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**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20459

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**SCHEDULE 13D**

**Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**  
**(Amendment No. 28)\***

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**DONEGAL GROUP INC.**  
(Name of Issuer)

**Class A Common Stock**  
**Class B Common Stock**  
(Title of Class of Securities)

**Class A: 257701201**  
**Class B: 257701300**  
(CUSIP Number of Class of Securities)

**Gregory M. Shepard**  
**7028 Portmarnock Place**  
**Bradenton, FL 34202**  
**(309) 310-1331**

(Name, address and telephone number of persons authorized to receive notices and communications on behalf of person(s) filing statement)

**August 26, 2015**  
(Date of Event which Requires Filing of this Statement)

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If the filing person has previously filed a statement on Schedule 13G to report the acquisition that is the subject of this Schedule 13D, and is filing this Schedule because of Section 240.13d-1(e), 240.13d-1(f) or 240.13d-1(g), check the following box .

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**NOTE:** Schedules filed in paper format shall include a signed original and five copies of the schedule, including all exhibits. See Rule 13d-7 for other parties to whom copies are to be sent.

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\* The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

The information required on the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act") or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes).

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1.	NAME OF REPORTING PERSON S.S. OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NOS. OF REPORTING PERSON  Gregory M. Shepard	
2.	CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP (a) <input type="checkbox"/> (b) <input type="checkbox"/>	
3.	SEC USE ONLY	
4.	SOURCE OF FUNDS  PF	
5.	CHECK BOX IF DISCLOSURE OF LEGAL PROCEEDINGS IS REQUIRED PURSUANT TO ITEMS 2(d) OR 2(e)  <input type="checkbox"/>	
6.	CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION  United States of America	
NUMBER OF SHARES BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON WITH	7.	SOLE VOTING POWER  Class A 3,675,000; Class B 400,000
	8.	SHARED VOTING POWER  -0-
	9.	SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER  Class A 3,675,000; Class B 400,000
	10.	SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER  -0-
11.	AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON  Class A 3,675,000; Class B 400,000	
12.	CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (11) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES  <input type="checkbox"/>	
13.	PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (11)  Class A 16.40%; Class B 7.17%	
14.	TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON  IN	

**SCHEDULE 13D**

**ITEM 1. SECURITY AND ISSUER.**

The Schedule 13D filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on July 12, 2010 (the "Initial 13D") by the Filing Person with respect to the Class A Shares and Class B Shares of Donegal Group Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "Issuer"), is hereby further amended to furnish the additional information set forth herein. All capitalized terms contained herein but not otherwise defined shall have the meanings ascribed to such terms in the Initial 13D.

**ITEM 6. CONTRACTS, ARRANGEMENTS, UNDERSTANDINGS OR RELATIONSHIPS OF THE ISSUER WITH RESPECT TO SECURITIES OF THE ISSUER**

**ITEM 6 OF THE INITIAL 13D IS HEREBY AMENDED TO ADD THE FOLLOWING:**

On August 26, 2015, the Filing Person entered into a Promissory Note for up to \$2,500,000 with Heartland Bank and Trust Company (attached as Exhibit 7.1) and a Commercial Pledge Agreement with Heartland Bank and Trust Company (attached as Exhibit 7.2) whereby the Filing Person pledged his Class A Shares and his Class B Shares to Heartland Bank and Trust Company.

**SIGNATURE**

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of his knowledge and belief, the undersigned certifies that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

DATED: August 27, 2015

/s/ Gregory M. Shepard

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gregory M. Shepard

**EXHIBIT INDEX**

- 7.1 Promissory Note
- 7.2 Commercial Pledge Agreement

## PROMISSORY NOTE

Principal	Loan Date	Maturity	Loan No	Call / Coll	Account	Officer	Initials
\$2,500,000.00	08-26-2015	02-26-2016	6590092338		00102856	PFB	

References in the boxes above are for Lender's use only and do not limit the applicability of this document to any particular loan or item.

Any item above containing "\*\*\*\*" has been omitted due to text length limitations.

**Borrower:** Gregory M Shepard  
15 Country Club Place  
Bloomington, IL 61701

**Lender:** Heartland Bank and Trust Company  
100 - Hershey Road  
401 N Hershey Rd  
P.O. Box 67  
Bloomington, IL 61702

**Principal Amount:** \$2,500,000.00

**Date of Note:** August 26, 2015

**PROMISE TO PAY.** Gregory M Shepard ("Borrower") promises to pay to Heartland Bank and Trust Company ("Lender"), or order, in lawful money of the United States of America, the principal amount of Two Million Five Hundred Thousand & 00/100 Dollars (\$2,500,000.00) or so much as may be outstanding, together with interest on the unpaid outstanding principal balance of each advance. Interest shall be calculated from the date of each advance until repayment of each advance.

**PAYMENT.** Borrower will pay this loan in one payment of all outstanding principal plus all accrued unpaid interest on February 26, 2016. Unless otherwise agreed or required by applicable law, payments will be applied first to any accrued unpaid interest; then to principal; and then to any unpaid collection costs. Borrower will pay Lender at Lender's address shown above or at such other place as Lender may designate in writing.

**VARIABLE INTEREST RATE.** The interest rate on this Note is subject to change from time to time based on changes in an independent index which is the highest Prime Rate as reported by the Wall Street Journal (the "Index"). The Index is not necessarily the lowest rate charged by Lender on its loans. If the Index becomes unavailable during the term of this loan, Lender may designate a substitute index after notifying Borrower. Lender will tell Borrower the current Index rate upon Borrower's request. The interest rate change will not occur more often than each day. Borrower understands that Lender may make loans based on other rates as well. Interest on the unpaid principal balance of this Note will be calculated as described in the "INTEREST CALCULATION METHOD" paragraph using a rate of 0.500 percentage points over the Index. NOTICE: Under no circumstances will the interest rate on this Note be more than the maximum rate allowed by applicable law.

**INTEREST CALCULATION METHOD.** Interest on this Note is computed on a 365/360 basis; that is, by applying the ratio of the interest rate over a year of 360 days, multiplied by the outstanding principal balance, multiplied by the actual number of days the principal balance is outstanding. All interest payable under this Note is computed using this method.

**PREPAYMENT; MINIMUM INTEREST CHARGE.** In any event, even upon full prepayment of this Note, Borrower understands that Lender is entitled to a **minimum interest charge of \$75.00.** Other than Borrower's obligation to pay any minimum interest charge, Borrower may pay without penalty all or a portion of the amount owed earlier than it is due. Early payments will not, unless agreed to by Lender in writing, relieve Borrower of Borrower's obligation to continue to make payments. Rather, early payments will reduce the principal balance due. Borrower agrees not to send Lender payments marked "paid in full", "without recourse", or similar language. If Borrower sends such a payment, Lender may accept it without losing any of Lender's rights under this Note, and Borrower will remain obligated to pay any further amount owed to Lender. **All written communications concerning disputed amounts, including any check or other payment instrument that indicates that the payment constitutes "payment in full" of the amount owed or that is tendered with other conditions or limitations or as full satisfaction of a disputed amount must be mailed or delivered to: Heartland Bank and Trust Company, 100—Hershey Road, 401 N Hershey Rd, P.O. Box 67, Bloomington, IL 61702.**

**INTEREST AFTER DEFAULT.** Upon default, including failure to pay upon final maturity, the interest rate on this Note shall be increased by adding an additional 5.000 percentage point margin ("Default Rate Margin"). The Default Rate Margin shall also apply to each succeeding interest rate change that would have applied had there been no default. However, in no event will the interest rate exceed the maximum interest rate limitations under applicable law.

**DEFAULT.** Each of the following shall constitute an event of default ("Event of Default") under this Note:

**Payment Default.** Borrower fails to make any payment when due under this Note.

**Other Defaults.** Borrower fails to comply with or to perform any other term, obligation, covenant or condition contained in this Note or in any of the related documents or to comply with or to perform any term, obligation, covenant or condition contained in any other agreement between Lender and Borrower.

**Default in Favor of Third Parties.** Borrower or any Grantor defaults under any loan, extension of credit, security agreement, purchase or sales agreement, or any other agreement, in favor of any other creditor or person that may materially affect any of Borrower's property or Borrower's ability to repay this Note or perform Borrower's obligations under this Note or any of the related documents.

**False Statements.** Any warranty, representation or statement made or furnished to Lender by Borrower or on Borrower's behalf under this Note or the related documents is false or misleading in any material respect, either now or at the time made or furnished or becomes false or misleading at any time thereafter.

**Death or Insolvency.** The death of Borrower or the dissolution or termination of Borrower's existence as a going business, the insolvency of Borrower, the appointment of a receiver for any part of Borrower's property, any assignment for the benefit of creditors, any type of creditor workout, or the commencement of any proceeding under any bankruptcy or insolvency laws by or against Borrower.

**Creditor or Forfeiture Proceedings.** Commencement of foreclosure or forfeiture proceedings, whether by judicial proceeding, self-help, repossession or any other method, by any creditor of Borrower or by any governmental agency against any collateral securing the loan. This includes a garnishment of any of Borrower's accounts, including deposit accounts, with Lender. However, this Event of Default shall not apply if there is a good faith dispute by Borrower as to the validity or reasonableness of the claim which is the basis of the creditor or forfeiture proceeding and if Borrower gives Lender written notice of the creditor or forfeiture proceeding and deposits with Lender monies or a surety bond for the creditor or forfeiture proceeding, in an amount determined by Lender, in its sole discretion, as being an adequate reserve or bond for the dispute.

**Events Affecting Guarantor.** Any of the preceding events occurs with respect to any guarantor, endorser, surety, or accommodation party of any of the indebtedness or any guarantor, endorser, surety, or accommodation party dies or becomes incompetent, or revokes or disputes the validity of, or liability under, any guaranty of the indebtedness evidenced by this Note.

**Adverse Change.** A material adverse change occurs in Borrower's financial condition, or Lender believes the prospect of payment or performance of this Note is impaired.

**LENDER'S RIGHTS.** Upon default, Lender may declare the entire unpaid principal balance under this Note and all accrued unpaid interest immediately due, and then Borrower will pay that amount.

**ATTORNEYS' FEES; EXPENSES.** Lender may hire or pay someone else to help collect this Note if Borrower does not pay. Borrower will pay Lender that amount. This includes, subject to any limits under applicable law, Lender's attorneys' fees and Lender's legal expenses, whether or not there is a lawsuit, including attorneys' fees, expenses for bankruptcy proceedings (including efforts to modify or vacate any automatic stay or injunction), and appeals. If not prohibited by applicable law, Borrower also will pay any court costs, in addition to all other sums provided by law.

**JURY WAIVER.** Lender and Borrower hereby waive the right to any jury trial in any action, proceeding, or counterclaim brought by either Lender or Borrower against the other.

**GOVERNING LAW.** This Note will be governed by federal law applicable to Lender and, to the extent not preempted by federal law, the laws of the State of Illinois without regard to its conflicts of law provisions. This Note has been accepted by Lender in the State of Illinois.

**CHOICE OF VENUE.** If there is a lawsuit, Borrower agrees upon Lender's request to submit to the jurisdiction of the courts of McLean County, State of Illinois.

**DISHONORED ITEM FEE.** Borrower will pay a fee to Lender of \$30.00 if Borrower makes a payment on Borrower's loan and the check or preauthorized charge with which Borrower pays is later dishonored.

**RIGHT OF SETOFF.** To the extent permitted by applicable law, Lender reserves a right of setoff in all Borrower's accounts with Lender (whether checking, savings, or some other account). This includes all accounts Borrower holds jointly with someone else and all accounts Borrower may open in the future. However, this does not include any IRA or Keogh accounts, or any trust accounts for which setoff would be prohibited by law. Borrower authorizes Lender, to the extent permitted by applicable law, to charge or setoff all sums owing on the indebtedness against any and all such accounts, and, at Lender's option, to administratively freeze all such accounts to allow Lender to protect Lender's charge and setoff rights provided in this paragraph.

**COLLATERAL.** Borrower acknowledges this Note is secured by collateral described in a Commercial Pledge Agreement and a Pledged Collateral Account Control Agreement dated August 26, 2015.

**LINE OF CREDIT.** This Note evidences a revolving line of credit. Advances under this Note may be requested only in writing by Borrower or by an authorized person. All communications, instructions, or directions by telephone or otherwise to Lender are to be directed to Lender's office shown above. Borrower agrees to be liable for all sums either: (A) advanced in accordance with the instructions of an authorized person or (B) credited to any of Borrower's accounts with Lender. The unpaid principal balance owing on this Note at any time may be evidenced by endorsements on this Note or by Lender's internal records, including daily computer print-outs.

**SECURITY PROVISION.** This Note may be secured by prior or subsequent security documents notwithstanding that such security is not indicated hereon in the paragraph entitled "Collateral".

**SECURITY INTEREST IN DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS.** Borrower grants to Lender a contractual security interest in, and hereby assigns, conveys, delivers, pledges, and transfers to Lender all Borrower's right, title and interest in and to, Borrower's deposit accounts with Lender (whether checking, savings, or some other account), including without limitation all deposit accounts held jointly with someone else and all deposit accounts Borrower may open in the future, excluding however all IRA and Keogh accounts, and all trust accounts for which the grant of a security interest would be prohibited by law. Borrower authorizes Lender, to the extent permitted by applicable law, to charge or setoff all sums owing on this Note against any and all such deposit accounts.

**CONFESSION OF JUDGMENT.** Borrower hereby irrevocably authorizes and empowers any attorney-at-law to appear in any court of record and to confess judgment against Borrower for the unpaid amount of this Note as evidenced by an affidavit signed by an officer of Lending setting forth the amount then due, attorneys' fees plus costs of suit, and to release all errors, and waive all rights of appeal. If a copy of this Note, verified by an affidavit, shall have been filed in the proceeding, it will not be necessary to file the original as a warrant of attorney. Borrower waives the right to any stay of execution and the benefit of all exemption laws nor or hereafter in effect. No single exercise of the foregoing warrant and power to confess judgment will be deemed to exhaust the power, whether or not any such exercise shall be held by any court to be invalid, voidable, or void; but the power will continue undiminished and may be exercised from time to time as Lender may elect until all amounts owing on this Note have been paid in full. Borrower hereby waives and releases any and all claims or causes of action which Borrower might have against any attorney acting under the terms of authority which Borrower has granted herein arising out of or connected with the confession of judgment hereunder.

**SUCCESSOR INTERESTS.** The terms of this Note shall be binding upon Borrower, and upon Borrower's heirs, personal representatives, successors and assigns, and shall inure to the benefit of Lender and its successors and assigns.

**GENERAL PROVISIONS.** If any part of this Note cannot be enforced, this fact will not affect the rest of the Note. Lender may delay or forgo enforcing any of its rights or remedies under this Note without losing them. Borrower and any other person who signs, guarantees or endorses this Note, to the extent allowed by law, waive presentment, demand for payment, and notice of dishonor. Upon any change in the terms of this Note, and unless otherwise expressly stated in writing, no party who signs this Note, whether as maker, guarantor, accommodation maker or endorser, shall be released from liability. All such parties agree that Lender may renew or extend (repeatedly and for any length of time) this loan or release any party or guarantor or collateral; or impair, fail to realize upon or perfect Lender's security interest in the collateral; and take any other action deemed necessary by Lender without the consent of or notice to

anyone. All such parties also agree that Lender may modify this loan without the consent of or notice to anyone other than the party with whom the modification is made. The obligations under this Note are joint and several.

**PRIOR TO SIGNING THIS NOTE, BORROWER READ AND UNDERSTOOD ALL THE PROVISIONS OF THIS NOTE, INCLUDING THE VARIABLE INTEREST RATE PROVISIONS. BORROWER AGREES TO THE TERMS OF THE NOTE.**

**BORROWER ACKNOWLEDGES RECEIPT OF A COMPLETED COPY OF THIS PROMISSORY NOTE.**

**BORROWER:**

X  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gregory M Shepard

## COMMERCIAL PLEDGE AGREEMENT

Principal	Loan Date	Maturity	Loan No	Call / Coll	Account	Officer	Initials
\$2,500,000.00	08-26-2015	02-26-2016	6590092338		00102856	PFB	

References in the boxes above are for Lender's use only and do not limit the applicability of this document to any particular loan or item.

Any item above containing "\*\*\*\*" has been omitted due to text length limitations.

**Grantor:** Gregory M Shepard  
15 Country Club Place  
Bloomington, IL 61701

**Lender:** Heartland Bank and Trust Company  
100 - Hershey Road  
401 N Hershey Rd  
P.O. Box 67  
Bloomington, IL 61702

THIS COMMERCIAL PLEDGE AGREEMENT dated August 26, 2015, is made and executed between Gregory M Shepard ("Grantor") and Heartland Bank and Trust Company ("Lender").

**GRANT OF SECURITY INTEREST.** For valuable consideration, Grantor grants to Lender a security interest in the Collateral to secure the Indebtedness and agrees that Lender shall have the rights stated in this Agreement with respect to the Collateral, in addition to all other rights which Lender may have by law.

**COLLATERAL DESCRIPTION.** The word "Collateral" as used in this Agreement means Grantor's present and future rights, title and interest in and to the following described investment property, together with any and all present and future additions thereto, substitutions therefor, and replacements thereof, and further together with all Income and Proceeds as described herein:

**Merrill Lynch Account CMA 60G-12347**

**CROSS-COLLATERALIZATION.** In addition to the Note, this Agreement secures all obligations, debts and liabilities, plus interest thereon, of Grantor to Lender, or any one or more of them, as well as all claims by Lender against Grantor or any one or more of them, whether now existing or hereafter arising, whether related or unrelated to the purpose of the Note, whether voluntary or otherwise, whether due or not due, direct or indirect, determined or undetermined, absolute or contingent, liquidated or unliquidated, whether Grantor may be liable individually or jointly with others, whether obligated as guarantor, surety, accommodation party or otherwise, and whether recovery upon such amounts may be or hereafter may become barred by any statute of limitations, and whether the obligation to repay such amounts may be or hereafter may become otherwise unenforceable.

**RIGHT OF SETOFF.** To the extent permitted by applicable law, Lender reserves a right of setoff in all Grantor's accounts with Lender (whether checking, savings, or some other account). This includes all accounts Grantor holds jointly with someone else and all accounts Grantor may open in the future. However, this does not include any IRA or Keogh accounts, or any trust accounts for which setoff would be prohibited by law. Grantor authorizes Lender, to the extent permitted by applicable law, to charge or setoff all sums owing on the Indebtedness against any and all such accounts, and, at Lender's option, to administratively freeze all such accounts to allow Lender to protect Lender's charge and setoff rights provided in this paragraph.

**REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES WITH RESPECT TO THE COLLATERAL.** Grantor represents and warrants to Lender that:

**Ownership.** Grantor is the lawful owner of the Collateral free and clear of all security interests, liens, encumbrances and claims of others except as disclosed to and accepted by Lender in writing prior to execution of this Agreement.

**Right to Pledge.** Grantor has the full right, power and authority to enter into this Agreement and to pledge the Collateral.

**Authority; Binding Effect.** Grantor has the full right, power and authority to enter into this Agreement and to grant a security interest in the Collateral to Lender. This Agreement is binding upon Grantor as well as Grantor's successors and assigns, and is legally enforceable in accordance with its terms. The foregoing representations and warranties, and all other representations and warranties contained in this Agreement are and shall be continuing in nature and shall remain in full force and effect until such time as this Agreement is terminated or cancelled as provided herein.

**No Further Assignment.** Grantor has not, and shall not, sell, assign, transfer, encumber or otherwise dispose of any of Grantor's rights in the Collateral except as provided in this Agreement.

**No Defaults.** There are no defaults existing under the Collateral, and there are no offsets or counterclaims to the same. Grantor will strictly and promptly perform each of the terms, conditions, covenants and agreements, if any, contained in the Collateral which are to be performed by Grantor.

**No Violation.** The execution and delivery of this Agreement will not violate any law or agreement governing Grantor or to which Grantor is a party.

**Financing Statements.** Grantor authorizes Lender to file a UCC financing statement, or alternatively, a copy of this Agreement to perfect Lender's security interest. At Lender's request, Grantor additionally agrees to sign all other documents that are necessary to perfect, protect, and continue Lender's security interest in the Property. Grantor will pay all filing fees, title transfer fees, and other fees and costs involved unless prohibited by law or unless Lender is required by law to pay such fees and costs. Grantor irrevocably appoints Lender to execute documents necessary to transfer title if there is a default. Lender may file a copy of this Agreement as a financing statement. Grantor will promptly notify Lender of any change to Grantor's name or the name of any individual Grantor, any individual who is a partner for a Grantor, and any individual who is a trustee or settlor or trustor for a Grantor under this Agreement. Grantor will also promptly notify Lender of any change to the name that appears on the most recently issued, unexpired driver's license or state-issued identification card, any expiration of the most recently issued driver's license or state-issued identification card for Grantor or any individual for whom Grantor is required to provide notice regarding name changes.

**LENDER'S RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS WITH RESPECT TO THE COLLATERAL.** Lender may hold the Collateral until all Indebtedness has been paid and satisfied. Thereafter Lender may deliver the Collateral to Grantor or to any other owner of the Collateral. Lender shall have the following rights in addition to all other rights Lender may have by law:



**Maintenance and Protection of Collateral.** Lender may, but shall not be obligated to, take such steps as it deems necessary or desirable to protect, maintain, insure, store, or care for the Collateral, including paying of any liens or claims against the Collateral. This may include such things as hiring other people, such as attorneys, appraisers or other experts. Lender may charge Grantor for any cost incurred in so doing. When applicable law provides more than one method of perfection of Lender's security interest, Lender may choose the method(s) to be used.

**Income and Proceeds from the Collateral.** Lender may receive all Income and Proceeds and add it to the Collateral. Grantor agrees to deliver to Lender immediately upon receipt, in the exact form received and without commingling with other property, all Income and Proceeds from the Collateral which may be received by, paid, or delivered to Grantor or for Grantor's account, whether as an addition to, in discharge of, in substitution of, or in exchange for any of the Collateral.

**Application of Cash.** At Lender's option, Lender may apply any cash, whether included in the Collateral or received as Income and Proceeds or through liquidation, sale, or retirement, of the Collateral, to the satisfaction of the Indebtedness or such portion thereof as Lender shall choose, whether or not matured.

**Transactions with Others.** Lender may (1) extend time for payment or other performance, (2) grant a renewal or change in terms or conditions, or (3) compromise, compound or release any obligation, with any one or more Obligors, endorsers, or Guarantors of the Indebtedness as Lender deems advisable, without obtaining the prior written consent of Grantor, and no such act or failure to act shall affect Lender's rights against Grantor or the Collateral.

**All Collateral Secures Indebtedness.** All Collateral shall be security for the Indebtedness, whether the Collateral is located at one or more offices or branches of Lender. This will be the case whether or not the office or branch where Grantor obtained Grantor's loan knows about the Collateral or relies upon the Collateral as security.

**Collection of Collateral.** Lender at Lender's option may, but need not, collect the Income and Proceeds directly from the Obligors. Grantor authorizes and directs the Obligors, if Lender decides to collect the Income and Proceeds, to pay and deliver to Lender all Income and Proceeds from the Collateral and to accept Lender's receipt for the payments.

**Power of Attorney.** Grantor irrevocably appoints Lender as Grantor's attorney-in-fact, with full power of substitution, (a) to demand, collect, receive, receipt for, sue and recover all Income and Proceeds and other sums of money and other property which may now or hereafter become due, owing or payable from the Obligors in accordance with the terms of the Collateral; (b) to execute, sign and endorse any and all instruments, receipts, checks, drafts and warrants issued in payment for the Collateral; (c) to settle or compromise any and all claims arising under the Collateral, and in the place and stead of Grantor, execute and deliver Grantor's release and acquittance for Grantor; (d) to file any claim or claims or to take any action or institute or take part in any proceedings, either in Lender's own name or in the name of Grantor, or otherwise, which in the discretion of Lender may seem to be necessary or advisable; and (e) to execute in Grantor's name and to deliver to the Obligors on Grantor's behalf, at the time and in the manner specified by the Collateral, any necessary instruments or documents.

**Perfection of Security Interest.** Upon Lender's request, Grantor will deliver to Lender any and all of the documents evidencing or constituting the Collateral. When applicable law provides more than one method of perfection of Lender's security interest, Lender may choose the method(s) to be used. Upon Lender's request, Grantor will sign and deliver any writings necessary to perfect Lender's security interest. Grantor hereby appoints Lender as Grantor's irrevocable attorney-in-fact for the purpose of executing any documents necessary to perfect, amend, or to continue the security interest granted in this Agreement or to demand termination of filings of other secured parties. **This is a continuing Security Agreement and will continue in effect even though all or any part of the Indebtedness is paid in full and even though for a period of time Grantor may not be indebted to Lender.**

**LENDER'S EXPENDITURES.** If any action or proceeding is commenced that would materially affect Lender's interest in the Collateral or if Grantor fails to comply with any provision of this Agreement or any Related Documents, including but not limited to Grantor's failure to discharge or pay when due any amounts Grantor is required to discharge or pay under this Agreement or any Related Documents, Lender on Grantor's behalf may (but shall not be obligated to) take any action that Lender deems appropriate, including but not limited to discharging or paying all taxes, liens, security interests, encumbrances and other claims, at any time levied or placed on the Collateral and paying all costs for insuring, maintaining and preserving the Collateral. All such expenditures incurred or paid by Lender for such purposes will then bear interest at the rate charged under the Note from the date incurred or paid by Lender to the date of repayment by Grantor. All such expenses will become a part of the Indebtedness and, at Lender's option, will (A) be payable on demand; (B) be added to the balance of the Note and be apportioned among and be payable with any installment payments to become due during either (1) the term of any applicable insurance policy; or (2) the remaining term of the Note; or (C) be treated as a balloon payment which will be due and payable at the Note's maturity. The Agreement also will secure payment of these amounts. Such right shall be in addition to all other rights and remedies to which Lender may be entitled upon Default.

**LIMITATIONS ON OBLIGATIONS OF LENDER.** Lender shall use ordinary reasonable care in the physical preservation and custody of the Collateral in Lender's possession, but shall have no other obligation to protect the Collateral or its value. In particular, but without limitation, Lender shall have no responsibility for (A) any depreciation in value of the Collateral or for the collection or protection of any Income and Proceeds from the Collateral, (B) preservation of rights against parties to the Collateral or against third persons, (C) ascertaining any maturities, calls, conversions, exchanges, offers, tenders, or similar matters relating to any of the Collateral, or (D) informing Grantor about any of the above, whether or not Lender has or is deemed to have knowledge of such matters. Except as provided above, Lender shall have no liability for depreciation or deterioration of the Collateral.

**REINSTATEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST.** If payment is made by Grantor, whether voluntarily or otherwise, or by guarantor or by any third party, on the Indebtedness and thereafter Lender is forced to remit the amount of that payment (A) to Grantor's trustee in bankruptcy or to any similar person under any federal or state bankruptcy law or law for the relief of debtors, (B) by reason of any judgment, decree or order of any court or administrative body having jurisdiction over Lender or any of Lender's property, or (C) by reason of any settlement or compromise of any claim made by Lender with any claimant (including without limitation Grantor), the Indebtedness shall be considered unpaid for the purpose of enforcement of this Agreement and this Agreement shall continue to be effective or shall be reinstated, as the case may be, notwithstanding any cancellation of this Agreement or of any note or other instrument or agreement evidencing the Indebtedness and the Collateral will continue to secure the amount repaid or recovered to the same extent as if that amount never had been originally received by Lender, and Grantor shall be bound by any judgment, decree, order, settlement or compromise relating to the Indebtedness or to this Agreement.

**DEFAULT.** Each of the following shall constitute an Event of Default under this Agreement:

**Payment Default.** Grantor fails to make any payment when due under the Indebtedness.

**Other Defaults.** Grantor fails to comply with or to perform any other term, obligation, covenant or condition contained in this Agreement or in any of the Related Documents or to comply with or to perform any term, obligation, covenant or condition contained in any other agreement between Lender and Grantor.

**Default in Favor of Third Parties.** Grantor defaults under any loan, extension of credit, security agreement, purchase or sales agreement, or any other agreement, in favor of any other creditor or person that may materially affect any of Grantor's property or ability to perform Grantor's obligations under this Agreement or any of the Related Documents.

**False Statements.** Any warranty, representation or statement made or furnished to Lender by Grantor or on Grantor's behalf under this Agreement or the Related Documents is false or misleading in any material respect, either now or at the time made or furnished or becomes false or misleading at any time thereafter.

**Defective Collateralization.** This Agreement or any of the Related Documents ceases to be in full force and effect (including failure of any collateral document to create a valid and perfected security interest or lien) at any time and for any reason.

**Death or Insolvency.** The death of Grantor, the insolvency of Grantor, the appointment of a receiver for any part of Grantor's property, any assignment for the benefit of creditors, any type of creditor workout, or the commencement of any proceeding under any bankruptcy or insolvency laws by or against Grantor.

**Creditor or Forfeiture Proceedings.** Commencement of foreclosure or forfeiture proceedings, whether by judicial proceeding, self-help, repossession or any other method, by any creditor of Grantor or by any governmental agency against any collateral securing the Indebtedness. This includes a garnishment of any of Grantor's accounts, including deposit accounts, with Lender. However, this Event of Default shall not apply if there is a good faith dispute by Grantor as to the validity or reasonableness of the claim which is the basis of the creditor or forfeiture proceeding and if Grantor gives Lender written notice of the creditor or forfeiture proceeding and deposits with Lender monies or a surety bond for the creditor or forfeiture proceeding, in an amount determined by Lender, in its sole discretion, as being an adequate reserve or bond for the dispute.

**Events Affecting Guarantor.** Any of the preceding events occurs with respect to any guarantor, endorser, surety, or accommodation party of any of the Indebtedness or guarantor, endorser, surety, or accommodation party dies or becomes incompetent or revokes or disputes the validity of, or liability under, any Guaranty of the Indebtedness.

**Adverse Change.** A material adverse change occurs in Grantor's financial condition, or Lender believes the prospect of payment or performance of the Indebtedness is impaired.

**Insecurity.** Lender in good faith believes itself insecure.

**RIGHTS AND REMEDIES ON DEFAULT.** If an Event of Default occurs under this Agreement, at any time thereafter, Lender may exercise any one or more of the following rights and remedies:

**Accelerate Indebtedness.** Declare all Indebtedness, including any prepayment penalty which Grantor would be required to pay, immediately due and payable, without notice of any kind to Grantor.

**Collect the Collateral.** Collect any of the Collateral and, at Lender's option and to the extent permitted by applicable law, retain possession of the Collateral while suing on the Indebtedness.

**Sell the Collateral.** Sell the Collateral, at Lender's discretion, as a unit or in parcels, at one or more public or private sales. Unless the Collateral is perishable or threatens to decline speedily in value or is of a type customarily sold on a recognized market, Lender shall give or mail to Grantor, and other persons as required by law, notice at least ten (10) days in advance of the time and place of any public sale, or of the time after which any private sale may be made. However, no notice need be provided to any person who, after an Event of Default occurs, enters into and authenticates an agreement waiving that person's right to notification of sale. Grantor agrees that any requirement of reasonable notice as to Grantor is satisfied if Lender mails notice by ordinary mail addressed to Grantor at the last address Grantor has given Lender in writing. If a public sale is held, there shall be sufficient compliance with all requirements of notice to the public by a single publication in any newspaper of general circulation in the county where the Collateral is located, setting forth the time and place of sale and a brief description of the property to be sold. Lender may be a purchaser at any public sale.

**Sell Securities.** Sell any securities included in the Collateral in a manner consistent with applicable federal and state securities laws. If, because of restrictions under such laws, Lender is unable, or believes Lender is unable, to sell the securities in an open market transaction, Grantor agrees that Lender will have no obligation to delay sale until the securities can be registered. Then Lender may make a private sale to one or more persons or to a restricted group of persons, even though such sale may result in a price that is less favorable than might be obtained in an open market transaction. Such a sale will be considered commercially reasonable. If any securities held as Collateral are "restricted securities" as defined in the Rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission (such as Regulation D or Rule 144) or the rules of state securities departments under state "Blue Sky" laws, or if Grantor or any other owner of the Collateral is an affiliate of the issuer of the securities, Grantor agrees that neither Grantor, nor any member of Grantor's family, nor any other person signing this Agreement will sell or dispose of any securities of such issuer without obtaining Lender's prior written consent.

**Foreclosure.** Maintain a judicial suit for foreclosure and sale of the Collateral.

**Transfer Title.** Effect transfer of title upon sale of all or part of the Collateral. For this purpose, Grantor irrevocably appoints Lender as Grantor's attorney-in-fact to execute endorsements, assignments and instruments in the name of Grantor and each of them (if more than one) as shall be necessary or reasonable.

**Other Rights and Remedies.** Have and exercise any or all of the rights and remedies of a secured creditor under the provisions of the Uniform Commercial Code, at law, in equity, or otherwise.

**Application of Proceeds.** Apply any cash which is part of the Collateral, or which is received from the collection or sale of the Collateral, to reimbursement of any expenses, including any costs for registration of securities, commissions incurred in connection with a sale, attorneys' fees and court costs, whether or not there is a lawsuit and including any fees on appeal, incurred by Lender in connection with the collection and sale of such Collateral and to the payment of the Indebtedness of Grantor to Lender, with any excess funds to be paid to Grantor as the interests of Grantor may appear. Grantor agrees, to the extent permitted by law, to pay any deficiency after application of the proceeds of the Collateral to the Indebtedness.

**Election of Remedies.** Except as may be prohibited by applicable law, all of Lender's rights and remedies, whether evidenced by this Agreement, the Related Documents, or by any other writing, shall be cumulative and may be exercised singularly or concurrently. Election by Lender to pursue any remedy shall not exclude pursuit of any other remedy, and an election to make expenditures or to take action to perform an obligation of Grantor under this Agreement, after Grantor's failure to perform, shall not affect Lender's right to declare a default and exercise its remedies.

**MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.** The following miscellaneous provisions are a part of this Agreement:

**Amendments.** This Agreement, together with any Related Documents, constitutes the entire understanding and agreement of the parties as to the matters set forth in this Agreement. No alteration of or amendment to this Agreement shall be effective unless given in writing and signed by the party or parties sought to be charged or bound by the alteration or amendment.

**Attorneys' Fees; Expenses.** Grantor agrees to pay upon demand all of Lender's costs and expenses, including Lender's attorneys' fees and Lender's legal expenses, incurred in connection with the enforcement of this Agreement. Lender may hire or pay someone else to help enforce this Agreement, and Grantor shall pay the costs and expenses of such enforcement. Costs and expenses include Lender's attorneys' fees and legal expenses whether or not there is a lawsuit, including attorneys' fees and legal expenses for bankruptcy proceedings (including efforts to modify or vacate any automatic stay or injunction), appeals, and any anticipated post-judgment collection services. Grantor also shall pay all court costs and such additional fees as may be directed by the court.

**Caption Headings.** Caption headings in this Agreement are for convenience purposes only and are not to be used to interpret or define the provisions of this Agreement.

**Governing Law.** This Agreement will be governed by federal law applicable to Lender and, to the extent not preempted by federal law, the laws of the State of Illinois without regard to its conflicts of law provisions. This Agreement has been accepted by Lender in the State of Illinois.

**Choice of Venue.** If there is a lawsuit, Grantor agrees upon Lender's request to submit to the jurisdiction of the courts of McLean County, State of Illinois.

**No Waiver by Lender.** Lender shall not be deemed to have waived any rights under this Agreement unless such waiver is given in writing and signed by Lender. No delay or omission on the part of Lender in exercising any right shall operate as a waiver of such right or any other right. A waiver by Lender of a provision of this Agreement shall not prejudice or constitute a waiver of Lender's right otherwise to demand strict compliance with that provision or any other provision of this Agreement. No prior waiver by Lender, nor any course of dealing between Lender and Grantor, shall constitute a waiver of any of Lender's rights or of any of Grantor's obligations as to any future transactions. Whenever the consent of Lender is required under this Agreement, the granting of such consent by Lender in any instance shall not constitute continuing consent to subsequent instances where such consent is required and in all cases such consent may be granted or withheld in the sole discretion of Lender.

**Notices.** Any notice required to be given under this Agreement shall be given in writing, and shall be effective when actually delivered, when actually received by telefacsimile (unless otherwise required by law), when deposited with a nationally recognized overnight courier, or, if mailed, when deposited in the United States mail, as first class, certified or registered mail postage prepaid, directed to the addresses shown near the beginning of this Agreement. Any party may change its address for notices under this Agreement by giving formal written notice to the other parties, specifying that the purpose of the notice is to change the party's address. For notice purposes, Grantor agrees to keep Lender informed at all times of Grantor's current address. Unless otherwise provided or required by law, if there is more than one Grantor, any notice given by Lender to any Grantor is deemed to be notice given to all Grantors.

**Severability.** If a court of competent jurisdiction finds any provision of this Agreement to be illegal, invalid, or unenforceable as to any circumstance, that finding shall not make the offending provision illegal, invalid, or unenforceable as to any other circumstance. If feasible, the offending provision shall be considered modified so that it becomes legal, valid and enforceable. If the offending provision cannot be so modified, it shall be considered deleted from this Agreement. Unless otherwise required by law, the illegality, invalidity, or unenforceability of any provision of this Agreement shall not affect the legality, validity or enforceability of any other provision of this Agreement.

**Successors and Assigns.** Subject to any limitations stated in this Agreement on transfer of Grantor's interest, this Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the parties, their successors and assigns. If ownership of the Collateral becomes vested in a person other than Grantor, Lender, without notice to Grantor, may deal with Grantor's successors with reference to this Agreement and the Indebtedness by way of forbearance or extension without releasing Grantor from the obligations of this Agreement or liability under the Indebtedness.

**Time is of the Essence.** Time is of the essence in the performance of this Agreement.

**Waive Jury.** All parties to this Agreement hereby waive the right to any jury trial in any action, proceeding, or counterclaim brought by any party against any other party.

**DEFINITIONS.** The following capitalized words and terms shall have the following meanings when used in this Agreement. Unless specifically stated to the contrary, all references to dollar amounts shall mean amounts in lawful money of the United States of America. Words and terms used in the singular shall include the plural, and the plural shall include the singular, as the context may require. Words and terms not otherwise defined in this Agreement shall have the meanings attributed to such terms in the Uniform Commercial Code:

**Agreement.** The word "Agreement" means this Commercial Pledge Agreement, as this Commercial Pledge Agreement may be amended or modified from time to time, together with all exhibits and schedules attached to this Commercial Pledge Agreement from time to time.

**Borrower.** The word "Borrower" means Gregory M Shepard and includes all co-signers and co-makers signing the Note and all their successors and assigns.

**Collateral.** The word "Collateral" means all of Grantor's right, title and interest in and to all the Collateral as described in the Collateral Description section of this Agreement.

**Default.** The word "Default" means the Default set forth in this Agreement in the section titled "Default".

**Event of Default.** The words "Event of Default" mean any of the events of default set forth in this Agreement in the default section of this Agreement.

**Grantor.** The word "Grantor" means Gregory M Shepard.

**Guaranty.** The word “Guaranty” means the guaranty from guarantor, endorser, surety, or accommodation party to Lender, including without limitation a guaranty of all or part of the Note.

**Income and Proceeds.** The words “Income and Proceeds” mean all present and future income, proceeds, earnings, increases, and substitutions from or for the Collateral of every kind and nature, including without limitation all payments, interest, profits, distributions, benefits, rights, options, warrants, dividends, stock dividends, stock splits, stock rights, regulatory dividends, subscriptions, monies, claims for money due and to become due, proceeds of any insurance on the Collateral, shares of stock of different par value or no par value issued in substitution or exchange for shares included in the Collateral, and all other property Grantor is entitled to receive on account of such Collateral, including accounts, documents, instruments, chattel paper, investment property, and general intangibles.

**Indebtedness.** The word “Indebtedness” means the indebtedness evidenced by the Note or Related Documents, including all principal and interest together with all other indebtedness and costs and expenses for which Grantor is responsible under this Agreement or under any of the Related Documents. Specifically, without limitation, Indebtedness includes all amounts that may be indirectly secured by the Cross-Collateralization provision of this Agreement.

**Lender.** The word “Lender” means Heartland Bank and Trust Company, its successors and assigns.

**Note.** The word “Note” means the Note dated August 26, 2015 and executed by Gregory M Shepard in the principal amount of \$2,500,000.00, together with all renewals of, extensions of, modifications of, refinancings of, consolidations of, and substitutions for the note or credit agreement.

**Obligor.** The word “Obligor” means without limitation any and all persons obligated to pay money or to perform some other act under the Collateral.

**Property.** The word “Property” means all of Grantor’s right, title and interest in and to all the Property as described in the “Collateral Description” section of this Agreement.

**Related Documents.** The words “Related Documents” mean all promissory notes, credit agreements, loan agreements, environmental agreements, guaranties, security agreements, mortgages, deeds of trust, security deeds, collateral mortgages, and all other instruments, agreements and documents, whether now or hereafter existing, executed in connection with the Indebtedness.

**GRANTOR HAS READ AND UNDERSTOOD ALL THE PROVISIONS OF THIS COMMERCIAL PLEDGE AGREEMENT AND AGREES TO ITS TERMS. THIS AGREEMENT IS DATED AUGUST 26, 2015.**

**GRANTOR:**

X \_\_\_\_\_  
**Gregory M Shepard**

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