Resource Capital Corp. Form DEF 14A April 18, 2013

## 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 [X]

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))
- [X] Definitive Proxy Statement
- [ ] Definitive Additional Materials
- [ ] Soliciting Material Pursuant to §240.14a-12

RESOURCE CAPITAL CORP.

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

N/A

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if Other Than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

[X] 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:

# **RESOURCE CAPITAL CORP.**

712 Fifth Avenue New York, NY 10019

# NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

### To be held on Thursday, June 6, 2013

To the Stockholders of RESOURCE CAPITAL CORP.:

Notice is hereby given that the annual meeting of stockholders of RESOURCE CAPITAL CORP., a Maryland corporation, will be held at One Crescent Drive, Suite 203, Navy Yard Corporate Center, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on Thursday, June 6, 2013, at 1:00 p.m. (the Meeting ), for the following purposes:

- 1. To elect the ten directors named in the enclosed proxy statement to serve until the next annual meeting of stockholders in 2014;
- 2. To ratify the appointment of Grant Thornton LLP as the independent registered public accounting firm for Resource Capital Corp. for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2013; and
- 3. To transact such other business as may properly be brought before the Meeting and any adjournment, postponement or continuation thereof.

Only stockholders of record on our books at the close of business on April 15, 2013, which we refer to as the record date, will be entitled to notice of and to vote at the Meeting or any adjournment thereof. A list of stockholders entitled to vote at the Meeting will be available for inspection at the Meeting and for 10 days before the Meeting at our offices at 712 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York 10019. The stock transfer books will not be closed.

By order of the Board of Directors, Michael S. Yecies, Secretary April 18, 2013

# YOUR VOTE IS IMPORTANT

Whether or not you plan to attend the Meeting, and whatever the number of shares you own, please complete, sign, date and promptly return the enclosed proxy card. Please use the accompanying return envelope, which requires no postage if mailed in the United States.

If you plan to attend the Meeting, you need to bring a form of personal identification with you. If your stock is held of record by a bank, broker or other nominee, you also need to bring an account statement indicating that you beneficially own the shares as of the record date, or a letter from the record holder indicating that you beneficially own the shares as of the record date, and, if you wish to vote at the meeting, you must first obtain from the record holder a proxy issued in your name.

# **IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING INTERNET AVAILABILITY OF PROXY MATERIALS FOR ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS TO BE HELD ON JUNE 6, 2013:** The proxy statement and our 2012 annual report are available at <u>http://phx.corporate-ir.net/phoenix.zhtml?c=192004&p=proxy</u>.

# **RESOURCE CAPITAL CORP.**

712 Fifth Avenue New York, NY 10019

PROXY STATEMENT

ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

TO BE HELD ON THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 2013

#### **ABOUT THE MEETING**

**Solicitation of Proxies**. This proxy statement and the accompanying proxy are furnished to stockholders of Resource Capital Corp. in connection with the solicitation by our Board of Directors, which we refer to as the Board, of proxies for use at the 2013 annual meeting of stockholders of Resource Capital Corp. to be held on June 6, 2013, at 1:00 p.m., which we refer to as the Meeting, at One Crescent Drive, Suite 203, Navy Yard Corporate Center, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and at any and all adjournments thereof.

**Mailing Date**. In accordance with rules and regulations adopted by the SEC, instead of mailing a printed copy of our proxy materials to each stockholder of record, we are now furnishing proxy materials to our stockholders on the Internet. If you received a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials by mail, you will not receive a printed copy of the proxy materials, unless specifically requested. Instead, the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials will instruct you as to how you may access and review all of the important information contained in the proxy materials. The Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials also instructs you as to how you may submit your proxy via the internet, telephone or by mail. If you received a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials by mail and would like to receive a printed copy of our proxy materials, you should follow the instructions for requesting such materials included in the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials.

It is anticipated that the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials will be mailed to stockholders on or about April 18, 2013.

Who Can Vote. Only stockholders of record at the close of business on April 15, 2013 will be entitled to notice of and to vote at the Meeting. Each of the approximately 124,531,623 shares of our common stock issued and outstanding on that date is entitled to one vote at the Meeting.

**How to Vote Proxy Instructions**. If you are a holder of record of Resource Capital Corp. common stock, you may vote your shares over the Internet, by telephone, by using a traditional proxy card or in person at the Meeting. Refer to the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials or your proxy or voting instruction card to see which options are available to you and how to use them. Stockholders who hold their shares in street name will receive a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials from the institution that holds their shares and should follow the voting instructions given by that institution.

You may specify whether your shares should be voted for all, some or none of the nominees for director (Proposal 1); and you may further specify whether your shares should be voted for, against or abstain on the ratification of the appointment of Grant Thornton LLP (Proposal 2) as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2013.

If you do not specify how you want to vote your shares on your proxy card, or you indicate when voting on the Internet or by telephone that you wish to vote as recommended by the Board of Directors, and your shares are not designated as broker non-votes, we will vote them For the election of all nominees for director as set forth under Proposal 1 below and For ratification of approval of Grant Thornton LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2013 as set forth under Proposal 2 below.

# Edgar Filing: Resource Capital Corp. - Form DEF 14A

**Broker Non-Votes**. A broker non-vote occurs when a nominee, such as a bank or broker, holding shares for a beneficial owner, does not vote on a particular proposal because the nominee does not have discretionary voting power for that particular item and has not received instructions from the beneficial

owner. Generally banks and brokers may vote their customers shares on proposals considered routine and may not vote their customers shares on proposals that are not considered routine if the customers have not furnished voting instructions within a specified period of time prior to the annual meeting. Proposal 1 described below is not considered a routine matter. Proposal 2 described below is considered a routine matter.

Revocation of Proxies. If you are a holder of record, you may revoke your proxy at any time before it is exercised in any of three ways:

- 1) by submitting written notice of revocation to our Secretary;
- 2) by submitting another proxy by mail that is later dated and properly signed; or
- 3) by voting in person at the Meeting.

If your shares are held in street name, you must contact your broker or nominee to revoke and vote your proxy.

**Quorum.** A quorum of stockholders is necessary to hold a valid meeting. A quorum will exist if the holders representing a majority of the votes entitled to be cast by the stockholders at the Meeting are present, in person or by proxy. Broker non-votes and abstentions are counted as present at the Meeting for purposes of determining the existence of a quorum, but since they are neither a vote cast in favor of, nor a vote cast opposing, a proposed action, abstentions and broker non-votes typically will not be counted as a vote cast on any matter.

**Required Vote.** In order to be elected as a director as described in Proposal 1 below, a nominee must receive a plurality of all of the votes cast at the Meeting at which a quorum is present. The plurality standard means the nominees who receive the largest number of for votes cast are elected as directors. Thus, the number of shares not voted for the election of a nominee (and the number of withhold votes cast with respect to that nominee) will not affect the determination of whether that nominee has received the necessary votes for election. If any nominee is unable or declines to serve, proxies will be voted for the balance of those named and for such person as shall be designated by the Board to replace any such nominee. However, the Board does not anticipate that this will occur.

In order to ratify the appointment of Grant Thornton as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2013, as described in Proposal 2 below, the affirmative vote of the holders of at least a majority of the votes cast at the Meeting at which a quorum is present is required, either in person or by proxy. The shares not voted for approval and abstentions will be counted as votes against the ratification.

**Other Business**. We do not intend to bring any business before the meeting other than that set forth in the Notice of the Annual Meeting and described in this proxy statement. However, if any other business should properly come before the meeting, the persons named in the proxy card intend to vote in accordance with their best judgment on such business and on any matters dealing with the conduct of the meeting pursuant to the discretionary authority granted in the proxy.

**Costs**. We pay for the preparation and mailing of the Notice of the Annual Meeting and proxy statement. We have also made arrangements with brokerage firms and other custodians, nominees, and fiduciaries for forwarding proxy-soliciting materials to the beneficial owners of our common stock at our expense.

**Stockholders Sharing an Address.** Stockholders sharing an address with another stockholder may receive only one annual report or one set of proxy materials at that address unless they have provided contrary instructions. Any such stockholder who wishes to receive a separate copy of the annual report or a separate set of proxy materials now or in the future may write or call us to request a separate copy of these materials from: Investor Relations, 712 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10019; telephone number (212) 506-3870. We will promptly deliver a copy of the requested materials. Similarly, stockholders who have received multiple copies of the proxy materials, and share an address with another stockholder, may write the above address or call the above phone number to request delivery of a single copy of these materials.

### SECURITY OWNERSHIP

The following table sets forth the number and percentage of shares of common stock owned, as of April 15, 2013, by (a) each person who, to our knowledge, is the beneficial owner of more than 5% of the outstanding shares of common stock, (b) each of our present directors and director nominees, (c) each of our executive officers and (d) all of our named executive officers and directors as a group. This information is reported in accordance with the beneficial ownership rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission under which a person is deemed to be the beneficial owner of a security if that person has or shares voting power or investment power with respect to such security or has the right to acquire such ownership within 60 days. Shares of common stock issuable pursuant to options or warrants are deemed to be outstanding for purposes of computing the percentage of the person or group holding such options or warrants but are not deemed to be outstanding for purposes of computing the percentage of any other person.

Executive officers and directors: <sup>(2)</sup>	Shares owned	Percentage
Walter T. Beach <sup>(4)(5)</sup>	391,939	*
Edward E. Cohen <sup>(1)(3)(6)</sup>	625,053	*
Jonathan Z. Cohen <sup>(1)(3)(6)</sup>	1,461,762	1.17%
Richard L. Fore <sup>(5)</sup>	5,231	*
William B. Hart <sup>(5)</sup>	43,596	*
Gary Ickowicz <sup>(5)</sup>	26,279	*
Steven J. Kessler <sup>(1)(3)</sup>	150,842	*
Murray S. Levin <sup>(5)</sup>	37,596	*
P. Sherrill Neff <sup>(5)</sup>	12,947	*
Stephanie H. Wiggins <sup>(7)</sup>	0	*
Jeffrey D. Blomstrom <sup>(1)(3)</sup>	272,538	*
David E. Bloom <sup>(1)(3)</sup>	393,519	*
Jeffrey F. Brotman <sup>(3)</sup>	274,002	*
David J. Bryant <sup>(1)(3)</sup>	173,371	*
All executive officers and directors as a group (14 persons)	3,568,675	2.86%

<sup>\*</sup> Less than 1%.

<sup>(1)</sup> Includes stock options to purchase common shares granted to certain officers and directors as follows: Mr. Blomstrom 10,000; Mr. Bloom 100,000; Mr. Bryant 10,000; Mr. E. Cohen 25,000; Mr. J. Cohen 100,000; and Mr. Kessler 10,000.

<sup>(2)</sup> The address for all of our executive officers and directors is c/o Resource Capital Corp., 712 Fifth Avenue, 12th Floor, New York, New York 10019.

<sup>(3)</sup> Includes unvested restricted stock as follows: (i) Mr. Blomstrom - 147,458 shares; Mr. Bloom - 150,367 shares; Mr. Brotman - 159,463 shares; Mr. Bryant - 67,911 shares; Mr. E. Cohen - 50,933 shares; Mr. J. Cohen - 508,264 shares; and Mr. Kessler - 22,887 shares; all of these shares vest 33.3% per year; (ii) Mr. Brotman - 83,102 shares; Mr. J. Cohen - 138,504 shares; and Mr. Kessler - 13,850 shares; all of these shares vest in full on January 26, 2014; (iii) Mr. Blomstrom - 82,987 shares; Mr. Bloom - 27,662 shares; and Mr. Bryant - 27,662 shares; all of these shares vest in full on February 8, 2014. Each such person has the right to receive distributions on and vote, but not to transfer, all such shares.

<sup>(4)</sup> Includes (i) 346,459 shares purchased by Beach Asset Management, LLC, Beach Investment Counsel, Inc. and/or Beach Investment Management, LLC, investment management firms for which Mr. Beach is a principal for themselves or accounts managed by them and for which Mr. Beach possesses investment and/or voting power. The address for these investment management firms is Five Tower Bridge,

# Edgar Filing: Resource Capital Corp. - Form DEF 14A

300 Barr Harbor Drive, Suite 220, West Conshohocken, Pennsylvania 19428.

(5) Includes (i) 3,393 shares of restricted stock issued to each of Messrs Beach, Hart, Levin and Neff on March 8, 2013 which vest on March 8, 2014; (ii) 3,582 shares of restricted stock issued to Mr. Ickowicz on February 1,

2013, which vest on February 1, 2014; (iii) 2,615 shares of restricted stock issued to each of Messrs. Beach and Neff on March 12, 2013 which vest of March 12, 2014; (iv) 5,231 shares of restricted stock issued to Mr. Fore on March 12, 2013 which vest on March 12, 2014; and (v) 1,868 shares of restricted stock issued to each of Messrs. Hart, Ickowicz and Levin on March 12, 2013 which vest on March 12, 2014; 2014. Each non-employee director has the right to receive distributions on and vote, but not to transfer, such shares.

- (6) Includes 300,000 shares held by a private charitable foundation of which Messrs. E. Cohen and J. Cohen serve as co-trustees. Messrs. E. Cohen and J. Cohen disclaim beneficial ownership of these shares.
- (7) Ms. Wiggins is a director nominee.

## Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance

Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 requires our officers, directors and persons who own more than 10% of a registered class of our equity securities to file reports of ownership and changes in ownership with the SEC and to furnish us with copies of all such reports. Based solely on our review of the reports received by us, we believe that, during fiscal 2012, our officers, directors and greater than ten percent stockholders complied with all applicable filings requirements.

## **PROPOSAL 1: ELECTION OF DIRECTORS**

The Board, upon the recommendation of its Nominating and Governance Committee, has nominated Messrs. Walter T. Beach, Edward E. Cohen, Jonathan Z. Cohen, Richard L. Fore, William B. Hart, Gary Ickowicz, Steven J. Kessler, Murray S. Levin, P. Sherrill Neff and Ms. Stephanie H. Wiggins to serve as our directors until the next annual meeting of stockholders or until their respective successors are duly elected and qualified. The stockholders have the right to annually elect all ten director nominees to our Board.

The persons named in the enclosed proxy intend, in the absence of a contrary direction, to vote for Messrs. Beach, E. Cohen, J. Cohen, Fore, Hart, Ickowicz, Kessler, Levin, Neff and Ms. Wiggins. The Board knows of no reason why any nominee would be unable or unwilling to serve, but if any nominee should be unable or unwilling to serve, the proxies will be voted for the election of such other person for director as the Nominating and Governance Committee of the Board may recommend in the place of such nominee. **The Board of Directors recommends that stockholders vote FOR all of the nominees.** 

Information is set forth below regarding the principal occupation of each Board nominee. There are no family relationships among the nominees except that Jonathan Z. Cohen, our President and Chief Executive Officer and a director, is a son of Edward E. Cohen, a director and our former Chairman.

### **Nominees for Election**

*Walter T. Beach*, age 46, has been a director since March 2005. Mr. Beach has been Managing Director of Beach Investment Counsel, Inc., an investment firm, since 1997. From 1993 to 1997, Mr. Beach was a Senior Analyst and Director of Research at Widmann, Siff and Co., Inc., an investment management firm where, beginning in 1994, he was responsible for the firm s investment decisions for its principal equity product. Before that he was an associate and financial analyst at Essex Financial Group, a consulting and merchant banking firm, and an analyst at Industry Analysis Group, an industry and economic consulting firm. Mr. Beach has served as a director of The Bancorp, Inc., a publicly-traded (NASDAQ: TBBK) bank holding company, and its subsidiary bank, The Bancorp Bank, since 1999. Mr. Beach has also served as a director of Institutional Financial Markets, Inc. and its predecessor, Cohen & Company, a publicly-traded (NYSE MKT: IFMI) financial services company specializing in credit related fixed income investments, since December 2009.

*Edward E. Cohen*, age 74, has been a director since March 2005 and was our Chairman from March 2005 to November 2009. Mr. Cohen is Chairman of Resource America, the corporate parent of our manager, a position he has held since 1990. He was Resource America s Chief Executive Officer from 1988 to 2004 and its President from 2000 to 2003. He has been the Chief Executive Officer of Atlas Energy GP, LLC, the general partner of Atlas Energy, L.P. (formerly known as Atlas Pipeline Holdings, L.P.), a publicly-traded (NYSE:ATLS) energy limited partnership, from its formation in December 2005

until February 2009, Chief Executive Officer and President since February 2011 and Chairman from December 2005 through February 2011. He was also the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Atlas America, Inc., a publicly-traded energy company, from its formation in 2000 until its sale in February 2011, and was President from September 2000 to October 2009. He has also been the Chairman of the Managing Board of Atlas Pipeline Partners GP, LLC, the general partner of Atlas Pipeline Partners, L.P., a publicly-traded (NYSE: APL) midstream natural gas gathering and processing limited partnership, since its formation in 1999, and was Chief Executive Officer from 1999 to January 2009. He has also been the Chairman of the Management Board and Chief Executive Officer from 1999 to January 2009. He has also been the Chairman of the Managing Board and Chief Executive Committee of Atlas Resource Partners GP, LLC, the general partner of Atlas Resource Partners, L.P., a publicly-traded (NYSE: ARP) oil and gas exploration and production limited partnership, since February 2012.

*Jonathan Z. Cohen*, age 42, has been our Chief Executive Officer, President and a director since March 2005. Mr. Cohen has been President since 2003, Chief Executive Officer since 2004 and a director since 2002 of Resource America. He was Chief Operating Officer of Resource America from 2002 to 2004, Executive Vice President from 2001 to 2003, and a Senior Vice President from 1999 to 2001. He has been the Executive Chairman of Atlas Energy GP, LLC since January 2012, was Chairman from February 2011 to January 2012 and Vice Chairman from its formation in December 2005 to February 2011. He was also the Vice Chairman of Atlas America, Inc. from its formation in 2000 to its sale in February 2011. He has also been the Vice Chairman of the Managing Board of Atlas Pipeline Partners GP, LLC since its formation in 1999. He has also been the Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors of Atlas Resource Partners, GP, LLC since February 2012.

*Richard L. Fore*, age 68, has been a director since March 2013. Mr. Fore has been Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Fore Property Company, a national real estate development company that builds, owns and manages multi-family residences throughout the United States, since 1994. Prior to founding Fore Property Company, he was a partner at Lincoln Property Company. Mr. Fore co-founded the National Multi Housing Council, the leading trade association in the apartment industry, in 1978. He was also appointed to the Presidential Housing Commission by President Reagan. Mr. Fore also served in the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development during the President Nixon and President Ford administrations.

*William B. Hart*, age 69, has been a director since March 2005. Mr. Hart was Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the National Trust for Historic Preservation from 1999 to 2004. He was also a director of Anthem, Inc. (now Wellpoint, Inc.), a publicly-traded (NYSE: WLP) health insurance company, from 2000 to 2004. Mr. Hart was Director of SIS Bancorp from 1995 to 2000. From 1988 to 1999, Mr. Hart served in various positions with Blue Cross/Blue Shield of New Hampshire, ending as Chairman of the Audit Committee and Chairman of the Board of Directors from 1996 to 1999. He also served as President of the Foundation for the National Capital Region, Washington, DC, from 1993 to 1996 and President of The Dunfey Group, a private investment firm, from 1986 to 1998. From 1986 to 1994 he was a director of First NH Banks where he was Chairman of the Audit Committee from 1992 to 1994.

*Gary Ickowicz*, age 57, has been a director since February 2007. Mr. Ickowicz has been the Managing Partner of IR Capital LLC, a real estate company that owns and operates real estate assets in the New York Metropolitan area since 2008. He was a Managing Principal of Lazard Freres Real Estate Investors, a manager of funds invested in debt and equity securities of North American real estate assets and enterprises from 2001 to 2011. He was a director of Lazard Freres s real estate investment banking unit from 1989 through 2001. Since 2000 he has been a director of Grant Street Settlement, and since 2002 he has been a director of NCC/Neumann, both not-for-profit developers of senior housing. From 2001 to 2011, he was a director of Commonwealth Atlantic Properties, Inc., a privately-held REIT. From 2001 to 2006 he was a director of Kimsouth, Inc., a joint venture with Kimco Realty Corporation, a publicly-traded (NYSE: KIM) REIT.

*Steven J. Kessler*, age 70, has been our Chairman since November 2009 and was our Senior Vice President - Finance from September 2005 to November 2009 and, before that, served as our Chief Financial Officer, Chief Accounting Officer and Treasurer from March 2005 to September 2005. Mr. Kessler has been Executive Vice President of Resource America since 2005 and was Chief Financial

Officer from 1997 to December 2009 and Senior Vice President from 1997 to 2005. He was a Trustee of GMH Communities Trust, a then publicly-traded specialty housing REIT, from 2004 to 2008 when GCT was sold. He was Vice President - Finance and Acquisitions at Kravco Company, a then national shopping center developer and operator, from 1994 to 1997. From 1983 to 1993 he was employed by Strouse Greenberg & Co., a regional full service real estate company, ending as Chief Financial Officer and Chief Operating Officer. Before that, he was a partner at Touche Ross & Co. (now Deloitte & Touche LLP), independent public accountants.

*Murray S. Levin*, age 70, has been a director since March 2005. Mr. Levin is a senior litigation partner at Pepper Hamilton LLP, a law firm with which he has been associated since 1970. Mr. Levin served as the first American president of the Association Internationale des Jeunes Avocats (Young Lawyers International Association), headquartered in Western Europe. He is a past president of the American Chapter and a member of the board of governors of the Union Internationale des Avocats (International Association of Lawyers), a Paris-based organization that is the world s oldest international lawyers association.

*P. Sherrill Neff*, age 61, has been a director since March 2005. Mr. Neff is a founding partner of Quaker Partners, a health care venture and growth equity fund, and has been a Partner since 2002. From 1994 to 2002 he was President and Chief Financial Officer, and from 1994 to 2003, a director of Neose Technologies, Inc., a then publicly-traded life sciences company. Mr. Neff was also a director of The Bancorp, Inc., a publicly traded (NASDAQ: TBBK) bank holding company, from its formation in 1999 until 2002, and a director of Resource America from 1998 to 2005. Mr. Neff is on the boards of directors of five Quaker Partners portfolio companies, including Cempra, Inc., a publicly-traded (NASDAQ:CEMP) pharmaceutical company, since 2011, and four others private portfolio companies. Mr. Neff was also a director of Amicus Therapeutics, a publicly-traded (NASDAQ: FOLD) biopharmaceutical company, from 2005 to 2011. He is a member of the board of directors of the National Venture Capital Association.

*Stephanie H. Wiggins*, age 47, was nominated in April 2013 to be a member of our Board of Directors effective upon her election at the Meeting. Ms. Wiggins has been Executive Vice President and Chief Investment Officer for the AFL-CIO Housing Investment Trust since 2000. From 1997 to 2000 she served in various positions at Prudential Mortgage Capital Company (formerly WMF Group), culminating as Director and Senior Investment Officer. She previously served as a Senior Underwriter and Review Appraiser at Green Park Financial (currently d/b/a Walker & Dunlop). Ms. Wiggins is a member of the Urban Land Institute Council, National Housing Conference and Mortgage Bankers Association.

The board of directors has not adopted specific minimum qualifications for service on our board, but rather seeks a mixture of skills that are relevant to our business as an externally-managed REIT that focuses primarily upon investments in commercial real estate and commercial finance assets, principally loans and interests in loans. The following presents a brief summary of the attributes of each director and director nominee that led to the conclusion that he or she should serve as such:

Mr. Beach has extensive experience in finance and investment management and a strong financial background.

Mr. E. Cohen has lengthy experience in real estate and real estate finance (a principal business of Resource America), corporate finance (through the formation and funding of public companies such as Atlas Energy, Atlas America, Atlas Pipeline, and Resource America) and operations of both public and private companies, and is affiliated with the Manager.

Mr. J. Cohen has significant real estate, real estate finance and operational experience as an officer (currently Chief Executive Officer and President) and director of Resource America, and is affiliated with the Manager.

Mr. Fore has extensive experience in, and significant knowledge of, the real estate industry as a founder and principal of a national real estate company. Mr. Fore also has significant government experience, having served in government positions with three Presidential administrations.

Mr. Hart has extensive experience in finance and investment management, both as an officer and director of banks and insurance companies, as well as an officer of a private investment firm.

Mr. Ickowicz has broad real estate and real estate finance experience as a principal in the real estate operations of an international investment bank, as a director of a REIT and as a director of several real estate ventures.

Mr. Kessler has a significant financial and accounting background in real estate as the former Chief Financial Officer of Resource America and, previously, as a principal financial officer for a major operator of commercial real estate.

Mr. Levin has a lengthy and diverse legal background and has practiced complex litigation for over forty years.

Mr. Neff has significant experience in investments, operations and finance as a principal or officer of a venture fund and a public company and, prior thereto, as an investment banker.

Ms. Wiggins has extensive real estate finance experience, including underwriting, originating and valuing income-producing real estate, as an officer of several real estate companies.

### **Non-Director Executive Officers**

*Jeffrey D. Blomstrom*, age 44, has been our Senior Vice President since March 2005. Mr. Blomstrom has been President and Managing Director of Resource Financial Fund Management, Inc., an asset management subsidiary of Resource America, since 2003. Mr. Blomstrom serves as the head of collateral origination and as a member of the credit committee for Trapeza Capital, Resource America s trust preferred securities collateral manager. From 2001 to 2003 Mr. Blomstrom was a Managing Director at Cohen and Company, an investment banking firm. From 2000 to 2001 he was Senior Vice President of iATMglobal.net, Inc., an ATM software development company. Mr. Blomstrom was, from 1999 to 2000, an associate at Covington & Burling, a law firm, where he focused on mergers and acquisitions and corporate governance.

*David E. Bloom*, age 48, has been our Senior Vice President-Real Estate Investments since March 2005. Mr. Bloom has been Senior Vice President of Resource America since 2001. He has also been President of Resource Real Estate, Inc., a wholly-owned real estate subsidiary of Resource America, since 2004 and was President of Resource Capital Partners, a wholly-owned real estate subsidiary of Resource America, from 2002 to 2006. From 2001 to 2002 he was President of Resource Properties, a former real estate subsidiary of Resource America. Before that he was Senior Vice President at Colony Capital, LLC, an international real estate opportunity fund, from 1999 to 2001. From 1998 to 1999 he was Director at Sonnenblick-Goldman Company, a real estate investment bank. From 1995 to 1998 he was an attorney at the law firm of Willkie Farr & Gallagher, LLP.

*Jeffrey F. Brotman*, 49, has been our Executive Vice President since June 2009 and Executive Vice President of Resource America since June 2007. He was co-founder of Ledgewood, P.C. (a Philadelphia-based law firm) and affiliated with the firm from 1992 until June 2007, serving as managing partner from 1995 until March 2006. Mr. Brotman is also a non-active certified public accountant and an Adjunct Professor at the University of Pennsylvania Law School. Mr. Brotman was Chairman of the Board of Directors of TRM Corporation, a then publicly-traded consumer services company, from September 2006 until September 2008 and was its President and Chief Executive Officer from March 2006 through June 2007.

*David J. Bryant*, age 55, has been our Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, Chief Accounting Officer and Treasurer since June 2006. From 2005 to 2006 Mr. Bryant served as Senior Vice-President, Real Estate Services, at Pennsylvania Real Estate Investment Trust, a publicly-traded (NYSE: PEI) REIT principally engaged in owning, managing, developing and leasing malls and strip centers in the eastern United States. From 2000 to 2005, Mr. Bryant served as PEI s Senior Vice President - Finance and Treasurer, and was its principal accounting officer. From 1994 to 2000, Mr.

Bryant was Vice President -Finance and Controller at PEI and its predecessor, The Rubin Organization. Mr. Bryant is also a certified treasury professional and a non-active certified public accountant.

### **Other Significant Employees**

The following sets forth certain information regarding other significant employees of the Manager and Resource America who provide services to us:

*Thomas C. Elliott*, age 40, has been our Senior Vice President-Finance and Operations since September 2006 and, prior to that, was our Chief Financial Officer, Chief Accounting Officer and Treasurer from September 2005 to June 2006. He was our Senior Vice President - Assets and Liabilities Management from June 2005 until September 2005 and, before that, served as our Vice President - Finance from March 2005. Mr. Elliott has been Chief Financial Officer of Resource America since December 2009 and Senior Vice President since 2005. He was Senior Vice President - Finance and Operations of Resource America from 2006 to December 2009; Senior Vice President - Finance from 2005 to 2006 and Vice President - Finance from 2001 to 2005. From 1997 to 2001 Mr. Elliott was a Vice President at Fidelity Leasing, where he managed all capital market functions, including the negotiation of all securitizations and credit and banking facilities in the U.S. and Canada. Mr. Elliott also oversaw the financial controls and budgeting departments.

*Alan F. Feldman*, age 49, has been our Senior Vice President-Real Estate Investments since March 2005. Mr. Feldman has been Chief Executive Officer of Resource Real Estate since 2004 and Senior Vice President of Resource America since 2002. Mr. Feldman was President of Resource Properties from 2002 to 2005. From 1998 to 2002, Mr. Feldman was Vice President at Lazard Freres & Co., an investment banking firm, specializing in real estate mergers and acquisitions, asset and portfolio sales and recapitalization. From 1992 through 1998, Mr. Feldman was Executive Vice President of PREIT-RUBIN, Inc. the management subsidiary of Pennsylvania Real Estate Investment Trust and its predecessor, The Rubin Organization. Before that, from 1990 to 1992, he was a Director at Strouse, Greenberg & Co., a regional full service real estate company.

*Kyle Geoghegan*, age 44, has been our Senior Vice President - Loan Originations since 2007. Mr. Geoghegan has been a Managing Director of Resource Real Estate Funding, Inc., a real estate subsidiary of Resource America, since July 2006. Mr. Geoghegan co-manages the whole loan origination platform for Resource Real Estate Funding and is based in Los Angeles. Mr. Geoghegan worked at Bear Stearns from January 1998 to May 2006, serving as a Managing Director who co-managed the Bear Stearns Commercial Mortgage office in Los Angeles. Prior to joining Bear Stearns, Mr. Geoghegan spent four years as a real estate loan officer at PNC Bank in Philadelphia, PA, primarily originating construction and bridge loans.

*David Jansky*, age 42, has been President of Resource Capital Markets, Inc., a subsidiary of Resource America, since April 2008. Mr. Jansky was head of Global ABS CDOs in the Structured Credit Products group at J.P. Morgan from 2005 to 2008. Prior thereto, he was an Executive Director at Credit Suisse First Boston from 2002 to 2005. Mr. Jansky was also responsible for structuring CDOs as a Vice President at Deutsche Bank from 1997 to 2000 and as an Associate at Merrill Lynch from 1996 to 1997.

*Darryl Myrose*, age 39, has been our Senior Vice President - Loan Originations since 2007. Mr. Myrose has been a Managing Director of Resource Real Estate Funding since July 2006. Mr. Myrose co-manages the whole loan origination platform for Resource Real Estate Funding and is based in Los Angeles. Mr. Myrose worked at Bear Stearns from April 1996 to May 2006, serving as a Managing Director who co-managed the Bear Stearns Commercial Mortgage office in Los Angeles. Prior to joining Bear Stearns, Mr. Myrose was employed with Clarion Advisors (formerly Jones Lang Wootton Realty Advisors) where he was an asset management analyst.

*Joan M. Sapinsley*, age 61, has been our Senior Vice President - CMBS since 2007. Ms. Sapinsley joined Resource Financial Fund Management, Inc. in February 2007 as Managing Director and manages our CMBS portfolio. Prior to joining Resource Financial Fund Management, Ms. Sapinsley was a Managing Director at Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association (TIAA), where she worked from 1992 through 2006 purchasing CMBS. She was responsible for all single borrower and single asset

CMBS, as well as subordinate CMBS and B-notes. She also directed TIAA s conduit origination and securitization activities. Before TIAA, Ms. Sapinsley was a Director in the Financial Services Group of Cushman & Wakefield, a global commercial real estate company, and a real estate consultant at Laventhol & Horwath, an accounting firm.

*Michael S. Yecies*, age 45, has been our Chief Legal Officer and Secretary since March 2005 and our Senior Vice President since July 2007. Mr. Yecies has been Senior Vice President of Resource America since 2005, Chief Legal Officer and Secretary since 1998 and was Vice President from 1998 to 2005. From 1994 to 1998 he was an attorney at the international law firm of Duane Morris LLP.

### CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

### **Our Board of Directors and Its Committees**

Our common stock is listed on the NYSE under the symbol RSO and we are subject to the NYSE s listing standards. The Board has determined that each of Messrs. Beach, Fore, Hart, Ickowicz, Levin and Neff satisfy the requirement for independence set out in Section 303A.02 of the rules of the NYSE and that each of these directors has no material relationship with us (other than being a director and/or a stockholder). In making its independence determinations, the Board sought to identify and analyze all of the facts and circumstances relating to any relationship between a director, his immediate family or affiliates and our company and our affiliates and did not rely on categorical standards other than those contained in the NYSE rules.

The Board held a total of 9 meetings during fiscal 2012. Each of the directors attended at least 75% of the meetings of the Board and of the committees on which he served during fiscal 2012.

The Board has four standing committees: the Audit Committee, the Compensation Committee, the Nominating and Governance Committee and the Investment Committee. All of the members of each committee, other than the Investment Committee, are independent directors as that term is defined in the NYSE s listing standards.

As set forth in our Corporate Governance Guidelines and in accordance with NYSE listing standards, the non-management directors meet in executive sessions quarterly without management. Interested parties wishing to communicate directly with the non-management directors may contact the chairman of the Audit Committee, P. Sherrill Neff, at Quaker BioVentures, Cira Centre, 2929 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104.

Audit Committee. The Audit Committee reviews the scope and effectiveness of audits by the internal and independent accountants, is responsible for the engagement of independent accountants, and reviews the adequacy of our internal financial controls. Members of the committee are Messrs. Neff (Chairman), Beach and Hart. The Board has determined that each member of the committee meets the independence standards for audit committee members set forth in the NYSE listing standards and in the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and that Messrs. Beach and Neff each qualifies as an audit committee financial expert as that term is defined in the NYSE and Exchange Act rules and regulations. The committee held four meetings during fiscal 2012. The Audit Committee charter is available on our website at www.resourcecapitalcorp.com, and we will provide a printed copy to any stockholder who requests it.

Compensation Committee. The principal functions of the Compensation Committee are to:

review the compensation payable to our directors;

review the compensation and fees payable to the Manager under our management agreement; and

administer the issuance of any stock or stock options issued to the employees of the Manager or Resource America who perform services for us.

Under our management agreement with the Manager and Resource America, the Manager assumes principal responsibility for managing our affairs and providing the personnel that we need to conduct our operations. The Manager and Resource America are responsible for paying the compensation of all such personnel and, consequently, such personnel do not receive separate compensation from us. However, we reimburse the Manager for all of the wages, salary and benefits established and paid by the Manager to our Chief Financial Officer, who is exclusively dedicated to our operations, 50% of the wages, salary and benefits established and paid by the Manager to our director of investor relations, who is 50% dedicated to our operations, and the proportionate share of the wages, salaries and benefits of other accounting professionals dedicated to our operations and approved by our Board. We also reimburse Resource America for all of the wages, salary and benefits established and paid by the wages, salary and benefits established and paid by Resource America to Steven J. Kessler, our Chairman of the Board.

The members of the committee are Messrs. Beach (Chairman), Levin and Neff. The committee held four meetings during fiscal 2012. The Compensation Committee Charter is available on our website at <u>www.resourcecapitalcorp.com</u>, and we will provide a printed copy to any stockholder who requests it.

Nominating and Governance Committee. The Nominating and Governance Committee is appointed by the Board to:

assist it and us maintain an effective and knowledgeable Board, including assisting the Board by identifying individuals qualified to become directors and recommending to the Board the director nominees for the next annual meeting of stockholders and the directors to be appointed to the Audit, Compensation and Nominating and Governance Committees; and

develop and recommend for the Board s consideration governance guidelines for us.

The committee has not adopted specific, minimum qualifications or specific qualities or skills that must be met by a recommended nominee. The committee seeks to insure that the membership of the Board and each committee satisfies all relevant NYSE listing standard requirements, applicable laws and requirements of our governance documents. The committee seeks to achieve a mixture of skills which are all related to our business. The nature of the specific qualifications, qualities or skills that the committee may look for in any particular director nominee is dependent on the qualifications, qualities and skills of the rest of the directors at the time of any vacancy on the Board.

The committee identifies director nominees by first evaluating the current members of the Board willing to continue in service. Current members with skills and experience that are relevant to our business and are willing to continue in service are considered for re-nomination, balancing the value of continuity of service by existing members of the Board with that of obtaining a new perspective. If any member of the Board does not wish to continue in service, if the nominating and governance committee or Board decides not to re-nominate a member for re-election, or if we decide to expand the Board, the committee identifies the desired skills and experience of a new nominee consistent with the nominating and governance committee s criteria for Board service. Current members of the Board and management are polled for their recommendations. Research may also be performed or third parties retained to identify qualified individuals. To date, we have not engaged third parties to identify or evaluate potential nominees; however, we may in the future choose to do so.

The members of the committee are Messrs. Levin (Chairman), Beach and Hart. The committee held one meeting during fiscal 2012. Our Corporate Governance Guidelines and Nominating and Governance Committee charter are both available on our website at <u>www.resourcecapitalcorp.com</u>, and we will provide a printed copy to any stockholder who so requests it.

**Stockholder Recommendations for Director Nominees**. The Nominating and Governance Committee will consider candidates for nomination as a director recommended by stockholders, directors, officers, third party search firms and other sources. In evaluating candidates, the committee considers the attributes of the candidate (including skills, experience, international versus domestic background, diversity, age, and legal and regulatory requirements) and the mixture of skills and experience of the members of the Board, and will review all candidates in the same manner, regardless of the source of the recommendation. The Nominating and Governance Committee does not have a formal policy regarding the consideration of diversity in identifying candidates beyond being committed to ensuring that no

person would be excluded from consideration for service as a director of ours as a result of their gender, race, religion, creed, sexual orientation or disability. The committee will consider individuals recommended by stockholders for nomination as a director in accordance with the procedures described under Stockholder Proposals for the 2014 Annual Meeting. Recommendations should include the following:

such information as may be reasonably necessary to determine whether the recommended director candidate is independent from the stockholder that has recommended the candidate;

such information as may be reasonably necessary to determine whether the director candidate is qualified to serve on the Board; and

such information as may be reasonably necessary to determine whether the director candidate meets the independence standards of the NYSE.

The Board may also request such additional information concerning the proposed nominee as may be reasonably required to determine whether each person recommended by a stockholder meets the criteria discussed above and to enable us to make appropriate disclosures to stockholders.

**Investment Committee**. The Investment Committee was established in March 2007 to review and consider all proposed investments by our company equal to or in excess of \$12.5 million. The Board as a whole reviews and considers proposed investments equal to or in excess of \$30.0 million, and all credit facilities or financing with recourse to us in excess of the amount of equity invested. The members of the committee are Messrs. J. Cohen (Chairman), Beach, Ickowicz and Kessler. The committee held sixteen meetings during fiscal 2012.

**Communication with the Board**. The Board has established a process for stockholders to send communications to it. Stockholders may communicate with the Board, or any director or committee chairperson, by writing to such parties in care of Michael S. Yecies, Senior Vice President, Chief Legal Officer and Secretary, Resource Capital Corp., 712 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10019. Communications addressed to the Board generally will be forwarded either to the appropriate committee chairperson or to all directors. Communications may be submitted confidentially and anonymously. Under certain circumstances, we may be required by law to disclose the information or identity of the person submitting the communication. There were no material actions taken by the Board as a result of communications received during fiscal 2012 from stockholders. Certain concerns communicated to the Board also may be referred to our internal auditor or our Chief Legal Officer. The Chairman of the Board or the Chairman of the Audit Committee may direct that concerns be presented to the Audit Committee, or to the full Board, or that they otherwise receive special treatment, including retention of external counsel or other advisors.

**Attendance at Annual Meetings**. We do not have a formal policy regarding Board member attendance at our annual meeting of stockholders. All of our Board members attended last year s annual meeting of stockholders and we anticipate that all of them will attend the Meeting.

#### Board Leadership Structure and Role in Risk Oversight

We have no specific policy with respect to the separation of the offices of Chairman and the Chief Executive Officer. This issue is part of the succession planning process and is within the scope of the Board s authority to decide. Currently, Steven J. Kessler serves as Chairman of the Board and Jonathan Z. Cohen serves as Chief Executive Officer. The Board believes that our Corporate Governance Guidelines provide it with appropriate flexibility to determine from time to time the leadership structure that best enables us to pursue our business strategies and goals. The Board believes that its current leadership structure is appropriate in that it gives us the benefit of the significant expertise that both Messrs. Kessler and J. Cohen have in finance and real estate, as well as the working relationship they have developed in the past sixteen years.

Risk management, led by our officers and the Board, is a company-wide function that is responsible for an integrated effort to identify, assess and manage risks that may affect our ability to execute on our business strategy and fulfill our business objectives. The Board s role is to oversee this function. The Audit Committee enhances the Board s oversight of risk management. The Audit Committee s role is also one of oversight, recognizing that management is responsible for executing our risk management policies. The Audit Committee s responsibilities include discussing with management our major financial risk exposures and the steps management has taken to monitor and control such exposures, including our risk assessment and risk management policies. The Audit Committee also discusses guidelines and policies to govern the process by which risk assessment and management is undertaken.

## **Code of Ethics**

We have adopted a code of business conduct and ethics applicable to all directors, officers and employees. We will provide to any person without charge, upon request, a copy of our code of conduct. Any such request should be directed to us as follows: Resource Capital Corp., 712 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10019, Attention: Secretary. Our code of conduct is also available on our website at <u>www.resourcecapitalcorp.com</u>. We intend to satisfy the disclosure requirement under Item 5.05 of Form 8-K regarding an amendment to, or waiver from, a provision of this code of conduct by posting such information on our website, unless otherwise required by applicable law or regulation.

### **Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation**

The Compensation Committee consisted of Messrs. Beach, Levin and Neff during fiscal 2012. None of such persons was an officer or employee of ours or any of our subsidiaries or affiliated companies during fiscal 2012 or was formerly an officer or employee of ours. None of our executive officers was a director or executive officer of any entity of which any member of the Compensation Committee was a director or executive officer during fiscal year 2012.

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

The Audit Committee has approved the following report.

In connection with its function of overseeing and monitoring our financial reporting process, the Audit Committee has done the following:

reviewed and discussed our consolidated financial statements for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2012 with our management;

discussed with our independent registered public accounting firm, Grant Thornton LLP, or Grant Thornton, the matters required to be discussed by the statement on Auditing Standards No. 61, as amended (AICPA, Professional Standards, Vol. 1, AU section 380), as adopted by the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board, or the PCAOB, in Rule 3200T; and

received the written disclosures and the letter from Grant Thornton required by applicable requirements of the PCAOB regarding Grant Thornton s communications with the audit committee concerning independence, and has discussed with Grant Thornton the independence of Grant Thornton and satisfied itself as to Grant Thornton s independence.

Based on the foregoing, the Audit Committee recommended to the Board of Directors that the consolidated audited financial statements be included in the 2012 Form 10-K.

P. Sherrill Neff, Chairman

Walter T. Beach

William B. Hart

## 2012 NON-EMPLOYEE DIRECTOR COMPENSATION

Our 2012 compensation package for independent directors was comprised of cash (annual retainer) and restricted stock awards. The annual pay package is designed to attract and retain highly-qualified, independent professionals to represent our stockholders. Our compensation package is also designed to create alignment between our directors and our stockholders through the use of equity-based grants. For 2012, the Board approved compensation for each independent director consisting of an annual cash retainer of \$52,500 and an annual stock award valued at \$22,500 on the date of grant, which is the anniversary of the date each of them became a director. In addition, the members of the investment committee, Messrs. Beach and Ickowicz, received an additional \$50,000.

We also reimburse Resource America for all of the wages, salary and benefits established and paid by Resource America to our Chairman of the Board. In fiscal 2012, we reimbursed Resource America \$456,162 for Mr. Kessler s compensation and related business expenses, since Resource America employs Mr. Kessler; Mr. Kessler, however, is dedicated exclusively to his service as our Chairman. In addition, in January 2012, we awarded Mr. Kessler 8,865 shares of restricted stock with a grant date fair value of approximately \$50,000, and in December 2012, we awarded Mr. Kessler 16,977 shares of restricted stock with a grant date fair value of approximately \$100,000. Mr. Kessler had 6,422 shares vest in 2012 and realized \$35,963 upon vesting. In addition, in December 2012, we awarded Mr. E. Cohen, the Chairman of the Board of Resource America, 50,933 shares of restricted stock with a grant date fair value of approximately \$300,000.

The following table sets forth director compensation for each of our independent directors and the Chairman of the Board of Resource America and the Chairman of our Board of Directors for 2012:

### DIRECTOR COMPENSATION TABLE

Name <sup>(1)</sup>	Fees Earned or Paid in Cash (\$)	Stock Awards (\$)	Total (\$)
Walter T. Beach	102,500	22,495(2)	124,995
William B. Hart	52,500	22,495(2)	74,995
Murray S. Levin	52,500	22,495(2)	74,995
P. Sherrill Neff	52,500	22,495(2)	74,995
Gary Ickowicz	102,500	$22,500^{(3)}$	125,000
Edward E. Cohen		299,995 <sup>(4)</sup>	299,995
Steven J. Kessler	456,162	149,994 <sup>(5)</sup>	604,161

(1) Table excludes (a) Mr. J. Cohen, an NEO, whose compensation is set forth in the Summary Compensation Table, and (b) Mr. Fore, a director elected to the Board in March 2013.

(2) On March 8, 2012, Messrs. Beach, Hart, Levin and Neff, were each granted 3,919 shares based upon a price of \$5.74, the closing price on that day.

(3) On February 1, 2012, Mr. Ickowicz was granted 3,833 shares based upon a price of \$5.87, the closing price on that day.