

MEDICAL PROPERTIES TRUST INC

Form 424B5

April 25, 2017

[Table of Contents](#)

Filed Pursuant to Rule 424(b)(5)
Registration No. 333-208813

The information in this preliminary prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus is not complete and may be changed. This preliminary prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus are not an offer to sell these securities and are not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any state where the offer or sale is not permitted.

Subject to Completion Dated April 25, 2017

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

(To prospectus dated December 31, 2015)

37,500,000 Shares

Common Stock

We are selling 37,500,000 shares of our common stock.

Our shares trade on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol MPW. On April 24, 2017, the last sale price of the shares as reported on the New York Stock Exchange was \$13.81 per share. To ensure that we maintain our qualification as a real estate investment trust, our charter limits ownership by any person to 9.8% of the lesser of the number or value of our outstanding common shares, with certain exceptions.

Investing in our common stock involves risks. See the risk factors set forth under the heading Risk Factors beginning on page S-14 of this prospectus supplement and beginning on page 18 of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016.

Per Share Total

Public offering price	\$	\$
Underwriting discount	\$	\$
Proceeds, before expenses, to us	\$	\$

We have granted the underwriters an option to purchase up to an additional 5,625,000 shares from us, at the public offering price, less the underwriting discount, for 30 days after the date of this prospectus supplement.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The shares will be ready for delivery on or about _____, 2017 through the book-entry facilities of The Depository Trust Company.

Joint Bookrunning Managers

Goldman, Sachs & Co.

BofA Merrill Lynch

KeyBanc Capital Markets

The date of this prospectus supplement is

, 2017

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Prospectus supplement	
<u>ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT</u>	S-ii
<u>CAUTIONARY LANGUAGE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS</u>	S-iii
<u>PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT SUMMARY</u>	S-1
<u>SUMMARY HISTORICAL CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL DATA</u>	S-10
<u>RISK FACTORS</u>	S-14
<u>USE OF PROCEEDS</u>	S-19
<u>CAPITALIZATION</u>	S-20
<u>PRICE RANGE OF COMMON STOCK AND DIVIDEND POLICY</u>	S-23
<u>UNITED STATES FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS</u>	S-25
<u>UNDERWRITING</u>	S-44
<u>LEGAL MATTERS</u>	S-51
<u>EXPERTS</u>	S-51
<u>INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE</u>	S-51
Prospectus	
<u>ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS</u>	1
<u>ABOUT MEDICAL PROPERTIES TRUST</u>	1
<u>RISK FACTORS</u>	3
<u>WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION</u>	3
<u>INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION BY REFERENCE</u>	4
<u>USE OF PROCEEDS</u>	5
<u>RATIO OF EARNINGS TO COMBINED FIXED CHARGES AND PREFERRED STOCK DIVIDENDS</u>	5
<u>A WARNING ABOUT FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS</u>	6
<u>DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK</u>	8
<u>CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF MARYLAND LAW AND OF OUR CHARTER AND BYLAWS</u>	13
<u>DESCRIPTION OF THE PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT OF OUR OPERATING PARTNERSHIP</u>	18
<u>UNITED STATES FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS</u>	22
<u>SELLING STOCKHOLDERS</u>	45
<u>PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION</u>	45
<u>EXPERTS</u>	49
<u>LEGAL MATTERS</u>	49

Table of Contents

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

This document is in two parts. The first part is this prospectus supplement, which describes the specific terms of this offering. The second part, the accompanying prospectus, gives more general information, some of which may not apply to this offering. You should read this entire document, including this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated herein and therein by reference. In the event that the description of the offering varies between this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, you should rely on the information contained in this prospectus supplement. The accompanying prospectus is part of a registration statement that we filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) using a shelf registration statement. Under the shelf registration process, from time to time, we may offer and sell securities in one or more offerings.

This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus contain, or incorporate by reference, forward-looking statements. Such forward-looking statements should be considered together with the cautionary statements and important factors included or referred to in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated herein and therein by reference. Please see Cautionary Language Regarding Forward-Looking Statements in this prospectus supplement and A Warning About Forward-Looking Statements in the accompanying prospectus.

Unless otherwise stated in this prospectus supplement, we have assumed throughout this prospectus supplement that the underwriters' option to purchase additional shares from us is not exercised.

You should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and any free writing prospectus we authorize to be delivered to you. We have not authorized anyone to provide information different from that contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and any such free writing prospectus. If anyone provides you with different or additional information, you should not rely on it. This prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and any authorized free writing prospectus are not an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy any securities other than the registered shares to which they relate, nor is this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus or any authorized free writing prospectus an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy securities in any jurisdiction to any person to whom it is unlawful to make such offer or solicitation in such jurisdiction. You should assume that the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus, any authorized free writing prospectus or information we previously filed with the SEC is accurate only as of their respective dates. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since those dates.

In this prospectus supplement, the terms MPT, MPW, Medical Properties, we, Company, us, our and ours refer to Medical Properties Trust, Inc. and its subsidiaries, unless otherwise expressly stated or the context otherwise requires.

Table of Contents

CAUTIONARY LANGUAGE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Certain statements contained in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus, any documents we incorporate by reference herein and therein and in any free writing prospectus we authorize to be delivered to you constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of the safe harbor from civil liability provided for such statements by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 (set forth in Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act)), and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act)) and are subject to risks and uncertainties. These forward-looking statements include information about possible or assumed future results of our business, financial condition, liquidity, results of operations, plans and objectives. Statements regarding the following subjects, among others, are forward-looking by their nature:

our business strategy;

our projected operating results;

our ability to close the Steward Transactions, the remaining New MEDIAN Transactions, the Other U.S. Acquisitions and the Deerfield Restructuring (each as defined in Prospectus Supplement Summary Recent Developments) on the time schedule or terms described herein or at all;

our ability to acquire or develop additional facilities in the United States or Europe;

availability of suitable facilities to acquire or develop;

our ability to enter into, and the terms of, our prospective leases and loans;

our ability to raise additional funds through offerings of debt and equity securities and/or property disposals;

our ability to obtain future financing arrangements;

estimates relating to, and our ability to pay, future distributions;

our ability to service our debt and comply with all of our debt covenants;

our intended use of proceeds from this offering;

our ability to compete in the marketplace;

lease rates and interest rates;

market trends;

projected capital expenditures; and

the impact of technology on our facilities, operations and business.

The forward-looking statements are based on our beliefs, assumptions and expectations of our future performance, taking into account information currently available to us. These beliefs, assumptions and expectations can change as a result of many possible events or factors, not all of which are known to us. If a change occurs, our business, financial condition, liquidity and results of operations may vary materially from those expressed in our forward-looking statements. You should carefully consider these risks before you make an investment decision with respect to our common stock, along with, among others, the following factors that could cause actual results to vary from our forward-looking statements:

factors referenced in this prospectus supplement, including those set forth under the section captioned "Risk Factors" and factors referenced in documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement, including those set forth under the sections captioned "Risk Factors," "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and "Business" in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016 (our "2016 10-K");

S-iii

Table of Contents

the risk that a condition to closing under the agreements governing any or all of the Transactions (as defined in Prospectus Supplement Summary Recent Developments) that have not closed as of the date hereof may not be satisfied;

the possibility that the anticipated benefits from any or all of the Transactions will take longer to realize than expected or will not be realized at all;

U.S. (both national and local) and European (in particular Germany, the United Kingdom, Spain and Italy) political, economic, business, real estate, and other market conditions;

the competitive environment in which we operate;

the execution of our business plan;

financing risks;

acquisition and development risks;

potential environmental contingencies and other liabilities;

adverse developments affecting the financial health of one or more of our tenants, including insolvency;

other factors affecting the real estate industry generally or the healthcare real estate industry in particular;

our ability to maintain our status as a real estate investment trust (REIT) for U.S. federal and state income tax purposes;

our ability to attract and retain qualified personnel;

changes in foreign currency exchange rates;

U.S. (both federal and state) and European (in particular Germany, the United Kingdom, Spain and Italy) healthcare and other regulatory requirements; and

U.S. national and local economic conditions, as well as conditions in Europe and any other foreign jurisdictions where we own or may in the future own healthcare facilities, which may have a negative effect on the following, among other things:

the financial condition of our tenants, our lenders, counterparties to our hedged transactions and institutions that hold our cash balances, which may expose us to increased risks of default by these parties;

our ability to obtain equity or debt financing on attractive terms or at all, which may adversely impact our ability to pursue acquisition and development opportunities, refinance existing debt, comply with debt covenants and our future interest expense; and

the value of our real estate assets, which may limit our ability to dispose of assets at attractive prices or obtain or maintain debt financing secured by our properties or on an unsecured basis.

When we use the words believe, expect, may, potential, anticipate, estimate, plan, will, could, inter expressions, we are identifying forward-looking statements. You should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements. Except as required by law, we disclaim any obligation to update such statements or to publicly announce the result of any revisions to any of the forward-looking statements contained in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus, any documents we incorporate by reference herein and therein or any free writing prospectus we authorize to be delivered to you to reflect future events or developments.

S-iv

Table of Contents

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT SUMMARY

This summary highlights selected information contained elsewhere in the prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus or the documents incorporated by reference herein and therein. This summary does not contain all of the information that may be important to you or that you should consider before making an investment decision. You should read carefully this entire prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference herein and therein, including the information under the heading Risk Factors, the financial data and other information included in or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, and any free writing prospectus we authorize to be delivered to you before making an investment decision.

Our Company

We are a self-advised REIT listed on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) focused on investing in and owning net-leased healthcare facilities across the United States and selectively in foreign jurisdictions. We acquire and develop healthcare facilities and lease the facilities to healthcare operating companies under long-term net leases, which require the tenant to bear most of the costs associated with the property. We also make mortgage loans to healthcare operators collateralized by their real estate assets. In addition, we selectively make loans to certain of our operators through our taxable REIT subsidiaries, the proceeds of which they typically use for acquisition and working capital purposes. Finally, from time to time, we acquire a profits or other equity interest in our tenants that gives us a right to share in these tenants' profits and losses.

As of March 31, 2017, our portfolio consisted of 231 properties leased to or mortgaged by 31 operators, of which four properties were under development, 12 properties were in the form of mortgage loans and 32 properties were subject to long-term ground leases. As of March 31, 2017, our properties located in the United States and Europe consisted of the following:

132 general acute care hospitals;

79 inpatient rehabilitation hospitals;

17 long-term acute care hospitals; and

3 medical office buildings.

We conduct substantially all of our business through our operating partnership, MPT Operating Partnership, L.P. We have operated as a REIT since April 6, 2004, and elected REIT status upon the filing of our federal income tax return for our taxable year that ended on December 31, 2004.

Our principal executive offices are located at 1000 Urban Center Drive, Suite 501, Birmingham, Alabama 35242. Our telephone number is (205) 969-3755. Our Internet address is www.medicalpropertystrust.com. The information found on, or otherwise accessible through, our website is not incorporated into, and does not form a part of, this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus or any other report or document we file with the SEC that is incorporated by reference herein or therein. For additional information, see "Where You Can Find More Information" in the

accompanying prospectus and Incorporation by Reference in this prospectus supplement and Incorporation of Certain Information by Reference in the accompanying prospectus.

S-1

Table of Contents**Recent Developments*****Preliminary Results for the Quarter Ended March 31, 2017***

Management estimates a range of net income per diluted share and normalized funds from operations (FFO) per diluted share for the quarter ended March 31, 2017 to be \$0.20 - \$0.22 and \$0.32 - \$0.34, respectively. These are estimates of the financial measures that we expect to report when we issue our financial statements for this period. Management prepared these estimates in good faith based upon the most recent information available to us from our internal reporting procedures as of the date of this prospectus supplement. We and our independent auditors have not completed our normal quarterly review as of and for the quarter ended March 31, 2017, and there can be no assurance that our final results for this period will not differ from the estimates given above and below.

Our consolidated financial statements and related notes as of and for the quarter ended March 31, 2017 are not expected to be filed with the SEC until after this offering is completed. Our actual results may differ materially from the first quarter estimates set forth herein. Accordingly, you should not place undue reliance on these preliminary estimates. These estimates should not be viewed as a substitute for full interim financial statements prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). In addition, these preliminary estimates for the quarter ended March 31, 2017, are not necessarily indicative of the results to be achieved in any future period.

Reconciliation of Non-GAAP Financial Measures

The following table presents a reconciliation of net income attributable to our common stockholders to FFO and normalized FFO, on a per share basis, for the quarter ended March 31, 2017:

	Three Months Ended March 31, 2017 (Unaudited)			
Per diluted share data:				
Net income, less participating securities share in earnings	\$	0.20	to \$	0.22
Depreciation and amortization		0.09	to	0.09
Gain on sale of real estate		(0.02)	to	(0.02)
Funds from operations(1)	\$	0.27	to \$	0.29
Write-off of straight-line rent and net acquisition costs		0.01	to	0.01
Unutilized financing fees/debt refinancing costs		0.04	to	0.04
Normalized funds from operations(1)	\$	0.32	to \$	0.34

(1) See footnote (4) on page S-11 for further information on these non-GAAP measures.

Acquisition of Steward Expansion Portfolio

In February 2017, our current tenant Steward Health Care System LLC (Steward), the largest fully integrated health care services organization and community hospital network in New England, agreed to purchase eight hospitals affiliated with Community Health Systems, Inc. (CHS) in Florida, Ohio and Pennsylvania. Also in February 2017, we

entered into agreements with Steward to acquire the real estate of these eight hospitals (Steward Expansion Portfolio) for an aggregate purchase price of \$301.3 million and lease them to Steward. We expect to complete this transaction in the second quarter of 2017. This transaction is subject to regulatory approval and customary closing conditions, and no assurance can be provided that it will be completed on the terms described, or at all.

S-2

Table of Contents

The table below sets forth pertinent details with respect to the hospitals in the Steward Expansion Portfolio:

Hospital	Property Type	Location	Licensed Beds
Wuesthoff Medical Center	Acute Care	Melbourne, FL	119
Wuesthoff Medical Center	Acute Care	Rockledge, FL	298
Sebastian River Medical Center	Acute Care	Sebastian, FL	154
Northside Medical Center	Acute Care	Youngstown, OH	389
Trumbull Memorial Hospital	Acute Care	Warren, OH	292
Hillside Rehabilitation Hospital	Inpatient Rehabilitation	Warren, OH	69
Sharon Regional Health System	Acute Care	Sharon, PA	251
Easton Hospital	Acute Care	Easton, PA	196
Total Licensed Beds			1,768

The Steward Expansion Portfolio will be leased to Steward under our current master lease agreement with Steward that has an initial term of 15 years with three 5-year extension options, plus annual inflation protected escalators. We expect that the initial GAAP yield of the Steward Expansion Portfolio under the master lease will be approximately 10.1%.

In this prospectus supplement, we refer to the transactions described above with respect to the Steward Expansion Portfolio as the Steward Transactions.

Other U.S. Acquisition Activity and Divestiture

In January 2017, Alecto Healthcare Services LLC (Alecto) entered into a definitive agreement to purchase the operations of the Ohio Valley Medical Center, a 218-bed acute care hospital located in Wheeling, West Virginia, and the East Ohio Regional Hospital, a 139-bed acute care hospital in Martins Ferry, Ohio, from Ohio Valley Health Services, a not-for-profit entity in West Virginia. In March 2017, we agreed to purchase the real estate of these two acute care hospitals for an aggregate purchase price of \$40.0 million and lease them to Alecto, which is the current operator of three facilities in our portfolio. We also agreed to provide up to \$20.0 million in capital improvement funding on these two facilities. The lease on these facilities is expected to have a 15-year initial term with 2% annual minimum increases and three 5-year extension options. We expect that the initial GAAP yield under this lease will be approximately 10.8%. The facilities will be cross-defaulted and cross collateralized with our other hospitals currently operated by Alecto. With these acquisitions, we will also obtain a 20% interest in the operator of these facilities. We expect to consummate this transaction in the second quarter of 2017.

As previously disclosed, in September 2016, we entered into a definitive agreement with RCCH HealthCare Partners (RCCH) to purchase the real estate of St. Joseph Regional Medical Center, a 145-bed acute care hospital in Lewiston, Idaho, and Lourdes Health, a 35-bed acute care hospital in Pasco, Washington for an aggregate purchase price of approximately \$105 million. We expect to consummate the acquisition of St. Joseph Regional Medical Center in the second quarter of 2017 and of Lourdes Health no later than the fourth quarter of 2017, pending regulatory approval.

In this prospectus supplement, we refer to the Alecto and RCCH acquisitions as the Other U.S. Acquisitions.

S-3

Table of Contents

On March 31, 2017, we completed the sale of the real estate of EASTAR Health System, a 320-bed acute care hospital in Muskogee, Oklahoma, for \$64.3 million. We expect to report a gain on sale of approximately \$7.4 million in the first quarter of 2017 as a result of this divestiture, partially offset by a \$0.6 million non-cash charge to write-off related straight-line rent receivables on this property.

European Acquisition Activity

In July and September 2016, we entered into agreements to acquire the real estate assets of 26 non-acute hospitals in Germany, which will be leased to affiliates of Median Kliniken S.a.r.l. (**MEDIAN**), one of our current tenants. The acquisitions are subject to certain closing conditions and regulatory approvals. We expect the acquisition of the real estate (along with the additional investment in the equity of **MEDIAN** to maintain our current 5.1% interest) to approximate 270 million (exclusive of any acquisition costs such as real estate transfer taxes). The properties are expected to be joined to the existing master lease or a new master lease agreement with **MEDIAN** that will have terms similar to the existing master lease. The existing master lease has an initial term of 27 years with annual escalators at the greater of one percent or 70% of the German consumer price index. As of the date of this prospectus supplement, we have closed on the acquisitions of 13 of these facilities for a total of approximately 94 million, and we expect the remaining transactions to close in the second quarter of 2017. In this prospectus supplement, we refer to these transactions as the **New MEDIAN Transactions**.

In April 2017, we completed the acquisition of the long leasehold interest of a development site in Birmingham, England from the Circle Health Group (the tenant of our existing site in Bath, England) for a purchase price of approximately £2.72 million (GBP). Simultaneously with the acquisition we entered into contracts with the property freeholder and the Circle Health Group committing us to construct an acute care hospital on the site. Our total development costs are anticipated to be approximately £30 million (GBP). Circle Health Group is contracted to enter into a lease of the hospital following completion of construction for an initial 15 year term with rent to be calculated based on our total development costs.

Restructuring of Adeptus Leases

On April 4, 2017, we announced that we had agreed in principle with Deerfield Management Company, L.P. (**Deerfield**), a healthcare-only investment firm, to the restructuring in bankruptcy (the **Restructuring**) of Adeptus Health, Inc., a current tenant and operator of facilities representing approximately 6% of our total gross assets after giving effect to the transactions in this Recent Development section. In furtherance of the Restructuring, Adeptus and certain of its subsidiaries filed voluntary petitions for relief under chapter 11 of the United States Bankruptcy Code on April 19, 2017. Funds advised by Deerfield acquired Adeptus' outstanding bank debt and Deerfield has agreed to provide additional financing, along with operational and managerial support, to Adeptus as part of the Restructuring.

The Restructuring and terms of our agreement with Deerfield provide for the payment to us of 100% of the rent payable during the Restructuring, and the assumption by Deerfield of approximately 80% of the master leased facilities at current rental rates. We have agreed to provide a one-time rental credit of approximately \$3.1 million during the 12 months commencing upon Adeptus' emergence from bankruptcy.

On April 4, 2017, we also announced that our Louisiana freestanding emergency facilities currently operated by Adeptus (with a total budgeted investment of up to approximately \$24.5 million)

S-4

Table of Contents

have been re-leased to Ochsner Clinic Foundation (the "Ochsner Leases"), a health care system in the New Orleans area. The Ochsner Leases provide for 15-year initial terms with a 9.2% average minimum lease rate based on our total development and construction cost. Under these leases, Ochsner also has the right to purchase the freestanding emergency facilities (i) at our cost within two years of rent commencement or (ii) for the greater of fair market value or our cost after such two-year period. With this transaction, we expect to incur a non-cash charge of \$0.5 million to write-off the straight-line rent receivables associated with the previous Adeptus lease on these properties.

In addition, we expect to re-lease or sell certain Texas facilities that are not being assumed as part of the Restructuring representing approximately 15% of the current Adeptus master-leased portfolio. These lease or sale transactions are expected to be completed by the end of 2018, and Adeptus is obligated to pay contractual rent to us under the master lease until the earlier of (a) transition to a new operator is complete, or (b) one year following Adeptus' emergence from bankruptcy (for approximately 60 percent of the Texas facilities) or 90 days following Adeptus' emergence from bankruptcy (for the remainder of the Texas facilities).

Financing Transactions

On February 1, 2017, we entered into a new revolving credit and term loan facility (the "Senior Credit Facilities"), comprised of a \$1.3 billion unsecured revolving credit facility, a \$200 million unsecured term loan facility (the "USD term loan facility"), and a 200 million unsecured term loan (the "EUR term loan facility"). The Senior Credit Facilities replaced our then existing \$1.3 billion senior unsecured revolving credit facility and \$250 million unsecured term loan facility. The new unsecured revolving credit facility matures February 1, 2021 and can be extended for an additional 12 months at our option. The USD term loan facility matures on February 1, 2022. The EUR term loan facility matures on January 31, 2020, and can be extended for an additional 12 months at our option. The term loan and the revolving loan commitments under the Senior Credit Facilities may be increased in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$500 million.

On March 4, 2017, we redeemed in full 200 million aggregate principal amount of our 5.750% Senior Notes due 2020 using the proceeds from the EUR term loan facility, together with cash on hand.

On March 24, 2017, we issued 500 million of 3.325% Senior Notes due 2025 to finance the remaining New MEDIAN transactions, including the related costs, expenses and real estate transfer taxes and to pay off the EUR term loan facility.

With the Senior Credit Facilities and the redemption of the 5.750% Senior Notes due 2020, we expect to incur a one-time debt refinancing charge of approximately \$14 million in the first quarter of 2017 (of which \$9 million relates to a redemption premium paid with respect to the 5.750% Senior Notes due 2020).

We collectively refer to all of the transactions described in this "Recent Developments" section and the funding of approximately \$40 million of development projects and capital additions since December 31, 2016, along with 23.5 million of contingent consideration to be paid to MEDIAN in connection with the original transactions, as the "Transactions." See "Risk Factors." We may fail to consummate the Steward Transactions, the remaining New MEDIAN Transactions, the Other U.S. Acquisitions or the Deerfield Restructuring or may not consummate them on the terms described herein.

S-5

Table of Contents

Benefits of the Transactions

Enhances Size and Quality of our Portfolio and Improves Leverage. As described in more detail below, we believe that the Transactions described above will enhance the size and quality of our healthcare portfolio and improve our leverage, while maintaining strong diversity by property type, operator and geographic location. The following shows our portfolio as of December 31, 2016, after giving effect to the Transactions and assumes all committed development activities are fully funded:

Global Property Type

U.S. Property Type

S-6

Table of Contents

By Operator

International Diversification

U.S. Geographic Diversification ^(B)

(A) Includes free standing ERs.

(B) Percentages aggregate to 79.6%, which equals our U.S. concentration.

* Percentages in all charts are based on our total gross assets. Total gross assets is total assets at December 31, 2016 plus accumulated depreciation/amortization and reflects the consummation of the Transactions and assumes all committed development activities and commenced capital improvement projects are fully funded.

Decreases Leverage. We intend to finance a portion of the Transactions with proceeds from this offering. We estimate that our leverage will decrease following this offering, even if the underwriters' option to purchase additional shares from us is not exercised.

Expands Our Size and Scale. When fully consummated and development projects are fully funded, the Transactions will expand our total gross assets to \$7.5 billion, increase the total number of properties in our portfolio to 257, and increase our total number of beds to approximately 29,000.

Further Increases Portfolio Diversification. Pro forma for the Transactions, no single asset in our portfolio of healthcare investments will represent more than 3.2% of total gross assets and our largest tenant will represent 21% of total gross assets.

Table of Contents

Extends Our Lease and Mortgage Loan Maturity Schedule. The Transactions will have the effect of extending our overall weighted average lease and mortgage loan expiration to 14.14 years, pro forma as of December 31, 2016. Pro forma for the Transactions, as of December 31, 2016, approximately 70% of the total annualized rent/interest of our portfolio of healthcare properties will have lease and mortgage loan expirations beyond 2026, with average annual lease and mortgage loan maturities of approximately 2.8% per annum through 2026.

Pipeline

As a key component of our growth strategy, we continually evaluate healthcare property acquisition and development opportunities as they arise. At any given point in time, we typically have a number of potential acquisition and development transactions under active consideration, which are in varying stages of negotiation and due diligence review. One or more of the acquisition transactions we are currently pursuing may be material, individually or in the aggregate. Each of these potential transactions is contingent upon, among other things, the negotiation and execution of definitive agreements and the completion of satisfactory due diligence. We are not party to any binding agreements in respect of any such transactions as of the date of this prospectus supplement and we cannot assure you that we will successfully enter into any such binding agreements or that, if we do, that we will be able to successfully close on the transactions.

We expect to initially fund the contractual purchase price for any potential transactions that we consummate with any remaining net proceeds to us from this offering, together with cash on hand and funds from additional financing arrangements, which may include borrowings under our revolving credit facility, borrowings from other senior debt facilities, net proceeds from other issuances of debt or equity securities, or a combination thereof.

Table of Contents

The Offering

Issuer	Medical Properties Trust, Inc.
Shares of common stock to be offered by us in this offering	37,500,000 shares. We have also granted the underwriters a 30-day option to purchase up to 5,625,000 additional shares of our common stock.
Shares of common stock to be outstanding after this offering	358,369,452 shares (363,994,452 shares if the underwriters exercise their option to purchase additional shares from us in full).
NYSE symbol	MPW
Restrictions on ownership	Our charter contains restrictions on the ownership and transfer of our capital stock that are intended to assist us in complying with these requirements and continuing to qualify as a REIT. Specifically, without the approval of our Board of Directors, no person or persons acting as a group may own more than 9.8% of the number or value, whichever is more restrictive, of the outstanding shares of our common stock. See Description of Capital Stock in the accompanying prospectus.
Use of Proceeds	We estimate that the net proceeds from this offering will be approximately \$496.2 million (\$570.7 million if the underwriters exercise their option to purchase additional shares from us in full), after deducting underwriting discounts and commissions and our estimated offering expenses. We intend to use the net proceeds from this offering to fund the cash purchase price payable by us in connection with the Transactions, with the balance of the net proceeds to be used to repay borrowings under our revolving credit facility. We may use any remaining net proceeds from this offering to partially fund the contractual purchase price for any potential transactions that we consummate in the future. Pending such use of the net proceeds from this offering, we intend to invest the net proceeds in short-term interest-bearing securities. This offering is not conditioned upon the successful completion of the Steward Transactions, the remaining New MEDIAN Transactions or the Other U.S. Acquisitions and there is no assurance that the

conditions required to consummate the Steward Transactions, the remaining New MEDIAN Transactions or the Other U.S. Acquisitions will be satisfied on the anticipated schedule or at all. See Use of Proceeds and Risk Factors.

The number of shares of common stock to be outstanding after this offering is based upon 320.8 million shares outstanding as of April 24, 2017. The number of shares of common stock to be outstanding after this offering does not include, as of April 24, 2017, 4.8 million shares reserved for issuance in connection with equity-based compensation awards under our 2013 Equity Incentive Plan.

S-9

Table of Contents**SUMMARY HISTORICAL CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL DATA**

The summary historical consolidated financial data presented below as of December 31, 2015 and 2016 and for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2015 and 2016, have been derived from our audited consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes appearing in our 2016 10-K, which is incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement.

You should read the following summary historical consolidated financial data in conjunction with Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and our audited consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes included in our 2016 10-K, which is incorporated by reference herein. See Where You Can Find More Information in the accompanying prospectus and Incorporation by Reference in this prospectus supplement.

	Year ended December 31,		
	2014(1)	2015(1)	2016(1)
	In thousands, except per share data		
Operating data			
Total revenues	\$ 312,532	\$ 441,878	\$ 541,137
Real estate depreciation and amortization (expense)	(53,938)	(69,867)	(94,374)
Property-related and general and administrative (expenses)	(39,125)	(47,431)	(51,623)
Acquisition expenses(2)	(26,389)	(61,342)	(46,273)
Impairment (charge)	(50,128)		(7,229)
Interest and other income (expense)	5,183	175	(1,618)
Gain on sale of real estate and other dispositions, net	2,857	3,268	61,224
Debt refinancing/unutilized financing (expense)	(1,698)	(4,367)	(22,539)
Interest (expense)	(98,156)	(120,884)	(159,597)
Income tax benefit (expense)(3)	(340)	(1,503)	6,830
Income from continuing operations	50,798	139,927	225,938
Income (loss) from discontinued operations	(2)		(1)
Net income	50,796	139,927	225,937
Net income attributable to non-controlling interests	(274)	(329)	(889)
Net income attributable to MPT common stockholders	\$ 50,522	\$ 139,598	\$ 225,048
Income from continuing operations attributable to MPT common stockholders per diluted share	\$ 0.29	\$ 0.63	\$ 0.86
Income from discontinued operations attributable to MPT common stockholders per diluted share			
Net income attributable to MPT common stockholders per diluted share	\$ 0.29	\$ 0.63	\$ 0.86
Weighted average number of common shares diluted	170,540	218,304	261,072

S-10

Table of Contents

	As of December 31,	
	2015	2016
	In thousands	
Balance sheet data		
Real estate assets at cost	\$ 3,924,701	\$ 4,965,968
Real estate accumulated depreciation / amortization	(257,928)	(325,125)
Mortgage and other loans	1,422,403	1,216,121
Cash and cash equivalents	195,541	83,240
Other assets	324,634	478,332
Total assets	\$ 5,609,351	\$ 6,418,536
Debt, net	\$ 3,322,541	\$ 2,909,341
Other liabilities	179,545	255,967
Total equity	2,107,265	3,253,228
Total liabilities and equity	\$ 5,609,351	\$ 6,418,536

	Year ended December 31,		
	2014(1)	2015(1)	2016(1)
	In thousands, except per share data		
Other Data			
Dividends declared per common share	\$ 0.84	\$ 0.88	\$ 0.91
FFO information:(4)			
Funds from operations	\$ 106,682	\$ 205,168	\$ 253,478
Normalized funds from operations	\$ 181,741	\$ 274,805	\$ 334,826
FFO information per diluted share:(4)			
Funds from operations	\$ 0.63	\$ 0.94	\$ 0.97
Normalized funds from operations	\$ 1.06	\$ 1.26	\$ 1.28

- (1) Cash paid for acquisitions and other related investments totaled \$767.7 million, \$1.8 billion and \$1.5 billion in 2014, 2015 and 2016, respectively. The results of operations resulting from these investments are reflected in our consolidated financial statements from the dates invested. See Note 3 in Item 8 of our 2016 10-K for further information on acquisitions of real estate, new loans and other investments. We funded these investments generally from issuing common stock, utilizing additional amounts of our revolving facility, incurring additional debt or from the sale of facilities. See Notes 3, 4 and 9 in Item 8 of our 2016 10-K for further information regarding our property disposals, our debt, and our common stock, respectively.
- (2) Includes \$5.8 million, \$37.0 million and \$30.1 million in transfer and capital gains taxes in 2014, 2015 and 2016, respectively, related to our property acquisitions in foreign jurisdictions.
- (3) Includes a \$9.1 million tax benefit generated from the reversal of foreign valuation allowances and acquisition expenses incurred by certain international subsidiaries in 2016.
- (4) Investors and analysts following the real estate industry utilize funds from operations, or FFO, as a supplemental performance measure. FFO, reflecting the assumption that real estate asset values rise or fall with market conditions, principally adjusts for the effects of GAAP depreciation and amortization of real estate assets, which

assumes that the value of real estate diminishes predictably over time. We compute FFO in accordance with the definition provided by the National Association of Real Estate Investment Trusts, or NAREIT, which represents net income (loss) (computed in accordance with GAAP), excluding gains (losses) on sales of real estate and impairment charges on real estate assets, plus real estate depreciation and amortization and after adjustments for unconsolidated partnerships and joint ventures.

S-11

Table of Contents

In addition to presenting FFO in accordance with the NAREIT definition, we also disclose normalized FFO, which adjusts FFO for items that relate to unanticipated or non-core events or activities or accounting changes that, if not noted, would make comparison to prior period results and market expectations potentially less meaningful to investors and analysts.

We believe that the use of FFO, combined with the required GAAP presentations, improves the understanding of our operating results among investors and the use of normalized FFO makes comparisons of our operating results with prior periods and other companies more meaningful. While FFO and normalized FFO are relevant and widely used supplemental measures of operating and financial performance of REITs, they should not be viewed as a substitute measure of our operating performance since the measures do not reflect either depreciation and amortization costs or the level of capital expenditures and leasing costs necessary to maintain the operating performance of our properties, which can be significant economic costs that could materially impact our results of operations. FFO and normalized FFO should not be considered an alternative to net income (loss) (computed in accordance with GAAP) as indicators of our financial performance or to cash flow from operating activities (computed in accordance with GAAP) as an indicator of our liquidity.

The following tables present a reconciliation of net income attributable to MPT common stockholders to FFO and normalized FFO for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2015 and 2016 (in thousands, except per share data):

	Year ended December 31,		
	2014	2015	2016
FFO information:			
Net income attributable to MPT common stockholders	\$ 50,522	\$ 139,598	\$ 225,048
Participating securities share in earnings	(895)	(1,029)	(559)
Net income, less participating securities share in earnings	\$ 49,627	\$ 138,569	\$ 224,489
Depreciation and amortization	53,938	69,867	96,157
Real estate impairment charge	5,974		
Gain on sale of real estate	(2,857)	(3,268)	(67,168)
Funds from operations	\$ 106,682	\$ 205,168	\$ 253,478
Write-off of straight line rent and other	2,818	3,928	3,063
Transaction costs from non-real estate dispositions			5,944
Unutilized financing fees/debt refinancing costs	1,698	4,367	22,539
Impairment charges	44,154		7,229
Acquisition expenses, net of tax benefit	26,389	61,342	46,529
Release of valuation allowance			(3,956)
Normalized funds from operations	\$ 181,741	\$ 274,805	\$ 334,826

S-12

Table of Contents

	Year ended December 31,		
	2014	2015	2016
Per diluted share data:			
Net income, less participating securities share in earnings	\$ 0.29	\$ 0.63	\$ 0.86
Depreciation and amortization	0.31	0.32	0.37
Real estate impairment charge	0.04		
Gain on sale of real estate	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.26)
Funds from operations	\$ 0.63	\$ 0.94	\$ 0.97
Write-off of straight line rent and other	0.02	0.02	0.01
Transaction costs from non-real estate dispositions			0.02
Unutilized financing fees/debt refinancing costs		0.02	0.09
Impairment charges	0.26		0.03
Acquisition expenses, net of tax benefit	0.15	0.28	0.18
Release of valuation allowance			(0.02)
Normalized funds from operations	\$ 1.06	\$ 1.26	\$ 1.28

Table of Contents

RISK FACTORS

An investment in our common stock involves various risks, including those set forth below as well as the risk factors included in our 2016 10-K, which is incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. You should carefully consider these risk factors, together with the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, before making an investment in our common stock. These risks are not the only ones we face. Additional risks not presently known to us or that we currently deem immaterial may also adversely affect our business operations. These risks could materially adversely affect, among other things, our business, financial condition or results of operations, and could cause the trading price of our common stock to decline, resulting in the loss of all or part of your investment.

We may fail to consummate the Steward Transactions, the remaining New MEDIAN Transactions or the Other U.S. Acquisitions or may not consummate them on the terms described herein.

This offering is expected to be consummated prior to the closing of the Steward Transactions, the remaining New MEDIAN Transactions and the Other U.S. Acquisitions. We closed on 13 of the New MEDIAN Transactions prior to the date of this prospectus supplement. We expect the Steward Transactions and the remaining New MEDIAN Transactions to close in the second quarter of 2017 and the Other U.S. Acquisitions to close during 2017. We intend to apply a portion of the net proceeds from this offering to fund the purchase price and related costs and expenses of the Steward Transactions and the Other U.S. Acquisitions. The consummation of the Steward Transactions, the remaining New MEDIAN Transactions and the Other U.S. Acquisitions are subject to certain customary regulatory and other closing conditions and there can be no assurance that such conditions will be satisfied on the anticipated schedules or at all.

This offering is not conditioned on completion of the Steward Transactions, the remaining New MEDIAN Transactions or the Other U.S. Acquisitions and by purchasing the common stock in this offering you are investing in us on a standalone basis and recognize that we may not consummate the Steward Transactions, the remaining New MEDIAN Transactions or the Other U.S. Acquisitions or realize the expected benefits from the New MEDIAN Transactions and the other Transactions that closed prior to the date of this prospectus supplement or, if consummated, the Steward Transactions, the remaining New MEDIAN Transactions and the Other U.S. Acquisitions. In the event that we fail to consummate the Steward Transactions, the remaining New MEDIAN Transactions or the Other U.S. Acquisitions, we will have incurred a significant amount of indebtedness and expenses and we will not have acquired all of the assets that are expected to produce the earnings and cash flow we anticipated. As a result, failure to consummate the Steward Transactions, the remaining New MEDIAN Transactions or the Other U.S. Acquisitions would adversely affect our business, financial condition and cash flows, and could cause the trading price of our common stock to decline.

If the Steward Transactions, the remaining New MEDIAN Transactions and the Other U.S. Acquisitions are not completed, we could be subject to a number of risks that may adversely affect our business, financial condition, cash flows and the trading price of our common stock, including:

our management's attention may be diverted from our day-to-day business and our employees and our relationships with customers may be disrupted as a result of efforts relating to attempting to consummate the Steward Transactions, the remaining New MEDIAN Transactions and the Other U.S. Acquisitions;

the trading price of our common stock may decline to the extent that the issue price of our common stock reflects a market assumption that the Steward Transactions, the remaining New MEDIAN Transactions and the Other U.S. Acquisitions will be completed;

S-14

Table of Contents

we must pay certain costs related to the Steward Transactions, the remaining New MEDIAN Transactions and the Other U.S. Acquisitions, such as legal and accounting fees and expenses, regardless of whether the Steward Transactions, the remaining New MEDIAN Transactions and the Other U.S. Acquisitions are consummated; and

we would not realize the benefits we expect to realize from consummating the Steward Transactions, the remaining New MEDIAN Transactions and the Other U.S. Acquisitions.

We are subject to additional risks as a result of the completion of the New MEDIAN Transactions and the other transactions that have closed to date, and, if the Steward Transactions, the remaining New MEDIAN Transactions and the Other U.S. Acquisitions are completed, we may be subject to additional risks.

In addition to the risks described in our 2016 10-K relating to healthcare facilities that we may purchase from time to time, we are subject to additional risks as a result of the completion of the New MEDIAN Transactions and the other transactions that have closed to date, and, if the Steward Transactions, the remaining New MEDIAN Transactions and the Other U.S. Acquisitions are completed, we would also be subject to additional risks, including without limitation the following:

we have no previous business experience with the facilities that we acquired in the completed New MEDIAN Transactions and the other transactions and the facilities that we expect to acquire in the Steward Transactions, the remaining New MEDIAN Transactions and the Other U.S. Acquisitions, and we may face difficulties in successfully integrating them with our current portfolio and operating structure;

underperformance of the facilities acquired in the completed New MEDIAN Transactions and the other transactions and/or the facilities we expect to acquire in the Steward Transactions, the remaining New MEDIAN Transactions and the Other U.S. Acquisitions due to various factors, including unfavorable terms and conditions of any existing financing arrangements, the master lease or mortgage loans relating to the facilities, disruptions caused by the integration of such facilities or changes in economic conditions;

the properties to be acquired in the Steward Transactions and leased to Steward are located in states where Steward has never operated before, and Steward may incur costs or setbacks as they gain experience in new markets and geographic regions;

diversion of our management's attention away from other business concerns; and

exposure to any undisclosed or unknown potential liabilities relating to the facilities that we acquired in the completed New MEDIAN Transactions and the other transactions and the facilities that we expect to acquire in the Steward Transactions, the remaining New MEDIAN Transactions and the Other U.S. Acquisitions.

Our indebtedness may affect our ability to operate our business, and may have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations, and our ability to make distributions to our stockholders. We and our subsidiaries may incur additional indebtedness, including secured indebtedness.

As of December 31, 2016, after giving effect to the Transactions, the issuance of the common stock offered hereby and application of the proceeds from this offering as described in Use of Proceeds, we would have had \$3.2 billion of indebtedness (none of which would have been secured indebtedness) and our subsidiaries would have had \$13 million of indebtedness. In addition, as of December 31, 2016, after giving effect to the Transactions, the issuance of the common stock offered hereby and the application of the proceeds from this offering as described in Use of Proceeds, we would have had \$0.3 billion of borrowings outstanding and \$1.0 billion of availability under our revolving credit facility.

S-15

Table of Contents

Our indebtedness could have significant adverse consequences to our business and the holders of our common stock, such as:

requiring us to use a substantial portion of our cash flow from operations to service our indebtedness, which would reduce the available cash flow to fund working capital, capital expenditures, development projects and other general corporate purposes;

limiting our ability to obtain additional financing to fund our working capital needs, acquisitions, capital expenditures or other debt service requirements or for other purposes;

limiting our ability to compete with other companies who are not as highly leveraged, as we may be less capable of responding to adverse economic and industry conditions;

restricting us from making strategic acquisitions, developing properties or exploiting business opportunities;

restricting the way in which we conduct our business because of financial and operating covenants in the agreements governing our and our subsidiaries' existing and future indebtedness, including, in the case of certain indebtedness of subsidiaries, certain covenants that restrict the ability of subsidiaries to pay dividends or make other distributions to us;

exposing us to potential events of default (if not cured or waived) under financial and operating covenants contained in our or our subsidiaries' debt instruments that could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and operating results;

increasing our vulnerability to a downturn in general economic conditions; and

limiting our ability to react to changing market conditions in our industry and in our tenants' and borrowers' industries.

Furthermore, as of December 31, 2016, after giving effect to the Transactions, the issuance of the common stock offered hereby and the application of the proceeds from this offering as described in "Use of Proceeds," we would have had \$0.5 billion of indebtedness, in the form of borrowings outstanding under our Senior Credit Facilities, that bore interest at variable rates. In addition, our future borrowings may bear interest at variable rates. If interest rates increase significantly, our ability to borrow additional funds may be reduced and the risk related to our indebtedness would intensify.

In addition to our debt service obligations, our operations may require substantial investments on a continuing basis. Our ability to make scheduled debt payments, to refinance our obligations with respect to our indebtedness and to fund capital and non-capital expenditures necessary to maintain the condition of our operating assets and properties (to the extent not paid by our tenants), as well as to provide capacity for the growth of our business, depends on our

financial and operating performance, which, in turn, is subject to prevailing economic conditions and financial, business, competitive, legal and other factors.

Subject to the restrictions that are contained in many of our debt instruments, including our Senior Credit Facilities and the indentures governing our 4.000% senior notes due 2022, our 6.375% senior notes due 2022, our 6.375% senior notes due 2024, our 5.500% senior notes due 2024, our 5.250% senior notes due 2026 and our 3.325% senior notes due 2025 (collectively, the Existing Notes), we may incur significant additional indebtedness, including additional secured debt. Although the terms of these agreements contain restrictions on the incurrence of additional debt, these restrictions are subject to a number of qualifications and exceptions, and additional indebtedness incurred in compliance with these restrictions could be significant. In addition, certain restrictions in the indentures governing the Existing Notes on our ability to incur indebtedness, including secured indebtedness, would be relaxed to the extent such securities are upgraded one notch to a rating of Baa3 or higher from Moody's at a time when such securities are rated BBB- or higher from S&P. If we incur additional debt in the future, the risks described above could increase.

S-16

Table of Contents

Our revenues will be dependent upon our relationship with and success of our largest tenants, Steward, Prime Healthcare Services, Inc. (Prime), MEDIAN, Ernest Health, Inc. (Ernest), RCCH and Adeptus.

After giving effect to the Transactions, as of December 31, 2016, affiliates of Steward, Prime, MEDIAN, Ernest, RCCH and Adeptus would have leased or mortgaged facilities representing 21.0%, 15.1%, 13.5%, 8.5%, 6.9% and 5.7%, respectively, of our total gross assets.

Our relationships with these operators and their financial performance and resulting ability to satisfy their lease and loan obligations to us are material to our financial results and our ability to service our debt and make distributions to our stockholders. We are dependent upon the ability of these operators to make rent and loan payments to us, and any failure to meet these obligations could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

Our tenants operate in the healthcare industry, which is highly regulated by federal, state, and local laws and changes in regulations may negatively impact our tenants' operations until they are able to make the appropriate adjustments to their business. For example, recent modifications to regulations concerning patient criteria and reimbursement for long-term acute care hospitals, or LTACHs, have resulted in volume and profitability declines in certain facilities operated by Ernest.

We are aware of various federal and state inquiries, investigations and other proceedings currently affecting several of our tenants and would expect such government compliance and enforcement activities to be ongoing at any given time with respect to one or more of our tenants, either on a confidential or public basis. During the second quarter of 2016, the Department of Justice joined a lawsuit against Prime alleging irregular admission practices intended to increase the number of inpatient care admissions of Medicare patients, including unnecessarily classifying some patients as inpatient rather than observation. Other large acute hospital operators have also recently defended similar allegations, sometimes resulting in financial settlements and agreements with regulators to modify admission policies, resulting in lower reimbursements for those patients.

On April 19, 2017, Adeptus filed voluntary petitions for relief under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Texas, Dallas Division, to pursue a chapter 11 reorganization plan (the Plan). Pursuant to and subject to the terms of the Plan, on the effective date of the Plan, among other things, all of Adeptus' existing facility leases with us will be assumed by Deerfield, and, in accordance with section 365(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, all cure amounts due and owing to the MPT lessors under such leases shall be paid. See Recent Developments Restructuring of Adeptus Leases above. Any failure of Adeptus to achieve a successful restructuring in bankruptcy could affect its ability to pay us rent and therefore have a significant adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

An adverse result to Ernest, Prime, Adeptus, or one of our larger tenants in regulatory proceedings or financial or operational setbacks may have a material adverse effect on the relevant tenant's operations and financial condition and on its ability to make required lease and loan payments to us, which could negatively affect our ability to service our debt and make distributions to our stockholders. The protections that we have in place to protect against such failure or delay, which can include letters of credit, cross default provisions, parent guarantees, repair reserves and the right to exercise remedies including the termination of the lease and replacement of the operator, may prove to be insufficient, in whole or in part, or may entail further delays. In instances where we have an equity investment in our tenant's operations, in addition to the effect on these tenants' ability to meet their financial obligation to us, our ownership and investment interests may also be negatively impacted.

Table of Contents

Future sales of our common stock could cause the market price for our common stock to decline.

Sales of a substantial amount of shares of our common stock in the public market, particularly sales by our directors, executive officers and significant stockholders, or the perception that these sales could occur, could cause the market price of our common stock to decline and may make it more difficult for you to sell your common stock at a time and price that you deem appropriate.

Our executive officers and directors have entered into lock-up agreements with the underwriters under which they have agreed, subject to specific exceptions described in the section titled **Underwriting**, not to sell, directly or indirectly, any shares of common stock without the permission of Goldman, Sachs & Co., Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated and KeyBanc Capital Markets Inc., for a period of 45 days following the date of this prospectus. We refer to such period as the lock-up period. When the lock-up period expires, we and our securityholders subject to a lock-up agreement will be able to sell our shares in the public market. In addition, Goldman, Sachs & Co., Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated and KeyBanc Capital Markets Inc., may, in their sole discretion, release all or some portion of the shares subject to lock-up agreements at any time and for any reason. Sales of a substantial number of such shares upon expiration of the lock-up, the perception that such sales may occur, or early release of these agreements, could cause our market price to fall or make it more difficult for you to sell your common stock at a time and price that you deem appropriate.

Our preliminary results for the Quarter Ended March 31, 2017 could vary from our final results.

We have provided ranges of our estimated net income per diluted share and normalized FFO for the three month period ended March 31, 2017. See **Prospectus Supplement Summary Recent Developments**. The ranges provided are estimates of the financial measures we expect to report when we issue our financial statements for the period ended March 31, 2017. Management prepared these estimates in good faith based upon the most recent information available to us from our internal reporting procedures as of the date of this prospectus supplement. We and our independent auditors have not completed our normal quarterly review as of and for the quarter ended March 31, 2017, and there can be no assurance that our final results for this period will not differ from the estimates provided. Estimates of financial results are inherently uncertain. A variance between our estimated and final results may materially reduce the market price of our common stock.

Table of Contents

USE OF PROCEEDS

We expect to receive approximately \$496.2 million in net proceeds from the sale of the common stock to be issued in this offering (\$570.7 million if the underwriters exercise their option to purchase additional shares in full), after deducting underwriting discounts and commissions and our estimated offering expenses. We intend to use the net proceeds from this offering to fund the cash purchase price payable by us in connection with the Transactions, with the balance of the net proceeds to be used to repay borrowings under our revolving credit facility. We may use any remaining net proceeds from this offering to partially fund the contractual purchase price for any potential transactions that we consummate in the future. Pending such use of the net proceeds from this offering, we intend to invest the net proceeds in short-term interest-bearing securities.

Our revolving credit facility matures in February 2021 with an additional one-year extension at our option. Loans under the revolving credit facility may be made as either ABR Loans or Eurodollar Loans. The applicable margin for revolving loans that are ABR Loans is set initially at 0.25% and is adjustable on a sliding scale from 0.00% to 0.65% based on our current credit rating. The applicable margin for revolving loans that are Eurodollar Loans is set initially at 1.25% and is adjustable on a sliding scale from 0.875% to 1.65% based on our current credit rating.

Affiliates of the underwriters are lenders under our revolving credit facility. To the extent that we use any of the net proceeds of this offering to repay borrowings outstanding under our revolving credit facility, such affiliates of the underwriters will receive their proportionate share of any amount of our revolving credit facility that is repaid with the net proceeds of this offering. See **Plan of Distribution** in this prospectus supplement.

This offering is not conditioned upon the successful completion of the Steward Transactions, the remaining New MEDIAN Transactions or the Other U.S. Acquisitions. Accordingly, even if the Steward Transactions, the remaining New MEDIAN Transactions or the Other U.S. Acquisitions do not occur, the shares of our common stock sold in this offering will remain outstanding, and we will not have any obligation to offer to repurchase any or all of the shares of common stock sold in this offering.

Table of Contents

CAPITALIZATION

The following table sets forth our cash and cash equivalents and capitalization as of December 31, 2016:

on an actual basis;

on an as adjusted basis, giving effect to the following transactions subsequent to December 31, 2016 (see Prospectus Supplement Summary Recent Developments):

- (1) the closing of the Senior Credit Facilities, including borrowings of an additional \$50 million under our revolving credit facility, an outstanding \$200 million unsecured term loan facility denominated in dollars and an outstanding 200 million unsecured term loan facility denominated in euros plus fees and expenses;
- (2) the closing of the acquisition of one non-acute hospital in Germany (part of the New MEDIAN Transactions), including related fees, expenses and real estate transfer taxes, for approximately 9.5 million of cash on hand;
- (3) the redemption of all of the then outstanding 200 million aggregate principal amount of our 5.750% Senior Notes due 2020 plus fees and expenses (including a \$9 million redemption premium) with 200 million of borrowings under our EUR term loan facility and 13 million cash on hand;
- (4) the funding of approximately \$40 million of development projects and capital additions using borrowings under our revolving credit facility;
- (5) the sale of 500 million 3.325% Senior Notes due 2025 on March 24, 2017, offset by (i) the full prepayment of our 200 million EUR term loan facility, (ii) the anticipated payment of 23.5 million of acquisition expenses incurred and accrued in 2016 associated with contingent consideration adjustments involving the seller's capital gain taxes on our MEDIAN transaction in 2015, and (iii) the anticipated financing of 176 million for the closing of the remaining New MEDIAN Transactions;
- (6) the sale of the real estate of EASTAR Health System for \$64.3 million; and
- (7) the acquisition of a development site in Birmingham, England from the Circle Health Group for £2.72 million.

on an as further adjusted basis, giving effect to:

- (1) the sale of our common stock in this offering (after deducting underwriting discounts and offering expenses);
- (2) the financing for the closing of the Steward Transactions and the Alecto and RCCH acquisitions, including related fees, expenses and real estate transfer taxes, with approximately \$447 million of the net proceeds from this offering; and
- (3) the repayment of borrowing under our revolving credit facility with approximately of the net proceeds from this offering.

S-20

Table of Contents

You should read the below table in conjunction with Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations included in our 2016 10-K, which is incorporated by reference herein.

	As of December 31, 2016		
	Actual	As adjusted	As further adjusted(1)
	(amounts in thousands)		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 83,240	\$ 219,979	\$
Indebtedness:			
Revolving credit facility	\$ 290,000	\$ 380,000	\$
6.375% senior notes due 2022:			
Principal amount	350,000	350,000	350,000
Unamortized premium	1,814	1,814	1,814
	351,814	351,814	351,814
5.750% senior notes due 2020(2)	210,340		
4.000% senior notes due 2022(2)	525,850	525,850	525,850
6.375% senior notes due 2024	500,000	500,000	500,000
5.500% senior notes due 2024	300,000	300,000	300,000
5.250% senior notes due 2026	500,000	500,000	500,000
3.325% senior notes due 2025(2)		525,850	525,850
USD term loans(3)	263,101	213,101	213,101
EUR term loans(2)			
Debt issue costs, net	(31,764)	(33,695)	(33,695)
Total long-term debt	\$ 2,909,341	\$ 3,262,920	\$
Stockholders' equity:			
Preferred stock, \$0.001 par value: 10,000 shares authorized; no shares outstanding, actual, as adjusted and as further adjusted			
Common stock, \$0.001 par value: 500,000 shares authorized; 320,514 shares issued and outstanding, actual and as adjusted; and shares issued and outstanding, as further adjusted	321	321	
Additional paid-in capital	3,775,336	3,775,336	
Distributions in excess of net income	(434,114)	(453,506)	(453,506)
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(92,903)	(92,903)	(92,903)
Treasury shares, at cost	(262)	(262)	(262)
Total stockholders' equity	\$ 3,248,378	\$ 3,228,986	\$
Total capitalization	\$ 6,157,719	\$ 6,491,906	\$

(1) The as further adjusted information set forth above is illustrative only.

- (2) These senior notes and term loans are denominated in euros. Reflects an exchange rate of \$1.0517 per 1.00, which was the rate on December 31, 2016 as reported by Bloomberg.
- (3) The Actual column reflects borrowings of \$250.0 million under our senior unsecured term loan facility and \$13.1 million outstanding on a mortgage loan that we assumed in connection with our acquisition of the Northland LTACH Hospital in February 2011 as of December 31, 2016, and the As adjusted and As further adjusted columns reflect the \$50 million decrease in our USD term loan facility as part of the closing of the new Senior Credit Facilities.

S-21

Table of Contents

This offering is not conditioned upon the successful completion of the Steward Transactions, the remaining New MEDIAN Transactions or the Other U.S. Acquisitions. Accordingly, even if the Steward Transactions, the remaining New MEDIAN Transactions or the Other U.S. Acquisitions do not occur, the shares of our common stock sold in this offering will remain outstanding, and we will not have any obligation to offer to repurchase any or all of the shares of common stock sold in this offering. This prospectus supplement is not an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy any security that may be sold or placed in any subsequent debt financing by Medical Properties Trust, Inc. or any of its affiliates.

You should read the above table in conjunction with Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations included in our 2016 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016, which is incorporated by reference herein, and the audited and unaudited financial statements that are incorporated by reference herein.

S-22

Table of Contents**PRICE RANGE OF COMMON STOCK AND DIVIDEND POLICY**

Our common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol MPW. The following table sets forth the high and low sales prices for our common stock for the periods indicated, as reported by the New York Stock Exchange Composite Tape, and the distributions paid by us with respect to each such period.

	High	Low	Distributions
Year ended December 31, 2014			
First quarter	\$ 13.66	\$ 12.09	\$ 0.21
Second quarter	\$ 13.97	\$ 12.65	\$ 0.21
Third quarter	\$ 14.14	\$ 12.18	\$ 0.21
Fourth quarter	\$ 14.22	\$ 12.23	\$ 0.21
Year ending December 31, 2015			
First quarter	\$ 15.62	\$ 13.81	\$ 0.21
Second quarter	\$ 15.42	\$ 13.04	\$ 0.22
Third quarter	\$ 13.98	\$ 10.79	\$ 0.22
Fourth quarter	\$ 12.21	\$ 10.59	\$ 0.22
Year ended December 31, 2016			
First quarter	\$ 13.29	\$ 9.61	\$ 0.22
Second quarter	\$ 15.50	\$ 12.61	\$ 0.22
Third quarter	\$ 15.92	\$ 13.64	\$ 0.23
Fourth quarter	\$ 15.04	\$ 11.54	\$ 0.23
Year ended December 31, 2017			
First quarter	\$ 13.86	\$ 11.90	\$ 0.23
Second quarter (through April 24, 2017)	\$ 14.22	\$ 12.87	\$ 0.24

On April 24, 2017, the closing price for our common stock, as reported on the NYSE, was \$13.81 per share. As of April 24, 2017, there were 82 holders of record of our common stock.

Dividend Policy

We intend to make regular quarterly distributions to our stockholders so that we distribute each year all or substantially all of our REIT taxable income, if any, so as to avoid paying significant corporate level income tax and excise tax on our REIT income and to qualify for the tax benefits accorded to REITs under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or the Code. In order to maintain our status as a REIT, we must distribute to our stockholders an amount equal to at least 90% of our REIT taxable income, excluding net capital gain. The actual amount and timing of distributions, however, will be at the discretion of our board of directors and will depend, among other things, upon:

our actual results of operations;

the rent and/or interest received from our tenants;

the ability of our tenants to meet their other obligations under their leases and their obligations under their loans from us;

debt service requirements;

capital expenditure requirements for our facilities;

our taxable income;

the annual distribution requirement under the REIT provisions of the Code; and

other factors that our board of directors may deem relevant.

S-23

Table of Contents

We cannot assure you that we will pay future quarterly distributions at the levels set forth in the table above, or at all.

To the extent consistent with maintaining our REIT status, we may retain accumulated earnings of our taxable REIT subsidiaries in those subsidiaries. Our ability to make distributions to stockholders will depend on our receipt of distributions from our operating partnership, may be limited by the terms of the agreements governing our existing and future indebtedness.

S-24

Table of Contents

UNITED STATES FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS

This section summarizes the current federal income tax consequences to our Company and our stockholders generally resulting from the treatment of our Company as a REIT. Because this section is a general summary, it does not address all of the potential tax issues that may be relevant to you in light of your particular circumstances. Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, P.C., or Baker Donelson, has acted as our counsel, has reviewed this summary, and is of the opinion that the discussion contained herein fairly summarizes the federal income tax consequences that are material to a holder of shares of our common stock. The discussion does not address all aspects of taxation that may be relevant to particular stockholders in light of their personal investment or tax circumstances, or to certain types of stockholders that are subject to special treatment under the federal income tax laws, such as insurance companies, tax-exempt organizations, financial institutions or broker-dealers, and non-United States individuals and foreign corporations.

The statements in this section of the opinion of Baker Donelson, referred to as the Tax Opinion, are based on the current federal income tax laws governing qualification as a REIT. We cannot assure you that new laws, interpretations of law or court decisions, any of which may take effect retroactively, will not cause any statement in this section to be inaccurate. You should be aware that opinions of counsel are not binding on the Internal Revenue Service (the IRS), and no assurance can be given that the IRS will not challenge the conclusions set forth in those opinions.

This section is not a substitute for careful tax planning, nor does it constitute tax advice. We urge you to consult your own tax advisors regarding the specific federal, state, local, foreign and other tax consequences to you, in the light of your own particular circumstances, of the purchase, ownership and disposition of shares of our common stock, our election to be taxed as a REIT and the effect of potential changes in applicable tax laws.

Taxation of Our Company

We were previously taxed as a subchapter S corporation. We revoked our subchapter S election on April 6, 2004 and we have elected to be taxed as a REIT under Sections 856 through and including 860 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code), commencing with our taxable year that began on April 6, 2004 and ended on December 31, 2004. In connection with this offering, our REIT counsel, Baker Donelson, has opined that, for federal income tax purposes, we are and have been organized in conformity with the requirements for qualification to be taxed as a REIT under the Code commencing with our initial short taxable year ended December 31, 2004, and that our current and proposed method of operations as described in this prospectus and as represented to our counsel by us satisfies currently, and will enable us to continue to satisfy in the future, the requirements for such qualification and taxation as a REIT under the Code for future taxable years. This opinion, however, is based on factual assumptions and representations made by us to Baker Donelson concerning our organization, our proposed ownership and operations, and other matters relating to our ability to qualify as a REIT, and is expressly conditioned upon the accuracy of such assumptions and representations.

We believe that our proposed future method of operation will enable us to continue to qualify as a REIT. However, no assurances can be given that our beliefs or expectations will be fulfilled, as such qualification and taxation as a REIT depends upon our ability to meet, for each taxable year, various tests imposed under the Code as discussed below. Those qualification tests involve the percentage of income that we earn from specified sources, the percentage of our assets that falls within specified categories, the diversity of our stock ownership, and the percentage of our earnings that we distribute. Baker Donelson will not review our compliance with those tests on a continuing basis. Accordingly, with respect to our current and future taxable years, no assurance can be given that the actual results of

S-25

Table of Contents

our operation will satisfy such requirements. For a discussion of the tax consequences of our failure to maintain our qualification as a REIT, see Requirements for Qualification Failure to Qualify.

The sections of the Code relating to qualification and operation as a REIT, and the federal income taxation of a REIT and its stockholders, are highly technical and complex. The following discussion sets forth only a summary of those sections. This summary is qualified in its entirety by the applicable Code provisions and the related rules and regulations.

We generally will not be subject to federal income tax on the taxable income that we currently distribute to our stockholders. The benefit of that tax treatment is that it avoids the double taxation, or taxation at both the corporate and stockholder levels, that generally results from owning stock in a corporation. However, we will be subject to federal tax in the following circumstances:

We are subject to the corporate federal income tax on taxable income, including net capital gain, that we do not distribute to stockholders during, or within a specified time period after, the calendar year in which the income is earned.

We are subject to the corporate alternative minimum tax on any items of tax preference that we do not distribute or allocate to stockholders.

We are subject to tax, at the highest corporate rate, on: (1) net gain from the sale or other disposition of property acquired through foreclosure (foreclosure property) that we hold primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of business, and (2) other non-qualifying income from foreclosure property.

We are subject to a 100% tax on net income from sales or other dispositions of property, other than foreclosure property, that we hold primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of business.

If we fail to satisfy the 75% gross income test or the 95% gross income test, as described below under Requirements for Qualification Gross Income Tests, but nonetheless continue to qualify as a REIT because we meet other requirements, we will be subject to a 100% tax on: (1) the greater of (a) the amount by which we fail the 75% gross income test, or (b) the amount by which we fail the 95% gross income test, multiplied by (2) a fraction intended to reflect our profitability.

If we fail to distribute during a calendar year at least the sum of: (1) 85% of our REIT ordinary income for the year, (2) 95% of our REIT capital gain net income for the year and (3) any undistributed taxable income from earlier periods, then we will be subject to a 4% excise tax on the excess of the required distribution over the amount we actually distributed.

If we fail to satisfy one or more requirements for REIT qualification during a taxable year beginning on or after January 1, 2005, other than a gross income test or an asset test and such failure is due to reasonable

cause, we may retain our REIT qualification if we pay a penalty of \$50,000 for each such failure.

We may elect to retain and pay income tax on our net long-term capital gain. In that case, a United States stockholder would be taxed on its proportionate share of our undistributed long-term capital gain (to the extent that we make a timely designation of such gain to the stockholder) and would receive a credit or refund for its proportionate share of the tax we paid.

We may be subject to a 100% excise tax on some payments we receive or on certain other amounts (or on certain expenses deducted by our taxable REIT subsidiaries or TRSs) if arrangements among us, our tenants and/or our TRSs are not comparable to similar arrangements among unrelated parties.

S-26

Table of Contents

If we acquire any asset from a C corporation (that is, a corporation generally subject to the full corporate-level tax) in a transaction in which the basis of the asset in our hands is determined by reference to the basis of the asset in the hands of the C corporation, and we recognize gain on the disposition of the asset during the 5 year period beginning on the date that we acquired the asset, then the asset's built-in gain will be subject to tax at the highest corporate rate.

Requirements for Qualification

To continue to qualify as a REIT, we must meet various (1) organizational requirements, (2) gross income tests, (3) asset tests, and (4) annual distribution requirements.

Organizational Requirements. A REIT is a corporation, trust or association that meets each of the following requirements:

1. it is managed by one or more trustees or directors;
2. its beneficial ownership is evidenced by transferable stock, or by transferable certificates of beneficial interest;
3. it would be taxable as a domestic corporation, but for its election to be taxed as a REIT under Sections 856 through and including 860 of the Code;
4. it is neither a financial institution nor an insurance company subject to special provisions of the federal income tax laws;
5. at least 100 persons are beneficial owners of its stock or ownership certificates (determined without reference to any rules of attribution);
6. not more than 50% in value of its outstanding stock or ownership certificates is owned, directly or indirectly, by five or fewer individuals, which the federal income tax laws define to include certain entities, during the last half of any taxable year; and
7. it elects to be a REIT, or has made such election for a previous taxable year, which election has not been revoked or terminated, and satisfies all relevant filing and other administrative requirements established by the IRS that must be met to elect and maintain REIT status.

We must meet requirements one through four during our entire taxable year and must meet requirement five during at least 335 days of a taxable year of 12 months, or during a proportionate part of a taxable year of less than 12 months. If we comply with all the requirements for ascertaining information concerning the ownership of our outstanding stock in a taxable year and have no reason to know that we violated requirement six, we will be deemed to have satisfied requirement six for that taxable year. We did not have to satisfy requirements five and six for our taxable year ending December 31, 2004. After the issuance of common stock pursuant to our April 2004 private placement,

we had issued common stock with enough diversity of ownership to satisfy requirements five and six as set forth above. Our charter provides for restrictions regarding the ownership and transfer of our shares of common stock so that we should continue to satisfy these requirements. The provisions of our charter restricting the ownership and transfer of our shares of common stock are described in Description of Capital Stock Restrictions on Ownership and Transfer.

For purposes of determining stock ownership under requirement six, an individual generally includes a supplemental unemployment compensation benefits plan, a private foundation, or a portion of a trust permanently set aside or used exclusively for charitable purposes. An individual, however, generally does not include a trust that is a qualified employee pension or profit sharing trust under the federal income tax laws, and beneficiaries of such a trust will be treated as holding our shares in proportion to their actuarial interests in the trust for purposes of requirement six.

S-27

Table of Contents

A corporation that is a qualified REIT subsidiary, or QRS, is not treated as a corporation separate from its parent REIT. All assets, liabilities, and items of income, deduction and credit of a QRS are treated as assets, liabilities, and items of income, deduction and credit of the REIT. A QRS is a corporation other than a taxable REIT subsidiary as described below, all of the capital stock of which is owned by the REIT. Thus, in applying the requirements described herein, any QRS that we own will be ignored, and all assets, liabilities, and items of income, deduction and credit of such subsidiary will be treated as our assets, liabilities, and items of income, deduction and credit.

An unincorporated domestic entity with two or more owners that is eligible to elect its tax classification under Treasury Regulation Section 301.7701-3 but does not make such an election is generally treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes. In the case of a REIT that is a partner in a partnership that has other partners, the REIT is treated as owning its proportionate share of the assets of the partnership and as earning its allocable share of the gross income of the partnership for purposes of the applicable REIT qualification tests. We treat our operating partnership as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Accordingly, our proportionate share of the assets, liabilities and items of income of the operating partnership and any other partnership, joint venture, or limited liability company that is treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes in which we acquire an interest, directly or indirectly, is treated as our assets and gross income for purposes of applying the various REIT qualification requirements.

A REIT is permitted to own up to 100% of the stock of one or more TRSs. We have formed and made taxable REIT subsidiary elections with respect to MPT Development Services, Inc., a Delaware corporation formed in January 2004 (MPT TRS), MPT Covington TRS, Inc., a Delaware corporation formed in January 2010 and MPT Finance Corporation, Inc., a Delaware corporation formed in April 2011. We have dissolved MPT Covington TRS, Inc. We have also formed limited liability companies wholly-owned by MPT TRS which are disregarded entities for federal income tax purposes. A taxable REIT subsidiary is a fully taxable corporation that may earn income that would not be qualifying income if earned directly by the parent REIT. Generally, the subsidiary and the REIT must jointly file an election with the IRS to treat the subsidiary as a taxable REIT subsidiary. Ernest Health, Inc. (Ernest) and its corporate subsidiaries are also taxable REIT subsidiaries as a result of the ownership by disregarded entities owned by MPT TRS of more than 35% ownership interests in Ernest. A taxable REIT subsidiary will pay income tax at regular corporate rates on any income that it earns. In addition, the taxable REIT subsidiary rules limit the deductibility of interest paid or accrued by a taxable REIT subsidiary to its parent REIT to assure that the taxable REIT subsidiary is subject to an appropriate level of corporate taxation. Further, the rules impose a 100% excise tax on certain types of transactions between a taxable REIT subsidiary and its parent REIT or the REIT's tenants that are not conducted on an arm's-length basis. We may engage in activities indirectly through a taxable REIT subsidiary as necessary or convenient to avoid obtaining the benefit of income or services that would jeopardize our REIT status if we engaged in the activities directly. In particular, we would likely engage in activities through a taxable REIT subsidiary if we wished to provide services to unrelated parties which might produce income that does not qualify under the gross income tests described below. We might also engage in otherwise prohibited transactions through a taxable REIT subsidiary. See description below under Requirements for Qualification Prohibited Transactions. A taxable REIT subsidiary may not operate or manage a health care facility, though a health care facility leased to a taxable REIT subsidiary from a REIT may be operated on behalf of the taxable REIT subsidiary by an eligible independent contractor. For purposes of this definition a health care facility means a hospital, nursing facility, assisted living facility, congregate care facility, qualified continuing care facility, or other licensed facility which extends medical or nursing or ancillary services to patients and which is operated by a service provider which is eligible for participation in the Medicare program under Title XVIII of the Social Security Act with respect to such facility. MPT Covington TRS, Inc. was formed specifically for the purpose of leasing a health care facility from us, subleasing that facility to an entity in which it owned an equity interest, and having that facility operated by an eligible independent

Table of Contents

contractor. We obtained a private letter ruling from the IRS holding that ownership of the equity interest and the operation of the facility in accordance with the agreements among the parties did not adversely affect the taxable REIT subsidiary status of MPT Covington TRS, Inc. We have structured other transactions in which MPT TRS owns an indirect equity interest in a tenant entity in a similar manner, and we have structured leases with the operating subsidiaries of Ernest and Capella Healthcare, Inc. (Capella) in a similar manner and may structure other such transactions similarly in the future.

Gross Income Tests. We must satisfy two gross income tests annually to maintain our qualification as a REIT. First, at least 75% of our gross income for each taxable year must consist of defined types of income that we derive, directly or indirectly, from investments relating to real property or mortgages on real property or qualified temporary investment income. Qualifying income for purposes of that 75% gross income test generally includes:

rents from real property;

interest on debt secured by mortgages on real property or on interests in real property;

dividends or other distributions on, and gain from the sale of, shares in other REITs;

gain from the sale of real estate assets;

income derived from the temporary investment of new capital that is attributable to the issuance of our shares of common stock or a public offering of our debt with a maturity date of at least five years and that we receive during the one year period beginning on the date on which we received such new capital; and

gross income from foreclosure property.

Second, in general, at least 95% of our gross income for each taxable year must consist of income that is qualifying income for purposes of the 75% gross income test, other types of interest and dividends or gain from the sale or disposition of stock or securities. Gross income from our sale of property that we hold primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of business is excluded from both the numerator and the denominator in both income tests. In addition, income and gain from hedging transactions that we enter into to hedge indebtedness incurred or to be incurred to acquire or carry real estate assets and that are clearly and timely identified as such also will be excluded from both the numerator and the denominator for purposes of the 95% gross income test and the 75% gross income test. Passive foreign exchange gain is excluded from the 95% gross income test and real estate foreign exchange gain is excluded from both the 95% and the 75% gross income tests. The following paragraphs discuss the specific application of the gross income tests to us.

The Secretary of the Treasury is given broad authority to determine whether particular items of gain or income qualify or not under the 75% and 95% gross income tests, or are to be excluded from the measure of gross income for such purposes.

Rents from Real Property. Rent that we receive from our real property will qualify as rents from real property, which is qualifying income for purposes of the 75% and 95% gross income tests, only if the following conditions are met.

First, the rent must not be based in whole or in part on the income or profits of any person. Participating rent, however, will qualify as rents from real property if it is based on percentages of receipts or sales and the percentages:

are fixed at the time the leases are entered into;

are not renegotiated during the term of the leases in a manner that has the effect of basing rent on income or profits; and

conform with normal business practice.

S-29

Table of Contents

More generally, the rent will not qualify as rents from real property if, considering the relevant lease and all the surrounding circumstances, the arrangement does not conform with normal business practice, but is in reality used as a means of basing the rent on income or profits. We have represented to Baker Donelson that we intend to set and accept rents which are fixed dollar amounts or a fixed percentage of gross revenue, and not determined to any extent by reference to any person's income or profits, in compliance with the rules above.

Second, we must not own, actually or constructively, 10% or more of the stock or the assets or net profits of any tenant, referred to as a related party tenant, other than a taxable REIT subsidiary. Failure to adhere to this limitation would cause the rental income from the related party tenant to not be treated as qualifying income for purposes of the REIT gross income tests. The constructive ownership rules generally provide that, if 10% or more in value of our stock is owned, directly or indirectly, by or for any person, we are considered as owning the stock owned, directly or indirectly, by or for such person. In addition, our charter prohibits transfers of our shares that would cause us to own, actually or constructively, 10% or more of the ownership interests in a tenant. We do not own, actually or constructively, 10% or more of any tenant other than a taxable REIT subsidiary. However, after the disposal of our equity interest in Capella on April 30, 2016, we have directly leased facilities to affiliates of Capella. Rent from these leases might be considered related-party rents for the year ending December 31, 2016 because of our prior ownership of the equity interest in Capella during a portion of 2016. Rents from these leases as related-party rents did not cause us to fail the REIT gross income tests for 2016 and that we have not otherwise rented any facility to a related-party tenant. Also, MPT Covington TRS, Inc. acquired a greater than 10% equity interest in an entity to which it subleased a health care facility which was operated by an eligible independent operator. We have obtained a private letter ruling from the IRS holding that the ownership of the equity interest and the operation of the facility in accordance with the agreements among the parties did not adversely affect the taxable REIT subsidiary status of MPT Covington TRS, Inc. or disqualify the rents paid by MPT Covington TRS, Inc. to us from being treated as qualifying income under the 75% and 95% gross income tests. We have structured other transactions and may structure future transactions in a similar manner. In particular, our leases with subsidiaries of Ernest are structured in a similar manner with the exception that the prior management of Ernest and its subsidiaries, through a management company, Guiding Health Management Group, LLC ("GHMG"), formed by the prior management, is the manager of the Ernest facilities. Prior to our disposition of our investment in the operations of Capella, our leases with subsidiaries of Capella were structured in a similar manner with a management company, Sunergeo Health Partners, LLC ("Sunergeo"), formed by the prior management of Capella and its subsidiaries, as the manager of the Capella facilities. GHMG and Sunergeo previously operated Ernest and its subsidiaries and Capella and its subsidiaries, respectively, as officers and employees. Although certain management personnel remained as officers of Ernest and Capella, they became employees of and were compensated by GHMG or Sunergeo. We believe that GHMG meets, and during the time in which we held an investment in the operations of Capella Sunergeo met, the definition of an "eligible independent contractor" which is any independent contractor if, at the time such contractor enters into an agreement with a taxable REIT subsidiary to operate a qualified health care facility, such contractor is actively engaged in the trade or business of operating such facilities for any person who is not a related person to the REIT or the taxable REIT subsidiary. There is no assurance that the IRS will not take a contrary position with respect to the structuring of these and other such transactions. In addition, MPT Covington TRS, Inc. made, and MPT TRS has and will make loans to tenants to acquire operations and for other purposes. We have structured and will structure these loans as debt and believe that they will be characterized as such, and that our rental income from our tenant borrowers will be treated as qualifying income for purposes of the REIT gross income tests. However, there can be no assurance that the IRS will not take a contrary position. If the IRS were to successfully treat a loan to a particular tenant as an equity interest, the tenant would be a related party tenant with respect to us, the rent that we receive from the tenant would not be qualifying income for purposes of the REIT gross income tests, and we could lose our REIT status.

Table of Contents

However, as stated above, we believe that these loans will be treated as debt rather than equity interests. Finally, because the constructive ownership rules are broad and it is not possible to monitor continually direct and indirect transfers of our shares, no absolute assurance can be given that such transfers or other events of which we have no knowledge will not cause us to own constructively 10% or more of a tenant other than a taxable REIT subsidiary at some future date.

We currently own 100% of the stock of MPT TRS and MPT Finance Corporation, Inc., both of which are taxable REIT subsidiaries, and may in the future own up to 100% of the stock of one or more additional taxable REIT subsidiaries. In addition, Ernest and its corporate subsidiaries are, and prior to our disposition of our investment in the operations of Capella, Capella and its corporate subsidiaries were, taxable REIT subsidiaries because of MPT TRS's indirect ownership of more than a 35% interest in Ernest and Capella. Under an exception to the related-party tenant rule described in the preceding paragraph, rent that we receive from a taxable REIT subsidiary will qualify as rents from real property as long as (1) the taxable REIT subsidiary is a qualifying taxable REIT subsidiary (among other things, it does not operate or manage a health care facility), (2) at least 90% of the leased space in the facility is leased to persons other than taxable REIT subsidiaries and related party tenants, and (3) the amount paid by the taxable REIT subsidiary to rent space at the facility is substantially comparable to rents paid by other tenants of the facility for comparable space. In addition, rents paid to a REIT by a taxable REIT subsidiary with respect to a qualified health care property (as defined below under Requirements for Qualification Foreclosure Property), operated on behalf of such taxable REIT subsidiary by a person who is an eligible independent contractor (as defined above), are qualifying rental income for purposes of the 75% and 95% gross income tests. We obtained a private letter ruling from the IRS holding that the rent received by us from MPT Covington TRS, Inc. qualified as rent from real property under these exceptions. We have since structured leases with taxable REIT subsidiaries in a similar manner, including leases with the subsidiaries of Ernest and Capella.

Third, the rent attributable to the personal property leased in connection with a lease of real property must not be greater than 15% of the total rent received under the lease. The rent attributable to personal property under a lease is the amount that bears the same ratio to total rent under the lease for the taxable year as the average of the fair market values of the leased personal property at the beginning and at the end of the taxable year bears to the average of the aggregate fair market values of both the real and personal property covered by the lease at the beginning and at the end of such taxable year (the personal property ratio). With respect to each of our leases, we believe that the personal property ratio generally will be less than 15%. Where that is not, or may in the future not be, the case, we believe that any income attributable to personal property will not jeopardize our ability to qualify as a REIT. There can be no assurance, however, that the IRS would not challenge our calculation of a personal property ratio, or that a court would not uphold such assertion. If such a challenge were successfully asserted, we could fail to satisfy the 75% or 95% gross income test and thus lose our REIT status.

Fourth, we cannot furnish or render noncustomary services to the tenants of our facilities, or manage or operate our facilities, other than through an independent contractor who is adequately compensated and from whom we do not derive or receive any income. However, we need not provide services through an independent contractor, but instead may provide services directly to our tenants, if the services are usually or customarily rendered in connection with the rental of space for occupancy only and are not considered to be provided for the tenants' convenience. In addition, we may provide a minimal amount of noncustomary services to the tenants of a facility, other than through an independent contractor, as long as our income from the services does not exceed 1% of our income from the related facility (though any income attributable to such services would not be qualifying income for either the 75% or the 95% gross income tests). Finally, we may own up to 100% of the stock of one or more taxable REIT subsidiaries, which may provide noncustomary services to our tenants without tainting our rents from the related facilities. We do not intend to perform any

S-31

Table of Contents

services other than customary services for our tenants, and services provided through independent contractors or taxable REIT subsidiaries. We have represented to Baker Donelson that we will not perform noncustomary services which would jeopardize our REIT status.

Finally, in order for the rent payable under the leases of our properties to constitute rents from real property, the leases must be respected as true leases for federal income tax purposes and not treated as service contracts, joint ventures, financing arrangements, or another type of arrangement. We generally treat our leases with respect to our properties as true leases for federal income tax purposes; however, there can be no assurance that the IRS would not consider a particular lease a financing arrangement instead of a true lease for federal income tax purposes. In that case, and in any case in which we intentionally structure a lease as a financing arrangement, our income from that lease would be interest income rather than rent and would be qualifying income for purposes of the 75% gross income test to the extent that our loan does not exceed the fair market value of the real estate assets associated with the facility. All of the interest income from our loan would be qualifying income for purposes of the 95% gross income test. We believe that the characterization of a lease as a financing arrangement would not adversely affect our ability to qualify as a REIT.

If a portion of the rent we receive from a facility does not qualify as rents from real property because the rent attributable to personal property exceeds 15% of the total rent for a taxable year, the portion of the rent attributable to personal property will not be qualifying income for purposes of either the 75% or 95% gross income test. Thus, if rent attributable to personal property, plus any other income that is nonqualifying income for purposes of the 95% gross income test, during a taxable year exceeds 5% of our gross income during the year, we would lose our REIT status. By contrast, in the following circumstances, none of the rent from a lease of a facility would qualify as rents from real property: (1) the rent is considered based on the income or profits of the tenant; (2) the tenant is a related party tenant and fails to qualify for the exception to the related-party tenant rule for qualifying taxable REIT subsidiaries; (3) we furnish more than a de minimis amount of noncustomary services to the tenants of the facility, other than through a qualifying independent contractor or a taxable REIT subsidiary; or (4) for health care facilities or lodging facilities, we manage or operate the facility, other than through an independent contractor. In any of these circumstances, we could lose our REIT status because we would be unable to satisfy either the 75% or 95% gross income test.

Tenants may be required to pay, besides base rent, reimbursements for certain amounts we are obligated to pay to third parties (such as a tenant's proportionate share of a facility's operational or capital expenses), penalties for nonpayment or late payment of rent or additions to rent. These and other similar payments should qualify as rents from real property.

Interest. The term *interest* generally does not include any amount received or accrued, directly or indirectly, if the determination of the amount depends in whole or in part on the income or profits of any person. However, an amount received or accrued generally will not be excluded from the term *interest* solely because it is based on a fixed percentage or percentages of receipts or sales. Furthermore, to the extent that interest from a loan that is based upon the residual cash proceeds from the sale of the property securing the loan constitutes a shared appreciation provision, income attributable to such participation feature will be treated as gain from the sale of the secured property.

Fee Income. We may receive various fees in connection with our operations. The fees will be qualifying income for purposes of both the 75% and 95% gross income tests if they are received in consideration for entering into an agreement to make a loan secured by real property and the fees are not determined by income and profits. Other fees are not qualifying income for purposes of either gross income test. We anticipate that MPT TRS, one of our taxable REIT subsidiaries, will receive most of the management fees, inspection fees and construction fees in connection with our operations. Any fees earned by MPT TRS will not be included as income for purposes of the gross income tests.

S-32

Table of Contents

Prohibited Transactions. A REIT will incur a 100% tax on the net income derived from any sale or other disposition of property, other than foreclosure property, that the REIT holds primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of a trade or business. We believe that none of our assets will be held primarily for sale to customers and that a sale of any of our assets will not be in the ordinary course of our business. Whether a REIT holds an asset primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of a trade or business depends, however, on the facts and circumstances in effect from time to time, including those related to a particular asset. Nevertheless, we will attempt to comply with the terms of safe-harbor provisions in the federal income tax laws prescribing when an asset sale will not be characterized as a prohibited transaction. We cannot assure you, however, that we can comply with the safe-harbor provisions or that we will avoid owning property that may be characterized as property that we hold primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of a trade or business. We may use a taxable REIT subsidiary to engage in transactions that may not fall within the safe-harbor provisions.

Foreclosure Property. We will be subject to tax at the maximum corporate rate on any income from foreclosure property, other than income that otherwise would be qualifying income for purposes of the 75% gross income test, less expenses directly connected with the production of that income. However, gross income from foreclosure property will qualify under the 75% and 95% gross income tests. Foreclosure property is any real property, including interests in real property, and any personal property incidental to such real property acquired by a REIT as the result of the REIT's having bid on the property at foreclosure, or having otherwise reduced such property to ownership or possession by agreement or process of law, after actual or imminent default on a lease of the property or on indebtedness secured by the property, or a Repossession Action. Property acquired by a Repossession Action will not be considered foreclosure property if (1) the REIT held or acquired the property subject to a lease or securing indebtedness for sale to customers in the ordinary course of business or (2) the lease or loan was acquired or entered into with intent to take Repossession Action or in circumstances where the REIT had reason to know a default would occur. The determination of such intent or reason to know must be based on all relevant facts and circumstances. In no case will property be considered foreclosure property unless the REIT makes a proper election to treat the property as foreclosure property.

Foreclosure property includes any qualified health care property acquired by a REIT as a result of a termination of a lease of such property (other than a termination by reason of a default, or the imminence of a default, on the lease). A qualified health care property means any real property, including interests in real property, and any personal property incidental to such real property which is a health care facility (as defined above under Requirements for Qualification Organizational Requirements) or is necessary or incidental to the use of a health care facility.

However, a REIT will not be considered to have foreclosed on a property where the REIT takes control of the property as a mortgagee-in-possession and cannot receive any profit or sustain any loss except as a creditor of the mortgagor. Property generally ceases to be foreclosure property at the end of the third taxable year following the taxable year in which the REIT acquired the property (or, in the case of a qualified health care property which becomes foreclosure property because it is acquired by a REIT as a result of the termination of a lease of such property, at the end of the second taxable year following the taxable year in which the REIT acquired such property) or longer if an extension is granted by the Secretary of the Treasury. This period (as extended, if applicable) terminates, and foreclosure property ceases to be foreclosure property on the first day:

on which a lease is entered into for the property that, by its terms, will give rise to income that does not qualify for purposes of the 75% gross income test, or any amount is received or accrued, directly or indirectly, pursuant to a lease entered into on or after such day that will give rise to income that does not qualify for purposes of the 75% gross income test;

S-33

Table of Contents

on which any construction takes place on the property, other than completion of a building or any other improvement, where more than 10% of the construction was completed before default became imminent; or

which is more than 90 days after the day on which the REIT acquired the property and the property is used in a trade or business which is conducted by the REIT, other than through an independent contractor from whom the REIT itself does not derive or receive any income. For this purpose, in the case of a qualified health care property, income derived or received from an independent contractor will be disregarded to the extent such income is attributable to (1) a lease of property in effect on the date the REIT acquired the qualified health care property (without regard to its renewal after such date so long as such renewal is pursuant to the terms of such lease as in effect on such date) or (2) any lease of property entered into after such date if, on such date, a lease of such property from the REIT was in effect and, under the terms of the new lease, the REIT receives a substantially similar or lesser benefit in comparison to the prior lease.

Hedging Transactions. From time to time, we may enter into hedging transactions with respect to one or more of our assets or liabilities. Our hedging activities may include entering into interest rate swaps, caps, and floors, options to purchase such items, and futures and forward contracts. Income and gain from hedging transactions is excluded from gross income for purposes of the 95% gross income test and the 75% gross income test. For this purpose, a hedging transaction will mean any transaction (i) entered into in the normal course of our trade or business primarily to manage the risk of interest rate or price changes with respect to borrowings made or to be made, or ordinary obligations incurred or to be incurred, to acquire or carry real estate assets; (ii) entered into primarily to manage risks of currency fluctuations with respect to any item of income or gain that would be qualifying income under the 75% or 95% income tests (or any property which generates such income or gain) ; or (iii) for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2015, that hedges against transactions described in clause (i) or (ii) and is entered into in connection with the extinguishment of debt or sale of property that is being hedged against by the transaction described in clause (i) or (ii). We are required to clearly identify any such hedging transaction before the close of the day on which it is acquired, originated, or entered into, subject, for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2015, to certain curative provisions. Since the financial markets continually introduce new and innovative instruments related to risk-sharing or trading, it is not entirely clear which such instruments will generate income which will be considered qualifying or excluded income for purposes of the gross income tests. We intend to structure any hedging or similar transactions so as not to jeopardize our status as a REIT.

Foreign Currency Gain. Passive foreign exchange gain is excluded from the 95% income test and real estate foreign exchange gain is excluded from the 75% income test. Real estate foreign exchange gain is foreign currency gain (as defined in Code Section 988(b)(1)) which is attributable to (i) any qualifying item of income or gain for purposes of the 75% income test, (ii) the acquisition or ownership of obligations secured by mortgages on real property or interests in real property; or (iii) becoming or being the obligor under obligations secured by mortgages on real property or on interests in real property. Real estate foreign exchange gain also includes Code Section 987 gain attributable to a qualified business unit (QBU) of the REIT if the QBU itself meets the 75% income test for the taxable year, and meets the 75% asset test at the close of each quarter of the REIT that has directly or indirectly held the QBU. The QBU is not required to meet the 95% income test in order for this 987 gain exclusion to apply. Real estate foreign exchange gain also includes any other foreign currency gain as determined by the Secretary of the Treasury.

Passive foreign exchange gain includes all real estate foreign exchange gain, and in addition includes foreign currency gain which is attributable to (i) any qualifying item of income or gain for purposes of the 95% income test, (ii) the acquisition or ownership of obligations, (iii) becoming or being

Table of Contents

the obligor under obligations, and (iv) any other foreign currency gain as determined by the Secretary of the Treasury.

Any gain derived from dealing, or engaging in substantial and regular trading, in securities denominated in, or determined by reference to, one or more nonfunctional currencies will be treated as non-qualifying income for both the 75% and 95% gross income tests. We do not currently, and do not expect to, engage in such trading.

Failure to Satisfy Gross Income Tests. If we fail to satisfy one or both of the gross income tests for any taxable year, we nevertheless may qualify as a REIT for that year if we qualify for relief under certain provisions of the federal income tax laws. Those relief provisions generally will be available if:

our failure to meet those tests is due to reasonable cause and not to willful neglect, and

following our identification of such failure for any taxable year, a schedule of the sources of our income is filed in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury.

We cannot with certainty predict whether any failure to meet these tests will qualify for the relief provisions. As discussed above in Taxation of Our Company, even if the relief provisions apply, we would incur a 100% tax on the gross income attributable to the greater of the amounts by which we fail the 75% and 95% gross income tests, multiplied by a fraction intended to reflect our profitability.

Asset Tests. To maintain our qualification as a REIT, we also must satisfy the following asset tests at the end of each quarter of each taxable year.

First, at least 75% of the value of our total assets must consist of:

cash or cash items, including certain receivables;

government securities;

real estate assets, which includes interest in real property, leaseholds, options to acquire real property or leaseholds, interests in mortgages on real property, shares (or transferable certificates of beneficial interest) in other REITs, and, for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2015, debt instruments issued by publicly offered REITs and interests in mortgages on interests in real property; and

investments in stock or debt instruments attributable to the temporary investment (i.e., for a period not exceeding 12 months) of new capital that we raise through any equity offering or public offering of debt with at least a five year term.

If a REIT or its QBU uses any foreign currency as its functional currency (as defined in section 985(b) of the Code), the term cash includes such currency to the extent held for use in the normal course of the activities of the REIT or QBU which give rise to items of income or gain qualifying under the 95% and 75% income tests or are directly related to acquiring or holding assets qualifying under the 75% assets test, provided that the currency cannot be held in

connection with dealing, or engaging in substantial and regular trading, in securities.

With respect to investments not included in the 75% asset class, we may not hold securities of any one issuer (other than a taxable REIT subsidiary) that exceed 5% of the value of our total assets; nor may we hold securities of any one issuer (other than a taxable REIT subsidiary) that represent more than 10% of the voting power of all outstanding voting securities of such issuer or more than 10% of the value of all outstanding securities of such issuer.

S-35

Table of Contents

In addition, for taxable years beginning before January 1, 2018, we may not hold securities of one or more taxable REIT subsidiaries that represent in the aggregate more than 25% of the value of our total assets and, for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2018, we may not hold securities of one or more taxable REIT subsidiaries that represent in the aggregate more than 20% of the value of our total assets, in all cases irrespective of whether such securities may also be included in the 75% asset class (e.g., a mortgage loan issued to a taxable REIT subsidiary). For taxable years beginning after December 31, 2015, we may not hold debt instruments (other than debt secured by interests in real property) issued by publicly offered REITs that represent in the aggregate more than 25% of the value of our total assets. Furthermore, no more than 25% of our total assets may be represented by securities that are not included in the 75% asset class, including, among other things, certain securities of a taxable REIT subsidiary such as stock or non-mortgage debt.

For purposes of the 5% and 10% asset tests, the term "securities" does not include stock in another REIT, equity or debt securities of a qualified REIT subsidiary or taxable REIT subsidiary, mortgage loans that constitute real estate assets, or equity interests in a partnership to the extent that the partnership holds real estate assets. The term "securities," however, generally includes debt securities issued by a partnership or another REIT, except that for purposes of the 10% value test, the term "securities" does not include:

Straight debt, defined as a written unconditional promise to pay on demand or on a specified date a sum certain in money if (1) the debt is not convertible, directly or indirectly, into stock, and (2) the interest rate and interest payment dates are not contingent on profits, the borrower's discretion, or similar factors. "Straight debt" securities do not include any securities issued by a partnership or a corporation in which we or any controlled TRS (i.e., a TRS in which we own directly or indirectly more than 50% of the voting power or value of the stock) holds non- "straight debt" securities that have an aggregate value of more than 1% of the issuer's outstanding securities. However, "straight debt" securities include debt subject to the following contingencies:

a contingency relating to the time of payment of interest or principal, as long as either (1) there is no change to the effective yield to maturity of the debt obligation, other than a change to the annual yield to maturity that does not exceed the greater of 0.25% or 5% of the annual yield to maturity, or (2) neither the aggregate issue price nor the aggregate face amount of the issuer's debt obligations held by us exceeds \$1 million and no more than 12 months of unaccrued interest on the debt obligations can be required to be prepaid;

a contingency relating to the time or amount of payment upon a default or exercise of a prepayment right by the issuer of the debt obligation, as long as the contingency is consistent with customary commercial practice;

Any loan to an individual or an estate;

Any Section 467 rental agreement, other than an agreement with a related party tenant;

Any obligation to pay rents from real property ;

Any security issued by a state or any political subdivision thereof, the District of Columbia, a foreign government or any political subdivision thereof, or the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, but only if the determination of any payment thereunder does not depend in whole or in part on the profits of any entity not described in this paragraph or payments on any obligation issued by an entity not described in this paragraph;

Any security issued by a REIT;

Any debt instrument of an entity treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes to the extent of our interest as a partner in the partnership; and

S-36

Table of Contents

Any debt instrument of an entity treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes not described in the preceding bullet points if at least 75% of the partnership's gross income, excluding income from prohibited transactions, is qualifying income for purposes of the 75% gross income test described above in Requirements for Qualification Gross Income Tests.

For purposes of the 10% value test, our proportionate share of the assets of a partnership is our proportionate interest in any securities issued by the partnership, excluding all securities described above except those securities described in the last two bullet points above.

MPT Covington TRS, Inc. has made, and MPT TRS has made and will make loans to tenants to acquire operations and for other purposes. If the IRS were to successfully treat a particular loan to a tenant as an equity interest in the tenant, the tenant would be a related party tenant with respect to our company and the rent that we receive from the tenant would not be qualifying income for purposes of the REIT gross income tests. As a result, we could lose our REIT status. In addition, if the IRS were to successfully treat a particular loan as an interest held by our operating partnership rather than by one of our taxable REIT subsidiaries we could fail the 5% asset test, and if the IRS further successfully treated the loan as other than straight debt, we could fail the 10% asset test with respect to such interest. As a result of the failure of either test, we could lose our REIT status.

MPT Covington TRS, Inc. leased a health care facility from us and subleased it to a tenant in which it owns a greater than 10% interest. The facility was operated by an eligible independent contractor. We obtained a private letter ruling from the IRS holding that ownership of the equity interest and the operation of the facility in accordance with the agreements among the parties did not adversely affect the taxable REIT subsidiary status of MPT Covington TRS, Inc. We have since structured other transactions in which MPT TRS owns an indirect equity interest in a tenant entity in a similar manner, including leases with the subsidiaries of Ernest. If the IRS successfully challenged the taxable REIT subsidiary status of MPT Covington TRS, Inc. or MPT TRS, and we were unable to cure as described below, we could fail the 10% asset test with respect to our ownership of MPT Covington TRS, Inc. or MPT TRS and as a result lose our REIT status.

We will monitor the status of our assets for purposes of the various asset tests and will manage our portfolio in order to comply at all times with such tests. If we fail to satisfy the asset tests at the end of a calendar quarter, we will not lose our REIT status if:

we satisfied the asset tests at the end of the preceding calendar quarter; and

the discrepancy between the value of our assets and the asset test requirements arose from changes in the market values of our assets and was not wholly or partly caused by the acquisition of one or more non-qualifying assets.

If we did not satisfy the condition described in the second item above, we still could avoid disqualification by eliminating any discrepancy within 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter in which it arose.

In the event that, at the end of any calendar quarter, we violate the 5% or 10% test described above, we will not lose our REIT status if (1) the failure is de minimis (up to the lesser of 1% of our assets or \$10 million) and (2) we dispose of assets or otherwise comply with the asset tests within six months after the last day of the quarter in which we identified the failure of the asset test. In the event of a more than de minimis failure of the 5% or 10% tests, or a failure of the other assets test, at the end of any calendar quarter, as long as the failure was due to reasonable cause and not to willful neglect, we will not lose our REIT status if we (1) file with the IRS a schedule describing the assets

that caused the failure, (2) dispose of assets or otherwise comply with the asset tests within six months after the last day of the quarter in which we identified the failure of the asset test and (3) pay a tax equal to the

S-37

Table of Contents

greater of \$50,000 and tax at the highest corporate rate on the net income from the nonqualifying assets during the period in which we failed to satisfy the asset tests.

Distribution Requirements. Each taxable year, we must distribute dividends, other than capital gain dividends and deemed distributions of retained capital gain, to our stockholders in an aggregate amount not less than:

the sum of:

90% of our REIT taxable income, computed without regard to the dividends-paid deduction or our net capital gain or loss; and

90% of our after-tax net income, if any, from foreclosure property;
minus

the sum of certain items of non-cash income.

We must pay such distributions in the taxable year to which they relate, or in the following taxable year if we declare the distribution before we timely file our federal income tax return for the year and pay the distribution on or before the first regular dividend payment date after such declaration.

We will pay federal income tax on taxable income, including net capital gain, that we do not distribute to stockholders. In addition, we will incur a 4% nondeductible excise tax on the excess of a specified required distribution over amounts we actually distribute if we distribute an amount less than the required distribution during a calendar year, or by the end of January following the calendar year in the case of distributions with declaration and record dates falling in the last three months of the calendar year. The required distribution must not be less than the sum of:

85% of our REIT ordinary income for the year;

95% of our REIT capital gain income for the year; and

any undistributed taxable income from prior periods.

We may elect to retain and pay income tax on the net long-term capital gain we receive in a taxable year. See

Requirements for Qualification Taxation of Taxable United States Stockholders. If we so elect, we will be treated as having distributed any such retained amount for purposes of the 4% excise tax described above. We intend to make timely distributions sufficient to satisfy the annual distribution requirements and to avoid corporate income tax and the 4% excise tax.

It is possible that, from time to time, we may experience timing differences between the actual receipt of income and actual payment of deductible expenses and the inclusion of that income and deduction of such expenses in arriving at

our REIT taxable income. For example, we may not deduct recognized capital losses from our REIT taxable income. Further, it is possible that, from time to time, we may be allocated a share of net capital gain attributable to the sale of depreciated property that exceeds our allocable share of cash attributable to that sale. As a result of the foregoing, we may have less cash than is necessary to distribute all of our taxable income and thereby avoid corporate income tax and the excise tax imposed on certain undistributed income. In such a situation, we may need to borrow funds or issue additional shares of common or preferred stock.

Under certain circumstances, we may be able to correct a failure to meet the distribution requirement for a year by paying deficiency dividends to our stockholders in a later year. We may include such deficiency dividends in our deduction for dividends paid for the earlier year. Although we may be able to avoid income tax on amounts distributed as deficiency dividends, we will be required to pay interest based upon the amount of any deduction we take for deficiency dividends.

S-38

Table of Contents

Recordkeeping Requirements. We must maintain certain records in order to qualify as a REIT. In addition, to avoid paying a penalty, we must request on an annual basis information from our stockholders designed to disclose the actual ownership of our shares of outstanding capital stock. We intend to comply with these requirements.

Failure to Qualify. If we failed to qualify as a REIT in any taxable year and no relief provision applied, we would have the following consequences. We would be subject to federal income tax and any applicable alternative minimum tax at rates applicable to regular C corporations on our taxable income, determined without reduction for amounts distributed to stockholders. We would not be required to make any distributions to stockholders, and any distributions to stockholders would be taxable to them as dividend income to the extent of our current and accumulated earnings and profits. Corporate stockholders could be eligible for a dividends-received deduction if certain conditions are satisfied. Unless we qualified for relief under specific statutory provisions, we would not be permitted to elect taxation as a REIT for the four taxable years following the year during which we ceased to qualify as a REIT.

If we fail to satisfy one or more requirements for REIT qualification, other than the gross income tests and the asset tests, we could avoid disqualification if the failure is due to reasonable cause and not to willful neglect and we pay a penalty of \$50,000 for each such failure. In addition, there are relief provisions for a failure of the gross income tests and asset tests, as described above in **Gross Income Tests** and **Asset Tests**.

Other Tax Consequences

Tax Aspects of Our Investments in Our Operating Partnership. The following discussion summarizes certain federal income tax considerations applicable to our direct or indirect investment in our operating partnership and any subsidiary partnerships or limited liability companies we form or acquire, each individually referred to as a **Partnership** and collectively, as **Partnerships**. The following discussion does not cover state or local tax laws or any federal tax laws other than income tax laws.

Classification as Partnerships. We are entitled to include in our income our distributive share of each **Partnership**'s income and to deduct our distributive share of each **Partnership**'s losses only if each **Partnership** is classified for federal income tax purposes as a partnership (or an entity that is disregarded for federal income tax purposes if the entity has only one owner or member), rather than as a corporation or an association taxable as a corporation. An organization with at least two owners or members will be classified as a partnership, rather than as a corporation, for federal income tax purposes if it:

is treated as a partnership under the Treasury regulations relating to entity classification (the **check-the-box regulations**); and

is not a **publicly traded partnership**.

Under the **check-the-box regulations**, a domestic unincorporated entity with at least two owners or members may elect to be classified either as an association taxable as a corporation or as a partnership. If such an entity does not make an election, it generally will be treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes. We intend that each **Partnership** will be classified as a partnership for federal income tax purposes (or else a disregarded entity where there are not at least two separate beneficial owners).

A **publicly traded partnership** is a partnership whose interests are traded on an established securities market or are readily tradable on a secondary market (or a substantial equivalent). A **publicly**

S-39

Table of Contents

traded partnership is generally treated as a corporation for federal income tax purposes, but will not be so treated for any taxable year for which at least 90% of the partnership's gross income consists of specified passive income, including real property rents, gains from the sale or other disposition of real property, interest, and dividends (the 90% passive income exception).

Treasury regulations provide limited safe harbors from treatment as a publicly traded partnership. Pursuant to one of those safe harbors, the private placement exclusion, interests in a partnership will not be treated as readily tradable on a secondary market or the substantial equivalent thereof if (1) all interests in the partnership were issued in a transaction or transactions that were not required to be registered under the Securities Act, and (2) the partnership does not have more than 100 partners at any time during the partnership's taxable year. For the determination of the number of partners in a partnership, a person owning an interest in a partnership, grantor trust, or S corporation that owns an interest in the partnership is treated as a partner in the partnership only if (1) substantially all of the value of the owner's interest in the entity is attributable to the entity's direct or indirect interest in the partnership and (2) a principal purpose of the use of the entity is to permit the partnership to satisfy the 100-partner limitation. We expect that each Partnership would qualify for the private placement exclusion.

An unincorporated entity with only one separate beneficial owner generally may elect to be classified either as an association taxable as a corporation or as a disregarded entity. If such an entity is domestic and does not make an election, it generally will be treated as a disregarded entity. A disregarded entity's activities are treated as those of a branch or division of its beneficial owner.

The operating partnership has not elected to be treated as an association taxable as a corporation. Therefore, our operating partnership is treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes. We intend that our operating partnership will continue to be treated as partnership for federal income tax purposes.

We have not requested, and do not intend to request, a ruling from the IRS that the operating partnership or any other subsidiary entity will be classified as either a partnership or disregarded entity for federal income tax purposes. If for any reason any Partnership were taxable as a corporation, rather than as a partnership or a disregarded entity, for federal income tax purposes, we likely would not be able to qualify as a REIT. See Requirements for Qualification Gross Income Tests and Requirements for Qualification Asset Tests. In addition, any change in a Partnership's status for tax purposes might be treated as a taxable event, in which case we might incur tax liability without any related cash distribution. See Requirements for Qualification Distribution Requirements. Further, items of income and deduction of such Partnership would not pass through to its partners, and its partners would be treated as stockholders for tax purposes. Consequently, such Partnership would be required to pay income tax at corporate rates on its net income, and distributions to its partners would constitute dividends that would not be deductible in computing such Partnership's taxable income.

Income Taxation of the Partnerships and Their Partners

Partners, Not the Partnerships, Subject to Tax. A partnership is not a taxable entity for federal income tax purposes. If each Partnership is classified as a partnership, we will therefore take into account our allocable share of each such Partnership's income, gains, losses, deductions, and credits for each taxable year of each Partnership ending with or within our taxable year, even if we receive no distribution from any Partnership for that year or a distribution less than our share of taxable income. Similarly, even if we receive a distribution, it may not be taxable if the distribution does not exceed our adjusted tax basis in our interest in the Partnership. If any Partnership is classified as a disregarded entity, each Partnership's activities will be treated as if carried on directly by us.

Table of Contents

Partnership Allocations. Although a partnership agreement generally will determine the allocation of income and losses among partners, allocations will be disregarded for tax purposes if they do not comply with the provisions of the federal income tax laws governing partnership allocations. If an allocation is not recognized for federal income tax purposes, the item subject to the allocation will be reallocated in accordance with the partners' interests in the partnership, which will be determined by taking into account all of the facts and circumstances relating to the economic arrangement of the partners with respect to such item. Each Partnership's allocations of taxable income, gain, and loss are intended to comply with the requirements of the federal income tax laws governing partnership allocations.

Tax Allocations with Respect to Contributed Properties. Income, gain, loss, and deduction attributable to appreciated or depreciated property that is contributed to a partnership in exchange for an interest in the partnership must be allocated in a manner such that the contributing partner is charged with, or benefits from, respectively, the unrealized gain or unrealized loss associated with the property at the time of the contribution. Similar rules apply with respect to property revalued on the books of a partnership. The amount of such unrealized gain or unrealized loss, referred to as built-in gain or built-in loss, is generally equal to the difference between the fair market value of the contributed or revalued property at the time of contribution or revaluation and the adjusted tax basis of such property at that time, referred to as a book-tax difference. Such allocations are solely for federal income tax purposes and do not affect the book capital accounts or other economic or legal arrangements among the partners. The United States Treasury Department has issued regulations requiring partnerships to use a reasonable method for allocating items with respect to which there is a book-tax difference and outlining several reasonable allocation methods. Our operating partnership generally intends to use the traditional method for allocating items with respect to which there is a book-tax difference.

Basis in Partnership Interest. Our adjusted tax basis in any partnership interest we own generally will be:

the amount of cash and the basis of any other property we contribute to the partnership;

increased by our allocable share of the partnership's income (including tax-exempt income) and our allocable share of indebtedness of the partnership; and

reduced, but not below zero, by our allocable share of the partnership's loss, the amount of cash and the basis of property distributed to us, and constructive distributions resulting from a reduction in our share of indebtedness of the partnership.

Loss allocated to us in excess of our basis in a partnership interest will not be taken into account until we again have basis sufficient to absorb the loss. A reduction of our share of partnership indebtedness will be treated as a constructive cash distribution to us, and will reduce our adjusted tax basis. Distributions, including constructive distributions, in excess of the basis of our partnership interest will constitute taxable income to us. Such distributions and constructive distributions normally will be characterized as long-term capital gain.

Partnership Audits. Under recently enacted legislation (the New Partnership Audit Rules) that will apply for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017 (unless a Partnership elects to apply the legislative changes sooner), in the event of a federal income tax audit the Partnership, rather than the Partnership's partners, could be liable for the payment of certain taxes, including interest and penalties, or the partners could be liable for the tax but be required to pay interest at a higher rate than would otherwise apply to underpayments. Furthermore, the partnership representative

of the Partnership will have exclusive authority to bind all partners to any federal income tax proceeding.

S-41

Table of Contents

Depreciation Deductions Available to Partnerships. The initial tax basis of property is the amount of cash and the basis of property given as consideration for the property. A partnership in which we are a partner generally will depreciate property for federal income tax purposes under the modified accelerated cost recovery system of depreciation, referred to as MACRS. Under MACRS, each Partnership generally will depreciate furnishings over a seven year recovery period and equipment over a five year recovery period using a 200% declining balance method and a half-year convention. If, however, the partnership places more than 40% of its furnishings and equipment in service during the last three months of a taxable year, a mid-quarter depreciation convention must be used for the furnishings and equipment placed in service during that year. Under MACRS, the partnership generally will depreciate buildings and improvements over a 39 year recovery period using a straight line method and a mid-month convention. Each Partnership's initial basis in properties acquired solely in exchange for units of each Partnership should be the same as the transferor's basis in such properties on the date of acquisition by the partnership. Although the law is not entirely clear, each Partnership generally will depreciate such property for federal income tax purposes over the same remaining useful lives and under the same methods used by the transferors. Each Partnership's tax depreciation deductions will be allocated among the partners in accordance with their respective interests in the partnership, except to the extent that any Partnership is required under the federal income tax laws governing partnership allocations to use a method for allocating tax depreciation deductions attributable to contributed or revalued properties that results in our receiving a disproportionate share of such deductions.

Sale of a Partnership's Property. Generally, any gain realized by a Partnership on the sale of property held for more than one year will be long-term capital gain, except for any portion of the gain treated as depreciation or cost recovery recapture. Any gain or loss recognized by a Partnership on the disposition of contributed or revalued properties will be allocated first to the partners who contributed the properties or who were partners at the time of revaluation, to the extent of their built-in gain or loss on those properties for federal income tax purposes. The partners' built-in gain or loss on contributed or revalued properties is the difference between the partners' proportionate share of the book value of those properties and the partners' tax basis allocable to those properties at the time of the contribution or revaluation. Any remaining gain or loss recognized by the Partnership on the disposition of contributed or revalued properties, and any gain or loss recognized by the Partnership on the disposition of other properties, will be allocated among the partners in accordance with the Partnership's allocation provisions (subject to the restrictions described above).

Our share of any Partnership gain from the sale of inventory or other property held primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of each Partnership's trade or business will be treated as income from a prohibited transaction subject to a 100% tax. Income from a prohibited transaction may have an adverse effect on our ability to satisfy the gross income tests for REIT status. See Requirements for Qualification Gross Income Tests. We do not presently intend to acquire or hold, or to allow any Partnership to acquire or hold, any property that is likely to be treated as inventory or property held primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of our, or any Partnership's, trade or business.

Taxable REIT Subsidiaries. As described above, we have formed and have made a timely election to treat MPT TRS and MPT Finance Corporation as taxable REIT subsidiaries and may form or acquire additional taxable REIT subsidiaries in the future. We have dissolved our former taxable REIT subsidiary, MPT Covington TRS, Inc. A taxable REIT subsidiary may provide services to our tenants and engage in activities unrelated to our tenants, such as third-party management, development, and other independent business activities.

We and any corporate subsidiary in which we own stock, other than a qualified REIT subsidiary, must make an election for the subsidiary to be treated as a taxable REIT subsidiary. If a taxable REIT

Table of Contents

subsidiary directly or indirectly owns shares of a corporation with more than 35% of the value or voting power of all outstanding shares of the corporation, the corporation will automatically also be treated as a taxable REIT subsidiary. Ernest and its corporate subsidiaries are, and prior to our disposition of our investment in the operations of Capella, Capella and its corporate subsidiaries were, automatically treated as taxable REIT subsidiaries under this rule. For tax years beginning before January 1, 2018, no more than 25% of the value of our assets may consist of securities of one or more taxable REIT subsidiaries and for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2018, no more than 20% of the value of our assets may consist of securities of taxable REIT subsidiaries, irrespective of whether such securities may also qualify under the 75% assets test, and no more than 25% of the value of our assets may consist of the securities that are not qualifying assets under the 75% test, including, among other things, certain securities of a taxable REIT subsidiary, such as stock or non-mortgage debt.

Rent we receive from our taxable REIT subsidiaries will qualify as rents from real property as long as at least 90% of the leased space in the property is leased to persons other than taxable REIT subsidiaries and related party tenants, and the amount paid by the taxable REIT subsidiary to rent space at the property is substantially comparable to rents paid by other tenants of the property for comparable space. Rents paid to a REIT by a taxable REIT subsidiary with respect to a qualified health care property, (as defined above under Requirements for Qualification Foreclosure Property) operated on behalf of such taxable REIT subsidiary by a person who is an eligible independent contractor, (as defined above under Requirements for Qualification Organizational Requirements) are qualifying rental income for purposes of the 75% and 95% gross income tests. The taxable REIT subsidiary rules limit the deductibility of interest paid or accrued by a taxable REIT subsidiary to us to assure that the taxable REIT subsidiary is subject to an appropriate level of corporate taxation. Further, the rules impose a 100% excise tax on certain types of transactions between a taxable REIT subsidiary and us or our tenants that are not conducted on an arm's-length basis.

A taxable REIT subsidiary may not directly or indirectly operate or manage a health care facility, (as defined above under Requirements for Qualification Organizational Requirements) though a health care facility leased to a taxable REIT subsidiary from a REIT may be operated on behalf of the taxable REIT subsidiary by an eligible independent contractor. MPT Covington TRS, Inc. was formed for the purpose of leasing a health care facility from us, subleasing that facility to an entity in which MPT Covington TRS, Inc. owned an equity interest, and having that facility operated by an eligible independent contractor. We have obtained a private letter ruling from the IRS holding that the ownership of the equity interest and the operation of the facility in accordance with the agreements of the parties did not adversely affect the taxable REIT subsidiary status of MPT Covington TRS, Inc. We have structured other transactions in which MPT TRS owns an indirect equity interest in a tenant entity in a similar manner, including our leases with subsidiaries of Ernest and Capella, and may structure other such transactions in the future.

State and Local Taxes. We and our stockholders may be subject to taxation by various states and localities, including those in which we or a stockholder transact business, own property or reside. The state and local tax treatment may differ from the federal income tax treatment described above. Consequently, stockholders should consult their own tax advisors regarding the effect of state and local tax laws upon an investment in our common stock.

Table of Contents**UNDERWRITING**

Goldman, Sachs & Co., Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated and KeyBanc Capital Markets Inc. are acting as representatives of each of the underwriters named below. Subject to the terms and conditions set forth in an underwriting agreement among us and the underwriters, we have agreed to sell to the underwriters, and each of the underwriters has agreed, severally and not jointly, to purchase from us, the number of shares of common stock set forth opposite its name below.

Underwriter	Number of Shares
Goldman, Sachs & Co.	
Merrill, Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated	
KeyBanc Capital Markets Inc.	
Total	37,500,000

Subject to the terms and conditions set forth in the underwriting agreement, the underwriters have agreed, severally and not jointly, to purchase all of the shares sold under the underwriting agreement if any of these shares are purchased. If an underwriter defaults, the underwriting agreement provides that the purchase commitments of the nondefaulting underwriters may be increased or the underwriting agreement may be terminated.

We have agreed to indemnify the several underwriters against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act, or to contribute to payments the underwriters may be required to make in respect of those liabilities.

The underwriters are offering the shares, subject to prior sale, when, as and if issued to and accepted by them, subject to approval of legal matters by their counsel, including the validity of the shares, and other conditions contained in the underwriting agreement, such as the receipt by the underwriters of officer's certificates and legal opinions. The underwriters reserve the right to withdraw, cancel or modify offers to the public and to reject orders in whole or in part.

Commissions and Discounts

The representatives have advised us that the underwriters propose initially to offer the shares to the public at the public offering price set forth on the cover page of this prospectus and to dealers at that price less a concession not in excess of \$ per share. After the initial offering, the public offering price, concession or any other term of the offering may be changed. Sales of shares made outside of the United States may be made by affiliates of the underwriters.

The following table shows the public offering price, underwriting discount and proceeds before expenses to us. The information assumes either no exercise or full exercise by the underwriters of their option to purchase additional shares.

	Per Share	Without Option	With Option
Public offering price	\$	\$	\$
Underwriting discount	\$	\$	\$
Proceeds, before expenses, to us from the public offering	\$	\$	\$
Total proceeds, before expenses, to us	\$	\$	\$

The expenses of the offering, not including the underwriting discount, are estimated at approximately \$1.0 million and are payable by us.

S-44

Table of Contents

Option to Purchase Additional Shares

We have granted an option to the underwriters, exercisable for 30 days after the date of this prospectus supplement, to purchase up to 5,625,000 additional shares at the public offering price, less the underwriting discount. If the underwriters exercise this option, each will be obligated, subject to conditions contained in the underwriting agreement, to purchase a number of additional shares proportionate to that underwriter's initial amount reflected in the above table.

No Sales of Similar Securities

We, our executive officers and directors have agreed not to sell or transfer any common stock or securities convertible into, exchangeable for, exercisable for, or repayable with common stock, for 45 days, with respect to us, and 45 days, with respect to our executive officers and directors, after the date of this prospectus without first obtaining the written consent of the representatives. Specifically, we and these other persons have agreed, with certain limited exceptions, not to directly or indirectly

offer, pledge, sell or contract to sell any common stock,

sell any option or contract to purchase any common stock,

purchase any option or contract to sell any common stock,

grant any option, right or warrant for the sale of any common stock,

lend or otherwise dispose of or transfer any common stock,

request or demand that we file a registration statement related to the common stock, or

enter into any swap or other agreement that transfers, in whole or in part, the economic consequence of ownership of any common stock whether any such swap or transaction is to be settled by delivery of shares or other securities, in cash or otherwise.

This lock-up provision applies to common stock and to securities convertible into or exchangeable or exercisable for or repayable with common stock. It also applies to common stock owned now or acquired later by the person executing the agreement or for which the person executing the agreement later acquires the power of disposition.

New York Stock Exchange Listing

The shares are listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol MPW.

Price Stabilization, Short Positions and Penalty Bids

Until the distribution of the shares is completed, SEC rules may limit underwriters and selling group members from bidding for and purchasing our common stock. However, the representatives may engage in transactions that stabilize the price of the common stock, such as bids or purchases to peg, fix or maintain that price.

In connection with the offering, the underwriters may purchase and sell our common stock in the open market. These transactions may include short sales, purchases on the open market to cover positions created by short sales and stabilizing transactions. Short sales involve the sale by the underwriters of a greater number of shares than they are required to purchase in the offering. Covered short sales are sales made in an amount not greater than the underwriters option to purchase additional shares described above. The underwriters may close out any covered short

S-45

Table of Contents

position by either exercising their option to purchase additional shares or purchasing shares in the open market. In determining the source of shares to close out the covered short position, the underwriters will consider, among other things, the price of shares available for purchase in the open market as compared to the price at which they may purchase shares through the option granted to them. Naked short sales are sales in excess of such option. The underwriters must close out any naked short position by purchasing shares in the open market. A naked short position is more likely to be created if the underwriters are concerned that there may be downward pressure on the price of our common stock in the open market after pricing that could adversely affect investors who purchase in the offering. Stabilizing transactions consist of various bids for or purchases of shares of common stock made by the underwriters in the open market prior to the completion of the offering.

The underwriters may also impose a penalty bid. This occurs when a particular underwriter repays to the underwriters a portion of the underwriting discount received by it because the representatives have repurchased shares sold by or for the account of such underwriter in stabilizing or short covering transactions.

Similar to other purchase transactions, the underwriters' purchases to cover the syndicate short sales may have the effect of raising or maintaining the market price of our common stock or preventing or retarding a decline in the market price of our common stock. As a result, the price of our common stock may be higher than the price that might otherwise exist in the open market. The underwriters may conduct these transactions on the New York Stock Exchange, in the over-the-counter market or otherwise.

Neither we nor any of the underwriters make any representation or prediction as to the direction or magnitude of any effect that the transactions described above may have on the price of our common stock. In addition, neither we nor any of the underwriters make any representation that the representatives will engage in these transactions or that these transactions, once commenced, will not be discontinued without notice.

Electronic Distribution

In connection with the offering, certain of the underwriters or securities dealers may distribute prospectuses by electronic means, such as e-mail.

Other Relationships

Affiliates of certain of the underwriters have engaged in, and may in the future engage in, investment banking and other commercial dealings in the ordinary course of business with us or our affiliates. They have received, or may in the future receive, customary fees and commissions for these transactions. Affiliates of certain of the underwriters act as lenders and/or agents under our revolving credit facility and our term loan facility.

In addition, in the ordinary course of their business activities, the underwriters and their affiliates may make or hold a broad array of investments and actively trade debt and equity securities (or related derivative securities) and financial instruments (including bank loans) for their own account and for the accounts of their customers. Such investments and securities activities may involve securities and/or instruments of ours or our affiliates. The underwriters and their affiliates may also make investment recommendations and/or publish or express independent research views in respect of such securities or financial instruments and may hold, or recommend to clients that they acquire, long and/or short positions in such securities and instruments. Affiliates of the underwriters are lenders under our revolving credit facility. To the extent that we use any of the net proceeds of this offering to repay

Table of Contents

borrowings outstanding under our revolving credit facility, such affiliates of the underwriters will receive their proportionate share of any amount of our revolving credit facility that is repaid with the net proceeds of this offering.

Notice to Prospective Investors in Australia

No placement document, prospectus, product disclosure statement or other disclosure document has been lodged with the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC), in relation to the offering. This prospectus supplement does not constitute a prospectus, product disclosure statement or other disclosure document under the Corporations Act 2001 (the Corporations Act), and does not purport to include the information required for a prospectus, product disclosure statement or other disclosure document under the Corporations Act. Any offer in Australia of the shares may only be made to persons (the Exempt Investors) who are sophisticated investors (within the meaning of section 708(8) of the Corporations Act), professional investors (within the meaning of section 708(11) of the Corporations Act) or otherwise pursuant to one or more exemptions contained in section 708 of the Corporations Act so that it is lawful to offer the shares without disclosure to investors under Chapter 6D of the Corporations Act.

The shares applied for by Exempt Investors in Australia must not be offered for sale in Australia in the period of 12 months after the date of allotment under the offering, except in circumstances where disclosure to investors under Chapter 6D of the Corporations Act would not be required pursuant to an exemption under section 708 of the Corporations Act or otherwise or where the offer is pursuant to a disclosure document which complies with Chapter 6D of the Corporations Act. Any person acquiring shares must observe such Australian on-sale restrictions.

This prospectus supplement contains general information only and does not take account of the investment objectives, financial situation or particular needs of any particular person. It does not contain any securities recommendations or financial product advice. Before making an investment decision, investors need to consider whether the information in this prospectus supplement is appropriate to their needs, objectives and circumstances, and, if necessary, seek expert advice on those matters.

Notice to Prospective Investors in the Dubai International Financial Centre

This prospectus supplement relates to an Exempt Offer in accordance with the Offered Securities Rules of the Dubai Financial Services Authority (DFSA). This prospectus supplement is intended for distribution only to persons of a type specified in the Offered Securities Rules of the DFSA. It must not be delivered to, or relied on by, any other person. The DFSA has no responsibility for reviewing or verifying any documents in connection with Exempt Offers. The DFSA has not approved this prospectus nor taken steps to verify the information set forth herein and has no responsibility for the prospectus supplement. The shares to which this prospectus supplement relates may be illiquid and/or subject to restrictions on their resale. Prospective purchasers of the shares offered should conduct their own due diligence on the shares. If you do not understand the contents of this prospectus supplement you should consult an authorized financial advisor.

Notice to Prospective Investors in the European Economic Area

In relation to each Member State of the European Economic Area that has implemented the Prospectus Directive (each, a Relevant Member State) with effect from and including the date on which the Prospectus Directive is implemented in that Relevant Member State (the Relevant Implementation Date), no offer of shares which are the subject of the offering contemplated by this

Table of Contents

Prospectus may be made to the public in that Relevant Member State other than under the following exemptions under the Prospectus Directive:

- A. to any legal entity which is a qualified investor as defined in the Prospectus Directive;
- B. to fewer than 150, natural or legal persons (other than qualified investors as defined in the Prospectus Directive), subject to obtaining the prior consent of the underwriters; or
- C. in any other circumstances falling within Article 3(2) of the Prospectus Directive,

provided that no such offer of shares shall require us, the selling stockholder or the underwriters to publish a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Directive or supplement a prospectus pursuant to Article 16 of the Prospectus Directive.

Each person located in a Relevant Member State who initially acquires any shares or to whom any offer of shares is made or who receives any communication in respect of any offer of shares will be deemed to have represented, warranted, acknowledged and agreed that it is a qualified investor within the meaning of the law in that Relevant Member State implementing Article 2(1)(e) of the Prospectus Directive. In the case of any shares being offered to a financial intermediary as that term is used in Article 3(2) of the Prospectus Directive, (i) each such financial intermediary will be deemed to have represented, warranted, acknowledged and agreed that the shares acquired by it in the offer have not been acquired on a non-discretionary basis on behalf of, nor have they been acquired with a view to their offer or resale to, persons in circumstances which may give rise to an offer of any shares to the public other than their offer or resale in a Relevant Member State to qualified investors as so defined or in circumstances in which the prior consent of the underwriters has been obtained to each such proposed offer or resale or (ii) where shares have been acquired by it on behalf of persons in any Relevant Member State other than qualified investors, the offer of those shares to it is not treated under the Prospectus Directive as having been made to such persons.

We, the underwriters and their affiliates will rely upon the truth and accuracy of the foregoing representations, acknowledgements and agreements.

This prospectus supplement has been prepared on the basis that any offer of shares in any Relevant Member State will be made pursuant to an exemption under the Prospectus Directive from the requirement to publish a prospectus for offers of shares. Accordingly any person making or intending to make an offer in that Relevant Member State of shares which are the subject of the offering contemplated in this prospectus supplement may only do so in circumstances in which no obligation arises for us, the selling stockholder or the underwriters to publish a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Directive in relation to such offer. Neither we, the selling stockholder nor the underwriters have authorized, nor do they authorize, the making of any offer of shares in circumstances in which an obligation arises for us or the underwriters to publish a prospectus for such offer.

For the purpose of the above provisions, the expression an offer to the public in relation to any shares in any Relevant Member State means the communication in any form and by any means of sufficient information on the terms of the offer and the shares to be offered so as to enable an investor to decide to purchase or subscribe the shares, as the same may be varied in the Relevant Member State by any measure implementing the Prospectus Directive in the Relevant Member State and the expression Prospectus Directive means Directive 2003/71/EC (as amended, including Directive 2010/73/EU), and includes any relevant implementing measure in the Relevant Member State.

Table of Contents

Notice to Prospective Investors in Hong Kong

The shares have not been offered or sold and will not be offered or sold in Hong Kong, by means of any document, other than (a) to professional investors as defined in the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Cap. 571) of Hong Kong and any rules made under that Ordinance; or (b) in other circumstances which do not result in the document being a prospectus as defined in the Companies Ordinance (Cap. 32) of Hong Kong or which do not constitute an offer to the public within the meaning of that Ordinance. No advertisement, invitation or document relating to the shares has been or may be issued or has been or may be in the possession of any person for the purposes of issue, whether in Hong Kong or elsewhere, which is directed at, or the contents of which are likely to be accessed or read by, the public of Hong Kong (except if permitted to do so under the securities laws of Hong Kong) other than with respect to shares which are or are intended to be disposed of only to persons outside Hong Kong or only to professional investors as defined in the Securities and Futures Ordinance and any rules made under that Ordinance.

Notice to Prospective Investors in Switzerland

We have not and will not register with the Swiss Financial Market Supervisory Authority (FINMA) as a foreign collective investment scheme pursuant to Article 119 of the Federal Act on Collective Investment Scheme of 23 June 2006, as amended (CISA), and accordingly the securities being offered pursuant to this prospectus have not and will not be approved, and may not be licenseable, with FINMA. Therefore, the securities have not been authorized for distribution by FINMA as a foreign collective investment scheme pursuant to Article 119 CISA and the securities offered hereby may not be offered to the public (as this term is defined in Article 3 CISA) in or from Switzerland. The securities may solely be offered to qualified investors, as this term is defined in Article 10 CISA, and in the circumstances set out in Article 3 of the Ordinance on Collective Investment Scheme of 22 November 2006, as amended (CISO), such that there is no public offer. Investors, however, do not benefit from protection under CISA or CISO or supervision by FINMA. This prospectus and any other materials relating to the securities are strictly personal and confidential to each offeree and do not constitute an offer to any other person. This prospectus may only be used by those qualified investors to whom it has been handed out in connection with the offer described herein and may neither directly or indirectly be distributed or made available to any person or entity other than its recipients. It may not be used in connection with any other offer and shall in particular not be copied and/or distributed to the public in Switzerland or from Switzerland. This prospectus does not constitute an issue prospectus as that term is understood pursuant to Article 652a and/or 1156 of the Swiss Federal Code of Obligations. We have not applied for a listing of the securities on the SIX Swiss Exchange or any other regulated securities market in Switzerland, and consequently, the information presented in this prospectus does not necessarily comply with the information standards set out in the listing rules of the SIX Swiss Exchange and corresponding prospectus schemes annexed to the listing rules of the SIX Swiss Exchange.

Notice to Prospective Investors in the United Kingdom

In addition, in the United Kingdom, this document is being distributed only to, and is directed only at, and any offer subsequently made may only be directed at persons who are qualified investors (as defined in the Prospectus Directive) (i) who have professional experience in matters relating to investments falling within Article 19 (5) of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Financial Promotion) Order 2005, as amended (the Order) and/or (ii) who are high net worth companies (or persons to whom it may otherwise be lawfully communicated) falling within Article 49(2)(a) to (d) of the Order (all such persons together being referred to as relevant persons). This document must not be acted on or relied on in the United Kingdom by persons who are not relevant persons. In the United

Table of Contents

Kingdom, any investment or investment activity to which this document relates is only available to, and will be engaged in with, relevant persons.

Notice to Prospective Investors in Canada

The securities may be sold only to purchasers purchasing, or deemed to be purchasing, as principal that are accredited investors, as defined in National Instrument 45-106 *Prospectus Exemptions* or subsection 73.3(1) of the *Securities Act* (Ontario), and are permitted clients, as defined in National Instrument 31-103 *Registration Requirements, Exemptions and Ongoing Registrant Obligations*. Any resale of the securities must be made in accordance with an exemption from, or in a transaction not subject to, the prospectus requirements of applicable securities laws.

Securities legislation in certain provinces or territories of Canada may provide a purchaser with remedies for rescission or damages if this prospectus (including any amendment thereto) contains a misrepresentation, provided that the remedies for rescission or damages are exercised by the purchaser within the time limit prescribed by the securities legislation of the purchaser's province or territory. The purchaser should refer to any applicable provisions of the securities legislation of the purchaser's province or territory for particulars of these rights or consult with a legal advisor.

Pursuant to section 3A.3 (or, in the case of securities issued or guaranteed by the government of a non-Canadian jurisdiction, section 3A.4) of National Instrument 33-105 *Underwriting Conflicts* (NI 33-105), the underwriters are not required to comply with the disclosure requirements of NI 33-105 regarding underwriter conflicts of interest in connection with this offering.

Table of Contents

LEGAL MATTERS

The validity of the common stock being offered by this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus has been passed upon for us by Goodwin Procter LLP, New York, New York. The general summary of material U.S. federal income tax considerations in this prospectus supplement under the heading "United States Federal Income Tax Considerations" has been passed upon for us by Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, P.C. Certain legal matters relating to this offering will be passed upon for the underwriters by Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP, New York, New York.

EXPERTS

The financial statements and management's assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting (which is included in Management's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting) incorporated in this Prospectus by reference to the Annual Report on Form 10-K of Medical Properties Trust, Inc. for the year ended December 31, 2016 have been so incorporated in reliance on the report of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, given on the authority of said firm as experts in auditing and accounting.

INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE

We incorporate by reference into this prospectus supplement the documents listed below and any future filings we make with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act, including any filings after the date of this prospectus supplement (other than information furnished pursuant to Item 2.01, Item 7.01 or exhibits furnished pursuant to Item 9.01 of Form 8-K), until this offering is terminated. The information incorporated by reference herein is an important part of this prospectus supplement. Any statement in a document incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement will be deemed to be modified or superseded to the extent a statement contained in (1) this prospectus supplement, or (2) any other subsequently filed document that is incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement, modifies or supersedes such statement:

our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016;

our Current Reports on Form 8-K filed on February 7, 2017 (excluding Item 7.01), February 22, 2017, March 16, 2017 and March 27, 2017;

our Definitive Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A, relating to the annual meeting of stockholders held on May 19, 2016, filed on April 29, 2016, and additional definitive materials on Schedule 14A filed on April 29, 2016 (solely to the extent specifically incorporated by reference into our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015); and

the description of our common stock included in our Registration Statement on Form 8-A filed on July 5, 2005 and any amendment or report filed with the SEC for the purpose of updating such description.

We will provide without charge to each person to whom this prospectus supplement is delivered, on written or oral request of that person, a copy of any or all of the documents we are incorporating by reference into this prospectus

supplement other than exhibits to those documents unless those exhibits are specifically incorporated by reference into those documents. A written request should be addressed to Investor Relations, Medical Properties Trust, Inc., 1000 Urban Center Drive, Suite 501, Birmingham, Alabama 35242.

S-51

Table of Contents

Medical Properties Trust, Inc.

Common Stock

Preferred Stock

This prospectus relates to common stock and preferred stock that we may sell from time to time in one or more offerings on terms to be determined at the time of sale. We will provide specific terms of these securities in supplements to this prospectus. You should read this prospectus and any supplement carefully before you invest. This prospectus may not be used to offer and sell securities unless accompanied by a prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus for those securities.

These securities may be sold directly by us, through dealers or agents designated from time to time, to or through underwriters or through a combination of these methods. See **Plan of Distribution** in this prospectus. We may also describe the plan of distribution for any particular offering of these securities in any applicable prospectus supplement. If any agents, underwriters or dealers are involved in the sale of any securities in respect of which this prospectus is being delivered, we will disclose their names and the nature of our arrangements with them in a prospectus supplement. The net proceeds we expect to receive from any such sale will also be included in a prospectus supplement.

In addition, selling stockholders to be named in one or more prospectus supplements may offer shares of our common or preferred stock from time to time. To the extent that any selling stockholder resells any securities, the selling stockholder may be required to provide you with this prospectus and a prospectus supplement identifying and containing specific information about the selling stockholder and the terms of the securities being offered. We will not receive any proceeds from the sale of securities by such selling stockholders.

Our common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange, or the NYSE, under the symbol **MPW**. On December 30, 2015, the last reported sale price of our common stock on the NYSE was \$11.65 per share. Each prospectus supplement will indicate if the securities offered thereby will be listed on any securities exchange. To ensure that we maintain our qualification as a real estate investment trust, our charter limits ownership of the issued and outstanding shares of any class or series of our stock (by number or value, whichever is more restrictive) to no more than 9.8% by any person.

Investing in our securities involves various risks. See Risk Factors on page 3 for more information relating to the risks associated with an investment in our securities.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The date of this prospectus is December 31, 2015.

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
<u>ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS</u>	1
<u>ABOUT MEDICAL PROPERTIES TRUST</u>	1
<u>RISK FACTORS</u>	3
<u>WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION</u>	3
<u>INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION BY REFERENCE</u>	4
<u>USE OF PROCEEDS</u>	5
<u>RATIO OF EARNINGS TO COMBINED FIXED CHARGES AND PREFERRED STOCK DIVIDENDS</u>	5
<u>A WARNING ABOUT FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS</u>	6
<u>DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK</u>	8
<u>CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF MARYLAND LAW AND OF OUR CHARTER AND BYLAWS</u>	13
<u>DESCRIPTION OF THE PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT OF OUR OPERATING PARTNERSHIP</u>	18
<u>UNITED STATES FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS</u>	22
<u>SELLING STOCKHOLDERS</u>	45
<u>PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION</u>	45
<u>EXPERTS</u>	49
<u>LEGAL MATTERS</u>	49

Table of Contents

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC, using a shelf registration process. Under this shelf process, we are registering an unspecified amount of any combination of the securities described in this prospectus and we and/or the selling stockholders may sell such securities, at any time and from time to time, in one or more offerings. This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities we and/or the selling stockholders may offer. Each time we and/or the selling stockholders sell securities, we and/or the selling stockholders will provide a prospectus supplement that will contain specific information about the securities being offered and the terms of that offering. The prospectus supplement may also add to, update or change information contained in this prospectus. You should read both this prospectus and any prospectus supplement together with the additional information described under the heading **Where You Can Find More Information** carefully before making an investment decision. We have incorporated exhibits into the registration statement. You should read the exhibits carefully for provisions that may be important to you.

You should rely only on the information incorporated by reference or provided in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with different or additional information. We are not making an offer of these securities in any state where the offer is not permitted. You should not assume that the information in this prospectus or in the documents incorporated by reference is accurate as of any date other than the date on the front of this prospectus or the date of the applicable documents.

All references to **MPW**, **Company**, **we**, **our** and **us** refer to Medical Properties Trust, Inc. and its subsidiaries. The **selling stockholder** includes the successors-in-interest, donees, transferees or others who may later hold the selling stockholder's interests. The term **you** refers to a prospective investor.

ABOUT MEDICAL PROPERTIES TRUST

We are a self-advised real estate investment trust, or a REIT, listed on the NYSE focused on investing in and owning net-leased healthcare facilities across the United States and selectively in foreign jurisdictions. We acquire and develop healthcare facilities and lease the facilities to healthcare operating companies under long-term net leases, which require the tenant to bear most of the costs associated with the property. We also make mortgage loans to healthcare operators collateralized by their real estate assets. In addition, we selectively make loans to certain of our operators through our taxable REIT subsidiaries, the proceeds of which are typically used for acquisition and working capital purposes. Finally, from time to time, we acquire a profits or other equity interest in our tenants that gives us a right to share in these tenants' profits and losses.

As of December 31, 2015, our portfolio consisted of 202 properties leased or loaned to 30 operators, of which nine properties are under development and 12 are in the form of mortgage loans. 16 of the properties we own are subject to long-term ground leases. Our properties, which are located in the United States and Europe, consist of the following:

107 general acute care hospitals;

23 long-term acute care hospitals;

69 inpatient rehabilitation hospitals; and

3 medical office buildings.

We conduct substantially all of our business through our operating partnership, MPT Operating Partnership, L.P. We have operated as a REIT since April 6, 2004, and elected REIT status upon the filing of our federal income tax return for our taxable year that ended on December 31, 2004.

Table of Contents

Our principal executive offices are located at 1000 Urban Center Drive, Suite 501, Birmingham, Alabama 35242. Our telephone number is (205) 969-3755. Our Internet address is www.medicalpropertystrust.com. The information found on, or otherwise accessible through, our website is not incorporated into, and does not form a part of, this prospectus or any other report or document we file with or furnish to the SEC.

Table of Contents

RISK FACTORS

Investment in any securities offered pursuant to this prospectus involves risks. You should carefully consider the risk factors described in our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K and the other information contained in this prospectus, as updated by our subsequent filings under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act, and the risk factors and other information contained in the applicable prospectus supplement before acquiring any of such securities. For a description of these reports and documents, and information about where you can find them, see **Where You Can Find More Information** and **Incorporation of Certain Information By Reference**. The risks and uncertainties in the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus are those that we currently believe may materially affect our company. Additional risks not presently known or that are currently deemed immaterial could also materially and adversely affect our financial condition, results of operations, business and prospects.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. You may read and copy the registration statement and any other documents filed by us at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the Public Reference Room. Our SEC filings are also available to the public at the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>. You may inspect reports and other information we file at the offices of the NYSE, which is located at 20 Broad Street, New York, New York 10005. We also maintain an Internet website that contains information about us at www.medicalpropertystrust.com. The information found on, or otherwise accessible through, our website is not incorporated into, and does not form a part of, this prospectus or any other report or documents we file with or furnish to the SEC.

This prospectus is part of our registration statement and does not contain all of the information in the registration statement. We have omitted parts of the registration statement in accordance with the rules and regulations of the SEC. For more details concerning the Company and any securities offered by this prospectus, you may examine the registration statement on Form S-3 and the exhibits filed with it at the locations listed in the previous paragraphs. Please be aware that statements in this prospectus referring to a contract or other document are summaries and you should refer to the exhibits that are part of the registration statement for a copy of the contract or document.

Table of Contents

INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference into this prospectus the information we file with the SEC, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. Information incorporated by reference is part of this prospectus. Later information filed with the SEC will automatically update and supersede this information.

We incorporate by reference the documents listed below and all other documents we file with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act after the date of this prospectus and before the termination of the offerings to which this prospectus relates (other than documents and information furnished and not filed in accordance with the SEC rules, unless expressly stated otherwise therein):

our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014;

our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended March 31, 2015, June 30, 2015 and September 30, 2015;

our Definitive Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A, filed on April 27, 2015 (solely to the extent incorporated by reference into Part III of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014);

our Current Reports on Form 8-K or 8-K/A, filed on January 14, 2015, May 5, 2015, May 14, 2015, June 26, 2015, July 10, 2015, July 27, 2015, August 11, 2015, August 14, 2015, August 21, 2015, September 4, 2015, October 6, 2015 and November 9, 2015; and

the description of our common stock included in our Registration Statement on Form 8-A filed on July 5, 2005 and any amendment or report filed with the SEC for the purpose of updating such description.

We will provide, upon oral or written request, to each person, including any beneficial owner, to whom a prospectus is delivered, a copy of any or all of the information that has been incorporated by reference in the prospectus but not delivered with this prospectus. Any person, including any beneficial owner, may request a copy of these filings, including exhibits, at no cost by contacting:

Investor Relations

Medical Properties Trust

1000 Urban Center Drive, Suite 501

Birmingham, Alabama 35242

telephone: (205) 969-3755,

facsimile: (205) 969-3756,

e-mail: *tberryman@medicalpropertystrust.com*

or by visiting our website, www.medicalpropertystrust.com. The information contained on our website is not part of this prospectus and the reference to our website is intended to be an inactive textual reference only.

Table of Contents**USE OF PROCEEDS**

Unless otherwise described in the applicable prospectus supplement to this prospectus used to offer specific securities, we intend to use the net proceeds to us from the sale of securities by us under this prospectus for general corporate purposes, which may include acquisitions of additional properties as suitable opportunities arise, the repayment of outstanding indebtedness, capital expenditures, the expansion, redevelopment and/or improvement of properties in our portfolio, working capital and other general purposes. Pending application of cash proceeds, we may use the net proceeds to temporarily reduce borrowings under our revolving credit facility or we will invest the net proceeds in interest-bearing accounts and short-term, interest-bearing securities which are consistent with our intention to qualify as a REIT for federal income tax purposes. Unless otherwise set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement, we will not receive any proceeds in the event that the securities are sold by a selling stockholder. Further details regarding the use of the net proceeds of a specific series or class of the securities will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement.

RATIO OF EARNINGS TO COMBINED FIXED CHARGES AND PREFERRED STOCK DIVIDENDS

The following table sets forth our combined ratios of earnings to combined fixed charges and preferred stock dividends for each of the periods shown:

	Nine Months Ended September 30, 2015	Year Ended December 31, 2014	Year Ended December 31, 2013	Year Ended December 31, 2012	Year Ended December 31, 2011	Year Ended December 31, 2010
Ratio of Earnings to Combined Fixed Charges and Preferred Stock Dividends	1.90x	1.48x	2.29x	2.19x	1.19x	1.02x

The ratio of earnings to combined fixed charges and preferred stock dividends was computed by dividing earnings by combined fixed charges and preferred stock dividends. For these purposes, earnings is the amount resulting from adding together income (loss) from continuing operations, fixed charges, and amortization of capitalized interest and subtracting interest capitalized. Fixed charges is the amount resulting from adding together interest expensed and capitalized; amortized premiums, discounts and capitalized expenses related to indebtedness; and the interest expense portion of rent. Preferred stock dividends is the amount of pre-tax earnings that is required to pay the dividends on outstanding preference securities. Combined fixed charges and preferred stock dividends is the amount resulting from adding together fixed charges and preferred stock dividends paid and accrued for each respective period.

Table of Contents

A WARNING ABOUT FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS

Certain statements contained in this prospectus, any prospectus supplement and any documents we incorporate by reference herein or therein constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of the safe harbor from civil liability provided for such statements by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 (set forth in Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act, and Section 21E of the Exchange Act). These forward-looking statements include information about possible or assumed future results of our business, financial condition, liquidity, results of operations, plans and objectives. Statements regarding the following subjects, among others, are forward-looking by their nature:

our business strategy;

our projected operating results;

our ability to acquire or develop additional facilities in the United States or Europe;

availability of suitable facilities to acquire or develop;

our ability to enter into, and the terms of, our prospective leases and loans;

our ability to raise additional funds through offerings of debt and equity securities and/or property disposals;

our ability to obtain future financing arrangements;

estimates relating to, and our ability to pay, future distributions;

our ability to compete in the marketplace;

lease rates and interest rates;

market trends;

projected capital expenditures; and

the impact of technology on our facilities, operations and business.

The forward-looking statements are based on our beliefs, assumptions and expectations of our future performance, taking into account information currently available to us. These beliefs, assumptions and expectations can change as a result of many possible events or factors, not all of which are known to us. If a change occurs, our business, financial condition, liquidity and results of operations may vary materially from those expressed in our forward-looking statements. You should carefully consider these risks before you make an investment decision with respect to our common stock and other securities, along with, among others, the following factors that could cause actual results to vary from our forward-looking statements:

factors referenced herein under the section captioned Risk Factors;

factors referenced in our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K, as updated by our subsequent filings under the Exchange Act, including those set forth under the sections captioned Risk Factors, Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, and Business;

Table of Contents

the possibility that the anticipated benefits from the Capella Healthcare, Inc. transactions, the Median Kliniken S.à r.l. transactions and our other recent transactions will take longer to realize than expected or will not be realized at all;

U.S. (both national and local) and European (in particular Germany, the United Kingdom, Spain and Italy) economic, business, real estate, and other market conditions;

the competitive environment in which we operate;

the execution of our business plan;

financing risks;

acquisition and development risks;

potential environmental contingencies and other liabilities;

other factors affecting the real estate industry generally or the healthcare real estate industry in particular;

our ability to maintain our status as a REIT for U.S. federal and state income tax purposes;

our ability to attract and retain qualified personnel;

changes in foreign currency exchange rates;

U.S. (both federal and state) and European (in particular Germany, the United Kingdom, Spain and Italy) healthcare and other regulatory requirements; and

U.S. national and local economic conditions, as well as conditions in Europe and any other foreign jurisdictions where we own or will own healthcare facilities, which may have a negative effect on the following, among other things:

the financial condition of our tenants, our lenders, counterparties to our interest rate swaps and other hedged transactions and institutions that hold our cash balances, which may expose us to increased risks of default by these parties;

our ability to obtain equity or debt financing on attractive terms or at all, which may adversely impact our ability to pursue acquisition and development opportunities and refinance existing debt and our future interest expense; and

the value of our real estate assets, which may limit our ability to dispose of assets at attractive prices or obtain or maintain debt financing secured by our properties or on an unsecured basis.

When we use the words believe, expect, may, potential, anticipate, estimate, plan, will, could, inter expressions, we are identifying forward-looking statements. You should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements. Except as required by law, we disclaim any obligation to update such statements or to publicly announce the result of any revisions to any of the forward-looking statements contained in this prospectus to reflect future events or developments.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK

The following summary of the material provisions of our capital stock is subject to and qualified in its entirety by reference to the Maryland General Corporation Law, or the MGCL, and our charter and bylaws. Copies of our charter and bylaws are on file with the SEC. We recommend that you review these documents. See [Where You Can Find More Information](#).

Authorized Stock

Our charter authorizes us to issue up to 500,000,000 shares of common stock, par value \$0.001 per share, and 10,000,000 shares of preferred stock, par value \$0.001 per share. As of December 29, 2015, we have 236,744,222 shares of common stock issued and outstanding and no shares of preferred stock issued and outstanding. Our charter authorizes our board of directors to increase the aggregate number of authorized shares or the number of shares of any class or series without stockholder approval.

Common Stock

We may issue common stock from time to time. Our board of directors must approve the amount of stock we sell and the price for which it is sold. All shares of our common stock, when issued, will be duly authorized, fully paid and nonassessable. This means that the full price for our outstanding common stock will have been paid at the time of issuance and that any holder of our common stock will not later be required to pay us any additional money for the common stock.

Subject to the preferential rights of any other class or series of stock and to the provisions of our charter regarding the restrictions on transfer of stock discussed below under the caption [Restrictions on Ownership and Transfer](#), holders of shares of our common stock are entitled to receive dividends on such stock when, as and if authorized by our board of directors out of funds legally available therefore and declared by us and to share ratably in the assets of our company legally available for distribution to our stockholders in the event of our liquidation, dissolution or winding up after payment of or adequate provision for all known debts and liabilities of our company, including the preferential rights on dissolution of any class or classes of preferred stock.

Subject to the provisions of our charter regarding the restrictions on transfer of stock, each outstanding share of our common stock entitles the holder to one vote on all matters submitted to a vote of stockholders, including the election of directors and, except as provided with respect to any other class or series of stock, the holders of such shares will possess the exclusive voting power. There is no cumulative voting in the election of our board of directors. In uncontested elections, directors are elected by the affirmative vote of a majority of all votes cast for and against each director nominee. In contested elections, directors are elected by a plurality of the votes cast. See [Certain Provisions of Maryland Law and Our Charter and Bylaws](#) [Our Board of Directors](#).

Holders of shares of our common stock have no preference, conversion, exchange, sinking fund, redemption or appraisal rights and have no preemptive rights to subscribe for any securities of our company. Subject to the provisions of our charter regarding the restrictions on transfer of stock, shares of our common stock will have equal dividend, liquidation and other rights.

Under the MGCL, a Maryland corporation generally cannot dissolve, amend its charter, merge, consolidate, sell all or substantially all of its assets, engage in a share exchange or engage in similar transactions outside of the ordinary course of business unless approved by the corporation's board of directors and by the affirmative vote of stockholders holding at least two-thirds of the shares entitled to vote on the matter unless a lesser percentage (but not less than a

majority of all of the votes entitled to be cast on the matter) is set forth in the corporation's charter. Our charter does not provide for a lesser percentage for these matters. However, Maryland law permits a corporation to transfer all or substantially all of its assets without the approval of the stockholders of the corporation to one or more persons if all of the equity interests of the person or persons are

Table of Contents

owned, directly or indirectly, by the corporation. Because operating assets may be held by a corporation's subsidiaries, as in our situation, this may mean that a subsidiary of a corporation can transfer all of its assets without a vote of the corporation's stockholders.

Our charter authorizes our board of directors to reclassify any unissued shares of our common stock into other classes or series of classes of stock and to establish the number of shares in each class or series and to set the preferences, conversion and other rights, voting powers, restrictions, limitations as to dividends or other distributions, qualifications or terms or conditions of redemption for each such class or series.

Preferred Stock

Our charter authorizes our board of directors to classify any unissued shares of preferred stock and to reclassify any previously classified but unissued shares of any series. The preferred stock, when issued, will be duly authorized, fully paid and nonassessable and will have no preemptive rights. Prior to issuance of shares of each series, our board of directors is required by the MGCL and our charter to set the terms, preferences, conversion or other rights, voting powers, restrictions, limitations as to dividends or other distributions, qualifications and terms and conditions of redemption for each such series. Thus, our board of directors could authorize the issuance of shares of preferred stock with terms and conditions which could have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing a change of control transaction that might involve a premium price for holders of our common stock or which holders might believe to otherwise be in their best interest. As of December 31, 2015, no shares of preferred stock were outstanding.

Power to Increase Authorized Stock and Issue Additional Shares of Our Common Stock and Preferred Stock

We believe that the power of our board of directors, without stockholder approval, to increase the number of authorized shares of stock, issue additional authorized but unissued shares of our common stock or preferred stock and to classify or reclassify unissued shares of our common stock or preferred stock and thereafter to cause us to issue such classified or reclassified shares of stock will provide us with flexibility in structuring possible future financings and acquisitions and in meeting other needs which might arise. The additional classes or series, as well as the common stock, will be available for issuance without further action by our stockholders, unless stockholder consent is required by applicable law or the rules of any national securities exchange or automated quotation system on which our securities may be listed or traded.

Restrictions on Ownership and Transfer

In order for us to qualify as a REIT under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or the Code, not more than 50% of the value of the outstanding shares of our stock may be owned, actually or constructively, by five or fewer individuals (as defined in the Code to include certain entities) during the last half of a taxable year (other than the first year for which an election to be a REIT has been made by us). In addition, if we, or one or more owners (actually or constructively) of 10% or more of our stock, actually or constructively owns 10% or more of a tenant of ours (or a tenant of any partnership in which we are a partner), the rent received by us (either directly or through any such partnership) from such tenant will not be qualifying income for purposes of the REIT gross income tests of the Code. Our stock must also be beneficially owned by 100 or more persons during at least 335 days of a taxable year of 12 months or during a proportionate part of a shorter taxable year (other than the first year for which an election to be a REIT has been made by us).

Our charter contains restrictions on the ownership and transfer of our capital stock that are intended to assist us in complying with these requirements and continuing to qualify as a REIT. The relevant sections of our charter provide that, effective upon completion of our initial public offering and subject to the exceptions described below, no person

or persons acting as a group may own, or be deemed to own by virtue of the attribution provisions of the Code, more than (1) 9.8% of the number or value, whichever is more restrictive, of

Table of Contents

the outstanding shares of our common stock or (2) 9.8% of the number or value, whichever is more restrictive, of the issued and outstanding preferred or other shares of any class or series of our stock. We refer to this restriction as the ownership limit. The ownership limit in our charter is more restrictive than the restrictions on ownership of our common stock imposed by the Code.

The ownership attribution rules under the Code are complex and may cause stock owned actually or constructively by a group of related individuals or entities to be owned constructively by one individual or entity. As a result, the acquisition of less than 9.8% of our common stock (or the acquisition of an interest in an entity that owns, actually or constructively, our common stock) by an individual or entity could nevertheless cause that individual or entity, or another individual or entity, to own constructively in excess of 9.8% of our outstanding common stock and thereby subject the common stock to the ownership limit.

Our board of directors may, in its sole discretion, prospectively or retroactively waive the ownership limit with respect to one or more stockholders if it determines that such ownership in excess of the ownership limit would not result in our being closely held under Section 856(h) of the Code (without regard to whether the ownership interest is held during the last half of a taxable year) or otherwise jeopardize our status as a REIT (for example, by causing any tenant of ours to be considered a related party tenant for purposes of the REIT qualification rules).

As a condition of our waiver, our board of directors may require an opinion of counsel or Internal Revenue Service, or IRS, ruling satisfactory to our board of directors and representations or undertakings from the applicant with respect to preserving our REIT status.

In connection with the waiver of the ownership limit or at any other time, our board of directors may decrease the ownership limit for all other persons and entities; provided, however, that the decreased ownership limit will not be effective for any person or entity whose percentage ownership in our capital stock is in excess of such decreased ownership limit until such time as such person or entity's percentage of our capital stock equals or falls below the decreased ownership limit, but any further acquisition of our capital stock in excess of such percentage ownership of our capital stock will be in violation of the ownership limit. Additionally, the new ownership limit may not allow five or fewer individuals (as defined for purposes of the REIT ownership restrictions under the Code) to beneficially own more than 49.5% of the value of our outstanding capital stock.

Our charter generally prohibits:

any person from actually or constructively owning shares of our capital stock that would result in us being closely held under Section 856(h) of the Code; and

any person from transferring shares of our capital stock if such transfer would result in shares of our stock being beneficially owned by fewer than 100 persons (determined without reference to any rules of attribution).

Any person who acquires or attempts or intends to acquire beneficial or constructive ownership of shares of our common stock that will or may violate any of the foregoing restrictions on transferability and ownership will be required to give notice immediately to us and provide us with such other information as we may request in order to determine the effect of such transfer on our status as a REIT. The foregoing provisions on transferability and ownership will not apply if our board of directors determines that it is no longer in our best interests to attempt to qualify, or to continue to qualify, as a REIT.

Pursuant to our charter, if any purported transfer of our capital stock or any other event would otherwise result in any person violating the ownership limit or the other restrictions in our charter, then any such purported transfer will be void and of no force or effect with respect to the purported transferee or owner, or the purported owner, as to that number of shares in excess of the ownership limit (rounded up to the nearest whole share). The

Table of Contents

number of shares in excess of the ownership limit will be automatically transferred to, and held by, a trust for the exclusive benefit of one or more charitable organizations selected by us. The trustee of the trust will be designated by us and must be unaffiliated with us and with any purported owner. The automatic transfer will be effective as of the close of business on the business day prior to the date of the violative transfer or other event that results in a transfer to the trust. Any dividend or other distribution paid to the purported owner, prior to our discovery that the shares had been automatically transferred to a trust as described above, must be repaid to the trustee upon demand for distribution to the beneficiary of the trust and all dividends and other distributions paid by us with respect to such excess shares prior to the sale by the trustee of such shares shall be paid to the trustee for the beneficiary. If the transfer to the trust as described above is not automatically effective, for any reason, to prevent violation of the applicable ownership limit, then our charter provides that the transfer of the excess shares will be void. Subject to Maryland law, effective as of the date that such excess shares have been transferred to the trust, the trustee shall have the authority (at the trustee's sole discretion and subject to applicable law) (1) to rescind as void any vote cast by a purported owner prior to our discovery that such shares have been transferred to the trust and (2) to recast such vote in accordance with the desires of the trustee acting for the benefit of the beneficiary of the trust, provided that if we have already taken irreversible action, then the trustee shall not have the authority to rescind and recast such vote.

Shares of our capital stock transferred to the trustee are deemed offered for sale to us, or our designee, at a price per share equal to the lesser of (1) the price paid by the purported owner for the shares (or, if the event which resulted in the transfer to the trust did not involve a purchase of such shares of our capital stock at market price, the market price on the day of the event which resulted in the transfer of such shares of our capital stock to the trust) and (2) the market price on the date we, or our designee, accepts such offer. We have the right to accept such offer until the trustee has sold the shares of our capital stock held in the trust pursuant to the provisions discussed below. Upon a sale to us, the interest of the charitable beneficiary in the shares sold terminates and the trustee must distribute the net proceeds of the sale to the purported owner and any dividends or other distributions held by the trustee with respect to such capital stock will be paid to the charitable beneficiary.

If we do not buy the shares, the trustee must, within 20 days of receiving notice from us of the transfer of shares to the trust, sell the shares to a person or entity designated by the trustee who could own the shares without violating the ownership limit. After that, the trustee must distribute to the purported owner an amount equal to the lesser of (1) the net price paid by the purported owner for the shares (or, if the event which resulted in the transfer to the trust did not involve a purchase of such shares at market price, the market price on the day of the event which resulted in the transfer of such shares of our capital stock to the trust) and (2) the net sales proceeds received by the trust for the shares. Any proceeds in excess of the amount distributable to the purported owner will be distributed to the beneficiary.

All persons who own, directly or by virtue of the attribution provisions of the Code, more than 5% (or such other percentage as provided in the regulations promulgated under the Code) of the lesser of the number or value of the shares of our outstanding capital stock must give written notice to us within 30 days after the end of each calendar year. In addition, each stockholder will, upon demand, be required to disclose to us in writing such information with respect to the direct, indirect and constructive ownership of shares of our stock as our board of directors deems reasonably necessary to comply with the provisions of the Code applicable to a REIT, to comply with the requirements of any taxing authority or governmental agency or to determine any such compliance.

All certificates representing shares of our capital stock will bear a legend referring to the restrictions described above.

These ownership limits could delay, defer or prevent a transaction or a change of control of our company that might involve a premium price over the then prevailing market price for the holders of some, or a majority, of our outstanding shares of common stock or which such holders might believe to be otherwise in their best interest.

Table of Contents

Transfer Agent and Registrar

The transfer agent and registrar for our common stock is American Stock Transfer and Trust Company, LLC.

Table of Contents

CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF MARYLAND LAW AND OF OUR CHARTER AND BYLAWS

The following summary of certain provisions of the MGCL and of our charter and bylaws does not purport to be complete and is subject to and qualified in its entirety by reference to the MGCL and our charter and bylaws. See [Where You Can Find More Information](#).

Our Board of Directors

Our charter and bylaws provide that the number of our directors is to be established by our board of directors but may not be fewer than one nor, under the MGCL, more than 15. Currently, our board is comprised of eight directors. Any vacancy, other than one resulting from an increase in the number of directors, may be filled, at any regular meeting or at any special meeting called for that purpose, by a majority of the remaining directors, though less than a quorum. Any vacancy resulting from an increase in the number of our directors must be filled by a majority of the entire board of directors. A director elected to fill a vacancy shall be elected to serve until the next election of directors and until his successor shall be elected and qualified.

Pursuant to our charter, each member of our board of directors is elected until the next annual meeting of stockholders and until his successor is elected, with the current members' terms expiring at the annual meeting of stockholders to be held in 2016. Holders of shares of our common stock have no right to cumulative voting in the election of directors. Consequently, at each annual meeting of stockholders, all of the members of our board of directors will stand for election and our directors will be elected by a majority of votes cast in uncontested elections and by a plurality of votes cast in contested elections. Directors may be removed with or without cause by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the votes entitled to be cast in the election of directors.

Business Combinations

Maryland law prohibits business combinations between a Maryland corporation and an interested stockholder or an affiliate of an interested stockholder for five years after the most recent date on which the interested stockholder becomes an interested stockholder. These business combinations include a merger, consolidation, share exchange, or, in circumstances specified in the statute, certain transfers of assets, certain stock issuances and reclassifications. Maryland law defines an interested stockholder as:

any person who beneficially owns 10% or more of the voting power of the corporation's voting stock; or

an affiliate or associate of the corporation who, at any time within the two-year period prior to the date in question, was the beneficial owner of 10% or more of the voting power of the then-outstanding voting stock of the corporation.

A person is not an interested stockholder if the board of directors approves in advance the transaction by which the person otherwise would have become an interested stockholder. However, in approving the transaction, the board of directors may provide that its approval is subject to compliance, at or after the time of approval, with any terms and conditions determined by the board of directors.

After the five year prohibition, any business combination between a corporation and an interested stockholder generally must be recommended by the board of directors and approved by the affirmative vote of at least:

80% of the votes entitled to be cast by holders of the then outstanding shares of voting stock; and

two-thirds of the votes entitled to be cast by holders of the voting stock other than shares held by the interested stockholder with whom or with whose affiliate the business combination is to be effected or shares held by an affiliate or associate of the interested stockholder.

Table of Contents

These super-majority vote requirements do not apply if stockholders receive a minimum price, as defined under Maryland law, for their shares in the form of cash or other consideration in the same form as previously paid by the interested stockholder for its shares.

The statute permits various exemptions from its provisions, including business combinations that are approved by the board of directors before the time that the interested stockholder becomes an interested stockholder.

As permitted by Maryland law, our charter includes a provision excluding our company from these provisions of the MGCL and, consequently, the five-year prohibition and the super-majority vote requirements will not apply to business combinations between us and any interested stockholder of ours unless we later amend our charter, with stockholder approval, to modify or eliminate this exclusion provision. We believe that our ownership restrictions will substantially reduce the risk that a stockholder would become an interested stockholder within the meaning of the Maryland business combination statute. There can be no assurance, however, that we will not opt into the business combination provisions of the MGCL at a future date, subject to stockholder approval as required under the MGCL and our charter.

Control Share Acquisitions

The MGCL provides that a holder of control shares of a Maryland corporation acquired in a control share acquisition has no voting rights with respect to the control shares, except to the extent approved at a special meeting by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the votes entitled to be cast on the matter. Shares owned by the acquiror or by officers or directors who are our employees are excluded from shares entitled to vote on the matter. Control shares are voting shares which, if aggregated with all other shares previously acquired by the acquiror or in respect of which the acquiror is able to exercise or direct the exercise of voting power except solely by virtue of a revocable proxy, would entitle the acquiror to exercise voting power in electing directors within one of the following ranges of voting power: (i) one-tenth or more but less than one-third, (ii) one-third or more but less than a majority, or (iii) a majority or more of all voting power. Control shares do not include shares the acquiring person is then entitled to vote as a result of having previously obtained stockholder approval. A control share acquisition means the acquisition of issued and outstanding control shares, subject to certain exceptions.

A person who has made or proposes to make a control share acquisition, upon satisfaction of certain conditions, including an undertaking to pay expenses, may compel a corporation's board of directors to call a special meeting of stockholders to be held within 50 days of demand to consider the voting rights of the shares. If no request for a meeting is made, the corporation may itself present the question at any stockholders' meeting.

If voting rights are not approved at the meeting or if the acquiring person does not deliver an acquiring person statement as required by Maryland law, then, subject to certain conditions and limitations, the corporation may redeem any or all of the control shares, except those for which voting rights have previously been approved, for fair value determined, without regard to the absence of voting rights for the control shares, as of the date of the last control share acquisition by the acquiror or of any meeting of stockholders at which the voting rights of such shares are considered and not approved. If voting rights for control shares are approved at a stockholders' meeting and the acquiror becomes entitled to exercise or direct the exercise of a majority of the voting power, then all other stockholders are entitled to demand and receive fair value for their stock, or provided for in the dissenters' rights provisions of the MGCL may exercise appraisal rights. The fair value of the shares as determined for purposes of such appraisal rights may not be less than the highest price per share paid by the acquiror in the control share acquisition.

The control share acquisition statute does not apply (i) to shares acquired in a merger, consolidation or share exchange if the corporation is a party to the transaction or (ii) to acquisitions approved or exempted by the charter or bylaws of

the corporation.

Table of Contents

Our charter contains a provision exempting from the control share acquisition statute any and all acquisitions by any person of our stock. There can be no assurance that we will not opt into the control share acquisition provisions of the MGCL in the future, subject to stockholder approval as required under the MGCL and our charter.

Maryland Unsolicited Takeover Act

Maryland law also permits Maryland corporations that are subject to the Exchange Act and have at least three outside directors to elect, by resolution of the board of directors or by provision in its charter or bylaws and notwithstanding any contrary provision in the charter or bylaws, to be subject to any or all of the following corporate governance provisions:

the board of directors may classify itself without the vote of stockholders. A board of directors classified in that manner cannot be altered by amendment to the charter of the corporation;

a special meeting of the stockholders will be called only at the request of stockholders entitled to cast at least a majority of the votes entitled to be cast at the meeting;

the board of directors may reserve for itself the right to fix the number of directors and to fill vacancies created by the death, removal or resignation of a director;

a director may be removed only by the vote of the holders of two-thirds of the stock entitled to vote; and

provide that all vacancies on the board of directors may be filled only by the affirmative vote of a majority of the remaining directors in office, even if the remaining directors do not constitute a quorum for the remainder of the full term of the class of directors in which the vacancy occurred.

A board of directors may implement all or any of these provisions without amending the charter or bylaws and without stockholder approval. While applicability of these provisions is already addressed by our charter, the law would permit our board of directors to override the relevant provisions in our charter or bylaws. If implemented, these provisions could discourage offers to acquire our stock and could increase the difficulty of completing an offer.

Amendment to Our Charter

Pursuant to the MGCL, our charter may be amended only if declared advisable by the board of directors and approved by the affirmative vote of the holders of at least two-thirds of all of the votes entitled to be cast on the matter, except that our board of directors is able, without stockholder approval, to amend our charter to change our corporate name or the name or designation or par value of any class or series of stock.

Dissolution of Our Company

A voluntary dissolution of our company must be declared advisable by a majority of the entire board of directors and approved by the affirmative vote of the holders of at least two-thirds of all of the votes entitled to be cast on the matter.

Advance Notice of Director Nominations and New Business

Our bylaws provide that with respect to an annual meeting of stockholders, the only business to be considered and the only proposals to be acted upon will be those properly brought before the annual meeting:

pursuant to our notice of the meeting;

Table of Contents

by, or at the direction of, a majority of our board of directors; or

by a stockholder who is entitled to vote at the meeting and has complied with the advance notice procedures set forth in our bylaws.

With respect to special meetings of stockholders, only the business specified in our company's notice of meeting may be brought before the meeting of stockholders unless otherwise provided by law.

Nominations of persons for election to our board of directors at any annual or special meeting of stockholders may be made only:

by, or at the direction of, our board of directors; or

by a stockholder who is entitled to vote at the meeting and has complied with the advance notice provisions set forth in our bylaws.

Generally, under our bylaws, a stockholder seeking to nominate a director or bring other business before our annual meeting of stockholders must deliver a notice to our secretary not later than the close of business on the 90th day nor earlier than the close of business on the 120th day prior to the first anniversary of the date of mailing of the notice to stockholders for the prior year's annual meeting. For a stockholder seeking to nominate a candidate for our board of directors, the notice must describe various matters regarding the nominee, including name, address, occupation and number of shares of common stock held, and other specified matters. For a stockholder seeking to propose other business, the notice must include a description of the proposed business, the reasons for the proposal and other specified matters.

Indemnification and Limitation of Directors and Officers Liability

The MGCL permits a Maryland corporation to include in its charter a provision limiting the liability of its directors and officers to the corporation and its stockholders for money damages, except for liability resulting from actual receipt of an improper benefit or profit in money, property or services or active and deliberate dishonesty established by a final judgment as being material to the cause of action. Our charter limits the personal liability of our directors and officers for monetary damages to the fullest extent permitted under current Maryland law, and our charter and bylaws provide that a director or officer shall be indemnified to the fullest extent required or permitted by Maryland law from and against any claim or liability to which such director or officer may become subject by reason of his or her status as a director or officer of our company. Maryland law allows directors and officers to be indemnified against judgments, penalties, fines, settlements, and expenses actually incurred in connection with any proceeding to which they may be made a party by reason of their service on those or other capacities, unless the following can be established:

the act or omission of the director or officer was material to the cause of action adjudicated in the proceeding and was committed in bad faith or was the result of active and deliberate dishonesty;

the director or officer actually received an improper personal benefit in money, property or services; or

with respect to any criminal proceeding, the director or officer had reasonable cause to believe his or her act or omission was unlawful.

The MGCL requires a corporation (unless its charter provides otherwise, which our charter does not) to indemnify a director or officer who has been successful on the merits or otherwise, in the defense of any claim to which he or she is made a party by reason of his or her service in that capacity.

However, under the MGCL, a Maryland corporation may not indemnify for an adverse judgment in a suit by or in the right of the corporation or for a judgment of liability on the basis that personal benefit was

Table of Contents

improperly received, unless in either case a court orders indemnification and then only for expenses. In addition, the MGCL permits a corporation to advance reasonable expenses to a director or officer upon the corporation's receipt of:

a written affirmation by the director or officer of his or her good faith belief that he or she has met the standard of conduct necessary for indemnification by the corporation; and

a written undertaking by the director or on the director's behalf to repay the amount paid or reimbursed by the corporation if it is ultimately determined that the director did not meet the standard of conduct.

Our charter authorizes us to obligate ourselves to indemnify and our bylaws do obligate us, to the fullest extent permitted by Maryland law in effect from time to time, to indemnify and, without requiring a preliminary determination of the ultimate entitlement to indemnification, pay or reimburse reasonable expenses in advance of final disposition of a proceeding to:

any present or former director or officer who is made a party to the proceeding by reason of his or her service in that capacity; or

any individual who, while a director or officer of our company and at our request, serves or has served another corporation, real estate investment trust, partnership, joint venture, trust, employee benefit plan or any other enterprise as a director, officer, partner or trustee of such corporation, real estate investment trust, partnership, joint venture, trust, employee benefit plan or other enterprise and who is made a party to the proceeding by reason of his or her service in that capacity.

Our charter and bylaws also permit us to indemnify and advance expenses to any person who served a predecessor of ours in any of the capacities described above.

Our stockholders have no personal liability for indemnification payments or other obligations under any indemnification agreements or arrangements. However, indemnification could reduce the legal remedies available to us and our stockholders against the indemnified individuals.

This provision for indemnification of our directors and officers does not limit a stockholder's ability to obtain injunctive relief or other equitable remedies for a violation of a director's or an officer's duties to us or to our stockholders, although these equitable remedies may not be effective in some circumstances.

In addition to any indemnification to which our directors and officers are entitled pursuant to our charter and bylaws and the MGCL, our charter and bylaws provide that, with the approval of our board of directors, we may indemnify other employees and agents to the fullest extent permitted under Maryland law, whether they are serving us or, at our request, any other entity. We have entered into indemnification agreements with each of our directors and executive officers, and we maintain a directors and officers liability insurance policy. Although the form of the indemnification agreement offers substantially the same scope of coverage afforded by provisions in our charter and bylaws, it provides greater assurance to the directors and officers that indemnification will be available, because, as a contract, it cannot be modified unilaterally in the future by the board of directors or by stockholders to eliminate the rights it provides.

Insofar as the foregoing provisions permit indemnification of directors, officers or persons controlling us for liability arising under the Securities Act, we have been informed that, in the opinion of the SEC, this indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is therefore unenforceable.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF THE PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT OF OUR OPERATING PARTNERSHIP

We have summarized the material terms and provisions of the Second Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership of our operating partnership, which we refer to as the partnership agreement. This summary is not complete. For more detail, you should refer to the partnership agreement itself, a copy of which has previously been filed with the SEC and which we incorporate by reference in this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplements. See Where You Can Find More Information.

Management of Our Operating Partnership

MPT Operating Partnership, L.P., our operating partnership, was organized as a Delaware limited partnership on September 10, 2003. The initial partnership agreement was entered into on that date and was last amended and restated on July 31, 2007. Pursuant to the partnership agreement, as the sole equity owner of the sole general partner of the operating partnership, Medical Properties Trust, LLC, we have, subject to certain protective rights of limited partners described below, full, exclusive and complete responsibility and discretion in the management and control of the operating partnership. We have the power to cause the operating partnership to enter into certain major transactions, including acquisitions, dispositions, refinancings and selection of tenants, and to cause changes in the operating partnership's line of business and distribution policies. However, any amendment to the partnership agreement that would affect the redemption rights of the limited partners or otherwise adversely affect the rights of the limited partners requires the consent of limited partners, other than us, holding more than 50% of the units of our operating partnership held by such partners.

Transferability of Interests

We may not voluntarily withdraw from the operating partnership or transfer or assign our interest in the operating partnership or engage in any merger, consolidation or other combination, or sale of substantially all of our assets, in a transaction which results in a change of control of our company unless:

we receive the consent of limited partners holding more than 50% of the partnership interests of the limited partners, other than those held by our company or its subsidiaries;

as a result of such transaction, all limited partners will have the right to receive for each partnership unit an amount of cash, securities or other property equal in value to the greatest amount of cash, securities or other property paid in the transaction to a holder of one share of our common stock, provided that if, in connection with the transaction, a purchase, tender or exchange offer shall have been made to and accepted by the holders of more than 50% of the outstanding shares of our common stock, each holder of partnership units shall be given the option to exchange its partnership units for the greatest amount of cash, securities or other property that a limited partner would have received had it (1) exercised its redemption right (described below) and (2) sold, tendered or exchanged pursuant to the offer shares of our common stock received upon exercise of the redemption right immediately prior to the expiration of the offer; or

we are the surviving entity in the transaction and either (1) our stockholders do not receive cash, securities or other property in the transaction or (2) all limited partners receive for each partnership unit

an amount of cash, securities or other property having a value that is no less than the greatest amount of cash, securities or other property received in the transaction by our stockholders.

We also may merge with or into or consolidate with another entity if immediately after such merger or consolidation (1) substantially all of the assets of the successor or surviving entity, other than partnership units held by us, are contributed, directly or indirectly, to the partnership as a capital contribution in exchange for partnership units with a fair market value equal to the value of the assets so contributed as determined by the survivor in good faith and (2) the survivor expressly agrees to assume all of our obligations under the partnership agreement and the partnership agreement shall be amended after any such merger or consolidation so as to arrive

Table of Contents

at a new method of calculating the amounts payable upon exercise of the redemption right that approximates the existing method for such calculation as closely as reasonably possible.

We also may (1) transfer all or any portion of our general partnership interest to (A) a wholly-owned subsidiary or (B) a parent company, and following such transfer may withdraw as general partner and (2) engage in a transaction required by law or by the rules of any national securities exchange or automated quotation system on which our securities may be listed or traded.

Capital Contribution

We contributed the net proceeds of our April 2004 private placement and subsequent public offerings as capital contributions in exchange for units of our operating partnership. The partnership agreement provides that if the operating partnership requires additional funds at any time in excess of funds available to the operating partnership from borrowing or capital contributions, we may borrow such funds from a financial institution or other lender and lend such funds to the operating partnership on the same terms and conditions as are applicable to our borrowing of such funds. Under the partnership agreement, we are obligated to contribute the proceeds of any offering of shares of our company's stock as additional capital to the operating partnership. We are authorized to cause the operating partnership to issue partnership interests for less than fair market value if we have concluded in good faith that such issuance is in both the operating partnership's and our best interests. If we contribute additional capital to the operating partnership, we will receive additional partnership units and our percentage interest will be increased on a proportionate basis based upon the amount of such additional capital contributions and the value of the operating partnership at the time of such contributions. Conversely, the percentage interests of the limited partners will be decreased on a proportionate basis in the event of additional capital contributions by us. In addition, if we contribute additional capital to the operating partnership, we will revalue the property of the operating partnership to its fair market value, as determined by us, and the capital accounts of the partners will be adjusted to reflect the manner in which the unrealized gain or loss inherent in such property, that has not been reflected in the capital accounts previously, would be allocated among the partners under the terms of the partnership agreement if there were a taxable disposition of such property for its fair market value, as determined by us, on the date of the revaluation. The operating partnership may issue preferred partnership interests, in connection with acquisitions of property or otherwise, which could have priority over common partnership interests with respect to distributions from the operating partnership, including the partnership interests that our wholly-owned subsidiary owns as general partner.

Redemption Rights

Pursuant to Section 8.04 of the partnership agreement, the limited partners, other than us, will receive redemption rights, which will enable them to cause the operating partnership to redeem their limited partnership units in exchange for cash or, at our option, shares of our common stock on a one-for-one basis, subject to adjustment for stock splits, dividends, recapitalization and similar events. Under Section 8.04 of the partnership agreement, holders of limited partnership units will be prohibited from exercising their redemption rights for 12 months after they are issued, unless this waiting period is waived or shortened by our board of directors. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a limited partner will not be entitled to exercise its redemption rights if the delivery of common stock to the redeeming limited partner would:

result in any person owning, directly or indirectly, common stock in excess of the stock ownership limit in our charter;

result in our shares of stock being owned by fewer than 100 persons (determined without reference to any rules of attribution);

cause us to own, actually or constructively, 10% or more of the ownership interests in a tenant of our or the partnership's real property, within the meaning of Section 856(d)(2)(B) of the Code; or

Table of Contents

cause the acquisition of common stock by such redeeming limited partner to be integrated with any other distribution of common stock for purposes of complying with the registration provisions of the Securities Act.

We may, in our sole and absolute discretion, waive any of these restrictions.

With respect to the partnership units issuable in connection with the acquisition or development of our facilities, the redemption rights may be exercised by the limited partners at any time after the first anniversary of our acquisition of these facilities; *provided, however*, unless we otherwise agree:

a limited partner may not exercise the redemption right for fewer than 1,000 partnership units or, if such limited partner holds fewer than 1,000 partnership units, the limited partner must redeem all of the partnership units held by such limited partner;

a limited partner may not exercise the redemption right for more than the number of partnership units that would, upon redemption, result in such limited partner or any other person owning, directly or indirectly, common stock in excess of the ownership limitation in our charter; and

a limited partner may not exercise the redemption right more than two times annually.

The number of shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of the redemption rights will be adjusted to account for stock splits, mergers, consolidations or similar pro rata stock transactions.

The partnership agreement requires that the operating partnership be operated in a manner that enables us to satisfy the requirements for being classified as a REIT, to avoid any federal income or excise tax liability imposed by the Code (other than any federal income tax liability associated with our retained capital gains) and to ensure that the partnership will not be classified as a publicly traded partnership taxable as a corporation under Section 7704 of the Code.

In addition to the administrative and operating costs and expenses incurred by the operating partnership, the operating partnership generally will pay all of our administrative costs and expenses, including:

all expenses relating to our continuity of existence;

all expenses relating to offerings and registration of securities;

all expenses associated with the preparation and filing of any of our periodic reports under federal, state or local laws or regulations;

all expenses associated with our compliance with laws, rules and regulations promulgated by any regulatory body; and

all of our other operating or administrative costs incurred in the ordinary course of business on behalf of the operating partnership.

Distributions

The partnership agreement provides that the operating partnership will distribute cash from operations, including net sale or refinancing proceeds, but excluding net proceeds from the sale of the operating partnership's property in connection with the liquidation of the operating partnership, at such time and in such amounts as determined by us in our sole discretion, to us and the limited partners in accordance with their respective percentage interests in the operating partnership.

Table of Contents

Upon liquidation of the operating partnership, after payment of, or adequate provision for, debts and obligations of the partnership, including any partner loans, any remaining assets of the partnership will be distributed to us and the limited partners with positive capital accounts in accordance with their respective positive capital account balances.

Allocations

Profits and losses of the partnership, including depreciation and amortization deductions, for each fiscal year generally are allocated to us and the limited partners in accordance with the respective percentage interests in the partnership. All of the foregoing allocations are subject to compliance with the provisions of Sections 704(b) and 704(c) of the Code and Treasury regulations promulgated thereunder. The operating partnership expects to use the traditional method under Section 704(c) of the Code for allocating items with respect to contributed property acquired in connection with the offering for which the fair market value differs from the adjusted tax basis at the time of contribution.

Term

The operating partnership will have perpetual existence, or until sooner dissolved upon:

our bankruptcy, dissolution, removal or withdrawal, unless the limited partners elect to continue the partnership;

the passage of 90 days after the sale or other disposition of all or substantially all the assets of the partnership; or

an election by us in our capacity as the owner of the sole general partner of the operating partnership.

Tax Matters

Pursuant to the partnership agreement, the general partner is the tax matters partner of the operating partnership. Accordingly, through our ownership of the general partner of the operating partnership, we have authority to handle tax audits and to make tax elections under the Code on behalf of the operating partnership.

Table of Contents

UNITED STATES FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS

This section summarizes the current material federal income tax consequences to our company and to our stockholders generally resulting from the treatment of our company as a REIT. Because this section is a general summary, it does not address all of the potential tax issues that may be relevant to you in light of your particular circumstances. Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, P.C., or Baker Donelson, has acted as our counsel, has reviewed this summary, and is of the opinion that the discussion contained herein fairly summarizes the federal income tax consequences that are material to a holder of shares of our common stock. The discussion does not address all aspects of taxation that may be relevant to particular stockholders in light of their personal investment or tax circumstances, or to certain types of stockholders that are subject to special treatment under the federal income tax laws, such as insurance companies, tax-exempt organizations, financial institutions or broker-dealers, and non-United States individuals and foreign corporations.

The statements in this section of the opinion of Baker Donelson, referred to as the Tax Opinion, are based on the current federal income tax laws governing qualification as a REIT. We cannot assure you that new laws, interpretations of law or court decisions, any of which may take effect retroactively, will not cause any statement in this section to be inaccurate. You should be aware that opinions of counsel are not binding on the IRS, and no assurance can be given that the IRS will not challenge the conclusions set forth in those opinions.

This section is not a substitute for careful tax planning, nor does it constitute tax advice. We urge you to consult your own tax advisors regarding the specific federal, state, local, foreign and other tax consequences to you, in the light of your own particular circumstances, of the purchase, ownership and disposition of shares of our common stock, our election to be taxed as a REIT and the effect of potential changes in applicable tax laws.

Taxation of Our Company

We were previously taxed as a subchapter S corporation. We revoked our subchapter S election on April 6, 2004 and we have elected to be taxed as a REIT under Sections 856 through 860 of the Code, commencing with our taxable year that began on April 6, 2004 and ended on December 31, 2004. In connection with this offering, our REIT counsel, Baker Donelson, has opined that, for federal income tax purposes, we are and have been organized in conformity with the requirements for qualification to be taxed as a REIT under the Code commencing with our initial short taxable year ended December 31, 2004, and that our current and proposed method of operations as described in this prospectus and as represented to our counsel by us satisfies currently, and will enable us to continue to satisfy in the future, the requirements for such qualification and taxation as a REIT under the Code for future taxable years. This opinion, however, is based on factual assumptions and representations made by us to Baker Donelson concerning our organization, our proposed ownership and operations, and other matters relating to our ability to qualify as a REIT, and is expressly conditioned upon the accuracy of such assumptions and representations.

We believe that our proposed future method of operation will enable us to continue to qualify as a REIT. However, no assurances can be given that our beliefs or expectations will be fulfilled, as such qualification and taxation as a REIT depends upon our ability to meet, for each taxable year, various tests imposed under the Code as discussed below. Those qualification tests involve the percentage of income that we earn from specified sources, the percentage of our assets that falls within specified categories, the diversity of our stock ownership, and the percentage of our earnings that we distribute. Baker Donelson will not review our compliance with those tests on a continuing basis. Accordingly, with respect to our current and future taxable years, no assurance can be given that the actual results of our operation will satisfy such requirements. For a discussion of the tax consequences of our failure to maintain our qualification as a REIT, see Requirements for Qualification Failure to Qualify.

The sections of the Code relating to qualification and operation as a REIT, and the federal income taxation of a REIT and its stockholders, are highly technical and complex. The following discussion sets forth

Table of Contents

only the material aspects of those sections. This summary is qualified in its entirety by the applicable Code provisions and the related rules and regulations.

We generally will not be subject to federal income tax on the taxable income that we currently distribute to our stockholders. The benefit of that tax treatment is that it avoids the double taxation, or taxation at both the corporate and stockholder levels, that generally results from owning stock in a corporation. However, we will be subject to federal tax in the following circumstances:

We are subject to the corporate federal income tax on taxable income, including net capital gain, that we do not distribute to stockholders during, or within a specified time period after, the calendar year in which the income is earned.

We are subject to the corporate alternative minimum tax on any items of tax preference that we do not distribute or allocate to stockholders.

We are subject to tax, at the highest corporate rate, on:

net gain from the sale or other disposition of property acquired through foreclosure (foreclosure property) that we hold primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of business, and

other non-qualifying income from foreclosure property.

We are subject to a 100% tax on net income from sales or other dispositions of property, other than foreclosure property, that we hold primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of business.

If we fail to satisfy the 75% gross income test or the 95% gross income test, as described below under Requirements for Qualification Gross Income Tests, but nonetheless continue to qualify as a REIT because we meet other requirements, we will be subject to a 100% tax on:

the greater of (1) the amount by which we fail the 75% gross income test, or (2) the amount by which we fail the 95% gross income test multiplied by

a fraction intended to reflect our profitability.

If we fail to distribute during a calendar year at least the sum of: (1) 85% of our REIT ordinary income for the year, (2) 95% of our REIT capital gain net income for the year and (3) any undistributed taxable income from earlier periods, then we will be subject to a 4% excise tax on the excess of the required

distribution over the amount we actually distributed.

If we fail to satisfy one or more requirements for REIT qualification during a taxable year beginning on or after January 1, 2005, other than a gross income test or an asset test, we will be required to pay a penalty of \$50,000 for each such failure.

We may elect to retain and pay income tax on our net long-term capital gain. In that case, a United States stockholder would be taxed on its proportionate share of our undistributed long-term capital gain (to the extent that we make a timely designation of such gain to the stockholder) and would receive a credit or refund for its proportionate share of the tax we paid.

We may be subject to a 100% excise tax on certain transactions with a taxable REIT subsidiary that are not conducted at arm's-length.

If we acquire any asset from a C corporation (that is, a corporation generally subject to the full corporate-level tax) in a transaction in which the basis of the asset in our hands is determined by

Table of Contents

reference to the basis of the asset in the hands of the C corporation, and we recognize gain on the disposition of the asset during the 10 year period beginning on the date that we acquired the asset, then the asset's built-in gain will be subject to tax at the highest corporate rate.

Requirements for Qualification

To continue to qualify as a REIT, we must meet various (1) organizational requirements, (2) gross income tests, (3) asset tests, and (4) annual distribution requirements.

Organizational Requirements. A REIT is a corporation, trust or association that meets each of the following requirements:

- (1) it is managed by one or more trustees or directors;
- (2) its beneficial ownership is evidenced by transferable stock, or by transferable certificates of beneficial interest;
- (3) it would be taxable as a domestic corporation, but for its election to be taxed as a REIT under Sections 856 through 860 of the Code;
- (4) it is neither a financial institution nor an insurance company subject to special provisions of the federal income tax laws;
- (5) at least 100 persons are beneficial owners of its stock or ownership certificates (determined without reference to any rules of attribution);
- (6) not more than 50% in value of its outstanding stock or ownership certificates is owned, directly or indirectly, by five or fewer individuals, which the federal income tax laws define to include certain entities, during the last half of any taxable year; and
- (7) it elects to be a REIT, or has made such election for a previous taxable year, and satisfies all relevant filing and other administrative requirements established by the IRS that must be met to elect and maintain REIT status.

We must meet requirements one through four during our entire taxable year and must meet requirement five during at least 335 days of a taxable year of 12 months, or during a proportionate part of a taxable year of less than 12 months. If we comply with all the requirements for ascertaining information concerning the ownership of our outstanding stock in a taxable year and have no reason to know that we violated requirement six, we will be deemed to have satisfied requirement six for that taxable year. We did not have to satisfy requirements five and six for our taxable year ending December 31, 2004. After the issuance of common stock pursuant to our April 2004 private placement, we had issued common stock with enough diversity of ownership to satisfy requirements five and six as set forth above. Our charter provides for restrictions regarding the ownership and transfer of our shares of common stock so that we should continue to satisfy these requirements. The provisions of our charter restricting the ownership and transfer of our shares of common stock are described in *Description of Capital Stock Restrictions on Ownership and Transfer*.

For purposes of determining stock ownership under requirement six, an individual generally includes a supplemental unemployment compensation benefits plan, a private foundation, or a portion of a trust permanently set aside or used exclusively for charitable purposes. An individual, however, generally does not include a trust that is a qualified employee pension or profit sharing trust under the federal income tax laws, and beneficiaries of such a trust will be treated as holding our shares in proportion to their actuarial interests in the trust for purposes of requirement six.

Table of Contents

A corporation that is a qualified REIT subsidiary, or QRS, is not treated as a corporation separate from its parent REIT. All assets, liabilities, and items of income, deduction and credit of a QRS are treated as assets, liabilities, and items of income, deduction and credit of the REIT. A QRS is a corporation other than a taxable REIT subsidiary as described below, all of the capital stock of which is owned by the REIT. Thus, in applying the requirements described herein, any QRS that we own will be ignored, and all assets, liabilities, and items of income, deduction and credit of such subsidiary will be treated as our assets, liabilities, and items of income, deduction and credit.

An unincorporated domestic entity with two or more owners that is eligible to elect its tax classification under Treasury Regulation Section 301.7701-3 but does not make such an election is generally treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes. In the case of a REIT that is a partner in a partnership that has other partners, the REIT is treated as owning its proportionate share of the assets of the partnership and as earning its allocable share of the gross income of the partnership for purposes of the applicable REIT qualification tests. We will treat our operating partnership as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Accordingly, our proportionate share of the assets, liabilities and items of income of the operating partnership and any other partnership, joint venture, or limited liability company that is treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes in which we acquire an interest, directly or indirectly, is treated as our assets and gross income for purposes of applying the various REIT qualification requirements.

A REIT is permitted to own up to 100% of the stock of one or more taxable REIT subsidiaries, or TRS. We have formed and made taxable REIT subsidiary elections with respect to MPT Development Services, Inc., a Delaware corporation formed in January 2004 (MPT TRS), MPT Covington TRS, Inc., a Delaware corporation formed in January 2010 and MPT Finance Corporation, Inc., a Delaware corporation formed in April 2011. We have also formed limited liability companies wholly-owned by MPT TRS which are disregarded entities for federal income tax purposes. A taxable REIT subsidiary is a fully taxable corporation that may earn income that would not be qualifying income if earned directly by the parent REIT. Generally, the subsidiary and the REIT must jointly file an election with the IRS to treat the subsidiary as a taxable REIT subsidiary. Ernest Health, Inc. (Ernest) and Capella Healthcare, Inc. (Capella) are also taxable REIT subsidiaries as a result of the ownership by disregarded entities owned by MPT TRS of more than 35% ownership interests in Ernest and Capella. A taxable REIT subsidiary will pay income tax at regular corporate rates on any income that it earns. In addition, the taxable REIT subsidiary rules limit the deductibility of interest paid or accrued by a taxable REIT subsidiary to its parent REIT to assure that the taxable REIT subsidiary is subject to an appropriate level of corporate taxation. Further, the rules impose a 100% excise tax on certain types of transactions between a taxable REIT subsidiary and its parent REIT or the REIT's tenants that are not conducted on an arm's-length basis. We may engage in activities indirectly through a taxable REIT subsidiary as necessary or convenient to avoid obtaining the benefit of income or services that would jeopardize our REIT status if we engaged in the activities directly. In particular, we would likely engage in activities through a taxable REIT subsidiary if we wished to provide services to unrelated parties which might produce income that does not qualify under the gross income tests described below. We might also engage in otherwise prohibited transactions through a taxable REIT subsidiary. See description below under Requirements for Qualification Prohibited Transactions. A taxable REIT subsidiary may not operate or manage a health care facility, though for tax years beginning after July 30, 2008 a health care facility leased to a taxable REIT subsidiary from a REIT may be operated on behalf of the taxable REIT subsidiary by an eligible independent contractor. For purposes of this definition a health care facility means a hospital, nursing facility, assisted living facility, congregate care facility, qualified continuing care facility, or other licensed facility which extends medical or nursing or ancillary services to patients and which is operated by a service provider which is eligible for participation in the Medicare program under Title XVIII of the Social Security Act with respect to such facility. MPT Covington TRS, Inc. has been formed specifically for the purpose of leasing a health care facility from us, subleasing that facility to an entity in which it owns an equity interest, and having that facility operated by an eligible independent contractor. We have obtained a private letter ruling from the IRS holding that ownership of the equity interest and the operation of the facility in accordance with the agreements among the parties

do not adversely affect the taxable REIT subsidiary status of MPT Covington TRS, Inc. We have structured other transactions in which MPT TRS owns an indirect

Table of Contents

equity interest in a tenant entity in a similar manner, and we have structured leases with the operating subsidiaries of Ernest and Capella in a similar manner and may structure other such transactions similarly in the future.

Gross Income Tests. We must satisfy two gross income tests annually to maintain our qualification as a REIT. First, at least 75% of our gross income for each taxable year must consist of defined types of income that we derive, directly or indirectly, from investments relating to real property or mortgages on real property or qualified temporary investment income. Qualifying income for purposes of that 75% gross income test generally includes:

rents from real property;

interest on debt secured by mortgages on real property or on interests in real property;

dividends or other distributions on, and gain from the sale of, shares in other REITs;

gain from the sale of real estate assets;

income derived from the temporary investment of new capital that is attributable to the issuance of our shares of common stock or a public offering of our debt with a maturity date of at least five years and that we receive during the one year period beginning on the date on which we received such new capital; and

gross income from foreclosure property.

Second, in general, at least 95% of our gross income for each taxable year must consist of income that is qualifying income for purposes of the 75% gross income test, other types of interest and dividends or gain from the sale or disposition of stock or securities. Gross income from our sale of property that we hold primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of business is excluded from both the numerator and the denominator in both income tests. In addition, for taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 2005, income and gain from hedging transactions that we enter into to hedge indebtedness incurred or to be incurred to acquire or carry real estate assets and that are clearly and timely identified as such also will be excluded from both the numerator and the denominator for purposes of the 95% gross income test and for transactions entered into after July 30, 2008, such income and gain also will be excluded from the 75% gross income test. For items of income and gain recognized after July 30, 2008, passive foreign exchange gain is excluded from the 95% gross income test and real estate foreign exchange gain is excluded from both the 95% and the 75% gross income tests. The following paragraphs discuss the specific application of the gross income tests to us.

The Secretary of the Treasury is given broad authority to determine whether particular items of gain or income qualify or not under the 75% and 95% gross income tests, or are to be excluded from the measure of gross income for such purposes.

Rents from Real Property. Rent that we receive from our real property will qualify as rents from real property, which is qualifying income for purposes of the 75% and 95% gross income tests, only if the following conditions are met.

First, the rent must not be based in whole or in part on the income or profits of any person. Participating rent, however, will qualify as rents from real property if it is based on percentages of receipts or sales and the percentages:

are fixed at the time the leases are entered into;

are not renegotiated during the term of the leases in a manner that has the effect of basing rent on income or profits; and

Table of Contents

conform with normal business practice.

More generally, the rent will not qualify as rents from real property if, considering the relevant lease and all the surrounding circumstances, the arrangement does not conform with normal business practice, but is in reality used as a means of basing the rent on income or profits. We have represented to Baker Donelson that we intend to set and accept rents which are fixed dollar amounts or a fixed percentage of gross revenue, and not determined to any extent by reference to any person's income or profits, in compliance with the rules above.

Second, we must not own, actually or constructively, 10% or more of the stock or the assets or net profits of any tenant, referred to as a related party tenant, other than a taxable REIT subsidiary. Failure to adhere to this limitation would cause the rental income from the related party tenant to not be treated as qualifying income for purposes of the REIT gross income tests. The constructive ownership rules generally provide that, if 10% or more in value of our stock is owned, directly or indirectly, by or for any person, we are considered as owning the stock owned, directly or indirectly, by or for such person. In addition, our charter prohibits transfers of our shares that would cause us to own, actually or constructively, 10% or more of the ownership interests in a tenant. Presently we own a less than 10% ownership interest in one tenant entity. We do not own, actually or constructively, 10% or more of any tenant other than a taxable REIT subsidiary. We have represented to counsel that we will not rent any facility to a related-party tenant. However, MPT Covington TRS, Inc. has acquired a greater than 10% equity interest in an entity to which it subleases a health care facility which is operated by an eligible independent operator. We have obtained a private letter ruling from the IRS holding that the ownership of the equity interest and the operation of the facility in accordance with the agreements among the parties do not adversely affect the taxable REIT subsidiary status of MPT Covington TRS, Inc. or disqualify the rents paid by MPT Covington TRS, Inc. to us from being treated as qualifying income under the 75% and 95% gross income tests. We have structured other transactions and may structure future transactions in a similar manner. In particular, our leases with subsidiaries of Ernest are structured in a similar manner with the exception that the prior management of Ernest and its subsidiaries, through a management company, Guiding Health Management Group, LLC ("GHMG"), formed by the prior management, is the manager of the Ernest facilities. Our leases with subsidiaries of Capella are structured in a similar manner with a management company, Sunergeo Health Partners, LLC ("Sunergeo"), formed by the prior management of Capella and its subsidiaries, as the manager of the Capella facilities. GHMG and Sunergeo previously operated Ernest and its subsidiaries and Capella and its subsidiaries, respectively, as officers and employees. Although certain management personnel have remained as officers of Ernest and Capella, they are now employees of and compensated by GHMG or Sunergeo. We believe that GHMG and Sunergeo meet the definition of an eligible independent contractor which is any independent contractor if, at the time such contractor enters into an agreement with a taxable REIT subsidiary to operate a qualified health care facility, such contractor is actively engaged in the trade or business of operating such facilities for any person who is not a related person to the REIT or the taxable REIT subsidiary. There is no assurance that the IRS will not take a contrary position with respect to the structuring of these and other such transactions. In addition, MPT TRS and MPT Covington TRS, Inc. have made and will make loans to tenants to acquire operations and for other purposes. We have structured and will structure these loans as debt and believe that they will be characterized as such, and that our rental income from our tenant borrowers will be treated as qualifying income for purposes of the REIT gross income tests. However, there can be no assurance that the IRS will not take a contrary position. If the IRS were to successfully treat a loan to a particular tenant as an equity interest, the tenant would be a related party tenant with respect to us, the rent that we receive from the tenant would not be qualifying income for purposes of the REIT gross income tests, and we could lose our REIT status.

However, as stated above, we believe that these loans will be treated as debt rather than equity interests. Finally, because the constructive ownership rules are broad and it is not possible to monitor continually direct and indirect transfers of our shares, no absolute assurance can be given that such transfers or other events of which we have no knowledge will not cause us to own constructively 10% or more of a tenant other than a taxable REIT subsidiary at some future date.

We currently own 100% of the stock of MPT TRS, MPT Covington TRS, Inc. and MPT Finance Corporation, Inc., all of which are taxable REIT subsidiaries, and may in the future own up to 100% of the stock

Table of Contents

of one or more additional taxable REIT subsidiaries. In addition, Ernest and Capella, and their corporate subsidiaries, are taxable REIT subsidiaries because of MPT TRS's indirect ownership of more than a 35% interest in Ernest and Capella. Under an exception to the related-party tenant rule described in the preceding paragraph, rent that we receive from a taxable REIT subsidiary will qualify as rents from real property as long as (1) the taxable REIT subsidiary is a qualifying taxable REIT subsidiary (among other things, it does not operate or manage a health care facility), (2) at least 90% of the leased space in the facility is leased to persons other than taxable REIT subsidiaries and related party tenants, and (3) the amount paid by the taxable REIT subsidiary to rent space at the facility is substantially comparable to rents paid by other tenants of the facility for comparable space. In addition, for tax years beginning after July 30, 2008, rents paid to a REIT by a taxable REIT subsidiary with respect to a qualified health care property (as defined below under Requirements for Qualification Foreclosure Property), operated on behalf of such taxable REIT subsidiary by a person who is an eligible independent contractor (as defined above), are qualifying rental income for purposes of the 75% and 95% gross income tests. We have formed and made a taxable REIT subsidiary election with respect to MPT Covington TRS, Inc. for the purpose of leasing a health care facility from us, subleasing that facility to an entity in which it owns an equity interest, and having that facility operated by an eligible independent contractor. We have obtained a private letter ruling from the IRS holding that the rent received by us from MPT Covington TRS, Inc. will qualify as rent from real property under these exceptions. We have since structured leases with taxable REIT subsidiaries in a similar manner, including leases with the subsidiaries of Ernest.

Third, the rent attributable to the personal property leased in connection with a lease of real property must not be greater than 15% of the total rent received under the lease. The rent attributable to personal property under a lease is the amount that bears the same ratio to total rent under the lease for the taxable year as the average of the fair market values of the leased personal property at the beginning and at the end of the taxable year bears to the average of the aggregate fair market values of both the real and personal property covered by the lease at the beginning and at the end of such taxable year (the personal property ratio). With respect to each of our leases, we believe that the personal property ratio generally will be less than 15%. Where that is not, or may in the future not be, the case, we believe that any income attributable to personal property will not jeopardize our ability to qualify as a REIT. There can be no assurance, however, that the IRS would not challenge our calculation of a personal property ratio, or that a court would not uphold such assertion. If such a challenge were successfully asserted, we could fail to satisfy the 75% or 95% gross income test and thus lose our REIT status.

Fourth, we cannot furnish or render noncustomary services to the tenants of our facilities, or manage or operate our facilities, other than through an independent contractor who is adequately compensated and from whom we do not derive or receive any income. However, we need not provide services through an independent contractor, but instead may provide services directly to our tenants, if the services are usually or customarily rendered in connection with the rental of space for occupancy only and are not considered to be provided for the tenants' convenience. In addition, we may provide a minimal amount of noncustomary services to the tenants of a facility, other than through an independent contractor, as long as our income from the services does not exceed 1% of our income from the related facility. Finally, we may own up to 100% of the stock of one or more taxable REIT subsidiaries, which may provide noncustomary services to our tenants without tainting our rents from the related facilities. We do not intend to perform any services other than customary services for our tenants, and services provided through independent contractors or taxable REIT subsidiaries. We have represented to Baker Donelson that we will not perform noncustomary services which would jeopardize our REIT status.

Finally, in order for the rent payable under the leases of our properties to constitute rents from real property, the leases must be respected as true leases for federal income tax purposes and not treated as service contracts, joint ventures, financing arrangements, or another type of arrangement. We generally treat our leases with respect to our properties as true leases for federal income tax purposes; however, there can be no assurance that the IRS would not consider a particular lease a financing arrangement instead of a true lease for federal income tax purposes. In that case, and in

any case in which we intentionally structure a lease as a financing

Table of Contents

arrangement, our income from that lease would be interest income rather than rent and would be qualifying income for purposes of the 75% gross income test to the extent that our loan does not exceed the fair market value of the real estate assets associated with the facility. All of the interest income from our loan would be qualifying income for purposes of the 95% gross income test. We believe that the characterization of a lease as a financing arrangement would not adversely affect our ability to qualify as a REIT.

If a portion of the rent we receive from a facility does not qualify as rents from real property because the rent attributable to personal property exceeds 15% of the total rent for a taxable year, the portion of the rent attributable to personal property will not be qualifying income for purposes of either the 75% or 95% gross income test. If rent attributable to personal property, plus any other income that is nonqualifying income for purposes of the 95% gross income test, during a taxable year exceeds 5% of our gross income during the year, we would lose our REIT status. By contrast, in the following circumstances, none of the rent from a lease of a facility would qualify as rents from real property: (1) the rent is considered based on the income or profits of the tenant; (2) the tenant is a related party tenant or fails to qualify for the exception to the related-party tenant rule for qualifying taxable REIT subsidiaries; (3) we furnish more than a de minimis amount of noncustomary services to the tenants of the facility, other than through a qualifying independent contractor or a taxable REIT subsidiary; or (4) we manage or operate the facility, other than through an independent contractor. In any of these circumstances, we could lose our REIT status because we would be unable to satisfy either the 75% or 95% gross income test.

Tenants may be required to pay, besides base rent, reimbursements for certain amounts we are obligated to pay to third parties (such as a tenant's proportionate share of a facility's operational or capital expenses), penalties for nonpayment or late payment of rent or additions to rent. These and other similar payments should qualify as rents from real property.

Interest. The term interest generally does not include any amount received or accrued, directly or indirectly, if the determination of the amount depends in whole or in part on the income or profits of any person. However, an amount received or accrued generally will not be excluded from the term interest solely because it is based on a fixed percentage or percentages of receipts or sales. Furthermore, to the extent that interest from a loan that is based upon the residual cash proceeds from the sale of the property securing the loan constitutes a shared appreciation provision, income attributable to such participation feature will be treated as gain from the sale of the secured property.

Fee Income. We may receive various fees in connection with our operations. The fees will be qualifying income for purposes of both the 75% and 95% gross income tests if they are received in consideration for entering into an agreement to make a loan secured by real property and the fees are not determined by income and profits. Other fees are not qualifying income for purposes of either gross income test. We anticipate that MPT TRS, one of our taxable REIT subsidiaries, will receive most of the management fees, inspection fees and construction fees in connection with our operations. Any fees earned by MPT TRS will not be included as income for purposes of the gross income tests.

Prohibited Transactions. A REIT will incur a 100% tax on the net income derived from any sale or other disposition of property, other than foreclosure property, that the REIT holds primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of a trade or business. We believe that none of our assets will be held primarily for sale to customers and that a sale of any of our assets will not be in the ordinary course of our business. Whether a REIT holds an asset primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of a trade or business depends, however, on the facts and circumstances in effect from time to time, including those related to a particular asset. Nevertheless, we will attempt to comply with the terms of safe-harbor provisions in the federal income tax laws prescribing when an asset sale will not be characterized as a prohibited transaction. We cannot assure you, however, that we can comply with the safe-harbor provisions or that we will avoid owning property that may be characterized as property that we hold primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of a trade or business. We may form or acquire a taxable REIT subsidiary to engage in transactions

that may not fall within the safe-harbor provisions.

Table of Contents

Foreclosure Property. We will be subject to tax at the maximum corporate rate on any income from foreclosure property, other than income that otherwise would be qualifying income for purposes of the 75% gross income test, less expenses directly connected with the production of that income. However, gross income from foreclosure property will qualify under the 75% and 95% gross income tests. Foreclosure property is any real property, including interests in real property, and any personal property incidental to such real property acquired by a REIT as the result of the REIT's having bid on the property at foreclosure, or having otherwise reduced such property to ownership or possession by agreement or process of law, after actual or imminent default on a lease of the property or on indebtedness secured by the property, or a Repossession Action. Property acquired by a Repossession Action will not be considered foreclosure property if (1) the REIT held or acquired the property subject to a lease or securing indebtedness for sale to customers in the ordinary course of business or (2) the lease or loan was acquired or entered into with intent to take Repossession Action or in circumstances where the REIT had reason to know a default would occur. The determination of such intent or reason to know must be based on all relevant facts and circumstances. In no case will property be considered foreclosure property unless the REIT makes a proper election to treat the property as foreclosure property.

Foreclosure property includes any qualified health care property acquired by a REIT as a result of a termination of a lease of such property (other than a termination by reason of a default, or the imminence of a default, on the lease). A qualified health care property means any real property, including interests in real property, and any personal property incidental to such real property which is a health care facility (as defined above under Requirements for Qualification Organizational Requirements) or is necessary or incidental to the use of a health care facility.

However, a REIT will not be considered to have foreclosed on a property where the REIT takes control of the property as a mortgagee-in-possession and cannot receive any profit or sustain any loss except as a creditor of the mortgagor. Property generally ceases to be foreclosure property at the end of the third taxable year following the taxable year in which the REIT acquired the property (or, in the case of a qualified health care property which becomes foreclosure property because it is acquired by a REIT as a result of the termination of a lease of such property, at the end of the second taxable year following the taxable year in which the REIT acquired such property) or longer if an extension is granted by the Secretary of the Treasury. This period (as extended, if applicable) terminates, and foreclosure property ceases to be foreclosure property on the first day:

on which a lease is entered into for the property that, by its terms, will give rise to income that does not qualify for purposes of the 75% gross income test, or any amount is received or accrued, directly or indirectly, pursuant to a lease entered into on or after such day that will give rise to income that does not qualify for purposes of the 75% gross income test;

on which any construction takes place on the property, other than completion of a building or any other improvement, where more than 10% of the construction was completed before default became imminent;
or

which is more than 90 days after the day on which the REIT acquired the property and the property is used in a trade or business which is conducted by the REIT, other than through an independent contractor from whom the REIT itself does not derive or receive any income. For this purpose, in the case of a qualified health care property, income derived or received from an independent contractor will be disregarded to the extent such income is attributable to (1) a lease of property in effect on the date the

REIT acquired the qualified health care property (without regard to its renewal after such date so long as such renewal is pursuant to the terms of such lease as in effect on such date) or (2) any lease of property entered into after such date if, on such date, a lease of such property from the REIT was in effect and, under the terms of the new lease, the REIT receives a substantially similar or lesser benefit in comparison to the prior lease.

Hedging Transactions. From time to time, we may enter into hedging transactions with respect to one or more of our assets or liabilities. Our hedging activities may include entering into interest rate swaps, caps, and

Table of Contents

floors, options to purchase such items, and futures and forward contracts. For taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 2005, income and gain from hedging transactions will be excluded from gross income for purposes of the 95% gross income test and for transactions entered into after July 30, 2008, such income or gain will also be excluded from the 75% gross income test. For this purpose, a hedging transaction will mean any transaction entered into in the normal course of our trade or business primarily to manage the risk of interest rate or price changes with respect to borrowings made or to be made, or ordinary obligations incurred or to be incurred, to acquire or carry real estate assets or to manage risks of currency fluctuations with respect to any item of income or gain that would be qualifying income under the 75% or 95% income tests (or any property which generates such income or gain). We are required to clearly identify any such hedging transaction before the close of the day on which it is acquired, originated, or entered into. Since the financial markets continually introduce new and innovative instruments related to risk-sharing or trading, it is not entirely clear which such instruments will generate income which will be considered qualifying or excluded income for purposes of the gross income tests. We intend to structure any hedging or similar transactions so as not to jeopardize our status as a REIT.

Foreign Currency Gain. For gains and items of income recognized after July 30, 2008, passive foreign exchange gain is excluded from the 95% income test and real estate foreign exchange gain is excluded from the 75% income test. Real estate foreign exchange gain is foreign currency gain (as defined in Code Section 988(b)(1)) which is attributable to (i) any qualifying item of income or gain for purposes of the 75% income test, (ii) the acquisition or ownership of obligations secured by mortgages on real property or interests in real property; or (iii) becoming or being the obligor under obligations secured by mortgages on real property or on interests in real property. Real estate foreign exchange gain also includes Code Section 987 gain attributable to a qualified business unit (QBU) of the REIT if the QBU itself meets the 75% income test for the taxable year, and meets the 75% asset test at the close of each quarter of the REIT that has directly or indirectly held the QBU. The QBU is not required to meet the 95% income test in order for this 987 gain exclusion to apply. Real estate foreign exchange gain also includes any other foreign currency gain as determined by the Secretary of the Treasury.

Passive foreign exchange gain includes all real estate foreign exchange gain, and in addition includes foreign currency gain which is attributable to (i) any qualifying item of income or gain for purposes of the 95% income test, (ii) the acquisition or ownership of obligations, (iii) becoming or being the obligor under obligations, and (iv) any other foreign currency gain as determined by the Secretary of the Treasury.

Any gain derived from dealing, or engaging in substantial and regular trading, in securities denominated in, or determined by reference to, one or more nonfunctional currencies will be treated as non-qualifying income for both the 75% and 95% gross income tests. We do not currently, and do not expect to, engage in such trading.

Failure to Satisfy Gross Income Tests. If we fail to satisfy one or both of the gross income tests for any taxable year, we nevertheless may qualify as a REIT for that year if we qualify for relief under certain provisions of the federal income tax laws. Those relief provisions generally will be available if:

our failure to meet those tests is due to reasonable cause and not to willful neglect, and

following our identification of such failure for any taxable year, a schedule of the sources of our income is filed in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury.

We cannot with certainty predict whether any failure to meet these tests will qualify for the relief provisions. As discussed above in Taxation of Our Company, even if the relief provisions apply, we would incur a 100% tax on the

gross income attributable to the greater of the amounts by which we fail the 75% and 95% gross income tests, multiplied by a fraction intended to reflect our profitability.

Asset Tests. To maintain our qualification as a REIT, we also must satisfy the following asset tests at the end of each quarter of each taxable year.

Table of Contents

First, at least 75% of the value of our total assets must consist of:

cash or cash items, including certain receivables;

government securities;

real estate assets, which includes interest in real property, leaseholds, options to acquire real property or leaseholds, interests in mortgages on real property, shares (or transferable certificates of beneficial interest) in other REITs, and, for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2015, debt instruments issued by publicly offered REITs and interests in mortgages on interests in real property; and

investments in stock or debt instruments attributable to the temporary investment (i.e., for a period not exceeding 12 months) of new capital that we raise through any equity offering or public offering of debt with at least a five year term.

Effective for tax years beginning after July 30, 2008, if a REIT or its QBU uses any foreign currency as its functional currency (as defined in section 985(b) of the Code), the term cash includes such currency to the extent held for use in the normal course of the activities of the REIT or QBU which give rise to items of income or gain qualifying under the 95% and 75% income tests or are directly related to acquiring or holding assets qualifying under the 75% assets test, provided that the currency cannot be held in connection with dealing, or engaging in substantial and regular trading, in securities.

With respect to investments not included in the 75% asset class, we may not hold securities of any one issuer (other than a taxable REIT subsidiary) that exceed 5% of the value of our total assets; nor may we hold securities of any one issuer (other than a taxable REIT subsidiary) that represent more than 10% of the voting power of all outstanding voting securities of such issuer or more than 10% of the value of all outstanding securities of such issuer.

In addition, for taxable years beginning before January 1, 2018, we may not hold securities of one or more taxable REIT subsidiaries that represent in the aggregate more than 25% of the value of our total assets and, for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2018, we may not hold securities of one or more taxable REIT subsidiaries that represent in the aggregate more than 20% of the value of our total assets, in all cases irrespective of whether such securities may also be included in the 75% asset class (e.g., a mortgage loan issued to a taxable REIT subsidiary). For taxable years beginning after December 31, 2015, we may not hold debt instruments (other than debt secured by interests in real property) issued by publicly offered REITs that represent in the aggregate more than 25% of the value of our total assets. Furthermore, no more than 25% of our total assets may be represented by securities that are not included in the 75% asset class, including, among other things, certain securities of a taxable REIT subsidiary such as stock or non-mortgage debt.

For purposes of the 5% and 10% asset tests, the term securities does not include stock in another REIT, equity or debt securities of a qualified REIT subsidiary or taxable REIT subsidiary, mortgage loans that constitute real estate assets, or equity interests in a partnership that holds real estate assets. The term securities, however, generally includes debt securities issued by a partnership or another REIT, except that for purposes of the 10% value test, the term securities does not include:

Straight debt, defined as a written unconditional promise to pay on demand or on a specified date a sum certain in money if (1) the debt is not convertible, directly or indirectly, into stock, and (2) the interest rate and interest payment dates are not contingent on profits, the borrower's discretion, or similar factors.

Straight debt securities do not include any securities issued by a partnership or a corporation in which we or any controlled TRS (i.e., a TRS in which we own directly or indirectly more than 50% of the voting power or value of the stock) holds non- straight debt securities that have an aggregate value of more than 1% of the issuer's outstanding securities. However, straight debt securities include debt subject to the following contingencies:

Table of Contents

a contingency relating to the time of payment of interest or principal, as long as either (1) there is no change to the effective yield to maturity of the debt obligation, other than a change to the annual yield to maturity that does not exceed the greater of 0.25% or 5% of the annual yield to maturity, or (2) neither the aggregate issue price nor the aggregate face amount of the issuer's debt obligations held by us exceeds \$1 million and no more than 12 months of unaccrued interest on the debt obligations can be required to be prepaid;

a contingency relating to the time or amount of payment upon a default or exercise of a prepayment right by the issuer of the debt obligation, as long as the contingency is consistent with customary commercial practice;

Any loan to an individual or an estate;

Any Section 467 rental agreement, other than an agreement with a related party tenant;

Any obligation to pay rents from real property ;

Any security issued by a state or any political subdivision thereof, the District of Columbia, a foreign government or any political subdivision thereof, or the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, but only if the determination of any payment thereunder does not depend in whole or in part on the profits of any entity not described in this paragraph or payments on any obligation issued by an entity not described in this paragraph;

Any security issued by a REIT;

Any debt instrument of an entity treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes to the extent of our interest as a partner in the partnership; and

Any debt instrument of an entity treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes not described in the preceding bullet points if at least 75% of the partnership's gross income, excluding income from prohibited transaction, is qualifying income for purposes of the 75% gross income test described above in

Requirements for Qualification Gross Income Tests.

For purposes of the 10% value test, our proportionate share of the assets of a partnership is our proportionate interest in any securities issued by the partnership, excluding all securities described above except those securities described in the last two bullet points above.

MPT TRS and MPT Covington TRS, Inc., two of our taxable REIT subsidiaries, have made and will make loans to tenants to acquire operations and for other purposes. If the IRS were to successfully treat a particular loan to a tenant as an equity interest in the tenant, the tenant would be a related party tenant with respect to our company and the rent that we receive from the tenant would not be qualifying income for purposes of the REIT gross income tests. As a

result, we could lose our REIT status. In addition, if the IRS were to successfully treat a particular loan as an interest held by our operating partnership rather than by one of our taxable REIT subsidiaries we could fail the 5% asset test, and if the IRS further successfully treated the loan as other than straight debt, we could fail the 10% asset test with respect to such interest. As a result of the failure of either test, we could lose our REIT status.

MPT Covington TRS, Inc. leases a health care facility from us and subleases it to a tenant in which it owns a greater than 10% interest. The facility is operated by an eligible independent contractor. We have obtained a private letter ruling from the IRS holding that ownership of the equity interest and the operation of the facility in accordance with the agreements among the parties do not adversely affect the taxable REIT subsidiary status of MPT Covington TRS, Inc. We have since structured other transactions in which MPT TRS owns an

Table of Contents

indirect equity interest in a tenant entity in a similar manner, including leases with the subsidiaries of Ernest. If the IRS successfully challenged the taxable REIT subsidiary status of MPT Covington TRS, Inc. or MPT TRS, and we were unable to cure as described below, we could fail the 10% asset test with respect to our ownership of MPT Covington TRS, Inc. or MPT TRS and as a result lose our REIT status.

We will monitor the status of our assets for purposes of the various asset tests and will manage our portfolio in order to comply at all times with such tests. If we fail to satisfy the asset tests at the end of a calendar quarter, we will not lose our REIT status if:

we satisfied the asset tests at the end of the preceding calendar quarter; and

the discrepancy between the value of our assets and the asset test requirements arose from changes in the market values of our assets and was not wholly or partly caused by the acquisition of one or more non-qualifying assets.

If we did not satisfy the condition described in the second item above, we still could avoid disqualification by eliminating any discrepancy within 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter in which it arose.

In the event that, at the end of any calendar quarter, we violate the 5% or 10% test described above, we will not lose our REIT status if (1) the failure is de minimis (up to the lesser of 1% of our assets or \$10 million) and (2) we dispose of assets or otherwise comply with the asset tests within six months after the last day of the quarter in which we identified the failure of the asset test. In the event of a more than de minimis failure of the 5% or 10% tests, or a failure of the other assets test, at the end of any calendar quarter, as long as the failure was due to reasonable cause and not to willful neglect, we will not lose our REIT status if we (1) file with the IRS a schedule describing the assets that caused the failure, (2) dispose of assets or otherwise comply with the asset tests within six months after the last day of the quarter in which we identified the failure of the asset test and (3) pay a tax equal to the greater of \$50,000 and tax at the highest corporate rate on the net income from the nonqualifying assets during the period in which we failed to satisfy the asset tests.

Distribution Requirements. Each taxable year, we must distribute dividends, other than capital gain dividends and deemed distributions of retained capital gain, to our stockholders in an aggregate amount not less than:

the sum of:

90% of our REIT taxable income, computed without regard to the dividends-paid deduction or our net capital gain or loss; and

90% of our after-tax net income, if any, from foreclosure property;

Minus

the sum of certain items of non-cash income.

We must pay such distributions in the taxable year to which they relate, or in the following taxable year if we declare the distribution before we timely file our federal income tax return for the year and pay the distribution on or before the first regular dividend payment date after such declaration.

We will pay federal income tax on taxable income, including net capital gain, that we do not distribute to stockholders. In addition, we will incur a 4% nondeductible excise tax on the excess of a specified required distribution over amounts we actually distribute if we distribute an amount less than the required distribution during a calendar year, or by the end of January following the calendar year in the case of distributions with declaration and record dates falling in the last three months of the calendar year. The required distribution must not be less than the sum of:

85% of our REIT ordinary income for the year;

Table of Contents

95% of our REIT capital gain income for the year; and

any undistributed taxable income from prior periods.

We may elect to retain and pay income tax on the net long-term capital gain we receive in a taxable year. See

Requirements for Qualification Taxation of Taxable United States Stockholders. If we so elect, we will be treated as having distributed any such retained amount for purposes of the 4% excise tax described above. We intend to make timely distributions sufficient to satisfy the annual distribution requirements and to avoid corporate income tax and the 4% excise tax.

It is possible that, from time to time, we may experience timing differences between the actual receipt of income and actual payment of deductible expenses and the inclusion of that income and deduction of such expenses in arriving at our REIT taxable income. For example, we may not deduct recognized capital losses from our REIT taxable income. Further, it is possible that, from time to time, we may be allocated a share of net capital gain attributable to the sale of depreciated property that exceeds our allocable share of cash attributable to that sale. As a result of the foregoing, we may have less cash than is necessary to distribute all of our taxable income and thereby avoid corporate income tax and the excise tax imposed on certain undistributed income. In such a situation, we may need to borrow funds or issue additional shares of common or preferred stock.

Under certain circumstances, we may be able to correct a failure to meet the distribution requirement for a year by paying deficiency dividends to our stockholders in a later year. We may include such deficiency dividends in our deduction for dividends paid for the earlier year. Although we may be able to avoid income tax on amounts distributed as deficiency dividends, we will be required to pay interest based upon the amount of any deduction we take for deficiency dividends.

Recordkeeping Requirements. We must maintain certain records in order to qualify as a REIT. In addition, to avoid paying a penalty, we must request on an annual basis information from our stockholders designed to disclose the actual ownership of our shares of outstanding capital stock. We intend to comply with these requirements.

Failure to Qualify. If we failed to qualify as a REIT in any taxable year and no relief provision applied, we would have the following consequences. We would be subject to federal income tax and any applicable alternative minimum tax at rates applicable to regular C corporations on our taxable income, determined without reduction for amounts distributed to stockholders. We would not be required to make any distributions to stockholders, and any distributions to stockholders would be taxable to them as dividend income to the extent of our current and accumulated earnings and profits. Corporate stockholders could be eligible for a dividends-received deduction if certain conditions are satisfied. Unless we qualified for relief under specific statutory provisions, we would not be permitted to elect taxation as a REIT for the four taxable years following the year during which we ceased to qualify as a REIT.

If we fail to satisfy one or more requirements for REIT qualification, other than the gross income tests and the asset tests, we could avoid disqualification if the failure is due to reasonable cause and not to willful neglect and we pay a penalty of \$50,000 for each such failure. In addition, there are relief provisions for a failure of the gross income tests and asset tests, as described above in **Gross Income Tests** and **Asset Tests**.

Taxation of Our Stockholders

Taxation of Taxable United States Stockholders. As long as we qualify as a REIT, a taxable United States stockholder will be required to take into account as ordinary income distributions made out of our current or accumulated earnings and profits that we do not designate as capital gain dividends or retained long-term capital gain. A United States

stockholder will not qualify for the dividends-received deduction generally available to corporations. The term "United States stockholder" means a holder of shares of common stock that, for United States federal income tax purposes, is:

a citizen or resident of the United States;

Table of Contents

a corporation or partnership (including an entity treated as a corporation or partnership for United States federal income tax purposes) created or organized under the laws of the United States or of a political subdivision of the United States;

an estate whose income is subject to United States federal income taxation regardless of its source; or

any trust if (1) a United States court is able to exercise primary supervision over the administration of such trust and one or more United States persons have the authority to control all substantial decisions of the trust or (2) it has a valid election in place to be treated as a United States person.

For individuals with taxable income in excess of certain thresholds, the maximum federal income tax rate on ordinary income is 39.6% and the maximum rate on long-term capital gains and qualified dividend income is 20%. Estates and trusts have separate tax rate schedules.

Distributions. Distributions paid to a United States stockholder will generally not qualify for the maximum 20% tax rate in effect for qualified dividend income. Qualified dividend income generally includes dividends paid by domestic C corporations and certain qualified foreign corporations to most United States noncorporate stockholders. As long as we qualify as a REIT, our dividends generally will not be eligible for the current preferred rates on qualified dividend income. As a result, our ordinary REIT dividends will continue to be taxed at the higher tax rate applicable to ordinary income. Currently, the highest marginal individual income tax rate on ordinary income is 39.6%. However, the 20% maximum tax rate for qualified dividend income will apply to our ordinary REIT dividends, if any, that are (1) attributable to dividends received by us from non-REIT corporations, such as our taxable REIT subsidiaries, and (2) attributable to income upon which we have paid corporate income tax (e.g., to the extent that we distribute less than 100% of our taxable income). In general, to qualify for the reduced tax rate on qualified dividend income, a stockholder must hold our common stock for more than 60 days during the 121-day period beginning on the date that is 60 days before the date on which our common stock becomes ex-dividend.

Distributions to a United States stockholder which we designate as capital gain dividends will generally be treated as long-term capital gain, without regard to the period for which the United States stockholder has held its common stock. With certain limitations, capital gain dividends received by an individual U.S. stockholder may be eligible for preferential rates of taxation. U.S. stockholders that are corporations, may, however, be required to treat up to 20% of certain capital gain dividends as ordinary income. In addition, certain net capital gains attributable to depreciable real property held for more than 12 months are subject to a 25% maximum federal income tax rate to the extent of previously claimed real property depreciation.

Under recently enacted legislation, for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2015, the amount of dividends we designate as qualified dividends and capital gain dividends with respect to any taxable year may not exceed the dividends we pay with respect to such year.

We may elect to retain and pay income tax on the net long-term capital gain that we receive in a taxable year. In that case, a United States stockholder would be taxed on its proportionate share of our undistributed long-term capital gain. The United States stockholder would receive a credit or refund for its proportionate share of the tax we paid. The United States stockholder would increase the basis in its shares of common stock by the amount of its proportionate share of our undistributed long-term capital gain, minus its share of the tax we paid.

A United States stockholder will not incur tax on a distribution in excess of our current and accumulated earnings and profits if the distribution does not exceed the adjusted basis of the United States stockholder's shares. Instead, the

distribution will reduce the adjusted basis of the shares, and any amount in excess of both our current and accumulated earnings and profits and the adjusted basis will be treated as capital gain, long-term if the shares have been held for more than one year, provided the shares are a capital asset in the hands of the

Table of Contents

United States stockholder. In addition, any distribution we declare in October, November, or December of any year that is payable to a United States stockholder of record on a specified date in any of those months will be treated as paid by us and received by the United States stockholder on December 31 of the year, provided we actually pay the distribution during January of the following calendar year.

Stockholders may not include in their individual income tax returns any of our net operating losses or capital losses. Instead, these losses are generally carried over by us for potential offset against our future income. Taxable distributions from us and gain from the disposition of shares of common stock will not be treated as passive activity income; stockholders generally will not be able to apply any passive activity losses, such as losses from certain types of limited partnerships in which the stockholder is a limited partner, against such income. In addition, taxable distributions from us and gain from the disposition of common stock generally will be treated as investment income for purposes of the investment interest limitations. We will notify stockholders after the close of our taxable year as to the portions of the distributions attributable to that year that constitute ordinary income, return of capital, and capital gain.

Taxation of United States Stockholders on the Disposition of Shares of Common Stock. In general, a United States stockholder who is not a dealer in securities must treat any gain or loss realized upon a taxable disposition of our shares of common stock as long-term capital gain or loss if the United States stockholder has held the stock for more than one year, and otherwise as short-term capital gain or loss. However, a United States stockholder must treat any loss upon a sale or exchange of common stock held for six months or less as a long-term capital loss to the extent of capital gain dividends and any other actual or deemed distributions from us which the United States stockholder treats as long-term capital gain. All or a portion of any loss that a United States stockholder realizes upon a taxable disposition of common stock may be disallowed if the United States stockholder purchases other shares of our common stock within 30 days before or after the disposition.

Capital Gains and Losses. The tax-rate differential between capital gain and ordinary income for non-corporate taxpayers may be significant. A taxpayer generally must hold a capital asset for more than one year for gain or loss derived from its sale or exchange to be treated as long-term capital gain or loss. The highest marginal individual income tax rate is currently 39.6%. The maximum tax rate on long-term capital gain applicable to individuals is generally 20%. The maximum tax rate on long-term capital gain from the sale or exchange of section 1250 property (i.e., generally, depreciable real property) is 25% to the extent of certain unrecaptured section 1250 gain. We generally may designate whether a distribution we designate as capital gain dividends (and any retained capital gain that we are deemed to distribute) is taxable to non-corporate stockholders at a 20% or 25% rate.

The characterization of income as capital gain or ordinary income may affect the deductibility of capital losses. A non-corporate taxpayer may deduct from its ordinary income capital losses not offset by capital gains only up to a maximum of \$3,000 annually. A non-corporate taxpayer may carry forward unused capital losses indefinitely. A corporate taxpayer must pay tax on its net capital gain at corporate ordinary income rates. A corporate taxpayer may deduct capital losses only to the extent of capital gains and unused losses may be carried back three years and carried forward five years.

Certain United States individuals, estates, and trusts with taxable incomes in excess of certain thresholds will be subject to an additional 3.8% tax on their net investment income.

Information Reporting Requirements and Backup Withholding. We will report to our stockholders and to the IRS the amount of distributions we pay during each calendar year and the amount of tax we withhold, if any. A United States stockholder may be subject to backup withholding at a rate of up to 28% with respect to distributions unless the holder:

is a corporation or comes within certain other exempt categories and, when required, demonstrates this fact; or

Table of Contents

provides a taxpayer identification number, certifies, under penalty of perjury, as to no loss of exemption from backup withholding, and otherwise complies with the applicable requirements of the backup withholding rules.

A United States stockholder who does not provide us with its correct taxpayer identification number also may be subject to penalties imposed by the IRS. Any amount paid as backup withholding will be creditable against the stockholder's income tax liability. In addition, we may be required to withhold a portion of capital gain distributions to any stockholder who fails to certify its non-foreign status to us. United States stockholders should consult their own tax advisors regarding their qualifications for exemption from backup withholding and the procedure for obtaining an exemption. For a discussion of the backup withholding rules as applied to non-United States stockholders, see

Taxation of Non-United States Stockholders.

Taxation of Tax-exempt Stockholders. Tax-exempt entities, including qualified employee pension and profit sharing trusts and individual retirement accounts, referred to as pension trusts, generally are exempt from federal income taxation. However, they are subject to taxation on their unrelated business taxable income. While many investments in real estate generate unrelated business taxable income, the IRS has issued a ruling that dividend distributions from a REIT to an exempt employee pension trust do not constitute unrelated business taxable income so long as the exempt employee pension trust does not otherwise use the shares of the REIT in an unrelated trade or business of the pension trust. Based on that ruling, amounts we distribute to tax-exempt stockholders generally should not constitute unrelated business taxable income. However, if a tax-exempt stockholder were to finance its acquisition of common stock with debt, a portion of the income it received from us would constitute unrelated business taxable income pursuant to the debt-financed property rules. Furthermore, social clubs, voluntary employee benefit associations, supplemental unemployment benefit trusts and qualified group legal services plans that are exempt from taxation under special provisions of the federal income tax laws are subject to different unrelated business taxable income rules, which generally will require them to characterize distributions they receive from us as unrelated business taxable income. Finally, in certain circumstances, a qualified employee pension or profit-sharing trust that owns more than 10% of our outstanding stock must treat a percentage of the dividends it receives from us as unrelated business taxable income. The percentage is equal to the gross income we derive from an unrelated trade or business, determined as if we were a pension trust, divided by our total gross income for the year in which we pay the dividends. This rule applies to a pension trust holding more than 10% of our outstanding stock only if:

the percentage of our dividends which the tax-exempt trust must treat as unrelated business taxable income is at least 5%;

we qualify as a REIT by reason of the modification of the rule requiring that no more than 50% in value of our outstanding stock be owned by five or fewer individuals, which modification allows the beneficiaries of the pension trust to be treated as holding shares in proportion to their actual interests in the pension trust; and

either of the following applies:

one pension trust owns more than 25% of the value of our outstanding stock; or

a group of pension trusts individually holding more than 10% of the value of our outstanding stock collectively owns more than 50% of the value of our outstanding stock.

Taxation of Non-United States Stockholders. The rules governing United States federal income taxation of nonresident alien individuals, foreign corporations, foreign partnerships and other foreign stockholders are complex. This section is only a summary of such rules. We urge non-United States stockholders to consult their own tax advisors to determine the impact of U.S. federal, state and local income and non-U.S. tax laws on ownership of shares of common stock, including any reporting requirements.

Table of Contents

A non-United States stockholder that receives a distribution which (1) is not attributable to gain from our sale or exchange of United States real property interests (defined below) and (2) we do not designate as a capital gain dividend (or retained capital gain) will generally recognize ordinary income to the extent of our current or accumulated earnings and profits. A withholding tax equal to 30% of the gross amount of the distribution ordinarily will apply unless an applicable tax treaty reduces or eliminates the tax. Under some treaties, lower withholding rates on dividends do not apply, or do not apply as favorably to, dividends from REITs. However, a non-United States stockholder generally will be subject to federal income tax at graduated rates on any distribution treated as effectively connected with the non-United States stockholder's conduct of a United States trade or business, in the same manner as United States stockholders are taxed on distributions. A corporate non-United States stockholder may, in addition, be subject to the 30% branch profits tax. We plan to withhold United States income tax at the rate of 30% on the gross amount of any distribution paid to a non-United States stockholder unless:

a lower treaty rate applies and the non-United States stockholder provides us with an IRS Form W-8BEN or W-8BEN-E evidencing eligibility for that reduced rate; or

the non-United States stockholder provides us with an IRS Form W-8ECI claiming that the distribution is effectively connected income.

A non-United States stockholder will not incur tax on a distribution in excess of our current and accumulated earnings and profits if the excess portion of the distribution does not exceed the adjusted basis of the stockholder's shares of common stock. Instead, the excess portion of the distribution will reduce the adjusted basis of the shares. A non-United States stockholder will be subject to tax on a distribution that exceeds both our current and accumulated earnings and profits and the adjusted basis of its shares, if the non-United States stockholder otherwise would be subject to tax on gain from the sale or disposition of shares of common stock, as described below. Because we generally cannot determine at the time we make a distribution whether or not the distribution will exceed our current and accumulated earnings and profits, we normally will withhold tax on the entire amount of any distribution at the same rate as we would withhold on a dividend. However, a non-United States stockholder may obtain a refund of amounts we withhold if we later determine that a distribution in fact exceeded our current and accumulated earnings and profits.

We may be required to withhold 10% of any distribution that exceeds our current and accumulated earnings and profits. We may, therefore, withhold at a rate of 10% on any portion of a distribution to the extent we determined it is not subject to withholding at the 30% rate described above.

Furthermore, under the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act, withholding is required at a rate of 30 percent on dividends in respect of, and, after December 31, 2018, gross proceeds from the sale of, our common stock held by certain foreign financial institutions (including investment funds), unless such institution enters into an agreement with the Secretary of the Treasury to report, on an annual basis, information with respect to shares in the institution held by certain United States persons and by certain non-US entities that are wholly or partially owned by United States persons and to withhold certain amounts paid to certain account holders and financial institutions. Similarly, dividends in respect of, and gross proceeds from the sale of, our common stock held by an investor that is a non-financial non-US entity will be subject to withholding at a rate of 30 percent, unless such entity either (i) certifies to us that such entity does not have any substantial United States owners or (ii) provides certain information regarding the entity's substantial United States owners, which we will in turn provide to the Secretary of the Treasury. Non-United States stockholders are encouraged to consult with their tax advisors regarding the possible implications of the legislation on their investment in our common stock.

For any year in which we qualify as a REIT, a non-United States stockholder will incur tax on distributions attributable to gain from our sale or exchange of United States real property interests under the FIRPTA provisions of the Code. The term United States real property interests includes interests in real property located in the United States or the Virgin Islands and stocks in corporations at least 50% by value of whose real property interests and assets used or held for use in a trade or business consist of United States real property interests.

Table of Contents

Under the FIRPTA rules, a non-United States stockholder is taxed on distributions attributable to gain from sales of United States real property interests as if the gain were effectively connected with the conduct of a United States business of the non-United States stockholder. A non-United States stockholder thus would be taxed on such a distribution at the normal capital gain rates applicable to United States stockholders, subject to applicable alternative minimum tax and a special alternative minimum tax in the case of a nonresident alien individual. A non-United States corporate stockholder not entitled to treaty relief or exemption also may be subject to the 30% branch profits tax on such a distribution. We must withhold 35% of any distribution that we could designate as a capital gain dividend. A non-United States stockholder may receive a credit against our tax liability for the amount we withhold.

For non-United States stockholders of our publicly-traded shares, capital gain distributions that are attributable to our sale of real property will not be subject to FIRPTA and therefore will be treated as ordinary dividends rather than as gain from the sale of a United States real property interest, as long as the non-United States stockholder did not own more than 10% of the class of our stock on which the distributions are made for the one year period ending on the date of distribution. As a result, non-United States stockholders generally would be subject to withholding tax on such capital gain distributions in the same manner as they are subject to withholding tax on ordinary dividends.

A non-United States stockholder generally will not incur tax under FIRPTA with respect to gain on a sale of shares of common stock as long as, at all times, non-United States persons hold, directly or indirectly, less than 50% in value of our outstanding stock. For purposes of this test, we may treat any stockholder who owns less than 5% of our publicly traded stock as a United States person unless we have actual knowledge that such stockholder is not a United States person. We cannot assure you that this test will be met. Even if we meet this test, pursuant to the wash sale rules under FIRPTA, a non-United States stockholder may incur tax under FIRPTA to the extent such stockholder disposes of our common stock within a certain period prior to a capital gain distribution and directly or indirectly (including through certain affiliates) reacquires our common stock within certain prescribed periods. In addition, even if we do not meet the domestically controlled test, a non-United States stockholder that owned, actually or constructively, 10% or less of the outstanding common stock at all times during a specified testing period will not incur tax under FIRPTA on gain from a sale of common stock if the stock is regularly traded on an established securities market. Any gain subject to tax under FIRPTA will be treated in the same manner as it would be in the hands of United States stockholders subject to alternative minimum tax, but under a special alternative minimum tax in the case of nonresident alien individuals.

A non-United States stockholder generally will incur tax on gain from the sale of common stock not subject to FIRPTA if:

the gain is effectively connected with the conduct of the non-United States stockholder's United States trade or business, in which case the non-United States stockholder will be subject to the same treatment as United States stockholders with respect to the gain; or

the non-United States stockholder is a nonresident alien individual who was present in the United States for 183 days or more during the taxable year in which case the non-United States stockholder will incur a 30% tax on capital gains.

Other Tax Consequences

Tax Aspects of Our Investments in Our Operating Partnership. The following discussion summarizes certain federal income tax considerations applicable to our direct or indirect investment in our operating partnership and any subsidiary partnerships or limited liability companies we form or acquire, each individually referred to as a

Partnership and collectively, as Partnerships. The following discussion does not cover state or local tax laws or any federal tax laws other than income tax laws.

Table of Contents

Classification as Partnerships. We are entitled to include in our income our distributive share of each Partnership's income and to deduct our distributive share of each Partnership's losses only if each Partnership is classified for federal income tax purposes as a partnership (or an entity that is disregarded for federal income tax purposes if the entity has only one owner or member), rather than as a corporation or an association taxable as a corporation. An organization with at least two owners or members will be classified as a partnership, rather than as a corporation, for federal income tax purposes if it:

is treated as a partnership under the Treasury regulations relating to entity classification (the check-the-box regulations); and

is not a publicly traded partnership.

Under the check-the-box regulations, an unincorporated entity with at least two owners or members may elect to be classified either as an association taxable as a corporation or as a partnership. If such an entity does not make an election, it generally will be treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes. We intend that each Partnership will be classified as a partnership for federal income tax purposes (or else a disregarded entity where there are not at least two separate beneficial owners).

A publicly traded partnership is a partnership whose interests are traded on an established securities market or are readily tradable on a secondary market (or a substantial equivalent). A publicly traded partnership is generally treated as a corporation for federal income tax purposes, but will not be so treated for any taxable year for which at least 90% of the partnership's gross income consists of specified passive income, including real property rents, gains from the sale or other disposition of real property, interest, and dividends (the 90% passive income exception).

Treasury regulations, referred to as PTP regulations, provide limited safe harbors from treatment as a publicly traded partnership. Pursuant to one of those safe harbors, the private placement exclusion, interests in a partnership will not be treated as readily tradable on a secondary market or the substantial equivalent thereof if (1) all interests in the partnership were issued in a transaction or transactions that were not required to be registered under the Securities Act, and (2) the partnership does not have more than 100 partners at any time during the partnership's taxable year. For the determination of the number of partners in a partnership, a person owning an interest in a partnership, grantor trust, or S corporation that owns an interest in the partnership is treated as a partner in the partnership only if (1) substantially all of the value of the owner's interest in the entity is attributable to the entity's direct or indirect interest in the partnership and (2) a principal purpose of the use of the entity is to permit the partnership to satisfy the 100-partner limitation. We expect that each Partnership would qualify for the private placement exclusion.

An unincorporated entity with only one separate beneficial owner generally may elect to be classified either as an association taxable as a corporation or as a disregarded entity. If such an entity is domestic and does not make an election, it generally will be treated as a disregarded entity. A disregarded entity's activities are treated as those of a branch or division of its beneficial owner.

The operating partnership has not elected to be treated as an association taxable as a corporation. Therefore, our operating partnership is treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes. We intend that our operating partnership will continue to be treated as partnership for federal income tax purposes.

We have not requested, and do not intend to request, a ruling from the Internal Revenue Service that the operating partnership or any other subsidiary entity will be classified as either a partnership or disregarded entity for federal

income tax purposes. If for any reason any Partnership were taxable as a corporation, rather than as a partnership or a disregarded entity, for federal income tax purposes, we likely would not be able to qualify as a REIT. See

Requirements for Qualification Gross Income Tests and Requirements for Qualification Asset Tests. In addition, any change in a Partnership's status for tax purposes might be treated as a taxable

Table of Contents

event, in which case we might incur tax liability without any related cash distribution. See Requirements for Qualification Distribution Requirements. Further, items of income and deduction of such Partnership would not pass through to its partners, and its partners would be treated as stockholders for tax purposes. Consequently, such Partnership would be required to pay income tax at corporate rates on its net income, and distributions to its partners would constitute dividends that would not be deductible in computing such Partnership's taxable income.

Income Taxation of the Partnerships and Their Partners

Partners, Not the Partnerships, Subject to Tax. A partnership is not a taxable entity for federal income tax purposes. If each Partnership is classified as a partnership, we will therefore take into account our allocable share of each such Partnership's income, gains, losses, deductions, and credits for each taxable year of each Partnership ending with or within our taxable year, even if we receive no distribution from any Partnership for that year or a distribution less than our share of taxable income. Similarly, even if we receive a distribution, it may not be taxable if the distribution does not exceed our adjusted tax basis in our interest in the Partnership. If any Partnership is classified as a disregarded entity, each Partnership's activities will be treated as if carried on directly by us.

Partnership Allocations. Although a partnership agreement generally will determine the allocation of income and losses among partners, allocations will be disregarded for tax purposes if they do not comply with the provisions of the federal income tax laws governing partnership allocations. If an allocation is not recognized for federal income tax purposes, the item subject to the allocation will be reallocated in accordance with the partners' interests in the partnership, which will be determined by taking into account all of the facts and circumstances relating to the economic arrangement of the partners with respect to such item. Each Partnership's allocations of taxable income, gain, and loss are intended to comply with the requirements of the federal income tax laws governing partnership allocations.

Tax Allocations with Respect to Contributed Properties. Income, gain, loss, and deduction attributable to appreciated or depreciated property that is contributed to a partnership in exchange for an interest in the partnership must be allocated in a manner such that the contributing partner is charged with, or benefits from, respectively, the unrealized gain or unrealized loss associated with the property at the time of the contribution. Similar rules apply with respect to property revalued on the books of a partnership. The amount of such unrealized gain or unrealized loss, referred to as built-in gain or built-in loss, is generally equal to the difference between the fair market value of the contributed or revalued property at the time of contribution or revaluation and the adjusted tax basis of such property at that time, referred to as a book-tax difference. Such allocations are solely for federal income tax purposes and do not affect the book capital accounts or other economic or legal arrangements among the partners. The United States Treasury Department has issued regulations requiring partnerships to use a reasonable method for allocating items with respect to which there is a book-tax difference and outlining several reasonable allocation methods. Our operating partnership generally intends to use the traditional method for allocating items with respect to which there is a book-tax difference.

Basis in Partnership Interest. Our adjusted tax basis in any partnership interest we own generally will be:

the amount of cash and the basis of any other property we contribute to the partnership;

increased by our allocable share of the partnership's income (including tax-exempt income) and our allocable share of indebtedness of the partnership; and

reduced, but not below zero, by our allocable share of the partnership's loss, the amount of cash and the basis of property distributed to us, and constructive distributions resulting from a reduction in our share of indebtedness of the partnership.

Table of Contents

Loss allocated to us in excess of our basis in a partnership interest will not be taken into account until we again have basis sufficient to absorb the loss. A reduction of our share of partnership indebtedness will be treated as a constructive cash distribution to us, and will reduce our adjusted tax basis. Distributions, including constructive distributions, in excess of the basis of our partnership interest will constitute taxable income to us. Such distributions and constructive distributions normally will be characterized as long-term capital gain.

Partnership Audits. Under recently enacted legislation (the New Partnership Audit Rules) that will apply for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017 (unless a Partnership elects to apply the legislative changes sooner), in the event of a federal income tax audit the Partnership, rather than the Partnership's partners, could be liable for the payment of certain taxes, including interest and penalties, or the partners could be liable for the tax but be required to pay interest at a higher rate than would otherwise apply to underpayments. Furthermore, the partnership representative of the Partnership will have exclusive authority to bind all partners to any federal income tax proceeding.

Depreciation Deductions Available to Partnerships. The initial tax basis of property is the amount of cash and the basis of property given as consideration for the property. A partnership in which we are a partner generally will depreciate property for federal income tax purposes under the modified accelerated cost recovery system of depreciation, referred to as MACRS. Under MACRS, each Partnership generally will depreciate furnishings over a seven year recovery period and equipment over a five year recovery period using a 200% declining balance method and a half-year convention. If, however, the partnership places more than 40% of its furnishings and equipment in service during the last three months of a taxable year, a mid-quarter depreciation convention must be used for the furnishings and equipment placed in service during that year. Under MACRS, the partnership generally will depreciate buildings and improvements over a 39 year recovery period using a straight line method and a mid-month convention. Each Partnership's initial basis in properties acquired solely in exchange for units of each Partnership should be the same as the transferor's basis in such properties on the date of acquisition by the partnership. Although the law is not entirely clear, each Partnership generally will depreciate such property for federal income tax purposes over the same remaining useful lives and under the same methods used by the transferors. Each Partnership's tax depreciation deductions will be allocated among the partners in accordance with their respective interests in the partnership, except to the extent that any Partnership is required under the federal income tax laws governing partnership allocations to use a method for allocating tax depreciation deductions attributable to contributed or revalued properties that results in our receiving a disproportionate share of such deductions.

Sale of a Partnership's Property. Generally, any gain realized by a Partnership on the sale of property held for more than one year will be long-term capital gain, except for any portion of the gain treated as depreciation or cost recovery recapture. Any gain or loss recognized by a Partnership on the disposition of contributed or revalued properties will be allocated first to the partners who contributed the properties or who were partners at the time of revaluation, to the extent of their built-in gain or loss on those properties for federal income tax purposes. The partners' built-in gain or loss on contributed or revalued properties is the difference between the partners' proportionate share of the book value of those properties and the partners' tax basis allocable to those properties at the time of the contribution or revaluation. Any remaining gain or loss recognized by the Partnership on the disposition of contributed or revalued properties, and any gain or loss recognized by the Partnership on the disposition of other properties, will be allocated among the partners in accordance with the Partnership's allocation provisions (subject to the restrictions described above).

Our share of any Partnership gain from the sale of inventory or other property held primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of each Partnership's trade or business will be treated as income from a prohibited transaction subject to a 100% tax. Income from a prohibited transaction may have an adverse effect on our ability to satisfy the gross income tests for REIT status. See Requirements for Qualification Gross Income Tests. We do not presently intend to acquire or hold, or to allow any Partnership to acquire or hold, any property that is likely to be treated as

inventory or property held primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of our, or any Partnership's, trade or business.

Table of Contents

Taxable REIT Subsidiaries. As described above, we have formed and have made a timely election to treat MPT TRS, MPT Covington TRS, Inc. and MPT Finance Corporation, as taxable REIT subsidiaries and may form or acquire additional taxable REIT subsidiaries in the future. A taxable REIT subsidiary may provide services to our tenants and engage in activities unrelated to our tenants, such as third-party management, development, and other independent business activities.

We and any corporate subsidiary in which we own stock, other than a qualified REIT subsidiary, must make an election for the subsidiary to be treated as a taxable REIT subsidiary. If a taxable REIT subsidiary directly or indirectly owns shares of a corporation with more than 35% of the value or voting power of all outstanding shares of the corporation, the corporation will automatically also be treated as a taxable REIT subsidiary. Ernest and Capella and their corporate subsidiaries are automatically treated as taxable REIT subsidiaries under this rule. For tax years beginning before January 1, 2018, no more than 25% of the value of our assets may consist of securities of one or more taxable REIT subsidiaries and for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2018, no more than 20% of the value of our assets may consist of securities of taxable REIT subsidiaries, irrespective of whether such securities may also qualify under the 75% assets test, and no more than 25% of the value of our assets may consist of the securities that are not qualifying assets under the 75% test, including, among other things, certain securities of a taxable REIT subsidiary, such as stock or non-mortgage debt.

Rent we receive from our taxable REIT subsidiaries will qualify as rents from real property as long as at least 90% of the leased space in the property is leased to persons other than taxable REIT subsidiaries and related party tenants, and the amount paid by the taxable REIT subsidiary to rent space at the property is substantially comparable to rents paid by other tenants of the property for comparable space. For tax years beginning after July 30, 2008, rents paid to a REIT by a taxable REIT subsidiary with respect to a qualified health care property, (as defined above under

Requirements for Qualification Foreclosure Property) operated on behalf of such taxable REIT subsidiary by a person who is an eligible independent contractor, (as defined above under Requirements for Qualification Organizational Requirements) are qualifying rental income for purposes of the 75% and 95% gross income tests. The taxable REIT subsidiary rules limit the deductibility of interest paid or accrued by a taxable REIT subsidiary to us to assure that the taxable REIT subsidiary is subject to an appropriate level of corporate taxation. Further, the rules impose a 100% excise tax on certain types of transactions between a taxable REIT subsidiary and us or our tenants that are not conducted on an arm's-length basis.

A taxable REIT subsidiary may not directly or indirectly operate or manage a health care facility, (as defined above under Requirements for Qualification Organizational Requirements) though for tax years beginning after July 30, 2008 a health care facility leased to a taxable REIT subsidiary from a REIT may be operated on behalf of the taxable REIT subsidiary by an eligible independent contractor. MPT Covington TRS, Inc. has been formed for the purpose of, and is currently, leasing a health care facility from us, subleasing that facility to an entity in which MPT Covington TRS, Inc. owns an equity interest, and having that facility operated by an eligible independent contractor. We have obtained a private letter ruling from the IRS holding that the ownership of the equity interest and the operation of the facility in accordance with the agreements of the parties do not adversely affect the taxable REIT subsidiary status of MPT Covington TRS, Inc. We have structured other transactions in which MPT TRS owns an indirect equity interest in a tenant entity in a similar manner, including our leases with subsidiaries of Ernest, and may structure other such transactions in the future.

State and Local Taxes. We and our stockholders may be subject to taxation by various states and localities, including those in which we or a stockholder transact business, own property or reside. The state and local tax treatment may differ from the federal income tax treatment described above. Consequently, stockholders should consult their own tax advisors regarding the effect of state and local tax laws upon an investment in our common stock.

Table of Contents

SELLING STOCKHOLDERS

Selling stockholders include certain persons or entities that, directly or indirectly, have acquired or may from time to time acquire from us, shares of our common stock in various private transactions. Such selling stockholders may be parties to registration rights agreements with us, or we otherwise may have agreed or will agree to register their securities for resale. The initial purchasers of our securities, as well as their transferees, pledges, donees or successors, all of whom we refer to as selling stockholders, may from time to time offer and sell the securities pursuant to this prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement.

The applicable prospectus supplement will set forth the name of each of the selling stockholders and the number of shares of our common stock beneficially owned by such selling stockholders that are covered by such prospectus supplement. The applicable prospectus supplement will also disclose whether any of the selling stockholders has held any position or office with us, has been employed by us or otherwise has had a material relationship with us during the three years prior to the date of the prospectus supplement.

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We and/or the selling stockholders may sell the securities in any one or more of the following ways:

directly to investors, including through a specific bidding, auction or other process;

to investors through agents;

directly to agents;

to or through brokers or dealers;

from time to time at prevailing market prices by the issuer or through a designated agent;

to the public through underwriting syndicates led by one or more managing underwriters;

to one or more underwriters acting alone for resale to investors or to the public; or

through a combination of any such methods of sale.

The securities may be sold domestically or abroad. Selling stockholders to be named in a prospectus supplement may offer and sell, from time to time, the common stock and preferred stock up to such amounts as set forth in a prospectus supplement. Our common stock or preferred stock may be issued upon the exchange of the debt securities of MPT Operating Partnership, L.P. or in exchange for other securities. We reserve the right to sell securities directly to investors on their own behalf in those jurisdictions where they are authorized to do so.

If we or the selling stockholders sell securities to a dealer acting as principal, the dealer may resell such securities at varying prices to be determined by such dealer in its discretion at the time of resale without consulting with us or the selling stockholders and such resale prices may not be disclosed in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Any underwritten offering may be on a best efforts or a firm commitment basis.

Sales of the securities may be effected from time to time in one or more transactions, including negotiated transactions:

at a fixed price or prices, which may be changed;

Table of Contents

at market prices prevailing at the time of sale;

at prices related to prevailing market prices; or

at negotiated prices.

Any of the prices may represent a discount from the then prevailing market prices.

In the sale of the securities, underwriters or agents may receive compensation from us in the form of underwriting discounts or commissions and may also receive compensation from purchasers of the securities, for whom they may act as agents, in the form of discounts, concessions or commissions. Underwriters may sell the securities to or through dealers, and such dealers may receive compensation in the form of discounts, concessions or commissions from the underwriters and/or commissions from the purchasers for whom they may act as agents. Discounts, concessions and commissions may be changed from time to time. Dealers and agents that participate in the distribution of the securities may be deemed to be underwriters under the Securities Act, and any discounts, concessions or commissions they receive from us and any profit on the resale of securities they realize may be deemed to be underwriting compensation under applicable federal and state securities laws.

The applicable prospectus supplement will, where applicable:

identify any such underwriter, dealer or agent;

describe any compensation in the form of discounts, concessions, commissions or otherwise received from us by each such underwriter or agent and in the aggregate by all underwriters and agents;

describe any discounts, concessions or commissions allowed by underwriters to participating dealers;

identify the amounts underwritten; and

identify the nature of the underwriter's or underwriters' obligation to take the securities.

Unless otherwise specified in the related prospectus supplement, each series of securities will be a new issue with no established trading market, other than shares of our common stock, which are listed on the NYSE. Any common stock sold pursuant to a prospectus supplement will be listed on the NYSE, subject to official notice of issuance. We may elect to list any series of debt securities or preferred stock, on an exchange, but we are not obligated to do so. It is possible that one or more underwriters may make a market in the securities, but such underwriters will not be obligated to do so and may discontinue any market making at any time without notice. No assurance can be given as to the liquidity of, or the trading market for, any offered securities.

We and/or the selling stockholders may enter into derivative transactions with third parties, or sell securities not covered by this prospectus to third parties in privately negotiated transactions. If disclosed in the applicable prospectus supplement, in connection with those derivative transactions third parties may sell securities covered by this

prospectus and such prospectus supplement, including in short sale transactions. If so, the third party may use securities pledged by us and/or the selling stockholders, or borrowed from us, the selling stockholders or from others to settle those short sales or to close out any related open borrowings of securities, and may use securities received from us in settlement of those derivative transactions to close out any related open borrowings of securities. If the third party is or may be deemed to be an underwriter under the Securities Act, it will be identified in the applicable prospectus supplements.

Until the distribution of the securities is completed, rules of the SEC may limit the ability of any underwriters and selling group members to bid for and purchase the securities. As an exception to these rules,

Table of Contents

underwriters are permitted to engage in some transactions that stabilize the price of the securities. Such transactions consist of bids or purchases for the purpose of pegging, fixing or maintaining the price of the securities.

Underwriters may engage in overallotment. If any underwriters create a short position in the securities in an offering in which they sell more securities than are set forth on the cover page of the applicable prospectus supplement, the underwriters may reduce that short position by purchasing the securities in the open market.

The lead underwriters may also impose a penalty bid on other underwriters and selling group members participating in an offering. This means that if the lead underwriters purchase securities in the open market to reduce the underwriters short position or to stabilize the price of the securities, they may reclaim the amount of any selling concession from the underwriters and selling group members who sold those securities as part of the offering.

In general, purchases of a security for the purpose of stabilization or to reduce a short position could cause the price of the security to be higher than it might be in the absence of such purchases. The imposition of a penalty bid might also have an effect on the price of a security to the extent that it were to discourage resales of the security before the distribution is completed.

We do not make any representation or prediction as to the direction or magnitude of any effect that the transactions described above might have on the price of the securities. In addition, we do not make any representation that underwriters will engage in such transactions or that such transactions, once commenced, will not be discontinued without notice.

Under agreements into which we or the selling stockholders may enter, underwriters, dealers and agents who participate in the distribution of the securities may be entitled to indemnification by us or the selling stockholders against or contribution towards certain civil liabilities, including liabilities under the applicable securities laws.

Underwriters, dealers and agents may engage in transactions with us, perform services for us or be our tenants in the ordinary course of business.

If indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, we will authorize underwriters or other persons acting as our agents to solicit offers by particular institutions to purchase securities from us at the public offering price set forth in such prospectus supplement pursuant to delayed delivery contracts providing for payment and delivery on the date or dates stated in such prospectus supplement. Each delayed delivery contract will be for an amount no less than, and the aggregate amounts of securities sold under delayed delivery contracts shall be not less nor more than, the respective amounts stated in the applicable prospectus supplement. Institutions with which such contracts, when authorized, may be made include commercial and savings banks, insurance companies, pension funds, investment companies, educational and charitable institutions and others, but will in all cases be subject to our approval. The obligations of any purchaser under any such contract will be subject to the conditions that (a) the purchase of the securities shall not at the time of delivery be prohibited under the laws of any jurisdiction in the United States to which the purchaser is subject, and (b) if the securities are being sold to underwriters, we shall have sold to the underwriters the total amount of the securities less the amount thereof covered by the contracts. The underwriters and such other agents will not have any responsibility in respect of the validity or performance of such contracts.

To comply with applicable state securities laws, the securities offered by this prospectus will be sold, if necessary, in such jurisdictions only through registered or licensed brokers or dealers. In addition, securities may not be sold in some states unless they have been registered or qualified for sale in the applicable state or an exemption from the registration or qualification requirement is available and is complied with.

Table of Contents

Underwriters, dealers or agents that participate in the offer of securities, or their affiliates or associates, may have engaged, or engage in transactions with and perform services for us or our affiliates in the ordinary course of business for which they may have received or receive customary fees and reimbursement of expenses.

Table of Contents

EXPERTS

The financial statements and management's assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting (which is included in Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting), incorporated into this prospectus by reference to our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014, have been so incorporated in reliance on the report of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, given on the authority of said firm as experts in auditing and accounting.

LEGAL MATTERS

Certain legal matters in connection with the offering will be passed upon for us by Goodwin Procter LLP, New York, New York. The general summary of material United States federal income tax considerations contained under the heading "United States Federal Income Tax Considerations" has been passed upon for us by Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, P.C., Birmingham, Alabama.

Table of Contents

37,500,000 Shares

Common Stock

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

Joint Bookrunning Managers

Goldman, Sachs & Co.

BofA Merrill Lynch

KeyBanc Capital Markets

, 2017