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October 30, 2024

John M. Nolan Chair, Member Selection Committee American College of Real Estate Lawyers 220 N. Market Street, Suite 100 Frederick, MD 21701

## Re: Nomination of Michael J. Rishty for ACREL Membership

Dear Mr. Nolan:

It is with great pleasure that I nominate my friend Michael J. Rishty for membership in the American College of Real Estate Lawyers. Michael fulfills all of the criteria for membership in ACREL:

- Michael is a distinguished practitioner of real estate law, particularly in the areas of real estate acquisitions, dispositions, development, joint ventures. financing, restructuring and leasing and he has practiced for more than 10 years.
- He is licensed to practice law in the highest court of the State of New York.
- He has an outstanding reputation for excellence, professional integrity and civility in the practice of law, is well known to be a person of excellent moral character and satisfies ACREL's Statement of Professionalism.
- Michael has given back to the community at multiple levels as discussed below.

Michael and I know each other for about 10 years. We first became acquainted when Michael was at Greenberg Traurig. Over the years, Michael and I have worked together on numerous matters as counsel to different parties; however, I would never describe our relationship as that of adversaries. Regardless of whether you represent different parties with differing interests in a transaction that Michael is involved in, Michael operates on a completely cooperative, non-adversarial, civil and friendly basis consistent with one of ACREL's basic precepts.

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In furtherance of my nomination of Michael, please note the following as examples of how Michael gives back to the community:

- 1. Michael serves as a trustee of the Citizens Budget Commission, a wellknown and highly regarded non-partisan, not for profit civic organization that monitors the New York City and New York State budgets and tries to achieve constructive improvement in New York.
- 2. Michael is the President of and provides pro bono legal services to the SAM School.
- 3. Michael is regularly quoted in a variety of legal and real estate publications on real estate topics.
- 4. Michael has spoken at a variety of conferences and events and given internal presentations at his firms and external client presentations over the years.

I recommend Michael for membership in ACREL without hesitation. He is a huge asset to the New York real estate legal community as well as to the real estate business community and I am certain that he will also be a huge asset to ACREL.

Sincerely,

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Jeffrey A. Moerdler, Member and Chair of New York Real Estate and Communications Sections