements

We are under contract with SBNA to service the bank's retail and recreational vehicle loan portfolio, which had a balance of \$401 million as of December 31, 2017. For 2017, SBNA paid \$3.4 million to us with respect to this agreement.

The Company is required to permit SBNA a first right to review and assess Chrysler Capital dealer lending opportunities, and SBNA is required to pay the Company a relationship management fee based upon the performance and yields of Chrysler Capital dealer loans held by SBNA. On April 15, 2016, the relationship management fee was replaced with an origination fee and annual renewal fee for each loan. For 2017, SBNA paid us \$3.1 million in origination and renewal fees related to these loans. These agreements also transferred the servicing of all Chrysler Capital receivables from dealers, including receivables held by SBNA and by the Company, from the Company to SBNA. For 2017, we paid servicing fees of \$97,000 to SBNA under this contract.

Until May 9, 2015, we were party to a flow agreement with SBNA whereby we serviced all Chrysler consumer vehicle leases originated under the agreement and certain leases sold to SBNA. Additionally, we received an origination fee on all leases originated under the flow agreement. As of December 31, 2017, this portfolio of serviced leases had a balance of \$322 million. For 2017, SBNA paid us \$4.9 million in servicing fees related to these leases.

On March 29, 2017, we entered into a Master Securities Purchase Agreement with Banco Santander, under which we have the option to sell a contractually determined amount of eligible prime loans to Banco Santander, through the SPAIN securitization platform, for a term ending in December 2018. We provide servicing on all loans originated under this arrangement. In 2017, we sold \$1,236 million of loans at fair value to Banco Santander under this agreement. Under a separate securities purchase agreement, in 2017, the Company sold \$1,347 million of prime loans at fair value to Banco Santander. A total loss of \$13.0 million was recognized in 2017. Servicing fee income earned totaled \$12.3 million for 2017.

During the year ended December 31, 2017, we sold certain receivables previously acquired with deteriorated credit quality to SBNA with a gain of \$35.9 million. We will continue to perform the servicing of these assets, which had a balance of \$121.4 million at December 31, 2017. In 2017, we earned \$548,000 of servicing fee income from SBNA on this portfolio.

Table of Contents

ADDITIONAL GOVERNANCE INFORMATION - RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Employment Arrangements

On August 28, 2017, the Board announced that Mr. Powell would succeed Mr. Kulas as President and CEO, effective immediately. During 2017, Mr. Powell remained on SHUSA's payroll and we incurred a compensation expense comprising our share of his compensation based on time allocation between the Company and SHUSA, which as of the date of this Proxy Statement was \$784,996.

From time to time, we may employ individuals who are immediate family members of our directors, our executive officers, or holders of more than 5% of our Common Stock, but only if they are at least as qualified as other applicants.

We have continued to employ Kenneth Dundon as our Senior Vice President, Originations Quality Control. Kenneth Dundon is the brother of our former director and CEO, Thomas Dundon, who held more than 5% of our Common Stock until November 2017. For 2017, Kenneth Dundon received compensation having an aggregate value of \$442,534, consisting of salary, bonuses, 401(k) employer match, and benefits. We believe that the compensation paid to Kenneth Dundon is comparable to the compensation we pay to other employees in equivalent positions with similar levels of performance, skill, and experience.

Other Agreements

On June 30, 2014, we entered into an indemnification agreement with SBNA whereby we indemnify SBNA for any credit or residual losses on a pool of \$48.2 million in leases originated under a flow agreement with SBNA. At the time of the indemnification agreement, we established a \$48.2 million collateral account with SBNA in restricted cash that will be released over time to SBNA, in the case of losses, and to us, in the case of payments and sale proceeds. As of December 31, 2017, the balance in the collateral account was \$18,000. For 2017, we incurred indemnification expenses of \$272,000.

In January 2015, we agreed to indemnify SBNA for residual losses, up to a cap, on certain leases originated under the Company's prior flow agreement with SBNA between September 24, 2014 and May 9, 2015 for which SBNA and the Company had differing residual value expectations at lease inception. At the time of the agreement, the Company established a collateral account held by SBNA to cover the expected losses. As of December 31, 2017, the balance in the collateral account was \$2.2 million. As of December 31, 2017, we had a recorded liability of \$2.2 million related to the residual losses covered under the agreement.

Our wholly-owned subsidiary through SC Illinois, Santander Consumer International Puerto Rico, LLC (SCI), has opened deposit accounts with BSPR. As of December 31, 2017, SCI had cash of \$106.6 million on deposit with BSPR. The deposit accounts were entered into in the ordinary course of business and on substantially the same terms as BSPR's other account holders.

SIS purchased an investment in the Class A3 notes of CCART 2013-A, a securitization Trust formed by us in 2013. Although CCART 2013-A is not a consolidated entity of the Company, we continue to service the assets of the

associated trust. For 2017, we were paid \$872,000 in servicing fee income.

SIS also serves as co-manager on certain of our securitizations. Amounts paid to SIS as co-manager for the year ended December 31, 2017 totaled \$1.4 million. The payments to SIS as co-manager of our securitizations were made in the ordinary course of business and on substantially the same terms as other co-managers of our securitizations.

We have entered into interest rate swaps and caps with Banco Santander and its affiliates with a notional value of approximately \$3.7 billion as of December 31, 2017. Interest expense on these agreements includes amounts totaling \$1.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2017.

Effective April 1, 2017, we contracted Aquanima, a Banco Santander affiliate, to provide procurement services. Expenses incurred totaled \$637,000 for the year ended December 31, 2017.

We partner with SHUSA to place Cyber Liability Insurance in which participating national entities share \$150 million aggregate limits. We repay SHUSA for our equitably allocated portion of insurance premiums and fees. Expenses incurred totaled \$312,000 and \$294,000 for the year ended December 31, 2017 and 2016, respectively.

We are party to a tax sharing agreement requiring the unitary state tax liability among affiliates included in unitary state tax returns be allocated using the hypothetical separate company tax calculation method. Pursuant to this tax sharing agreement in 2017, we received payments of \$620,000 from affiliates.

Two of the funds that invested in Sponsor Auto also were the equity investors in two entities for which we were the primary beneficiary. In 2013, the funds abandoned their interests in the entities, resulting in our having full ownership of the entities. At the time these entities were formed, we entered into indemnification agreements with each of the funds whereby we reimbursed the funds, on a grossed-up basis, for all taxes they incurred related to their investments in the entities. Payments under these indemnification agreements have totaled \$28.1 million, all of which was paid in 2012. In 2017, we did not recover any of the reimbursed amounts through tax refunds to the funds. At December 31, 2017, we had a receivable of \$4.2 million, representing the remaining amount of the indemnification payments that we expect to recover as the funds receive additional tax refunds.

Beginning in 2016, we agreed to pay SBNA a market rate-based fee expense for payments made at SBNA retail branch locations for accounts originated/serviced by us and the costs associated with modifying the Advanced Teller platform to the payments. We incurred \$225,000 and \$473,000 of expense for these services during the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016, respectively.

Table of Contents**ADDITIONAL GOVERNANCE INFORMATION - STOCK OWNERSHIP INFORMATION**

Mr. Kulas and Thomas G. Dundon each had a minority equity investment in a property in which we lease approximately 373,000 square feet of office space that serves as our corporate headquarters. During 2017, we incurred \$5.0 million in lease expenses on this property. We sublease approximately 13,000 square feet of corporate office space to SBNA. In 2017, we earned \$163,000 in sublease revenue on this property. As of December 31, 2017, future minimum lease payments over the remainder of the 9-year term of the lease, which extends through 2026, total \$62.3 million.

Stock Ownership Information

The following table provides information regarding the beneficial ownership of our Common Stock as of March 31, 2018 (unless otherwise noted) by: (i) each person known to beneficially own more than 5% of our Common Stock; (ii) each of our directors and director nominees; (iii) each of our NEOs; and (iv) all current directors and executive officers as a group.

For purposes of this table, beneficial ownership (as defined in Rule 13d-3 of the Exchange Act) takes into account shares as to which the individual has or shares voting or investment power as well as shares that may be acquired within 60 days (such as by exercising vested stock options, or the vesting of RSUs) and is different from beneficial ownership for purposes of Section 16 of the Exchange Act. As a result, the numbers below may differ from the numbers reported in forms filed pursuant to Section 16.

To our knowledge and unless otherwise indicated, each stockholder listed below has sole voting and investment power over the shares listed as beneficially owned by such stockholder. Percentage of ownership is based upon 361,008,826 shares of Common Stock outstanding as of March 31, 2018. Numbers of shares held by beneficial owners of more than 5% of our Common Stock are as of the date of the applicable SEC filings made by those owners (unless otherwise noted), however, percentages have been recalculated as of March 31, 2018.

| NAME OF BENEFICIAL OWNER | SHARES OWNED | |
|---|--------------|------------|
| | NUMBER | PERCENTAGE |
| Beneficial owners of 5% or more of our Common Stock: | | |

| | | |
|---|-------------|--------|
| Santander Holdings USA, Inc.⁽¹⁾ | 245,593,555 | 68.03% |
|---|-------------|--------|

Directors and NEOs:

| | | |
|---------------------|--------|---|
| Scott Powell | 14,842 | * |
|---------------------|--------|---|

| | | |
|------------------------------------|-------|---|
| Juan Carlos Alvarez de Soto | 3,610 | * |
|------------------------------------|-------|---|

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|---|
| Richard Morrin⁽²⁾ | 207,324 | * |
|-------------------------------------|---------|---|

| | | |
|--|--------|---|
| Christopher Pfirman⁽³⁾ | 41,475 | * |
|--|--------|---|

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------|---|
| Dale Cochran⁽⁴⁾ | 21,780 | * |
|-----------------------------------|--------|---|

| | | |
|----------------------|--|---|
| Mahesh Aditya | | * |
|----------------------|--|---|

| | | |
|--------------------|--|---|
| José Doncel | | * |
|--------------------|--|---|

| | | |
|---|--------|---|
| Stephen A. Ferriss⁽⁵⁾ | 12,847 | * |
|---|--------|---|

Victor Hill *

Edith E. Holiday 3,147 *

Javier Maldonado *

Robert J. McCarthy 6,427 *

William F. Muir 3,147 *

William Rainer 6,427 *

Jason A. Kulas⁽⁶⁾ 438,066 *

Ismail Dawood 91,161 *

All executive officers and directors as a group (17 persons)⁽⁷⁾ 331,881 *

SC 2018 Proxy Statement

59

Table of Contents

152

Table of Contents

ADDITIONAL GOVERNANCE INFORMATION - STOCK OWNERSHIP INFORMATION

*Less than 1% of the outstanding beneficial ownership

- (1) Represents shares owned by SHUSA, 75 State Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02109, a wholly owned subsidiary of Banco Santander.
- (2) Includes 147,981 shares of Common Stock that Mr. Morrin has the right to acquire within 60 days upon the exercise of stock options or the vesting of RSUs.
- (3) Includes 2,595 shares of Common Stock that Mr. Pfirman has the right to acquire within 60 days upon the exercise of stock options or the vesting of RSUs.
- (4) Includes 12,630 shares of Common Stock that Mr. Cochran has the right to acquire within 60 days upon the exercise of stock options or the vesting of RSUs.
- (5) Includes 5,207 shares of Common Stock that Mr. Ferriss has the right to acquire within 60 days upon the exercise of stock options or the vesting of RSUs.
- (6) Includes 20,134 shares of Common Stock that Mr. Kulas has the right to acquire within 60 days upon the exercise of stock options or the vesting of RSUs.
- (7) Only includes the shares beneficially owned by those directors and executive officers serving as of March 31, 2018. Accordingly, the shares of Common Stock that Mr. Kulas, Mr. Dawood, and Mr. Cochran own or have the right to acquire within 60 days upon the exercise of stock options or the vesting of RSUs are not included in this figure. Also, Brian Gunn resigned as a director effective April 19, 2018, at which time he did not beneficially own any Shares of Common Stock; he is not included in this group.

Other Governance Information

Code of Conduct and Ethics

We have adopted the SHUSA Code of Ethics for the CEO and Senior Financial Officers and a related SC Addendum that applies to our CEO and our senior financial officers (the Code of Ethics). The Code of Ethics is publicly available on our website at <http://investors.santanderconsumerusa.com>. We intend to disclose any amendments to or waivers of a provision of the Code of Ethics required to be disclosed by applicable SEC rules by posting such information on our website available at <http://investors.santanderconsumerusa.com> and/or in our public filings with the SEC.

Corporate Governance Guidelines

In performing its role, the Board is guided by our Corporate Governance Guidelines, which establish a framework for the governance of the Board and the management of our Company. The guidelines were adopted by the Board and reflect regulatory requirements and broadly recognized governance best practices, including the NYSE corporate governance listing standards. They are reviewed regularly and updated as appropriate. The full text can be found on our website at <http://investors.santanderconsumerusa.com>.

Director Attendance

During 2017, the Board held 13 meetings. Each incumbent director attended at least 75% of the aggregate number of meetings of the Board and committees of the Board on which he or she served, except for Mr. Maldonado, who attended 69% of the meetings of the Board and committees of the Board on which he served. The Independent Directors met regularly in executive sessions, with our independent Chairman of the Board chairing the sessions of Independent Directors. We encourage all incumbent directors, as well as all nominees for election as director, to attend the Annual Meeting. Mr. Ferriss, Mr. Hill, Ms. Holiday, Mr. Hurley, Mr. Kulas, Mr. Muir, Mr. Powell, and Mr. Rainer attended our 2017 Annual Meeting.

Communication with Directors

Stockholders or other interested parties desiring to communicate with the Board, with our non-management directors, with our Chairman of the Board or the chair of any of the Board committees or with any individual director may do so in writing addressed to Santander Consumer USA Holdings Inc., Attn: (Name of Board Member(s)), c/o Office of the Secretary, 1601 Elm Street, Suite 800, Dallas, Texas 75201, or by e-mail c/o the Office of the Secretary at corporate.secretary@santanderconsumerusa.com.

Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance

Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act requires our directors and executive officers and beneficial owners of more than 10% of our Common Stock to file reports with the SEC with respect to their ownership of Common Stock. Directors, executive officers and persons owning more than 10% of our Common Stock are required to furnish us with copies of all Section 16(a) reports they file.

Based solely on our review of the copies of such reports received by us and any written representations from reporting persons that no other reports were required of those persons, we believe that during 2017 all such reports required to be filed by our directors, executive officers and beneficial owners of more than 10% of our Common Stock were timely filed.

Table of Contents

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Proxy Materials and Voting Information

1. How does the Board recommend that I vote on matters to be considered at the Annual Meeting?

The Board recommends that you vote as follows:

| AGENDA PROPOSAL | DESCRIPTION | BOARD RECOMMENDATION |
|------------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| 1 | Election of Directors | FOR ALL |
| 2 | Ratification of Appointment of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm | FOR |
| 3 | Non-Binding, Advisory Approval of Compensation to NEOs (Say-on-Pay) | FOR |
| 4 | Stockholder Proposal | AGAINST |

2. Who is entitled to vote?

Only holders of record of our Common Stock at the close of business on April 16, 2018, which the Board has set as the record date, are entitled to notice of, and to vote at, the Annual Meeting. As of the record date, we had 361,049,216 shares of Common Stock outstanding and entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting, and our shares of Common Stock were held by approximately 9 stockholders of record. Each holder of record of Common Stock on the record date will be entitled to one vote for each share held on all matters to be voted upon at the Annual Meeting. There are no cumulative voting rights in the election of directors.

3. What constitutes a quorum at the Annual Meeting?

The presence, in person or by proxy, of a majority of the votes entitled to be cast on a matter to be voted on at the Annual Meeting constitutes a quorum for action on that matter. The shares of Common Stock represented by properly executed proxy cards, or properly authenticated voting instructions recorded electronically through the Internet or by telephone, will be counted for purposes of determining the presence of a quorum at the Annual Meeting. Abstentions and broker non-votes will be counted toward fulfillment of quorum requirements. A broker non-vote occurs when a nominee holding shares for a beneficial owner does not vote on a particular proposal because the nominee does not have discretionary voting power with respect to that proposal and has not received instructions from the beneficial owner.

4. How do I vote without attending the Annual Meeting?

Whether you hold shares directly as a stockholder of record or through a broker, trustee, or other nominee, you may direct how your shares are voted without attending the Annual Meeting. You may give voting instructions by the Internet, by telephone or by mail. Instructions are on the proxy card or instruction card. The proxy holders will vote all properly executed proxies that are delivered in response to this solicitation, and not later revoked, in accordance with the instructions given by you.

If you are a stockholder of record on the record date, then your proxy must be received no later than 5:00 P.M. Eastern Time on June 11, 2018 to be counted. If you are the beneficial owner of your shares held through a broker, trustee or other nominee, please follow the instructions of your broker, trustee or other nominee in determining the deadline for submitting your proxy.

5. How can I revoke my proxy?

A stockholder of record who has given a proxy may revoke it at any time prior to its exercise at the Annual Meeting by either (i) giving written notice of revocation to our Corporate Secretary, (ii) properly submitting a duly executed proxy bearing a later date, or (iii) appearing in person at the Annual Meeting and voting in person.

If you are the beneficial owner of shares held through a broker, trustee, or other nominee, you must follow the specific instructions provided to you by your broker, trustee, or other nominee to change or revoke any instructions you have already provided to your broker, trustee, or other nominee.

6. What is the difference between a stockholder of record and a beneficial stockholder of shares held in street name?

If your shares are owned directly in your name in an account with our transfer agent, Computershare, you are considered the stockholder of record of those shares in your account.

If your shares are held in an account with a broker, bank, or other nominee as custodian on your behalf, you are considered a beneficial stockholder of those shares, which are held in street name. The broker, bank, or other nominee is considered the

SC 2018 Proxy Statement

61

Table of Contents

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

stockholder of record for those shares. As the beneficial owner, you have the right to instruct the broker, bank, or other nominee on how to vote the shares in your account.

7. How will you treat my voting instructions?

If you provide specific voting instructions, your shares will be voted as instructed.

If you hold shares as the stockholder of record and sign and return a proxy card or vote by Internet or telephone without giving specific voting instructions, then your shares will be voted in accordance with the recommendations of the Board. The Board recommends (1) a vote for the election of all director nominees, (2) a vote for the ratification of the appointment of PwC as our independent registered public accounting firm, (3) a vote for the non-binding, advisory approval of compensation to NEOs, and (4) a vote against the stockholder proposal. In the event that any director nominee is unavailable for election, such shares may be voted for the election of such substitute nominee or nominees, if any, as the Board may select.

The persons identified as having the authority to vote the proxies granted by the proxy card will also have discretionary authority to vote, to the extent permitted by applicable law, on such other business as may properly come before the Annual Meeting and any postponement or adjournment. The Board is not aware of any other matters that are likely to be brought before the Annual Meeting. If any other matter is properly presented for action at the Annual Meeting, including a proposal to adjourn or postpone the Annual Meeting to permit us to solicit additional proxies in favor of any proposal, the persons named in the proxy card will vote on such matter in their own discretion.

As a beneficial stockholder, you must provide voting instructions to your broker, bank, or other nominee by the deadline provided in the proxy materials you receive from your broker, bank, or other nominee to ensure your shares are voted the way you would like. If you do not provide voting instructions to your broker, bank, or other nominee, whether your shares can be voted on your behalf depends on the type of item being considered for vote. Under NYSE rules, brokers are permitted to exercise discretionary voting authority only on routine matters. Therefore, your broker may vote on Proposal 2 (Ratification of the Appointment of PwC as the Company's Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm for 2018) even if you do not provide voting instructions, because it is considered a routine matter. **Your broker is not permitted to vote on the other Agenda Proposals if you do not provide voting instructions, because those items involve matters that are considered non-routine.**

8. What is a broker non-vote?

If your broker does not receive instructions from you on how to vote your shares and does not have discretion to vote on a proposal because it is a non-routine matter, the broker may return the proxy without voting on that proposal. This is known as a broker non-vote. A broker non-vote with respect to a proposal is treated as not entitled to vote at the meeting with regard to that proposal, and therefore does not have any effect on the outcome of the vote on that proposal.

9. What are the voting requirements to elect directors and to approve each of the proposals?

At the Annual Meeting, stockholders will consider and act upon (1) the election of 10 directors; (2) the ratification of the appointment of our independent registered public accounting firm; (3) the approval, on a non-binding, advisory basis, of NEO compensation; (4) the stockholder proposal; and (5) such other business as may properly come before the Annual Meeting.

Our Bylaws provide that directors are elected by a plurality of the votes cast. This means that the director nominee with the most votes for a particular seat on the Board is elected for that seat. Only votes actually cast will be counted for purposes of determining whether a director nominee received the most votes for a particular seat on the Board. Abstentions and the withholding of authority by a stockholder (including broker non-votes) as to the election of directors (Proposal 1) are not treated as votes cast and thus have no effect on the results of the election.

Under our Bylaws, the ratification of the appointment of our independent registered public accounting firm (Proposal 2); the approval, on an advisory basis, of the compensation paid to the Company's NEOs (Proposal 3); and the stockholder proposal (Proposal 4) must be approved by the affirmative vote of a majority of the votes present in person or represented by proxy at the meeting and entitled to vote on the matter. A broker non-vote with respect to a proposal is treated as not entitled to vote at the meeting with regard to that proposal, and therefore does not have any effect on the outcome of the vote on that proposal. An abstention on any of Proposals 2, 3, or 4 will be treated as a vote against the relevant proposal.

As of March 31, 2018, our directors and executive officers beneficially owned 176,098 shares of Common Stock eligible to be voted at the Annual Meeting, constituting approximately 0.05% of the outstanding Common Stock. In addition, SHUSA, our controlling stockholder and a subsidiary of Banco Santander, owns 245,593,555 shares of Common Stock, constituting approximately 68.03% of the outstanding Common Stock eligible to be voted. We believe that our directors, our executive officers, and SHUSA will vote all of their shares of Common Stock in favor of the election of each of the director nominees, in favor of Proposals 2 and 3, and against Proposal 4, and therefore, the outcome of these matters is reasonably assured.

Table of Contents

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

10. What is householding and how does it affect me?

If you and other persons in your household own shares of our Common Stock as the beneficial owner, your broker or bank may have given notice that your household will receive only one copy of our annual report and proxy statement. This practice is known as householding. Unless you responded to that notice that you did not wish to participate in householding, you would be deemed to have consented to participating, and only one copy of our annual report and Proxy Statement would be sent to your address (however, each stockholder would continue to receive a separate proxy card). This procedure reduces our printing costs and postage fees.

Any stockholder who wishes to receive his or her own set of our annual reports and proxy statements, or who shares an address with another stockholder of the Company and together would like to receive only one set of annual disclosure documents, should contact us at 1601 Elm St., Suite 800, Dallas, Texas 75201 Attention: Corporate Secretary, being sure to supply the names of all stockholders at the same address, the name of the bank or brokerage firm, and the account number(s). You can also reach us at (214) 634-1110. The revocation of consent to householding should be effective 30 days after the notice is received.

Annual Meeting Information

11. Are there any other matters to be voted upon at the Annual Meeting?

We do not know of any matters to be voted on by stockholders at the Annual Meeting other than those included in this Proxy Statement. Your executed proxy gives the proxy holders authority to vote your shares in accordance with their best judgment with respect to any other matter that may properly come before our stockholders at the Annual Meeting in accordance with Rule 14a-4(c) of the SEC's proxy rules, and the proxy holders intend to exercise their judgment accordingly in such circumstances.

12. How can I vote in person at the Annual Meeting?

Shares held in your name as the stockholder of record on the record date may be voted in person at the Annual Meeting. Shares for which you are the beneficial owner but not the stockholder of record may be voted in person at the Annual Meeting only if you obtain a legal proxy from the broker, trustee, or other nominee that holds your shares giving you the right to vote the shares. Even if you plan to attend the Annual Meeting, we recommend that you vote by proxy as described below so that your vote will be counted if you later decide not to attend the Annual Meeting.

The vote you cast in person will supersede any previous votes that you may have submitted, whether by Internet, telephone, or mail.

13. How can I attend the Annual Meeting?

To attend the Annual Meeting, you must be a holder of our Common Stock as of the record date of April 16, 2018, and request an admission ticket in advance by following the instructions below.

Edgar Filing: Santander Consumer USA Holdings Inc. - Form DEF 14A

If your shares are owned directly in your name in an account with Computershare, our stock transfer agent, you must provide your name and address as shown on your account or voting materials with your admission ticket request. If you hold your shares in an account with a broker, bank, or other nominee, you must include proof of your stock ownership, such as a copy of the portion of your Notice or proxy card that shows your name and address or a letter from your broker, bank, or other nominee confirming your stock ownership as of April 16, 2018. The e-mail notification received with electronic delivery of proxy materials is not sufficient proof of stock ownership.

Please send your Annual Meeting admission ticket request and proof of stock ownership as described above to the Office of the Secretary by one of the following methods:

Email: corporate.secretary@santanderconsumerusa.com

Mail: Santander Consumer USA Holdings Inc.
Office of the Corporate Secretary
1601 Elm Street, Suite 800
Dallas, Texas 75201

Ticket requests must be received no later than June 5, 2018. Please include your mailing address as well as your e-mail address or telephone number in your email or mail communication in case we need to contact you regarding your ticket request. You will receive your admission ticket by mail. On the day of the meeting, each stockholder must have an admission ticket to enter the meeting. Along with the admission ticket, each stockholder will be required to present a form of government-issued photo identification, such as a driver's license or passport. The admission ticket is not transferable.

Large bags, backpacks and packages, suitcases, briefcases, personal communication devices (e.g., cell phones, smartphones, and tablets), cameras, recording equipment, and other electronic devices will not be permitted in the meeting, and attendees will be subject to a security inspection.

Table of Contents

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Stockholder Proposals and Company Information

14. How can I submit a stockholder proposal for the 2019 Annual Meeting?

Stockholder proposals submitted pursuant to SEC Rule 14a-8 for inclusion in our 2019 proxy statement and action at our 2019 Annual Stockholder Meeting (the "2019 Annual Meeting") must be received by us at our executive offices at 1601 Elm St., Suite 800, Dallas, Texas 75201, Attention: Office of the Secretary, no later than the close of business 120 calendar days before the one-year anniversary of the date of this Proxy Statement's release to stockholders in connection with the 2018 Annual Meeting. As a result, any notice given by a stockholder pursuant to SEC Rule 14a-8 must be received no later than December 31, 2018. If, however, the 2019 Annual Meeting takes place more than 30 days before or after June 12, 2019, then the deadline for stockholder proposals submitted pursuant to SEC Rule 14a-8 for inclusion in our 2019 proxy statement and acted upon at our 2019 Annual Meeting shall be a date that we determine to be a reasonable time before we begin to print and send our Proxy Materials. In this event, we will disclose this deadline in a public filing with the SEC.

Stockholder proposals submitted for consideration at the 2019 Annual Meeting but not submitted pursuant to SEC Rule 14a-8, including stockholder nominations for candidates for election as directors, generally must be delivered to the Secretary at our executive offices not later than 90 days or earlier than 120 days before the first anniversary of the date of the 2018 Annual Meeting. As a result, any notice given by a stockholder pursuant to the provisions of our Bylaws (other than notice pursuant to SEC Rule 14a-8) must be received no earlier than February 12, 2019 and no later than March 14, 2019. However, if the date of the 2019 Annual Meeting occurs more than 30 days before or more than 60 days after June 12, 2019, notice by the stockholder of a proposal must be delivered no earlier than the close of business on the 120th day prior to the date of such Annual Meeting and no later than the close of business on the 90th day prior to the date of such Annual Meeting or, if the first public announcement of the date of the Annual Meeting is less than 100 days prior to the date of such Annual Meeting, the 10th day following the day on which we first make a public announcement of the date of the Annual Meeting. Stockholder proposals or nominations must include the specified information concerning the stockholder and the proposal or nominee as described in our Bylaws. The chairman of the Annual Meeting may refuse to acknowledge or introduce any stockholder proposal or nomination if notice thereof is not received within the applicable deadlines or does not comply with our Bylaws. If a stockholder fails to meet these deadlines or fails to satisfy the requirements of our Bylaws, the persons named as proxies will be allowed to use their discretionary voting authority to vote on any such proposal or nomination as they determine appropriate if and when the matter is raised at the Annual Meeting.

15. Who pays for this proxy solicitation?

Proxies will be solicited from our stockholders by mail and through the Internet. We will pay all expenses in connection with the solicitation, including postage, printing, and handling, and the expenses incurred by brokers, custodians, nominees, and fiduciaries in forwarding proxy material to beneficial owners. We may engage a proxy solicitation firm to solicit proxies in connection with the Annual Meeting, and we estimate that the fee payable for such services would be less than \$10,000. It is possible that our directors, officers, and other employees may make further solicitations personally, electronically, or by telephone, facsimile, or mail. Our directors, officers, and other

employees will receive no additional compensation for any such further solicitations.

16. How can I obtain a copy of the Annual Report on Form 10-K?

Upon written request, we will provide to you by mail a free copy of our Annual Report on Form 10-K (including financial statements and financial statement schedules) for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017.

Please direct your request to 1601 Elm St., Suite 800, Dallas, Texas 75201 Attention: Corporate Secretary. The Annual Report on Form 10-K may also be accessed on our website at <http://investors.santanderconsumerusa.com>.

By Order of the Board,

Christopher Pfirman

Chief Legal Officer, General Counsel, and Corporate Secretary

Table of Contents

ANNEX A

ANNEX A

Reconciliation of Non-GAAP Financial Measures

We provide certain non-GAAP financial measures in this Proxy Statement that are not in accordance with, or are alternatives to, GAAP that management believes will assist users of SC's financial information by excluding items that management does not believe reflect SC's fundamental business performance or results of operations. Our Non-GAAP financial measures of adjusted net income, adjusted ROA, and adjusted ROE are calculated as shown below. The GAAP measures most directly comparable to adjusted net income, adjusted ROA, and adjusted ROE are net income, ROA, and ROE, respectively.

| | For the Year Ended December 31, 2017 |
|--|---|
| | (Dollar amounts in thousands, except per-share amounts) |
| | (\$) |
| GAAP Operating Expenses | 1,311,436 |
| Deduct: Legal Reserves | 91,000 |
| Deduct: Settlement with former CEO Thomas G. Dundon | 66,115 |
| Adjusted Operating Expenses, excluding significant items | 1,154,321 |
| | 823,514 |

GAAP Pre-Tax Income

| | |
|---------------------|--------|
| Add: Legal Reserves | 91,000 |
|---------------------|--------|

| | |
|--|--------|
| Add: Settlement with former CEO Thomas G. Dundon | 66,115 |
|--|--------|

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------|
| Deduct: Gain on RV/Marine Portfolio | 35,927 |
|-------------------------------------|--------|

| | |
|--|---------|
| Adjusted Pre-Tax Income, excluding significant items | 944,702 |
|--|---------|

| | |
|-----------------|-----------|
| GAAP Net Income | 1,187,606 |
|-----------------|-----------|

Adjustments for significant items:

| | |
|---|---------|
| Deduct: Tax Reform and other tax related items (a) | 652,366 |
|---|---------|

| | |
|---|--------|
| Deduct: Gain on RV/Marine Portfolio (after tax) | 23,353 |
|---|--------|

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------|
| Add: Legal reserves (after tax) | 72,100 |
|---------------------------------|--------|

| | |
|--|--------|
| Add: Settlement with former CEO Thomas G. Dundon (after tax) | 42,975 |
|--|--------|

| | |
|--|---------|
| Adjusted Net Income, excluding significant items | 626,962 |
|--|---------|

| | |
|---|------|
| GAAP Diluted Earnings per common share ^(b) | 3.30 |
|---|------|

| | |
|--|------|
| Adjusted Diluted Earnings per common share, excluding significant items ^(b) | 1.74 |
|--|------|

Adjusted Selected Ratios

| | |
|--|------|
| GAAP Return on Average Assets ^(b) | 3.0% |
|--|------|

| | |
|---|------|
| Adjusted Return on Average Assets, excluding significant items ^(b) | 1.6% |
|---|------|

| | |
|----------------|------------|
| Average Assets | 39,163,887 |
|----------------|------------|

| | |
|--|-------|
| GAAP Return on Average Equity ^(b) | 21.0% |
|--|-------|

| | |
|--|-------|
| | 11.1% |
|--|-------|

Adjusted Return on Average Equity, excluding significant items ^(b)

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Average adjusted Equity excluding significant items | 5,628,906 |
|---|-----------|

(a) Includes net tax benefit due to re-measurement of all deferred tax assets and deferred tax liabilities at a federal tax rate of 21% (as compared to 35%). Additionally, during the three months ended December 31, 2017, we changed the classification of earnings from SCI, and no longer intend to permanently reinvest SCI's earnings. As a result of this change, we recognized \$55.7 million of additional income tax expense during the three months ended December 31, 2017 to record the applicable U.S. deferred income tax liability.

(b) These ratios correspond with the GAAP net income and adjusted net income (excluding significant items) shown above, divided by average assets, average equity, or weighted average number of common shares outstanding, as applicable.

Table of Contents

Table of Contents

ANNUAL MEETING OF SANTANDER CONSUMER USA HOLDINGS INC.

Date: June 12, 2018
Time: 2:00 P.M. (Local Time)
Place: 1601 Elm Street, Suite 800, Dallas, TX 75201

Please make your marks like this: Use dark black pencil or pen only

The Board of Directors Recommends a Vote FOR the election of the nominees for director and FOR proposals 2 and 3, and AGAINST proposal 4.

| 1: Election of Directors | | | | Directors Recommend |
|--|------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------------------------|
| | For | Withhold | | |
| 01 Mahesh Aditya | | | ä | For |
| 02 José Doncel | | | | For |
| 03 Stephen A. Ferriss | | | | For |
| 04 Victor Hill | | | | For |
| 05 Edith E. Holiday | | | | For |
| 06 Javier Maldonado | | | | For |
| 07 Robert J. McCarthy | | | | For |
| 08 William F. Muir | | | | For |
| 09 Scott Powell | | | | For |
| 10 William Rainer | | | | For |
| | For | Against | Abstain | |
| 2: To ratify the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the current fiscal year. | | | | For |
| 3: To approve, on a non-binding, advisory basis named executive officer compensation. | For | Against | Abstain | For |
| 4: Stockholder proposal requesting that the Board of Directors prepare a report related to the monitoring and management of certain risks related to vehicle lending. | For | Against | Abstain | Against |

5: Includes authorization to vote upon any business as may properly come before the Annual Meeting, or any adjournment or postponement thereof, in accordance with the terms of our Third Amended and Restated Bylaws.

Authorized Signatures - This section must be completed for your Instructions to be executed.

Please Sign Here

Please Date Above

Please Sign Here

Please Date Above

Please sign exactly as your name(s) appears on your stock certificate. If held in joint tenancy, all persons should sign. Trustees, administrators, etc., should include title and authority. Corporations should provide full name of corporation and title of authorized officer signing the proxy.

Annual Meeting of Santander Consumer USA Holdings Inc.

to be held on Tuesday, June 12, 2018

for Holders as of April 16, 2018

This proxy is being solicited on behalf of the Board of Directors

INTERNET

VOTE BY:

TELEPHONE

Go To

www.proxypush.com/sc

Cast your vote online.
View Meeting Documents.

OR

855-782-8499

Use any touch-tone telephone.
Have your Proxy Card/Voting Instruction Form ready.

MAIL

Follow the simple recorded instructions.

OR

Mark, sign and date your Proxy Card/Voting Instruction Form.
Detach your Proxy Card/Voting Instruction Form.
Return your Proxy Card/Voting Instruction Form in the postage-paid envelope provided.

The undersigned hereby appoints Scott Powell and Christopher Pfirman, and each or either of them, as the true and lawful attorneys of the undersigned, with full power of substitution and revocation, and authorizes them, and each of them, to vote all the shares of capital stock of Santander Consumer USA Holdings Inc. which the undersigned is

entitled to vote at said meeting and any adjournment or postponement thereof upon the matters specified and upon such other matters as may be properly brought before the meeting or any adjournment or postponement thereof, conferring authority upon such true and lawful attorneys to vote in their discretion on such other matters as may properly come before the meeting and revoking any proxy heretofore given.

THE SHARES REPRESENTED BY THIS PROXY WILL BE VOTED AS DIRECTED OR, IF NO DIRECTION IS GIVEN, SHARES WILL BE VOTED FOR THE ELECTION OF THE DIRECTORS IN PROPOSAL 1, FOR PROPOSALS 2 AND 3, AND AGAINST PROPOSAL 4, AND AUTHORITY WILL BE DEEMED GRANTED TO VOTE UPON ANY BUSINESS AS MAY PROPERLY COME BEFORE THE ANNUAL MEETING, OR ANY ADJOURNMENT OR POSTPONEMENT THEREOF, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF OUR THIRD AMENDED AND RESTATED BYLAWS.

All votes must be received by 5:00 P.M., Eastern Time, June 11, 2018.

PROXY TABULATOR FOR

**SANTANDER CONSUMER USA HOLDINGS INC.
P.O. BOX 8016
CARY, NC 27512-9903**



EVENT #

CLIENT #

Table of Contents

**Proxy Santander Consumer USA Holdings Inc.
Annual Meeting of Stockholders
June 12, 2018 2:00 P.M. (Local Time)
This Proxy is Solicited on Behalf of the Board of Directors**

The undersigned appoints Scott Powell and Christopher Pfirman (the Named Proxies) and each of them as proxies for the undersigned, with full power of substitution, to vote the shares of common stock of Santander Consumer USA Holdings Inc., a Delaware corporation (the Company), the undersigned is entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting of Stockholders of the Company to be held at the offices of Santander Consumer USA Holdings Inc., at 1601 Elm Street, Suite 800, Dallas, Texas 75201, on June 12, 2018 at 2:00 P.M. (Local Time) and all adjournments or postponements thereof.

The Board of Directors of the Company recommends a vote FOR all nominees for director, FOR proposal 2 and 3, and AGAINST proposal 4.

This proxy, when properly executed, will be voted in the manner directed herein. If no direction is made, this proxy will be voted FOR all nominees for director, FOR proposal 2 and 3, and AGAINST proposal 4. In their discretion, the Named Proxies are authorized to vote upon such other matters that may properly come before the Annual Meeting or any adjournment or postponement thereof.

You are encouraged to specify your choice by marking the appropriate box (SEE REVERSE SIDE) but you need not mark any box if you wish to vote in accordance with the Board of Directors recommendation. The Named Proxies cannot vote your shares unless you sign and return this card.