

**Press Release**

**RLJ Lodging Trust Announces 2013 Dividend Income Tax Information**

Bethesda, MD, January 31, 2014 – RLJ Lodging Trust (the “Company”) (NYSE: RLJ) today announced the 2013 tax classification of the dividend distributions made to the Company’s holders of its common shares of beneficial interest.

The income tax classification as expected to be reported on Form 1099-DIV for the Company’s common shares, CUSIP number 74965L101, is as follows:

| <b>Record Date</b> | <b>Payment Date</b> | <b>Total Distribution Per Share</b> | <b>Total Distribution Allocable to 2013</b> | <b>Ordinary Taxable Dividend</b> | <b>Return of Capital</b> |
|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 12/31/2012         | 01/15/2013          | \$0.205                             | \$0.040                                     | \$0.040                          | \$0.000                  |
| 03/28/2013         | 04/15/2013          | \$0.205                             | \$0.205                                     | \$0.205                          | \$0.000                  |
| 06/28/2013         | 07/15/2013          | \$0.205                             | \$0.205                                     | \$0.205                          | \$0.000                  |
| 09/30/2013         | 10/15/2013          | \$0.205                             | \$0.205                                     | \$0.205                          | \$0.000                  |
| 12/31/2013         | 01/15/2014          | \$0.205                             | \$0.205                                     | \$0.205                          | \$0.000                  |
| 12/31/2013         | 01/15/2014          | \$0.035                             | \$0.015                                     | \$0.015                          | \$0.000                  |
| <b>Total</b>       |                     | <b>\$1.060</b>                      | <b>\$0.875</b>                              | <b>\$0.875</b>                   | <b>\$0.000</b>           |
| <i>Percent</i>     |                     |                                     | <i>100%</i>                                 | <i>100%</i>                      | <i>0%</i>                |

The 2013 fourth quarter special distribution of \$0.035, which had a record date of December 31, 2013, will be a split-year distribution. For tax purposes, \$0.015 will be allocated to the 2013 Form 1099-DIV and the remaining \$0.020 will be allocated to the 2014 Form 1099-DIV.

No portion of the 2013 distributions represented capital gains or qualified dividend income.

The information presented above is based on preliminary results and is subject to correction or adjustment when the Company’s filings are completed. The tax information provided should not be construed as tax advice. Shareholders are encouraged to consult with their tax advisors regarding their specific tax treatment.

**About Us**

RLJ Lodging Trust is a self-advised, publicly traded real estate investment trust focused on acquiring premium-branded, focused-service and compact full-service hotels. The Company

owns 150 properties, comprised of 148 hotels with approximately 22,400 rooms and two planned hotel conversions, located in 23 states and the District of Columbia.

### **Forward Looking Statements**

The following information contains certain statements, other than purely historical information, including estimates, projections, statements relating to the Company's business plans, objectives and expected operating results, and the assumptions upon which those statements are based, that are "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. These forward-looking statements generally are identified by the use of the words "believe," "project," "expect," "anticipate," "estimate," "plan," "may," "will," "will continue," "intend," "should," "may" or similar expressions. Although the Company believes that the expectations reflected in such forward-looking statements are based upon reasonable assumptions, beliefs and expectations, such forward-looking statements are not predictions of future events or guarantees of future performance and the Company's actual results could differ materially from those set forth in the forward-looking statements. Some factors that might cause such a difference include the following: the current global economic uncertainty, increased direct competition, changes in government regulations or accounting rules, changes in local, national and global real estate conditions, declines in the lodging industry, seasonality of the lodging industry, risks related to natural disasters, such as earthquakes and hurricanes, hostilities, including future terrorist attacks or fear of hostilities that affect travel, the Company's ability to obtain lines of credit or permanent financing on satisfactory terms, changes in interest rates, access to capital through offerings of the Company's common and preferred shares of beneficial interest, or debt, the Company's ability to identify suitable acquisitions, the Company's ability to close on identified acquisitions and integrate those businesses and inaccuracies of the Company's accounting estimates. Given these uncertainties, undue reliance should not be placed on such statements. Except as required by law, the Company undertakes no obligation to update or revise publicly any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. The Company cautions investors not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements and urge investors to carefully review the disclosures the Company makes concerning risks and uncertainties in the sections entitled "Risk Factors," "Forward-Looking Statements," and "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" in the Company's Annual Report, as well as risks, uncertainties and other factors discussed in other documents filed by the Company with the SEC.

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### **Additional Contacts:**

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*For additional information or to receive press releases via email, please visit our website:*

*<http://rljlodgingtrust.com>*