

Registration No. 333-63700

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM N-2

REGISTRATION STATEMENT  
UNDER  
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

PRE-EFFECTIVE AMENDMENT NO. 3  
 POST-EFFECTIVE AMENDMENT NO.

GLADSTONE CAPITAL CORPORATION  
(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

1750 Tysons Blvd., 4th Floor  
McLean, VA 22102  
(703) 744-1165

(Address and Telephone Number, including Area Code, of Principal Executive  
Offices)

David Gladstone  
Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer  
Gladstone Capital Corporation  
1750 Tysons Blvd., 4th Floor  
McLean, VA 22102  
(703) 744-1165

(Name, Address and Telephone Number of Agent for Service)

Copies of information to:

Thomas R. Salley, Esq.	William G. Farrar, Esq.
Darren K. DeStefano, Esq.	Sullivan & Cromwell 125 Broad Street New York, NY 10004-2498 (212) 558-4000
Lisa W. Fitch, Esq. Cooley Godward LLP One Freedom Square Reston Town Center 11951 Freedom Drive Reston, VA 20190 (703) 456-8000	

Approximate Date of Proposed Public Offering: As soon as practicable after the effective date of this Registration Statement.

If any securities being registered on this form will be offered on a delayed or continuous basis in reliance on Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, other than securities offered in connection with a dividend reinvestment plan, check the following box. / /

If appropriate, check the following box:

/ / This [post-effective amendment] designates a new effective date for a previously filed [post-effective amendment][registration statement]

/ / This form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act and the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement

for the same offering is .

THE REGISTRANT HEREBY AMENDS THIS REGISTRATION STATEMENT ON SUCH DATE OR DATES AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO DELAY ITS EFFECTIVE DATE UNTIL THE REGISTRANT SHALL FILE A FURTHER AMENDMENT WHICH SPECIFICALLY STATES THAT THIS REGISTRATION STATEMENT SHALL THEREAFTER BECOME EFFECTIVE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 8(a) OF THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933, AS AMENDED, OR UNTIL THIS REGISTRATION STATEMENT SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE ON SUCH DATE AS THE COMMISSION, ACTING PURSUANT TO SECTION 8(a), MAY DETERMINE.

-----  
-----  
-----

PART C OTHER INFORMATION

ITEM 24. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS

1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The following financial statements of Gladstone Capital Corporation (the "Company" or the "Registrant") are included in this registration statement in "Part A: Information Required in a Prospectus":

	PAGE
Balance Sheet of Registrant, dated as of May 30, 2001.	F-3

2. EXHIBITS

EXHIBIT NUMBER	DESCRIPTION
a.1*	Articles of Incorporation.
a.2*	Articles of Amendment and Restatement of the Articles of Incorporation.
b*	Bylaws.
c	Not applicable.
d.1*	Form of Direct Registration Transaction Advice for the Company's common stock, par value \$0.001 per share, the rights of holders of which are defined in Exhibits a and b.
d.2+	Specimen Stock Certificate.
e*	Dividend Reinvestment Plan.
f	Not applicable.
g	Not applicable.
h+	Form of Underwriting Agreement.
i.1*	Amended and Restated 2001 Equity Incentive Plan.
i.2*	Form of Stock Option Agreement.
i.3*	First Amendment to Amended and Restated 2001 Equity Incentive Plan.
i.4+	Form of Early Exercise Stock Purchase Agreement.
j*	Form of Custody Agreement with First Union National Bank with respect to safekeeping.
k.1*	Form of Stock Transfer Agency Agreement between the Company and the Bank of New York.
k.2*	Employment Agreement dated June 25, 2001 between the Company and David Gladstone.
k.3*	Employment Agreement dated July 23, 2001 between the Company and Terry Lee Brubaker.
k.4*	Amendment to Employment Agreement dated August 8, 2001, between the Company and David Gladstone.
l+	Opinion of Cooley Godward LLP.
m	Not applicable.
n.1*	Consent of Ernst & Young LLP, independent public accountants.
n.2+	Consent of Cooley Godward LLP (included in Exhibit l).

n.3\* Consent of David A.R. Dullum to be named as director.  
n.4\* Consent of George Stelljes, III to be named as director.  
n.5\* Consent of Anthony W. Parker to be named as director.  
o Not applicable.  
p\* Subscription Agreement dated May 30, 2001.  
q Not applicable.  
r\* Code of Ethics.

\* PREVIOUSLY FILED.

+ FILED HEREWITH.

-----  
C-1

-----  
PART C OTHER INFORMATION  
-----

ITEM 25. MARKETING ARRANGEMENTS

The information contained under the heading "Underwriting" on page 51 of the prospectus is incorporated herein by reference, and any information concerning any underwriters will be contained in the accompanying prospectus supplement, if any.

ITEM 26. OTHER EXPENSES OF ISSUANCE AND DISTRIBUTION

Commission registration fee.....	\$ 53,475
NASD filing fee.....	21,890
Nasdaq National Market Listing Application Fee.....	69,375
Accounting fees and expenses*.....	90,000
Legal fees and expenses.*.....	550,000
Transfer Agency fees*.....	25,000
Printing and engraving*.....	150,000
Miscellaneous fees and expenses*.....	40,260
	-----
Total.....	\$1,000,000
	=====

\* ESTIMATED FOR FILING PURPOSES.

All of the expenses set forth above shall be borne by the Company.

ITEM 27. PERSONS CONTROLLED BY OR UNDER COMMON CONTROL

Gladstone Advisers, Inc., a Virginia corporation ("Advisers"), is the Company's only subsidiary. Gladstone Capital Corporation owns 100% of the voting securities of Advisers. Advisers is consolidated with the Company for financial reporting purposes.

ITEM 28. NUMBER OF HOLDERS OF SECURITIES

The following table sets forth the approximate number of record holders of the Company's common stock at August 22, 2001.

TITLE OF CLASS	NUMBER OF RECORD HOLDERS
-----	-----
Common stock, \$0.001 par value.....	1

ITEM 29. INDEMNIFICATION

The Annotated Code of Maryland, Corporations and Associations (the "Maryland Law"), Section 2-418 provides that a Maryland corporation may indemnify any director of the corporation and any person who, while a director of the corporation, is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, partner, trustee, employee, or agent of another foreign or domestic corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust, other enterprise or employee benefit plan, made a party to any proceeding by reason of service in that capacity unless it is established that the act or omission of the director was material to the matter giving rise to the proceeding and was committed in bad faith or was the result of active and deliberate dishonesty; or the director actually received an improper personal benefit in money, property or services; or, in the case of any criminal proceeding, the director had reasonable cause to believe that the act or omission was unlawful. Indemnification may be made against judgments, penalties, fines, settlements, and reasonable expenses actually incurred by the director in connection with the proceeding, but if the proceeding was one by or in

-----  
C-2

PART C OTHER INFORMATION  
-----

the right of the corporation, indemnification may not be made in respect of any proceeding in which the director shall have been adjudged to be liable to the corporation. Such indemnification may not be made unless authorized for a specific proceeding after a determination has been made, in the manner prescribed by the law, that indemnification is permissible in the circumstances because the director has met the applicable standard of conduct. On the other hand, the director must be indemnified for expenses if he or she has been successful in the defense of the proceeding or as otherwise ordered by a court. The law also prescribes the circumstances under which the corporation may advance expenses to, or obtain insurance or similar cover for, directors.

The law also provides for comparable indemnification for corporate officers and agents.

The Articles of Incorporation of the Company provide that its directors and officers shall, and its agents in the discretion of the board of directors may, be indemnified to the fullest extent permitted from time to time by the laws of Maryland (with such power to indemnify officers and directors limited to the scope provided for in Section 2-418 as currently in force), provided, however, that such indemnification is limited by the Investment Company Act of 1940 or by any valid rule, regulation or order of the Securities and Exchange Commission thereunder. The Company's Bylaws provide that the Company may not indemnify any director or officer against liability to the Company or its security holders to which he or she might otherwise be subject by reason of such person's willful misfeasance, bad faith, gross negligence or reckless disregard of the duties involved in the conduct of his or her office unless a determination is made by final decision of a court, by vote of a majority of a quorum of directors who are disinterested, non-party directors or by independent legal counsel that the liability for which indemnification is sought did not arise out of such disabling conduct.

Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933 may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the Company pursuant to the provisions described above, or otherwise, the Company has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the Company of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person in the successful defense of an action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by a director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the Company will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of the court of the issue.

The underwriting agreement provides for each of the parties thereto, including the Company and the underwriters, to indemnify the others, their partners, directors and officers and persons who control them against certain liabilities in connection with the offering described herein, including liabilities under the federal securities laws, the common law, or otherwise, and to contribute to

payments that a party entitled to such indemnification may be required to make in respect thereof.

The Company carries liability insurance for the benefit of its directors and officers on a claims-made basis of up to \$10,000,000, subject to a retention of up to \$200,000 for certain claims.

ITEM 30. BUSINESS AND OTHER CONNECTIONS OF INVESTMENT ADVISER

Not applicable.

-----  
C-3

PART C OTHER INFORMATION  
-----

ITEM 31. LOCATION OF ACCOUNTS AND RECORDS

The Company maintains at its principal office physical possession of each account, book or other document required to be maintained by Section 31(a) of the 1940 Act and the rules thereunder.

ITEM 32. MANAGEMENT SERVICES

Not applicable.

ITEM 33. UNDERTAKINGS

1. The Registrant undertakes to suspend the offering of shares until the prospectus is amended if, subsequent to the effective date of its registration statement, (1) the net asset value declines more than ten percent from its net asset value as of the effective date of the registration statement; or (2) the net asset value increases to an amount greater than the net proceeds as stated in the prospectus.

2. The Registrant undertakes that:

(a) For purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act, the information omitted from the form of prospectus filed as part of this registration statement in reliance upon Rule 430A and contained in a form of prospectus filed by the Registrant pursuant to Rule 424(b)(1) or (4) or 497(h) under the Securities Act shall be deemed to be part of this registration statement as of the time it was declared effective.

(b) For the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each post-effective amendment that contains a form of prospectus shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

-----  
C-4  
-----

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the Registrant has duly caused this Amendment No. 3 to the Registration Statement on Form N-2 to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of McLean, in the Commonwealth of Virginia, on the 22nd day of August, 2001.

GLADSTONE CAPITAL CORPORATION

By: /s/ DAVID GLADSTONE

-----  
David Gladstone  
Chairman of the Board and

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this Amendment No. 3 to the Registration Statement has been signed by the following persons in the capacities indicated on August 22, 2001.

SIGNATURE  
-----

TITLE  
-----

/s/ DAVID GLADSTONE

Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer  
(principal executive officer)

-----  
David Gladstone

\*

President, Chief Operating Officer and Director

-----  
Terry Lee Brubaker

\*

Chief Financial Officer (principal financial and  
accounting officer)

-----  
Harry Brill

/s/ DAVID GLADSTONE

-----  
David Gladstone  
(attorney-in-fact)

\*By:



For Value Received, \_\_\_\_\_ hereby sell, assign and transfer unto

PLEASE INSERT SOCIAL SECURITY OR OTHER  
IDENTIFYING NUMBER OF ASSIGNEE

-----  
-----

-----  
(PLEASE PRINT OR TYPEWRITE NAME AND ADDRESS, INCLUDING ZIP CODE, OF ASSIGNEE)  
-----  
-----

----- Shares  
of the capital stock represented by the within Certificate, and do hereby  
irrevocably constitute and appoint

----- Attorney  
to transfer the said stock on the books of the within named Corporation with  
full power of substitution in the premises.

Dated \_\_\_\_\_

x \_\_\_\_\_  
(owner sign here)

NOTICE: THE SIGNATURE TO THIS ASSIGNMENT MUST CORRESPOND  
WITH THE NAME AS WRITTEN UPON THE FACE OF THE  
CERTIFICATE IN EVERY PARTICULAR, WITHOUT ALTERATION  
OR ENLARGEMENT OR ANY CHANGE WHATEVER.

SIGNATURE(S) GUARANTEED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
THE SIGNATURE(S) SHOULD BE GUARANTEED BY AN ELIGIBLE GUARANTOR  
INSTITUTION (BANKS, STOCKBROKERS, SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATIONS  
AND CREDIT UNIONS WITH MEMBERSHIP IN AN APPROVED SIGNATURE  
GUARANTEE MEDALLION PROGRAM). PURSUANT TO S.E.C. RULE 17Ad-18.

Signature guaranteed by: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Firm

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
State



UNDERWRITING AGREEMENT

GLADSTONE CAPITAL CORPORATION

7,700,000 SHARES  
COMMON STOCK  
(\$0.001 PAR VALUE)

, 2001

UBS Warburg LLC  
First Union Securities, Inc.  
Robertson Stephens, Inc.  
BB&T Capital Markets/Scott & Stringfellow, Inc.  
Ferris, Baker Watts, Incorporated  
as Managing Underwriters

c/o UBS WARBURG LLC  
299 Park Avenue  
New York, New York 10171-0026

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Gladstone Capital Corporation, a Maryland corporation (the "Company"), proposes to issue and sell to the underwriters named in Schedule A annexed hereto (the Underwriters) an aggregate of 7,700,000 shares (the "Firm Shares") of Common Stock, \$0.001 par value (the "Common Stock"), of the Company. In addition, solely for the purpose of covering over-allotments, the Company proposes to grant to the Underwriters the option to purchase from the Company up to an additional 1,155,000 shares of Common Stock (the "Additional Shares"). The Firm Shares and the Additional Shares are hereinafter collectively sometimes referred to as the "Shares." The Shares are described in the Prospectus which is referred to below.

The Company has filed, in accordance with the provisions of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and the rules and regulations thereunder (collectively called the "Securities Act"), and the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, and the rules and regulations thereunder (collectively called the "Investment Company Act"), with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") a registration statement on Form N-2, (File No. 333-63700 ) including a prospectus, relating to the Shares. The Company has furnished to you, for use by the Underwriters and by dealers, copies of one or more preliminary prospectuses (each of these being herein called a "Preliminary Prospectus") relating to the Shares. Except

where the context otherwise requires, the registration statement, as amended when it becomes effective, including all documents filed as a part thereof, and including any information contained in a prospectus subsequently filed with the Commission pursuant to Rule 497(h) under the Securities Act and deemed to be part of the registration statement at the time of effectiveness pursuant to Rule 430(A) under the Securities Act and also including any registration statement filed pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, is herein called the Registration Statement, and the prospectus, in the form filed by the Company with the Commission pursuant to Rule 497(h) under the Securities Act on or before the second business day after the date hereof (or such earlier time as may be required under the Securities Act) or, if no such filing is required, the form of final prospectus included in the Registration Statement at the time it became effective, is herein called the Prospectus.

The Company and the Underwriters agree as follows:

1. SALE AND PURCHASE. Upon the basis of the warranties and

representations and subject to the terms and conditions herein set forth, the Company agrees to sell to the respective Underwriters and each of the Underwriters, severally and not jointly, agrees to purchase from the Company the respective number of Firm Shares (subject to such adjustment as you may determine to avoid fractional shares) which bears the same proportion to the number of Firm Shares to be sold by the Company, as the number of Firm Shares set forth opposite the name of such Underwriter in Schedule A annexed hereto bears to the total number of Firm Shares to be sold by the Company, in each case at a purchase price of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per Share. The Company is advised by you that the Underwriters intend (i) to make a public offering of their respective portions of the Firm Shares as soon after the effective date of the Registration Statement as in your judgment is advisable and (ii) initially to offer the Firm Shares upon the terms set forth in the Prospectus.

It is understood that up to 200,000 Firm Shares will initially be reserved by the several Underwriters for offer and sale upon the terms and conditions set forth in the Prospectus under the caption "Underwriting" to directors, officers and employees of the Company and certain associated persons and entities at a price equal to \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per share less the sales load payable with respect to the shares offered to the public; provided that under no circumstances will any Underwriter be liable to the Company for any action taken or omitted in good faith in connection with such offering to such persons. It is further understood that any of such Firm Shares which are not purchased by such persons will be offered by the Underwriters to the public upon the terms and conditions set forth in the Prospectus at the public offering price.

In addition, the Company hereby grants to the several Underwriters the option to purchase, and upon the basis of the warranties and representations and subject to the terms and conditions herein set forth, the Underwriters shall have the right to purchase, severally and not jointly, from the Company ratably in accordance with the number of Firm Shares to be purchased by each of them (subject to such adjustment as you shall determine to avoid fractional shares), all or a portion of the Additional Shares as may be necessary to cover over-allotments made in connection with the offering of the Firm Shares, at the same purchase price per share to be paid by the Underwriters to the Company for the Firm Shares. This option may be exercised by you

2

on behalf of the several Underwriters at any time (but not more than once) on or before the thirtieth day following the date hereof, by written notice to the Company. Such notice shall set forth the aggregate number of Additional Shares as to which the option is being exercised, and the date and time when the Additional Shares are to be delivered (such date and time being herein referred to as the additional time of purchase); PROVIDED, HOWEVER, that the additional time of purchase shall not be earlier than the time of purchase (as defined below) nor earlier than the second business day after the date on which the option shall have been exercised nor later than the tenth business day after the date on which the option shall have been exercised. The number of Additional Shares to be sold to each Underwriter shall be the number which bears the same proportion to the aggregate number of Additional Shares being purchased as the number of Firm Shares set forth opposite the name of such Underwriter on Schedule A hereto bears to the total number of Firm Shares (subject, in each case, to such adjustment as you may determine to eliminate fractional shares). No Additional Shares shall be sold or delivered unless the Firm Shares previously have been, or simultaneously are, sold and delivered. As used herein "business day" shall mean a day on which the New York Stock Exchange is open for trading.

2. PAYMENT AND DELIVERY. Payment of the purchase price for the Firm Shares shall be made to the Company by Federal Funds wire transfer, against delivery of the certificates for the Firm Shares to you through the facilities of the Depository Trust Company (DTC) for the respective accounts of the Underwriters. Such payment and delivery shall be made at 10:00 A.M., New York City time, on \_\_\_\_\_, 2001 (unless another time shall be agreed to by you and the Company or unless postponed in accordance with the provisions of Section 8 hereof). The time at which such payment and delivery are actually made is hereinafter sometimes called the time of purchase. Certificates for the Firm Shares shall be delivered to you in definitive form in such names and in such denominations as you shall specify no later than the second business day preceding the time of purchase. For the purpose of expediting the checking of the certificates for the Firm Shares by you, the

Company agrees to make such certificates available to you for such purpose at least one full business day preceding the time of purchase.

Payment of the purchase price for the Additional Shares shall be made at the additional time of purchase in the same manner and at the same office as the payment for the Firm Shares. Certificates for the Additional Shares shall be delivered to you in definitive form in such names and in such denominations as you shall specify no later than the second business day preceding the additional time of purchase. For the purpose of expediting the checking of the certificates for the Additional Shares by you, the Company agrees to make such certificates available to you at the office of DTC or its designated custodian for such purpose at least one full business day preceding the additional time of purchase.

The documents to be delivered at the time of purchase and any additional time of purchase by or on behalf of the parties hereto pursuant to Section 6 hereof, including the cross receipt for the shares and any additional documents requested by the Underwriters pursuant to Section 6(j) hereof, will be delivered at the offices of Cooley Godward LLP, One Freedom Square, Reston Town Center, 11951 Freedom Drive, Reston, VA 20190 and the Shares will be delivered at the office of DTC or its designated custodian.

3

3. REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES OF THE COMPANY. The Company represents and warrants to each of the Underwriters that:

(a) the Company has not received, and has no notice of, any order of the Commission preventing or suspending the use of any Preliminary Prospectus, or instituting proceedings for that purpose, and when the Registration Statement becomes effective, the Registration Statement and the Prospectus will fully comply in all material respects with the provisions of the Securities Act, and the Registration Statement will not contain an untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading, and the Prospectus will not contain an untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading; any statutes, regulations, contracts or other documents that are required to be described in the Registration Statement or the Prospectus or to be filed as exhibits to the Registration Statement have been so described or filed; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, that the Company makes no warranty or representation with respect to any statement contained in the Registration Statement or the Prospectus in reliance upon and in conformity with information concerning the Underwriters and furnished in writing by or on behalf of any Underwriter through you to the Company expressly for use in the Registration Statement or the Prospectus; and the Company has not distributed any offering material in connection with the offering or sale of the Shares other than the Registration Statement, the Preliminary Prospectus, the Prospectus or any other materials, if any, permitted by the Securities Act;

(b) as of the date of this Agreement, the Company's capitalization conforms to the description thereof in the Prospectus and has been duly authorized and all of the issued and outstanding shares of capital stock including Common Stock of the Company have been duly and validly authorized and issued and are fully paid and non-assessable, have been issued in compliance with all federal and state securities laws and were not issued in violation of any preemptive right, resale right, right of first refusal or similar right;

Except as disclosed in the Prospectus and the financial statements of the Company and related notes thereto included in the Prospectus, neither the Company nor the Subsidiaries (as hereinafter defined) has outstanding any options or warrants to purchase, or any preemptive rights or other rights to subscribe for or to purchase any securities or obligations convertible into, or any contracts or commitments to issue or sell, shares of their respective capital stock or any such options, rights, convertible securities or obligations. The description of the Company's stock option and other stock plans or arrangements, and the options or other rights granted thereunder, as set forth in the Prospectus, accurately and fairly presents in all material respects the information required to be shown with respect to such

plans, arrangements, options and rights;

(c) the Company has been duly incorporated and is validly existing as a corporation in good standing under the laws of the State of Maryland, with full power and

4

authority to own, lease and operate its properties and conduct its business as described in the Registration Statement;

(d) the Company is duly qualified to do business as a foreign corporation in good standing in each jurisdiction where the ownership or leasing of its properties or the conduct of its business requires such qualification, except where the failure to so qualify would not have a material adverse effect on the business, properties, financial condition or results of operation of the Company and its Subsidiaries (as hereinafter defined) taken as a whole (a "Material Adverse Effect"). The Company has no subsidiaries (as defined in the Rules and Regulations) other than Gladstone Advisers, Inc., a Virginia corporation (the "Subsidiary"); other than the Subsidiary, the Company does not own, directly or indirectly, any shares of stock or any other equity or long-term debt securities of any corporation or have any equity interest in any firm, partnership, joint venture, association or other entity; complete and correct copies of the certificates of incorporation and of the by-laws of the Company and the Subsidiary and all amendments thereto have been delivered to you, and except as set forth in the exhibits to the Registration Statement no changes therein will be made subsequent to the date hereof and prior to the time of closing or, if later, the additional time of purchase; the Subsidiary has been duly incorporated and is validly existing as a corporation in good standing under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia, with full power and authority to own, lease and operate its properties and to conduct its business as described in the Registration Statement; the Subsidiary is duly qualified to do business as a foreign corporation, partnership, or limited liability company, as the case may be, in good standing in each jurisdiction where the ownership or leasing of the properties or the conduct of its business requires such qualification, except where the failure to so qualify would not have a Material Adverse Effect; all of the outstanding shares of capital stock of the Subsidiary have been duly authorized and validly issued, are fully paid and non-assessable and (except as otherwise described in this Section 3(d)) are owned by the Company subject to no security interest, other encumbrance or adverse claims; no other equity interests, options, warrants or other rights to purchase, agreements or other obligations to issue or other rights to convert any obligation into shares of capital stock or equity interests in the Subsidiary are outstanding.

(e) the Company and the Subsidiary are in compliance in all material respects with the laws, orders, rules, regulations and directives issued or administered by such jurisdictions;

(f) neither the Company nor the Subsidiary is in breach of, or in default under (nor has any event occurred which with notice, lapse of time, or both would result in any breach of, or constitute a default under), its respective charter or bylaws or in the performance or observance of any obligation, agreement, covenant or condition contained in any indenture, mortgage, deed of trust, bank loan or credit agreement or other evidence of indebtedness, or any lease, contract or other agreement or instrument to which the Company or the Subsidiary is a party or by which either of them or any of their properties is bound, and the execution, delivery and performance of this Agreement, the issuance and sale of the Shares and the consummation of the transactions contemplated hereby will not conflict with,

5

or result in any breach of or constitute a default under (nor constitute any event which with notice, lapse of time, or both would result in any breach of, or constitute a default under), any provisions of the charter or bylaws, of the Company or the Subsidiary or under any provision of any license, indenture, mortgage, deed of trust, bank loan or credit agreement or other evidence of indebtedness, or any lease, contract or other agreement or instrument to which the Company or the Subsidiary is a party or by which either of them or their

respective properties may be bound or affected, or under any federal, state, local or foreign law, regulation or rule or any decree, judgment or order applicable to the Company or the Subsidiary;

(g) this Agreement has been duly authorized, executed and delivered by the Company and is a legal, valid and binding agreement of the Company enforceable in accordance with its terms;

(h) the capital stock of the Company, including the Shares, conforms in all material respects to the description thereof contained in the Registration Statement and Prospectus and the certificates for the Shares are in due and proper form and the holders of the Shares will not be subject to personal liability by reason of being such holders;

(i) the Shares have been duly and validly authorized and, when issued and delivered against payment therefor as provided herein, will be duly and validly issued and fully paid and non-assessable;

(j) no approval, authorization, consent or order of or filing with any national, state or local governmental or regulatory commission, board, body, authority or agency is required in connection with the issuance and sale of the Shares or the consummation by the Company of the transaction as contemplated hereby other than registration of the Shares under the Securities Act and any necessary qualification under the securities or blue sky laws of the various jurisdictions in which the Shares are being offered by the Underwriters or under the rules and regulations of the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. (NASD);

(k) no person has the right, contractual or otherwise, to cause the Company to register pursuant to the Securities Act or the Investment Company Act any shares of capital stock of the Company upon the issue and sale of the Shares to the Underwriters hereunder or otherwise;

(l) Ernst and Young LLP, whose report on the consolidated financial statements of the Company and the Subsidiary is filed with the Commission as part of the Registration Statement and Prospectus, are independent public accountants as required by the Securities Act;

(m) neither the Company nor the Subsidiary has any debt outstanding;

(n) each of the Company and the Subsidiary has all necessary licenses, authorizations, consents, orders and approvals and has made all necessary filings required

6

under any federal, state, local or foreign law, regulation or rule, and has obtained all necessary authorizations, consents, orders and approvals from other persons, in order to conduct its respective business; neither the Company nor the Subsidiary is in violation of, or in default under, any such license, authorization, consent, order or approval or any federal, state, local or foreign law, regulation or rule or any decree, order or judgment applicable to the Company or the Subsidiary the effect of which could have a Material Adverse Effect;

(o) all legal or governmental proceedings, contracts, leases or documents of a character required to be described in the Registration Statement or the Prospectus or to be filed as an exhibit to the Registration Statement have been so described or filed as required;

(p) there are no actions, suits, claims, investigations or proceedings pending or threatened to which the Company or the Subsidiary or any of their respective officers is a party or of which any of their respective properties is subject at law or in equity, or before or by any federal, state, local or foreign governmental or regulatory commission, board, body, authority or agency which could result in a judgment, decree or order having a Material Adverse Effect or which could adversely affect the consummation of the transaction contemplated hereby;

(q) the audited financial statements included in the Registration Statement and the Prospectus present fairly the consolidated

financial position of the Company and the Subsidiary as of the date indicated; such financial statements have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles applied on a consistent basis during the periods involved;

(r) except as set forth in and contemplated by the Registration Statement and Prospectus, subsequent to the respective dates as of which information is given in the Registration Statement and the Prospectus, there has not been (i) any material adverse change, or any development which, in the Company's reasonable judgment, is likely to cause a material adverse change, in the business, properties or assets described or referred to in the Registration Statement, or the results of operations, condition (financial or otherwise), business or operations of the Company and the Subsidiary taken as a whole, (ii) any transaction which is material to the Company or the Subsidiary, except transactions in the ordinary course of business, (iii) any obligation, direct or contingent, which is material to the Company and the Subsidiary taken as a whole, incurred by the Company or the Subsidiary, except obligations incurred in the ordinary course of business, (iv) any change in the capital stock or outstanding indebtedness of the Company or the Subsidiary or (v) any dividend or distribution of any kind declared, paid or made on the capital stock of the Company. Neither the Company nor the Subsidiary has any material contingent obligation which is not disclosed in the Registration Statement;

(s) the Company has obtained the agreement of each of its directors and officers not to sell, offer to sell, contract to sell, hypothecate grant any option to sell or otherwise dispose of, directly or indirectly, any shares of Common Stock or securities

7

convertible into or exchangeable for Common Stock or warrants or other rights to purchase Common Stock for a period of 180 days after the date of the Prospectus;

(t) the Company has duly elected to be treated by the Commission under the Investment Company Act as a business development company, such election is effective and all required action has been taken by the Company under the Securities Act and the Investment Company Act to make the public offering and consummate the sale of the Shares as provided in this Agreement; the provisions of the corporate charter and bylaws of the Company and the Subsidiary and the investment objectives, policies and restrictions described in the Prospectus comply with the requirements of the Investment Company Act;

(u) the operations of the Company and the Subsidiary are in compliance in all material respects with the provisions of the Investment Company Act applicable to business development companies and the rules and regulations of the Commission thereunder;

(v) the Company intends to direct the investment of the proceeds of the Offering (as defined in the Prospectus) in such a manner as to comply with the requirements of Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code") so as to retain its status as a "regulated investment company" ("RIC") under the Code;

(w) the Company has duly authorized, executed and delivered the non-binding commitments relating to the loans as described in the Prospectus under the caption "Prospective Portfolio Companies";

(x) the Company is eligible to use Form N-2 for registration of the Shares;

(y) neither the Company nor the Subsidiary nor any of their respective officers, directors or any of their affiliated persons has taken or will take, directly or indirectly, any action designed or intended to stabilize or manipulate the price of any security of the Company, or which caused or resulted in, or which might in the future reasonably be expected to cause or result in, stabilization or manipulation of the price of any security of the Company;

(z) the Company and the Subsidiary have filed all Federal, State, local and foreign tax returns which have been required to be filed by any of them to the extent that such tax returns have become due, except where the failure to file such tax returns could not be reasonably expected to have,

individually or in the aggregate, a Material Adverse Effect. All tax liabilities, if any, of the Company and the Subsidiary have been adequately provided for in the financial statements of the Company, and the Company does not know of any actual or proposed additional material tax assessments;

(aa) neither the Company nor the Subsidiary is aware that (i) any executive, key employee or significant group of employees of the Company or any of the Subsidiary plans to terminate employment with the Company or the Subsidiary or (ii) any

8

such executive or key employee is subject to any noncompete, nondisclosure, confidentiality, employment, consulting or similar agreement that would be violated by the present or proposed business activities of the Company or the Subsidiary. Neither the Company nor the Subsidiary has or expects to have any liability for any prohibited transaction or funding deficiency or any complete or partial withdrawal liability with respect to any pension, profit sharing or other plan which is subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended ("ERISA"), to which the Company or the Subsidiary makes or ever has made a contribution and in which any employee of the Company or the Subsidiary is or has ever been a participant. With respect to plans, the Company and the Subsidiary are in compliance in all material respects with all applicable provisions of ERISA;

(bb) the Company and the Subsidiary are insured by insurers of recognized financial responsibility against such losses and risks and in such amount as are customary in the businesses in which they are engaged or propose to engage after giving effect to the transactions described in the Prospectus; and neither the Company nor the Subsidiary has any reason to believe that it will not be able to renew such insurance coverage as and when such coverage expires or to obtain similar coverage from similar insurers as may be necessary to continue their business at a cost that would not have a Material Adverse Effect;

(cc) to the Company's knowledge, neither the Company, the Subsidiary, nor any director, officer, agent or employee acting on behalf of the Company or the Subsidiary has (i) used any corporate funds for any unlawful contribution, gift, entertainment or other unlawful expense relating to political activity, (ii) made any direct or indirect unlawful payment to any foreign or domestic government official or employee from corporate funds, (iii) violated or is in violation of any provision of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act of 1977 or (iv) made any bribe, rebate, payoff, influence payment, kickback or other unlawful payment;

(dd) the Company maintains a system of internal accounting controls sufficient to provide reasonable assurances that (i) transactions are executed in accordance with management's general or specific authorization, (ii) transactions are recorded as necessary to permit the preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles and to maintain accountability for assets, (iii) access to assets is permitted only in accordance with management's general or specific authorization and (iv) the recorded accountability for assets is compared with existing assets at reasonable intervals and appropriate action is taken with respect to any differences;

(ee) to the Company's knowledge, neither the Company, the Subsidiary nor any employee or agent of the Company or the Subsidiary has made any payment of funds of the Company or the Subsidiary or received or retained any funds in violation of any law, rule or regulation, which payment, receipt or retention of funds is of a character required to be disclosed in the Prospectus;

9

(ff) each certificate signed by any officer of the Company and delivered to the Underwriters or counsel for the Underwriters in connection with this Agreement or the transactions contemplated hereby shall be deemed to be a representation and warranty by the Company as to the matters covered thereby;

(gg) by virtue of its election as a "business development company" the Company is not, and upon the sale of the Shares as herein contemplated will not be an investment company which is required to register as such under the Investment Company Act; and

(hh) to the Company's knowledge, there are no affiliations or associations between any member of the NASD and any of the Company's officers, directors or 5% or greater securityholders, except as set forth in the Registration Statement.

4. CERTAIN COVENANTS OF THE COMPANY. The Company hereby agrees:

(a) to furnish such information as may be required and otherwise to cooperate in qualifying the Shares for offering and sale under the securities or blue sky laws of such states as you may designate and to maintain such qualifications in effect so long as required for the distribution of the Shares; PROVIDED that the Company shall not be required to qualify as a foreign corporation or to consent to the service of process under the laws of any such state (except service of process with respect to the offering and sale of the Shares); and to promptly advise you of the receipt by the Company of any notification with respect to the suspension of the qualification of the Shares for sale in any jurisdiction or the initiation or threatening of any proceeding for such purpose;

(b) to make available to the Underwriters in New York City, as soon as practicable after the Registration Statement becomes effective, and thereafter from time to time to furnish to the Underwriters, as many copies of the Prospectus (or of the Prospectus as amended or supplemented if the Company shall have made any amendments or supplements thereto after the effective date of the Registration Statement) as the Underwriters may reasonably request for the purposes contemplated by the Securities Act; in case any Underwriter is required to deliver a prospectus within the nine-month period referred to in Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act in connection with the sale of the Shares, the Company will prepare promptly upon request, but at the expense of such Underwriter, such amendment or amendments to the Registration Statement and such prospectuses as may be necessary to permit compliance with the requirements of Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act;

(c) to advise you promptly (i) when the Registration Statement has become effective and when any post-effective amendment thereto becomes effective and (ii) if Rule 430A under the Securities Act is used, when the Prospectus is filed with the Commission pursuant to Rule 497(h) under the Securities Act (which the Company agrees to file in a timely manner under such Rules);

10

(d) to advise you promptly of any request by the Commission for amendments or supplements to the Registration Statement or Prospectus or for additional information with respect thereto, or of notice of the institution of proceedings with respect thereto, or the entry of a stop order suspending the effectiveness of the Registration Statement and, if the Commission should enter a stop order suspending the effectiveness of the Registration Statement, to make reasonable efforts to obtain the lifting or removal of such order as soon as reasonably possible; to advise you promptly of any proposal to amend or supplement the Registration Statement or Prospectus and to file no such amendment or supplement to which you shall reasonably object in writing;

(e) to file promptly all reports and any definitive proxy or information statement required to be filed by the Company with the Commission in order to comply with the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and the rules and regulations thereunder (collectively, the "Exchange Act") subsequent to the date of the Prospectus and for so long as the delivery of a prospectus is required in connection with the offering or sale of the shares, and to promptly notify you of such filing;

(f) if necessary or appropriate, to file a registration statement pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act;

(g) to furnish to you and, upon request, to each of the other



Underwriters for a period of three years from the date of this Agreement (i) copies of any reports or other communications which the Company shall send to its stockholders or shall from time to time publish or publicly disseminate, (ii) copies of all annual, quarterly and current reports filed with the Commission on Forms 10-K, 10-Q and 8-K, or such other similar form as may be designated by the Commission, (iii) copies of documents or reports filed with any national securities exchange on which any class of securities of the Company is listed, and (iv) such other information as you may reasonably request regarding the Company or the Subsidiary;

(h) to advise the Underwriters promptly of the happening of any event known to the Company within the time during which a Prospectus relating to the Shares is required to be delivered under the Securities Act which, in the judgment of the Company, would require the making of any change in the Prospectus then being used, or in the information incorporated therein by reference, so that the Prospectus would not include an untrue statement of material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements therein, in the light of the circumstances under which they are made, not misleading, and, during such time, to prepare and furnish, at the Company's expense, to the Underwriters promptly such amendments or supplements to such Prospectus as may be necessary to reflect any such change and to furnish you a copy of such proposed amendment or supplement before filing any such amendment or supplement with the Commission;

(i) to make generally available to its security holders, and to deliver to you, an earnings statement of the Company (which will satisfy the provisions of Section 11(a) of the Securities Act) covering a period of twelve months beginning after the effective date of the Registration Statement (as defined in Rule 158(c) of the Securities Act) as soon

11

as is reasonably practicable after the termination of such twelve-month period but not later than eighteen months after the effective date of the Registration Statement;

(j) to furnish to its shareholders as soon as practicable after the end of each fiscal year an annual report (including a balance sheet and statements of income, stockholders' equity and of cash flow of the Company for such fiscal year, accompanied by a copy of the certificate or report thereon of nationally recognized independent certified public accountants;

(k) to furnish to you four signed copies of the Registration Statement, as initially filed with the Commission, and of all amendments thereto (including all exhibits thereto) and sufficient conformed copies of the foregoing (other than exhibits) for distribution of a copy to each of the other Underwriters;

(l) to furnish to you as early as practicable prior to the time of purchase and the additional time of purchase, as the case may be, but not later than two business days prior thereto, a copy of the latest available unaudited interim consolidated financial statements, if any, of the Company and the Subsidiary which have been read by the Company's independent certified public accountants, as stated in their letter to be furnished pursuant to Section 6(c) hereof;

(m) to apply the net proceeds from the sale of the Shares in the manner set forth under the caption "Use of Proceeds" in the Prospectus;

(n) to furnish to you, before filing with the Commission subsequent to the effective date of the Registration Statement and during the period referred to in paragraph (f) above, a copy of any document proposed to be filed pursuant to Section 13, 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act;

(o) not to sell, offer or agree to sell, contract to sell, grant any option to sell or otherwise dispose of, directly or indirectly, any shares of Common Stock or securities convertible into or exchangeable or exercisable for Common Stock or warrants or other rights to purchase Common Stock or any other Securities of the Company that are substantially similar to Common Stock or permit the registration under the Securities Act of any shares of Common Stock, except for the registration of the Shares and the sales to the Underwriters pursuant to this Agreement and except for issuances of Common Stock

upon the exercise of outstanding options, warrants and debentures, for a period of 180 days after the date hereof, without the prior written consent of the UBS Warburg;

(p) to use its best efforts to cause the Common Stock to be listed for quotation on the Nasdaq National Market ("NASDAQ");

(q) during a period of five years from the effective date of the Registration Statement, to use its best efforts to maintain its status as a "business development company"; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, the Company may change the nature of its business so as to cease to be, or to withdraw its election as, a business development

12

company with the approval of the board of directors and a vote of stockholders as required by Section 58 of the Investment Company Act or any successor provision;

(r) to use its best efforts to qualify for and elect, effective at or about the time of the completion of this offering, to be treated as a regulated investment company under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code and to maintain such qualification and election in effect for each fiscal year or part thereof during which it is a business development company under the Investment Company Act; and

(s) to pay all expenses, fees and taxes (other than any transfer taxes and fees and disbursements of counsel for the Underwriters except as set forth under Section 5 hereof or (iii), (iv) and (v) below) in connection with (i) the preparation and filing of the Registration Statement, each Preliminary Prospectus, the Prospectus, and any amendments or supplements thereto, and the printing and furnishing of copies of each thereof to the Underwriters and to dealers (including costs of mailing and shipment), (ii) the issuance, sale and delivery of the Shares by the Company, (iii) the word processing and/or printing of this Agreement, any Agreement Among Underwriters, any dealer agreements, any Statements of Information, the Custody Agreement and the Powers of Attorney and the reproduction and/or printing and furnishing of copies of each thereof to the Underwriters and to dealers (including costs of mailing and shipment), (iv) the qualification of the Shares for offering and sale under state laws and the determination of their eligibility for investment under state law as aforesaid (including the legal fees not to exceed \$35,000 and filing fees and other disbursements of counsel to the Underwriters) and the printing and furnishing of copies of any blue sky surveys or legal investment surveys to the Underwriters and to dealers, (v) any listing of the Shares on any securities exchange or qualification of the Shares for quotation on NASDAQ and any registration thereof under the Exchange Act, (vi) the filing for review of, and the fees and disbursements of counsel for the Underwriters in connection with, the public offering of the Shares by the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. (the NASD), and (vii) the performance of the Company's other obligations hereunder.

5. REIMBURSEMENT OF UNDERWRITERS' EXPENSES. If the Shares are not delivered for any reason other than the termination of this Agreement pursuant to the first two paragraphs of Section 8 hereof or the default by one or more of the Underwriters in its or their respective obligations hereunder, the Company shall, in addition to paying the amounts described in Section 4(s) hereof, reimburse the Underwriters for all of their out-of-pocket expenses, including the fees and disbursements of their counsel.

6. CONDITIONS OF UNDERWRITERS' OBLIGATIONS. The several obligations of the Underwriters hereunder are subject to the accuracy of the representations and warranties on the part of the Company on the date hereof and at time of purchase (and the several obligations of the Underwriters at the additional time of purchase are subject to the accuracy of the representations and warranties on the part of the Company on the date hereof and at the time of purchase (unless previously waived) and at the additional time of purchase, as the case may be), the performance by the Company of its obligations hereunder and to the following additional conditions precedent:

13

(a) The Company shall furnish to you at the time of purchase and at the additional time of purchase, as the case may be, an opinion of (i) Cooley Godward LLP, counsel for the Company, addressed to the Underwriters, and dated the time of purchase or the additional time of purchase, as the case may be, with reproduced copies for each of the other Underwriters and in form satisfactory to Sullivan & Cromwell, counsel for the Underwriters, in substantially the form attached hereto as Exhibit 1 and (ii) Stephanie Djinis, Esq., special counsel for the Company, addressed to Cooley Godward LLP, and dated the time of purchase or the additional time of purchase, as the case may be, with reproduced copies for each of the other Underwriters and in form satisfactory to Sullivan & Cromwell, in substantially the form attached hereto as Exhibit 2, which opinion may be relied upon by the Underwriters with respect to matters relating to the Investment Company Act of 1940.

(b) You shall have received from Ernst and Young LLP, letters dated, respectively, the date of this Agreement and the time of purchase and additional time of purchase, as the case may be, and addressed to the Underwriters (with reproduced copies for each of the Underwriters) in the forms heretofore approved by the UBS Warburg.

(c) You shall have received at the time of purchase and at the additional time of purchase, as the case may be, the favorable opinion of Sullivan & Cromwell, counsel for the Underwriters, dated the time of purchase or the additional time of purchase, as the case may be, and in form reasonably satisfactory to the Underwriters. In rendering such opinion, such counsel may state that they express no opinion as to the laws of any jurisdiction other than the Federal laws of the United States, the laws of the State of New York and the General Corporation Law of the State of Maryland. With respect to all matters of the law of the State of Maryland, such counsel shall be entitled to rely on the opinion of local counsel and may state that their opinion is subject to the same assumptions, qualifications and limitations with respect to such matters as are contained in such opinion, provided their opinion states that both you and they are justified in relying on such opinion for such matters. Such counsel may also state that, insofar as such opinion involves factual matters, they have relied upon certificates of officers of the Company and the Subsidiary, certificates of public officials and other sources believed by such counsel to be responsible.

Such counsel shall also furnish you with a letter to the effect that, in accordance with their understanding with you as to the scope of their services, they reviewed the Registration Statement and the Prospectus, participated in discussions with your representatives and those of the Company, its counsel and its accountants, and advised you as to the requirements of the Securities Act and the applicable rules and regulations thereunder; between the date of the Prospectus and the time of delivery of the Shares, such counsel participated in further discussions with your representatives and those of the Company, its counsel and its accountants in which the contents of certain portions of the Prospectus and related matters were discussed and reviewed certain certificates of certain officers of the Company, an opinion addressed to you from the Company's counsel and letters addressed to you from the Company's

independent accountants; on the basis of the information that such counsel gained in the course of the performance of the services referred to above, considered in the light of such counsel's understanding of the applicable law and the experience such counsel have gained through their practice under the Securities Act, they will confirm to you that, in such counsel's opinion, the Registration Statement, and the Prospectus, as of the effective date of the Registration Statement, appeared on their face to be appropriately responsive in all material respects to the requirements of the Securities Act and the applicable rules and regulations of the Commission thereunder; nothing that came to such counsel's attention in the course of such review has caused such counsel to believe that the Registration Statement, as of its effective date, contained any untrue statement of a material fact or omitted to state any material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading; nothing that came to the attention of such counsel in the course of the procedures described in the second clause of this paragraph has caused such counsel to believe that the Prospectus, as of its date or as of such time of delivery, contained or contains any untrue statement of a material fact or omitted or omits to state any material fact necessary in order to make the

statements therein, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading; such counsel may state that the limitations inherent in the independent verification of factual matters and the character of determinations involved in the registration process are such that such counsel does not assume any responsibility for the accuracy, completeness or fairness of the statements contained in the Registration Statement or the Prospectus except for those made under the captions "Description of our capital stock" and "Underwriting" in the Prospectus insofar as they relate to provisions of documents therein described; also, such counsel need express no opinion or belief as to the financial statements or other financial data derived from accounting records contained in the Registration Statement or the Prospectus; finally, such counsel may assume that any Rule 462(b) Registration Statement was filed with the Commission prior to the time that any confirmations of the sale of any of the Shares were sent or given to investors.

(d) No amendment or supplement to the Registration Statement or Prospectus shall be filed prior to the time the Registration Statement becomes effective to which you reasonably object in writing.

(e) The Registration Statement shall become effective, or if Rule 430A under the Securities Act is used, the Prospectus shall have been filed with the Commission pursuant to Rule 497(h) under the Securities Act, at or before 5:00 P.M., New York City time, on the date of this Agreement, unless a later time (but not later than 5:00 P.M., New York City time, on the second full business day after the date of this Agreement) shall be agreed to by the Company and you in writing or by telephone, confirmed in writing; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, that the Company and you and any group of Underwriters, including you, who have agreed hereunder to purchase in the aggregate at least 50% of the Firm Shares may from time to time agree on a later date.

(f) Prior to the time of purchase or the additional time of purchase, as the case may be, (i) no stop order with respect to the effectiveness of the Registration Statement shall have been issued under the Securities Act or proceedings initiated under Section 8(d) or 8(e) of the Securities Act; (ii) the Registration Statement and all amendments thereto, or

15

modifications thereof, if any, shall not contain an untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading; and (iii) the Prospectus and all amendments or supplements thereto, or modifications thereof, if any, shall not contain an untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein, in the light of the circumstances under which they are made, not misleading.

(g) Between the time of execution of this Agreement and the time of purchase or the additional time of purchase, as the case may be, (i) no material and unfavorable change, financial or otherwise (other than as referred to in the Registration Statement and Prospectus), in the business, condition or prospects of the Company and the Subsidiary taken as a whole shall occur or become known and (ii) no transaction which is material and unfavorable to the Company shall have been entered into by the Company or the Subsidiary.

(h) The Company will, at the time of purchase or additional time of purchase, as the case may be, deliver to you a certificate of two of its executive officers to the effect that the representations and warranties of the Company as set forth in this Agreement are true and correct as of each such date, that the Company shall perform such of its obligations under this Agreement as are to be performed at or before the time of purchase and at or before the additional time of purchase, as the case may be and the conditions set forth in paragraphs (f) and (g) of this Section 6 have been met.

(i) You shall have received signed letters, dated the date of this Agreement, from each of the directors and officers of the Company to the effect that such persons shall not sell, offer or agree to sell, contract to sell, grant any option to sell or otherwise dispose of, directly or indirectly, any shares of Common Stock of the Company or securities convertible into or exchangeable or exercisable for Common Stock or warrants or other rights to purchase Common Stock or any other securities of the Company that are substantially similar to the Common Stock for a period of 180 days after the

date of the Prospectus without UBS Warburg's prior written consent.

(j) The Company shall have furnished to you and your counsel such other documents and certificates as to the accuracy and completeness of any statement in the Registration Statement and the Prospectus as of the time of purchase and the additional time of purchase, as the case may be, as you may reasonably request.

(k) The Shares shall have been approved for listing for quotation on NASDAQ, subject only to notice of issuance at or prior to the time of purchase or the additional time of purchase, as the case may be.

7. EFFECTIVE DATE OF AGREEMENT; TERMINATION. This Agreement shall become effective (i) if Rule 430A under the Securities Act is not used, when you shall have received notification of the effectiveness of the Registration Statement, or (ii) if Rule 430A under the Securities Act is used, when the parties hereto have executed and delivered this Agreement.

16

The obligations of the several Underwriters hereunder shall be subject to termination in the absolute discretion of you or any group of Underwriters (which may include you) which has agreed to purchase in the aggregate at least 50% of the Firm Shares, if, since the time of execution of this Agreement or the respective dates as of which information is given in the Registration Statement and Prospectus, there has been any material adverse and unfavorable change, financial or otherwise (other than as referred to in the Registration Statement and Prospectus), in the operations, business, condition or prospects of the Company and the Subsidiary taken as a whole, which would, in your judgment or in the judgment of such group of Underwriters, make it impracticable to market the Shares, or, if, at any time prior to the time of purchase or, with respect to the purchase of any Additional Shares, the additional time of purchase, as the case may be, trading in securities on the New York Stock Exchange, the American Stock Exchange or the NASDAQ National Market shall have been suspended or limitations or minimum prices shall have been established on the New York Stock Exchange, the American Stock Exchange or the NASDAQ National Market or if a banking moratorium shall have been declared either by the United States or New York State authorities, or if the United States shall have declared war in accordance with its constitutional processes or there shall have occurred any material outbreak or escalation of hostilities or other national or international calamity or crisis of such magnitude in its effect on the financial markets of the United States as, in your judgment or in the judgment of such group of Underwriters, to make it impracticable to market the Shares.

If you or any group of Underwriters elects to terminate this Agreement as provided in this Section 7 the Company and each other Underwriter shall be notified promptly by letter or facsimile.

If the sale to the Underwriters of the Shares, as contemplated by this Agreement, is not carried out by the Underwriters for any reason permitted under this Agreement or if such sale is not carried out because the Company shall be unable to comply with any of the terms of this Agreement, the Company shall not be under any obligation or liability under this Agreement (except to the extent provided in Sections 4(s), 5 and 9 hereof), and the Underwriters shall be under no obligation or liability to the Company under this Agreement (except to the extent provided in Section 9 hereof) or to one another hereunder.

8. INCREASE IN UNDERWRITERS' COMMITMENTS. Subject to Sections 6 and 7, if any Underwriter shall default in its obligation to take up and pay for the Firm Shares to be purchased by it hereunder (otherwise than for reasons sufficient to justify the termination of this Agreement under the provisions of Section 7 hereof) and if the number of Firm Shares which all Underwriters so defaulting shall have agreed but failed to take up and pay for does not exceed 10% of the total number of Firm Shares, the non-defaulting Underwriters shall take up and pay for (in addition to the number of Firm Shares they are obligated to purchase pursuant to Section 1 hereof) the number of Firm Shares agreed to be purchased by all such defaulting Underwriters, as hereinafter provided. Such Shares shall be taken up and paid for by such non-defaulting Underwriter or Underwriters in such amount or amounts as you may designate with the consent of

each Underwriter so designated or, in the event no such designation is made, such Shares shall be taken up and paid for by all non-defaulting Underwriters pro rata in proportion to the

17

aggregate number of Firm Shares set opposite the names of such non-defaulting Underwriters in Schedule A.

Without relieving any defaulting Underwriter from its obligations hereunder, the Company agrees with the non-defaulting Underwriters that they will not sell any Firm Shares hereunder unless all of the Firm Shares are purchased by the Underwriters (or by substituted Underwriters selected by you with the approval of the Company or selected by the Company with your approval).

If a new Underwriter or Underwriters are substituted by the Underwriters or by the Company for a defaulting Underwriter or Underwriters in accordance with the foregoing provision, the Company or you shall have the right to postpone the time of purchase for a period not exceeding five business days in order that any necessary changes in the Registration Statement and Prospectus and other documents may be effected.

The term Underwriter as used in this agreement shall refer to and include any Underwriter substituted under this Section 8 with like effect as if such substituted Underwriter had originally been named in Schedule A.

If the aggregate number of Shares which the defaulting Underwriter or Underwriters agreed to purchase exceeds 10% of the total number of Shares which all Underwriters agreed to purchase hereunder, and if neither the non-defaulting Underwriters nor the Company shall make arrangements within the five business day period stated above for the purchase of all the Shares which the defaulting Underwriter or Underwriters agreed to purchase hereunder, this Agreement shall be terminated without further act or deed and without any liability on the part of the Company to any non-defaulting Underwriter and without any liability on the part of any non-defaulting Underwriter to the Company. Nothing in this paragraph, and no action taken hereunder, shall relieve any defaulting Underwriter from liability in respect of any default of such Underwriter under this Agreement.

#### 9. INDEMNITY AND CONTRIBUTION.

(a) The Company agrees to indemnify, defend and hold harmless each Underwriter, its partners, directors and officers, and any person who controls any Underwriter within the meaning of Section 15 of the Securities Act or Section 20 of the Exchange Act, and the successors and assigns of all of the foregoing persons from and against any loss, damage, expense, liability or claim (including the reasonable cost of investigation) which, jointly or severally, any such Underwriter or any such person may incur under the Securities Act, the Exchange Act, the common law or otherwise, insofar as such loss, damage, expense, liability or claim arises out of or is based upon any untrue statement or alleged untrue statement of a material fact contained in the Registration Statement (or in the Registration Statement as amended by any post-effective amendment thereof by the Company) or in a Prospectus (the term Prospectus for the purpose of this Section 9 being deemed to include any Preliminary Prospectus, the Prospectus and the Prospectus as amended or supplemented by the Company), or arises out of or is based upon any omission or alleged omission to state a material fact required to be stated in either such

18

Registration Statement or Prospectus or necessary to make the statements made not misleading, except insofar as any such loss, damage, expense, liability or claim arises out of or is based upon any untrue statement or alleged untrue statement of a material fact contained in and in conformity with information furnished in writing by or on behalf of any Underwriter through you to the Company expressly for use with reference to such Underwriter in such Registration Statement or such Prospectus or arises out of or is based upon any omission or alleged omission to state a material fact in connection with such

information required to be stated in such Registration Statement or Prospectus or necessary to make such information not misleading.

If any action, suit or proceeding (together, a "Proceeding") is brought against an Underwriter or any such person in respect of which indemnity may be sought against the Company pursuant to the foregoing paragraph, such Underwriter or such person shall promptly notify the Company in writing of the institution of such Proceeding and the Company shall assume the defense of such Proceeding, including the employment of counsel reasonably satisfactory to such indemnified party and payment of all fees and expenses; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, that the omission to so notify the Company shall not relieve the Company from any liability which the Company may have to any Underwriter or any such person or otherwise. Such Underwriter or such controlling person shall have the right to employ its or their own counsel in any such case, but the fees and expenses of such counsel shall be at the expense of such Underwriter or of such person unless the employment of such counsel shall have been authorized in writing by the Company in connection with the defense of such Proceeding or the Company shall not have, within a reasonable period of time in light of the circumstances, employed counsel to have charge of the defense of such Proceeding or such indemnified party or parties shall have reasonably concluded that there may be defenses available to it or them which are different from, additional to or in conflict with those available to the Company (in which case the Company shall not have the right to direct the defense of such Proceeding on behalf of the indemnified party or parties), in any of which events such fees and expenses shall be borne by the Company and paid as incurred (it being understood, however, that the Company shall not be liable for the expenses of more than one separate counsel (in addition to any local counsel) in any one Proceeding or series of related Proceedings in the same jurisdiction representing the indemnified parties who are parties to such Proceeding). The Company shall not be liable for any settlement of any such Proceeding effected without its written consent but if settled with the written consent of the Company, the Company agrees to indemnify and hold harmless any Underwriter and any such person from and against any loss or liability by reason of such settlement. Notwithstanding the foregoing sentence, if at any time an indemnified party shall have requested an indemnifying party to reimburse the indemnified party for fees and expenses of counsel as contemplated by the second sentence of this paragraph, then the indemnifying party agrees that it shall be liable for any settlement of any Proceeding effected without its written consent if (i) such settlement is entered into more than 60 business days after receipt by such indemnifying party of the aforesaid request, (ii) such indemnifying party shall not have reimbursed the indemnified party in accordance with such request prior to the date of such settlement and (iii) such indemnified party shall have given the indemnifying party at least 30 days' prior notice of its intention to settle. No indemnifying party shall, without the prior written consent of the indemnified party, effect any settlement of any pending or threatened Proceeding

19

in respect of which any indemnified party is or could have been a party and indemnity could have been sought hereunder by such indemnified party, unless such settlement includes an unconditional release of such indemnified party from all liability on claims that are the subject matter of such Proceeding and does not include an admission of fault, culpability or a failure to act, by or on behalf of such indemnified party.

(b) Each Underwriter severally agrees to indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Company, its directors and officers and any person who controls the Company within the meaning of Section 15 of the Securities Act, or Section 20 of the Exchange Act from and against any loss, damage, expense, liability or claim (including the reasonable cost of investigation) which, jointly or severally, the Company or any such person may incur under the Securities Act, the Exchange Act, the common law or otherwise, insofar as such loss, damage, expense, liability or claim arises out of or is based upon any untrue statement or alleged untrue statement of a material fact contained in and in conformity with information furnished in writing by or on behalf of such Underwriter through you to the Company expressly for use with reference to such Underwriter in the Registration Statement (or in the Registration Statement as amended by or on behalf of any post-effective amendment thereof by the Company) or in a Prospectus, or arises out of or is based upon any omission or alleged omission to state a material fact in connection with such information required to be stated in such Registration Statement or Prospectus or necessary to make such information not misleading.

If any Proceeding is brought against the Company or any such person in respect of which indemnity may be sought against any Underwriter pursuant to the foregoing paragraph, the Company or such person shall promptly notify such Underwriter in writing of the institution of such Proceeding and such Underwriter shall assume the defense of such Proceeding, including the employment of counsel reasonably satisfactory to such indemnified party and payment of all fees and expenses, PROVIDED, HOWEVER, that the omission to so notify such Underwriter shall not relieve such Underwriter, from any liability which such Underwriter may have to the Company or any such person or otherwise. The Company or such person shall have the right to employ its own counsel in any such case, but the fees and expenses of such counsel shall be at the expense of the Company or such person unless the employment of such counsel shall have been authorized in writing by such Underwriter in connection with the defense of such Proceeding or such Underwriter shall not have employed counsel to have charge of the defense of such Proceeding or such indemnified party or parties shall have reasonably concluded that there may be defenses available to it or them which are different from or additional to or in conflict with those available to such Underwriter (in which case such Underwriter shall not have the right to direct the defense of such Proceeding on behalf of the indemnified party or parties, but such Underwriter may employ counsel and participate in the defense thereof but the fees and expenses of such counsel shall be at the expense of such Underwriter), in any of which events such fees and expenses shall be borne by such Underwriter and paid as incurred (it being understood, however, that such Underwriter shall not be liable for the expenses of more than one separate counsel (in addition to any local counsel) in any one Proceeding or series of related Proceedings in the same jurisdiction representing the indemnified parties who are parties to such Proceeding). No Underwriter shall be liable for any settlement of any such Proceeding effected without the

20

written consent of such Underwriter but if settled with the written consent of such Underwriter, such Underwriter agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the Company and any such person from and against any loss or liability by reason of such settlement. Notwithstanding the foregoing sentence, if at any time an indemnified party shall have requested an indemnifying party to reimburse the indemnified party for fees and expenses of counsel as contemplated by the second sentence of this paragraph, then the indemnifying party agrees that it shall be liable for any settlement of any Proceeding effected without its written consent if (i) such settlement is entered into more than 60 business days after receipt by such indemnifying party of the aforesaid request, (ii) such indemnifying party shall not have reimbursed the indemnified party in accordance with such request prior to the date of such settlement and (iii) such indemnified party shall have given the indemnifying party at least 30 days' prior notice of its intention to settle. No indemnifying party shall, without the prior written consent of the indemnified party, effect any settlement of any pending or threatened Proceeding in respect of which any indemnified party is or could have been a party and indemnity could have been sought hereunder by such indemnified party, unless such settlement includes an unconditional release of such indemnified party from all liability on claims that are the subject matter of such Proceeding.

(c) If the indemnification provided for in this Section 9 is unavailable to an indemnified party under subsections (a) and (b) of this Section 9 in respect of any losses, damage, expenses, liabilities or claims referred to therein, then each applicable indemnifying party, in lieu of indemnifying such indemnified party, shall contribute to the amount paid or payable by such indemnified party as a result of such losses, damages, expenses, liabilities or claims (i) in such proportion as is appropriate to reflect the relative benefits received by the Company on the one hand and the Underwriters on the other hand from the offering of the Shares or (ii) if the allocation provided by clause (i) above is not permitted by applicable law, in such proportion as is appropriate to reflect not only the relative benefits referred to in clause (i) above but also the relative fault of the Company on the one hand and of the Underwriters on the other in connection with the statements or omissions which resulted in such losses, damages, expenses, liabilities or claims, as well as any other relevant equitable considerations. The relative benefits received by the Company on the one hand and the Underwriters on the other shall be deemed to be in the same respective proportion as the total proceeds from the offering (net of underwriting discounts and commissions but before deducting expenses) received by the Company and the total underwriting



discounts and commissions received by the Underwriters, bear to the aggregate public offering price is the shares. The relative fault of the Company on the one hand and of the Underwriters on the other shall be determined by reference to, among other things, whether the untrue statement or alleged untrue statement of a material fact or omission or alleged omission relates to information supplied by the Company or by the Underwriters and the parties' relative intent, knowledge, access to information and opportunity to correct or prevent such statement or omission. The amount paid or payable by a party as a result of the losses, damages, expenses, liabilities and claims referred to in this subsection shall be deemed to include any legal or other fees or expenses reasonably incurred by such party in connection with investigating, preparing to defend or defending any claim or Proceeding.

21

(d) The Company and the Underwriters agree that it would not be just and equitable if contribution pursuant to this Section 9 were determined by pro rata allocation (even if the Underwriters were treated as one entity for such purpose) or by any other method of allocation that does not take account of the equitable considerations referred to in subsection (c) above. Notwithstanding the provisions of this Section 9, no Underwriter shall be required to contribute any amount in excess of the amount by which the total price at which the Shares underwritten by such Underwriter and distributed to the public were offered to the public exceeds the amount of any damage which such Underwriter has otherwise been required to pay by reason of such untrue statement or alleged untrue statement or omission or alleged omission. No person guilty of fraudulent misrepresentation (within the meaning of Section 11(f) of the Securities Act) shall be entitled to contribution from any person who was not guilty of such fraudulent misrepresentation. The Underwriters' obligations to contribute pursuant to this Section 9 are several in proportion to their respective underwriting commitments and not joint.

(e) The indemnity and contribution agreements contained in this Section 9 and the covenants, warranties and representations of the Company contained in this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect regardless of any partners, investigation made by or on behalf of any Underwriter, its directors and officers or any person (including each partner, officer or director of such person) who controls any Underwriter within the meaning of Section 15 of the Securities Act or Section 20 of the Exchange Act, or by or on behalf of the Company, its directors or officers, or any person who controls the Company within the meaning of Section 15 of the Securities Act or Section 20 of the Exchange Act, are in addition to any liability which the Company or the Underwriters, as the case may be, may have, and shall survive any termination of this Agreement or the issuance and delivery of the Shares. The Company and each Underwriter agree promptly to notify each other commencement of any Proceeding against it and, in the case of the Company, against any of the Company's officers or directors in connection with the issuance and sale of the Shares, or in connection with the Registration Statement or Prospectus.

10. NOTICES. Except as otherwise herein provided, all statements, requests, notices and agreements shall be in writing or by telegram and, if to the Underwriters, shall be sufficient in all respects if delivered or sent to UBS Warburg LLC, 299 Park Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10171-0026, Attention: Syndicate Department, if to the Company, shall be sufficient in all respects if delivered or sent to the Company at the offices of the Company at 1750 Tysons Blvd., 4th Floor, Mc Lean, Virginia 22102, Attention: David Gladstone.

11. GOVERNING LAW; CONSTRUCTION. This Agreement and any claim, counterclaim or dispute of any kind or nature whatsoever arising out of or in any way relating to this Agreement ("Claim"), directly or indirectly, shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of the State of New York. The Section headings in this Agreement have been inserted as a matter of convenience of reference and are not a part of this Agreement.

12. SUBMISSION TO JURISDICTION. Except as set forth below, no Claim may be commenced, prosecuted or continued in any court other than the courts of the State of New York

22

located in the City and County of New York or in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, which courts shall have jurisdiction over the adjudication of such matters, and the Company consents to the jurisdiction of such courts and personal service with respect thereto. The Company hereby consents to personal jurisdiction, service and venue in any court in which any Claim arising out of or in any way relating to this Agreement is brought by any third party against the Underwriters or any indemnified party. Each of UBS Warburg LLC and the Company (on its behalf and, to the extent permitted by applicable law, on behalf of its stockholders and affiliates) waives all right to trial by jury in any action, proceeding or counterclaim (whether based upon contract, tort or otherwise) in any way arising out of or relating to this Agreement. The Company agrees that a final judgment in any such action, proceeding or counterclaim brought in any such court shall be conclusive and binding upon the Company and may be enforced in any other courts in the jurisdiction of which the Company is or may be subject, by suit upon such judgment.

13. PARTIES AT INTEREST. The Agreement herein set forth has been and is made solely for the benefit of the Underwriters, the Company, and to the extent provided in Section 9 hereof the controlling persons, directors and officers referred to in such Section, and their respective successors, assigns, heirs, pursuant representatives and executors and administrators. No other person, partnership, association, corporation or other entity (including a purchaser, as such purchaser, from any of the Underwriters) shall acquire or have any right under or by virtue of this Agreement.

14. COUNTERPARTS. This Agreement may be signed by the parties in one or more counterparts which together shall constitute one and the same agreement among the parties.

15. SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS. This Agreement shall be binding upon the Underwriters and the Company and their successors and assigns and any successor or assign of any substantial portion of the Company's and any of the Underwriters' respective businesses and/or assets.

16. MISCELLANEOUS. UBS Warburg LLC, an indirect, wholly owned subsidiary of UBS AG, is not a bank and is separate from any affiliated bank, including any U.S. branch or agency of UBS Warburg LLC. Because UBS Warburg LLC is a separately organized entity, it is solely responsible for its own contractual obligations and commitments, including obligations with respect to sales and purchases of securities. Securities sold, offered or recommended by UBS Warburg LLC are not deposits, are not insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, are not guaranteed by a branch or agency, and are not otherwise an obligation or responsibility of a branch or agency.

A lending affiliate of UBS Warburg LLC may have lending relationships with issuers of securities underwritten or privately placed by UBS Warburg LLC. To the extent required under the securities laws, prospectuses and other disclosure documents for securities underwritten or privately placed by UBS Warburg LLC will disclose the existence of any such lending relationships and whether the proceeds of the issue will be used to repay debts owed to affiliates of UBS Warburg LLC.

23

If the foregoing correctly sets forth the understanding among the Company and the Underwriters, please so indicate in the space provided below for the purpose, whereupon this letter and your acceptance shall constitute a binding agreement among the Company and the Underwriters, severally.

Very truly yours,

Gladstone Capital Corporation

By:

-----

Title:

24

Accepted and agreed to as of the date first above written, on behalf of themselves and the other several Underwriters named in Schedule A

UBS Warburg LLC  
First Union Securities, Inc.  
Robertson Stephens, Inc.  
BB&T Capital Markets/Scott & Stringfellow, Inc.  
Ferris, Baker Watts, Incorporated

By: UBS WARBURG LLC

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title:

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title:

SCHEDULE A

UNDERWRITER -----	NUMBER OF FIRM SHARES -----
UBS Warburg LLC First Union Securities, Inc. Robertson Stephens, Inc. BB&T Capital Markets/Scott & Stringfellow, Inc. Ferris, Baker Watts, Incorporated	
Total.....	7,700,000 ----- -----

GLADSTONE CAPITAL CORPORATION  
EARLY EXERCISE STOCK PURCHASE AGREEMENT  
UNDER THE AMENDED AND RESTATED 2001 EQUITY INCENTIVE PLAN

THIS AGREEMENT is made by and between GLADSTONE CAPITAL CORPORATION, a Maryland corporation ("COMPANY"), and \_\_\_\_\_ ("PURCHASER").

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, Purchaser holds a stock option dated \_\_\_\_\_ to purchase shares of common stock ("COMMON STOCK") of the Company ("OPTION") pursuant to the Company's Amended and Restated 2001 Equity Incentive Plan ("PLAN");

WHEREAS, the Option consists of a Stock Option Grant Notice and a Stock Option Agreement;

WHEREAS, Purchaser desires to exercise the Option on the terms and conditions contained herein;

WHEREAS, Purchaser wishes to take advantage of the early exercise provision of the Purchaser's Option and therefore to enter into this Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS AGREED between the parties as follows:

1. INCORPORATION OF PLAN AND OPTION BY REFERENCE. This Agreement is subject to all of the terms and conditions as set forth in the Plan and the Option. If there is a conflict between the terms of this Agreement and/or the Option and the terms of the Plan, the terms of the Plan shall control. If there is a conflict between the terms of this Agreement and the terms of the Option, the terms of the Option shall control. Defined terms not explicitly defined in this Agreement but defined in the Plan shall have the same definitions as in the Plan. Defined terms not explicitly defined in this Agreement or the Plan but defined in the Option shall have the same definitions as in the Option.

2. PURCHASE AND SALE OF COMMON STOCK.

(a) AGREEMENT TO PURCHASE AND SELL COMMON STOCK. Purchaser hereby agrees to purchase from the Company, and the Company hereby agrees to sell to Purchaser, an aggregate of \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_\_) shares of Common Stock at \$\_\_\_\_\_ per share, for an aggregate purchase price of \$\_\_\_\_\_, payable as follows:

Cash	\$ _____
Promissory Note	\$ _____

Total Exercise Price	\$ _____
----------------------	----------

(b) CLOSING. The closing hereunder, including payment for and delivery of the Common Stock, shall occur at the offices of the Company immediately following the execution of this Agreement, or at such other time and place as the parties may mutually agree.

3. UNVESTED SHARE REPURCHASE OPTION

(a) REPURCHASE OPTION. In the event Purchaser's Continuous Service terminates, then the Company shall have an irrevocable option ("REPURCHASE OPTION") for a period of ninety (90) days after said termination [NOTE: REPURCHASE OPTION IS NOT DEPENDENT UPON THE TYPE OF TERMINATION (I.E., CAUSE, DISABILITY, DEATH) EXCEPT TO THE EXTENT THAT THE OPTION ITSELF PROVIDES FOR ACCELERATION OF VESTING ON DESCRIBED TERMINATION EVENTS], or such longer period as may be agreed to by the Company and the Purchaser, to repurchase from Purchaser or Purchaser's personal representative, as the case may be, those shares that Purchaser received pursuant to the exercise of the Option that has

not as yet vested as of such termination date in accordance with the Vesting Schedule indicated on Purchaser's Stock Option Grant Notice, attached hereto as EXHIBIT A ("UNVESTED SHARES").

(b) SHARES REPURCHASABLE AT PURCHASER'S ORIGINAL EXERCISE PRICE. The Company may repurchase all or any of the Unvested Shares at a price ("OPTION PRICE") equal to the Purchaser's Exercise Price for such shares as indicated on Purchaser's Stock Option Grant Notice.

4. EXERCISE OF REPURCHASE OPTION. The Repurchase Option shall be exercised by written notice signed by an Officer of the Company and delivered or mailed as provided herein. Such notice shall identify the number of shares of Common Stock to be purchased and shall notify Purchaser of the time, place and date for settlement of such purchase, which shall be scheduled by the Company within the term of the Repurchase Option set forth above. The Company shall be entitled to pay for any shares of Common Stock purchased pursuant to its Repurchase Option at the Company's option in cash or by offset against any indebtedness owing to the Company by Purchaser, or by a combination of both. Upon delivery of such notice and payment of the purchase price in any of the ways described above, the Company shall become the legal and beneficial owner of the Common Stock being repurchased and all rights and interest therein or related thereto, and the Company shall have the right to transfer to its own name the Common Stock being repurchased by the Company, without further action by Purchaser.

5. CAPITALIZATION ADJUSTMENTS TO COMMON STOCK. In the event of a capitalization adjustment affecting the Company's outstanding Common Stock as a class as designated in the Plan, then any and all new, substituted or additional securities or other property to which Purchaser is entitled by reason of Purchaser's ownership of Common Stock shall be immediately subject to the Repurchase Option and be included in the word "Common Stock" for all purposes of the Repurchase Option with the same force and effect as the shares of the

Common Stock presently subject to the Repurchase Option, but only to the extent the Common Stock is, at the time, covered by such Repurchase Option. While the total Option Price shall remain the same after each such event, the Option Price per share of Common Stock upon exercise of the Repurchase Option shall be appropriately adjusted.

6. CORPORATE TRANSACTION OR CHANGE IN CONTROL. In the event of a "Corporate Transaction" or "Change in Control" transaction as defined in Section 2 of the Plan (for purposes of this Agreement, collectively referred to as "CHANGE IN CONTROL"), then the Repurchase Option may be assigned by the Company to the successor of the Company (or such successor's parent company), if any, in connection with such Change in Control. To the extent the Repurchase Option remains in effect following such Change in Control, it shall apply to the new capital stock or other property received in exchange for the Common Stock in consummation of the Change in Control, but only to the extent the Common Stock was at the time covered by such right. Appropriate adjustments shall be made to the price per share payable upon exercise of the Repurchase Option to reflect the Change in Control upon the Company's capital structure; provided, however, that the aggregate Option Price shall remain the same.

7. RIGHTS OF PURCHASER. Subject to the provisions of the Option and any pledge agreement executed by the Purchaser, Purchaser shall exercise all rights and privileges of a stockholder of the Company with respect to the shares. Purchaser shall be deemed to be the holder of the shares for purposes of receiving any dividends that may be paid with respect to such shares and for purposes of exercising any voting rights relating to such shares, even if some or all of such shares have not yet vested and been released from the Company's Repurchase Option.

8. LIMITATIONS ON TRANSFER. In addition to any other limitation on transfer created by applicable securities laws, or any other document which restricts common stock transfers, Purchaser shall not sell, assign, hypothecate, donate, encumber or otherwise dispose of any interest in the Common Stock while the Common Stock is subject to the Repurchase Option. After any Common Stock has been released from the Repurchase Option, Purchaser shall not sell, assign, hypothecate, donate, encumber or otherwise dispose of any interest in the Common Stock except in compliance with the provisions herein and applicable securities

laws. Any attempted transfer in violation of this provision shall be void and of no legal force and, at the Company's discretion, shall result in forfeiture of Purchaser's stock.

9. RESTRICTIVE LEGENDS. All certificates representing the Common Stock shall have endorsed thereon legends in substantially the following forms (in addition to any other legend which may be required by other agreements between the parties hereto):

(a) "THE SHARES REPRESENTED BY THIS CERTIFICATE ARE SUBJECT TO AN OPTION SET FORTH IN AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COMPANY AND THE REGISTERED HOLDER, OR SUCH HOLDER'S PREDECESSOR IN INTEREST, A COPY OF WHICH IS ON FILE AT THE PRINCIPAL OFFICE OF THIS COMPANY. ANY TRANSFER OR ATTEMPTED TRANSFER OF ANY SHARES SUBJECT TO SUCH

OPTION IS VOID WITHOUT THE PRIOR EXPRESS WRITTEN CONSENT OF THE COMPANY."

(b) Any legend required by appropriate blue sky officials.

10. SECTION 83(b) ELECTION. Purchaser understands that Section 83(a) of the Code, taxes as ordinary income the difference between the amount paid for the Common Stock and the fair market value of the Common Stock as of the date any restrictions on the Common Stock lapse. In this context, "restriction" includes the right of the Company to buy back the Common Stock pursuant to the Repurchase Option set forth above. Purchaser understands that Purchaser may elect to be taxed at the time the Common Stock is purchased, rather than when and as the Repurchase Option expires, by filing an election under Section 83(b) (an "83(b) Election") of the Code with the Internal Revenue Service within thirty (30) days from the date of purchase. Even if the fair market value of the Common Stock at the time of the execution of this Agreement equals the amount paid for the Common Stock, the 83(b) Election must be made to avoid income under Section 83(a) in the future. Purchaser understands that failure to file such an 83(b) Election in a timely manner may result in adverse tax consequences for Purchaser. Purchaser further understands that Purchaser must file an additional copy of such 83(b) Election with his or her federal income tax return for the calendar year in which the date of this Agreement falls. Purchaser acknowledges that the foregoing is only a summary of the effect of United States federal income taxation with respect to purchase of the Common Stock hereunder, and does not purport to be complete. Purchaser further acknowledges that the Company has directed Purchaser to seek independent advice regarding the applicable provisions of the Code, the income tax laws of any municipality, state or foreign country in which Purchaser may reside, and the tax consequences of Purchaser's death. Purchaser assumes all responsibility for filing an 83(b) Election and paying all taxes resulting from such election or the lapse of the restrictions on the Common Stock.

11. REFUSAL TO TRANSFER. The Company shall not be required (a) to transfer on its books any shares of Common Stock of the Company which shall have been transferred in violation of any of the provisions set forth in this Agreement or (b) to treat as owner of such shares or to accord the right to vote as such owner or to pay dividends to any transferee to whom such shares shall have been so transferred.

12. NO EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS. This Agreement is not an employment contract and nothing in this Agreement shall affect in any manner whatsoever the right or power of the Company (or a parent or subsidiary of the Company) to terminate Purchaser's employment for any reason at any time, with or without cause and with or without notice.

13. MISCELLANEOUS.

(a) NOTICES. Any notice required or permitted hereunder shall be given in writing and shall be deemed effectively given upon personal delivery or sent by telegram or fax or upon deposit in the United States Post Office, by registered or certified mail with postage and fees prepaid, addressed to the other party hereto at such party's address hereinafter shown below

its signature or at such other address as such party may designate by ten (10)

days' advance written notice to the other party hereto.

(b) SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS. This Agreement shall inure to the benefit of the successors and assigns of the Company and, subject to the restrictions on transfer herein set forth, be binding upon Purchaser, Purchaser's successors, and assigns. The Company may assign the Repurchase Option hereunder at any time or from time to time, in whole or in part.

(c) ATTORNEYS' FEES; SPECIFIC PERFORMANCE. Purchaser shall reimburse the Company for all costs incurred by the Company in enforcing the performance of, or protecting its rights under, any part of this Agreement, including reasonable costs of investigation and attorneys' fees. It is the intention of the parties that the Company, upon exercise of the Repurchase Option and payment of the Option Price, pursuant to the terms of this Agreement, shall be entitled to receive the Common Stock, in specie, in order to have such Common Stock available for future issuance without dilution of the holdings of other stockholders. Furthermore, it is expressly agreed between the parties that money damages are inadequate to compensate the Company for the Common Stock and that the Company shall, upon proper exercise of the Repurchase Option, be entitled to specific enforcement of its rights to purchase and receive said Common Stock.

(d) GOVERNING LAW; VENUE. This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia. The parties agree that any action brought by either party to interpret or enforce any provision of this Agreement shall be brought in, and each party agrees to, and does hereby, submit to the jurisdiction and venue of, the appropriate state or federal court for the district encompassing the Company's principal place of business.

(e) FURTHER EXECUTION. The parties agree to take all such further action(s) as may reasonably be necessary to carry out and consummate this Agreement as soon as practicable, and to take whatever steps may be necessary to obtain any governmental approval in connection with or otherwise qualify the issuance of the securities that are the subject of this Agreement.

(f) INDEPENDENT COUNSEL. Purchaser acknowledges that this Agreement has been prepared on behalf of the Company by Cooley Godward LLP, counsel to the Company and that Cooley Godward LLP does not represent, and is not acting on behalf of, Purchaser. Purchaser has been provided with an opportunity to consult with Purchaser's own counsel with respect to this Agreement.

(g) ENTIRE AGREEMENT; AMENDMENT. This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties with respect to the subject matter hereof and supersedes and merges all prior agreements or understandings, whether written or oral. This Agreement may not be amended, modified or revoked, in whole or in part, except by an agreement in writing signed by each of the parties hereto.

(h) SEVERABILITY. If one or more provisions of this Agreement are held to be unenforceable under applicable law, the parties agree to renegotiate such provision in good faith. In the event that the parties cannot reach a mutually agreeable and enforceable replacement for such provision, then (i) such provision shall be excluded from this Agreement, (ii) the balance of the Agreement shall be interpreted as if such provision were so excluded and (iii) the balance of the Agreement shall be enforceable in accordance with its terms.

(i) COUNTERPARTS. This Agreement may be executed in two or more counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original and all of which together shall constitute one instrument.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement as of \_\_\_\_\_.

GLADSTONE CAPITAL CORPORATION

By \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Address: 1750 Tysons Boulevard  
4th Floor  
McLean, Virginia 22102

PURCHASER

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

ATTACHMENTS:

Exhibit A Grant Notice  
Exhibit B Stock Assignment

EXHIBIT A

GRANT NOTICE

EXHIBIT B

STOCK ASSIGNMENT

STOCK ASSIGNMENT

FOR VALUE RECEIVED, \_\_\_\_\_ hereby sells, assigns and transfers unto Gladstone Capital Corporation, a Maryland corporation ("COMPANY"), pursuant to the Repurchase Option under that certain Early Exercise Stock Purchase Agreement, dated \_\_\_\_\_ by and between the undersigned and the Company ("AGREEMENT"), \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_\_) shares of Common Stock of the Company standing in the undersigned's name on the books of the Company and does hereby irrevocably constitute and appoint the Company's Secretary attorney-in-fact to transfer said Common Stock on the books of the Company with full power of substitution in the premises. This Assignment may be used only in accordance with and subject to the terms and conditions of the Agreement, in connection with the repurchase of shares of Common Stock issued to



the undersigned pursuant to the Agreement, and only to the extent that such shares remain subject to the Company's Repurchase Option under the Agreement.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

[COOLEY GODWARD LLP LETTERHEAD]

August 22, 2001

Gladstone Capital Corporation  
1750 Tysons Boulevard, 4th Floor  
McLean, VA 22102

Ladies and Gentlemen:

You have requested our opinion with respect to certain matters in connection with the filing by Gladstone Capital Corporation (the "Company") of a Registration Statement on Form N-2 (the "Registration Statement") with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") covering an underwritten public offering of up to 8,855,000 shares of common stock (the "Shares").

In connection with this opinion, we have examined and relied upon the Registration Statement and related prospectus, the Company's Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, as currently in effect, and the originals or copies certified to our satisfaction of such records, documents, certificates, memoranda and other instruments as in our judgment are necessary or appropriate to enable us to render the opinion expressed below and we have assumed that the shares of Common Stock will be sold by the Underwriters at a price established by the Pricing Committee of the Board of Directors of the Company. Our opinion is expressed only with respect to the laws of the State of Maryland.

On the basis of the foregoing, and in reliance thereon, we are of the opinion that the Shares, when sold and issued by the Company in the manner contemplated by the Registration Statement and related prospectus, will be validly issued, fully paid and non-assessable.

We consent to the reference to our firm under the caption "Legal Matters" in the prospectus included in the Registration Statement and to the filing of this opinion as an exhibit to the Registration Statement. In giving such consent, we do not thereby admit that we are acting within the category of persons whose consent is required under Section 7 of the Act and the rules and regulations of the Commission thereunder.

Very truly yours,

COOLEY GODWARD LLP

By: /s/ Christian E. Plaza

-----  
Christian E. Plaza