

Ellington Financial



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*Ellington Financial LLC (NYSE: EFC)*

Fourth Quarter Investor Presentation

December 31, 2011

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## Forward-Looking Statements

This presentation contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements involve numerous risks and uncertainties. Our actual results may differ from our beliefs, expectations, estimates, and projections and, consequently, you should not rely on these forward-looking statements as predictions of future events. Forward-looking statements are not historical in nature and can be identified by words such as "anticipate," "estimate," "will," "should," "may," "expect," "believe," "intend," "seek," "plan" and similar expressions or their negative forms, or by references to strategy, plans, or intentions.

The Company's results can fluctuate from month to month and from quarter to quarter depending on a variety of factors, some of which are beyond the Company's control and/or are difficult to predict, including, without limitation, changes in interest rates and the market value of the Company's securities, changes in mortgage default rates and prepayment rates, the Company's ability to borrow to finance its assets, changes in government regulations affecting the Company's business, the Company's ability to maintain its exemption from registration under the Investment Company Act of 1940 and other changes in market conditions and economic trends. Furthermore, forward-looking statements are subject to risks and uncertainties, including, among other things, those described under Item 1A of our Annual Report on Form 10-K filed on March 16, 2011 in Item 1A of our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed on November 9, 2011 and in other filings that we make with the Securities Exchange Commission (the "SEC"). Other risks, uncertainties, and factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those projected may be described from time to time in reports we file with the SEC. We undertake no obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events, or otherwise.

## Modeling

Some statements in this presentation may be derived from proprietary models developed by Ellington Management Group, L.L.C. ("Ellington"). Some examples provided may be based upon the hypothetical performance of such models. Models, however, are inherently imperfect and subject to a number of risks, including that the underlying data used by the models is incorrect, inaccurate, or incomplete, or that the models rely upon assumptions that may prove to be incorrect. The utility of model-based information is highly limited. The information is designed to illustrate Ellington's current view and expectations and is based on a number of assumptions and limitations, including those specified herein. Certain models make use of discretionary settings or parameters which can have a material effect on the output of the model. Ellington exercises discretion as to which settings or parameters to use in different situations, including using different settings or parameters to model different securities. Actual results and events may differ materially from those described by such models.

## Example Analyses

The example analyses included herein are for illustrative purpose only and are intended to illustrate Ellington's analytic approach. They are not and should not be considered a recommendation to purchase or sell any security or a projection of the Company's future results or performance. The example analyses are only as of the date specified and do not reflect changes since that time.

## Projected Yields and Spreads

Projected yields and spreads discussed herein are based upon Ellington models and rely on a number of assumptions, including as to prepayment, default and interest rates and changes in home prices. Such models are inherently imperfect and there is no assurance that any particular investment will perform as predicted by the models, or that any such investment will be profitable. Projected yields are presented for the purposes of (i) providing insight into the strategy's objectives, (ii) detailing anticipated risk and reward characteristics in order to facilitate comparisons with other investments, (iii) illustrating Ellington's current views and expectations, and (iv) aiding future evaluations of performance. They are not a guarantee of future performance. They are based upon assumptions regarding current and future events and conditions, which may not prove to be accurate. There can be no assurance that the projected yields will be achieved. Investments involve risk of loss.

## Indices

Various indices are included in this presentation material to show the general trend in applicable markets in the periods indicated and are not intended to imply that the Company or its strategy is similar to any index in composition or element of risk.

The 2006-2 AAA ABX index, an index widely used and cited by investors and market participants tracking the subprime non-Agency RMBS market, is composed of 20 credit default swaps referencing mortgage-backed securities, originally rated AAA by Standard & Poor's, Inc., or Standard & Poor's, and Aaa by Moody's Investors Service, Inc., or Moody's, issued during the first six months of 2006 and backed by subprime mortgage loans originated in late 2005 and early 2006.

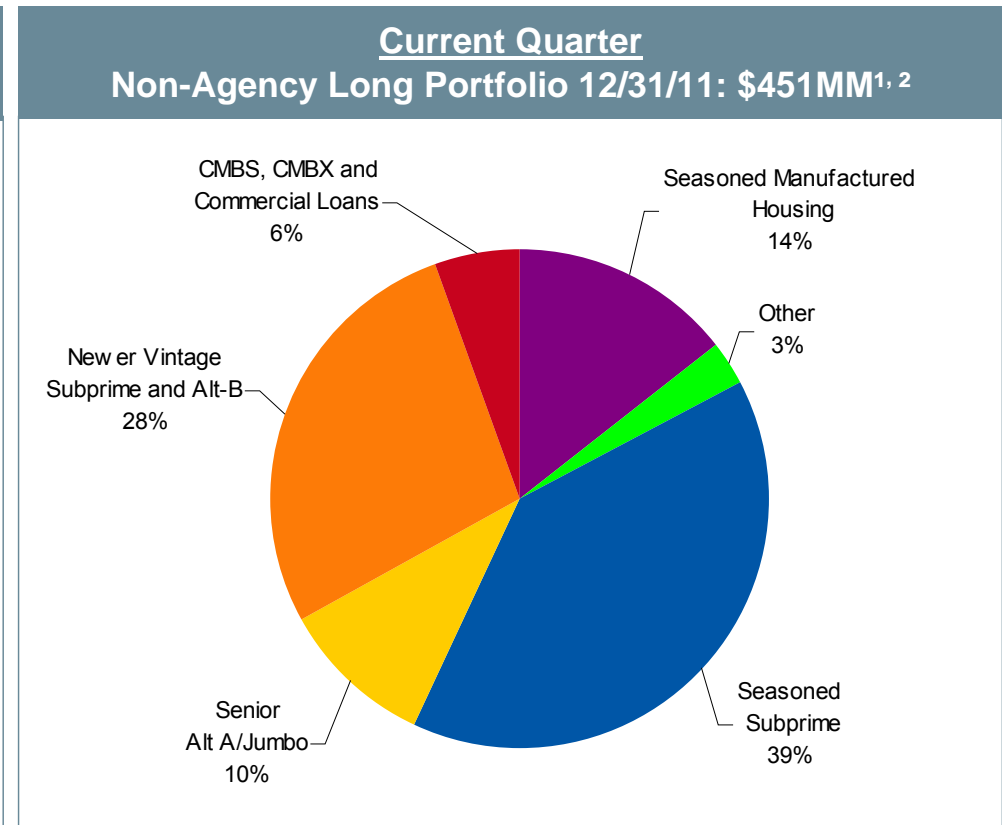
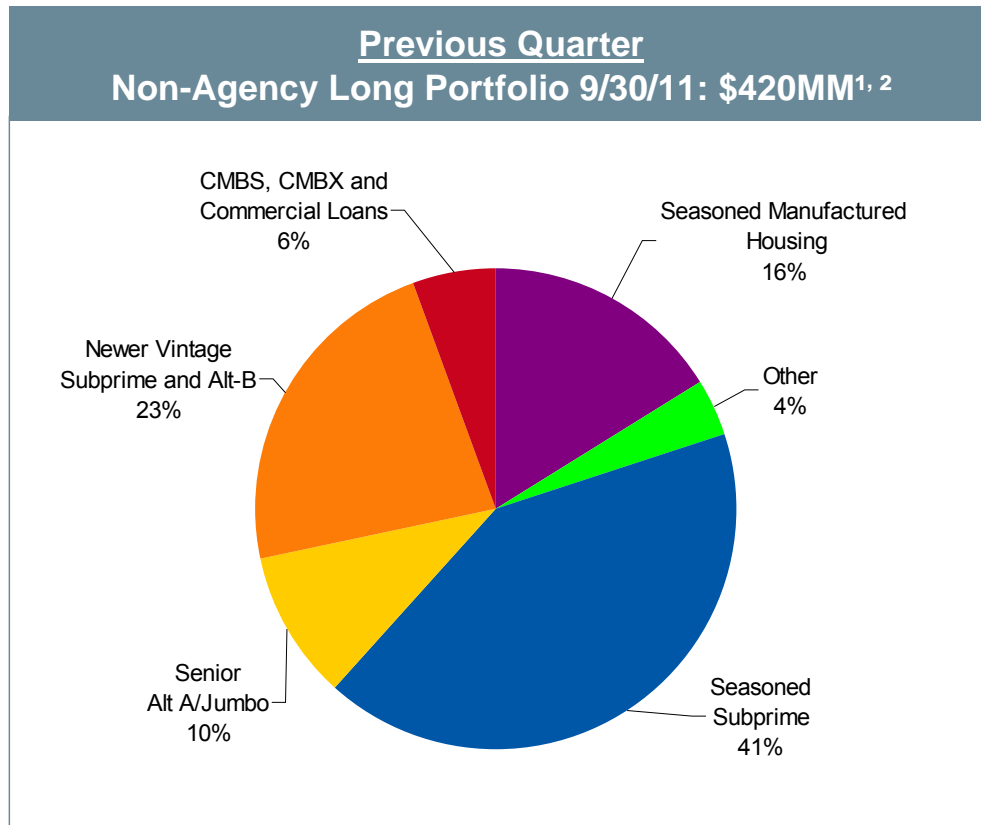
## Financial Information

All financial information included in this presentation is as of December 31, 2011 unless otherwise indicated. We undertake no duty or obligation to update this presentation to reflect subsequent events or developments.

- **EFC protected shareholders' equity in 2011 during a time of extreme volatility in the market for non-Agency and Agency RMBS.**
- **Many non-Agency securities saw a downward re-pricing of 10%-30% over the last three quarters of 2011, which created an extremely attractive investment entry point.**
  - Many non-Agency RMBS we've seen in the market are already up in price 5-10%
  - In 2011, EFC's aggregate non-Agency MBS and loan purchases totaled \$375 million, with many securities having loss-adjusted, unlevered yields in excess of 10%
- **In purchasing securities, management uses more conservative assumptions than it believes are generally used by most market participants, including that home prices will decline an additional 15% over the next two years. This creates potential for additional upside in actual realized yields should management's assumptions prove overly conservative.**
- **EFC increased leverage modestly, while carefully managing repo borrowings to reduce counterparty and liquidity risks.**
- **To date, EFC has utilized approximately 11% of its \$10mm share repurchase program.<sup>1</sup>**

(1) Share repurchases are at the Company's discretion, subject to applicable law, share availability, price and the Company's financial performance, among other considerations.

# EFC: Non-Agency Long Portfolio



## ■ Non-Agency portfolio is currently concentrated in:

- Seasoned securities where underlying borrowers have equity in their homes.
- Newer vintage securities where borrower performance has improved and recent trends in security-level valuation have created an attractive entry point
- Approximately 49% of current non-Agency MBS portfolio was purchased after 3/31/2011 - EFC has taken advantage of buying opportunities on deeply discounted securities.
- Securities that EFC believes will perform across a wide range of scenarios, including scenarios where home prices decline an additional 15%, as well as more severe recessionary scenarios.

(1) Seasoned subprime refers to subprime for vintages pre-2005. Newer vintage subprime refers to subprime for vintages 2005 – 2007.

(2) Non-Agency portfolio includes PrimeX, CMBX and other synthetic credit positions, based on their respective bond equivalent values. Bond equivalent values for CDS represent the investment amount of a corresponding position in the reference obligation or index constituents, calculated assuming a price equal to the difference between (i) par, and (ii) the tear up price ("points up front"). This information does not include interest rate swaps, TBA positions, equity swaps and other hedge positions. The bond equivalent value of credit derivatives included in the non-Agency long portfolio is \$13.1 million at December 31, 2011 and \$4.1 million at September 30, 2011. Under GAAP, the net value of long credit derivatives is \$(9.5) million at December 31, 2011 and \$(9.7) million at September 30, 2011.

# EFC: December 31, 2011 Portfolio – Non-Agency

- EFC non-Agency MBS strategy is the main driver of EFC’s earnings.
- Non-Agency Long Portfolio Value: \$451MM<sup>1</sup> as of 12/31/2011 (which includes \$438.0 million of long non-Agency MBS and loans and \$13.1 million of bond equivalent value of long credit hedges):

MBS Sector	Fair Value (millions)	Average Price <sup>2</sup>	Weighted Average Life <sup>3</sup>	Historical 1-Year CPR <sup>4</sup>	Est. Yield at Market Price at HPA ↓ 15% <sup>5</sup>	Est. Yield at Market Price at HPA Flat <sup>5</sup>
Seasoned Subprime	\$178.8	66.6%	6.2 years	8.5%	10.32%	11.34%
Newer Vintage Subprime and Alt-B	124.6	44.0	4.0	14.4	11.36	14.90
Seasoned Manufactured Housing	65.0	73.6	5.8	6.7	10.44 <sup>6</sup>	10.44
Senior Alt-A/Jumbo	35.9	60.1	4.8	13.0	8.90	10.69
CMBS and Commercial Mortgage Loans	20.5	66.9	7.4	N/A	12.46 <sup>6</sup>	12.46
Other	13.2	24.1	5.0	14.2	10.86	13.78
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$438.0</b>	<b>56.1%</b>	<b>5.4 years</b>	<b>10.6%</b>	<b>10.67%</b>	<b>12.34%</b>

- Estimated market yields, assuming home price appreciation remains flat, are up on average approximately 7% from Q3 2011.

(1) For 12/31/2011, fair value includes \$4.3 mm and \$8.8 mm of bond equivalent value of a long CMBX position and a long PRIMEX position, respectively. Table does not include these positions in averages and totals.

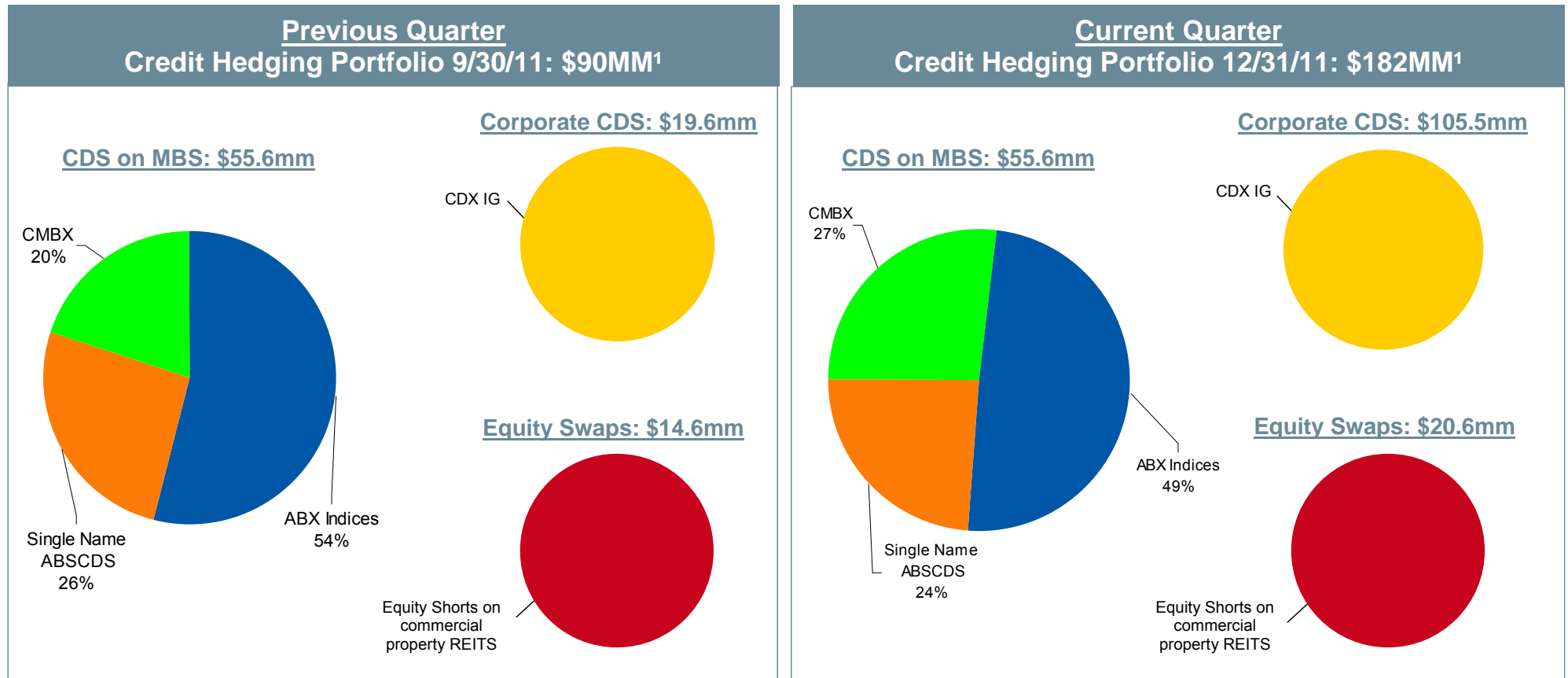
(2) Average Price excludes Interest-Only and other similar securities. All averages in this table are weighted averages using fair value as weights, except for Average Price which uses principal balance.

(3) Weighted Average Life assumes “base case” cashflows using Ellington proprietary models. Excludes Interest-Only securities and other similar securities.

(4) Source for historical 1-Year CPR is Intex. Excludes Interest-Only securities and other similar securities, CMBS and Commercial Mortgage Loans and any securities where Intex CPR not available.

(5) Estimated yields at market prices are management’s estimates derived from Ellington proprietary models based on prices and market environment as of 9/30/2011 and 12/31/11, and include the effects of future estimated losses. Future yields and actual performance for all securities may differ materially. The above analysis should not be considered a recommendation to purchase or sell any security or class of securities. Average sector yields include Interest-Only securities and exclude securities for which yields were unavailable. Results are based on forward-looking models, which are inherently imperfect, and incorporate various simplifying assumptions. Therefore, the table above is for illustrative purposes only and the actual performance of our portfolio may differ from the data presented above, and such differences might be significant and adverse.

(6) Yields for Manufactured Housing securities and CMBS and Commercial mortgage loans are held constant for this analysis as management believes these underlying properties are less directly affected by changes in national home prices.



■ **...While its credit hedges are concentrated in:**

- ABX indices where underlying securities are backed by non-performing borrowers and higher delinquencies.
- Other single-name CDS on mortgage-backed securities where underlying performance is and is expected to continue to be poor, generating sizeable losses at the security level (or gains on a short position).
- Short equity positions in certain publicly traded commercial property REITs, and short credit positions in investment grade corporate bonds using CDS.

(1) Credit Hedging portfolio includes synthetic credit positions, based on their respective bond equivalent values in the case of CDS. See footnote 2 on p.3 for a description of bond equivalent value of CDS. This information does not include interest rate swaps, TBA positions, and other hedge positions. The total bond equivalent value of CDS on MBS and Corporate CDS is \$161.1 million at December 31, 2011 and \$75.2 million at September 30, 2011. Under GAAP, the total net value of short CDS on MBS and short Corporate CDS is \$102.8 million at December 31, 2011 and \$110.6 million at September 30, 2011. For equity swaps, the amounts above represent notional value, based on the number of underlying shares multiplied by price per share at December 31, 2011 and September 30, 2011. The fair value of equity swaps as of December 31, 2011 is \$(0.3) million and \$0.8 million as of September 30, 2011.

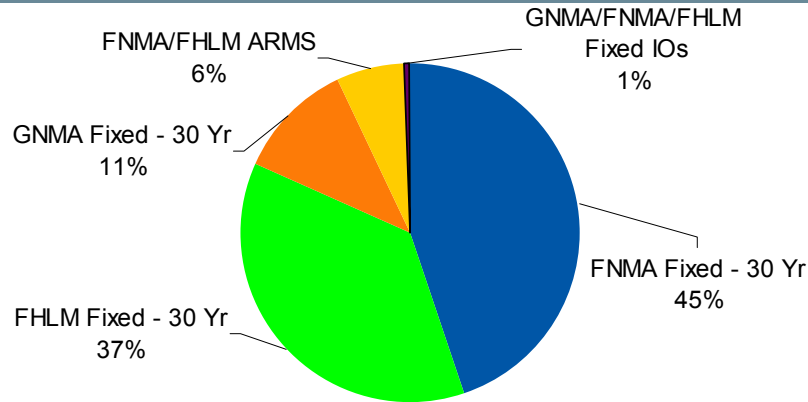
- **Non-Agency Short Portfolio Value: \$181.7MM<sup>1</sup> as of 12/31/2011.**
  - Historically, our long portfolio has been more concentrated in seasoned RMBS, and our short portfolio has been more concentrated in newer vintage RMBS.
    - Seasoned RMBS are generally less sensitive, dollar for dollar, to home price shocks than are newer vintage RMBS.
- **EFC has varied its credit and home price risk hedges successfully over time, both as to size and as to composition.<sup>2</sup>**
  - During the credit crisis of 2007-2008, we hedged credit and home price risk substantially, and as a result we protected book value.
  - In 2009, we entered the year significantly less hedged than we had been previously, allowing us to capture over 40% in upside during the year.
  - Throughout most of 2010 and 2011, we were more hedged against credit and home price risk than we had been for most of 2009.
- **Historically, non-Agency hedges have contributed gains to the overall portfolio.**
- **EFC has recently modified its existing MBS credit hedging strategy by adding hedges that are not directly tied to MBS, specifically equity swaps and corporate CDS.**
- **Following the recent sharp drops in market prices for the non-Agency assets we seek to acquire, at 12/31/2011, we chose to be less hedged against home price risk than we had been in the earlier part of 2011.**

(1) Credit Hedging portfolio includes synthetic credit positions, based on their respective bond equivalent values in the case of CDS. See footnote 2 on page 3 for a description of bond equivalent value of CDS.  
(2) Overall portfolio home price risk is measured by estimating fair value changes on each long and short non-Agency position (including CDS) in a scenario that assumes (i) home prices fall 30% over two years from current levels, and are flat thereafter, and (ii) projected default rates increase by 50% from current levels. Historical levels of credit / home price risk hedges have varied over time.

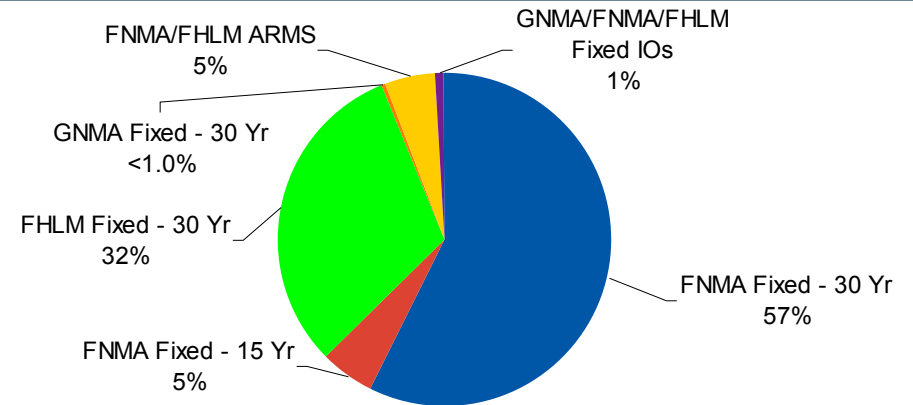


# EFC: Agency Long Portfolio

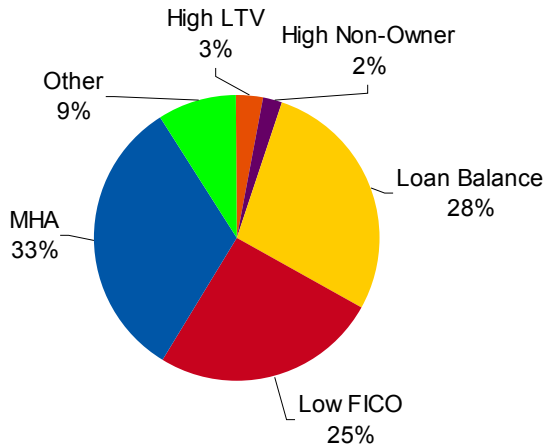
## Previous Quarter Agency Long Portfolio 9/30/11: \$834MM<sup>1</sup>



## Current Quarter Agency Long Portfolio 12/31/11: \$732MM<sup>1</sup>

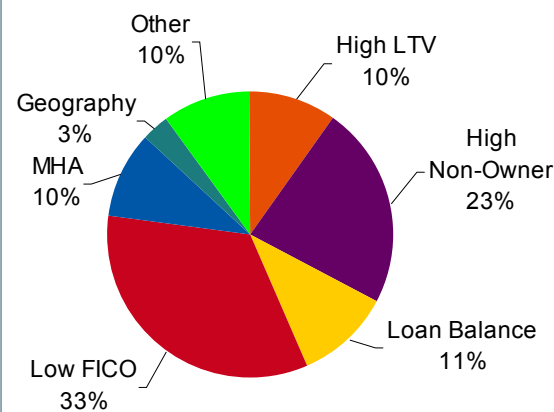


## Collateral Characteristics and Historical 3-month CPR Agency Fixed Rate Pool Portfolio 9/30/11: \$776MM<sup>2</sup>



Characteristic <sup>3</sup>	Fair Value <sup>4</sup>	3-Month Historical CPR
High LTV	\$24.5	0.1
High Non-Owner Occupied	17.5	2.0
Low Loan Bal	214.9	4.6
Low FICO	197.1	2.4
MHA <sup>5</sup>	253.5	2.6
Other	68.2	0.7
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$775.7</b>	<b>2.9</b>

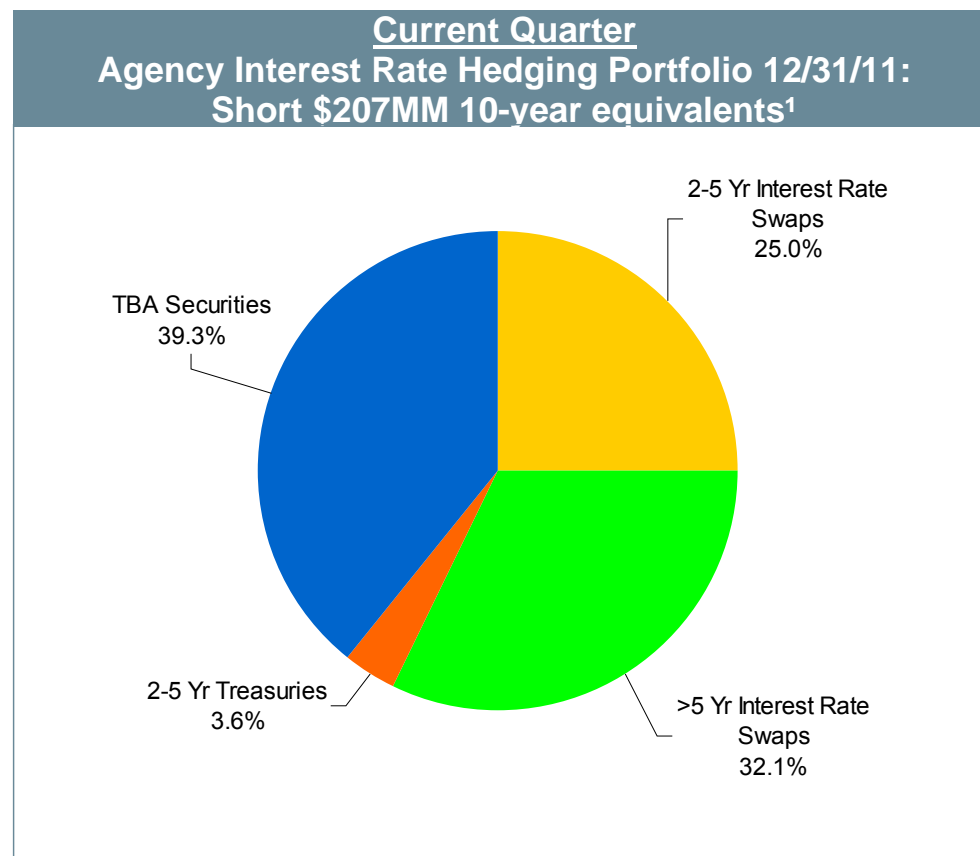
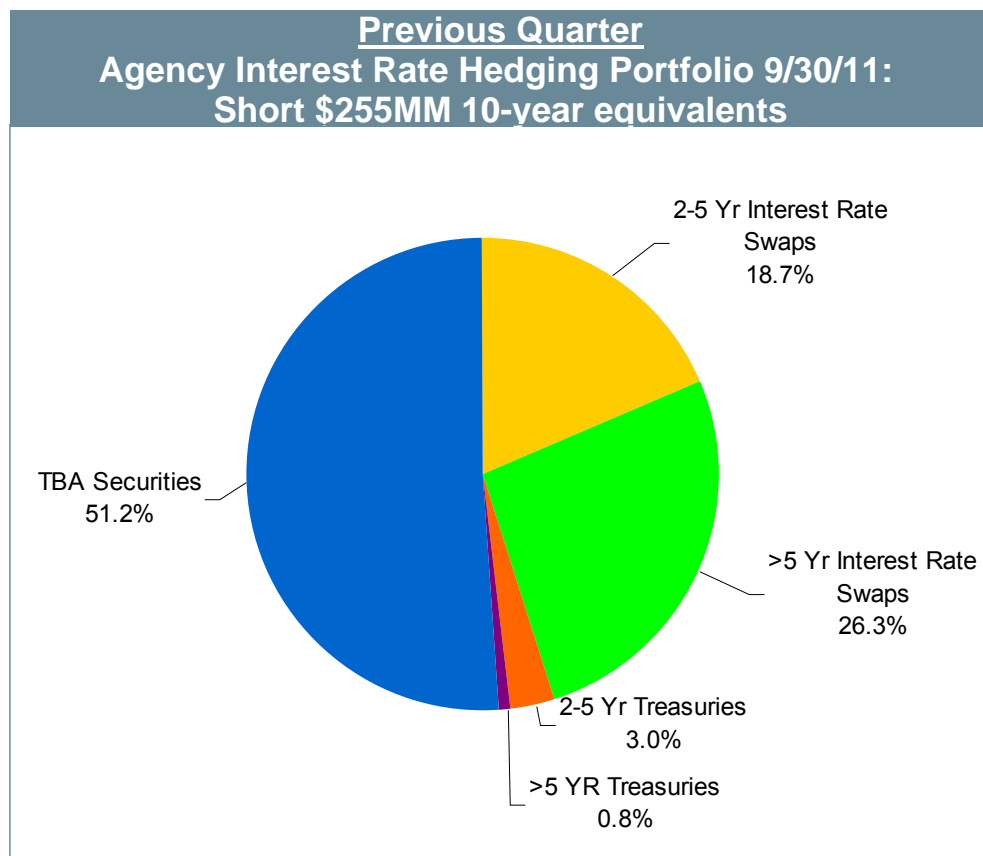
## Collateral Characteristics and Historical 3-month CPR Agency Fixed Rate Pool Portfolio 12/31/11: \$689MM<sup>2</sup>



Characteristic <sup>3</sup>	Fair Value <sup>4</sup>	3-Month Historical CPR
Geography	\$20.6	0.2
High LTV	68.7	8.3
High Non-Owner Occupied	157.6	3.7
Low Loan Bal	73.0	7.6
Low FICO	231.5	3.2
MHA <sup>5</sup>	68.8	2.6
Other	68.8	8.0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$689.0</b>	<b>4.6</b>

- (1) Does not include TBA long positions. Agency Long Portfolio includes \$727.0mm of Agency long securities at 12/31/2011 and \$828.3mm at 9/30/11, and \$5.3mm of Interest-only securities at 12/31/2011 and \$5.5mm at 09/30/11.
- (2) Excludes non-fixed rate Agency RMBS, interest-only securities and securities without any prepayment history.
- (3) Bucketing methodology may change over time as market practices change.
- (4) Fair values are shown in millions.
- (5) "MHA" indicates those pools where underlying borrowers have participated in the Making Homes Affordable program.





■ **Agency interest rate hedges are shown in normalized units of risk, with each group of positions measured in “10-year equivalents.”**

- Majority of interest rate hedges have historically been TBA securities.
- Recently, the Company has slightly shifted its hedges in favor of interest rate swaps.
- In addition to TBAs and interest rate swaps, EFC has used a combination of treasuries and Eurodollar futures to mitigate interest rate risk.

Note: (1) “10-year equivalents” for a group of positions represent the amount of 10-year Treasuries that would experience a similar change in market value under a standard parallel move in interest rates. Totals for 12/31/2011 exclude a long Treasury position with fair value of \$10.1 million, which is a long \$10.0 million Treasury position on a 10-year equivalent basis.

# EFC: Agency Interest Rate Hedging Portfolio Continued

## Calculation of Exposure to Agency RMBS Based on TBA Portfolio Fair Value

(In millions)

<u>Agency-related Portfolio</u>	<u>9/30/11</u>	<u>12/31/11</u>
Long Agency RMBS	\$834	\$732
Net Short TBA Positions	(492)	(415)
<b>Net Long Exposure to Agency RMBS</b>	<b>\$342</b>	<b>\$317</b>

- **Shorting “generic” pools (or TBAs) allows EFC to significantly reduce interest rate risk and basis risk in its Agency portfolio; interest rate risk is also hedged with swaps, treasuries, etc.**
- **For those Agency pools hedged with comparable TBAs, the biggest risk is a drop in “pay-ups”, which portfolio-wide average only 0.47% of the value of our fixed rate Agency pool portfolio as of 12/31/2011.**

## Estimated Change in Fair Value as of 12/31/11 for Agency Pools, Agency IOs and Related Hedges if Interest Rates Move:

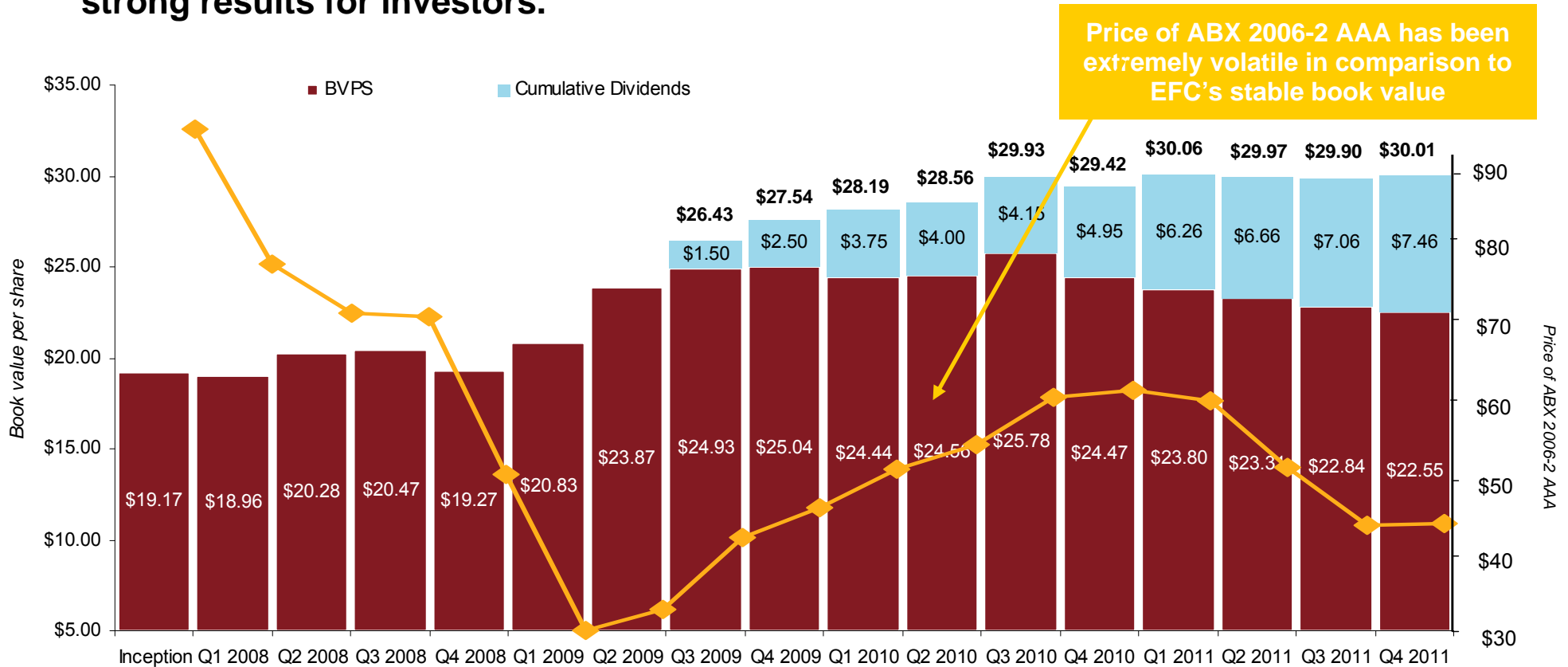
(In thousands)

	<u>Down 50 BPS</u>	<u>Up 50 BPS</u>
Agency ARM Pools	\$ 99	\$ (163)
Agency Fixed Rate Pools and IOs	6,673	(7,637)
TBAs	(2,902)	4,421
Interest Rate Swaps	(5,421)	5,247
Treasury Securities	125	(110)
Repo Agreements and Reverse Repo Agreements	(134)	173
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$(1,560)</b>	<b>\$ 1,931</b>

Note: As of 12/31/11, table reflects a parallel shift in the interest rates. Based on the market environment as of December 31, 2011. The preceding analysis does not include sensitivities to changes in interest rates for our derivatives on corporate securities (whether debt or equity-related), or other categories of instruments for which we believe that the effect of a change in interest rates is not material to the value of the overall portfolio and/or cannot be accurately estimated. Results are based on forward-looking models, which are inherently imperfect, and incorporate various simplifying assumptions. Therefore, the table above is for illustrative purposes only and actual changes in interest rates would likely cause changes in the actual value of our portfolio that would differ from those presented above, and such differences might be significant and adverse.

# EFC: Strong Results and Preservation of Book Value

**EFC has successfully preserved book value through market cycles, while producing strong results for investors.**



**EFC life-to-date net-asset-value-based total return from inception in August 2007 through Q4 2011 is 59%.**

Source: Bloomberg, Markit

Note: Total Return is based on \$19.17 net book value per share at inception in August 2007 and is calculated assuming the reinvestment of dividends. Total Return from inception using the 12/31/2011 Book Value Per Share is 58.99%. Dividends were paid in the quarter following the period related to such performance.

(In Millions)

<u>Repo Borrowings</u>			
<u>Remaining Days to Maturity</u>	<u>Non-Agency</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>% of Total Borrowings</u>
30 Days or Less	\$56.6	\$502.1	62.4%
31-60 Days	91.8	158.2	27.9
61-90 Days	38.0	0.0	4.2
121-150 Days	4.3	0.0	0.5
151-180 Days	45.2	0.0	5.0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$235.9</b>	<b>\$660.3</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

- At 12/31/11, EFC had repo borrowings outstanding with 9 counterparties; the largest counterparty represented 23% of total outstanding borrowings.
- As of 12/31/11, EFC's non-Agency repo borrowings had a weighted average remaining maturity of 70 days. EFC staggers its repo maturities to mitigate liquidity risk.

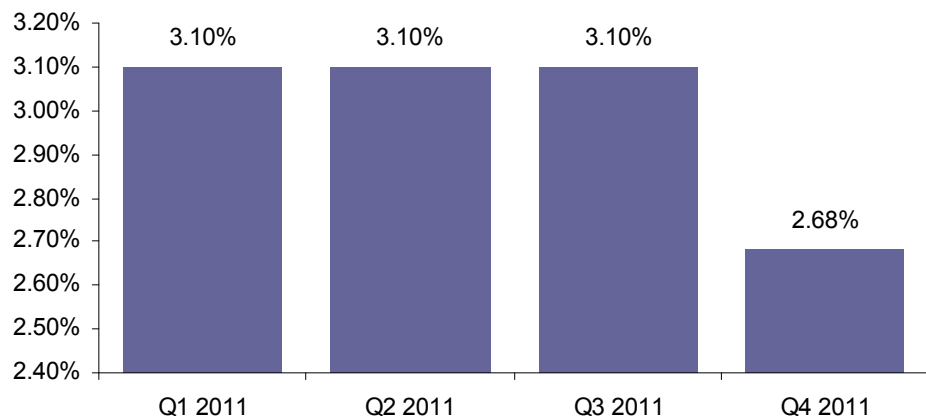
Note: Included in the above table, using the original maturity dates, are any reverse repurchase agreements that the Company may expect to terminate early in the case of an unsettled sale transaction at December 31, 2011. Not included are any repo agreements that the Company may have entered into prior to December 31, 2011, for which we will not take delivery of the borrowed funds until after December 31, 2011. Remaining maturity for a reverse repurchase agreement is based on the contractual maturity date in effect as of December 31, 2011. Some reverse repurchase agreements have floating interest rates, which may reset before maturity.

# EFC: Gross Profit and Loss: 2008-2011

- In times of RMBS market distress, the use of credit hedging instruments has been effective in insulating the long non-Agency portfolio from credit risk.
  - Historically, and over time, non-Agency hedges have contributed gains to the overall portfolio.

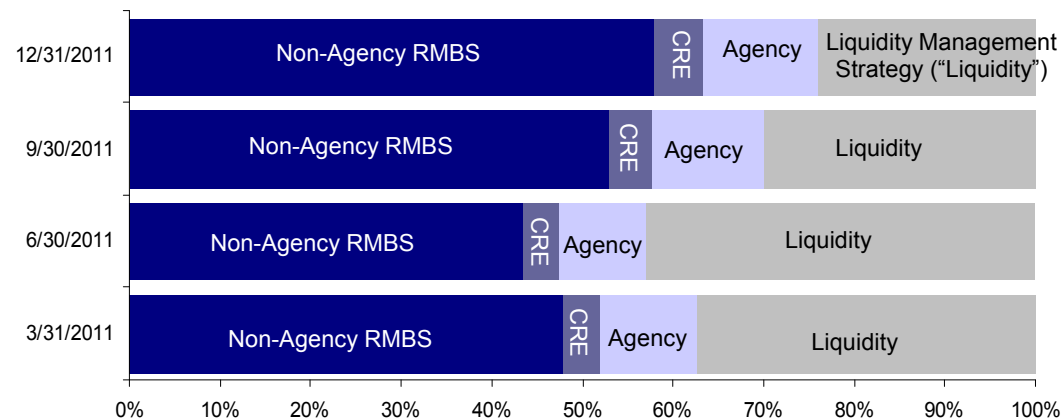
(In Thousands)	2011		2010		2009		2008	
	\$	%	\$	%	\$	%	\$	%
	<b>Long: Non-Agency</b>	1,505	0.39	70,840	21.87	101,748	36.33	(64,565)
<b>Credit Hedge: Non-Agency</b>	19,895	5.16	(7,958)	(2.46)	10,133	3.62	78,373	31.81
<b>Interest Rate Hedge: Non-Agency</b>	(8,171)	(2.12)	(12,150)	(3.75)	(1,407)	(0.50)	(3,446)	(1.40)
<b>Long: Agency</b>	63,558	16.47	21,552	6.65	22,171	7.92	4,763	1.93
<b>Interest Rate Hedge: Agency</b>	(54,173)	(14.04)	(14,524)	(4.48)	(8,351)	(2.98)	(6,414)	(2.60)
<b>Gross Profit/Loss</b>	22,614	5.86	57,760	17.83	124,294	44.39	8,711	3.54

### Expense Ratio



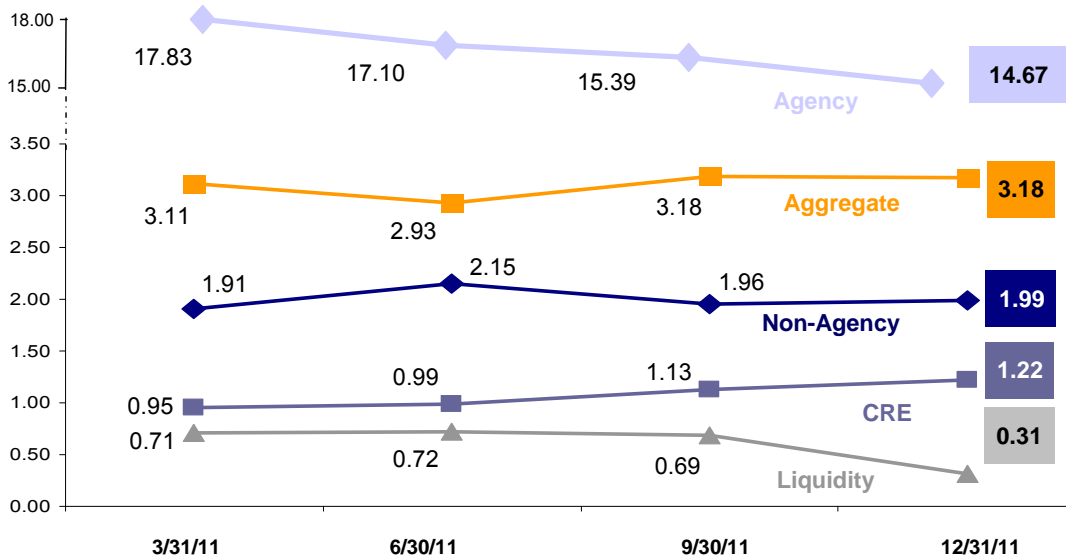
Note to Expense Ratio table: For the year ended 12/31/2011, the expense ratio was 3.0%.

### Capital Usage Across Entire Portfolio

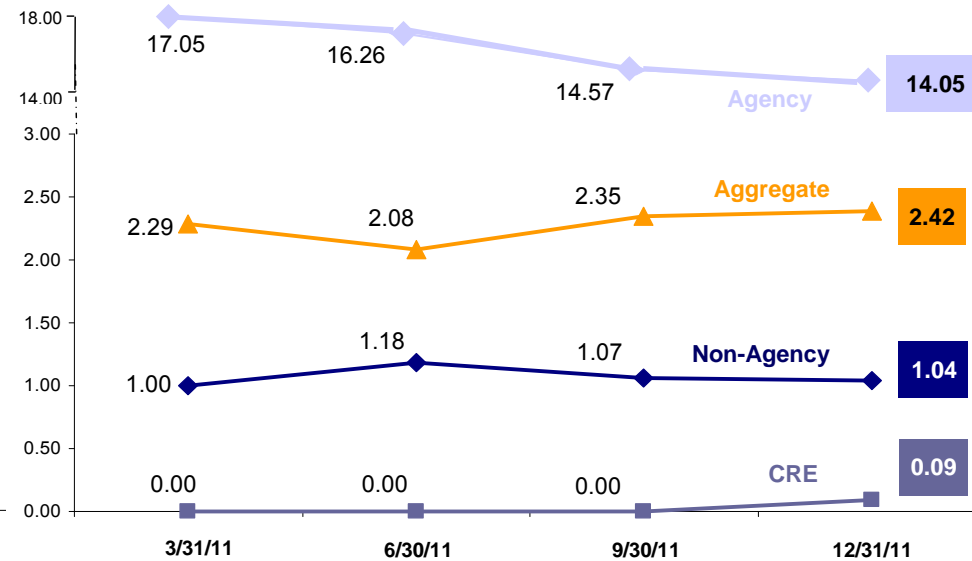


Note to Capital Usage Across Entire Portfolio table: Includes settled investment amounts net of repo borrowings, initial margin of hedges and synthetic long positions, and other assets and liabilities associated with each category. "Agency" strategy includes capital usage associated with leveraged investments in agency pools, as well investments in agency IOs, and associated interest rate hedges. "Liquidity management strategy" includes capital usage associated with non-leveraged investments in agency pools, unencumbered cash, and other miscellaneous assets and liabilities. A substantial portion of the capital used by the Liquidity Management Strategy includes capital set aside for the Company's leveraged strategies, to enable the Company to better withstand adverse changes in market conditions and financing availability. Thus even when the Company considers itself to be "fully invested," there is still significant capital used by the Liquidity Management Strategy. "CRE" refers to CMBS, CMBX and Commercial Mortgage Loans.

### Leverage By Strategy (Assets/Capital Usage)



### Leverage By Strategy (Debt/Capital Usage)

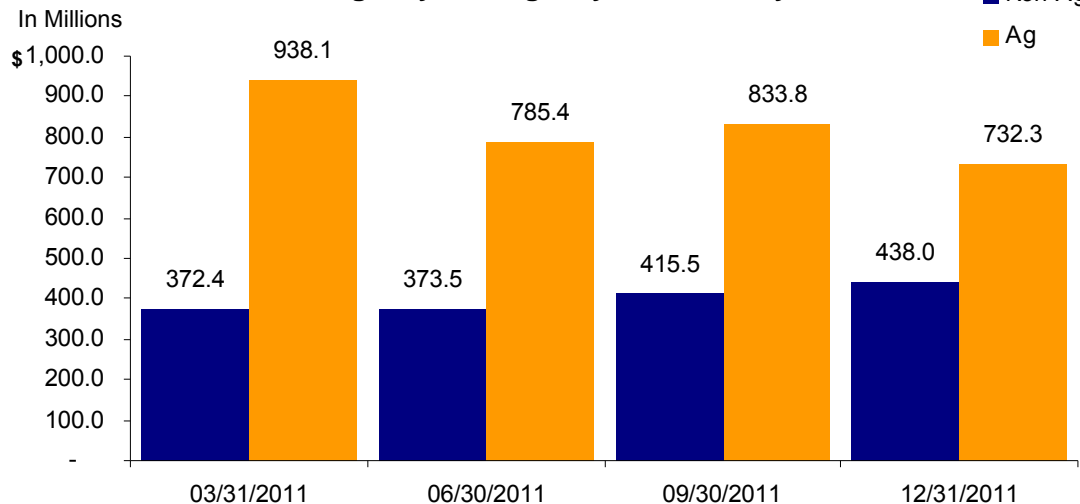


Note: Ratio of (i) strategy total fair value of settled MBS and Mortgage Loans and bond equivalent amount of settled synthetic long MBS/ABS positions, to (ii) strategy capital usage. See footnote 2 on page 3 for a description of bond equivalent value for CDS.

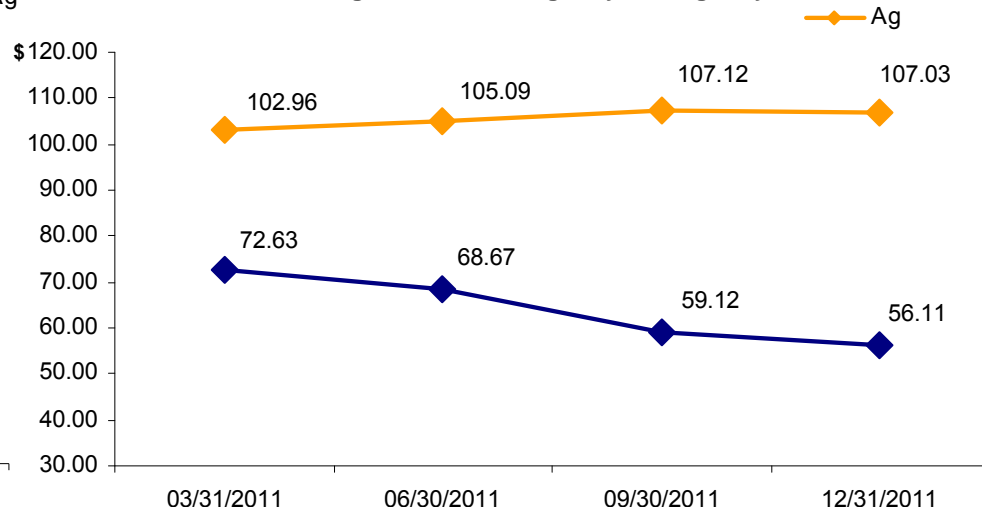
Note: Ratio of (i) strategy total repo liabilities associated with settled MBS, Mortgage Loans and long Treasury positions, to (ii) strategy capital usage.

# EFC: Additional Metrics...Continued

### Non-Agency and Agency Portfolios by Fair Value

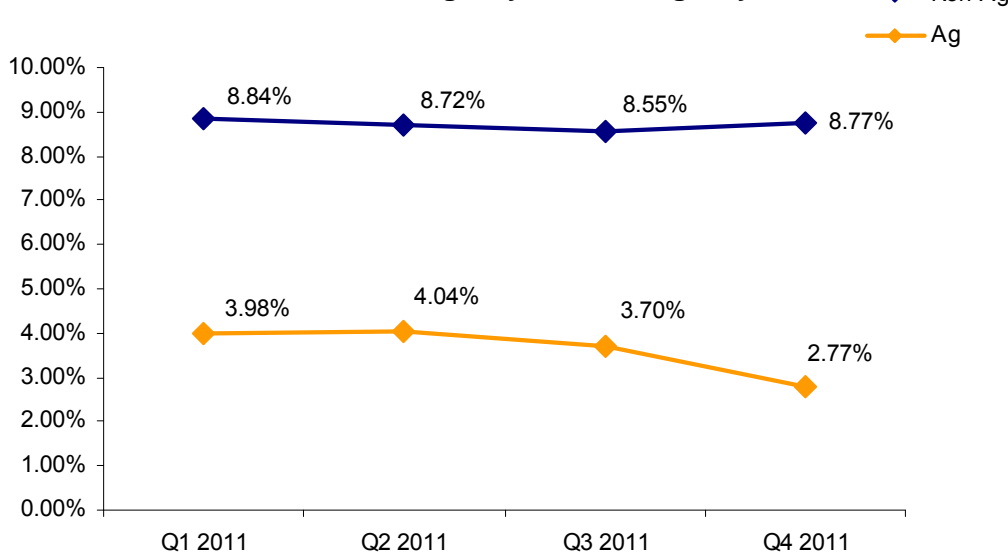


### Average Price - Non-Agency and Agency



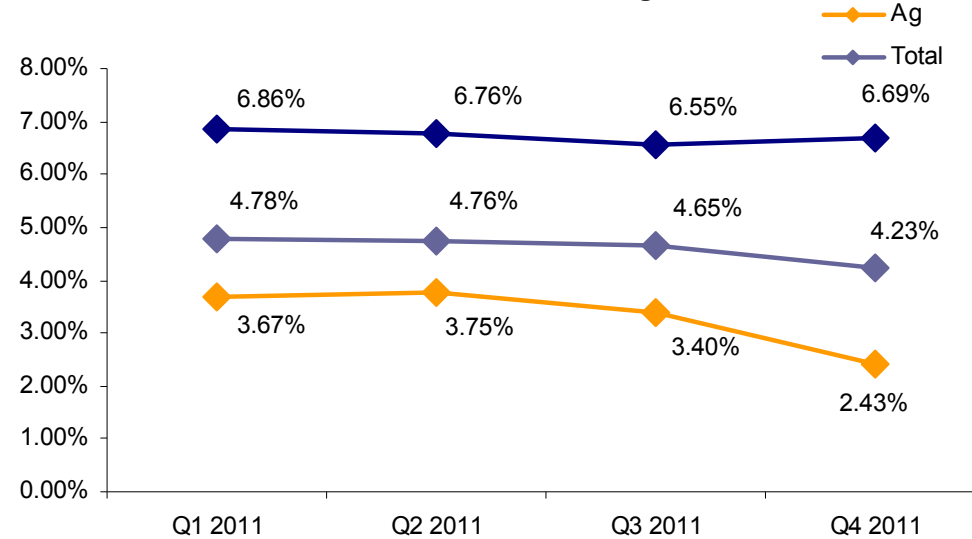
Note: Excludes Interest Only securities and other similar securities.

### Yields - Agency and Non-Agency



Note: Yields are based on amortized cost, not fair value.

### Net Interest Margin

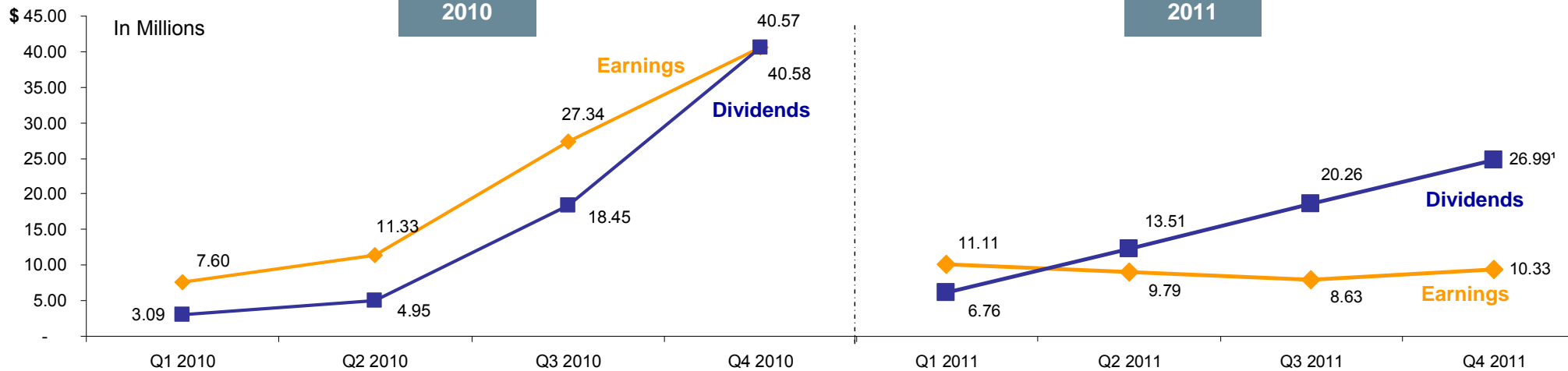


Note: Net Interest Margin figures are based on amortized cost, not fair value, and exclude hedging related expenses.



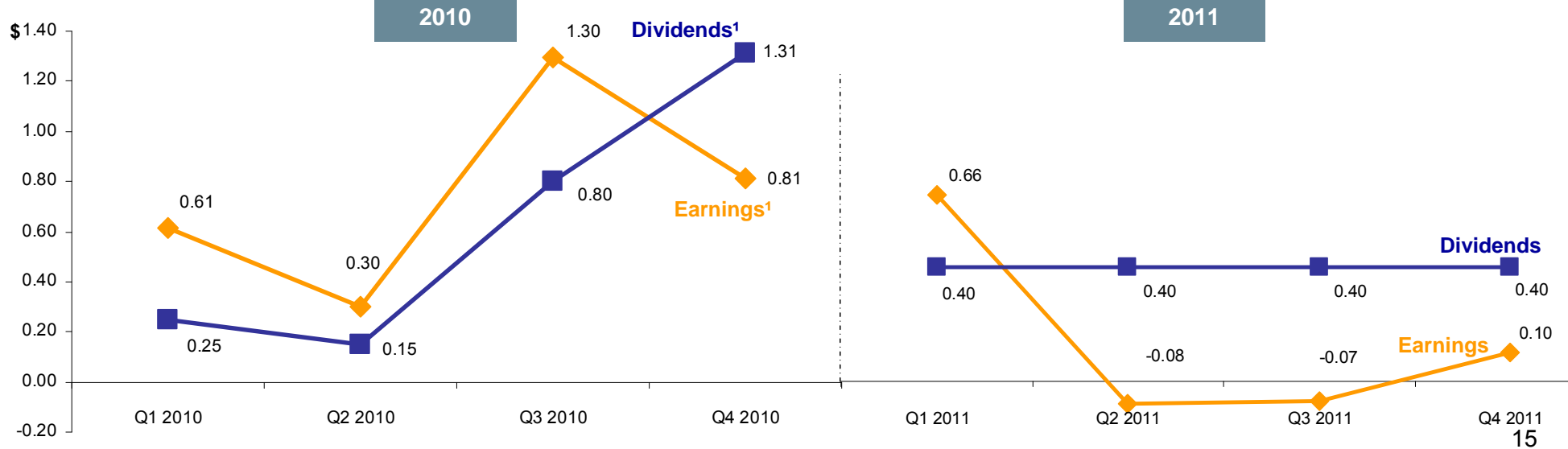
# EFC: 2011 Portfolio Earnings and Dividends

## YTD Cumulative Earnings and Dividends (In Millions)



(1) YTD cumulative dividends for Q4 2011 include estimates for the dividend payable on March 15, 2012 relating to Q4 of 2011.

## Quarterly Earnings and Dividends Per Share



(1) Fourth quarter 2010 dividends and earnings per share reflect a higher share base resulting from the October 2010 Initial Public Offering.

- **EFC is managed by Ellington Financial Management LLC, an affiliate of Ellington Management Group LLC (“EMG”).**
- **EMG was founded in 1994 by Michael Vranos and five partners, and has over 100 employees, giving EFC access to time-tested infrastructure and industry-leading resources in trading, research, risk management, and operational support.**
  - EMG has approximately \$3.7 billion in assets under management.
- **EMG’s portfolio managers are among the most experienced in the MBS sector, and the firm’s analytics are at the industry’s cutting edge.**
  - Prior to forming EMG, five of the founding partners constituted the core of Kidder Peabody’s MBS trading and research group, while one spent ten years at Lehman Brothers where he ran collateralized mortgage obligation (“CMO”) trading.
  - The founding partners each have advanced academic training in mathematics and engineering, including among them several Ph.D.’s and Master’s degrees.
- **The management group owns over 20%<sup>1</sup> of EFC; interests are aligned with shareholders.**

(1) Includes shares held by EMG, its principals, family trusts and LTIPs.

Ellington Financial



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*Ellington Financial LLC (NYSE: EFC)*

Fourth Quarter Investor Presentation

December 31, 2011

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