HOSPITALITYLAWYER.COM PRESENTS: HOSPITALITY LAW CONFERENCE FOCUSING ON LEGAL, SAFETY & SECURITY SOLUTIONS FEBRUARY 10th - 12th, 2014

A BRIEF VIEW OF STICKY ISSUES IN HOSPITALITY TRANSACTIONS

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 Strong emphasis on representing international lodging brands









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Subordination. Non-Disturbance and Attornment Agreements, Cash Management Agreements, Comfort Letters, Sanctioned Persons and **Entities and** Impact in **Mixed Use Developments**







- Purpose of SNDA
 - Subordination
 - Non-Disturbance
 - Attornment
 - What to Subordinate









- Obligations of Mortgagee and Subsequent Owners
 - Owner in default
 - Receiver appointed
 - During foreclosure period
 - Post-foreclosure









- Mortgagee Cure Rights
 - How long should cure period be
 - What must be cured
 - Impact on failure to cure









- Receiverships
 - Working with a receiver









- Amendments to Management Agreement
 - Waiver/Subordination of Manager Fees
 - Limitations on Manager's Rights









- Transfer of Licenses and Permits
 - Liquor Licenses
 - Understanding local laws
 - Risks









- Casualty and Condemnation Considerations
 - What document governs loan agreement or management agreement
 - Use of proceeds loan pay-down or hotel restoration
 - Who controls the insurance proceeds









SNDA's with Mezzanine Lenders









Should SNDA extend to Residential Marketing and License Agreements







II. CASH MANAGEMENT AGREEMENTS



Purpose of Cash Management Agreement – Controlling the Cash







II. CASH MANAGEMENT AGREEMENTS



Granting of Security Interests in Accounts

- Operating Account
- FF&E Reserve
- Owner's Distribution
- Payroll Accounts
- Insurance Accounts







III. COMFORT LETTERS



Subordinating Franchise Agreement





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III. COMFORT LETTERS



Lender Cure Periods







III. COMFORT LETTERS



Extending Comfort Letters to Successors and Assigns





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- U.S. Embargoes and Economic Sanctions Background
 - U.S. embargoes and economic sanctions
 - Support U.S. foreign policy, national security, and economic policy goals
 - Administered by the U.S. Departments of Treasury (OFAC) or Commerce (BIS)







- U.S. Embargoes and Economic Sanctions Background
 - Types of sanctions programs:
 - <u>Comprehensive</u> sanctions programs apply to Cuba, Iran, North Korea, Sudan, and Syria
 - More limited sanctions on Myanmar (Burma)







- U.S. Embargoes and Economic Sanctions Background
 - Types of sanctions programs:
 - <u>List-based</u> sanctions programs apply to designated persons associated with targeted countries, regimes, or activities (such as terrorists, narcotics traffickers, proliferators of weapons of mass destruction, or certain persons associated with formerly embargoed countries)
 - Persons designated under list-based sanctions programs are identified on the U.S. Specially Designated Nationals List (SDN List)







- U.S. Embargoes and Economic Sanctions Prohibitions
 - U.S. Persons are generally prohibited from engaging in the following activities:
 - Most commercial and financial transactions
 - Exporting, re-exporting or selling goods or services
 - Importing goods or services
 - Wire transfers through designated financial institutions
 - *"Facilitation"* of another person's transaction (*i.e.*, non-U.S. Person), if such a transaction would be impermissible if carried out by a U.S. Person







- U.S. Embargoes and Economic Sanctions –
 Prohibitions
 - In the case of the sanctions programs against Cuba and Iran, the prohibitions extended to non-U.S. Persons owned or controlled by a U.S. Person (*i.e.*, foreign subsidiaries)









- U.S. Embargoes and Economic Sanctions Prohibitions
 - Certain narrow exceptions may be available depending upon the sanctions program as each program is unique
 - Examples include the "travel exception" and "informational materials exception"
 - <u>Significant</u> civil and criminal penalties can be levied for violations





- U.S. Embargoes and Economic Sanctions Management Agreements
 - Generally <u>prohibited</u> from entering into a hotel management agreement with a national of or entity organized under the laws of a country subject to a comprehensive sanctions program (e.g., Cuba, Iran, North Korea, Sudan, and Syria), or an individual/entity listed on the SDN List







- U.S. Embargoes and Economic Sanctions Management Agreements
 - For each new or modified agreement, the hotel manager's compliance department should check all hotel owners (entities and senior management) to the countries with comprehensive sanctions as well as to the SDN List to determine if entering into the agreement is prohibited







- U.S. Embargoes and Economic Sanctions Management Agreements
 - All hotel management agreements should contain rep and warranty clauses regarding U.S. sanctions
 - Agreement language might include -- hotel owner (a) is not in violation of U.S. sanctions laws and does not have assets that are subject to restrictions under U.S. sanctions and (b) will not cause the hotel manager to subject its assets or interests to liability under U.S. sanctions laws.







- U.S. Embargoes and Economic Sanctions Management Agreements
 - Management agreement should be reviewed to consider what ancillary services provided by a U.S. parent or U.S. subsidiary to the hotel property might be impacted by a change in U.S. policy toward a particular country. The civil war in Syria provided a number of challenges for U.S. companies in adjusting services that could not be provided from the United States



V. IMPACT IN MIXED USE DEVELOPMENTS



- Brand Identity
- Residential Components
- Guest Integrity
- Financing Impacts
- Insurance, Security and Control
- Allocation of Expenses







VI. CONCLUSION



Questions and Comments





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