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

# Form 8-K

CURRENT REPORT Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): November 15, 2016

# CHERRY HILL MORTGAGE INVESTMENT **CORPORATION**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Commission File Number: 001-36099** 

Delaware (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)

461315605 (IRS Employer Identification No.)

301 Harper Drive, Suite 110 Moorestown, NJ 08057 (Address of principal executive offices, including zip code)

877.870.7005

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

□ Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

□ Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)

Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b)) 

П Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

#### Item 1.01 Entry Into a Material Definitive Agreement

On November 14, 2016, the Company agreed to sell to Freedom Mortgage Corporation ("Freedom Mortgage") the Excess MSRs Freedom Mortgage had previously sold to the Company. The sale is structured to occur in two steps: (1) on November 15, 2016, the Company sold, and Freedom Mortgage purchased, the Excess MSRs arising under both the Pool 1 Excess MSR Acquisition Agreement, dated as of October 9, 2013, between Freedom Mortgage and the Company, and the Flow and Bulk Excess MSR Acquisition Agreement, dated as of October 9, 2013, between Freedom Mortgage and the Company; and (2) on or about December 15, 2016, the Company will sell, and Freedom Mortgage will purchase, the Excess MSRs arising under the Pool 2 Excess MSR Acquisition Agreement, dated as of October 9, 2013, between Freedom Mortgage and the Company. The purchase price will equal the product of sixty basis points (60 bps) and the aggregate UPB of the applicable mortgage loans as of the close of business on the last day of the month prior to the month of the applicable closing. In connection with each closing: (i) the Company will release its lien on the MSRs underlying the Excess MSRs being sold and repay the related portion of its outstanding Term Loan; and (ii) the applicable Excess MSR acquisition agreement(s) will be terminated. In connection with the second closing, the Acknowledgement Agreement among Ginnie Mae, Freedom and the Company will be terminated. Payments will be in cash; provided, however, that all or part of the payment for the second closing may take the form of Ginnie Mae MSRs if Ginnie Mae and the Company's independant directors approve. In addition, Freedom Mortgage will make quarterly yield maintenance payments in 2017 aggregating \$3.0 million.

We expect to recognize a gain on sale and to invest the proceeds of the sale (after repayment of the Term Loan) in RMBS pending redeployment of those funds to acquisitions of MSRs.

In connection with the sale, the Company's Acknowledgment Agreement with Ginnie Mae and Freedom Mortgage will be terminated. As the Company has previously disclosed, the Acknowledgment Agreement exposes the Company to potential liability to Ginnie Mae if Freedom Mortgage defaults on its Ginnie Mae servicing obligations. Based on the growth of Freedom Mortgage's Ginnie Mae servicing portfolio, which has more than doubled since the Company entered into the Acknowledgment Agreement, the Company believes its counterparty risk to Freedom Mortgage has increased disproportionately compared to the Company's economic interest in Freedom Mortgage's Ginnie Mae servicing portfolio. By engaging in this transaction, the Company expects to eliminate any potential liability it could have to Ginnie Mae if Freedom Mortgage defaults on its Ginnie Mae servicing obligations.

The Company is party to a management agreement (the "Management Agreement") with Cherry Hill Mortgage Management, LLC (the "Manager"), a Delaware limited liability company established by Mr. Middleman. The Manager is a party to a Services Agreement with Freedom Mortgage Corporation ("Freedom Mortgage") which is owned and controlled by Mr. Middleman. The Manager is owned by a "blind trust" for the benefit of Mr. Middleman. At the request of Ginnie Mae, Mr. Middleman has agreed not to stand for re-election to the Company's board of directors in 2017.

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This Current Report on Form 8-K contains forward looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and other federal securities laws, including among other statements, statements relating to the Company's ability to complete the transaction on the terms described above or at all, and the Company's ability to obtain Ginnie Mae issuer approval.

#### Item 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure.

On November 15, 2016, Cherry Hill Mortgage Investment Corporation (the "Company") issued a press release announcing the entry into the agreement described in Item 1.01 above. A copy of the press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1. The information referenced in this Item 7.01 (including Exhibit 99.1) of this Current Report on Form 8-K is being "furnished" and, as such, shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section. The information set forth in this Item 7.01 (including Exhibit 99.1) of this Current Report shall not be incorporated by reference into any registration statement, report or other document filed by the Company pursuant to the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference in such filing.

#### Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

99.1 Press Release, dated November 15, 2016 (furnished and not filed; see Item 7.01 of this Current Report on Form 8-K)

#### SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, hereunto duly authorized.

CHERRY HILL MORTGAGE INVESTMENT CORPORATION

Date: November 15, 2016

By: <u>/s/ Martin Levine</u> Name: Martin Levine Title: Chief Financial Officer

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### EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit Number	Description
<u>99.1</u>	Press Release, dated November 15, 2016 (furnished and not filed; see Item 7.01 of this Current Report on Form 8-K).



#### CHERRY HILL MORTGAGE INVESTMENT CORPORATION ANNOUNCES SALE OF ITS EXCESS MSR PORTFOLIO

- Company Expected to Record Gain on Sale -

- Proceeds to be Used to Repay Term Loan and Ultimately Invested Into MSRs -

MOORESTOWN, NJ, November 15, 2016 — Cherry Hill Mortgage Investment Corporation (NYSE: CHMI) ("Cherry Hill" or the "Company") today announced it has agreed to sell back to Freedom Mortgage the Excess MSRs that Freedom Mortgage had previously sold to the Company.

The sale will be a two-step process. Pool 1/Pool 2014 were sold on November 15 and Pool 2 will be sold approximately one month later. The price for the pools will be the product of 60 basis points and the aggregate UPB of the pools as of October 31 for Pool 1/Pool 2014 and November 30 for Pool 2. In addition, Freedom will pay yield maintenance to Cherry Hill equivalent to \$750,000 per quarter in 2017 as partial consideration for the sale. This feature of the agreement is intended to help mitigate any earnings deterioration as the Company works to reinvest the proceeds in newly originated MSRs. A portion of the purchase price for Pool 2 may consist of full MSRs on loans backing Ginnie Mae securities if Ginnie Mae and the Company's independent directors approve. Cherry Hill is hopeful to receive its GNMA issuer approval shortly and would then seek GNMA approval to purchase the MSRs from Freedom.

Cherry Hill expects to recognize a net gain on sale of approximately \$16 million as a result of the transaction, which is expected to result in an increase in book value. A portion of the expected proceeds from the transaction will be used to repay the \$21 million currently outstanding on its term loan, while the remainder of the proceeds will be temporarily invested into RMBS, as Cherry Hill identifies and begins to deploy the capital into servicing-related MSRs over time.

"Freedom expressed an interest in reacquiring our Excess MSRs and eventually presented a compelling offer," stated Jay Lown, Cherry Hill Mortgage Investment Corporation's President. "The Excess MSR assets are particularly illiquid, and after careful consideration, we acted opportunistically and accepted the offer. Overall, we remain committed to maintaining the balance of our entire portfolio of assets, which has allowed us to take advantage of rate fluctuations in our efforts to create value for shareholders."

Cherry Hill Mortgage Investment Corporation • 301 Harper Drive, Suite 110, Moorestown, NJ 08057 • (877) 870-7005 • www.CHMIreit.com



#### **About Cherry Hill Mortgage Investment Corporation**

Cherry Hill Mortgage Investment Corporation is a real estate finance company that acquires, invests in and manages residential mortgage assets in the United States. Cherry Hill Mortgage Investment Corporation is externally managed and advised by Cherry Hill Mortgage Management, LLC.

#### **Forward-Looking Statements**

This press release contains forward looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and other federal securities laws. These forward looking statements are based upon the Company's present expectations, but these statements are not guaranteed to occur. For a description of factors that may cause the Company's actual results or performance to differ from its forward-looking statements, please review the information under the heading "Risk Factors" included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015, and other documents filed by the Company with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

**Contact:** Investor Relations (877) 870 – 7005 InvestorRelations@CHMIreit.com

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