# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

# FORM S-8 REGISTRATION STATEMENT

UNDER
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

# American Capital Agency Corp.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

2 Bethesda Metro Center, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor Bethesda, Maryland (Address of principal executive offices) 26-1701984

(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

> 20814 (Zip code)

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AMERICAN CAPITAL AGENCY CORP. EQUITY INCENTIVE PLAN FOR INDEPENDENT DIRECTORS

(Full title of the plan)

Samuel A. Flax, Esq.
Executive Vice President and Secretary
American Capital Agency Corp.
2 Bethesda Metro Center, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor
Bethesda, Maryland 20814
(301) 968-9300

(Name and address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

### CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of each class of securities to be registered	Amount to be registered <sup>(1)</sup>	Proposed maximum offering price per share <sup>(2)</sup>	Proposed maximum aggregate offering price	Amount of registration fee <sup>(2)</sup>
Common stock, par value \$0.01 per share (the "Common Stock")	100,000	\$19.63	\$1,963,000.00	\$77.15

Represents the maximum number of shares of Common Stock issuable under the American Capital Equity Incentive Plan for Independent Directors (the "Plan"). Pursuant to Rule 416 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, (the "Securities Act") this registration statement also covers an additional indeterminate amount of shares to be offered or sold pursuant to the Plan and shares that may become issuable under the Plan by reason of certain corporate transactions or events, including any stock dividend, stock split, recapitalization or any other similar transaction effected without the receipt of consideration which results in an increase in the number of the registrant's outstanding shares of common stock.

<sup>2)</sup> Computed in accordance with Rule 457(h) under the Securities Act based on the average of the high and the low prices of the Common Stock reported on The NASDAQ Global Market on May 15, 2008.

#### PART I

#### INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE SECTION 10(a) PROSPECTUS

Item 1. Plan Information.\*

#### Item 2. Registrant Information and Employee Plan Annual Information.\*

\* The documents containing the information specified in this Part I will be sent by American Capital Agency Corp. (the "Corporation") to plan participants as specified by Rule 428(b)(1) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"). Such documents need not be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") either as part of this registration statement or as prospectuses or prospectus supplements pursuant to Rule 424 of the Securities Act. These documents and the documents incorporated by reference in this registration statement pursuant to Item 3 of Part II of this registration statement, taken together, constitute a prospectus that meets the requirements of Section 10(a) of the Securities Act.

#### PART II

# INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT

#### Item 3. Incorporation of Documents by Reference.

The following documents previously filed by the Corporation with the SEC are incorporated by reference in this registration statement:

- (a) The Corporation's prospectus, dated May 14, 2008, filed pursuant to Rule 424(b) under the Securities Act (the "Prospectus");
- (b) The description of the Corporation's common stock, par value \$0.01 per share (the "Common Stock"), contained in the Corporation's Registration Statement on Form 8-A filed with the SEC on May 9, 2008 to register the Common Stock under the Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, (the "Exchange Act") including any amendment or report filed for the purpose of updating such description.

All documents subsequently filed by the Corporation pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 and 15(d) of the Exchange Act, prior to the filing of a post-effective amendment to this registration statement which indicates that all securities offered have been sold or which deregisters all securities then remaining unsold, shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference in this registration statement and to be part hereof from the date of filing of such documents.

Any statement contained in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference in this registration statement shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this registration statement to the extent that a statement contained in this registration statement, or in any other subsequently filed document that also is or is deemed to be incorporated by reference in this registration statement, modifies or supersedes such prior statement. Any statement contained in this registration statement shall be deemed to be modified or superseded to the extent that a statement contained in a subsequently filed document that is or is deemed to be incorporated by reference in this registration statement modifies or supersedes such prior statement. Any statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this registration statement.

#### Item 4. Description of Securities.

Not applicable.

#### Item 5. Interests of Named Experts and Counsel.

Not applicable.

#### Item 6. Indemnification of Directors and Officers.

Section 102 of the Delaware General Corporation Law, as amended, allows a corporation to eliminate the personal liability of a director of a corporation to the corporation or its stockholders for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duty as a director, except where the director breached his duty of loyalty to the corporation or its stockholders, failed to act in good faith, engaged in intentional misconduct or knowingly violated a law, authorized the payment of a dividend or approved a stock purchase or redemption in violation of Delaware corporate law or obtained an improper personal benefit.

Section 145 of the Delaware General Corporation Law provides, among other things, that a corporation may indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding (other than an action by or in the right of the corporation) by reason of the fact that the person is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the corporation's request as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, against expenses, including attorneys' fees, judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by the person in connection with the action, suit or proceeding. The power to indemnify applies (i) if such person is successful on the merits or otherwise in defense of any action, suit or proceeding or (ii) if such person acted in good faith and in a manner he reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation, and with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe his conduct was unlawful. The power to indemnify applies to actions brought by or in the right of the corporation as well, but only to the extent of defense expenses, (including attorneys' fees but excluding amounts paid in settlement) actually and reasonably incurred by the indemnified person and not to any satisfaction of judgment or settlement of the claim itself, and with the further limitation that in such actions no indemnification shall be made in the event such person is adjudged liable to the corporation unless a court believes that in light of all the circumstances indemnification should apply.

Section 174 of the Delaware General Corporation Law provides, among other things, that a director who willfully and negligently approves of an unlawful payment of dividends or an unlawful stock purchase or redemption may be held liable for such actions. A director who was either absent when the unlawful actions were approved or dissented at the time, may avoid liability by causing his dissent to such actions to be entered in the books containing the minutes of the meetings of the Board of Directors at the time the action occurred or immediately after the absent director receives notice of the unlawful acts.

Article Seventh of our amended and restated certificate of incorporation provides that our directors shall not be personally liable to us and our stockholders for monetary damages for breach of certain fiduciary duties as a director, except for liability to the extent such director has committed willful misfeasance, bad faith, gross negligence or reckless disregard of such director's duties involved in the conduct of the office of director.

Our amended and restated bylaws and certificate of incorporation provide that we may indemnify any person who is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of us to the fullest extent permitted by Delaware law. The indemnification provisions contained in our amended and restated bylaws and certificate of incorporation are not exclusive of any other rights to which a person may be entitled by law, agreement, vote of stockholders or disinterested directors or otherwise.

Pursuant to the underwriting agreement to be entered into in connection with an offering of common stock pursuant to the Company's registration statement on Form S-11, a substantially final form of which is filed as an exhibit to such registration statement, the underwriters will agree to indemnify our directors, officers and persons controlling us, within the meaning of the Securities Act, the Exchange Act or any U.S. federal or state statutory law or regulation or at common law or otherwise, against certain liabilities that might arise out of or are based upon certain information furnished to us by any such underwriter.

#### Item 7. Exemption from Registration Claimed.

Not applicable.

#### Item 8. Exhibits.

Exhibit No. Description

3.1*	Form of Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of American Capital Agency Corp.
3.2*	Form of Amended and Restated Bylaws of American Capital Agency Corp.
4.1**	Form of Certificate for Common Stock.
5.1	Opinion of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP
10.1	American Capital Agency Corp. Equity Incentive Plan for Independent Directors.
10.2***	Form of Restricted Stock Agreement for independent directors.
23.1	Consent of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP (included in Exhibit 5.1)
23.2	Consent of Ernst & Young LLP.
24.1	Power of Attorney

<sup>\*</sup> Incorporated by reference to the like-numbered exhibit to Amendment No. 3 to the Corporation's Registration Statement on Form S-11 (Registration No. 333-149167), filed with the SEC on April 28, 2008.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Incorporated by reference to the like-numbered exhibit to Amendment No. 4 to the Corporation's Registration Statement on Form S-11 (Registration No. 333-149167), filed with the SEC on May 9, 2008.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.6 to Amendment No. 4 to the Corporation's Registration Statement on Form S-11 (Registration No. 333-149167), filed with the SEC on May 9, 2008.

#### Item 9. Undertakings.

- (a) The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes:
  - (1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this registration statement:
    - (i) To include any prospectus required by section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act;
  - (ii) To reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the registration statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the registration statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high end of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of prospectus filed with the Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than a 20% change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the "Calculation of Registration Fee" table in the effective registration statement;
  - (iii) To include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the registration statement or any material change to such information in the registration statement;

provided, however, that paragraphs (a)(1)(i) and (a)(1)(ii) of this section do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in periodic reports filed with or furnished to the Commission by the registrant pursuant to section 13 or section 15(d) of the Exchange Act that are incorporated by reference in the registration statement.

- (2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.
- (3) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.
- (b) The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each filing of the registrant's annual report pursuant to section 13(a) or section 15(d) of the Exchange Act (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to section 15(d) of the Exchange Act) that is incorporated by reference in the registration statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.
- (c) Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission

such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

#### **SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act, the registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-8 and has duly caused this registration statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in City of New York, State of New York, on May 20, 2008.

#### AMERICAN CAPITAL AGENCY CORP.

By: /s/ Samuel A. Flax

Name: Samuel A. Flax

Title: Executive Vice President and Secretary

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act, this registration statement has been signed by the following persons in the capacities and on the date indicated.

Signature	Title	Date
*	Chief Executive Officer	May 20, 2008
Malon Wilkus	(Principal Executive Officer)	
*	Chief Financial Officer	May 20, 2008
John R. Erickson	(Principal Executive Officer)	
*	Director	May 20, 2008
Alvin N. Puryear		
	Director	May , 2008
Morris A. Davis		
*	Director	May 20, 2008
Randy E. Dobbs		, ,
*	Director	May 20, 2008
Larry K. Harvey	<u> </u>	. ,

<sup>\*</sup> By: /s/ Samuel A. Flax

Samuel A. Flax, Attorney-in-Fact

#### EXHIBIT INDEX

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10.1	American Capital Agency Corp. Equity Incentive Plan for Independent Directors.
10.2***	Form of Restricted Stock Agreement for independent directors.
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#### Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP Four Times Square New York, NY 10036

May 20, 2008

American Capital Agency Corp. 2 Bethesda Metro Center, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor Bethesda, Maryland 20814

> Re: American Capital Agency Corp.; Registration Statement on Form S-8

#### Ladies and Gentlemen:

We have acted as special counsel to American Capital Agency Corp., a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), and are delivering this opinion in connection with the Registration Statement on Form S-8 of the Company (together with all exhibits thereto, the "Registration Statement") being filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") on the date hereof, relating to the registration by the Company of 100,000 shares (the "Plan Shares") of the Company's common stock, par value \$0.01 per share (the "Common Stock"), authorized for issuance pursuant to the American Capital Agency Corp. Equity Incentive Plan for the Independent Directors (the "Plan").

This opinion is being furnished in accordance with the requirements of Item 601(b)(5) of Regulation S-K of the General Rules and Regulations under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Act").

In connection with this opinion, we have examined originals or copies, certified or otherwise identified to our satisfaction, of (1) the Registration Statement, in the form to be filed with the Commission under the Act on the date hereof; (2) the Plan; (3) a specimen certificate representing the Common Stock; (4) the form of Amended and Restated By-Laws of the Company; (6) the form of Restricted Stock Agreement to be entered into by the Company and each recipient of Plan Shares that are subject to any vesting terms (the "Restricted Stock Agreement"), and (7) certain resolutions of the Board of Directors of the Company (the "Board") relating to (a) the adoption of the Plan, (b) the reservation of the Plan Shares, (c) the approval of the form of Restricted Stock Agreement, and (d) the filing of the Registration Statement. We also have examined originals or copies, certified or otherwise identified to our satisfaction, of such records of the Company and such agreements, certificates and receipts of public officials, certificates of officers or other representatives of the Company and others, and such other documents, certificates and records as we have deemed necessary or appropriate as a basis for the opinions set forth below.

In our examination, we have assumed the legal capacity of all natural persons, the genuineness of all signatures, the authenticity of all documents submitted to us as originals, the conformity to original documents of all documents submitted to us as facsimile, electronic, certified or photostatic copies, and the authenticity of the originals of such copies. In making our examination of documents executed or to be executed, we have assumed that the parties thereto, other than the Company, had or will have the power, corporate or other, to enter into and perform all obligations thereunder and have also assumed the due authorization by all requisite action, corporate or other, and the execution and delivery by such parties of such documents and the validity and binding effect thereof on such parties. As to any facts material to the opinions expressed herein that we did not independently establish or verify, we have relied upon statements and representations of officers and other representatives of the Company and others and of public officials.

The opinion set forth below is subject to the following further assumptions that:

- (a) all Plan Shares will be issued in accordance with agreements under which awards of Plan Shares are made pursuant to the Plan (the "Award Agreements"), that such Award Agreements are consistent with the Plan and are duly authorized, validly executed and delivered by the parties thereto;
- (b) the Board, or a duly authorized committee thereof, will take all necessary corporate action, including under the terms of the Plan, to authorize and approve awards under the Plan and the issuance of the Plan Shares;
- (c) the consideration to be received by the Company for each Plan Share to be delivered pursuant to awards to be granted under the Plan shall not be less than the par value of the Common Stock;
- (d) prior to the issuance of any Plan Shares, the Company will have received the consideration contemplated by the applicable resolutions of the Board authorizing the issuance of such Plan Shares and/or the consideration contemplated pursuant to the terms of the Plan (including any consideration provided for in any applicable Award Agreement); and
- (e) the registrar and transfer agent for the Common Stock will duly register such issuance and countersign the stock certificates evidencing such Plan Shares and such stock certificates will conform to the specimen certificates examined by us.

Members of our firm are admitted to the bar in the State of Delaware, and we do not express any opinion as to the laws of any jurisdiction other than the corporate laws of the State of Delaware, and we do not express any opinion as to the effect of any such other laws on the opinion stated herein.

Based upon the foregoing, we are of the opinion that when the Board, or a duly authorized committee thereof, has taken all necessary corporate action to authorize and approve awards under the Plan and the issuance of the Plan Shares, and when the other assumptions set forth above have been satisfied, the Plan Shares, upon issuance and delivery in accordance with the Plan, will be validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable.

We hereby consent to the filing of this opinion with the Commission as Exhibit 5.1 to the Registration Statement. In giving this consent, we do not thereby admit that we are included in the category of persons whose consent is required under Section 7 of the Act or the rules and regulations of the Commission promulgated thereunder.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP

# AMERICAN CAPITAL AGENCY CORP.

EQUITY INCENTIVE PLAN FOR INDEPENDENT DIRECTORS

## AMERICAN CAPITAL AGENCY CORP.

# EQUITY INCENTIVE PLAN FOR INDEPENDENT DIRECTORS

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#### AMERICAN CAPITAL AGENCY CORP.

#### **EQUITY INCENTIVE PLAN FOR INDEPENDENT DIRECTORS**

#### 1. Purpose; Types of Awards; Construction.

The purpose of the American Capital Agency Corp. Equity Incentive Plan for Independent Directors (the "Plan") is to afford an incentive to the Independent Directors (as defined herein) of American Capital Agency Corp., a Delaware corporation (the "Company") to increase their efforts on behalf of American Capital Agency Corp., a Delaware corporation (the "Company") and to promote the success of the Company's business. The Plan provides for the grant of stock options, restricted stock, restricted stock units, unrestricted shares and other equity-based awards.

#### 2. Definitions.

For purposes of the Plan, the following terms shall be defined as set forth below:

- (a) "Affiliate" means (i) any Person directly or indirectly controlling, controlled by, or under common control with such other Person, (ii) any executive officer or general partner of such other Person and (iii) any legal entity for which such Person acts as an executive officer or general partner.
  - (b) "Award" means any Option, Restricted Stock, Restricted Stock Unit or Other Stock-Based Award granted under the Plan.
  - (c) "Award Agreement" means any written agreement, contract or other instrument or document evidencing an Award.
  - (d) "Board" means the Board of Directors of the Company.
- (e) "Change of Control" means a change in ownership or effective control of the Company, within the meaning of Section 409A of the Code; provided, however, that a transaction or series of transactions effected with the Manager and/or any Affiliate of the Manager, through the acquisition of Common Stock or other Company securities (regardless of the form of such transaction or series of transactions), changes to the membership of the Board or otherwise, shall not constitute a Change of Control for purposes of the Plan or any Award.
  - (f) "Code" means the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended from time to time, and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder.
- (g) "Committee" means the committee established by the Board to administer the Plan, the composition of which shall at all times consist of "non-employee directors" within the meaning of Rule 16b-3 under the Exchange Act.

- (h) "Company" means American Capital Agency Corp., a Delaware corporation, or any successor corporation.
- (i) "Effective Date" means May 12, 2008, the date on which the Plan was adopted by the Board, subject to obtaining the approval of the Company's stockholders.
- (j) "Exchange Act" means the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended from time to time, and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder.
- (k) "Fair Market Value" means, with respect to Stock or other property, the fair market value of such Stock or other property determined by such methods or procedures as shall be established from time to time by the Board. Unless otherwise determined by the Board in good faith, the per share Fair Market Value of Stock as of a particular date shall mean (i) the closing sales price per share of Stock on the national securities exchange on which the Stock is principally traded (or if no shares of Stock is traded on such date, for the last preceding date on which there was a sale of such Stock on such exchange); (ii) if the shares of Stock are then traded in an over-the-counter market, the average of the closing bid and asked prices for the shares of Stock in such over-the-counter market for the last preceding date on which there was a sale of such Stock in such market; or (iii) if the shares of Stock are not then listed on a national securities exchange or traded in an over-the-counter market, such value as the Board, in its sole discretion, shall determine.
- (l) "Independent Director" means a director of the Company who the Board has affirmatively determined is an "independent director" of the Company within the meaning of Rule 4200(a)(15) of the Nasdaq Manual.
  - (m) "Option" means a right, granted to a Participant under Section 6(b)(i), to purchase shares of Stock.
- (n) "Other Stock-Based Award" means a right or other interest granted to a Participant that may be denominated or payable in, valued in whole or in part by reference to, or otherwise based on, or related to, Stock, including but not limited to unrestricted shares of Stock or dividend equivalent rights.
  - (o) "Participant" means an eligible person who has been granted an Award under the Plan.
- (p) "Person" means any natural person, corporation, partnership, association, limited liability company, estate, trust, joint venture, any federal, state or municipal government or any bureau, department or agency thereof or any other legal entity and any fiduciary acting in such capacity on behalf of the foregoing.
  - (q) "Plan" means this American Capital Agency Corp. Equity Incentive Plan for Independent Directors, as amended from time to time.

- (r) "Removal for Cause" shall have the meaning ascribed to such term under the laws of Delaware.
- (s) "Restricted Stock" means an Award of shares of Stock to a Participant under Section 6(b)(ii) that may be subject to certain restrictions and to a risk of forfeiture.
- (t) "Restricted Stock Unit" or "RSU" means a right granted to a Participant under Section 6(b)(iii) to receive Stock, cash or other property at the end of a specified period, which right may be conditioned on the satisfaction of specified performance or other criteria.
  - (u) "Securities Act" means the Securities Act of 1933, as amended from time to time, and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder.
  - (v) "Stock" means shares of the common stock, par value \$0.01 per share, of the Company.

#### 3. Administration.

The Plan shall be administered by the Board. The Board may appoint a Committee to administer all or a portion of the Plan. To the extent that the Board so delegates its authority, references herein to the Board shall be deemed references to the Committee. The Board may delegate to one or more agents such administrative duties as it may deem advisable, and the Committee or any other person to whom the Board has delegated duties as aforesaid may employ one or more persons to render advice with respect to any responsibility the Board or such Committee or person may have under the Plan. No member of the Board or Committee shall be liable for any action taken or determination made in good faith with respect to the Plan or any Award granted hereunder.

The Board shall have the authority in its discretion, subject to and not inconsistent with the express provisions of the Plan, to administer the Plan and to exercise all the powers and authorities either specifically granted to it under the Plan or necessary or advisable in the administration of the Plan, including, without limitation, the authority to: (i) grant Awards; (ii) determine the persons to whom and the time or times at which Awards shall be granted; (iii) determine the type and number of Awards to be granted, the number of shares of Stock to which an Award may relate and the terms, conditions, restrictions and performance criteria relating to any Award; (iv) determine whether, to what extent, and under what circumstances an Award may be settled, cancelled, forfeited, exchanged, or surrendered; (v) make adjustments in the terms and conditions of Awards; (vi) construe and interpret the Plan and any Award; (vii) prescribe, amend and rescind rules and regulations relating to the Plan; (viii) determine the terms and provisions of the Award Agreements (which need not be identical for each Participant); and (x) make all other determinations deemed necessary or advisable for the administration of the Plan. All decisions, determinations and interpretations of the Committee shall be final and binding on all persons, including but not limited to the

Company, any parent or subsidiary of the Company, any Participant (or any person claiming any rights under the Plan from or through any Participant) and any stockholder. Notwithstanding any provision of the Plan or any Award Agreement to the contrary, except as provided in the second paragraph of Section 5, neither the Board nor the Committee may take any action which would have the effect of reducing the aggregate exercise or purchase price of any Award without obtaining the approval of the Company's stockholders.

#### 4. Eligibility.

Awards may be granted, in the discretion of the Board, to individuals who are, as of the date of grant, Independent Directors. In determining the persons to whom Awards shall be granted and the type of any Award (including the number of shares to be covered by such Award), the Board shall take into account such factors as the Board shall deem relevant in connection with accomplishing the purposes of the Plan.

#### 5. Stock Subject to the Plan.

The maximum number of shares of Stock reserved for the grant of Awards under the Plan shall be 100,000 shares of Stock, subject to adjustment as provided herein. Such shares may, in whole or in part, be authorized but unissued shares or shares that shall have been or may be reacquired by the Company in the open market, in private transactions or otherwise. If any shares subject to an Award are forfeited, cancelled, exchanged or surrendered or if an Award terminates or expires without a distribution of shares to the Participant, or if shares of Stock are surrendered or withheld by the Company as payment of either the exercise price of an Award and/or withholding taxes in respect of an Award, the shares of Stock with respect to such Award shall, to the extent of any such forfeiture, cancellation, exchange, surrender, withholding, termination or expiration, again be available for Awards under the Plan. Upon the exercise of any Award granted in tandem with any other Award, such related Award shall be cancelled to the extent of the number of shares of Stock as to which the Award is exercised and, notwithstanding the foregoing, such number of shares shall no longer be available for Awards under the Plan.

In the event that the Board shall determine that any dividend or other distribution (whether in the form of cash, Stock, or other property), recapitalization, Stock split, reverse split, reorganization, merger, consolidation, spin-off, combination, repurchase, or share exchange, or other similar corporate transaction or event, affects the Stock such that an adjustment is appropriate in order to prevent dilution or enlargement of the rights of Participants under the Plan, then the Board shall make equitable changes or adjustments to any or all of: (i) the number and kind of shares of Stock or other property (including cash) that may thereafter be issued in connection with Awards; (ii) the number and kind of shares of Stock or other property (including cash) issued or issuable in respect of outstanding Awards; (iii) the exercise price, grant price or purchase price relating to any Award and (iv) the performance goals, if any, applicable to outstanding Awards. In addition, the Board may determine that any such equitable adjustment may be accomplished by making a payment to the Award holder, in the form of cash or other property (including but not limited to shares of Stock).

#### 6. Terms of Awards.

- (a) <u>General</u>. The term of each Award shall be for such period as may be determined by the Board. Subject to the terms of the Plan and any applicable Award Agreement, payments to be made by the Company upon the grant, vesting, maturation or exercise of an Award may be made in such forms as the Board shall determine at the date of grant or thereafter, including, without limitation, cash, Stock or other property, and may be made in a single payment or transfer, in installments or on a deferred basis. The Board may make rules relating to installment or deferred payments with respect to Awards, including the rate of interest to be credited with respect to such payments. In addition to the foregoing, the Board may impose on any Award or the exercise thereof, at the date of grant or thereafter, such additional terms and conditions, not inconsistent with the provisions of the Plan, as the Board shall determine.
- (b) <u>Terms of Specified Awards</u>. The Board is authorized to grant the Awards described in this Section 6(b), under such terms and conditions as deemed by the Board to be consistent with the purposes of the Plan. Such Awards may be granted with vesting, value and/or and payment contingent upon attainment of one or more performance goals. Except as otherwise set forth herein or as may be determined by the Board, each Award granted under the Plan shall be evidenced by an Award Agreement containing such terms and conditions applicable to such Award as the Board shall determine at the date of grant or thereafter.
  - (i) Options. The Board is authorized to grant Options to Participants on the following terms and conditions:
  - (A) Exercise Price. The exercise price per share of Stock purchasable under an Option shall be determined by the Board, but in no event shall the per share exercise price of any Option be less than 100% of the Fair Market Value of a share of Stock on the date of grant of such Option. The exercise price for Stock subject to an Option may be paid in cash or by an exchange of Stock previously owned by the Participant, through a "broker cashless exercise" procedure approved by the Board (to the extent permitted by law) or a combination of the above, in any case in an amount having a combined value equal to such exercise price; provided that the Board may require that any Stock exchanged by the Participant have been owned by the Participant for at least six months as of the date of exercise. An Award Agreement may provide that a Participant may pay all or a portion of the aggregate exercise price by having shares of Stock with a Fair Market Value on the date of exercise equal to the aggregate exercise price withheld by the Company.

- (B) <u>Term and Exercisability of Options</u>. Options shall be exercisable over the exercise period (which shall not exceed ten years from the date of grant), at such times and upon such conditions as the Board may determine, as reflected in the Award Agreement; provided, that the Board shall have the authority to accelerate the exercisability of any outstanding Option at such time and under such circumstances as it, in its sole discretion, deems appropriate. An Option may be exercised to the extent of any or all full shares of Stock as to which the Option has become exercisable, by giving written notice of such exercise to the Board or its designated agent.
- (C) <u>Termination of Service</u>. Subject to Section 7, an Option may not be exercised unless: (1) the Participant is then providing services to the Company; and (2) the Participant has continuously maintained such relationship since the date of grant of the Option; provided, that the Award Agreement may contain provisions extending the exercisability of Options, in the event of specified terminations of service, to a date not later than the expiration date of such Option.
- (D) Other Provisions. Options may be subject to such other conditions including, but not limited to, restrictions on transferability of the shares acquired upon exercise of such Options, as the Board may prescribe in its discretion or as may be required by applicable law.
  - (ii) <u>Restricted Stock</u>. The Board is authorized to grant Restricted Stock to Participants on the following terms and conditions:
- (A) <u>Issuance and Restrictions</u>. Restricted Stock shall be subject to such restrictions on transferability and other restrictions, if any, as the Board may impose at the date of grant or thereafter, which restrictions may lapse separately or in combination at such times, under such circumstances, in such installments, or otherwise, as the Board may determine. The Board may place restrictions on Restricted Stock that shall lapse, in whole or in part, only upon the attainment of one or more performance goals. Unless otherwise determined by the Board, a Participant granted Restricted Stock shall have all of the rights of a stockholder including, without limitation, the right to vote Restricted Stock and the right to receive dividends thereon.
- (B) <u>Forfeiture</u>. Subject to Section 7, upon termination of service to the Company during the applicable restriction period, Restricted Stock and any accrued but unpaid dividends that are then subject to restrictions shall be forfeited;

provided, that the Board 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 Stock will be waived in whole or in part in the event of terminations resulting from specified causes, and the Board may in other cases waive in whole or in part the forfeiture of Restricted Stock.

- (C) <u>Certificates for Stock</u>. Restricted Stock granted under the Plan may be evidenced in such manner as the Board shall determine. If certificates representing Restricted Stock are registered in the name of the Participant, such certificates shall bear an appropriate legend referring to the terms, conditions and restrictions applicable to such Restricted Stock, and the Company shall retain physical possession of the certificate.
- (D) <u>Dividends</u>. Unless otherwise determined by the Board, cash dividends paid with respect to shares of Restricted Stock shall be paid to the same extent, at the same time and in the same manner as such dividends are paid with respect to all other outstanding shares of Stock. Unless otherwise determined by the Board, shares of Stock distributed in connection with a Stock split or Stock dividend, and other property distributed as a dividend (other than cash), in each case with respect to shares of Restricted Stock, shall be subject to restrictions and a risk of forfeiture to the same extent as the shares of Restricted Stock with respect to which such shares of Stock or other property (other than cash) has been distributed.
- (iii) Restricted Stock Units. The Board is authorized to grant Restricted Stock Units to Participants, subject to the following terms and conditions:
  - (A) <u>Award and Restrictions</u>. Delivery of Stock, cash or other property, as determined by the Board, will occur upon expiration of the period specified for Restricted Stock Units by the Board during which forfeiture conditions apply, or such later date as the Board shall determine. The Board may place restrictions on Restricted Stock Units that shall lapse, in whole or in part, only upon the attainment of one or more performance goals.
  - (B) <u>Forfeiture</u>. Subject to Section 7, upon termination of service to the Company prior to the vesting of a Restricted Stock Unit, or upon failure to satisfy any other conditions precedent to the delivery of Stock or cash to which such Restricted Stock Units relate, all Restricted Stock Units and any accrued but unpaid dividend equivalents that are then subject to deferral or restriction shall be forfeited; provided, that the Board

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 Stock Units will be waived in whole or in part in the event of termination resulting from specified causes, and the Board may in other cases waive in whole or in part the forfeiture of Restricted Stock Units.

- (C) <u>Dividend Equivalents</u>. Unless otherwise determined by the Board, Restricted Stock Units shall be credited with dividend equivalents at such time as dividends, whether in the form of cash, Stock or other property, are paid with respect to the Stock. Unless otherwise determined by the Board, any such dividend equivalents shall be subject to restrictions and a risk of forfeiture to the same extent as the Restricted Stock Units to which they relate.
- (D) <u>Compliance with Section 409A</u>. Notwithstanding any provision of the Plan and any Award Agreement, the grant, vesting and settlement of Restricted Stock Units shall comply with the applicable requirements of Section 409A of the Code.
- (iv) Other Stock-Based Awards. The Board is authorized to grant Awards to Participants in the form of Other Stock-Based Awards, as deemed by the Board to be consistent with the purposes of the Plan. Awards granted pursuant to this paragraph may be granted with vesting, value and/or payment contingent upon the attainment of one or more performance goals. The Board shall determine the terms and conditions of such Awards at the date of grant or thereafter. Without limiting the generality of this paragraph, Other Stock-Based Awards may include grants of shares of Stock that are not subject to any restrictions or a substantial risk of forfeiture. To the extent that an Other Stock-Based Award would be subject to Section 409A of the Code, the provisions of such Award shall comply with the requirements of Section 409A of the Code.

#### 7. Acceleration of Awards Upon Certain Termination of Service; Change of Control.

(a) Unless otherwise determined by the Board and set forth in an individual Award Agreement, in the event that the service to the Company of a Participant is terminated other than pursuant to a Removal for Cause, any Award held by such Participant that was not previously vested, exercisable and/or payable shall become fully vested, exercisable and or payable, and any performance conditions imposed with respect to such Award shall be deemed to be fully achieved; provided, that with respect to an Award that is subject to Section 409A of the Code, such termination of service is a "separation from service" within the meaning of Section 409A of the Code.

(b) Upon a Change of Control, any Award outstanding under the Plan that was not previously vested and/or exercisable shall become fully vested and/or exercisable, and any performance conditions imposed with respect to such Award shall be deemed to be fully achieved.

#### 8. General Provisions.

- (a) <u>Nontransferability</u>. Unless otherwise provided in an Award Agreement, Awards shall not be transferable by a Participant except by will or the laws of descent and distribution and shall be exercisable during the lifetime of a Participant only by such Participant or his guardian or legal representative.
- (b) No Right to Continued Service, etc. Nothing in the Plan or in any Award, any Award Agreement or other agreement entered into pursuant hereto shall confer upon any Participant the right to continue as a director of, or continue to provide services to, the Company or any parent, subsidiary or Affiliate of the Company or to be entitled to any remuneration or benefits not set forth in the Plan or such Award Agreement or other agreement or to interfere with or limit in any way the right of the Company to terminate such Participant's service.
- (c) <u>Taxes</u>. The Company or any parent or subsidiary of the Company is authorized to withhold from any Award granted, any payment relating to an Award under the Plan, including from a distribution of Stock, or any other payment to a Participant, amounts of withholding and other taxes due in connection with any transaction involving an Award, and to take such other action as the Board may deem advisable to enable the Company and Participants to satisfy obligations for the payment of withholding taxes and other tax obligations relating to any Award. This authority shall include authority to withhold or receive Stock or other property and to make cash payments in respect thereof in satisfaction of a Participant's tax obligations. The Board may provide in the Award Agreement that in the event that a Participant is required to pay any amount to be withheld in connection with the issuance of shares of Stock in settlement or exercise of an Award, the Participant may satisfy such obligation (in whole or in part) by electing to have the Company withhold a portion of the shares of Stock to be received upon settlement or exercise of such Award that is equal to the minimum amount required to be withheld.

#### (d) Effective Date; Amendment and Termination.

- (i) The Plan shall take effect upon the Effective Date, subject to the approval of the Company's stockholders.
- (ii) The Board may at any time and from time to time terminate, amend, modify or suspend the Plan in whole or in part; provided, however, that unless otherwise determined by the Board, an amendment that requires stockholder approval in order for the Plan to comply with any law, regulation or stock exchange requirement shall not be effective unless approved by the requisite vote of stockholders. The

Board may at any time and from time to time amend any outstanding Award in whole or in part. Notwithstanding the foregoing sentence of this clause (ii), no amendment or modification to or suspension or termination of the Plan or amendment of any Award shall affect adversely any of the rights of any Participant, without such Participant's consent, under any Award theretofore granted under the Plan.

- (e) Expiration of Plan. Unless earlier terminated by the Board pursuant to the provisions of the Plan, the Plan shall expire on the tenth anniversary of the Effective Date. No Awards shall be granted under the Plan after such expiration date. The expiration of the Plan shall not affect adversely any of the rights of any Participant, without such Participant's consent, under any Award theretofore granted.
- (f) <u>Deferrals</u>. The Board shall have the authority to establish such procedures and programs that it deems appropriate to provide Participants with the ability to defer receipt of cash, Stock or other property payable with respect to Awards granted under the Plan, provided that to the extent necessary, such procedures and programs comply with Section 409A of the Code.
- (g) No Rights to Awards; No Stockholder Rights. No Participant shall have any claim to be granted any Award under the Plan. There is no obligation for uniformity of treatment among Participants. Except as provided specifically herein, a Participant or a transferee of an Award shall have no rights as a stockholder with respect to any shares covered by the Award until the date of the issuance of a stock certificate to him for such shares.
- (h) <u>Unfunded Status of Awards</u>. The Plan is intended to constitute an "unfunded" plan for incentive and deferred compensation. With respect to any payments not yet made to a Participant pursuant to an Award, nothing contained in the Plan or any Award shall give any such Participant any rights that are greater than those of a general creditor of the Company.
- (i) <u>No Fractional Shares</u>. No fractional shares of Stock shall be issued or delivered pursuant to the Plan or any Award. The Board shall determine whether cash, other Awards or other property shall be issued or paid in lieu of such fractional shares or whether such fractional shares or any rights thereto shall be forfeited or otherwise eliminated.

#### (j) Regulations and Other Approvals.

(i) The obligation of the Company to sell or deliver Stock with respect to any Award granted under the Plan shall be subject to all applicable laws, rules and regulations, including all applicable federal and state securities laws, and the obtaining of all such approvals by governmental agencies as may be deemed necessary or appropriate by the Board.

- (ii) Each Award is subject to the requirement that, if at any time the Board determines, in its absolute discretion, that the listing, registration or qualification of Stock issuable pursuant to the Plan is required by any securities exchange or under any state or federal law, or the consent or approval of any governmental regulatory body is necessary or desirable as a condition of, or in connection with, the grant of an Award or the issuance of Stock, no such Award shall be granted or payment made or Stock issued, in whole or in part, unless listing, registration, qualification, consent or approval has been effected or obtained free of any conditions not acceptable to the Board.
- (iii) In the event that the disposition of Stock acquired pursuant to the Plan is not covered by a then-current registration statement under the Securities Act and is not otherwise exempt from such registration, such Stock shall be restricted against transfer to the extent required by the Securities Act or regulations thereunder, and the Board may require a Participant receiving Stock pursuant to the Plan, as a condition precedent to receipt of such Stock, to represent to the Company in writing that the Stock acquired by such Participant is acquired for investment only and not with a view to distribution.
- (iv) The Board may require a Participant receiving Stock pursuant to the Plan, as a condition precedent to receipt of such Stock, to enter into a stockholder agreement or "lock-up" agreement in such form as the Board shall determine is necessary or desirable to further the Company's interests.
- (k) Section 409A Compliance. Notwithstanding any provisions of the Plan, to the extent that any Award would be subject to Section 409A of the Code, no such Award may be granted if it would fail to comply with the requirements set forth in Section 409A of the Code. To the extent that the Board determines that the Plan or any Award is subject to Section 409A of the Code and fails to comply with the requirements of Section 409A of the Code, notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in the Plan or the Award Agreement, the Board reserves the right to amend or terminate the Plan and/or amend, restructure, terminate or replace the Award to the extent necessary to cause the Award to either not be subject to Section 409A of the Code or to comply with the applicable provisions of such Section.
- (l) <u>Registration on Form S-8</u>. The Company shall file with the Securities and Exchange Commission a registration statement on Form S-8 with respect to the securities to be offered to Participants under the Plan and shall during the term of the Plan keep such registration statement effective.
- (m) <u>Governing Law</u>. The Plan and all determinations made and actions taken pursuant hereto shall be governed by the laws of Delaware without giving effect to the conflict of laws principles thereof.

## CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

We consent to the incorporation by reference in the Registration Statement (Form S-8 No. 333- ) pertaining to the American Capital Agency Corp. Equity Incentive Plan for Independent Directors of our report dated January 11, 2008, with respect to the balance sheet of American Capital Agency Corp. included in its Registration Statement on Form S-11 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

/s/ Ernst & Young LLP McLean, Virginia May 14, 2008

#### POWER OF ATTORNEY

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, that the undersigned directors and officers of American Capital Agency Corp., a corporation organized under the laws of the state of Delaware (the "Corporation"), hereby constitute and appoint John R. Erickson, Samuel A. Flax and Cydonii V. Fairfax and each of them (with full power to each of them to act alone), his/her true and lawful attorneys-in-fact and agents for him/her and on his/her behalf and in his/her name, place and stead, in all cases with full power of substitution and resubstitution, in any hand and all capacities, to sign, execute and affix his/her seal to and file with the Securities and Exchange Commission (or any other governmental or regulatory authority) the Corporation's Form S-8 Registration Statement, and all amendments or supplements thereto with all exhibits and any and all documents required to be filed with respect thereto, and grants to each of them full power and authority to do and to perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in and about the premises in order to effectuate the same as fully and to all intents and purposes as he himself might or could do if personally present, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorneys-in-fact and agents, or any of them, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, each of the undersigned directors and/or officers have hereunto set his/her hand and seal, as of the date specified.

Dated: May 19, 2008.

AMERICAN CAPITAL AGENCY CORP.

/s/ Malon Wilkus

Malon Wilkus

Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and President

Signature	Title	Date
/s/ Malon Wilkus	Chief Executive Officer (Principal Executive Officer)	May 19, 2008
Malon Wilkus	(Principal Executive Officer)	
/s/ John R. Erickson	Chief Financial Officer	May 19, 2008
John R. Erickson	(Principal Executive Officer)	Way 13, 2000
/s/ Alvin N. Puryear	Director	10, 2000
Alvin N. Puryear	-	May 19, 2008
	Director	May, 2008
Morris A. Davis	_	<u>.</u> , <u>-</u> 000
/s/ Randy E. Dobbs	Director	10, 2000
Randy E. Dobbs	_	May 19, 2008
/s/ Larry K. Harvey	Director	May 19, 2008
Larry K. Harvey		iviay 19, 2006