

NEWS RELEASE For information contact: Kevin B. Habicht Chief Financial Officer (407) 265-7348

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE February 7, 2013

2012 OPERATING RESULTS AND INCREASED 2013 GUIDANCE ANNOUNCED BY NATIONAL RETAIL PROPERTIES, INC.

Orlando, Florida, February 7, 2013 – National Retail Properties, Inc. (NYSE: NNN), a real estate investment trust, today announced operating results for the quarter and year ended December 31, 2012. Highlights include:

Operating Results:

• Revenues and net earnings, FFO, Recurring FFO and AFFO available to common stockholders and diluted per share amounts:

	Quarter Ended			Year Ended					
		Decer	nbeı	: 31,	December 31,				
		2012		2011		2012		2011	
			(in t	housands, ex			a)		
Revenues	\$	88,899	\$	72,959	\$	331,752	\$	259,939	
Net earnings available to common stockholders	\$	35,901	\$	25,874	\$	121,489	\$	85,540	
Net earnings per common share	\$	0.32	\$	0.26	\$	1.11	\$	0.96	
FFO available to common stockholders	\$	50,994	\$	41,038	\$	193,589	\$	139,665	
FFO per common share	\$	0.46	\$	0.42	\$	1.77	\$	1.57	
Recurring FFO available to common stockholders	\$	51,088	\$	40,051	\$	189,666	\$	139,258	
Recurring FFO per common share	\$	0.46	\$	0.41	\$	1.74	\$	1.57	
AFFO available to common stockholders	\$	54,164	\$	42,729	\$	200,746	\$	150,815	
AFFO per common share	\$	0.48	\$	0.43	\$	1.84	\$	1.70	

• Portfolio occupancy was 97.9% at December 31, 2012, as compared to 97.9% at September 30, 2012, and 97.4% at December 31, 2011

2012 Highlights:

- Increased recurring FFO per share 10.8% from \$1.57 in 2011 to \$1.74 in 2012
- Dividend yield at December 31, 2012 of 5.0%
- Dividends per share increased to \$1.56 marking the 23rd consecutive year of annual dividend increases one of only four equity REITs and one of only 104 public companies with 23 or more consecutive annual dividend increases
- Maintained high occupancy levels at 97.9% with weighted average remaining lease term of 12 years
- Invested \$707.2 million in 232 properties with an aggregate 2,955,000 square feet of gross leasable area
- Sold 34 properties for \$81.1 million producing \$11.0 million of gains on sale (not included in FFO)
- Expanded unsecured bank credit facility to \$500 million while extending the term to October 2016 and reducing the interest rate to LIBOR + 117.5 basis points

2012 Highlights (continued):

- Issued \$325.0 million principal amount of 3.80% senior unsecured notes due 2022 generating net proceeds of \$317.1 million
- Paid off \$123.2 million principal amount of 3.95% convertible senior notes due 2026 and the remaining \$15.5 million principal amount of 3.95% notes were paid off in January 2013.
- Raised \$183.1 million in net proceeds from the issuance of 6,383,942 common shares and \$277.6 million from the issuance of preferred equity
- Over 99% of properties are not encumbered with secured mortgage debt
- Generated annual total return to shareholders of 24.6% for 2012 and an average annual total return of 13.3% for the past 20 years
- In January 2013, Fitch Ratings upgraded NNN's unsecured debt rating to BBB+ and Moody's Investors Service revised NNN's rating outlook to positive

Investments and Dispositions for the quarter ended December 31, 2012:

- Investments:
 - \$254.7 million in property investments, including the acquisition of 108 properties with an aggregate 907,000 square feet of gross leasable area
- Dispositions:
 - 16 properties with net proceeds of \$49.0 million producing \$6.5 million of gains on sales (not included in FFO)

National Retail Properties announced an increase in 2013 FFO guidance from a range of \$1.77 to \$1.81 to a range of \$1.81 to \$1.85 per share before any impairment expense. 2013 AFFO is estimated to be \$1.89 to \$1.93 per share. The FFO guidance equates to net earnings before any gains or losses from the sale of real estate of \$1.09 to \$1.13 per share plus \$0.72 per share of expected real estate depreciation and amortization. The guidance is based on current plans and assumptions and subject to risks and uncertainties more fully described in this press release and the company's reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Craig Macnab, Chief Executive Officer, commented: "The continuing strong results in 2012 are testament to the strength of our business model and balance sheet combined with the expertise of our talented associates who make it all happen. Over the past two years, NNN has grown per share results by 20% while improving our balance sheet credit metrics and maintaining very high occupancy levels. These results have perpetuated NNN's elite 23 year record of increased annual dividends which is the foundation of NNN's strong total shareholder returns for many years. Finally, 2013 is off to a good start as evidenced by our increased guidance."

National Retail Properties invests primarily in high-quality retail properties subject generally to long-term, net leases. As of December 31, 2012, the company owned 1,622 properties in 47 states with a gross leasable area of approximately 19.2 million square feet. For more information on the company, visit www.nnnreit.com.

Management will hold a conference call on February 7, 2013, at 10:30 a.m. ET to review these results. The call can be accessed on the National Retail Properties web site live at <u>http://www.nnnreit.com</u>. For those unable to listen to the live broadcast, a replay will be available on the company's web site. In addition, a summary of any earnings guidance given on the call will be posted to the company's web site.

Statements in this press release that are not strictly historical are "forward-looking" statements. Forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, which may cause the company's actual future results to differ materially from expected results. These risks include, among others, general economic conditions, local real estate conditions, changes in interest rates, increases in operating costs, the preferences and financial condition of our tenants, the availability of capital, risks related to our status as a REIT and the profitability of the company's taxable subsidiary. Additional information concerning these and other factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those forward-looking statements is contained from time to time in the company's Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") filings, including, but not limited to, the company's Annual Report on Form 10-K. Copies of each filing may be obtained from the company or the SEC. Such forward-looking statements should be regarded solely as reflections of the company's current operating plans and estimates. Actual operating results may differ materially from what is expressed or forecast in this press release. National Retail Properties undertakes no obligation to publicly release the results of any revisions to these forward-looking statements that may be made to reflect events or circumstances after the date these statements were made.

The reported results are preliminary and not final and there can be no assurance that the results will not vary from the final information filed on Form 10-K with the SEC for the year ended December 31, 2012. In the opinion of management, all adjustments considered necessary for a fair presentation of these reported results have been made.

Funds From Operations, commonly referred to as FFO, is a relative non-GAAP financial measure of operating performance of an equity REIT in order to recognize that income-producing real estate historically has not depreciated on the basis determined under GAAP. FFO is defined by the National Association of Real Estate Investment Trusts ("NAREIT") and is used by the company as follows: net earnings (computed in accordance

with GAAP) plus depreciation and amortization of assets unique to the real estate industry, excluding gains (or including losses) on the disposition of certain assets, the company's share of these items from the company's unconsolidated partnerships and any impairment charges on a depreciable real estate asset.

FFO is generally considered by industry analysts to be the most appropriate measure of performance of real estate companies. FFO does not necessarily represent cash provided by operating activities in accordance with GAAP and should not be considered an alternative to net earnings as an indication of the company's performance or to cash flow as a measure of liquidity or ability to make distributions. Management considers FFO an appropriate measure of performance of an equity REIT because it primarily excludes the assumption that the value of the real estate assets diminishes predictably over time, and because industry analysts have accepted it as a performance measure. The company's computation of FFO may differ from the methodology for calculating FFO used by other equity REITs, and therefore, may not be comparable to such other REITs. A reconciliation of net earnings (computed in accordance with GAAP) to FFO, as defined by NAREIT, is included in the financial information accompanying this release. AFFO should not be considered an alternative to net earnings, as an indication of the company's performance or to cash flow as a measure of net earnings, as an indication of the company's performance or to cash flow as a measure of liquidity or ability to make distributions.

Adjusted Funds From Operations ("AFFO") is a non-GAAP financial measure of operating performance used by many companies in the REIT industry. AFFO further adjusts FFO for certain non-cash items that reduce or increase net income in accordance with GAAP. Management considers AFFO a useful supplemental measure of the company's performance. The company's computation of AFFO may differ from the methodology for calculating AFFO used by other equity REITs, and therefore, may not be comparable to such other REITs. A reconciliation of net earnings (computed in accordance with GAAP) to AFFO is included in the financial information accompanying this release.

The company has determined that there are earnings from discontinued operations in each of its segments, real estate held for investment and real estate held for sale. All property dispositions from the company's held for investment segment are classified as discontinued operations. In addition, certain properties in the company's held for sale segment that have generated revenues before disposition are classified as discontinued operations. The results of operations for prior periods for these properties now classified as discontinued operations have been restated to reflect the results in earnings from discontinued operations for comparability purposes. These adjustments resulted in a decrease in the company's reported total revenues and total and per share earnings from continuing operations and an increase in the company's earnings from discontinued operations. However, the company's total and per share FFO and net earnings available to common stockholders are not affected.

National Retail Properties, Inc. (in thousands, except per share data) (unaudited)

	-	arter E ecembe		Year Ended December 31,			
	2012		2011		2012		2011
Income Statement Summary							
Revenues:							
Rental and earned income	\$ 84,3	85 \$	68,542	\$	315,226	\$	244,618
Real estate expense reimbursement from tenants	3,4	77	3,055		11,443		9,914
Interest and other income from real estate transactions	4	28	583		2,410		2,302
Interest income on commercial mortgage residual interests	6	09	779		2,673		3,105
	88,8	99	72,959		331,752		259,939
Retail operations:							
Revenues			11,436		19,008		45,139
Operating expenses			(10,920)		(18,543)		(43,096)
Net			516		465		2,043
Operating expenses:							
General and administrative	8,9	03	8,554		32,182		28,814
Real estate	4,6		4,849		17,069		16,832
Depreciation and amortization	20,2		15,612		74,140		56,926
Impairment – commercial mortgage residual interests valuation		94	628		2,812		1,024
Impairment losses and other charges, net of recoveries	1,1	15	(1,615)		8,411		(1,431)
	35,0		28,028		134,614		102,165
Other expenses (revenues):							
Interest and other income	(3	18)	(429)		(2,232)		(1,511)
Interest and only meonie Interest expense	20,5		19,585		82,502		74,845
	20,2		19,156		80,270		73,334
Cain on disposition of real astate			297				297
Gain on disposition of real estate Income tax benefit (expense)	(1	— 04)	(521)		7,086		(779)
Equity in earnings of unconsolidated affiliate	(1	04)	(321)		4,074		474
Earnings from continuing operations	33,4	91	26,220		128,493		86,475
Earnings from discontinued operations	7,1	56	1,465		13,444		5,941
Earnings including noncontrolling interests	40,6	47	27,685		141,937		92,416
Loss (earnings) attributable to noncontrolling interests:							
Continuing operations		43	(123)		129		(11)
Discontinued operations	(27)	8		(51)		(80)
		16	(115)		78		(91)
Net earnings attributable to NNN	40,6	63	27,570		142,015		92,325
Series C preferred stock dividends	,		(1,696)		(1,979)		(6,785)
Series D preferred stock dividends	(4,7	62)			(15,449)		
Excess of redemption value over carrying value of preferred shares redeemed					(3,098)		
Net earnings available to common stockholders	\$ 35,9	01 \$	25,874	\$	121,489	\$	85,540
The carmings aranaote to common stockholders	φ 33,7	φ	23,017	7	,.0>	-	

	December 31,			December 31,			1,	
		2012		2011		2012		2011
Weighted average common shares outstanding: Basic Diluted		109,393 112,013		97,605 98,671		106,965		88,100
Net earnings per share available to common stockholders: Basic:								
Continuing operations	\$	0.26	\$	0.25	\$	1.00	\$	0.90
Discontinued operations		0.07		0.01		0.13		0.06
Net earnings	\$	0.33	\$	0.26	\$	1.13	\$	0.96
Diluted:								
Continuing operations	\$	0.26	\$	0.25	\$	0.99	\$	0.89
Discontinued operations		0.06		0.01		0.12		0.07
Net earnings	\$	0.32	\$	0.26	\$	1.11	\$	0.96

National Retail Properties, Inc. (in thousands, except per share data) (unaudited)

	Quarter Ended December 31,				Year Ended			
			iber .	·	December 31,			<i>.</i>
Euroda Errom Organotiona (EEO) Deconstitutions		2012		2011		2012		2011
Funds From Operations (FFO) Reconciliation:	\$	35,901	\$	25,874	٩	101 400	¢	05 5 40
Net earnings available to common stockholders	Ψ	55,501	Ψ	20,071	\$	121,489	\$	85,540
Real estate depreciation and amortization:		20,223		15,239				
Continuing operations		111		313		74,016		52,638
Discontinued operations		111		44		957		1,405
Joint venture real estate depreciation		_		44		112		178
Joint venture gain on disposition of real estate						(2,341)		—
Gain on disposition of real estate		(6,510)		(432)		(10,956)		(527)
Impairment losses - real estate		1,269		—		10,312		431
Total FFO adjustments		15,093		15,164		72,100		54,125
FFO available to common stockholders	\$	50,994	\$	41,038	\$	193,589	\$	139,665
					_			
FFO per share:								
Basic	\$	0.47	\$	0.42	\$	1.81	\$	1.59
Diluted	\$	0.46	\$	0.42	\$	1.77	\$	1.57
Recurring Funds from Operations Reconciliation:								
Net earnings available to common stockholders	\$	35,901	\$	25,874	\$	121,489	\$	85,540
Total FFO adjustments		15,093		15,164		72,100		54,125
FFO available to common stockholders		50,994		41,038		193,589		139,665
Excess of redemption value over carrying value of preferred								
share redemption		—		—		3,098		—
Impairment losses and other charges, net of recoveries		94		(987)		2,614		(407)
Income tax benefit		—		—		(7,671)		—
Joint venture disposition fee and promote income		—				(1,964)		
Total Recurring FFO adjustments	+	94	*	(987)		(3,923)		(407)
Recurring FFO available to common stockholders	\$	51,088	\$	40,051	\$	189,666	\$	139,258
Recurring FFO per share:								
Basic	\$	0.47	\$	0.41	\$	1.77	\$	1.58
Diluted	\$	0.46	\$	0.41	\$	1.74	\$	1.57

	Quarter Ended				Year Ended			
		Decen	ıber 3	31,	December 31,			31,
		2012		2011		2012		2011
Adjusted Funds From Operations (AFFO) Reconciliation: Net earnings available to common stockholders Total FFO adjustments Total Recurring FFO adjustments Recurring FFO available to common stockholders	\$	35,901 15,093 94 51,088	\$	25,874 15,164 (987) 40,051	\$	121,489 72,100 (3,923) 189,666	\$	85,540 54,125 (407) 139,258
Straight-line accrued rent		160		108		(897)		54
Net capital lease rent adjustment Below market rent amortization Stock based compensation expense Capitalized interest expense Convertible debt interest expense (non-cash portion) Joint venture disposition fee and promote income Total AFFO adjustments AFFO available to common stockholders	\$	402 (627) 2,375 (336) 1,102 	\$	404 (615) 2,121 (366) 1,026 2,678 42,729	\$	1,623 (2,492) 8,131 (1,540) 4,291 1,964 11,080 200,746	\$	1,595 (1,106) 6,390 (1,213) 5,837 11,557 150,815
AFFO per share: Basic Diluted	\$ \$	0.50	\$ \$	0.44	\$ \$	1.88 1.84	\$ \$	1.71 1.70
Other Information: Percentage rent Amortization of debt costs	\$ \$	620 78	\$ \$	644 351	\$ \$	1,192 2,584	\$ \$	1,120 4,141
Scheduled debt principal amortization (excluding maturities) Non-real estate depreciation expense	\$ \$	256 62	\$ \$	283 27	\$ \$	1,187 143	\$ \$	1,098 168
i i					-	-	-	

National Retail Properties, Inc.

(in thousands) (unaudited)

Earnings from Discontinued Operations: NNN classified the revenues and expenses related to leasehold interests which expired and properties which generated revenue and were sold or generated revenue and were held for sale as of December 31, 2012, as discontinued operations. The following is a summary of the earnings from discontinued operations.

	Quarter Ended December 31,			Year Er Decembe			
		2012		2011		2012	 2011
Revenues: Rental and earned income	\$	1,427	\$	2,027	\$	7,504	\$ 9,567
Real estate expense reimbursement from tenants Interest and other income from real estate transactions		147 5 1,579	<u></u>	163 3 2,193		527 44 8,075	 632 47 10,246

Expenses:				
General and administrative	15	11	26	22
Real estate	213	272	997	1,201
Depreciation and amortization	128	336	1,046	1,495
Impairment losses - real estate	154	_	1,901	431
Interest	350	357	1,422	1,382
	 860	 976	 5,392	 4,531
Gain on disposition of real estate	6,510	284	10,956	424
Income tax expense	 (73)	 (36)	 (195)	 (198)
Earnings from discontinued operations including noncontrolling interests	7,156	1,465	13.444	5,941
Loss (earnings) attributable to noncontrolling interests	(27)	8	(51)	(80)
Earnings from discontinued operations attributable to NNN	\$ 7,129	\$ 1,473	\$ 13,393	\$ 5,861

National Retail Properties, Inc. (in thousands)

(in thousands (unaudited)

	December 31, 2012		D	ecember 31, 2011
Balance Sheet Summary				
Assets:				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	2,076	\$	2,082
Receivables, net of allowance		3,112		2,763
Investment in unconsolidated affiliate				4,358
Mortgages, notes and accrued interest receivable		27,770		33,428
Real estate:				
Accounted for using the operating method, net of accumulated depreciation and amortization		3,769,817		3,224,288
Accounted for using the direct financing method		23,217		26,518
Real estate held for sale		41,773		36,936
Commercial mortgage residual interests		13,096		15,299
Accrued rental income, net of allowance		25,458		25,187
Other assets		81,707		64,184
Total assets	\$	3,988,026	\$	3,435,043
Liabilities:				
Line of credit payable	\$	174,200	\$	65,600
Mortgages payable, net of unamortized premium		10,602		23,171
Notes payable - convertible, net of unamortized discount		236,500		355,371
Notes payable, net of unamortized discount		1,165,662		894,967
Other liabilities		103,477		92,058
Total liabilities		1,690,441		1,431,167
Stockholders' equity of NNN		2,296,285		2,002,498
Noncontrolling interests		1,300		1,378
Total equity		2,297,585		2,003,876
Total liabilities and equity	\$	3,988,026	\$	3,435,043
Common shares outstanding		111,555		104,755
Gross leasable area, Property Portfolio (square feet)		19,168		16,428

NNN Retail Properties Fund I LLC (in thousands) (unaudited)

In September 2007, the company entered into a joint venture, NNN Retail Properties Fund I LLC, with an affiliate of Crow Holdings Realty Partners IV, L.P. The company owns a 15 percent equity interest, and the following summary represents the Balance Sheet and Income Statement Summary for the joint venture. The company's investment in the joint venture is included in the company's Balance Sheet Summary under "Investment in unconsolidated affiliate."

The joint venture sold all 21 convenience store properties it owned in the third quarter of 2012 for approximately \$87.5 million. The investors' \$33.3 million total equity investment produced approximately \$61.6 million of total cash distributions from operations and net sale proceeds over the life of the joint venture.

	December 31, 2012		cember 31, 2011
Assets:			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 253	\$	307
Receivables	_		200
Real estate	_		70,911
Other assets	_		402
	\$ 253	\$	71,820
Liabilities:	 		
Notes payable	\$ _	\$	42,700
Other liabilities	 228		65
Total liabilities	228		42,765
Members' equity	 25		29,055
Total liabilities and equity	\$ 253	\$	71,820

	-	er Ended nber 31,		Ended nber 31,
	2012	2011	2012	2011
Revenues:				
Rental income	<u>\$ </u>	\$ 1,565	\$ 4,158	\$ 6,261
Expenses:				
General and administrative		73	441	332
Real estate		4	25	18
Depreciation and amortization		339	833	1,444
Interest		192	506	1,558
	—	608	1,805	3,352
Gain on disposition of real estate	—	_	15,609	—
Net earnings	\$	\$ 957	\$ 17,962	\$ 2,909

National Retail Properties, Inc. Property Portfolio

Top 20 Lines of Trade

		As of Dece	mber 31,
	Line of Trade	2012(1)	2011 (2)
1.	Convenience stores	19.8%	24.6%
2.	Restaurants - full service	10.7%	9.4%
3.	Automotive service	7.6%	4.9%
4.	Automotive parts	5.6%	6.5%
5.	Restaurants - limited service	5.2%	3.6%
6.	Theaters	4.7%	5.0%
7.	Sporting goods	4.0%	4.8%
8.	Health and fitness	3.7%	2.6%
9.	Wholesale clubs	3.4%	4.0%
10.	Home improvement	3.0%	2.1%
11.	Drug stores	3.0%	3.2%
12.	Consumer electronics	3.0%	3.5%
13.	Recreational vehicle dealers, parts and accessories	2.7%	2.3%
14.	Travel plazas	2.2%	2.5%
15.	Family entertainment centers	2.1%	1.9%
16.	Books	1.8%	2.0%
17.	Grocery	1.7%	2.1%
18.	Home furnishings	1.6%	0.8%
19.	General merchandise	1.5%	1.1%
20.	Financial services	1.4%	1.3%
	Other	11.3%	11.8%
	Total	100.0%	100.0%

Top 10 States

State	% of Total ⁽¹⁾	State	% of Total ⁽¹⁾
1. Texas	21.8%	6. California	4.3%
2. Florida	9.2%	7. Indiana	4.2%
3. Illinois	5.7%	8. Pennsylvania	3.7%
4. Georgia	4.7%	9. Virginia	3.5%
5. North Carolina	4.7%	10. Ohio	3.3%

⁽¹⁾ Based on the annualized base rent for all leases in place as of December 31, 2012.

⁽²⁾ Based on the annualized base rent for all leases in place as of December 31, 2011.

National Retail Properties, Inc. Property Portfolio

Top Tenants (>2.0%)

	Properties	% of Total $^{(1)}$	
Susser	86	5.4%	
Pantry	84	5.0%	
Mister Car Wash	75	4.8%	
7-Eleven	68	4.7%	
AMC Theatre	15	3.9%	
LA Fitness	16	3.6%	
BJ's Wholesale Club	7	3.4%	
Best Buy	19	2.9%	
Camping World	20	2.7%	
Gander Mountain	9	2.5%	
Road Ranger	27	2.3%	
Pull-A-Part	20	2.3%	
Bloomin' Brands (Outback)	34	2.2%	
Pep Boys	17	2.1%	

Lease Expirations⁽²⁾

	% of Total ⁽¹⁾	# of Properties	Gross Leasable Area ⁽³⁾		% of Total ⁽¹⁾	# of Properties	Gross Leasable Area
2013	1.7%	32	566,000	2019	2.9%	46	766,000
2014	2.6%	41	552,000	2020	3.4%	96	905,000
2015	2.3%	33	630,000	2021	4.8%	98	867,000
2016	1.8%	29	523,000	2022	7.5%	93	1,070,000
2017	3.9%	46	1,008,000	2023	3.5%	42	830,000
2018	4.3%	55	1,173,000	Thereafter	61.3%	969	9,624,000

⁽¹⁾ Based on the annual base rent of \$354,836,000, which is the annualized base rent for all leases in place as of December 31, 2012.

⁽²⁾ As of December 31, 2012, the weighted average remaining lease term is 12 years.

⁽³⁾ Square feet.