1	EX-10.2 3 y77091exv10w2.htm EX-10.2
2	
3	Exhibit 10.2
4	AMENDED AND RESTATED EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN
5	MARTHA STEWART LIVING OMNIMEDIA, INC.
6	AND MARTHA STEWART
7	DATED AS OF APRIL 1, 2009
8	AGREEMENT, dated as of April 1, 2009 (the "Effective Date"), by
9	and between Martha Stewart Living Omnimedia, Inc., a Delaware
10	corporation (the "Company"), and Martha Stewart (the "Founder").
11	WHEREAS, the Founder is a party to an employment agreement,
12	dated September 17, 2004, as amended (the "Prior Employment
13	Agreement); and
14	WHEREAS, the Company recognizes that the Founder's talents
15	and abilities are unique and have been integral to the success of the
16	Company;
17	WHEREAS, the Company wishes to secure the ongoing services of
18	the Founder pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth herein,
19	and therefore the Founder and the Company intend here-
20	by to enter into a new amended and restated employment agree-
21	ment as set forth herein;
22	NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises and the mu-
23	tual covenants set forth below, the parties hereby agree as follows:
24	1. Employment. From and after the Effective Date, the Company
25	hereby agrees to employ the Founder as Chief Editorial and Media
26	Director of the Company, and the Founder hereby accepts such em-
27	ployment, on the terms and conditions set forth below.
28	2. <u>Term.</u> The Founder's employment by the Company hereunder
29	shall begin on the Effective Date and shall end on March 31, 2012,
30	but subject to earlier termination as provided herein (the "Employ-
31	ment Period").

## D. C. Toedt 4/1/13 8:10 PM

**Comment [1]:** The original, unannotated version of this agreement is available at the SEC's Web site at

 $\frac{\text{http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/1091801/000095012309008557}}{\text{/y77091exv10w2.htm}}$ 

#### D. C. Toedt 4/1/13 8:13 PM

**Comment [2]:** Amended and restated: Amending and restating an agreement is a conventional (and convenient) way of making a lot of changes — without indicating what the original provisions were. (The latter could be a consideration if the company knew it would have to file the amended version with the SEC but could keep the original provisions confidential.)

## D. C. Toedt 4/1/13 5:36 PM

**Comment [3]: Dated as of:** This typically means the agreement wasn't actually signed on the date indicated.

## D. C. Toedt 4/1/13 5:39 PM

**Comment [4]:** Whereas clauses are widely regarded as archaic; the modern approach is to use "Background" recitations — and/or specific representations and warranties.

## D. C. Toedt 4/1/13 7:21 PM

**Comment [5]: Unique talents:** This sounds like something the lawyers drafted to give MSLO's compensation committee political cover if the shareholders ask why Stewart is getting paid what she is.

# D. C. Toedt 4/2/13 7:41 AM

**Comment [6]:** And shall end: Having a stated end date means that the company can fire Stewart, in effect, by simply not extending her contract when the Employment Period comes to an end (although the company has indeed extended, according to news reports).

32	The Employment Period may be extended by mutual
33	agreement of the Company and the Founder.
34	3. Position and Duties. During the Employment Period, the
35	Founder shall serve as Founder, Chief Editorial and Media Director of
36	the Company with the following duties, authority and responsibili-
37	ties:
38	(i) serving as Founding Editorial Director for all publications of
39	the Company;
40	(ii) serving as an executive producer for television and radio
41	productions of the Company; and
42	(iii) subject to the oversight of the Board, serving as the prima-
43	ry spokesperson for the Company
44	(it being understood, however, that the Principal Executive
45	Officer, Chief Executive Officer(s) and the Chief Financial Officer of
46	the Company, rather than the Founder, shall serve as primary
47	spokespersons for the Company to the financial and investment
48	community and with respect to business and financial affairs).
49	The Founder shall report directly to the Board.
50	Unless otherwise authorized by the Board, the Founder
51	shall devote substantially all of her working time, attention and en-
52	ergies during normal business hours (other than absences due to ill-
53	ness or vacation) to the performance of her duties for the Company.
54	Notwithstanding the above, the Founder shall be permit-
55	ted, to the extent such activities do not violate, or substantially in-
56	terfere with her performance of her duties and responsibilities un-
57	der this Agreement, or any other agreement to which she and the
58	Company are parties,
59	in all cases except for (iii), as determined by the Principal
60	Executive Officer and a committee of the Board, to
61	(i) engage in motion picture, television, public speaking
62	and publishing activities,

## D. C. Toedt 3/24/14 10:28 PM

**Comment [7]: "Extended":** There can be a difference between "extending" and "renewing."

## D. C. Toedt 3/24/14 10:29 PM

 $\begin{tabular}{ll} \textbf{Comment [8]: "During the Employment Period" - this does $\underline{not}$ say "During the Term of this Agreement." \\ \end{tabular}$ 

## D. C. Toedt 4/1/13 5:46 PM

Comment [9]: Primary spokesperson to the financial and investment community: Could it be that the company doesn't want Stewart talking to bankers or analysts without a chaperone? Or is it that Stewart doesn't want that responsibility?

# D. C. Toedt 3/24/14 10:32 PM

**Comment [10]:** "Substantially all of her working time ... during normal working hours" – does this give Martha Stewart carte blanche to do whatever she wants after 5 p.m.? If so, why? Or is it meant to say that Martha doesn't have to work 14 hours per day? (Is this an ambiguity?)

# D. C. Toedt 3/24/14 10:28 PM

 $\label{lem:comment} \textbf{Comment [11]: "Shall be permitted"-this is a safe harbor provision for Martha Stewart.$ 

63	(ii) appear from time to time in commercials and/or adver
64	tisements that do not present a conflict with the Company's inter-
65	ests with respect to its products or significant business relationships
66	in all cases subject to the approval of the Board,
67	(iii) manage her personal, financial and legal affairs (includ
68	ing writing her autobiography),
69	(iv) serve on civic or charitable boards or committees
70	(it being expressly understood and agreed that
71	the Founder's continuing to serve on any such board and/or com-
72	mittees on which she is serving, or with which she is otherwise asso
73	ciated, as of the Effective Date, shall be deemed not to interfere
74	with her performance of her duties and responsibilities under this
75	Agreement),
76	(v) serve on boards of other companies and
77	(vi) make personal appearances and lectures,
78	and the Founder shall be entitled to receive and retain all
79	remuneration received by her from the items listed in clauses
80	(i) through (vi) of this paragraph (including, without limitation, ap-
81	pearance and speaking fees, book advances, royalties, residuals and
82	other fees and compensation (including guild and union payments)
83	payable therewith) outside the performance of her duties hereun-
84	der.
85	4. Place of Performance. During the Employment Period, the lo-
86	cations of employment of the Founder shall be in New York City,
87	New York and Bedford, New York and the Founder shall not be re-
88	quired to relocate her employment to any other location.
89	During the Employment Period, the Company shall provide
90	the Founder with the same offices and staff that she was provided
91	with immediately prior to the Effective Date.

# D. C. Toedt 4/1/13 5:45 PM

**Comment [12]: Continuing to serve:** This is in effect a grandfather (or grandmother?) clause.

# D. C. Toedt 3/24/14 10:33 PM

**Comment [13]:** "Receive and retain all remuneration": Without this clause, the company might be able to claim that IT was entitled to get Martha's speaking fees, appearance fees, book royalties, etc.

# D. C. Toedt 3/24/14 10:34 PM

**Comment [14]:** Place of Performance: This can make a difference for state income-tax purposes.

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(a) Talent Compensation. In consideration of her continued work as a performer

and for making public appearances on behalf of the Company or for third-parties as required in support of products covered by Company contracts with third parties consistent with past practices,

and as an author or provider of content consistent with past practices for the Company's media properties, publications and contractual arrangements during the Employment Period,

the Company shall pay the Founder talent compensation at the rate of not less than Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000) per year (the "Talent Compensation").

The Talent Compensation shall be paid in approximately equal installments in accordance with the Company's customary payroll practices and subject to all applicable income and employment tax withholdings.

The Talent Compensation shall be subject to annual review by the Board and may be increased in the Board's discretion.

If the Talent Compensation is increased by the Board, such increased Talent Compensation shall then constitute the Talent Compensation for all purposes under this Agreement.

**(b) Annual Bonus.** For each full fiscal year of the Company that begins and ends during the Employment Period, and for the 2009 fiscal year, the Founder shall be eligible to earn an annual cash bonus (the "Annual Bonus")

in such amount as shall be determined by the Compensation Committee of the Board (the "Compensation Committee") based on the achievement of Company and individual performance goals as established by the Compensation Committee for each such fiscal year,

#### D. C. Toedt 3/24/14 10:35 PM

**Comment [15]:** "Customary payroll practices": This gives the company flexibility (and is a standard way of phrasing this. NOTE: Employees who are not exempt from the requirements of the Fair Labor Standards Act might have to be paid on a particular schedule.

## D. C. Toedt 3/24/14 10:35 PM

**Comment [16]:** "Shall be subject to annual review" – QUESTION: Does this clause <u>entitle</u> Martha to have the board revisit her compensation on an annual basis?

## D. C. Toedt 4/2/13 8:05 AM

**Comment [17]: Increased Talent Compensation:** This clause is in essence an upward "ratchet" – note how it ties in with XXXXXXXXX.

## D. C. Toedt 3/24/14 10:36 PM

**Comment [18]: Compensation Committee:** In public companies, executive compensation must be determined by a compensation committee consisting of independent members of the board of directors (that is, board members who are not company employees and who meet other independence tests).

124	with a target Annual Bonus equal to One Million Dollars
125	(\$1,000,000) (the "Target Amount")
126	and a maximum Annual Bonus equal to 150% of the Target
127	Amount.
128	The Compensation Committee shall establish objective cri-
129	teria to be used to determine the extent to which performance goals
130	have been satisfied.
131	Such Annual Bonus shall be paid in a lump sum no earlier
132	than January 1st and no later than March 15th of the calendar year
133	following the calendar year to which such bonus relates.
134	[Portions omitted]
135	(c) Make-whole/retention payment. In recognition of her ex-
136	traordinary efforts on behalf of the Company and to maintain her
137	continued level of involvement during the Employment Period con-
138	sistent with past practices,
139	the Company shall as soon as practicable following the full
140	execution of this Agreement (but not later than the date which is
141	five (5) days following the full execution hereof) pay the Founder a
142	payment of Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000);
143	provided, however, that
144	if the Founder terminates this Agreement with-
145	out Good Reason (defined below)
146	or the Company terminates this Agreement for
147	Cause (defined below) during the Employment Period,
148	a pro-rata portion of such payment shall be subject to
149	forfeiture and repayment by the Founder upon such terms and con-
150	ditions as determined by the Compensation Committee in its discre-
151	tion at the time of such forfeiture.
152	(d) Automobiles. During the Employment Period, the Company

# D. C. Toedt 4/2/13 8:12 AM

**Comment [19]: Bonus payment no later than March 15:** Without this provision, Stewart's annual bonus might be subject to heavy additional taxes as "deferred compensation" under <u>Section 409A</u> of the IRS regulations.

# D. C. Toedt 3/24/14 10:37 PM

Comment [20]: "Golden handcuffs"

shall provide the Founder with automobiles and drivers seven days

per week on a basis no less favorable than in effect immediately pri-

or to the Effective Date to be used in the Founder's sole discretion.

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(e) Business, Travel and Entertainment Expenses. The Company shall promptly reimburse the Founder for all business, travel and entertainment expenses on a basis no less favorable than in effect immediately prior to the Effective Date and subject to the Company's current expense reimbursement policies,

including, without limitation, first class transportation or travel on a private plane of the Company to the extent that such private plane is available.

The Founder shall pay the SIFL rate for any personal use of such private plane.

**(f) Vacation.** During the Employment Period, the Founder shall be entitled to six weeks of vacation per year.

Vacation not taken during the applicable fiscal year (but not in excess of three weeks) shall be carried over to the next following fiscal year.

(g) Welfare, Pension and Incentive Benefit Plans. During the Employment Period, the Founder (and her eligible spouse and dependents) shall be entitled to participate in all welfare benefit plans and programs maintained by the Company from time to time for the benefit of its senior executives,

including, without limitation, all medical, hospitalization, dental, disability, accidental death and dismemberment, travel accident and life insurance plans, programs and arrangements,

on a basis no less favorable than in effect with respect to the Founder immediately prior to the Effective Date.

In addition, during the Employment Period, the Founder shall be eligible to participate in all pension, retirement, savings and other employee benefit plans and programs maintained from time to time by the Company for the benefit of its senior executives,

other than any equity-based incentive plans, severance plans, retention plans and any annual cash incentive plan,

### D. C. Toedt 4/2/13 8:21 AM

**Comment [21]:** "The Founder shall pay ..." This is suboptimal drafting, in that it's unclear whom is Stewart supposed to pay. (She's probably supposed to reimburse the company, in which case the document should say so.)

## D. C. Toedt 4/2/13 8:20 AM

**Comment [22]: SIFL rate for personal aircraft use:** SIFL stands for Standard Industry Fare Level for non-business use of company-provided aircraft, published by the Department of Transportation. (IRS regulations prohibit companies from taking tax deductions for certain such uses.) See generally <a href="this summary sheet">this summary sheet</a> published by the National Business Aviation Association.

#### D. C. Toedt 4/2/13 8:25 AM

**Comment [23]:** Vacation carry-over: Many companies have a use-it-or-lose-it policy about vacation time, or they allow employees to carry over only a maximum of, say, five days per year. (Stewart gets to carry over three weeks per year.) Generally this is because the law may require a company to pay departing employees for their unused vacation time, and the company doesn't want to have a large accounting charge accumulating on its books to reflect that financial obligation.

## D. C. Toedt 3/24/14 10:38 PM

**Comment [24]:** "For the benefit of its senior executives": This language is ambiguous, but customary; I don't remember ever hearing that it caused a problem.

187 on a basis no less favorable than in effect immediately pri-188 or to the Effective Date. 189 (h) Security Expenses. During the Employment Period, the 190 Company shall pay or promptly reimburse the Founder for (1) all in-191 stallation and maintenance costs and monitoring fees relating to se-192 curity at the Founder's residences and (2) all expenses relating to 193 personal security services for the Founder. 194 (i) Telephone and Internet Access. During the Employment Pe-195 riod, the Company shall pay or promptly reimburse the Founder for 196 customary telephone, computer usage and internet access at her 197 homes for business use. 198 (j) New Programming. For any original network, cable or syn-199 dicated show of the Company (other than "The Martha Stewart 200 Show") produced after the Effective Date and in which the Founder 201 is the on-air talent ("New Programming"), the Founder shall be enti-202 tled to receive an amount equal to the fair market value of her tal-203 ent services, as mutually agreed to by the Founder and the Board, 204 or, if the Founder and the Board are unable to agree upon 205 such fair market value, by an independent expert selected by mutual 206 agreement between the Founder and the Board 207 (it being understood that any determination of fair market 208 value shall take into account the Founder's rights to residual pay-209 ments pursuant to the next sentence). 210 Any payments in respect of New Programming shall be 211 paid in the calendar year following the calendar year of production. 212 In addition, with respect to any re-run or re-packaging of 213 any New Programming (each, a "Re-run"), the Founder shall receive

an amount equal to ten percent (10%) of the Adjusted Gross Reve-

nues, which shall be paid no later than the end of the calendar year

in which the Adjusted Gross Revenues are determined.

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217	"Adjusted Gross Revenues" means gross revenues of the
218	Company from any Re-run minus the sum of (i) production costs,
219	(ii) marketing costs and (iii) distribution costs;
220	provided that if such Re-run includes programming other
221	than New Programming, the portion of Adjusted Gross Revenues
222	which is attributable to New Programming shall be determined on a
223	fair and equitable basis approved by the Founder.
224	(k) Equity Awards. The Board shall in its sole discretion make
225	an annual grant of stock options to Founder.
226	<b>6.</b> <u>Termination.</u> The Founder's employment hereunder may be
227	terminated during the Employment Period under the following cir-
228	cumstances:
229	(a) Death. The Founder's employment hereunder shall termi-
230	nate upon her death.
231	(b) Disability. The Company shall have the right to terminate
232	the Founder's employment as a result of the Founder's Disability (as
233	defined below) as determined by a physician selected by the Found-
234	er, and reasonably acceptable to the Company.
235	"Disability" shall mean (i) the Founder's inability to engage
236	in any substantial gainful activity by reason of any medically deter-
237	minable physical or mental impairment that can be expected to re-
238	sult in death or can be expected to last for a continuous period of
239	not less than twelve (12) months;
240	(ii) the Founder is, by reason of any medically determina-
241	ble physical or mental impairment that can be expected to result in
242	death or can be expected to last for a continuous period of not less
243	than twelve (12) months, receiving income replacement benefits for
244	a period of not less than three (3) months under an accident and
245	health plan covering the Founder; or
246	(iii) the Founder is determined to be totally disabled by the
247	Social Security Administration.

248	(c) Cause. The Company shall have the right to terminate the
249	Founder's employment for "Cause." For purposes of this Agreement,
250	the Company shall have "Cause" to terminate the Founder's em-
251	ployment only upon the Founder's:
252	(i) willful gross misconduct or conviction of a felony after the
253	Effective Date that, in either case, results in material and demon-
254	strable damage to the business or reputation of the Company; or
255	(ii) willful and continued failure to perform her duties hereun-
256	der
257	(other than such failure resulting from legal necessity or
258	after the issuance of a Notice of Termination by the Founder for
259	Good Reason)
260	within ten business days after the Company delivers to her
261	a written demand for performance that specifically identifies the ac-
262	tions to be performed.
263	For purposes of this Section 6(c), no act or failure to act by
264	the Founder shall be considered "willful" if such act is done by the
265	Founder in the good faith belief that such act is or was to be benefi-
266	cial to the Company or one or more of its businesses,
267	or such failure to act is due to the Founder's good faith be-
268	lief that such action would be materially harmful to the Company or
269	one of its businesses.
270	Cause shall not exist unless and until the Company has de-
271	livered to the Founder a copy of a resolution duly adopted by a ma-
272	jority of the Board (excluding the Founder for purposes of determin-
273	ing such majority)
274	at a meeting of the Board called and held for such purpose
275	after reasonable (but in no event less than thirty days') notice to the
276	Founder
277	and an opportunity for the Founder, together with her
278	counsel, to be heard before the Board,

# D. C. Toedt 3/24/14 10:41 PM

**Comment [25]:** "Cause": The definition of "cause" is often intensely scrutinized by executives' counsel when negotiating employment agreements, because termination *without* cause usually entitles the executive to significant severance pay.

# D. C. Toedt 3/24/14 10:45 PM

**Comment [26]:** "Good faith belief": Good faith almost always raises fact issues that typically must be tried, as opposed to being decided on summary judgment.

Some contracts of this kind also state that "cause" does not exist if the executive takes an action in reliance on advice of *the company*'s general counsel or of the company's outside counsel.

279	finding that in the good faith opinion of the Board that
280	"Cause" exists, and specifying the particulars thereof in detail.
281	This Section 6(c) shall not prevent the Founder from chal-
282	lenging in any court of competent jurisdiction the Board's determi-
283	nation that Cause exists or that the Founder has failed to cure any
284	act (or failure to act) that purportedly formed the basis for the
285	Board's determination.
286	(d) Good Reason. The Founder may terminate her employ-
287	ment for "Good Reason" after giving the Company detailed written
288	notice thereof, if the Company shall have failed to cure the event or
289	circumstance constituting "Good Reason" within ten business days
290	after receiving such notice.
291	Good Reason shall mean the occurrence of any of the fol-
292	lowing without the written consent of the Founder:
293	(i) the assignment to the Founder of duties materially incon-
294	sistent with this Agreement or a material change in her titles or au-
295	thority;
296	(ii) any failure by the Company to comply with Section 5 herec
297	in any material way;
298	(iii) the requirement of the Founder to relocate to locations
299	other than those provided in Section 4 hereof;
300	(iv) the failure of the Company to comply with and satisfy Sec-
301	tion 12(a) of this Agreement; or
302	(v) any material breach of this Agreement by the Company.
303	The Founder's continued employment shall not constitute
304	consent to, or a waiver of rights with respect to, any act or failure to
305	act constituting Good Reason hereunder.
306	(e) Without Cause. The Company shall have the right to termi-

# D. C. Toedt 3/24/14 10:45 PM

**Comment [27]:** "Good faith opinion": See the comment above concerning the need to litigate good faith.

# D. C. Toedt 3/24/14 10:48 PM

**Comment [28]:** "Good Reason": This is another standard deal structure, allowing the executive to quit and get severance (a "golden parachute") in certain events.

nate the Founder's employment hereunder without Cause by

providing the Founder with a Notice of Termination.

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309	(f) Without Good Reason. The Founder shall have the right to
310	terminate her employment hereunder without Good Reason by
311	providing the Company with a Notice of Termination.
312	7. Termination Procedure.
313	(a) Notice of Termination. Any termination of the Founder's
314	employment by the Company or by the Founder during the Em-
315	ployment Period (other than pursuant to Section 6(a)) shall be
316	communicated by written Notice of Termination to the other party.
317	For purposes of this Agreement, a "Notice of Termination"
318	shall mean a notice indicating the specific termination provision in
319	this Agreement relied upon and setting forth in reasonable detail the
320	facts and circumstances claimed to provide a basis for termination
321	of the Founder's employment under that provision.
322	(b) Date of Termination. "Date of Termination" shall mean
323	(i) if the Founder's employment is terminated by her
324	death, the date of her death,
325	(ii) if the Founder's employment is terminated pursuant to
326	Section 6(b), thirty (30) days after the date of receipt of the Notice
327	of Termination (provided that the Founder does not return to the
328	substantial performance of her duties on a full-time basis during
329	such thirty (30) day period), and
330	(iii) if the Founder's employment is terminated for any
331	other reason, the date on which a Notice of Termination is given or
332	any later date (within thirty (30) days after the giving of such notice)
333	set forth in such Notice of Termination.
334	8. Compensation upon Termination or During Disability. In the
335	event the Founder is disabled or her employment terminates during

# D. C. Toedt 3/24/14 10:49 PM

**Comment [29]:** "Compensation upon Termination": This is often intensively-negotiated.

set forth in this Section 8 constitute liquidated damages for termina-

The Founder acknowledges and agrees that the payments

the Employment Period, the Company shall provide the Founder

with the payments and benefits set forth below.

tion of her employment during the Employment Period.

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(a) Termination by Company without Cause or by Founder for Good Reason. If the Founder's employment is terminated by the Company without Cause (other than Disability) or by the Founder for Good Reason, subject in all respects to the application of Section 20(b) below:

(i) the Company shall pay to the Founder, on or before the Date of Termination, a lump sum payment equal to the sum of

(A) Talent Compensation and accrued vacation pay through the Date of Termination, (B) three million dollars (\$3,000,000), and (C) the higher of (1) \$5,000,000 or (2) three times the highest Annual Bonus paid with respect to any fiscal year beginning during the Employment Period;

(ii) the Company shall continue to provide the Founder and her eligible spouse and dependents for a period equal to the greater of (A) the remaining term of the Employment Period, or (B) three years following the Date of Termination, the medical, hospitalization, dental and life insurance programs provided for in Section 5(g), as if she had remained employed;

provided, that if the Founder, her spouse or her eligible dependents cannot continue to participate in the Company programs providing such benefits, the Company shall arrange to provide the Founder and her spouse and dependents with the economic equivalent of the benefits they otherwise would have been entitled to receive under such plans and programs;

and provided, further, that such benefits shall terminate on the date or dates the Founder becomes eligible to receive equivalent coverage and benefits under the plans and programs of a subsequent employer at an equivalent cost to the Founder (such coverage and benefits to be determined on a coverage-by-coverage, or benefit-by-benefit, basis);

#### D. C. Toedt 3/24/14 10:49 PM

**Comment [30]:** By law, companies usually MUST pay accrued wages or salary (and, usually vacation pay), even if termination is for cause.

#### D. C. Toedt 3/24/14 10:50 PM

**Comment [31]:** Continuation of heath insurance is a frequently-negotiated issue. COBRA insurance must be offered, but the employee might have to pay for it.

(iii) the Company shall, consistent with past practice, reim-
burse the Founder pursuant to Section 5(e) for business expenses
incurred but not paid prior to such termination of employment;
(iv) until the third anniversary of the Date of Termination, the
Company shall continue to provide the Founder with (A) the benefits
set forth in Section 5(d) hereof and (B) an office and an assistant in
each of New York, New York and Westport, Connecticut; and
(v) the Founder shall be entitled to any other rights, compen-
sation and/or benefits as may be due to the Founder in accordance
with the terms and provisions of any agreements, plans or programs
of the Company (other than any severance-based plan or program).
The payments and benefits provided for as subclause
(A) of clause (i) above and in clause (iii) above are hereinafter re-
ferred to as the "Accrued Obligations."

To the extent any of the benefits provided for in clauses

(ii) — (v) above are taxable to the Founder, and except as permitted by Section 409A (as defined in Section 20(a) below), any right to reimbursement or in-kind benefits will not be subject to liquidation or exchange for another benefit, the amount of expenses eligible for reimbursement, or in-kind benefits,

provided during any taxable year it will not affect the expenses eligible for reimbursement in a later taxable year, and any payments for reimbursements will be paid on or before the last day of the taxable year following the taxable year in which the expense was incurred.

(b) Cause or by Founder without Good Reason. If the Founder's employment is terminated by the Company for Cause or by the Founder other than for Good Reason, then the Company shall provide the Founder with her Accrued Obligations and shall have no further obligation to the Founder hereunder.

(c) Disability. During any period that the Founder fails to perform her duties hereunder as a result of Disability, the Founder shall

## D. C. Toedt 3/24/14 10:51 PM

**Comment [32]:** Reimbursement of expenses incurred is also usually required by law.

## D. C. Toedt 3/24/14 10:53 PM

**Comment [33]:** "Section 409A" refers to a potentially-troublesome provision of the [U.S.] Internal Revenue Code imposing severe tax penalties on attempts to defer compensation and the taxes that would otherwise be due on deferred comp.

continue to receive her full Talent Compensation set forth in Section 5(a) until her employment is terminated pursuant to Section 6(b).

In the event the Founder's employment is terminated for Disability pursuant to Section 6(b), the Company shall provide the Founder with the excess, if any, of her full Talent Compensation over the amount of any long-term disability benefits that she receives under the Company's welfare benefit plans and programs providing 'disability pay' within the meaning of Treasury Regulation Section 31.3121(v)(2)-1(b)(4)(iv)(C), payable in accordance with the normal payroll practices of the Company, for the remainder of the Employment Period and shall have no further obligations to the Founder hereunder.

(d) Death. If the Founder's employment is terminated by her death, the Company shall provide to the Founder's beneficiary, legal representatives or estate, as the case may be, the Founder's full Talent Compensation (less any long-term disability benefits paid to the Founder under the Company's welfare benefit plans and programs providing 'disability pay' within the meaning of Treasury Regulation Section 31.3121(v)(2)-1(b)(4)(iv)(C)), payable in accordance with the normal payroll practices of the Company, for a period equal to the remaining term of the Employment Period and shall have no further obligations hereunder.

**(e) Mitigation**. The Founder shall not be required to mitigate damages with respect to the termination of her employment under this Agreement by seeking other employment or otherwise,

and there shall be no offset against amounts due the Founder under this Agreement on account of subsequent employment except as specifically provided in this Section 8.

Additionally, amounts owed to the Founder under this

Agreement shall not be offset by any claims the Company may have
against the Founder, and the Company's obligation to make the
payments provided for in this Agreement, and otherwise to perform

## D. C. Toedt 3/24/14 10:55 PM

Comment [34]: This could end up being a generous death benefit.

### D. C. Toedt 3/24/14 10:56 PM

**Comment [35]:** So if Martha gets fired without cause, she gets her full severance, whether or not she seeks other work.

its obligations hereunder, shall not be affected by any other circumstances, including, without limitation, any counterclaim, recoupment, defense or other right which the Company may have against the Founder or others.

### 9. Confidential Information; Noncompetition; Nonsolicita-

#### tion; Nondisparagement.

(a) Confidential Information. Except as may be required or appropriate in connection with her carrying out her duties under this Agreement,

the Founder shall not, without the prior written consent of
the Company or as may otherwise be required by law or any legal
process, or as is necessary in connection with any adversarial proceeding against the Company

(in which case the Founder shall cooperate with the Company in obtaining a protective order at the Company's expense against disclosure by a court of competent jurisdiction),

communicate, to anyone

other than the Company and those designated by the

Company or on behalf of the Company in the furtherance of its business or to perform her duties hereunder,

any trade secrets, confidential information, knowledge or data relating to the Company, its affiliates or any businesses or investments of the Company or its affiliates,

obtained by the Founder during the Founder's employment by the Company and MSLO LLC

that is not generally available public knowledge (other than by acts by the Founder in violation of this Agreement.)

(b) Noncompetition. During the Employment Period and until
the 12-month anniversary of the Founder's Date of Termination if
the Founder's employment is terminated by the Company for Cause
or the Founder terminates employment without Good Reason, the

## D. C. Toedt 4/1/14 6:46 AM

**Comment [36]:** Non-competes are tightly regulated in Texas. (California doesn't allow post-employment non-competes at all, and in fact prohibits them.)

464 Founder shall not engage in or become associated with any Compet-465 itive Activity. 466 For purposes of this Section 9(b), a "Competitive Activity" 467 shall mean any business or other endeavor 468 that engages in any country in which the Company has 469 significant business operations to a significant degree 470 in a business that directly competes with all or any sub-471 stantial part of any of the Company's businesses of 472 (i) producing television and other video programs, 473 (ii) designing, developing, licensing, promoting and selling 474 merchandise through catalogs, direct marketing, Internet commerce 475 and retail stores of the product categories in which the Company so 476 participates using the Founder's name, likeness, image, or voice to 477 promote or market any such product or service, 478 (iii) the creation, publication or distribution of regular or 479 special issues of magazines, and 480 (iv) any other business in which the Company is engaged 481 during the term of this Agreement (the activities described in claus-482 es (i) through (iv), in each case determined as of the date of the ac-483 tion alleged to be Competitive Activity, (the "Businesses"); 484 provided, that, a Competitive Activity shall not include 485 (i) any speaking engagement to the extent such speaking engage-486 ment does not promote or endorse a product or service which is 487 competitive with any product or service of the Company, 488 (ii) the writing of any book or article relating to subjects 489 other than the Businesses (e.g., nonfiction relating to the Founder's 490 career or general business advice) or 491 (iii) the television, video or music business so long as such 492 activity does not relate to the Businesses. 493 The Founder shall be considered to have become "associ-494 ated with a Competitive Activity" if she becomes involved as an

## D. C. Toedt 4/1/14 6:47 AM

**Comment [37]:** "In any country in which the Company has significant business operations" – query whether this is a reasonable geographic scope, as is generally required for enforceability in U.S. jurisdictions.

## D. C. Toedt 4/1/14 6:49 AM

**Comment [38]:** All these "provideds" in a long paragraph are really hard to read (and, IMHO, reflect seriously-lazy and –selfish drafters).

owner, employee, officer, director, independent contractor, agent,

partner, advisor, or in any other capacity calling for the rendition of the Founder's personal services, with any individual, partnership, corporation or other organization that is engaged in a Competitive Activity and her involvement relates to a significant extent to the Competitive Activity of such entity;

 $\label{eq:provided} \mbox{provided, however, that the Founder shall not be prohibit-}$   $\mbox{ed from}$ 

- (a) owning less than one percent (1%) of any publicly traded corporation, whether or not such corporation is in competition with the Company or
- (b) serving as a director of a corporation or other entity the primary business of which is not a Competitive Activity.

If, at any time, the provisions of this Section 9(b) shall be determined to be invalid or unenforceable, by reason of being vague or unreasonable as to area, duration or scope of activity, this Section 9(b) shall be considered divisible and shall become and be immediately amended to only such area, duration and scope of activity as shall be determined to be reasonable and enforceable by the court or other body having jurisdiction over the matter; and the Founder agrees that this Section 9(b) as so amended shall be valid and binding as though any invalid or unenforceable provision had not been included herein.

(c) Nonsolicitation. During the Employment Period, and for 12 months after the Founder's Date of Termination if the Founder's employment is terminated by the Company for Cause or the Founder terminates employment without Good Reason, the Founder will not, directly or indirectly,

(1) solicit for employment by other than the Company any person (other than any personal secretary or assistant hired to work directly for the Founder) employed by the Company or its affiliated companies as of the Date of Termination,

## D. C. Toedt 4/1/14 6:50 AM

**Comment [39]:** "Immediately amended": This is known as a "bluepencil" clause; in some jurisdictions, courts are not allowed to honor such clauses.

### D. C. Toedt 4/1/14 6:52 AM

**Comment [40]:** Nonsolicitation obligations are fairly conventional – and to be distinguished from the no-hire / no-solicit agreement between a bunch of Silicon Valley companies such as Apple, Google, Pixar, and others.

(2) solicit for employment by other than the Company any
person known by the Founder (after reasonable inquiry) to be em-
ployed at the time by the Company or its affiliated companies as of
the date of the solicitation or

- (3) solicit any customer or other person with a business relationship with the Company or any of its affiliated companies to terminate, curtail or otherwise limit such business relationship.
- (d) Non-disparagement. During the Employment Term and for two (2) years thereafter,

(i) neither the Founder, nor anyone acting on behalf of the Founder, shall make or publish any disparaging or derogatory statement (whether written or oral) regarding the Company or any of its affiliated companies or businesses, or the current directors or current executive vice presidents and above of any of them, in any public communication, or in any non-public communication with any member of the media or with any other person which may be reasonably expected to be publicly disseminated to the press or the media, and

(ii) neither the Company nor any of its affiliated companies or businesses or their affiliates, current directors or current executive vice presidents and above, nor anyone authorized by the Company to speak on behalf of the Company, shall make or publish any disparaging or derogatory statement (whether written or oral) regarding the Founder in any public communication, or in any non-public communication with any member of the media or with any other person which may be reasonably expected to be publicly disseminated to the press or the media.

**(e)** Injunctive Relief. In the event of a breach or threatened breach of this Section 9, the Founder agrees that the Company shall be entitled to injunctive relief in a court of appropriate jurisdiction to remedy any such breach or threatened breach, the Founder acknowledging that damages would be inadequate and insufficient.

#### D. C. Toedt 4/1/14 6:53 AM

Comment [41]: Non-disparagement: What about deposition testimony?

### D. C. Toedt 4/1/14 6:53 AM

**Comment [42]:** Injunctive relief: Query whether this can constitutionally apply to the "Non-disparagement" clause.

#### 10. Indemnification.

(a) General. The Company agrees that if the Founder is made a party or is threatened to be made a party to any action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative (a "Proceeding"),

by reason of the fact that the Founder is or was a trustee, director, officer or employee of the Company, MSLO LLC, or any predecessor to MSLO LLC (including any sole proprietorship owned by the Founder) or any of their affiliates

or is or was serving at the request of the Company, MSLO LLC, any predecessor to MSLO LLC (including any proprietorship owned by the Founder), or any of their affiliates as a trustee, director, officer, member, employee or agent of another corporation or a partnership, joint venture, limited liability company, trust or other enterprise, including, without limitation, service with respect to employee benefit plans,

whether or not the basis of such Proceeding is alleged action in an official capacity as a trustee, director, officer, member, employee or agent while serving as a trustee, director, officer, member, employee or agent,

the Founder shall be indemnified and held harmless by the Company to the fullest extent authorized by Delaware law, as the same exists or may hereafter be amended, against all Expenses incurred or suffered by the Founder in connection therewith.

Such indemnification and this Section 10(a) shall continue as to the Founder even if the Founder has ceased to be an officer, director, trustee or agent, or is no longer employed by the Company and shall inure to the benefit of her heirs, executors and administrators or upon any termination of this Agreement.

In addition, the Company shall indemnify and hold harmless the Founder in connection with any claim for indemnification under clause (bb) of paragraph 11(a) of the Production Agreement
(as defined in the Prior Employment Agreement).

**(b)** Expenses. As used in this Agreement, the term "Expenses" shall include, without limitation, damages, losses, judgments, liabilities, fines, penalties, excise taxes, settlements, and costs, attorneys' fees, accountants' fees, and disbursements and costs of attachment or similar bonds, investigations, and any expenses of establishing a right to indemnification under this Agreement.

(c) **Enforcement.** If a claim or request under this Section 10 is not paid by the Company or on its behalf, within thirty (30) days after a written claim or request has been received by the Company,

the Founder may at any time thereafter bring suit against the Company to recover the unpaid amount of the claim or request and if successful in whole or in part, the Founder shall be entitled to be paid also the expenses of prosecuting such suit. All obligations for indemnification hereunder shall be subject to, and paid in accordance with, applicable Delaware law.

(d) Partial Indemnification. If the Founder is entitled under any provision of this Agreement to indemnification by the Company for some or a portion of any Expenses, but not, however, for the total amount thereof, the Company shall nevertheless indemnify the Founder for the portion of such Expenses to which the Founder is entitled.

(e) Advance of Expenses. Expenses incurred by the Founder in connection with any Proceeding shall be paid by the Company in advance upon request of the Founder that the Company pay such Expenses,

but only in the event that the Founder shall have delivered in writing to the Company

(i) an undertaking to reimburse the Company for Expenses with respect to which the Founder is not entitled to indemnification and (ii) a statement of her good faith belief that the standard of

#### D. C. Toedt 4/1/14 6:56 AM

**Comment [43]:** Advances of expenses can be very important to executives – they might not have the cash to pay their lawyers (who likely will be expensive). That's especially true if the government were to freeze the executive's bank account and other assets.

#### D. C. Toedt 4/1/14 6:59 AM

**Comment [44]:** "Undertaking to reimburse the Company": This is often required by corporate law as a condition of the Company's being obligated to advance expenses even if the executive might turn out not to be entitled to defense and indemnity. (As a practical matter, if the executive isn't entitled to indemnity, s/he might not have the assets with which to reimburse the company.)

622 conduct necessary for indemnification by the Company has been 623 met. 624 (f) Notice of Claim. The Founder shall give to the Company no-625 tice of any claim made against her for which indemnification will or 626 could be sought under this Agreement. 627 In addition, the Founder shall give the Company such in-628 formation and cooperation as it may reasonably require and as shall 629 be within the Founder's power 630 and at such times and places as are convenient for the 631 Founder. 632 (g) Defense of Claim. With respect to any Proceeding as to 633 which the Founder notifies the Company of the commencement 634 thereof: 635 (i) The Company will be entitled to participate therein at its 636 own expense; 637 (ii) Except as otherwise provided below, to the extent that it 638 may wish, the Company will be entitled to assume the defense 639 thereof, with counsel reasonably satisfactory to the Founder, 640 which in the Company's sole discretion may be regular 641 counsel to the Company 642 and may be counsel to other officers and directors of the 643 Company or any subsidiary. 644 The Founder also shall have the right to employ her own 645 counsel in such action, suit or proceeding if she reasonably con-646 cludes that failure to do so would involve a conflict of interest be-647 tween the Company and the Founder, and under such circumstances 648 the fees and expenses of such counsel shall be at the expense of the 649 Company. 650 (iii) The Company shall not be liable to indemnify the Founder 651 under this Agreement for any amounts paid in settlement of any ac-

### D. C. Toedt 4/1/14 7:00 AM

Comment [45]: Well, well ....

#### D. C. Toedt 4/1/14 7:00 AM

Comment [46]: The Company might have its own interests to protect.

## D. C. Toedt 4/1/14 7:01 AM

**Comment [47]:** This tries to get out in front of later claims of conflict of interest.

#### D. C. Toedt 4/1/14 7:01 AM

Comment [48]: This is fairly typical of defense clauses.

tion or claim effected without its written consent.

The Company shall not settle any action or claim in any manner which would impose any penalty that would not be paid directly or indirectly by the Company or limitation on the Founder without the Founder's written consent.

Neither the Company nor the Founder will unreasonably withhold or delay their consent to any proposed settlement.

(h) Non-Exclusivity. The right to indemnification and the payment of expenses incurred in defending a Proceeding in advance of its final disposition conferred in this Section 10 shall not be exclusive of any other right which the Founder may have or hereafter may acquire under any statute or certificate of incorporation or by-laws of the Company or any subsidiary, agreement, vote of shareholders or disinterested directors or trustees or otherwise.

(i) Timing of Reimbursements or Expenses. To the extent required under Section 409A (as defined in Section 20(a) below), any reimbursements or expenses provided under this Section 10 shall be subject to the limitations on payment and reimbursement of taxable expenses set forth in Section 8(a).

11. <u>Legal Fees and Expenses.</u> If any contest or dispute shall arise between the Company and the Founder regarding any provision of this Agreement, the Company shall reimburse the Founder for all legal fees and expenses reasonably incurred by the Founder in connection with such contest or dispute,

but only if the Founder prevails to a substantial extent with respect to the Founder's claims brought and pursued in connection with such contest or dispute.

Such reimbursement shall be made as soon as practicable following the resolution of such contest or dispute (whether or not appealed) to the extent the Company receives written evidence of such fees and expenses.

### D. C. Toedt 4/1/14 7:02 AM

**Comment [49]:** Ah, the Internal Revenue Code's rules on taxation of deferred compensation raises its ugly head again ....

## D. C. Toedt 4/1/14 7:02 AM

Comment [50]: This is a one-way reimbursement provision.

#### D. C. Toedt 4/1/14 7:04 AM

Comment [51]: Query: Is this weaker than the usual "prevailing party"?

In addition to the foregoing, the Company shall reimburse the Founder for all reasonable legal fees and expenses incurred in connection with the negotiation and execution of this Agreement.

To the extent required under Section 409A (as defined in Section 20(a) below), any reimbursements or expenses provided under this Section 11 shall be subject to the limitations on payment and reimbursement of taxable expenses set forth in Section 8(a).

#### 12. Successors; Binding Agreement.

(a) Company's Successors. No rights or obligations of the

Company under this Agreement may be assigned or transferred,
except that the Company shall require any successor

(whether direct or indirect, by purchase, merger, consolidation or
otherwise) to all or substantially all of the business and/or assets of
the Company to expressly assume and agree to perform this Agreement in the same manner and to the same extent that the Company
would be required to perform it if no such succession had taken
place.

As used in this Agreement, "Company" shall include any successor to its business and/or assets (by merger, purchase or otherwise) which executes and delivers the agreement provided for in this Section 12 or which otherwise becomes bound by all the terms and provisions of this Agreement by operation of law.

**(b) Founder's Successors.** No rights or obligations of the Founder under this Agreement may be assigned or transferred by the Founder

other than her rights to payments or benefits hereunder, which may be transferred only by will or the laws of descent and distribution.

Upon the Founder's death, this Agreement and all rights of the Founder hereunder shall inure to the benefit of and be enforceable by the Founder's beneficiary or beneficiaries, personal or legal

#### D. C. Toedt 4/1/14 7:05 AM

**Comment [52]:** This gives Martha Stewart's lawyers an incentive to do a really, really, REALLY good job negotiating – because the Company is paying the bills ....

#### D. C. Toedt 4/1/14 7:06 AM

**Comment [53]:** Note the difference in wording here from the usual assignment-consent requirement.

## D. C. Toedt 4/1/14 7:07 AM

Comment [54]: Good thinking – plan for death, etc.

714 representatives, or estate, to the extent any such person succeeds 715 to the Founder's interests under this Agreement. 716 If the Founder should die following her Date of Termina-717 tion while any amounts would still be payable to her hereunder if 718 she had continued to live, all such amounts unless otherwise provid-719 ed herein shall be paid in accordance with the terms of this Agree-720 ment to such person or persons so appointed in writing by the 721 Founder, or otherwise to her legal representatives or estate. 722 13. Notice. For the purposes of this Agreement, notices, demands 723 and all other communications provided for in this Agreement shall 724 be in writing and shall be deemed to have been duly given when de-725 livered either personally or by United States certified or registered 726 mail, return receipt requested, postage prepaid, addressed as fol-727 lows: 728 If to the Founder: 729 At her residence address most recently filed with the Company. 730 If to the Company: 731 Martha Stewart Living Omnimedia, Inc. 732 11 West 42nd Street 733 New York, NY 10036 734 Attention: General Counsel 735 Tel: (212) 827-8000 736 Fax: (212) 827-8188 737 or to such other address as any party may have furnished to the 738 others in writing in accordance herewith, except that notices of 739 change of address shall be effective only upon receipt. 740 14. Miscellaneous. No provisions of this Agreement may be 741 amended, modified, or waived unless such amendment or modifica-742 tion is agreed to in writing signed by the Founder and by a duly au-

#### D. C. Toedt 4/1/14 7:08 AM

**Comment [55]:** Notice address: This is a good way to do it for employees or other individuals, whose addresses can change from time to time.

## D. C. Toedt 4/1/14 7:08 AM

**Comment [56]:** Note the wording – it does NOT require "notice" of an address change.

### D. C. Toedt 4/1/14 7:09 AM

**Comment [57]:** Writing requirement: Will that always be enforceable?

thorized officer of the Company, and such waiver is set forth in writ-

ing and signed by the party to be charged.

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No waiver by either party hereto at any time of any breach by the other party hereto of any condition or provision of this

Agreement to be performed by such other party shall be deemed a waiver of similar or dissimilar provisions or conditions at the same or at any prior or subsequent time.

No agreements or representations, oral or otherwise, express or implied, with respect to the subject matter hereof have been made by either party that are not set forth expressly in this Agreement.

The respective rights and obligations of the parties hereunder of this Agreement shall survive the Founder's termination of employment and the termination of this Agreement to the extent necessary for the intended preservation of such rights and obligations.

Except as otherwise provided in Section 10 hereof with respect to indemnification under Delaware law, the validity, interpretation, construction and performance of this Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of New York without regard to its conflicts of law principles.

- **15.** <u>Validity.</u> The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision or provisions of this Agreement shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any other provision of this Agreement, which shall remain in full force and effect.
- **16.** <u>Counterparts.</u> This Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts, each of which shall be deemed to be an original but all of which together will constitute one and the same instrument.
- 17. Entire Agreement. This Agreement, the Intellectual Property
  License Agreement and Preservation Agreement, dated as of October 22, 1999, and the Intangible Asset License Agreement, dated
  June 13, 2008, as amended, set forth the entire agreement of the
  parties hereto in respect of the subject matter contained herein and

#### D. C. Toedt 4/1/14 7:10 AM

**Comment [58]:** This is an unusual way of doing an entire-agreement provision – and it overlaps with the actual entire-agreement clause below.

#### D. C. Toedt 4/1/14 7:09 AM

Deleted: which

supersede all prior agreements, promises, covenants, arrangements, communications, representations or warranties, whether oral or written, by any officer, employee or representative of any party hereto in respect of such subject matter including, without limitation, the Prior Employment Agreement.

The parties agree that the Prior Employment Agreement has been terminated effective as of 11.59 PM on the day immediately preceding the Effective Date.

- **18.** <u>Withholding.</u> All payments hereunder shall be subject to any required withholding of Federal, state and local taxes pursuant to any applicable law or regulation.
- 19. <u>Section Headings.</u> The section headings in this Employment

  Agreement are for convenience of reference only, and they form no

  part of this Agreement and shall not affect its interpretation.

#### 20. Section 409A.

- (a) The intent of the parties is that payments and benefits under this Agreement comply with Section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and the guidance issued thereunder ("Section 409A") and, accordingly, to the maximum extent permitted, all provisions of this Agreement shall be construed in a manner consistent with the requirements for avoiding taxes or penalties under Section 409A. Founder is hereby advised to seek independent advice from her tax advisor(s) with respect to any payments or benefits under this Agreement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Company does not guarantee the tax treatment of any payments or benefits provided under this Agreement, whether pursuant to the Code, federal, state, local or foreign tax laws and regulations.
- (b) If the Executive is deemed on the date of termination of her "separation from service" with the Company to be a "specified employee", each within the meaning of Section 409A(a)(2)(B) of the Code, then with regard to any payment or the providing of any benefit under this Agreement, and any other payment or the provision

## D. C. Toedt 4/1/14 7:11 AM

**Comment [59]:** It might have been better to put this in a separate paragraph for easier skimming.

of any other benefit that is required to be delayed in compliance with Section 409A(a)(2)(B) of the Code, such payment or benefit shall not be made or provided prior to the earlier of (i) the expiration of the six-month period measured from the date of the Founder's separation from service, or (ii) the date of the Founder's death, if and to the extent such six-month delay is required to comply with Section 409A(a)(2)(B) of the Code. In such event, on or promptly after the first business day following the six-month-delay period, all payments delayed pursuant to this Section 20 (whether they would have otherwise been payable in a single sum or in installments in the absence of such delay) shall be paid or reimbursed to the Executive in a lump sum, and any remaining payments and benefits due under this Agreement shall be paid or provided in accordance with the normal payment dates specified for them herein. (c) If under this Agreement, an amount is to be paid in installments, each installment shall be treated as a separate payment for

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ments, each installment shall be treated as a separate payment for purposes of Treasury Regulation Section 1.409A-2(b)(2)(iii).

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF,** the parties hereto have executed this Agreement on this 9<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2009.