

**IN THE GRAND COURT OF THE CAYMAN ISLANDS
HOLDEN AT GEORGE TOWN, GRAND CAYMAN**

CAUSE NO: 322 OF 1997

IN THE MATTER OF LION PROPERTIES LIMITED

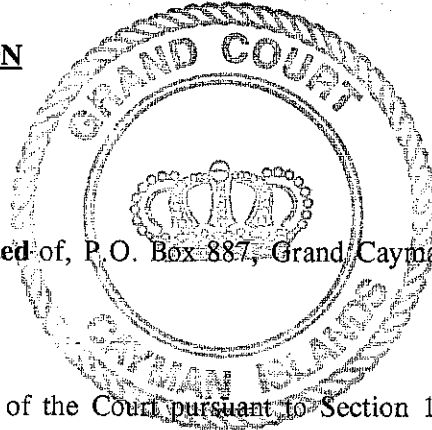
AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES LAW (CAP. 22) (1995 REVISION)

PETITION

TO: The Grand Court of the Cayman Islands

THE HUMBLE PETITION of Lion Properties Limited of, P.O. Box 887, Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands, British West Indies shows that:-

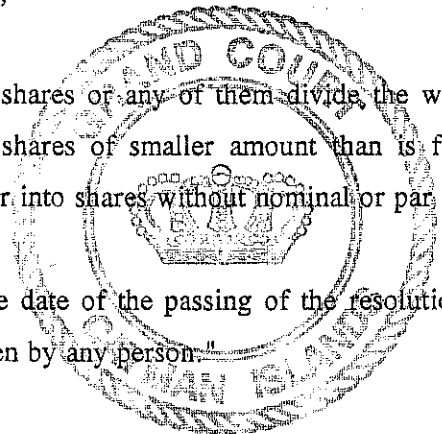
1. The object of this Petition is to seek an order of the Court pursuant to Section 15(1) of the Companies Law (Cap. 22) (1995 Revision) (the "Companies Law") confirming a reduction of the capital of Lion Properties Limited (the "Company").
2. The Company was incorporated on the 23rd day of August, 1978 and registered on the 28th day of August, 1978 under the Companies Law, as a company limited by shares.
3. The registered office of the Company is and has at all times since 13th September, 1978 been situate at the offices of Ansbacher (Cayman) Limited, P.O. Box 887, Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands.
4. The objects for which the Company was formed were:-
 - (a) To carry on in any part of the world whether as principals, agents or otherwise howsoever the business of realtors, developers, consultants estate agents or managers, builders, contractors, engineers, manufacturers, dealers in or vendors of all types of property including services, and to act as promoters and entrepreneurs.



- (b) To carry on the business of an investment company and to carry on business as financiers, concessionaires and merchants and to undertake and carry on and execute all kinds of investment, financial, commercial, trading and other operations.
5. (a) The company was incorporated and registered with an authorised share capital of US\$900,000.00, comprising 900,000 ordinary shares of par value US\$1.00 each.
- MAY 23.1997
- (b) The capital of the Company was reduced from US\$900,000.00 to US\$800,000.00 divided into 900,000 shares of US\$0.889 each pursuant to a special resolution of the Company confirmed by an Order of the Grand Court of the Cayman Islands dated 5 June, 1985. Pursuant to a further special resolution of the Company, on the reduction of capital taking effect, the issued shares of the Company were consolidated into 800,000 shares of US\$1.00 each and the authorised share capital was increased to US\$900,000 by the creation of a further 100,000 shares of US\$1.00 each.
- (c) The capital of the Company was again reduced from US\$900,000.00 to US\$700,000 divided into 900,000 shares of US\$0.778 each pursuant to a special resolution of the Company confirmed by an Order of the Grand Court of the Cayman Islands dated 20th June, 1990. Pursuant to a further special resolution of the Company, on the reduction of capital taking effect, the issued shares of the Company were consolidated into 700,000 shares of US\$1.00 each and the authorised share capital was increased to US\$900,000 by the creation of a further 200,000 shares of US\$1.00 each.
6. Shortly after its incorporation, the Company commenced and has since continued to carry on the business of an investment company. It is not carrying on and has never carried on any trading activities. The beneficial owner of the Company is an individual resident in the Netherlands Antilles. He requires the sum of US\$650,000.00 to be withdrawn from the Company. In order to minimise the adverse tax consequences which would result if a dividend was paid to the beneficial owner, it is proposed that the sum of US\$650,000.00 be withdrawn by means of a reduction of capital. This is permitted by the articles of association of the Company.
7. The articles of association of the Company provide, (inter alia), as follows:-

"Article 35. (a) Subject to and in so far as permitted by the provisions of the Statute [the Companies Law, Cap.22], the Company may from time to time by ordinary resolution alter or amend its Memorandum of Association otherwise than with respect to its name and objects and may, without restricting the generality of the foregoing:

- (i) increase the share capital by such sum to be divided into shares of such amount or without nominal or par value as the resolutions shall prescribe and with such rights, priorities and privileges annexed thereto, as the Company in general meeting may determine;
- (ii) consolidate and divide all or any of its share capital into shares of larger amount than its existing shares;
- (iii) by subdivision of its existing shares or any of them divide the whole or any part of its share capital into shares of smaller amount than is fixed by the Memorandum of Association or into shares without nominal or par value;
- (iv) cancel any shares which at the date of the passing of the resolution have not been taken or agreed to be taken by any person."



"Article 35 (d) Subject to the provisions of the statute the Company may by Special Resolution redeem any of its shares or reduce its share capital, any capital Redemption Reserve Fund, or any share Premium Account."

8. The reduction of capital was effected by a special resolution of the Company passed at an extraordinary general meeting held on 28th February, 1997 at which it was resolved as follows:

- (1) That subject to the confirmation of the Grand Court, the capital of the Company be reduced from US\$900,000 divided into 900,000 shares of US\$1.00 each to US\$64,286, divided into 900,000 shares of US\$1/14 each, and that such reduction of capital be effected by returning paid-up capital to the extent of US\$13/14 upon each of the 700,000 issued shares of US\$1.00 each and by reducing the nominal amount of the said 900,000 shares from US\$1.00

to US\$1/14 each.

- (2) That forthwith upon such reduction of capital taking effect (i) the 900,000 shares of US\$1/14 each be consolidated in such manner that every 14 of the said shares shall constitute 1 US\$1.00 share upon which, in the case of the issued share capital, the sum of US\$1.00 shall be credited as having been paid and (ii) the capital of the Company be increased to its present amount of US\$900,000 by the creation of 835,714 new shares of US\$1.00 each.
9. The sum of US\$650,000.00 proposed to be repaid to the shareholders is in excess of the needs of the Company and cannot in the opinion of the directors any longer be usefully employed in its business. The reason for the proposed reduction is to return funds to the beneficial owner of the Company in a way that is fiscally effective for the purposes of the laws of his jurisdiction of residence.
10. The form of Minute proposed to be registered is as follows:

MAY 23, 1997

"The capital of Lion Properties Limited was by virtue of a special resolution and with the sanction of an Order of the Grand Court dated _____, 1997 reduced from US\$900,000 divided into 900,000 shares of US\$1.00 each to US\$64,286 divided into 900,000 shares of US\$1/14 each. At the date of the registration of this Minute, 700,000 of the shares have been issued and are deemed to be fully paid up. A special resolution of the Company has been passed to the effect that on the said reduction of capital taking effect the said shares be consolidated into 64,286 shares of US\$1.00 each and the authorized capital of the Company be increased to its former amount of US\$900,000 by the creation of 835,714 shares of US\$1.00 each."


YOUR PETITIONER THEREFORE HUMBLY PRAYS AS FOLLOWS:-

1. That the provisions of S.14(2) of the Companies Law may be dispensed with.
2. That the reduction of the capital of the Company proposed to be effected by the Special Resolution set forth in paragraph 7(1) of this petition may be confirmed by the Court.

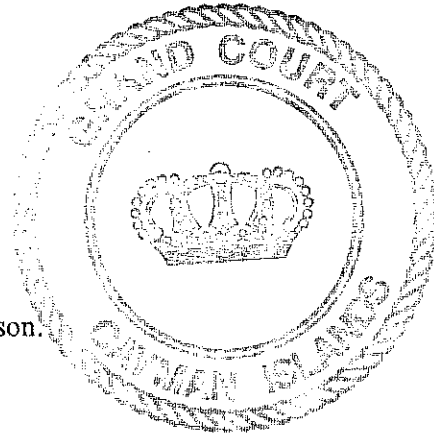
3. That such other order may be made as the Court thinks fit.

AND your Petitioner will ever pray, etc.

DATED this 23rd day of May, 1997.


MAPLES AND CALDER

MAY 23.1997



NOTE: It is not intended to serve this Petition on any person.

THIS PETITION is filed by Messrs Maples and Calder, Attorneys-at-Law for the Petitioner whose address for service is P.O. Box 309, George Town, Grand Cayman,.