Trovagene, Inc. Form DEF 14A July 23, 2014

# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

## **SCHEDULE 14A**

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No. )

Filed by the Registrant X

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant O

Check the appropriate box:

o Preliminary Proxy Statement
o Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))
x Definitive Proxy Statement
o Definitive Additional Materials
o Soliciting Material under §240.14a-12

Trovagene, Inc. (Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)

	(N	ame of Person(s) Filing Proxy	Statement, if other than the Registrant)			
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Trovagene, Inc.

## 11055 Flintkote Avenue

San Diego, California 92121

## NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

To Be Held on September 17, 2014

To be field on September 17, 2014
Dear Stockholder:
We are pleased to invite you to attend the annual meeting of stockholders (the Annual Meeting ) of Trovagene, Inc. ( Trovagene , or the Company ), which will be held on September 17, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. Pacific Daylight Time at our offices, located at 11055 Flintkote Ave., San Diego, California 92121, for the following purposes:
1. To elect seven (7) members to our Board of Directors;
2. To ratify the appointment of BDO USA, LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for our fiscal year ending December 31, 2014;
3. To approve the Trovagene Inc. 2014 Equity Incentive Plan; and
4. For the transaction of such other matters as may properly come before the Annual Meeting and any adjournment or postponement thereof.
Trovagene s Board of Directors has fixed the close of business on July 21, 2014 as the record date for a determination of stockholders entitled to notice of, and to vote at, this Annual Meeting or any adjournment thereof.
If You Plan to Attend
Please note that space limitations make it necessary to limit attendance to stockholders. Registration and seating will begin at 9:00 a.m. Shares of common stock can be voted at the Annual Meeting only if the holder is present in person or by valid proxy.

For admission to the Annual Meeting, each stockholder may be asked to present valid picture identification, such as a driver s license or passport, and proof of stock ownership as of the record date, such as the enclosed proxy card or a brokerage statement reflecting stock ownership. Cameras, recording devices and other electronic devices will not be permitted at the meeting. If you do not plan on attending the meeting, please vote, date and sign the enclosed proxy and return it in the business envelope provided. Your vote is very important.

By the Order of the Board of Directors

/s/ Thomas H. Adams
Thomas H. Adams
Chairman of the Board of Directors

Dated: July 22, 2014

Whether or not you expect to attend in person, we urge you to vote your shares at your earliest convenience. This will ensure the presence of a quorum at the meeting. Promptly voting your shares will save Trovagene the expenses and extra work of additional solicitation. An addressed envelope for which no postage is required if mailed in the United States is enclosed if you wish to vote by mail. Submitting your proxy now will not prevent you from voting your shares at the meeting if you desire to do so, as your proxy is revocable at your option. Your vote is important, so please act today!

#### TROVAGENE, INC.

#### 11055 FLINTKOTE AVENUE

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92121

#### PROXY STATEMENT FOR THE

#### 2014 ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

#### TO BE HELD ON SEPTEMBER 17, 2014

The Board of Directors of Trovagene, Inc. ( Trovagene or the Company ) is soliciting your proxy to vote at the Annual Meeting of Stockholders (the Annual Meeting ) to be held at our offices, located at 11055 Flintkote Ave., San Diego, California 92121, on September 17, at 10:00 a.m. Pacific Daylight Time, including at any adjournments or postponements of the Annual Meeting. You are invited to attend the Annual Meeting to vote on the proposals described in this proxy statement. However, you do not need to attend the meeting to vote your shares. Instead, you may simply complete, sign and return the enclosed proxy card if you received paper copies of the proxy materials, or follow the instructions below to submit your proxy over the Internet.

In accordance with rules and regulations adopted by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC), we have elected to provide our beneficial owners and stockholders of record access to our proxy materials over the Internet. Beneficial owners are stockholders whose shares are held in the name of a broker, bank or other agent (i.e., in street name). Accordingly, a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials (the Notice) will be mailed on or about July 24, 2014 to our beneficial owners and stockholders of record who owned our common stock at the close of business on July 21, 2014. Beneficial owners and stockholders of record will have the ability to access the proxy materials on a website referred to in the Notice or request a printed set of the proxy materials be sent to them by following the instructions in the Notice. Beneficial owners and stockholders of record who have previously requested to receive paper copies of our proxy materials will receive paper copies of the proxy materials instead of a Notice.

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT THIS PROXY MATERIAL AND VOTING

Why did I Receive in the Mail a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials this Year instead of a Full Set of Proxy Materials?

We are pleased to take advantage of the SEC rule that allows companies to furnish their proxy materials over the Internet. Accordingly, we have sent to our beneficial owners and stockholders of record a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials. Instructions on how to access the proxy materials over the Internet or to request a paper copy may be found in the Notice. Our stockholders may request to receive proxy materials in printed form by mail or electronically on an ongoing basis. A stockholder s election to receive proxy materials by mail or electronically by email will remain in effect until the stockholder terminates its election.

Why did I Receive a Full Set of Proxy Materials in the Mail instead of a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials?

We are providing paper copies of the proxy materials instead of a Notice to our beneficial owners or stockholders of record who have previously requested to receive paper copies of our proxy materials. If you are a beneficial owner or stockholder of record who received a paper copy of the proxy materials, and you would like to reduce the environmental impact and the costs incurred by us in mailing proxy materials, you may elect to receive all future proxy materials electronically via email or the Internet.

You can choose to receive future proxy materials electronically by visiting http://www.pstvote.com/trovagene2014. Your choice to receive proxy materials electronically will remain in effect until you instruct us otherwise by following the instructions contained in your Notice and visiting http://www.pstvote.com/trovagene2014, sending an electronic mail message to info@philadelphiastocktransfer.com, or calling 1-866-223-0448.

The SEC has enacted rules that permit us to make available to stockholders electronic versions of the proxy materials even if the stockholder has not previously elected to receive the materials in this manner. We have chosen this option in connection with the Annual Meeting with respect to both our beneficial owners and stockholders of record.

#### Who is Entitled to Vote?

Our Board has fixed the close of business on July 21, 2014 as the record date for a determination of stockholders entitled to notice of, and to vote at, the Annual Meeting or any adjournment thereof. On the record date, there were 18,902,991 shares of common stock outstanding. Each share of common stock represents one vote that may be voted on each proposal that may come before the Annual Meeting.

What is the Difference Between Holding Shares as a Record Holder and as a Beneficial Owner (Holding Shares in Street Name)	What is the	Difference Bety	ween Holding Shares a	s a Record Holder an	d as a Beneficial O	wner (Holding	Shares in Street Name)?
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If your shares are registered in your name with our transfer agent, Philadelphia Stock Transfer, Inc., you are the record holder of those shares. If you are a record holder, these proxy materials have been provided directly to you by the Company.

If your shares are held in a stock brokerage account, a bank or other holder of record, you are considered the beneficial owner of those shares held in street name. If your shares are held in street name, these proxy materials have been forwarded to you by that organization. As the beneficial owner, you have the right to instruct this organization on how to vote your shares.

What is the Difference Between the Trovagene Securities that are Traded Under the NASDAQ Trading Symbols TROV, TROVU, and TROVW and How is Each Voted?

Our common stock is listed and trades on The NASDAQ Capital Market under the symbol TROV. The units of securities we sold in our public offering that was closed on June 4, 2012, are listed and trade on The NASDAQ Capital Market under the symbol TROVU. Each unit consists of two shares of our common stock and one warrant to purchase one share of common stock. A holder of units has one vote for each of the two shares in the unit. The warrants we sold in the public offering are listed and trade on The NASDAQ Capital Market under the symbol TROVW. The warrants do not have voting rights.

#### Who May Attend the Meeting?

Record holders and beneficial owners may attend the Annual Meeting. If your shares are held in street name, you will need to bring a copy of a brokerage statement or other documentation reflecting your stock ownership as of the record date.

How Do I Vote?

#### Shareholders of Record

For your convenience, our record holders have three methods of voting:

1. <u>Vote by Internet</u>. The website address for Internet voting is on your vote instruction form.

2. the United States).	<u>Vote by mail</u> . Mark, date, sign and mail promptly the enclosed proxy card (a postage-paid envelope is provided for mailing in
3.	<u>Vote in person</u> . Attend and vote at the Annual Meeting.
Beneficial Owner	s of Shares Held in Street Name
For your convenie	nce, our beneficial owners have three methods of voting:
1.	<u>Vote by Internet</u> . The website address for Internet voting is on your vote instruction form.
2. in the United State	Vote by mail. Mark, date, sign and mail promptly your vote instruction form (a postage-paid envelope is provided for mailing es).
3. Meeting.	<u>Vote in person</u> . Obtain a valid legal proxy from the organization that holds your shares and attend and vote at the Annual
If you vote by Inte	ernet, please DO NOT mail your proxy card.
voted at the meetin the shares represer proposals and with meeting. If you are stockholders who	to vote and represented by a properly completed and executed proxy received before the meeting and not revoked will be ng as you instruct in a proxy delivered before the meeting. If you do not indicate how your shares should be voted on a matter, need by your properly completed and executed proxy will be voted as the Board recommends on each of the enumerated a regard to any other matters that may be properly presented at the meeting and all matters incident to the conduct of the era registered stockholder and attend the meeting, you may deliver your completed proxy card in person. Street name wish to vote at the meeting will need to obtain a proxy form from the institution that holds their shares. All votes will be espector of elections appointed for the meeting, who will separately tabulate affirmative and negative votes, abstentions and
Is My Vote Confi	dential?
Yes, your vote is c	confidential. Only the following persons have access to your vote: the inspector of elections, individuals who

help with processing and counting your votes, and persons who need access for legal reasons. Occasionally, stockholders provide written comments on their proxy cards, which may be forwarded to the Company s management and the Board of Directors.

#### What Constitutes a Quorum?

To carry on business at the Annual Meeting, we must have a quorum. A quorum is present when a majority of the shares entitled to vote, as of the record date, are represented in person or by proxy. Thus, 9,451,497 shares must be represented in person or by proxy to have a quorum. Your shares will be counted towards the quorum only if you submit a valid proxy (or one is submitted on your behalf by your broker, bank or other nominee) or if you vote in person at the Annual Meeting. Abstentions and broker non-votes will be counted towards the quorum requirement. Shares owned by us are not considered outstanding or considered to be present at the Annual Meeting. If there is not a quorum at the Annual Meeting, our stockholders may adjourn the meeting.

#### What is a Broker Non-Vote?

If your shares are held in street name, you must instruct the organization who holds your shares how to vote your shares. If you do not provide voting instructions, your shares will not be voted on any non-routine proposal. This vote is called a broker non-vote. If you sign your proxy card but do not provide instructions on how your broker should vote, your broker will vote your shares as recommended by our Board. Broker non-votes are not included in the tabulation of the voting results of any of the proposals and, therefore, do not effect these proposals.

Brokers cannot use discretionary authority to vote shares on the election of directors if they have not received instructions from their clients. Please submit your vote instruction form so your vote is counted.

#### Which Proposals are Considered Routine or Non-Routine?

With the exception of Proposal 2, the ratification of the appointment of BDO USA, LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for our fiscal year ending December 31, 2014, all of the proposals to be voted upon at our 2014 Annual Meeting are considered non-routine.

#### What is an Abstention?

An abstention is a stockholders affirmative choice to decline to vote on a proposal. Abstentions are not included in the tabulation of the voting results of any of the proposals and, therefore, do not affect these proposals.

## How Many Votes are Needed for Each Proposal to Pass?

Proposal	Vote Required	Broker Discretionary Vote Allowed
Election of seven (7) members to our Board of Directors	Plurality of the votes cast (the seven directors receiving the most For votes)	No
Ratification of the Appointment of BDO USA, LLP as our Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm for our Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2014	A majority of the votes cast	Yes
Approval of the Trovagene Inc. 2014 Equity Incentive Plan	A majority of the votes cast	No

#### What Are the Voting Procedures?

In voting by proxy with regard to the election of directors, you may vote in favor of all nominees, withhold your votes as to all nominees, or withhold your votes as to specific nominees. With regard to other proposals, you may vote in favor of or against the proposal, or you may abstain from voting on the proposal. You should specify your respective choices on the accompanying proxy card or your vote instruction form.

#### Is My Proxy Revocable?

You may revoke your proxy and reclaim your right to vote at any time before it is voted by giving written notice to the Secretary of Trovagene, by delivering a properly completed, later-dated proxy card or vote instruction form or by voting in person at the Annual Meeting. All written notices of revocation and other communications with respect to revocations of proxies should be addressed to: Trovagene, Inc., 11055 Flintkote Avenue, Suite B, San Diego, CA 92121, Attention: Secretary, or by facsimile at 858-952-7571.

#### Who is Paying for the Expenses Involved in Preparing and Mailing this Proxy Statement?

All of the expenses involved in preparing, assembling and mailing these proxy materials and all costs of soliciting proxies will be paid by us. In addition to the solicitation by mail, proxies may be solicited by our officers and other employees by telephone or in person. Such persons will receive no compensation for their services other than their regular salaries. Arrangements will also be made with brokerage houses and other custodians, nominees and fiduciaries to forward solicitation materials to the beneficial owners of the shares held of record by such persons, and we may reimburse such persons for reasonable out of pocket expenses incurred by them in so doing.

#### Do I Have Dissenters Rights of Appraisal?

Trovagene shareholders do not have appraisal rights under Delaware law or under the governing documents of Trovagene with respect to the matters to be voted upon at the 2014 Annual Meeting.

#### How can I find out the Results of the Voting at the Annual Meeting?

Preliminary voting results will be announced at the Annual Meeting. Final voting results will be published in a Current Report on Form 8-K, which we will file within four business days of the meeting.

#### When are Stockholder Proposals Due for the 2015 Annual Meeting?

Any appropriate proposal submitted by a stockholder and intended to be presented at the 2015 Annual Meeting must be submitted in writing to the Company s Secretary at 11055 Flintkote Ave., San Diego, California 92121, and received no later than March 31, 2015, to be includable in the Company s proxy statement and related proxy for the 2015 Annual Meeting. A stockholder proposal will need to comply with the SEC regulations under Rule 14a-8 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act ), regarding the inclusion of stockholder proposals in company-sponsored proxy materials. Although the Board of Directors will consider stockholder proposals, we reserve the right to omit from our proxy statement, or to vote against, stockholder proposals that we are not required to include under the Exchange Act, including Rule 14a-8.

#### Interest of Officers and Directors in Matters to Be Acted Upon

Members of the board of directors and executive officers of Trovagene are eligible to receive grants under the terms of the 2014 Equity Incentive Plan. Accordingly, members of the board of directors and the executive officers of Trovagene have a substantial interest in Proposal 3. Members of the board of directors and executive officers of Trovagene do not have any interest in any other Proposal that is not shared by all other stockholders of Trovagene, other than Proposal 1, the election to our board of the seven nominees set forth herein.

#### PROPOSAL 1

#### **ELECTION OF DIRECTORS**

At the Annual Meeting, the stockholders will elect seven directors to hold office until the next annual meeting of stockholders. Directors are elected by a plurality of votes cast by stockholders. In the event the nominees are unable or unwilling to serve as directors at the time of the Annual Meeting, the proxies will be voted for any substitute nominees designated by the present Board or the proxy holders to fill such vacancy, or for the balance of the nominees named without nomination of a substitute, or the size of the Board will be reduced in accordance with the Bylaws of the Company. The Board has no reason to believe that the persons named below will be unable or unwilling to serve as nominees or as directors if elected.

Assuming a quorum is present, the seven nominees receiving the highest number of affirmative votes of shares entitled to be voted for such persons will be elected as directors of the Company for the ensuing year. Unless marked otherwise, proxies received will be voted FOR the election of the nominees named below. In the event that additional persons are nominated for election as directors, the proxy holders intend to vote all proxies received by them in such a manner as will ensure the election of the nominees listed below, and, in such event, the specific nominees to be voted for will be determined by the proxy holders.

#### **Information with Respect to Director Nominees**

Listed below are the current directors who are nominated to hold office until their successors are elected and qualified.

Name	Age
Thomas H. Adams, Ph.D.	71
Antonius Schuh, Ph.D.	50
John Brancaccio	66
Gary S. Jacob, Ph.D.	67
Dr. Paul Billings	62
Dr. Stanley Tennant	62
Dr. Rodney S. Markin	57

Thomas H. Adams. Thomas H. Adams has been our Chairman of the Board since April 2009. Since June 2005 through 2011, Dr. Adams served as a director of IRIS International, Inc., a diagnostics company, and as Chief Technology Officer of IRIS from April 2006. Until November 2012, Dr. Adams was the Head of Iris Molecular Diagnostics since 2006 and the President of Iris Personalized Medicine since 2011. In November 2012, IRIS was acquired by Danaher Corporation. Dr. Adams served as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Leucadia Technologies, a privately held medical-device company, from 1998 to April 2006, when Leucadia was acquired by IRIS. In 1989, Dr. Adams founded Genta, Inc., a publicly held biotechnology company in the field of antisense technology, and served as its Chief Executive Officer until 1997. Dr. Adams founded Gen-Probe, Inc. in 1984 and served as its Chief Executive Officer and Chairman until its acquisition by Chugai Biopharmaceuticals, Inc. in 1989. Dr. Adams is currently a director of Synergy Pharmaceuticals Inc., a biotechnology company. Dr. Adams holds a Ph.D. in Biochemistry from the University of California, at Riverside. Dr. Adam s executive leadership, particularly in the diagnostic field, and the extensive healthcare expertise he has developed qualifies Dr. Adams to serve as a director of our company.

Antonius Schuh. Antonius Schuh joined us in October 2011 as our Chief Executive Officer and was elected as a Director in December 2011. Since 2013, Dr. Schuh has served as Executive Director of Gensignia, Inc., a lung cancer diagnostics company. Dr. Schuh co-founded Sorrento Therapeutics, Inc., a biopharmaceutical company developing monoclonal antibodies, in January 2006. He served as Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of Sorrento from November 2008 to April 2011. From April 2006 to September 2008, Dr. Schuh served as Chief Executive Officer of AviaraDx (now bioTheranostics, Inc., a bioMerieux company), a molecular diagnostic testing company that is focused on clinical applications in oncology. Since March 2009, Dr. Schuh has been a director of Diogenix, Inc., a privately held molecular diagnostic company, and since May 2009, he has served as a director of Transgenomic, Inc., a public biotechnology company focused on genetic analysis and molecular diagnostics. Dr. Schuh is a certified pharmacist and earned his Ph.D. in pharmaceutical chemistry from the University of Bonn, Germany.

John Brancaccio. John Brancaccio, a retired CPA, has served as a director of our company since December 2005. Since April 2004, Mr. Brancaccio has been the Chief Financial Officer of Accelerated Technologies, Inc., an incubator for medical device companies..

Mr. Brancaccio is currently a director of Tamir Biotechnology, Inc. (formerly Alfacell Corporation) as well as a director of Synergy Pharmaceuticals Inc. and ContraVir Pharmaceuticals, Inc., a subsidiary of Synergy. Mr. Brancaccio is chief financial officer experience provides him with valuable financial and accounting expertise which the Board believes qualifies him to serve as a director of our company.

Gary S. Jacob has served as a director of our company since February 2009. Since July 2008, Dr. Jacob has been President, Chief Executive Officer and a Director of Synergy Pharmaceuticals Inc. and Chairman since September 2013. Dr. Jacob has also been Chief Executive Officer and a director of ContraVir Pharmaceuticals, Inc. since May 2013. Prior to 1999, Dr. Jacob served as a Monsanto Science Fellow, specializing in the field of glycobiology, and from 1997 to 1998 was Director of Functional Genomics, Corporate Science & Technology, at Monsanto Company. Dr. Jacob s broad management expertise in the pharmaceutical

and biotechnology industries provides relevant experience in a number of strategic and operational areas and led to the Board s conclusion that he should serve as a director of our company.

**Dr. Paul Billings.** Paul Billings, MD, PhD was appointed to our Board in October 2013 and has been a member of our Scientific Advisory Board since November 2012. Dr. Billings is a board certified internist and clinical geneticist, and currently serves as Chief Medical Officer at Life Technologies Corporation. Dr. Billings has extensive healthcare experience in many aspects of genomics and molecular medicine. In addition to serving as Chief Medical Officer at Life Technologies, he also serves on the Scientific Advisory Board of the Food and Drug Administration, the Genomic Medicine Advisory Committee at the Department of Veterans Affairs, and the National Academy of Sciences Institute of Medicine s Roundtable on Genomics. In addition to Trovagene, he serves as an advisor or director for many companies including Omicia, BioScale, Applied Immunology, Aueon and PAX Neurosciences. Dr. Billings holds an M.D. from Harvard Medical School and a Ph.D. in immunology, also from Harvard University. Dr. Billings medical and managerial experience in the diagnostic field qualifies him to serve as a director of our company.

**Dr. Stanley Tennant.** Dr. Tennant has served as a director of our company since December 2010. Since 1983, Dr Tennant has been a cardiologist in Greensboro, NC. He graduated from Wake Forest University School of Medicine in 1978 and completed postgraduate training in Internal Medicine and Cardiology at Vanderbilt University in 1983. Dr. Tennant s practical experience in the healthcare field led to the Board s conclusion that he should serve as a director of our company.

**Dr. Rodney S. Markin.** Dr. Markin has been a director of our company since February 2014. Dr. Markin is Chief Technology Officer and Associate Vice Chancellor for Business Development at the University of Nebraska Medical Center and a Professor of Pathology and Microbiology; David T. Purtilo Distinguished Professor Pathology and Microbiology and Courtesy Professor of Surgery. Dr. Markin is also a director on the Board of Children s Hospital and Medical Center Foundation and on the Board of Trustees for Keck Graduate Institute. Dr. Markin is Chairman of the Board of Transgenomic, Inc., a biotechnology company. The Board selected Dr. Markin to serve as a director because he has valuable executive experience in the healthcare business.

#### Information Regarding the Board of Directors and Corporate Governance

Directorships

Except as otherwise reported above, none of our directors held directorships in other reporting companies and registered investment companies at any time during the past five years.

Family Relationships

There are no family relationships among our directors and executive officers. There is no arrangement or understanding between or among our executive officers and directors pursuant to which any director or officer was or is to be selected as a director or officer.

Involvement in Certain Legal Proceedings

To our knowledge, during the past ten years, none of our directors, executive officers, promoters, control persons, or nominees has been:

- convicted in a criminal proceeding or is subject to a pending criminal proceeding (excluding traffic violations and other minor offenses);
- subject to any order, judgment, or decree, not subsequently reversed, suspended or vacated, of any court of competent jurisdiction or any Federal or State authority, permanently or temporarily enjoining, barring, suspending or otherwise limiting his involvement in any type of business, securities or banking activities;
- found by a court of competent jurisdiction (in a civil action), the Commission or the Commodity Futures Trading Commission to have violated a federal or state securities or commodities law.
- the subject of, or a party to, any Federal or State judicial or administrative order, judgment, decree, or finding, not subsequently reversed, suspended or vacated, relating to an alleged violation of (a) any Federal or State securities or commodities law or regulation; (b) any law or regulation respecting financial institutions or insurance companies including, but not limited to, a temporary or permanent injunction, order of disgorgement or restitution, civil money penalty or temporary or permanent cease-and-desist order, or removal or prohibition order; or (c) any law or regulation prohibiting mail or wire fraud or fraud in connection with any business entity; or
- the subject of, or a party to, any sanction or order, not subsequently reversed, suspended or vacated, of any self-regulatory organization (as defined in Section 3(a)(26) of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. 78c(a)(26))), any registered entity (as defined in Section 1(a)(29) of the Commodity Exchange Act (7 U.S.C. 1(a)(29))), or any equivalent exchange, association, entity or organization that has disciplinary authority over its members or persons associated with a member.

There are no material proceedings to which any director of the Company is a party adverse to the Company or has a material interest adverse to the Company.

Board Responsibilities and Structure

The Board oversees, counsels, and directs management in the long-term interest of Trovagene and its shareholders. The Board s responsibilities include establishing broad corporate policies and reviewing the overall performance of Trovagene. The Board is not, however, involved in the operating details on a day-to-day basis.

**Board Committees and Charters** 

The following table identifies the independent and non-independent current Board and Committee members:

Name	Independent	Audit	Compensation	Nominating
Antonius Schuh, Ph.D.				
Thomas H. Adams, Ph.D.	X	X		X
John Brancaccio	X	X	x	X
Gary S. Jacob, Ph.D.	X	X	x	
Dr. Paul Billings	X			
Dr. Stanley Tennant	X		X	X
Dr. Rodney S. Markin	X			

Meetings of the Board of Directors and Committees

During the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013, our Board held a total of 6 regularly scheduled and special meetings, the Audit Committee held 4 meetings, the Compensation Committee held 8 meetings and the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee held 0 meetings. None of our incumbent directors attended less than 100% of the Board or committee meetings.

Policy Regarding Attendance at Annual Meetings of Stockholders

Trovagene does not have a policy with regard to board members attendance at annual meetings.

Board Leadership Structure and Role in Risk Oversight

We have separated the roles of Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer. Although the separation of roles has been appropriate for us during that time period, in the view of the board of directors, the advisability of the separation of these roles going forward depends upon the specific circumstances and dynamics of our leadership.

As Chairman of the Board, Dr. Adams serves as the primary liaison between the CEO and the independent directors and provides strategic input and counseling to the CEO. With input from other members of the board of directors, committee chairs and management, he presides over meetings of the board of directors. Mr. Adams has developed an extensive knowledge of our company, its challenges and opportunities and has a productive working relationship with our senior management team.

The board of directors, as a unified body and through committee participation, organizes the execution of its monitoring and oversight roles and does not expect its Chairman to organize those functions. Our primary rationale for separating the positions of Board Chairman and the CEO is the recognition of the time commitments and activities required to function effectively as Chairman and as the CEO of a company with a relatively flat management structure. The separation of roles has also permitted the board of directors to recruit senior executives into the CEO position with skills and experience that meet the board of director s planning for the position who may not have extensive public company board experience.

The board of directors has three standing committees Audit, Compensation and Corporate Governance/Nominating. The membership of each of the board committees is comprised of independent directors, with each of the committees having a separate chairman, each of whom is an independent director. Our non-management members of the board of directors meet in executive session at each board meeting.

Risk is inherent with every business, and how well a business manages risk can ultimately determine its success. Management is responsible for the day-to-day management of risks the company faces, while the board of directors, as a whole and through its committees, has responsibility for the oversight of risk management. In its risk oversight role, the board of directors has the responsibility to satisfy itself that the risk management processes designed and implemented by management are adequate and functioning as designed.

The board of directors believes that establishing the right tone at the top and that full and open communication between executive management and the board of directors are essential for effective risk management and oversight. Our CEO communicates

frequently with members of the board to discuss strategy and challenges facing the company. Senior management usually attends our regular quarterly board meetings and is available to address any questions or concerns raised by the board of directors on risk management-related and any other matters. Each quarter, the board of directors receives presentations from senior management on matters involving our areas of operations.

Director Independence

Our board of directors has determined that a majority of the board consists of members who are currently independent as that term is defined under current listing standards of NASDAQ. The board of directors considers Messrs. Adams, Jacob, Billings, Tennant, Markin and Brancaccio to be independent.

Audit Committee

The Audit Committee s responsibilities include: (i) reviewing the independence, qualifications, services, fees, and performance of the independent registered public accountants, (ii) appointing, replacing and discharging the independent auditors, (iii) pre-approving the professional services provided by the independent auditors, (iv) reviewing the scope of the annual audit and reports and recommendations submitted by the independent auditors, and (v) reviewing our financial reporting and accounting policies, including any significant changes, with management and the independent auditors. The Audit Committee also prepares the Audit Committee report that is required pursuant to the rules of the SEC.

The Audit Committee currently consists of John P. Brancaccio, chairman of the Audit Committee, Dr. Gary S. Jacob, and Thomas Adams. Our board of directors has determined that each of Mr. Brancaccio, Dr. Jacob and Dr. Adams is independent as that term is defined under applicable SEC and NASDAQ rules. Mr. Brancaccio is our audit committee financial expert. The board of directors has adopted a written charter setting forth the authority and responsibilities of the Audit Committee.

Compensation Committee

The Compensation Committee has responsibility for assisting the board of directors in, among other things, evaluating and making recommendations regarding the compensation of the executive officers and directors of our company; assuring that the executive officers are compensated effectively in a manner consistent with our stated compensation strategy; producing an annual report on executive compensation in accordance with the rules and regulations promulgated by the SEC; periodically evaluating the terms and administration of our incentive plans and benefit programs and monitoring of compliance with the legal prohibition on loans to our directors and executive officers.

The Compensation Committee currently consists of Dr. Stanley Tennant, chairman of the Compensation Committee, Dr. Gary S. Jacob and John P. Brancaccio. Our board of directors has determined that all of the members are independent under the current listing standards of NASDAQ. The board of directors has adopted a written charter setting forth the authority and responsibilities of the Compensation Committee.

Corporate Governance/Nominating Committee

The Corporate Governance/Nominating Committee has responsibility for assisting the board of directors in, among other things, effecting board organization, membership and function including identifying qualified board nominees; effecting the organization, membership and function of board committees including composition and recommendation of qualified candidates; establishment of and subsequent periodic evaluation of successor planning for the chief executive officer and other executive officers; development and evaluation of criteria for Board membership such as overall qualifications, term limits, age limits and independence; and oversight of compliance with the Corporate Governance Guidelines. The Corporate Governance/Nominating Committee shall identify and evaluate the qualifications of all candidates for nomination for election as directors. Potential nominees are identified by the Board of Directors based on the criteria, skills and qualifications that have been recognized by the Corporate Governance/Nominating Committee. While our nomination and corporate governance policy does not prescribe specific diversity standards, the Corporate Governance/Nominating Committee and its independent members seek to identify nominees that have a variety of perspectives, professional experience, education, difference in viewpoints and skills, and personal qualities that will result in a well-rounded Board of Directors.

The Corporate Governance/Nominating Committee currently consists of John Brancaccio, chairman of the Corporate Governance/Nominating Committee, Thomas Adams and Stanley Tennant. The Board of Directors has determined that all of the members are independent under the current listing standards of NASDAQ. The Board of Directors has adopted a written charter setting forth the authority and responsibilities of the Corporate Governance/Nominating Committee.

Code of Ethics

We have adopted a formal Code of Business Conduct and Ethics applicable to all Board members, executive officers and employees. A copy of our Code of Business Conduct and Ethics will be provided free of charge upon request to: Secretary, Trovagene, Inc. 11055 Flintkote Avenue, San Diego, California 92121.

Stockholder Communications

Although we do not have a formal policy regarding communications with the Board, stockholders may communicate with the Board by writing to Trovagene, Inc. 11055 Flintkote Avenue, San Diego, California 92121, Attention: Dr. Antonius Schuh, or by facsimile 858-957-7571. Stockholders who would like their submission directed to a member of the Board may so specify, and the communication will be forwarded, as appropriate.

## **Vote Required**

Under applicable Delaware law, the election of each nominee requires the affirmative vote by a plurality of the voting power of the shares present and entitled to vote on the election of directors at the Annual Meeting at which a quorum is present.

THE BOARD RECOMMENDS THAT YOU VOTE FOR EACH OF THE NOMINEES TO THE BOARD SET FORTH IN THIS PROPOSAL 1.

#### PROPOSAL 2

#### RATIFICATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF OUR INDEPENDENT

#### REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2014

Our Board has appointed BDO USA, LLP ( BDO ), to serve as our independent registered public accounting firm for the year ending December 31, 2014. BDO has acted as our principal accountant since April 5, 2007 and served as our principal accountant for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013.

The selection of our independent registered public accounting firm is not required to be submitted to a vote of our stockholders for ratification. However, Trovagene is submitting this matter to the stockholders as a matter of good corporate governance. Even if the appointment is ratified, the Board may, in its discretion, appoint a different independent registered public accounting firm at any time during the year if they determine that such a change would be in the best interests of Trovagene and its stockholders. If the appointment is not ratified, the Board will consider its options.

A representative of BDO is expected to be present via telephone conference call at the Annual Meeting. He or she will have the opportunity to make a statement if desired and is expected to be available to respond to appropriate questions.

Our Audit Committee retains our independent registered public accounting firm and approves in advance all audit and non-audit services performed by this firm and any other auditing firms. Although management has the primary responsibility for the financial statements and the reporting process including the systems of internal control, the Audit Committee consults with management and our independent registered public accounting firm regarding the preparation of financial statements, the adoption and disclosure of our critical accounting estimates and generally oversees the relationship of the independent registered public accounting firm with Trovagene. The independent registered public accounting firm is responsible for expressing an opinion on the conformity of those audited financial statements with generally accepted accounting principles, relating to their judgments as to the quality, not just the acceptability, of Trovagene s accounting principles, and such other matters as are required to be discussed with the Audit Committee under generally accepted auditing standards.

It is not the duty of the Audit Committee to determine that Trovagene s financial statements and disclosures are complete and accurate and in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles or to plan or conduct audits. Those are the responsibilities of management and Trovagene s independent registered public accounting firm. In giving its recommendation to the Board, the Audit Committee has relied on: (1) management s representation that such financial statements have been prepared with integrity and objectivity and in conformity with GAAP; and (2) the report of Trovagene s independent registered public accounting firm with respect to such financial statements.

#### **Principal Accountant Fees and Services**

The aggregate fees billed to the Company by BDO USA, LLP, the Company s independent registered public account firm, for the indicated services for each of the last two fiscal years were as follows:

	2013	2012
Audit fees (1)	\$ 284,720 \$	386,125
Tax fees (2)	35,646	7,643
	\$ 320,366 \$	393,768

<sup>(1)</sup> Audit fees consist of fees for professional services performed by BDO USA, LLP for the audit and review of the Company s financial statements included in SEC filings, and services that are normally provided in connection with regulatory filings or engagements.

(2) Tax fees consist of fees for professional services performed by BDO USA, LLP with respective to tax compliance.

#### Policy on Audit Committee Pre-Approval of Audit and Permissible Non-Audit Services of Independent Auditors

Consistent with SEC policies and guidelines regarding audit independence, the Audit Committee is responsible for the pre-approval of all audit and permissible non-audit services provided by our principal accountants on a case-by-case basis. Our Audit Committee has established a policy regarding approval of all audit and permissible non-audit services provided by our principal accountants. No non-audit services were performed by our principal accountants during the fiscal years ended December 31, 2013 and 2012. Our Audit Committee pre-approves these services by category and service. Our Audit Committee has pre-approved all of the services provided by our principal accountants.

#### **Vote Required**

The affirmative vote of the majority of the votes cast at the Annual Meeting is required for the ratification of the appointment of BDO USA, LLP as Trovagene s independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2014.

THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS A VOTE FOR RATIFICATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF BDO USA, LLP AS THE COMPANY S INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2014.

#### PROPOSAL 3

## APPROVAL OF TROVAGENE INC. S 2014 EQUITY INCENTIVE PLAN

#### Reasons for Adoption of the 2014 Equity Incentive Plan

On June 11, 2014, the Company s Board of Directors adopted the Trovagene, Inc. 2014 Equity Incentive Plan (the 2014 Plan ), an omnibus equity incentive plan pursuant to which the Company may grant equity and cash and equity-linked awards to certain management, directors, consultants and others. The Company s Board of Directors recommends adoption of the 2014 Plan in order to promote the success of the Company by providing a means to offer incentives and to attract, motivate, retain and reward persons eligible to participate in the 2014 Plan. Accordingly, the Board of Directors voted unanimously to adopt the 2014 Plan.

Our 2004 Option Plan, as amended, expired on June 24, 2014. Our Board believes we must continue to offer a competitive equity compensation program in order to attract, retain and motivate the extraordinarily talented employees and other service providers necessary for our continued growth and success. The share reserve of the 2014 Plan is structured to ensure that we have a sufficient number of shares to continue to utilize a broad array of equity incentives in order to secure and retain the services of our and our affiliates employees, consultants and directors, and to provide incentives for such persons to exert maximum efforts toward our success.

In the event that our shareholders do not approve this Proposal 3, the 2014 Plan will not become effective and we will not have an incentive plan in place to meet our anticipated employee recruiting and retention needs until the 2015 Annual Meeting of Shareholders.

We Manage Our Equity Incentive Award Use Carefully and Dilution Is Reasonable

The Compensation Committee carefully monitors our total dilution and equity expense to ensure that we maximize stockholder value by granting only the appropriate number of equity awards necessary to attract, retain and motivate employees.

• Based on historical usage and our internal growth plans, we expect that the proposed 2,500,000 shares to be reserved for issuance under the 2014 Plan would be sufficient for approximately 24 months of awards, assuming we continue to grant awards consistent with our historical usage and current practices, as reflected in our recent historical burn rate discussed below, and noting that future circumstances may require us to change our current equity grant practices. If the adoption of the 2014 Plan is approved, the share reserve under the 2014 Plan could last for a longer or shorter period of time, depending on our future equity grant practices, which we cannot predict with any degree of certainty at this time.

The following table shows certain key equity metrics over the past three fiscal years:

Key Equity Metrics	2013	2012	2011
Equity burn rate(1)	6.7%	9.9%	7.6%
Overhang(2)	32.1%	24.6%	50.7%

- (1) Equity burn rate is calculated by dividing the number of shares subject to equity awards granted during the fiscal year by the weighted-average number of shares outstanding during the period.
- (2) Overhang is calculated by dividing the sum of (x) the number of shares subject to equity awards outstanding at the end of the fiscal year and (y) the number of shares available for future grants, by the number of shares outstanding at the end of the fiscal year.
- If the adoption of the 2014 Plan is approved, the issuance of the shares to be reserved under the 2014 Plan would dilute existing stockholders by an additional 35.9% on a fully diluted basis, based on the number of shares of our common stock outstanding as of December 31, 2014.
- As described in the table above, the total aggregate equity value of the shares being requested for authorization under the 2014 Plan, based on the closing price of our common stock on July 21, 2014, is \$7,900,000.

In light of the factors described above, and the fact that the ability to continue to grant equity compensation is vital to our ability to continue to attract and retain employees in the competitive labor markets in which we compete, the Board has determined that the proposed adoption of the 2014 Plan is reasonable and appropriate at this time. The Board will not create a subcommittee to evaluate the risks and benefits for issuing the shares under the 2014 Plan.

#### **Forecasted Utilization Rates**

Our Compensation Committee reviewed certain actuals and forecasts of grant utilization for different categories of grants over the periods indicated, as summarized below. These actuals and forecasts included grants to executive and employee new hires, annual performance grants to existing eligible employees, and initial and annual grants for non-employee directors.

	Fiscal Year 2013	2014	Fiscal Year 2014	Fiscal Year 2015
	Actual	Grants (1)	Forecast	Forecast
New hire and performance	1,036,000	132,000	882,000	1,000,000
Non-employee directors	108,760	149,870	149,870	150,000
Total	1,144,760	281,870	1,031,870	1,150,000

<sup>(1)</sup> Option grants for transaction/retention/sign-on bonuses issued prior to June 30, 2014.

	Fiscal Year 2013	Fiscal Year 2014	Fiscal Year 2015 Forecast (1)	
	Actual	Forecast (1)		
Equity Burn Rate as a % of Outstanding (2)	6.7%	5.3%	5.5%	

<sup>(1)</sup> For purposes of this calculation, we have assumed that the number of weighted-average common shares outstanding for fiscal year 2014 and 2015 is the number of shares outstanding as of June 30, 2014.

#### Note Regarding Forecasts and Forward-Looking Statements

We do not as a matter of course make public forecasts as to our total shares outstanding and utilization of various equity awards due to the unpredictability of the underlying assumptions and estimates. In particular, the forecasts set forth above in this Proposal 3 include embedded assumptions regarding option exercise, employee turnover and competitive grant guidelines which are highly dependent on the public trading price of our common stock and other factors, which we do not control, and, as a result, we do not as a matter of practice provide forecasts. In evaluating these forecasts, our Compensation Committee recognized the high variability inherent in these assumptions.

However, we have included above a summary of these forecasts to give our stockholders access to certain information that was considered by our Compensation Committee for purposes of evaluating the approval of the 2014 Plan. These forecasts reflect various assumptions regarding our future operations.

<sup>(2)</sup> Equity burn rate is calculated by dividing the number of shares subject to equity awards granted during the fiscal year by the weighted-average number of shares outstanding during the period.

The inclusion of the forecasts set forth above should not be regarded as an indication that these forecasts will be predictive of actual future outcomes, and the forecasts should not be relied upon as such. Neither we nor any other person makes any representation to any of our stockholders regarding actual outcomes compared to the information contained in the forecasts set forth above. Although presented with numerical specificity, the forecasts are not fact and reflect numerous assumptions and estimates as to future events made by our management that our management believed were reasonable at the time the forecasts were prepared and other factors such as industry performance and general business, economic, regulatory, market and financial conditions, as well as factors specific to our business, all of which are difficult to predict and many of which are beyond the control of our management. In addition, the utilization forecasts with respect to our equity awards do not take into account any circumstances or events occurring after the date that they were prepared and, accordingly, do not give effect to any changes to our operations or strategy that may be implemented in the future. Accordingly, actual outcomes may be, and likely will be, materially different than those reflected in the forecasts. We do not intend to update or otherwise revise the forecasts to reflect circumstances existing after the date when made or to reflect the occurrence of future events even if any or all of the assumptions underlying the forecasts are shown to be in error. The forecasts are forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. These statements involve risks and uncertainties that could cause actual outcomes to differ materially from those in the forward-looking statements, including our ability to attract and retain talent, achievement of performance metrics, if any, with respect to certain equity awards, the extent of option exercise activity, and others described in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013.

#### **Description of Our 2014 Equity Incentive Plan**

Set forth below is a summary of the 2014 Plan, but this summary is qualified in its entirety by reference to the full text of the 2014 Plan, a copy of which is included as **Appendix A** to this Proxy Statement.

#### **Shares Available**

The 2014 Plan authorizes issuance of 2,500,000 shares of Common Stock. As of the Record Date, 200,000 options were granted under our 2014 Plan, 5,143,322 options were issued under our previously adopted 2004 Option Plan, as amended.

#### Administration

The 2014 Plan will be administered by the Board of Directors or by one or more committees of directors appointed by the Board of Directors (the Administrator). The Board of Directors may delegate different levels of authority to different committees with administrative and grant authority under the 2014 Plan. Any committee delegated administrative authority under the 2014 Plan may further delegate its authority under the Plan to another committee of directors, and any such delegate shall be deemed to be an Administrator of the 2014 Plan. The Administrator comprised solely of directors may also delegate, to the extent permitted by Section 157 of the Delaware General Corporation Law and any other applicable law, to one or more officers of the Corporation, its powers under this Plan (a) to designate Eligible Persons who will receive grants of awards under this Plan, and (b) to determine the number of shares subject to, and the other terms and conditions of, such awards. It is anticipated that the Administrator (either generally or with respect to specific transactions) will be constituted so as to comply, as necessary or desirable, with the requirements of Code Section 162(m) and Rule 16b-3 promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

#### **Eligibility**

Awards may be granted pursuant to the 2014 Plan only to persons who are eligible persons. Under the 2014 Plan, Eligible Person means any person who is either: (a) an officer (whether or not a director) or employee of the Company or one of its subsidiaries; (b) a director of the Company or one of its subsidiaries; or (c) a consultant who renders bona fide services to the Company or one of its subsidiaries; provided, however, that ISOs may be granted only to employees.

#### Awards

The 2014 Plan permits the grant of: (a) stock options, which may be intended as ISOs or as nonqualified stock options (options not meeting the requirements to qualify as ISOs); (b) stock appreciation rights (SARs); (c) restricted stock; (d) restricted stock units; (e) cash incentive awards; or (f) other awards, including: (i) stock bonuses, performance stock, performance units, dividend equivalents, or similar rights to purchase or acquire shares, whether at a fixed or variable price or ratio related to the Common Stock, upon the passage of time, the occurrence of one or more events, or the satisfaction of performance criteria or other conditions, or any combination thereof; or (ii) any similar securities with a value derived from the value of or related to the Common Stock and/or returns thereon.

Option and SAR Awards. Option and SAR awards granted under the 2014 Plan must have an exercise price or base price of no less than 100% of the fair market value of the Common Stock on the date of grant (or 110% of the fair market value on the date of grant, in the case of ISOs granted to certain ten percent stockholders of the Company). Options and SAR awards shall become exercisable upon such conditions (which may include the passage of time or the attainment of certain performance criteria) as the Administrator may establish in its sole discretion. The exercise price of any option shall be paid in cash or by any of the methods set forth below under the heading \*Consideration for Award s\*.\*

Option and SAR awards are exercisable for a period established by the Administrator, which in no event shall exceed ten years from the date of grant (five years in the case of ISOs granted to certain ten percent stockholders of the Company). If the Administrator does not specify otherwise in an award agreement, upon termination of a participant s employment or other service to the Company, option and SAR awards shall expire (1) three months after the last day that the participant is employed by or provides services to the Company or any subsidiary (provided; however, that in the event of the participant s death during this period, those persons entitled to exercise the option or SAR pursuant to the laws of descent and distribution shall have one year following the date of death within which to exercise such option or SAR); (2) in the case of a participant whose termination of employment or services is due to death or disability (as defined in the applicable award agreement), 12 months after the last day that the participant is employed by or provides services to the Company or its subsidiary; and (3) immediately upon a participant s termination for cause .

#### **Performance Based Compensation**

The 2014 Plan provides for the grant of certain awards, the vesting or payment of which may be contingent on the satisfaction of certain performance criteria. Such performance-based awards are designed to be exempt from the limitations of Section 162(m) of the Code, as described below under *Certain Federal Tax Consequences*. The maximum number of shares that may be issued to any single participant pursuant to options and SARs during the term of the 2014 Plan shall not exceed 2,500,000 shares. The maximum number of shares of Common Stock which may be delivered pursuant to other performance-based equity awards granted during the 162(m) Term (as defined below) may not exceed 2,500,000 shares, and the maximum amount of cash compensation payable pursuant to performance-based cash awards granted during the 162(m) Term (as defined below) may not exceed 1,000,000. The 162(m) Term is the period beginning on the effective date of the 2014 Plan and ending on the date of the first stockholder meeting that occurs in the fifth year following the year in which the Company s stockholders first approve this 2014 Plan (the 162(m) Term ).

The 2014 Plan includes the following performance criteria that may be used by the Administrator when granting performance-based awards: (1) earnings per share, (2) cash flow (which means cash and cash equivalents derived from either (i) net cash flow from operations or (ii) net cash flow from operations, financing and investing activities), (3) total stockholder return, (4) price per share of Common Stock, (5) gross revenue, (6) revenue growth, (7) operating income (before or after taxes), (8) net earnings (before or after interest, taxes, depreciation and/or amortization), (9) return on equity, (10) capital employed, or on assets or on net

investment, (11) cost containment or reduction, (12) cash cost per ounce of production, (13) operating margin, (14) debt reduction, (15) resource amounts, (16) production or production growth, (17) resource replacement or resource growth, (18) successful completion of financings, or (19) any combination of the foregoing.

#### Fair Market Value

Under the 2014 Plan, Fair Market Value means, unless otherwise determined or provided by the Administrator in the circumstances, the closing price for a share of Common Stock on the trading day immediately before the grant date, as furnished by the NASDAQ Stock Market or other principal stock exchange on which the Common Stock is then listed for the date in question, or if the Common Stock is no longer listed on a principal stock exchange, then by the Over-the-Counter Bulletin Board or OTC Markets. If the Common Stock is no longer listed on the NASDAQ Capital Market or listed on a principal stock exchange or is no longer actively traded on the Over-the-Counter Bulletin Board or OTC Markets as of the applicable date, the Fair Market Value of the Common Stock shall be the value as reasonably determined by the Administrator for purposes of the award in the circumstances.

#### **Consideration for Awards**

The purchase price for any award granted under the 2014 Plan or the Common Stock to be delivered pursuant to any such award, as applicable, may be paid by means of any lawful consideration as determined by the Administrator, including, without limitation, one or a combination of the following methods:

- services rendered by the recipient of such award;
- cash, check payable to the order of the Company, or electronic funds transfer;
- notice and third party payment in such manner as may be authorized by the Administrator;
- the delivery of previously owned and fully vested shares of Common Stock;
- by a reduction in the number of shares otherwise deliverable pursuant to the award; or
- subject to such procedures as the Administrator may adopt, pursuant to a cashless exercise with a third party who provides financing for the purposes of (or who otherwise facilitates) the purchase or exercise of awards.

In the event that the Administrator allows a participant to exercise an award by delivering shares of Common Stock previously owned by such participant and unless otherwise expressly provided by the Administrator, any shares delivered which were initially acquired by the participant from the Company (upon exercise of a stock option or otherwise) must have been owned by the participant at least six months as of the date of delivery. Shares of Common Stock used to satisfy the exercise price of an option are valued at their fair market value on the date of exercise. The Company will not be obligated to deliver any shares unless and until it receives full payment of the exercise or purchase price for the shares and any related withholding obligations and any other conditions to exercise or purchase, as established from time to time by the Administrator, have been satisfied. Unless otherwise expressly provided in the applicable award agreement, the Administrator may at any time eliminate or limit a participant s ability to pay the purchase or exercise price of any award or shares by any method other than cash payment to the Company.

All of the reserved shares under our 2014 Plan are available for issuance under the 2014 Plan may be issued as incentive stock options ( ISOs ) under Section 422 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code ) or as other type of awards. The Administrator may adopt reasonable counting procedures to ensure appropriate counting, avoid double counting (as, for example, in the case of tandem or substitute awards) and make adjustments in accordance with the 2014 Plan. Shares shall be counted against those reserved to the extent such shares have been delivered and are no longer subject to a substantial risk of forfeiture. Accordingly, (i) to the extent that an award under the 2014 Plan, in whole or in part, is canceled, expired, forfeited, settled in cash, settled by delivery of fewer shares than the number of shares underlying the award, or otherwise terminated without delivery of shares to the participant, the shares retained by or returned to the Company will not be deemed to have been delivered under the 2014 Plan and will be deemed to remain or to become available under the 2014 Plan; and (ii) shares that are withheld from such an award or separately surrendered by the participant in payment of the exercise price or taxes relating to such an award shall be deemed to constitute shares not delivered and will be deemed to remain or to become available under the 2014 Plan. The foregoing adjustments to the share limit of the 2014 Plan are subject to any applicable limitations under Section 162(m) of the Code with respect to awards intended to qualify as performance-based compensation under Section 162(m).

The number of shares available for issuance under the 2014 Plan (as well as the number of shares that may be issued as ISOs, and the share limitations set forth below under the heading *Performance Based Compensation*) are subject to proportionate adjustment by the Administrator (as defined below) in the event of any reclassification, recapitalization, stock split (including a stock split in the form of a stock dividend) or reverse stock split, or upon any merger, arrangement, combination, consolidation, or other reorganization, or upon any spin-off, split-up or similar extraordinary dividend distribution in respect of the Common Stock, or upon any exchange of Common Stock or other securities of the Company, or upon any similar unusual or extraordinary corporate transaction in respect of the Common Stock.

#### **Change in Control**

Upon a change in control, each then-outstanding option and SAR shall automatically become fully vested, all restricted shares then outstanding shall automatically fully vest free of restrictions, and each other award granted under the 2014 Plan that is then outstanding shall automatically become vested and payable to the holder of such award unless the Administrator has made appropriate provision for the substitution, assumption, exchange or other continuation of the award pursuant to the change in control. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Administrator, in its sole and absolute discretion, may choose (in an award agreement or otherwise) to provide for full or partial accelerated vesting of any award upon a change in control (or upon any other event or other circumstance related to the change in control, such as an involuntary termination of employment occurring after such change in control, as the Administrator may determine), irrespective of whether such any such award has been substituted, assumed, exchanged or otherwise continued pursuant to the change in control.

For purposes of the 2014 Plan, Change in Control shall be deemed to have occurred if:

- (i) a tender offer (or series of related offers) shall be made and consummated for the ownership of 50% or more of the outstanding voting securities of the Company, unless as a result of such tender offer more than 50% of the outstanding voting securities of the surviving or resulting corporation shall be owned in the aggregate by the stockholders of the Company (as of the time immediately prior to the commencement of such offer), and/or by any employee benefit plan of the Company or its subsidiaries, and their affiliates;
- (ii) the Company shall be merged or consolidated with another entity, unless as a result of such merger or consolidation more than 50% of the outstanding voting securities of the surviving or resulting entity shall be owned in the aggregate by the stockholders of the Company (as of the time immediately prior to such transaction), and/or by any employee benefit plan of the Company or its subsidiaries, and their affiliates;
- (iii) the Company shall sell substantially all of its assets to another entity that is not wholly owned by the Company, unless as a result of such sale more than 50% of such assets shall be owned in the aggregate by the stockholders of the Company (as of the time immediately prior to such transaction), and/or by any employee benefit plan of the Company or its subsidiaries and their affiliates; or
- (iv) a person shall acquire 50% or more of the outstanding voting securities of the Company (whether directly, indirectly, beneficially or of record), unless as a result of such acquisition more than 50% of the outstanding voting securities of the surviving or resulting corporation shall be owned in the aggregate by the stockholders of the Company (as of the time immediately prior to the first acquisition of such securities by such person), and/or by any employee benefit plan of the Company or its subsidiaries, and their affiliates.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, (1) the Administrator may waive the requirement described in paragraph (iv) above that a person must acquire more than 50% of the outstanding voting securities of the Company for a change in control to have occurred if the Administrator determines that the percentage acquired by a person is significant (as determined by the Administrator in its discretion) and that waiving such condition is appropriate in light of all facts and circumstances, and (2) no compensation that has been deferred for purposes of Section 409A of the Code shall be payable as a result of a change in control unless the change in control qualifies as a change in ownership or effective control of the Company within the meaning of Section 409A of the Code.

#### **Certain Federal Tax Consequences**

The following summary of the federal income tax consequences of the 2014 Plan transactions is based upon federal income tax laws in effect on the date of this Consent Solicitation Statement. This summary does not purport to be complete, and does not discuss state, local or non-U.S. tax consequences.

Nonqualified Stock Options. The grant of a nonqualified stock option under the 2014 Plan will not result in any federal income tax consequences to the participant or to the Company. Upon exercise of a nonqualified stock option, the participant will recognize ordinary compensation income equal to the excess of the fair market value of the shares of Common Stock at the time of exercise over the option exercise price. If the participant is an employee, this income is subject to withholding for federal income and employment tax purposes. The Company is entitled to an income tax deduction in the amount of the income recognized by the participant, subject to possible limitations imposed by the Code, including Section 162(m) thereof. Any gain or loss on the participant subsequent disposition of the shares will be treated as long-term or short-term capital gain or loss, depending on the sales proceeds received and whether the shares are held for more than one year following exercise. The Company does not receive a tax deduction for any subsequent capital gain.

*Incentive Options*. The grant of an ISO under the 2014 Plan will not result in any federal income tax consequences to the participant or to the Company. A participant recognizes no federal taxable income upon exercising an ISO (subject to the alternative minimum tax rules discussed below), and the Company receives no deduction at the time of exercise. In the event of a disposition of

stock acquired upon exercise of an ISO, the tax consequences depend upon how long the participant has held the shares. If the participant does not dispose of the shares within two years after the ISO was granted, nor within one year after the ISO was exercised, the participant will recognize a long-term capital gain (or loss) equal to the difference between the sale price of the shares and the exercise price. The Company is not entitled to any deduction under these circumstances.

If the participant fails to satisfy either of the foregoing holding periods (referred to as a disqualifying disposition ), he or she will recognize ordinary compensation income in the year of the disposition. The amount of ordinary compensation income generally is the lesser of (i) the difference between the amount realized on the disposition and the exercise price or (ii) the difference between the fair market value of the stock at the time of exercise and the exercise price. Such amount is not subject to withholding for federal income and employment tax purposes, even if the participant is an employee of the Company. Any gain in excess of the amount taxed as ordinary income will generally be treated as a short-term capital gain. The Company, in the year of the disqualifying disposition, is entitled to a deduction equal to the amount of ordinary compensation income recognized by the participant, subject to possible limitations imposed by the Code, including Section 162(m) thereof.

The spread under an ISO i.e., the difference between the fair market value of the shares at exercise and the exercise price is classified as an item of adjustment in the year of exercise for purposes of the alternative minimum tax. If a participant s alternative minimum tax liability exceeds such participant s regular income tax liability, the participant will owe the alternative minimum tax liability.

**Restricted Stock**. Restricted stock is generally taxable to the participant as ordinary compensation income on the date that the restrictions lapse (i.e. the date that the stock vests), in an amount equal to the excess of the fair market value of the shares on such date over the amount paid for such stock (if any). If the participant is an employee, this income is subject to withholding for federal income and employment tax purposes. The Company is entitled to an income tax deduction in the amount of the ordinary income recognized by the participant, subject to possible limitations imposed by the Code, including Section 162(m) thereof. Any gain or loss on the participant s subsequent disposition of the shares will be treated as long-term or short-term capital gain or loss treatment depending on the sales price and how long the stock has been held since the restrictions lapsed. The Company does not receive a tax deduction for any subsequent gain.

Participants receiving restricted stock awards may make an election under Section 83(b) of the Code (Section 83(b) Election) to recognize as ordinary compensation income in the year that such restricted stock is granted, the amount equal to the excess of the fair market value on the date of the issuance of the stock over the amount paid for such stock. If such an election is made, the recipient recognizes no further amounts of compensation income upon the lapse of any restrictions and any gain or loss on subsequent disposition will be long-term or short-term capital gain or loss to the recipient. The Section 83(b) Election must be made within 30 days from the time the restricted stock is issued.

*Other Awards.* Other awards (such as restricted stock units) are generally treated as ordinary compensation income as and when Common Stock or cash are paid to the participant upon vesting or settlement of such awards. If the participant is an employee, this income is subject to withholding for income and employment tax purposes. The Company is generally entitled to an income tax deduction equal to the amount of ordinary income recognized by the recipient, subject to possible limitations imposed by the Code, including Section 162(m) thereof.

Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code. Under Code Section 162(m), no deduction is allowed in any taxable year of the Company for compensation in excess of \$1 million paid to the Company s covered employees. A covered employee is the Company s chief executive officer and the three other most highly compensated officers of the Company other than the chief financial officer. An exception to this rule applies to qualified performance based compensation, which generally includes stock options and stock appreciation rights granted under a stockholder approved plan, and other forms of equity incentives, the vesting or payment of which is contingent upon the satisfaction of certain stockholder approved performance goals. The Company intends that the 2014 Plan allow for the grant of options and stock appreciation rights that may be treated as qualified performance based compensation that is exempt from the limitations of Code Section 162(m), and for the grant of other performance-based awards that may be treated as qualified performance based compensation, but it makes no assurance that either such type of

award will be so treated.

## **New Plan Benefits**

Set forth below is information on option grants under the 2014 Plan to the Named Executive Officers, all current executive officers as a group, all current directors who are not executive officers as a group, and all employees who are not executive officers as a group. Such options have been granted subject to stockholder approval of the 2014 Plan.

#### **NEW PLAN BENEFITS**

Name and Position Number of Options

Non-Executive Officer Employee Group 200,000

## SECURITIES AUTHORIZED FOR ISSUANCE UNDER EQUITY COMPENSATION PLANS

The following table summarizes information about our equity compensation plans as of December 31, 2013.

Plan Category	Number of Shares of Common Stock to be Issued upon Exercise of Outstanding Options	Weighted- Average Exercise Price of Outstanding Options		Number of Options Remaining Available for Future Issuance Under Equity Compensation Plans (excluding securities reflected in column (a))
Plan Category	Options (a)	Options (b)		column (a)) (c)
Equity Compensation Plans Approved by Stockholders	4,158,359	\$	5.24	1,788,921
Equity Compensation Plans Not Approved				
by Stockholders	129,186	\$	3.15	
Total	4,287,545			

## **Vote Required**

The affirmative vote of a majority of the shares (by voting power) present in person at the Meeting or represented by proxy and entitled to vote at the Meeting is required to approve the Company s 2014 Equity Incentive Plan.

## **Board Recommendation**

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS A VOTE FOR THE ADOPTION OF THE COMPANY S 2014 EQUITY INCENTIVE PLAN.

#### AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

The following Audit Committee Report shall not be deemed to be soliciting material, filed with the SEC, or subject to the liabilities of Section 18 of the Exchange Act. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary set forth in any of the Company's previous filings under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act, that might incorporate by reference future filings, including this Proxy Statement, in whole or in part, the following Audit Committee Report shall not be incorporated by reference into any such filings.

The Audit Committee is comprised of three independent directors (as defined under Rule 5605(a)(2) of the NASDAQ Stock Market). The Audit Committee operates under a written charter, which is available in print to any stockholder upon request to the Corporate Secretary.

We have reviewed and discussed with management the Company s audited consolidated financial statements as of and for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013.

We have reviewed and discussed with management and BDO USA, LLP, our independent registered public accounting firm, the quality and the acceptability of the Company s financial reporting and internal controls.

We have discussed with BDO USA, LLP, the overall scope and plans for their audit as well as the results of their audit, their audit of the Company's internal controls, and the overall quality of the Company's financial report.

We have discussed with management and BDO USA, LLP, such other matters as required to be discussed by the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (the PCAOB ) Auditing Standard No. 16, (Communications with Audit Committees), and other auditing standards generally accepted in the United States, the corporate governance standards of the NASDAQ Stock Market and the Audit Committee s Charter.

We have received and reviewed the written disclosures and the letter from BDO USA, LLP required by applicable requirements of the PCAOB regarding BDO USA, LLP s communications with the Audit Committee concerning independence, and have discussed with BDO USA, LLP, their independence from management and the Company.

Based on the reviews and discussions referred to above, we recommended to the Board of Directors that the financial statements referred to above be included in the Company s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013 for filing with the SEC.

John Brancaccio, Chairman Dr. Gary S. Jacob Thomas Adams

#### SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT

The following table sets forth certain information regarding beneficial ownership of shares of our common stock as of July 21, 2014 by (i) each person known to beneficially own more than 5% of our outstanding common stock, (ii) each of our directors, (iii) our named executive officers and (iv) all directors and executive officers as a group. Except as otherwise indicated, the persons named in the table have sole voting and investment power with respect to all shares beneficially owned, subject to community property laws, where applicable.

	Amount and nature of	
Name of Beneficial Owner	beneficial ownership (1)	Percentage(2)
Executive officers and directors:		
Thomas Adams	696,737(3)	3.6
Antonius Schuh	366,666(4)	1.9
Paul Billings	15,000(4)	*
John Brancaccio	117,083(5)	*
Gary Jacob	223,221(6)	1.2
Stanley Tennant	263,248(7)	1.4
Rodney S. Markin		0
Stephen Zaniboni	98,334(4)	*
All Officers and Directors as a Group (8 persons)	1,780,287(8)	8.9
5% or greater holders:		
Bridger Management, LLC	2,142,857(9)	11.3
R. Merrill Hunter	1,510,834(10)	7.7
Gabriele Cerrone	1,369,203(11)	7.0

<sup>\*</sup>less than 1%

- (1) The address of each person is c/o Trovagene, Inc., 11055 Flintkote Avenue, Suite A, San Diego, CA 92121 unless otherwise indicated herein.
- (2) The calculation in this column is based upon 18,902,991 shares of common stock outstanding on July 21, 2014. Beneficial ownership is determined in accordance with the rules of the SEC and generally includes voting or investment power with respect to the subject securities. Shares of common stock that are currently exercisable or exercisable within 60 days of July 21, 2014 are deemed to be beneficially owned by the person holding such securities for the purpose of computing the percentage beneficial ownership of such person, but are not treated as outstanding for the purpose of computing the percentage beneficial ownership of any other person.
- (3) Includes (i) 324,565 shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of stock options and (ii) 45,686 shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of warrants.
- (4) Consists of shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of stock options.
- (5) Includes (i) 89,417 shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of stock options and (ii) 13,833 shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of warrants.
- (6) Includes (i) 89,721 shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of stock options and (ii) 10,500 shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of warrants.
- (7) Includes (i) 75,000 shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of warrants and (ii) 27,207 shares of common stock exercisable upon exercise of stock options.

- (8) Includes (i) 1,010,908 shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of stock options and (ii) 145,019 shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of warrants.
- (9) As per the Schedule 13G/A filed January 13, 2014.
- (10) Includes 666,667 shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of warrants.
- (11) Consists of (i) 725,776 shares of common stock held by Panetta Partners, Ltd., (ii) 10,833 shares of common stock held by Mr. Cerrone, (iii) 338,928 shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of stock options held by Mr. Cerrone, (iv) 287,416 shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of warrants held by Panetta and (v) 6,250 shares of common stock issuable upon

exercise of warrants held by Mr. Cerrone. Mr. Cerrone is a director of Panetta and in such capacity only exercises voting and dispositive control over securities owned by Panetta, despite him having only a small pecuniary interest in such securities.

#### **Executive Officers**

The names of our executive officers and their ages, positions, and biographies are set forth below. Dr. Schuh s background is discussed under the section Nominees for Election to Board of Directors.

Name	Age	Position
Antonius Schuh, Ph.D.	50	Chief Executive Officer and Director
Steve Zaniboni	56	Chief Financial Officer

#### SECTION 16(A) BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP REPORTING COMPLIANCE

Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 requires our officers and directors, and persons who own more than ten percent of a registered class of our equity securities, to file reports of ownership and changes in ownership with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Officers, directors and greater than ten percent stockholders are required by SEC regulation to furnish us with copies of all Section 16(a) forms they file.

Based on a review of the copies of such forms received, we believe that during 2013, all filing requirements applicable to our officers, directors and greater than ten percent beneficial owners were complied with, except that Stanley Tennant, Gary Jacob, Thomas Adams, Gabriele Cerrone, Chris McGuigan and Stephen Zaniboni each filed one Form 4 late and Antonius Schuh filed two Form 4 s late.

### **EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION**

#### **Compensation Committee Report**

The Compensation Committee has reviewed and discussed the following Compensation Discussion and Analysis with management. Based on this review and these discussions, the Compensation Committee recommended to the Board of Directors that the following Compensation Discussion and Analysis be included in this Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A.

Submitted by the Compensation Committee Dr. Stanley Tennant

John Brancaccio

Edgar Filing: Trovagene, Inc Form DEF 14A
Dr. Gary S. Jacob
Compensation Discussion and Analysis
Overview
We compete with many other medical diagnostic companies in seeking to attract and retain a skilled work force. To meet this challenge, we have developed our compensation structure to enable our management to make decisions regarding our compensation programs, to manage these programs, and to effectively communicate the goals of these programs to our employees and stockholders.
Our compensation philosophy is to offer our employees compensation and benefits that are competitive and that meet our goals of attracting, retaining and motivating highly skilled employees so that we can achieve our financial and strategic objectives.
Utilizing this philosophy, our compensation programs are designed to:
• be market-based and reflect the competitive environment for personnel;
• stress our pay for performance approach to managing pay levels;
• share risks and rewards with employees at all levels;
• be affordable, within the context of our operating expense model;
• align the interests of our employees with those of our stockholders;

reflect our values; and

• be fairly and equitably administered.
In addition, as we administer our compensation programs, we plan to:
• evolve and modify our programs to reflect the competitive environment and our changing business needs;
• focus on simplicity, flexibility and choice wherever possible;
• openly communicate the details of our programs with our employees and managers to ensure that our programs and their goals are understood; and
• provide our managers and employees with the tools they need to administer our compensation programs.
Elements of Our Compensation Program
As a total rewards package, we design our compensation program to enable us to attract and retain talented personnel. The individual elements of our compensation program serve to satisfy this larger goal in specific ways as described below.
We design base pay to provide the essential reward for an employee s work, and is required to be competitive in attracting talent. Once base pay levels are initially determined, increases in base pay are provided to recognize an employee s specific performance achievements. Consistent wit our compensation philosophy, we implement a pay for performance approach that provides higher levels of compensation to individual employees whose results merit greater rewards. Our managers typically make performance assessments throughout the year, and provide ongoing feedback to employees, provide resources and maximize individual and team performance levels.
We design equity-based compensation, including stock options, to ensure that we have the ability to retain talent over a longer period of time, and to provide optionees with a form of reward that aligns their interests with those of our stockholders.
We also utilize various forms of variable compensation, including cash bonuses that allow us to remain competitive with other companies while providing upside potential to those employees who achieve outstanding results.

Core benefits, such as our basic health benefits, are designed to provide a stable array of support to employees and their families.

The four key elemen	ts of our compensation structure are:
• base pay;	
• variable p	pay;
• equity-ba	sed pay; and
• benefits.	
Consistent with our c	compensation philosophy, we have structured each element of our rewards package as follows:
Base Pay	
levels within the mar	se pay structures that are both affordable and competitive in relation to the market. We continuously monitor base pay ket and make adjustments to our structures as needed. In general, an employee s base pay level should reflect the employee formance level and contribution to our company over time. We seek to structure the base pay for our top performers to be a to the market.
Variable Pay	
variable pay program	ole pay programs to be both affordable and competitive in relation to the market. We monitor the market and adjust our as an eeded. Our variable pay programs, such as our bonus program, are designed to motivate employees to achieve overall are designed to avoid entitlements, to align actual payouts with the actual results achieved and to be easy to understand and
Equity-Based Rewar	rds
	programs to be both affordable and competitive in relation to the market. We monitor the market and applicable e, securities and tax laws and regulations and adjust our equity programs as needed. Stock options and

other forms of equity compensation are designed to reflect and reward a high level of sustained individual performance over time. We design our equity programs to align employees interests with those of our stockholders.

#### Benefits Programs

We design our benefits programs to be both affordable and competitive in relation to the market while conforming with local laws and practices. We monitor the market, local laws and practices and adjust our benefits programs as needed. We design our benefits programs to provide an element of core benefits, and to the extent possible, offer options for additional benefits, be tax-effective for employees in each country and balance costs and cost sharing between us and our employees.

Our stock options typically have annual vesting over a three-year period and a term of ten years, in order to encourage a long-term perspective and to encourage key employees to remain with us. We also use performance based vesting in our option grants. Generally, vesting and exercise rights cease upon termination of employment. Prior to the exercise of an option, the holder has no rights as a stockholder with respect to the shares subject to such option, including voting rights and the right to receive dividends or dividend equivalents.

#### Timing of Equity Awards

Only the Compensation Committee may approve stock option grants to our executive officers. Stock options are generally granted at predetermined meetings of the Compensation Committee. On limited occasions, grants may occur upon unanimous written consent of the Compensation Committee, which occurs primarily for the purpose of approving a compensation package for newly hired or promoted executive. The exercise price of a newly granted option is the closing price of our common stock on the date of grant.

#### Executive Equity Ownership

We encourage our executives to hold a significant equity interest in our company. However, we do not have specific share retention and ownership guidelines for our executives.

#### Performance-Based Compensation and Financial Restatement

We have not considered or implemented a policy regarding retroactive adjustments to any cash or equity-based incentive compensation paid to our executives and other employees where such payments were predicated upon the achievement of certain financial results that were subsequently the subject of a financial restatement.

#### Severance and Change in Control Arrangements

Several of our executives have employment and other agreements which provide for severance payment arrangements and/or acceleration of stock option vesting that would be triggered by an acquisition or other change in control of our company. See Employment Agreements below for a description of the severance and change in control arrangements for our named executive officers.

#### Effect of Accounting and Tax Treatment on Compensation Decisions

In the review and establishment of our compensation programs, we consider the anticipated accounting and tax implications to us and our executives.

Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code imposes a limit on the amount of compensation that we may deduct in any one year with respect to our chief executive officer and each of our next four most highly compensated executive officers, unless certain specific and detailed criteria are satisfied. Performance-based compensation, as defined in the Internal Revenue Code, is fully deductible if the programs are approved by stockholders and meet other requirements. We believe that grants of equity awards under our existing stock plans qualify as performance-based for purposes of satisfying the conditions of Section 162(m), thereby permitting us to receive a federal income tax deduction in connection with such awards. In general, we have determined that we will not seek to limit executive compensation so that it is deductible under Section 162(m). However, from time to time, we monitor whether it might be in our interests to structure our compensation programs to satisfy the requirements of Section 162(m). We seek to maintain flexibility in compensating our executives in a manner designed to promote our corporate goals and therefore our compensation committee has not adopted a policy requiring all compensation to be deductible. Our compensation committee will continue to assess the impact of Section 162(m) on our compensation practices and determine what further action, if any, is appropriate.

### Role of Executives in Executive Compensation Decisions

Our board of directors and our Compensation Committee generally seek input from our Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Antonius Schuh, when discussing the performance of, and compensation levels for executives other than himself. The Compensation Committee also works with Dr. Schuh and our Chief Financial Officer evaluating the financial, accounting, tax and retention implications of our various compensation programs. Neither Dr. Schuh nor any of our other executives participates in deliberations relating to his or her compensation.

#### Chief Executive Officer Compensation for Fiscal Year 2013

In 2011, we entered into an executive agreement with Antonius Schuh, Ph.D. in which he agreed to serve as our Chief Executive Officer. The term of the agreement is effective as of October 4, 2011 and continues until October 4, 2015 and is automatically renewed for successive one year periods at the end of each term. Dr. Schuh s compensation is \$275,000 per year. During 2013, Dr. Schuh s compensation was increased to \$385,000. Dr. Schuh is eligible to receive a cash bonus of up to 50% of his base salary per year based on meeting certain performance objectives and bonus criteria. Upon entering the agreement, Dr. Schuh was granted 633,333 non-qualified stock options which have an exercise price of \$3.00 per share and vest annually in equal amounts over a period of four years. Dr. Schuh is also eligible to receive a realization bonus upon the occurrence of either of the following events, whichever occurs earlier;

- (i) In the event that during the term of the agreement, for a period of 90 consecutive trading days, the market price of the common stock is \$7.50 or more and the value of the common stock daily trading volume is \$125,000 or more, we shall pay or issue Dr. Schuh a bonus in an amount of \$3,466,466 in either cash or registered common stock or a combination thereof as mutually agreed by Dr. Schuh and us; or
- (ii) In the event that during the term of the agreement, a change of control occurs where the per share enterprise value of our company equals or exceeds \$7.50 per share, we shall pay Dr. Schuh a bonus in an amount determined by multiplying the enterprise value by 4.0%. In the event in a change of control the per share enterprise value exceeds a minimum of \$14.40 per share, \$22.80 per share or \$30.00 per share, Dr.Schuh shall receive a bonus in an amount determined by multiplying the incremental enterprise value by 2.5%, 2.0% or 1.5%, respectively.

If the executive agreement is terminated by us for cause or as a result of Dr. Schuh s death or permanent disability or if Dr. Schuh terminates his agreement voluntarily, Dr. Schuh shall receive a lump sum equal to (i) any portion of unpaid base compensation then due for periods prior to termination, (ii) any bonus or realization bonus earned but not yet paid through the date of termination and (iii) all expenses reasonably incurred by Dr. Schuh prior to date of termination. If the executive agreement is terminated by us without cause Dr. Schuh shall receive a severance payment equal to base compensation for three months if termination occurs ten months after the effective date of the agreement and six months if termination occurs subsequent to ten months from the effective date. If the executive agreement is terminated as a result of a change of control, Dr. Schuh shall receive a severance payment equal to base compensation for twelve months and all unvested stock options shall immediately vest and become fully exercisable for a period of six months following the date of termination.

#### **2013 Bonus**

On December 11, 2013, the Compensation Committee approved a bonus of \$210,000 for Dr. Schuh, which was 60% of such individual s base compensation. The Compensation Committee reviewed the following factors in determining the amount of the bonus awarded to Dr. Schuh.

- Clinical development progress
- Launching of diagnostic tests
- Financing of the company
- Recruiting of executives and clinical staff

Dr. Schuh s employment agreement allows for an annual bonus equal to 50% of his base compensation. The Compensation Committee believed that Dr. Schuh did an outstanding job during 2013 in a challenging environment with limited resources.

In making its determination as to whether Dr. Schuh achieved his performance objectives for awarding 2013 bonus, the Compensation Committee looked at the above-mentioned performance objectives in totality and what the achievement of those performance objectives meant to us and our business. The Compensation Committee did not assign actual levels of achievement to each objective.

#### 2014 Bonus Criteria

The bonus criteria for 2014 includes, among other things:

- commencement of clinical studies using our diagnostic tests at major oncology centers,
- presentation of clinical study results at key conferences,
- publication of key study data, developing a protocol for a multi-institutional clinical trial
- launching of additional clinical tests entering into collaborations and partnerships incorporating our tests

#### **Compensation Risk Management**

We have considered the risk associated with our compensation policies and practices for all employees, and we believe we have designed our compensation policies and practices in a manner that does not create incentives that could lead to excessive risk taking that would have a material adverse effect on us.

#### SUMMARY COMPENSATION TABLE

The following table provides certain summary information concerning compensation awarded to, earned by or paid to our Principal Executive Officer and the two other highest paid executive officers whose total annual salary and bonus exceeded \$100,000 (collectively, the named executive officers ) for fiscal year 2013.

				Option	
				Awards (\$)	
Name & Principal Position	Year	Salary (\$)	Bonus (\$)	(1)	Total (\$)
Dr. Antonius Schuh, CEO (2)	2013	323,125	210,000	1,212,964	1,746,089
	2012	275,000	137,500	468,916	881,416
	2011	57,291		372,065	429,356
Stephen Zaniboni, CFO (3)	2013	201,750	132,000	492,727	826,477
	2012	199,333	80,000	107,331	386,664
Mark Erlander, CSO (4)	2013	169,692	100,000	1,366,187	1,635,879

<sup>(1)</sup> Amounts shown in this column do not reflect dollar amounts actually received by our named executive officers. Instead, these amounts represent the aggregate grant date fair value of stock option awards determined in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718. The valuation assumptions used in determining 2013 and 2012 amounts are Note 6 to our financial statements included in our Annual Reports on Form 10-K for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2013 and 2012. Our named executive officers will only realize compensation to the extent the trading price of our common stock is greater than the exercise price of such stock options.

- (2) Dr. Schuh was appointed CEO in October 2011.
- (3) Mr. Zaniboni was appointed CFO in February 2012.
- (4) Mr. Erlander was appointed CSO in January 2013.

### OUTSTANDING EQUITY AWARDS AT FISCAL YEAR-END

The following table sets forth information for the named executive officers regarding the number of shares subject to both exercisable and unexercisable stock options, as well as the exercise prices and expiration dates thereof, as of December 31, 2013.

Name

	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#) exercisable	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#) Unexercisable	Weighted Average Option Exercise Price (\$)	Option Expiration Date
Du Antonio Color (1)	216.666	566 667	2.92	October 4,
Dr. Antonius Schuh (1)	316,666	566,667	3.82	2021-December 11, 2023
Stephen Zaniboni(2)	41,667	235,000	4.47	February 1, 2022- December 11, 2023
				September 13, 2022
Mark Erlander (3)	5,000	310,000	6.43	December 11, 2023

<sup>(1)</sup> The unexercisable options of 566,667 vest as follows: 158,333 on October 4, 2014, 158,334 on October 4, 2015; 50,000 each on June 24, 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017 and 12,500 each on December 11, 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017.

<sup>(2)</sup> The unexercisable options of 235,000 vest as follows: 41,666 on February 1, 2014, and 41,667 on February 1, 2015 and 2016; 15,000 each on June 24, 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017; and 12,500 each on December 11, 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017.

<sup>(3)</sup> The unexercisable options of 310,000 vest as follows: 1,666 on September 12, 2014, and 1,667 on September 12, 2015; 3,333 on December 10, 2014, and 3,334 on December 10, 2015; 50,000 each on January 28, 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017; and 25,000 each on December 11, 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017.

#### DIRECTOR COMPENSATION

The following table sets forth summary information concerning the total compensation paid to our non-employee directors in 2013 for services to our company.

	Fees 1	Earned or Paid	Option	
Name		in Cash	Awards(1)	Total
Thomas H. Adams(2)	\$	43,250	\$ 55,401	\$ 98,651
John P. Brancaccio(3)	\$	54,000	\$ 104,006	\$ 158,006
Gary S. Jacob(4)	\$	45,000	\$ 59,557	\$ 104,557
Gabriel M. Cerrone(5)	\$	114,750	\$ 551,527	\$ 666,277
Stanley Tennant (6)	\$	43,750	\$ 52,624	\$ 96,374
Christopher McGuigan (7)	\$	26,000	\$ 85,835	\$ 111,835
Paul Billings (8)	\$	4,083	\$ 35,580	\$ 39,663

<sup>(1)</sup> Amounts shown in this column do not reflect dollar amounts actually received by our non-employee directors. Instead, these amounts represent the aggregate grant date fair value of stock option awards determined in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718. The valuation assumptions used in determining 2013 amounts are described in Note 6 to our financial statements included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013. Our named executive officers will only realize compensation to the extent the trading price of our common stock is greater than the exercise price of such stock options.

- (2) As of December 31, 2013, 323,281 stock options were outstanding, of which 256,143 were exercisable.
- (3) As of December 31, 2013, 79,815 stock options were outstanding, of which 69,483 were exercisable.
- (4) As of December 31, 2013, 86,970 stock options were outstanding, of which 76,638 were exercisable.
- (5) No longer a director as of July 18, 2013. As of December 31, 2013, 513,928 stock options were outstanding, of which 513,928 were exercisable.
- (6) As of December 31, 2013, 26,903 stock options were outstanding, of which 16,571 were exercisable.
- (7) As of December 31, 2013, 7,832 stock options were outstanding, of which none were exercisable. Dr. McGuigan resigned as a director on February 19, 2014.
- (8) As of December 31, 2013, 23,333 stock options were outstanding, of which 15,000 were exercisable.

### **Employment Agreements**

In January 2013, the Company entered into an employment agreement with Mark Erlander, Ph.D. in which he agreed to serve as Chief Scientific Officer. Dr. Erlander s initial salary was \$200,000 per year, increased to \$260,000 per year in December 2013. Dr. Erlander is eligible to receive a cash bonus of up to 50% of his base salary per year at the discretion of the Compensation Committee based on goals mutually agreed upon by Dr. Erlander, the CEO and the Board of Directors. In connection with his employment, Dr. Erlander was granted a stock option to purchase 200,000 shares of common stock at an exercise price of \$7.04. The option vests ratably over a four year period. If the Company terminates Dr. Erlander without cause, he is entitled to severance benefits equal to six months of his base salary.

During 2012, we entered into an executive agreement with Steve Zaniboni in which he agreed to serve as our Chief Financial Officer. The term of the agreement is effective as of February 1, 2012 and continues until February 1, 2013 and is automatically renewed for successive one year periods at the end to each term. Mr. Zaniboni s compensation is \$200,000 per year. During 2013, Mr. Zaniboni s compensation was increased to \$242,000. Mr. Zaniboni is eligible to receive a cash bonus of up to 50% of his base salary per year based on meeting certain performance objectives and bonus criteria. Upon entering the agreement, Mr. Zaniboni was granted 166,667 non-qualified stock options which have an exercise price of \$3.60 per share and vest annually in equal amounts over a period of four years.

If the executive agreement is terminated by us for cause or as a result of Mr. Zaniboni s death or permanent disability or if Mr. Zaniboni terminates his agreement voluntarily, Mr. Zaniboni shall receive a lump sum equal to (i) any portion of unpaid base compensation then due for periods prior to termination, (ii) any bonus or realization bonus earned but not yet paid through the date of termination and (iii) all expenses reasonably incurred by Mr. Zaniboni prior to date of termination. If the executive agreement is terminated by us without cause Mr. Zaniboni shall receive a severance payment equal to base compensation for three months if termination occurs ten months after the effective date of the agreement and six months if termination occurs subsequent to ten months from the effective date. If the executive agreement is terminated as a result of a change of control, Mr. Zaniboni shall receive a severance payment equal to base compensation for twelve months and all unvested stock options shall immediately vest and become fully exercisable for a period of six months following the date of termination.

#### CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS

Any future transactions with officers, directors or 5% stockholders will be on terms no less favorable to us than could be obtained from independent parties. Any affiliated transactions must be approved by a majority of our independent and disinterested directors who have access to our counsel or independent legal counsel at our expense.

### **Board Determination of Independence**

Our board of directors has determined that a majority of the board consists of members who are currently independent as that term is defined under current listing standards of NASDAQ.

#### **OTHER MATTERS**

Trovagene has no knowledge of any other matters that may come before the Annual Meeting and does not intend to present any other matters. However, if any other matters shall properly come before the meeting or any adjournment, the persons soliciting proxies will have the discretion to vote as they see fit unless directed otherwise.

If you do not plan to attend the Annual Meeting, in order that your shares may be represented and in order to assure the required quorum, please sign, date and return your proxy promptly. In the event you are able to attend the Annual Meeting, at your request, Trovagene will cancel your previously submitted proxy.

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### **Annual Reports and Form 10-K**

Additional copies of Trovagene s Annual Report and Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013 may be obtained without charge by writing to the Corporate Secretary, Trovagene, Inc., 11055 Flintkote Avenue, San Diego, California 92121.

By Order of the Board of Directors

/s/ Thomas H. Adams Thomas H. Adams, Ph.D. Chairman of the Board of Directors

July 22, 2014

Appendix A

#### TROVAGENE, INC.

#### 2014 EQUITY INCENTIVE PLAN

1. PURPOSE OF PLAN

**1.1** The purpose of this 2014 Equity Incentive Plan (this **Plan**) of Trovagene, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the **Corporation**), is to promote the success of the Corporation and to increase stockholder value by providing an additional means through the grant of awards to attract, motivate, retain and reward selected employees and other eligible persons.

2. ELIGIBILITY

2.1 The Administrator (as such term is defined in Section 3.1) may grant awards under this Plan only to those persons that the Administrator determines to be Eligible Persons. An Eligible Person is any person who is either: (a) an officer (whether or not a director) or employee of the Corporation or one of its Subsidiaries; (b) a director of the Corporation or one of its Subsidiaries; or (c) a consultant who renders bona fide services (other than services in connection with the offering or sale of securities of the Corporation or one of its Subsidiaries in a capital-raising transaction or as a market maker or promoter of securities of the Corporation or one of its Subsidiaries) to the Corporation or one of its Subsidiaries and who is selected to participate in this Plan by the Administrator; provided, however, that a person who is otherwise an Eligible Person under clause (c) above may participate in this Plan only if such participation would not adversely affect either the Corporation s eligibility to use Form S-8 to register under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act), the offering and sale of shares issuable under this Plan by the Corporation, or the Corporation s compliance with any other applicable laws. An Eligible Person who has been granted an award (a participant) may, if otherwise eligible, be granted additional awards if the Administrator shall so determine. As used herein, Subsidiary means any corporation or other entity a majority of whose outstanding voting stock or voting power is beneficially owned directly or indirectly by the Corporation; and Board means the Board of Directors of the Corporation.

### 3. PLAN ADMINISTRATION

**3.1** *The Administrator*. This Plan shall be administered by and all awards under this Plan shall be authorized by the Administrator. The **Administrator** means the Board or one or more committees appointed by the Board or another committee (within its delegated authority) to administer all or certain aspects of this Plan. Any such committee shall be comprised solely of one or more directors or such number of directors as may be required under applicable law. A committee may delegate some or all of its authority to another committee so constituted. The Board or a committee comprised solely of directors may also delegate, to the extent permitted by Section 157 of the Delaware General Corporation Law and any other applicable law, to one or more officers of the Corporation, its powers under this Plan (a) to designate Eligible Persons who will receive grants of awards under this Plan, and (b) to determine the number of shares subject to, and the other terms and conditions of, such awards. The Board may delegate different levels of authority to different committees with administrative and grant authority under this Plan. Unless otherwise provided in the bylaws of the Corporation or the applicable charter of any Administrator: (a) a majority of the members of the acting Administrator shall constitute a quorum, and (b) the affirmative vote of a majority of the members present assuming the presence of a quorum or the unanimous written consent of the members of the Administrator shall constitute due authorization of an action by the acting Administrator.

With respect to awards intended to satisfy the requirements for performance-based compensation under Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the **Code**), this Plan shall be administered by a committee consisting solely of two or more outside directors (as this requirement is applied under Section 162(m) of the Code); provided, however, that the failure to satisfy such requirement shall not affect the validity of the action of any committee otherwise duly authorized and acting in the matter. Award grants, and transactions in or involving awards, intended to be exempt under Rule 16b-3 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the **Exchange Act**), must be duly and timely authorized by the Board or a committee consisting solely of two or more non-employee directors (as this requirement is applied under Rule 16b-3 promulgated under the Exchange Act). To the extent required by any applicable stock exchange, this Plan shall be administered by a committee composed

entirely of independent directors (within the meaning of the applicable stock exchange). Awards granted to non-employee directors shall not be subject to the discretion of any officer or employee of the Corporation and shall be administered exclusively by a committee consisting solely of independent directors.
<b>3.2</b> <i>Powers of the Administrator</i> . Subject to the express provisions of this Plan, the Administrator is authorized and empowered to do all things necessary or desirable in connection with the authorization of awards and the administration of this Plan (in the case of a committee or delegation to one or more officers, within the authority delegated to that committee or person(s)), including, without limitation, the authority to:
(a) determine eligibility and, from among those persons determined to be eligible, the particular Eligible Persons who will receive awards under this Plan;
(b) grant awards to Eligible Persons, determine the price at which securities will be offered or awarded and the number of securities to be offered or awarded to any of such persons, determine the other specific terms and conditions of such awards consistent with the express limits of this Plan, establish the installments (if any) in which such awards shall become exercisable or shall vest (which may include, without limitation, performance and/or time-based schedules), or determine that no delayed exercisability or vesting is required, establish any applicable performance targets, and establish the events of termination or reversion of such awards;
(c) approve the forms of award agreements (which need not be identical either as to type of award or among participants);
(d) construe and interpret this Plan and any agreements defining the rights and obligations of the Corporation, its Subsidiaries, and participants under this Plan, further define the terms used in this Plan, and prescribe, amend and rescind rules and regulations relating to the administration of this Plan or the awards granted under this Plan;
(e) cancel, modify, or waive the Corporation s rights with respect to, or modify, discontinue, suspend, or terminate any or all outstanding awards, subject to any required consent under Section 8.6.5;
(f) accelerate or extend the vesting or exercisability or extend the term of any or all such outstanding awards (in the case of options or stock appreciation rights, within the maximum ten-year term of such awards) in such circumstances as the Administrator may deem appropriate (including, without limitation, in connection with a termination of employment or services or other events of a personal nature) subject to any required consent under Section 8.6.5;

(g) adjust the number of shares of Common Stock subject to any award, adjust the price of any or all outstanding awards or otherwise change previously imposed terms and conditions, in such circumstances as the Administrator may deem appropriate, in each case subject to compliance

Section 162(m), and provided that in no case (except due to an adjustment contemplated by Section 7 or any repricing that may be approved by stockholders) shall such an adjustment constitute a repricing (by amendment, cancellation and regrant, exchange or other means) of the per share exercise or base price of any stock option or stock appreciation right or other award granted under this Plan, and further provided that any adjustment or change in terms made pursuant to this Section 3.2(g) shall be made in a manner that, in the good faith determination of the

with applicable stock exchange requirements, Sections 4 and 8.6 and the applicable requirements of Code Section 162(m) and treasury regulations thereunder with respect to awards that are intended to satisfy the requirements for performance-based compensation under

Administrator will not likely result in the imposition of additional taxes or interest under Section 409A of the Code;

- (h) determine the date of grant of an award, which may be a designated date after but not before the date of the Administrator s action (unless otherwise designated by the Administrator, the date of grant of an award shall be the date upon which the Administrator took the action granting an award);
- (i) determine whether, and the extent to which, adjustments are required pursuant to Section 7 hereof and authorize the termination, conversion, substitution, acceleration or succession of awards upon the occurrence of an event of the type described in Section 7;

(j) acquire or settle (subject to Sections 7 and 8.6) rights under awards in cash, stock of equivalent value, or other consideration; and
(k) determine the Fair Market Value (as defined in Section 5.6) of the Common Stock or awards under this Plan from time to time and/or the manner in which such value will be determined.
3.3 Binding Determinations. Any action taken by, or inaction of, the Corporation, any Subsidiary, or the Administrator relating or pursuant to this Plan and within its authority hereunder or under applicable law shall be within the absolute discretion of that entity or body and shall be conclusive and binding upon all persons. Neither the Board, the Administrator, nor any Board committee, nor any member thereof or person acting at the direction thereof, shall be liable for any act, omission, interpretation, construction or determination made in good faith in connection with this Plan (or any award made under this Plan), and all such persons shall be entitled to indemnification and reimbursement by the Corporation in respect of any claim, loss, damage or expense (including, without limitation, legal fees) arising or resulting therefrom to the fullest extent permitted by law and/or under any directors and officers liability insurance coverage that may be in effect from time to time.
3.4 Reliance on Experts. In making any determination or in taking or not taking any action under this Plan, the Administrator may obtain and may rely upon the advice of experts, including professional advisors to the Corporation. The Administrator shall not be liable for any such action or determination taken or made or omitted in good faith based upon such advice.
<b>3.5</b> <i>Delegation of Non-Discretionary Functions.</i> In addition to the ability to delegate certain grant authority to officers of the Corporation as set forth in Section 3.1, the Administrator may also delegate ministerial, non-discretionary functions to individuals who are officers or employees of the Corporation or any of its Subsidiaries or to third parties.
4. SHARES OF COMMON STOCK SUBJECT TO THE PLAN; SHARE LIMIT
<b>4.1</b> <i>Shares Available.</i> Subject to the provisions of Section 7.1, the capital stock available for issuance under this Plan shall be shares of the Corporation s authorized but unissued Common Stock. For purposes of this Plan, <b>Common Stock</b> shall mean the common stock of the Corporation and such other securities or property as may become the subject of awards under this Plan, or may become subject to such awards, pursuant to an adjustment made under Section 7.1.
<b>4.2</b> <i>Share Limit.</i> The maximum number of shares of Common Stock that may be delivered pursuant to awards granted to Eligible Persons under this Plan may not exceed 2,500,000 shares of Common Stock (the <b>Share Limit</b> ).
The foregoing Share Limit is subject to adjustment as contemplated by Section 4.3, Section 7.1, and Section 8.10.

**4.3** Awards Settled in Cash, Reissue of Awards and Shares. The Administrator may adopt reasonable counting procedures to ensure appropriate counting, avoid double counting (as, for example, in the case of tandem or substitute awards) and make adjustments in accordance with this

Section 4.3. Shares shall be counted against those reserved to the extent such shares have been delivered and are no longer subject to a substantial risk of forfeiture. Accordingly, (i) to the extent that an award under the Plan, in whole or in part, is canceled, expired, forfeited, settled in cash, settled by delivery of fewer shares than the number of shares underlying the award, or otherwise terminated without delivery of shares to the participant, the shares retained by or returned to the Corporation will not be deemed to have been delivered under the Plan and will be deemed to remain or to become available under this Plan; and (ii) shares that are withheld from such an award or separately surrendered by the participant in payment of the exercise price or taxes relating to such an award shall be deemed to constitute shares not delivered and will be deemed to remain or to become available under the Plan. The foregoing adjustments to the Share Limit of this Plan are subject to any applicable limitations under Section 162(m) of the Code with respect to awards intended as performance-based compensation thereunder.

**4.4** Reservation of Shares; No Fractional Shares. The Corporation shall at all times reserve a number of shares of Common Stock sufficient to cover the Corporation sobligations and contingent obligations to deliver shares with respect to awards then outstanding under this Plan (exclusive of any dividend equivalent obligations to the extent the Corporation has the right to settle such rights in cash). No fractional shares shall be delivered under this Plan. The Administrator may pay cash in lieu of any fractional shares in settlements of awards under this Plan.

5. AWARDS

**5.1** *Type and Form of Awards.* The Administrator shall determine the type or types of award(s) to be made to each selected Eligible Person. Awards may be granted singly, in combination or in tandem. Awards also may be made in combination or in tandem with, in replacement of, as alternatives to, or as the payment form for grants or rights under any other employee or compensation plan of the Corporation or one of its Subsidiaries. The types of awards that may be granted under this Plan are:

**5.1.1** *Stock Options.* A stock option is the grant of a right to purchase a specified number of shares of Common Stock during a specified period as determined by the Administrator. An option may be intended as an incentive stock option within the meaning of Section 422 of the Code (an **ISO**) or a nonqualified stock option (an option not intended to be an ISO). The award agreement for an option will indicate if the option is intended as an ISO; otherwise it will be deemed to be a nonqualified stock option. The maximum term of each option (ISO or nonqualified) shall be ten (10) years. The per share exercise price for each option shall be not less than 100% of the Fair Market Value of a share of Common Stock on the date of grant of the option. When an option is exercised, the exercise price for the shares to be purchased shall be paid in full in cash or such other method permitted by the Administrator consistent with Section 5.5.

5.1.2 Additional Rules Applicable to ISOs. To the extent that the aggregate Fair Market Value (determined at the time of grant of the applicable option) of stock with respect to which ISOs first become exercisable by a participant in any calendar year exceeds \$100,000, taking into account both Common Stock subject to ISOs under this Plan and stock subject to ISOs under all other plans of the Corporation or one of its Subsidiaries (or any parent or predecessor corporation to the extent required by and within the meaning of Section 422 of the Code and the regulations promulgated thereunder), such options shall be treated as nonqualified stock options. In reducing the number of options treated as ISOs to meet the \$100,000 limit, the most recently granted options shall be reduced first. To the extent a reduction of simultaneously granted options is necessary to meet the \$100,000 limit, the Administrator may, in the manner and to the extent permitted by law, designate which shares of Common Stock are to be treated as shares acquired pursuant to the exercise of an ISO. ISOs may only be granted to employees of the Corporation or one of its subsidiaries (for this purpose, the term subsidiary is used as defined in Section 424(f) of the Code, which generally requires an unbroken chain of ownership of at least 50% of the total combined voting power of all classes of stock of each subsidiary in the chain beginning with the Corporation and ending with the subsidiary in question). There shall be imposed in any award agreement relating to ISOs such other terms and conditions as from time to time are required in order that the option be an incentive stock option as that term is defined in Section 422 of the Code. No ISO may be granted to any person who, at the time the option is granted, owns (or is deemed to own under Section 424(d) of the Code) shares of outstanding Common Stock possessing more than 10% of the total combined voting power of all classes of stock of the Corporation, unless the exercise price of such option is at least 110% of the Fair Market Value of the stock subject to the option and such option by its terms is not exercisable after the expiration of five years from the date such option is granted.

**5.1.3** Stock Appreciation Rights. A stock appreciation right or SAR is a right to receive a payment, in cash and/or Common Stock, equal to the number of shares of Common Stock being exercised multiplied by the excess of (i) the Fair Market Value of a share of Common Stock on the date the SAR is exercised, over (ii) the Fair Market Value of a share of Common Stock on the date the SAR was granted as specified in the applicable award agreement (the **base price**). The maximum term of a SAR shall be ten (10) years.

5.1.4 Restricted Shares.

(a) *Restrictions*. Restricted shares are shares of Common Stock subject to such restrictions on transferability, risk of forfeiture and other restrictions, if any, as the Administrator may impose, which restrictions

may lapse separately or in combination at such times, under such circumstances (including based on achievement of performance goals and/or future service requirements), in such installments or otherwise, as the Administrator may determine at the date of grant or thereafter. Except to the extent restricted under the terms of this Plan and the applicable award agreement relating to the restricted stock, a participant granted restricted stock shall have all of the rights of a shareholder, including the right to vote the restricted stock and the right to receive dividends thereon (subject to any mandatory reinvestment or other requirement imposed by the Administrator).

- (b) Certificates for Shares. Restricted shares granted under this Plan may be evidenced in such manner as the Administrator shall determine. If certificates representing restricted stock are registered in the name of the participant, the Administrator may require that such certificates bear an appropriate legend referring to the terms, conditions and restrictions applicable to such restricted stock, that the Corporation retain physical possession of the certificates, and that the participant deliver a stock power to the Corporation, endorsed in blank, relating to the restricted stock. The Administrator may require that restricted shares are held in escrow until all restrictions lapse
- (c) *Dividends and Splits*. As a condition to the grant of an award of restricted stock, subject to applicable law, the Administrator may require or permit a participant to elect that any cash dividends paid on a share of restricted stock be automatically reinvested in additional shares of restricted stock or applied to the purchase of additional awards under this Plan. Unless otherwise determined by the Administrator, stock distributed in connection with a stock split or stock dividend, and other property distributed as a dividend, shall be subject to restrictions and a risk of forfeiture to the same extent as the restricted stock with respect to which such stock or other property has been distributed.

#### 5.1.5 Restricted Share Units.

- (a) Grant of Restricted Share Units. A restricted share unit, or RSU, represents the right to receive from the Corporation on the respective scheduled vesting or payment date for such RSU, one Common Share. An award of RSUs may be subject to the attainment of specified performance goals or targets, forfeitability provisions and such other terms and conditions as the Administrator may determine, subject to the provisions of this Plan. At the time an award of RSUs is made, the Administrator shall establish a period of time during which the restricted share units shall vest and the timing for settlement of the RSU.
- (b) Dividend Equivalent Accounts. Subject to the terms and conditions of the Plan and the applicable award agreement, as well as any procedures established by the Administrator, prior to the expiration of the applicable vesting period of an RSU, the Administrator may determine to pay dividend equivalent rights with respect to RSUs, in which case, the Corporation shall establish an account for the participant and reflect in that account any securities, cash or other property comprising any dividend or property distribution with respect to the shares of Common Stock underlying each RSU. Each amount or other property credited to any such account shall be subject to the same vesting conditions as the RSU to which it relates. The participant shall have the right to be paid the amounts or other property credited to such account upon vesting of the subject RSU.
- (c) Rights as a Shareholder. Subject to the restrictions imposed under the terms and conditions of this Plan and the applicable award agreement, each participant receiving RSUs shall have no rights as a shareholder with respect to such RSUs until such time as shares of Common Stock are issued to the participant. No shares of Common Stock shall be issued at the time a RSU is granted, and the Company will not be required to set aside a fund for the payment of any such award. Except as otherwise provided in the applicable award agreement, shares of Common Stock issuable under an RSU shall be treated as issued on the first date that the holder of the RSU is no longer subject to a substantial risk of forfeiture as determined for purposes of Section 409A of the Code, and the holder shall be the owner of such shares of Common Stock on such date. An award agreement may provide that issuance of shares of Common Stock under an RSU may be deferred beyond the first date that the RSU is no longer subject to a substantial risk of forfeiture, provided that such deferral is structured in a manner that is intended to comply with the requirements of Section 409A of the Code.

**5.1.6** *Cash Awards*. The Administrator may, from time to time, subject to the provisions of the Plan and such other terms and conditions as it may determine, grant cash bonuses (including without limitation, discretionary awards, awards based on objective or subjective performance criteria, awards subject to other vesting criteria or

awards granted consistent with Section 5.2 below). Cash awards shall be awarded in such amount and at such times during the term of the Plan as the Administrator shall determine.

- **5.1.7** *Other Awards.* The other types of awards that may be granted under this Plan include: (a) stock bonuses, performance stock, performance units, dividend equivalents, or similar rights to purchase or acquire shares, whether at a fixed or variable price or ratio related to the Common Stock (subject to the requirements of Section 5.1.1 and in compliance with applicable laws), upon the passage of time, the occurrence of one or more events, or the satisfaction of performance criteria or other conditions, or any combination thereof; or (b) any similar securities with a value derived from the value of or related to the Common Stock and/or returns thereon.
- **5.2** Section 162(m) Performance-Based Awards. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, any of the types of awards listed in Sections 5.1.4 through 5.1.7 above may be, and options and SARs granted with an exercise or base price not less than the Fair Market Value of a share of Common Stock at the date of grant ( Qualifying Options and Qualifying SARs, respectively) typically will be, granted as awards intended to satisfy the requirements for performance-based compensation within the meaning of Section 162(m) of the Code ( Performance-Based Awards ). The grant, vesting, exercisability or payment of Performance-Based Awards may depend (or, in the case of Qualifying Options or Qualifying SARs, may also depend) on the degree of achievement of one or more performance goals relative to a pre-established targeted level or levels using the Business Criteria provided for below for the Corporation on a consolidated basis or for one or more of the Corporation s subsidiaries, segments, divisions or business units, or any combination of the foregoing. Such criteria may be evaluated on an absolute basis or relative to prior periods, industry peers, or stock market indices. Any Qualifying Option or Qualifying SAR shall be subject to the requirements of Section 5.2.1 and 5.2.3 in order for such award to satisfy the requirements for performance-based compensation under Section 162(m) of the Code. Any other Performance-Based Award shall be subject to all of the following provisions of this Section 5.2.
- **5.2.1** *Class; Administrator.* The eligible class of persons for Performance-Based Awards under this Section 5.2 shall be officers and employees of the Corporation or one of its Subsidiaries. The Administrator approving Performance-Based Awards or making any certification required pursuant to Section 5.2.4 must be constituted as provided in Section 3.1 for awards that are intended as performance-based compensation under Section 162(m) of the Code.
- **5.2.2** *Performance Goals.* The specific performance goals for Performance-Based Awards (other than Qualifying Options and Qualifying SARs) shall be, on an absolute or relative basis, established based on such business criteria as selected by the Administrator in its sole discretion ( Business Criteria ), including the following: (1) earnings per share, (2) cash flow (which means cash and cash equivalents derived from either (i) net cash flow from operations or (ii) net cash flow from operations, financing and investing activities), (3) total stockholder return, (4) price per share of Common Stock, (5) gross revenue, (6) revenue growth, (7) operating income (before or after taxes), (8) net earnings (before or after interest, taxes, depreciation and/or amortization), (9) return on equity, (10) capital employed, or on assets or on net investment, (11) cost containment or reduction, (12) cash cost per ounce of production, (13) operating margin, (14) debt reduction, (15) resource amounts, (16) production or production growth, (17) resource replacement or resource growth, (18) successful completion of financings, or (19) any combination of the foregoing. To qualify awards as performance-based under Section 162(m), the applicable Business Criterion (or Business Criteria, as the case may be) and specific performance goal or goals ( targets ) must be established and approved by the Administrator during the first 90 days of the performance period (and, in the case of performance periods of less than one year, in no event after 25% or more of the performance period has elapsed) and while performance relating to such target(s) remains substantially uncertain within the meaning of Section 162(m) of the Code. Performance targets shall be adjusted to mitigate the unbudgeted impact of material, unusual or nonrecurring gains and losses, accounting changes or other extraordinary events not foreseen at the time the targets were set unless the Administrator provides otherwise at the time of establishing the targets; provided that the Administrator may not make any adjustment to the extent it would adversely affect the qualification of any compensation payable under such performance targets as performance-based compensation under Section 162(m) of Code. The applicable performance measurement period may not be less than 3 months nor more than 10 years.
- **5.2.3** *Form of Payment.* Grants or awards intended to qualify under this Section 5.2 may be paid in cash or shares of Common Stock or any combination thereof.

- **5.2.4** *Certification of Payment.* Before any Performance-Based Award under this Section 5.2 (other than Qualifying Options and Qualifying SARs) is paid and to the extent required to qualify the award as performance-based compensation within the meaning of Section 162(m) of the Code, the Administrator must certify in writing that the performance target(s) and any other material terms of the Performance-Based Award were in fact timely satisfied.
- **5.2.5** *Reservation of Discretion.* The Administrator will have the discretion to determine the restrictions or other limitations of the individual awards granted under this Section 5.2 including the authority to reduce awards, payouts or vesting or to pay no awards, in its sole discretion, if the Administrator preserves such authority at the time of grant by language to this effect in its authorizing resolutions or otherwise.
- **5.2.6** Expiration of Grant Authority. As required pursuant to Section 162(m) of the Code and the regulations promulgated thereunder, the Administrator s authority to grant new awards that are intended to qualify as performance-based compensation within the meaning of Section 162(m) of the Code (other than Qualifying Options and Qualifying SARs) shall terminate upon the first meeting of the Corporation s stockholders that occurs in the fifth year following the year in which the Corporation s stockholders first approve this Plan (the **162(m) Term**).
- **5.2.7** *Compensation Limitations*. The maximum aggregate number of shares of Common Stock that may be issued to any Eligible Person during the term of this Plan pursuant to Qualifying Options and Qualifying SARs may not exceed the Share Limit. The maximum aggregate number of shares of Common Stock that may be issued to any Eligible Person pursuant to Performance-Based Awards granted during the 162(m) Term (other than cash awards granted pursuant to Section 5.1.6 and Qualifying Options or Qualifying SARs) may not exceed the Share Limit. The maximum amount that may be paid to any Eligible Person pursuant to Performance-Based Awards granted pursuant to Sections 5.1.6 (cash awards) during the 162(m) Term may not exceed \$1,000,000.
- **5.3** Award Agreements. Each award shall be evidenced by a written or electronic award agreement in the form approved by the Administrator and, if required by the Administrator, executed by the recipient of the award. The Administrator may authorize any officer of the Corporation (other than the particular award recipient) to execute any or all award agreements on behalf of the Corporation (electronically or otherwise). The award agreement shall set forth the material terms and conditions of the award as established by the Administrator consistent with the express limitations of this Plan.
- **5.4** *Deferrals and Settlements.* Payment of awards may be in the form of cash, Common Stock, other awards or combinations thereof as the Administrator shall determine, and with such restrictions as it may impose. The Administrator may also require or permit participants to elect to defer the issuance of shares of Common Stock or the settlement of awards in cash under such rules and procedures as it may establish under this Plan. The Administrator may also provide that deferred settlements include the payment or crediting of interest or other earnings on the deferral amounts, or the payment or crediting of dividend equivalents where the deferred amounts are denominated in shares. All mandatory or elective deferrals of the issuance of shares of Common Stock or the settlement of cash awards shall be structured in a manner that is intended to comply with the requirements of Section 409A of the Code.
- **5.5** Consideration for Common Stock or Awards. The purchase price for any award granted under this Plan or the Common Stock to be delivered pursuant to an award, as applicable, may be paid by means of any lawful consideration as determined by the Administrator and subject to compliance with applicable laws, including, without limitation, one or a combination of the following methods:
- services rendered by the recipient of such award;

•	cash, check payable to the order of the Corporation, or electronic funds transfer;
•	notice and third party payment in such manner as may be authorized by the Administrator;
•	the delivery of previously owned shares of Common Stock that are fully vested and unencumbered;

• by a reduction in the number of shares otherwise deliverable pursuant to the award; or
• subject to such procedures as the Administrator may adopt, pursuant to a cashless exercise with a third party who provides financing for the purposes of (or who otherwise facilitates) the purchase or exercise of awards.
In the event that the Administrator allows a participant to exercise an award by delivering shares of Common Stock previously owned by such participant and unless otherwise expressly provided by the Administrator, any shares delivered which were initially acquired by the participant from the Corporation (upon exercise of a stock option or otherwise) must have been owned by the participant at least six months as of the date of delivery (or such other period as may be required by the Administrator in order to avoid adverse accounting treatment). Shares of Common Stock used to satisfy the exercise price of an option shall be valued at their Fair Market Value on the date of exercise. The Corporation will not be obligated to deliver any shares unless and until it receives full payment of the exercise or purchase price therefor and any related withholding obligations under Section 8.5 and any other conditions to exercise or purchase, as established from time to time by the Administrator, have been satisfied. Unless otherwise expressly provided in the applicable award agreement, the Administrator may at any time eliminate or limit a participant s ability to pay the purchase or exercise price of any award by any method other than cash payment to the Corporation.
<b>5.6</b> <i>Definition of Fair Market Value</i> . For purposes of this Plan <b>Fair Market Value</b> shall mean, unless otherwise determined or provided by the Administrator in the circumstances, the closing price for a share of Common Stock on the trading day immediately before the grant date, as furnished by the NASDAQ Stock Market or other principal stock exchange on which the Common Stock is then listed for the date in question, or if the Common Stock is no longer listed on a principal stock exchange, then by the Over-the-Counter Bulletin Board or OTC Markets. If the Common Stock is no longer listed on the NASDAQ Capital Market or listed on a principal stock exchange or is no longer actively traded on the Over-the-Counter Bulletin Board or OTC Markets as of the applicable date, the Fair Market Value of the Common Stock shall be the value as reasonably determined by the Administrator for purposes of the award in the circumstances.
5.7 Transfer Restrictions.
<b>5.7.1</b> <i>Limitations on Exercise and Transfer.</i> Unless otherwise expressly provided in (or pursuant to) this Section 5.7, by applicable law and by the award agreement, as the same may be amended, (a) all awards are non-transferable and shall not be subject in any manner to sale, transfer, anticipation, alienation, assignment, pledge, encumbrance or charge; (b) awards shall be exercised only by the participant; and (c) amounts payable or shares issuable pursuant to any award shall be delivered only to (or for the account of) the participant.
<b>5.7.2</b> <i>Exceptions.</i> The Administrator may permit awards to be exercised by and paid to, or otherwise transferred to, other persons or entities pursuant to such conditions and procedures, including limitations on subsequent transfers, as the Administrator may, in its sole discretion, establish in writing (provided that any such transfers of ISOs shall be limited to the extent permitted under the federal tax laws governing ISOs). Any permitted transfer shall be subject to compliance with applicable federal and state securities laws.
<b>5.7.3</b> Further Exceptions to Limits on Transfer. The exercise and transfer restrictions in Section 5.7.1 shall not apply to:
(a) transfers to the Corporation,

(b) the designation	of a beneficiary	to receive benefits i	n the event of the p	participant	s death or, if the p	articipant has died,	transfers to or exerc	ise
by the participant	s beneficiary, o	r, in the absence of a	validly designated	l beneficiary	, transfers by will	or the laws of desce	ent and distribution,	

(c) subject to any applicable limitations on ISOs, transfers to a family member (or former family member) pursuant to a domestic relations order if approved or ratified by the Administrator,

- (d) subject to any applicable limitations on ISOs, if the participant has suffered a disability, permitted transfers or exercises on behalf of the participant by his or her legal representative, or
- (e) the authorization by the Administrator of cashless exercise procedures with third parties who provide financing for the purpose of (or who otherwise facilitate) the exercise of awards consistent with applicable laws and the express authorization of the Administrator.
- **5.8** *International Awards*. One or more awards may be granted to Eligible Persons who provide services to the Corporation or one of its Subsidiaries outside of the United States. Any awards granted to such persons may, if deemed necessary or advisable by the Administrator, be granted pursuant to the terms and conditions of any applicable sub-plans, if any, appended to this Plan and approved by the Administrator.
- **5.9** *Vesting*. Subject to Section 5.1.2 hereof, awards shall vest at such time or times and subject to such terms and conditions as shall be determined by the Administrator at the time of grant; *provided, however*, that in the absence of any award vesting periods designated by the Administrator at the time of grant in the applicable award agreement, awards shall vest as to one-third of the total number of shares subject to the award on each of the first, second and third anniversaries of the date of grant.
- 6. EFFECT OF TERMINATION OF SERVICE ON AWARDS
- **6.1** Termination of Employment.
- **6.1.1** The Administrator shall establish the effect of a termination of employment or service on the rights and benefits under each award under this Plan and in so doing may make distinctions based upon, inter alia, the cause of termination and type of award. If the participant is not an employee of the Corporation or one of its Subsidiaries and provides other services to the Corporation or one of its Subsidiaries, the Administrator shall be the sole judge for purposes of this Plan (unless a contract or the award agreement otherwise provides) of whether the participant continues to render services to the Corporation or one of its Subsidiaries and the date, if any, upon which such services shall be deemed to have terminated
- **6.1.2** For awards of stock options or SARs, unless the award agreement provides otherwise, the exercise period of such options or SARs shall expire: (1) three months after the last day that the participant is employed by or provides services to the Corporation or a Subsidiary (provided; however, that in the event of the participant s death during this period, those persons entitled to exercise the option or SAR pursuant to the laws of descent and distribution shall have one year following the date of death within which to exercise such option or SAR); (2) in the case of a participant whose termination of employment is due to death or disability (as defined in the applicable award agreement), 12 months after the last day that the participant is employed by or provides services to the Corporation or a Subsidiary; and (3) immediately upon a participant s termination for cause . The Administrator will, in its absolute discretion, determine the effect of all matters and questions relating to a termination of employment, including, but not by way of limitation, the question of whether a leave of absence constitutes a termination of employment and whether a participant s termination is for cause.

If not defined in the applicable award agreement, Cause shall mean:

(ii) theft, material act of dishonesty or fraud, intentional falsification of any employment or Company records, or commission of any criminal act which impairs participant s ability to perform appropriate employment duties for the Corporation; or

(iii) intentional or reckless conduct or gross negligence materially harmful to the Company or the successor to the Corporation after a Change in Control, including violation of a non-competition or confidentiality agreement; or

- (iv) willful failure to follow lawful instructions of the person or body to which participant reports; or
- (v) gross negligence or willful misconduct in the performance of participant s assigned duties. Cause shal<u>l not include mere unsatisfactory</u> performance in the achievement of participant s job objectives.
- **6.1.3** For awards of restricted shares, unless the award agreement provides otherwise, restricted shares that are subject to restrictions at the time that a participant whose employment or service is terminated shall be forfeited and reacquired by the Corporation; *provided that*, the Administrator may provide, by rule or regulation or in any award agreement, or may determine in any individual case, that restrictions or forfeiture conditions relating to restricted shares shall be waived in whole or in part in the event of terminations resulting from specified causes, and the Administrator may in other cases waive in whole or in part the forfeiture of restricted shares. Similar rules shall apply in respect of RSUs.
- **6.2** Events Not Deemed Terminations of Service. Unless the express policy of the Corporation or one of its Subsidiaries, or the Administrator, otherwise provides, the employment relationship shall not be considered terminated in the case of (a) sick leave, (b) military leave, or (c) any other leave of absence authorized by the Corporation or one of its Subsidiaries, or the Administrator; provided that unless reemployment upon the expiration of such leave is guaranteed by contract or law, such leave is for a period of not more than 3 months. In the case of any employee of the Corporation or one of its Subsidiaries on an approved leave of absence, continued vesting of the award while on leave from the employ of the Corporation or one of its Subsidiaries may be suspended until the employee returns to service, unless the Administrator otherwise provides or applicable law otherwise requires. In no event shall an award be exercised after the expiration of the term set forth in the award agreement.
- **6.3** Effect of Change of Subsidiary Status. For purposes of this Plan and any award, if an entity ceases to be a Subsidiary of the Corporation, a termination of employment or service shall be deemed to have occurred with respect to each Eligible Person in respect of such Subsidiary who does not continue as an Eligible Person in respect of another entity within the Corporation or another Subsidiary that continues as such after giving effect to the transaction or other event giving rise to the change in status.

### 7. ADJUSTMENTS; ACCELERATION

7.1 Adjustments. Upon or in contemplation of any of the following events described in this Section 7.1,: any reclassification, recapitalization, stock split (including a stock split in the form of a stock dividend) or reverse stock split ( stock split ); any merger, arrangement, combination, consolidation, or other reorganization; any spin-off, split-up, or similar extraordinary dividend distribution in respect of the Common Stock (whether in the form of securities or property); any exchange of Common Stock or other securities of the Corporation, or any similar, unusual or extraordinary corporate transaction in respect of the Common Stock; then the Administrator shall in such manner, to such extent and at such time as it deems appropriate and equitable in the circumstances (but subject to compliance with applicable laws and stock exchange requirements) proportionately adjust any or all of (1) the number and type of shares of Common Stock (or other securities) that thereafter may be made the subject of awards (including the number of shares provided for in this Plan), (2) the number, amount and type of shares of Common Stock (or other securities or property) subject to any or all outstanding awards, (3) the grant, purchase, or exercise price (which term includes the base price of any SAR or similar right) of any or all outstanding awards, (4) the securities, cash or other property deliverable upon exercise or payment of any outstanding awards, and (5) the 162(m) compensation limitations set forth in Section 5.2.7 and (subject to Section 8.8.3(a)) the performance standards applicable to any outstanding awards (provided that no adjustment shall be allowed to the extent inconsistent with the requirements of Code section 162(m)). Any adjustment made pursuant to this Section 7.1 shall be made in a manner that, in the good faith determination of the Administrator, will not likely result in the imposition of additional taxes or interest under Section 409A of the Code. With respect to any award of an ISO, the Administrator may make such an adjustment that causes the option to cease to qualify as an ISO without the consent of the affected participant.

**7.2** *Change in Control.* Upon a Change in Control, each then-outstanding option and SAR shall automatically become fully vested, all restricted shares then outstanding shall automatically fully vest free of

restrictions, and each other award granted under this Plan that is then outstanding shall automatically become vested and payable to the holder of such award <u>unless</u> the Administrator has made appropriate provision for the substitution, assumption, exchange or other continuation of the award pursuant to the Change in Control. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Administrator, in its sole and absolute discretion, may choose (in an award agreement or otherwise) to provide for full or partial accelerated vesting of any award upon a Change In Control (or upon any other event or other circumstance related to the Change in Control, such as an involuntary termination of employment occurring after such Change in Control, as the Administrator may determine), irrespective of whether such any such award has been substituted, assumed, exchanged or otherwise continued pursuant to the Change in Control.

For purposes of this Plan, Change in Control shall be deemed to have occurred if:

- (i) a tender offer (or series of related offers) shall be made and consummated for the ownership of 50% or more of the outstanding voting securities of the Corporation, unless as a result of such tender offer more than 50% of the outstanding voting securities of the surviving or resulting corporation shall be owned in the aggregate by the stockholders of the Corporation (as of the time immediately prior to the commencement of such offer), any employee benefit plan of the Corporation or its Subsidiaries, and their affiliates;
- (ii) the Corporation shall be merged or consolidated with another entity, unless as a result of such merger or consolidation more than 50% of the outstanding voting securities of the surviving or resulting entity shall be owned in the aggregate by the stockholders of the Corporation (as of the time immediately prior to such transaction), any employee benefit plan of the Corporation or its Subsidiaries, and their affiliates;
- (iii) the Corporation shall sell substantially all of its assets to another entity that is not wholly owned by the Corporation, unless as a result of such sale more than 50% of such assets shall be owned in the aggregate by the stockholders of the Corporation (as of the time immediately prior to such transaction), any employee benefit plan of the Corporation or its Subsidiaries and their affiliates; or
- (iv) a Person (as defined below) shall acquire 50% or more of the outstanding voting securities of the Corporation (whether directly, indirectly, beneficially or of record), unless as a result of such acquisition more than 50% of the outstanding voting securities of the surviving or resulting corporation shall be owned in the aggregate by the stockholders of the Corporation (as of the time immediately prior to the first acquisition of such securities by such Person), any employee benefit plan of the Corporation or its Subsidiaries, and their affiliates.

For purposes of this Section 5(c), ownership of voting securities shall take into account and shall include ownership as determined by applying the provisions of Rule 13d-3(d)(I)(i) (as in effect on the date hereof) under the Exchange Act. In addition, for such purposes, Person shall have the meaning given in Section 3(a)(9) of the Exchange Act, as modified and used in Sections 13(d) and 14(d) thereof; provided, however, that a Person shall not include (A) the Company or any of its Subsidiaries; (B) a trustee or other fiduciary holding securities under an employee benefit plan of the Company or any of its Subsidiaries; (C) an underwriter temporarily holding securities pursuant to an offering of such securities; or (D) a corporation owned, directly or indirectly, by the stockholders of the Company in substantially the same proportion as their ownership of stock of the Company.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, (1) the Administrator may waive the requirement described in paragraph (iv) above that a Person must acquire more than 50% of the outstanding voting securities of the Corporation for a Change in Control to have occurred if the Administrator determines that the percentage acquired by a person is significant (as determined by the Administrator in its discretion) and that waiving such condition is appropriate in light of all facts and circumstances, and (2) no compensation that has been deferred for purposes of Section 409A of the Code shall be payable as a result of a Change in Control unless the Change in Control qualifies as a change in ownership or effective control of the Corporation within the meaning of Section 409A of the Code.

**7.3** Early Termination of Awards. Any award that has been accelerated as required or permitted by Section 7.2 upon a Change in Control (or would have been so accelerated but for Section 7.4 or 7.5) shall terminate upon such event, subject to any provision that has been expressly made by the Administrator, through a plan of reorganization or otherwise, for the survival, substitution, assumption, exchange or other continuation of such award and provided that, in the case of options and SARs that will not survive, be substituted for, assumed, exchanged, or otherwise continued in the transaction, the holder of such award shall be given reasonable advance notice of the

impending termination and a reasonable opportunity to exercise his or her outstanding options and SARs in accordance with their terms before the termination of such awards (except that in no case shall more than ten days notice of accelerated vesting and the impending termination be required and any acceleration may be made contingent upon the actual occurrence of the event).

The Administrator may make provision for payment in cash or property (or both) in respect of awards terminated pursuant to this section as a result of the Change in Control and may adopt such valuation methodologies for outstanding awards as it deems reasonable and, in the case of options, SARs or similar rights, and without limiting other methodologies, may base such settlement solely upon the excess if any of the per share amount payable upon or in respect of such event over the exercise or base price of the award.

**7.4 Other Acceleration Rules**. Any acceleration of awards pursuant to this Section 7 shall comply with applicable legal and stock exchange requirements and, if necessary to accomplish the purposes of the acceleration or if the circumstances require, may be deemed by the Administrator to occur a limited period of time not greater than 30 days before the event. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Administrator may deem an acceleration to occur immediately prior to the applicable event and/or reinstate the original terms of an award if an event giving rise to the acceleration does not occur. Notwithstanding any other provision of the Plan to the contrary, the Administrator may override the provisions of Section 7.2, 7.3, and/or 7.5 by express provision in the award agreement or otherwise. The portion of any ISO accelerated pursuant to Section 7.2 or any other action permitted hereunder shall remain exercisable as an ISO only to the extent the applicable \$100,000 limitation on ISOs is not exceeded. To the extent exceeded, the accelerated portion of the option shall be exercisable as a nonqualified stock option under the Code.

**7.5** *Possible Rescission of Acceleration.* If the vesting of an award has been accelerated expressly in anticipation of an event and the Administrator later determines that the event will not occur, the Administrator may rescind the effect of the acceleration as to any then outstanding and unexercised or otherwise unvested awards; *provided, that*, in the case of any compensation that has been deferred for purposes of Section 409A of the Code, the Administrator determines that such rescission will not likely result in the imposition of additional tax or interest under Code Section 409A.

### 8. OTHER PROVISIONS

**8.1** Compliance with Laws. This Plan, the granting and vesting of awards under this Plan, the offer, issuance and delivery of shares of Common Stock, the acceptance of promissory notes and/or the payment of money under this Plan or under awards are subject to compliance with all applicable federal and state laws, rules and regulations (including but not limited to state and federal securities law, federal margin requirements) and to such approvals by any applicable stock exchange listing, regulatory or governmental authority as may, in the opinion of counsel for the Corporation, be necessary or advisable in connection therewith. The person acquiring any securities under this Plan will, if requested by the Corporation or one of its Subsidiaries, provide such assurances and representations to the Corporation or one of its Subsidiaries as the Administrator may deem necessary or desirable to assure compliance with all applicable legal and accounting requirements.

**8.2** Future Awards/Other Rights. No person shall have any claim or rights to be granted an award (or additional awards, as the case may be) under this Plan, subject to any express contractual rights (set forth in a document other than this Plan) to the contrary.

**8.3** *No Employment/Service Contract.* Nothing contained in this Plan (or in any other documents under this Plan or in any award) shall confer upon any Eligible Person or other participant any right to continue in the employ or other service of the Corporation or one of its Subsidiaries, constitute any contract or agreement of employment or other service or affect an employee s status as an employee at will, nor shall interfere in

any way with the right of the Corporation or one of its Subsidiaries to change a person s compensation or other benefits, or to terminate his or her employment or other service, with or without cause. Nothing in this Section 8.3, however, is intended to adversely affect any express independent right of such person under a separate employment or service contract other than an award agreement.

**8.4 Plan Not Funded.** Awards payable under this Plan shall be payable in shares or from the general assets of the Corporation, and no special or separate reserve, fund or deposit shall be made to assure payment of such awards. No participant, beneficiary or other person shall have any right, title or interest in any fund or in any specific asset (including shares of Common Stock, except as expressly otherwise provided) of the Corporation or one of its Subsidiaries by reason of any award hereunder. Neither the provisions of this Plan (or of any related documents), nor the creation or adoption of this Plan, nor any action taken pursuant to the provisions of this Plan shall create, or be construed to create, a trust of any kind or a fiduciary relationship between the Corporation or one of its Subsidiaries and any participant, beneficiary or other person. To the extent that a participant, beneficiary or other person acquires a right to receive payment pursuant to any award hereunder, such right shall be no greater than the right of any unsecured general creditor of the Corporation.

**8.5** *Tax Withholding.* Upon any exercise, vesting, or payment of any award, the Corporation or one of its Subsidiaries shall have the right at its option to:

- (a) require the participant (or the participant s personal representative or beneficiary, as the case may be) to pay or provide for payment of at least the minimum amount of any taxes which the Corporation or one of its Subsidiaries may be required to withhold with respect to such award event or payment; or
- (b) deduct from any amount otherwise payable in cash to the participant (or the participant s personal representative or beneficiary, as the case may be) the minimum amount of any taxes which the Corporation or one of its Subsidiaries may be required to withhold with respect to such cash payment.

In any case where a tax is required to be withheld in connection with the delivery of shares of Common Stock under this Plan, the Administrator may in its sole discretion (subject to Section 8.1) grant (either at the time of the award or thereafter) to the participant the right to elect, pursuant to such rules and subject to such conditions as the Administrator may establish, to have the Corporation reduce the number of shares to be delivered by (or otherwise reacquire) the appropriate number of shares, valued in a consistent manner at their Fair Market Value or at the sales price in accordance with authorized procedures for cashless exercises, necessary to satisfy the minimum applicable withholding obligation on exercise, vesting or payment. In no event shall the shares withheld exceed the minimum whole number of shares required for tax withholding under applicable law.

**8.6** Effective Date, Termination and Suspension, Amendments.

**8.6.1** Effective Date and Termination. This Plan was approved by the Board and became effective on June 11, 2014. Unless earlier terminated by the Board, this Plan shall terminate at the close of business on June 11, 2024. After the termination of this Plan either upon such stated expiration date or its earlier termination by the Board, no additional awards may be granted under this Plan, but previously granted awards (and the authority of the Administrator with respect thereto, including the authority to amend such awards) shall remain outstanding in accordance with their applicable terms and conditions and the terms and conditions of this Plan.

**8.6.2** *Board Authorization.* The Board may, at any time, terminate or, from time to time, amend, modify or suspend this Plan, in whole or in part. No awards may be granted during any period that the Board suspends this Plan.

**8.6.3** *Stockholder Approval.* To the extent then required by applicable law or any applicable stock exchange or required under Sections 162, 422 or 424 of the Code to preserve the intended tax consequences of this Plan, or deemed necessary or advisable by the Board, this Plan and any amendment to this Plan shall be subject to stockholder approval.

**8.6.4** *Amendments to Awards.* Without limiting any other express authority of the Administrator under (but subject to) the express limits of this Plan, the Administrator by agreement or resolution may waive conditions of or limitations on awards to participants that the Administrator in the prior exercise of its discretion has imposed, without the consent of a participant, and (subject to the requirements of Sections 3.2 and 8.6.5) may make other changes to the terms and conditions of awards. Any amendment or other action that would constitute a repricing of an award is subject to the limitations set forth in Section 3.2(g).

**8.6.5** *Limitations on Amendments to Plan and Awards.* No amendment, suspension or termination of this Plan or change of or affecting any outstanding award shall, without written consent of the participant, affect in any manner materially adverse to the participant any rights or benefits of the participant or obligations of the Corporation under any award granted under this Plan prior to the effective date of such change. Changes, settlements and other actions contemplated by Section 7 shall not be deemed to constitute changes or amendments for purposes of this Section 8.6.

**8.7** *Privileges of Stock Ownership.* Except as otherwise expressly authorized by the Administrator or this Plan, a participant shall not be entitled to any privilege of stock ownership as to any shares of Common Stock not actually delivered to and held of record by the participant. No adjustment will be made for dividends or other rights as a stockholder for which a record date is prior to such date of delivery.

8.8 Governing Law; Construction; Severability.

**8.8.1** *Choice of Law.* This Plan, the awards, all documents evidencing awards and all other related documents shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Delaware.

**8.8.2** Severability. If a court of competent jurisdiction holds any provision invalid and unenforceable, the remaining provisions of this Plan shall continue in effect.

#### 8.8.3 Plan Construction.

- (a) *Rule 16b-3*. It is the intent of the Corporation that the awards and transactions permitted by awards be interpreted in a manner that, in the case of participants who are or may be subject to Section 16 of the Exchange Act, qualify, to the maximum extent compatible with the express terms of the award, for exemption from matching liability under Rule 16b-3 promulgated under the Exchange Act. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Corporation shall have no liability to any participant for Section 16 consequences of awards or events under awards if an award or event does not so qualify.
- (b) Section 162(m). Awards under Sections 5.1.4 through 5.1.7 to persons described in Section 5.2 that are either granted or become vested, exercisable or payable based on attainment of one or more performance goals related to the Business Criteria, as well as Qualifying Options and Qualifying SARs granted to persons described in Section 5.2, that are approved by a committee composed solely of two or more outside directors (as this requirement is applied under Section 162(m) of the Code) shall be deemed to be intended as performance-based compensation within the meaning of Section 162(m) of the Code unless such committee provides otherwise at the time of grant of the award. It is the further intent of the Corporation that (to the extent the Corporation or one of its Subsidiaries or awards under this Plan may be or become subject to limitations on deductibility under Section 162(m) of the Code) any such awards and any other Performance-Based Awards under Section 5.2 that are granted to or held by a person subject to Section 162(m) will qualify as performance-based compensation or otherwise be exempt from deductibility limitations under Section 162(m).
- (c) *Code Section 409A Compliance*. The Board intends that, except as may be otherwise determined by the Administrator, any awards under the Plan are either exempt from or satisfy the requirements of Section 409A of the Code and related regulations and Treasury pronouncements ( **Section 409A** ) to avoid the imposition of any taxes, including additional income or penalty taxes, thereunder. If the Administrator determines

that an award, award agreement, acceleration, adjustment to the terms of an award, payment, distribution, deferral election, transaction or any other action or arrangement contemplated by the provisions of the Plan would, if undertaken, cause a participant s award to become subject to Section 409A, unless the Administrator expressly determines otherwise, such award, award agreement, payment, acceleration, adjustment, distribution, deferral election, transaction or other action or arrangement shall not be undertaken and the related provisions of the Plan and/or award agreement will be deemed modified or, if necessary, rescinded in order to comply with the requirements of Section 409A to the extent determined by the Administrator without the content or notice to the participant. Notwithstanding the foregoing, neither the Company nor the Administrator shall have any obligation to take any action to prevent the assessment of any excise tax or penalty on any participant under Section 409A and neither the Company nor the Administrator will have any liability to any participant for such tax or penalty.

(d) No Guarantee of Favorable Tax Treatment. Although the Company intends that awards under the Plan will be exempt from, or will comply with, the requirements of Section 409A of the Code, the Company does not warrant that any award under the Plan will qualify for favorable tax treatment under Section 409A of the Code or any other provision of federal, state, local or foreign law. The Company shall not be liable to any participant for any tax, interest or penalties the participant might owe as a result of the grant, holding, vesting, exercise or payment of any award under the Plan

**8.9** *Captions*. Captions and headings are given to the sections and subsections of this Plan solely as a convenience to facilitate reference. Such headings shall not be deemed in any way material or relevant to the construction or interpretation of this Plan or any provision thereof.

8.10 Stock-Based Awards in Substitution for Stock Options or Awards Granted by Other Corporation. Awards may be granted to Eligible Persons in substitution for or in connection with an assumption of employee stock options, SARs, restricted stock or other stock-based awards granted by other entities to persons who are or who will become Eligible Persons in respect of the Corporation or one of its Subsidiaries, in connection with a distribution, arrangement, business combination, merger or other reorganization by or with the granting entity or an affiliated entity, or the acquisition by the Corporation or one of its Subsidiaries, directly or indirectly, of all or a substantial part of the stock or assets of the employing entity. The awards so granted need not comply with other specific terms of this Plan, provided the awards reflect only adjustments giving effect to the assumption or substitution consistent with the conversion applicable to the Common Stock in the transaction and any change in the issuer of the security. Any shares that are delivered and any awards that are granted by, or become obligations of, the Corporation, as a result of the assumption by the Corporation of, or in substitution for, outstanding awards previously granted by an acquired company (or previously granted by a predecessor employer (or direct or indirect parent thereof) in the case of persons that become employed by the Corporation or one of its Subsidiaries in connection with a business or asset acquisition or similar transaction) shall not be counted against the Share Limit or other limits on the number of shares available for issuance under this Plan, except as may otherwise be provided by the Administrator at the time of such assumption or substitution or as may be required to comply with the requirements of any applicable stock exchange.

**8.11** Non-Exclusivity of Plan. Nothing in this Plan shall limit or be deemed to limit the authority of the Board or the Administrator to grant awards or authorize any other compensation, with or without reference to the Common Stock, under any other plan or authority.

**8.12** *No Corporate Action Restriction.* The existence of this Plan, the award agreements and the awards granted hereunder shall not limit, affect or restrict in any way the right or power of the Board or the stockholders of the Corporation to make or authorize: (a) any adjustment, recapitalization, reorganization or other change in the capital structure or business of the Corporation or any Subsidiary, (b) any merger, arrangement, business combination, amalgamation, consolidation or change in the ownership of the Corporation or any Subsidiary, (c) any issue of bonds, debentures, capital, preferred or prior preference stock ahead of or affecting the capital stock (or the rights thereof) of the Corporation or any Subsidiary, (d) any dissolution or liquidation of the Corporation or any Subsidiary, (e) any sale or transfer of all or any part of the assets or business of the Corporation or any Subsidiary, or (f) any other corporate act or proceeding by the Corporation or any Subsidiary. No participant, beneficiary or any other person shall have any claim under any award or award agreement against any member of the Board or the Administrator, or the Corporation or any employees, officers or agents of the Corporation or any Subsidiary, as a result of any such action.

**8.13** Other Corporation Benefit and Compensation Programs. Payments and other benefits received by a participant under an award made pursuant to this Plan shall not be deemed a part of a participant s compensation for purposes of the determination of benefits under any other employee welfare or benefit plans or arrangements, if any, provided by the Corporation or any Subsidiary, except where the Administrator expressly otherwise provides or authorizes in writing or except as otherwise specifically set forth in the terms and conditions of such other employee welfare or benefit plan or arrangement. Awards under this Plan may be made in addition to, in combination with, as alternatives to or in payment of grants, awards or commitments under any other plans or arrangements of the Corporation or its Subsidiaries.

**8.14** *Prohibition on Repricing*. Subject to Section 4, the Administrator shall not, without the approval of the stockholders of the Corporation (i) reduce the exercise price, or cancel and reissue options so as to in effect reduce the exercise price or (ii) change the manner of determining the exercise price so that the exercise price is less than the fair market value per share of Common Stock.

As adopted by the Board of Directors of Trovagene, Inc. on June 11, 2014.

#### PROXY CARD

### TROVAGENE, INC.

### PROXY FOR ANNUAL MEETING TO BE HELD ON SEPTEMBER 17, 2014

### THIS PROXY IS SOLICITED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The undersigned hereby appoints, Antonius Schuh and Stephen Zaniboni, and each of them, as proxies, each with full power of substitution, to represent and to vote all the shares of common stock of Trovagene, Inc. (the Company), which the undersigned would be entitled to vote, at the Company s Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held on September 17, 2014 and at any adjournments thereof, subject to the directions indicated on this Proxy Card.

In their discretion, the proxy is authorized to vote upon any other matter that may properly come before the meeting or any adjournments thereof.

THIS PROXY WILL BE VOTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SPECIFICATIONS MADE, BUT IF NO CHOICES ARE INDICATED, THIS PROXY WILL BE VOTED FOR THE ELECTION OF ALL NOMINEES AND FOR THE PROPOSALS LISTED ON THE REVERSE SIDE.

IMPORTANT This Proxy must be signed and dated on the reverse side.

Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the Annual Meeting of Stockholders to Be Held on September 17, 2014 at 10:00 am local time at the Company's offices located at 11055 Flintkote Ave., San Diego, California 92121. The proxy statement and 2013 annual report to stockholders on Form 10-K are available at www.pstvote.com/trovagene2014.

### THIS IS YOUR PROXY

#### YOUR VOTE IS IMPORTANT!

Dear Stockholder:

We cordially invite you to attend the Annual Meeting of Stockholders of Trovagene, Inc. to be held at Trovagene s offices located at 11055 Flintkote Ave., San Diego, California 92121, on September 17, 2014, beginning at 10:00 a.m. local time.

Please read the proxy statement which describes the proposals and presents other important information, and complete, sign and return your proxy promptly in the enclosed envelope.

# THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS A VOTE FOR PROPOSALS 1-3

1. Election of Directors Nominees	FOR	WITHHOLD
01-Dr. Paul Billings	0	0
02-Gary S. Jacob	0	0
03-Thomas H. Adams	0	0
04-John P. Brancaccio	0	0
05-Antonius Schuh	0	0
06-Dr. Stanley Tennant	0	0
07- Dr. Rodney S. Markin	o	0

2. Proposal to ratify BDO USA, LLP as Trovagene s independent registered public accountants for fiscal year ending December 31, 2014		FOR	AGAIN	ST	ABSTAIN	
		0	O		o	
3. Proposal to adopt the Trovagene Inc. 2014 Equity Incentive Plan		FOR	AGAIN	ST	ABSTAIN	
		0	o		o	
Important: Please sign exactly as name appears on this proxy please indicate full title.	. When sign	ing as attorn	ey, executor, truste	e, guardian,	corporate officer	, etc.,
	Dated:		, 2014			
	Signature		, 2014			
	Name (prin	ted)				
	Title					
VOTING INSTRUCTIONS						
You may vote your proxy in the following ways:						
1. VIA INTERNET:						
Login to www.pstvote.com/trovagene2014						
Enter your control number (12 digit number located below)						
2. VIA MAIL:						
Philadelphia Stock Transfer, Inc.						
2320 Haverford Rd., Suite 230						

Ardmore, PA 19003

# YOUR CONTROL NUMBER IS:

You may vote by Internet 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Internet voting is available through 11:59 p.m., prevailing time, on September 16, 2014.