

NEWS RELEASE

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

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RECORD FIRST QUARTER 2018 OPERATING RESULTS AND INCREASED 2018 GUIDANCE ANNOUNCED BY NATIONAL RETAIL PROPERTIES, INC.

Orlando, Florida, May 1, 2018 – National Retail Properties, Inc. (NYSE: NNN), a real estate investment trust, today announced its operating results for the quarter ended March 31, 2018. Highlights include:

Operating Results:

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

	Quarter Ended March 31,			
		2018		2017
	(in	thousands, exc	ept p	er share data)
Revenues	\$	152,836	\$	141,432
Net earnings available to common stockholders	\$	94,698	\$	51,622
Net earnings per common share	\$	0.62	\$	0.35
FFO available to common stockholders	\$	102,769	\$	78,267
FFO per common share	\$	0.67	\$	0.53
Core FFO available to common stockholders	\$	103,030	\$	88,122
Core FFO per common share	\$	0.67	\$	0.60
AFFO available to common stockholders	\$	102,880	\$	89,045
AFFO per common share	\$	0.67		0.60

First Quarter 2018 Highlights:

- FFO per common share increased 26.4% over prior year results
- Core FFO per common share increased 11.7% over prior year results
- AFFO per common share increased 11.7% over prior year results
- Portfolio occupancy was 99.2% at March 31, 2018 as compared to 99.1% on December 31, 2017 and March 31, 2017
- Invested \$177.0 million in property investments, including the acquisition of 52 properties with an aggregate 400,000 square feet of gross leasable area at an initial cash yield of 6.7%
- Sold 15 properties for \$71.6 million producing \$38.6 million of gains on sales
- No common shares were issued under the ATM equity program

Core FFO guidance for 2018 was increased from a range of \$2.60 to \$2.64 to a range of \$2.62 to \$2.66 per share. The 2018 AFFO is estimated to be \$2.66 to \$2.70 per share. The Core FFO guidance equates to net earnings of \$1.51 to \$1.55 per share, plus \$1.11 per share of expected real estate depreciation and amortization and excludes any gains from the sale of real estate and any charges for impairments and retirement severance costs. The guidance is based on current plans and assumptions and is subject to risks and uncertainties more fully described in this press release and the company's reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Jay Whitehurst, Chief Executive Officer, commented: "National Retail Properties' strong first quarter results highlight our ability to raise well-priced capital through dispositions, which is a meaningful strategic advantage when equity markets are choppy. Our proven capability to accretively recycle capital, combined with our highly occupied portfolio and our solid pipeline of new acquisitions, positions us to raise guidance for 2018 and continue our track record of consistent per share growth on a multi-year basis."

National Retail Properties invests primarily in high-quality retail properties subject generally to long-term, net leases. As of March 31, 2018, the company owned 2,800 properties in 48 states with a gross leasable area of approximately 29.1 million square feet and with a weighted average remaining lease term of 11.4 years. For more information on the company, visit www.nnnreit.com.

Management will hold a conference call on May 1, 2018, at 10:30 a.m. ET to review these results. The call can be accessed on the National Retail Properties web site live at http://www.nnnreit.com. 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. These statements generally are characterized by the use of terms such as "believe," "expect," "intend," "may," "estimated," or other similar words or expressions. 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 the company's tenants, the availability of capital, and, risks related to the company's status as a REIT. Additional information concerning these and other factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from these forward-looking statements is contained from time to time in the company's Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") 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 Commission. 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, Inc. 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-Q with the Commission for the quarter ended March 31, 2018. 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), any applicable taxes and noncontrolling interests 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.

Core Funds From Operations ("Core FFO") is a non-GAAP measure of operating performance that adjusts FFO to eliminate the impact of certain GAAP income and expense amounts that the company believes are infrequent and unusual in nature and/or not related to its core real estate operations. Exclusion of these items from similar FFO-type metrics is common within the REIT industry, and management believes that presentation of Core FFO provides investors with a potential metric to assist in their evaluation of the company's operating performance across multiple periods and in comparison to the operating performance of its peers because it removes the effect of unusual items that are not expected to impact the company's operating performance on an ongoing basis. Core FFO is used by management in evaluating the performance of the company's core business operations and is a factor in determining management compensation. Items included in calculating FFO that may be excluded in calculating Core FFO may include items like transaction related gains, income or expense, impairments on land or commercial mortgage residual interests, preferred stock redemption costs or other non-core amounts as they occur. The company's computation of Core FFO may differ from the methodology for calculating Core 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 Core FFO is included in the financial information accompanying this release.

Adjusted Funds From Operations ("AFFO") is a non-GAAP financial measure of operating performance used by many companies in the REIT industry. AFFO adjusts FFO for certain non-cash items that reduce or increase net income in accordance with GAAP. 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 liquidity or ability to make distributions. 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.

(in thousands, except per share data) (unaudited)

	Quarter Ended March 31,			
		2018		2017
Income Statement Summary				
Revenues:				
Rental and earned income	\$	148,605	\$	137,298
Real estate expense reimbursement from tenants Interest and other income from real estate transactions		4,158 73		3,860
interest and other income from real estate transactions		152,836		274 141,432
Operating expenses:				, -
General and administrative		8,697		8,919
Real estate		5,862		5,663
Depreciation and amortization		44,498		40,143
Impairment losses – real estate and other charges, net of recoveries		2,248		1,206
Retirement severance costs		261		_
		61.566		55.931
Other expenses (revenues):				
Interest and other income		(25)		(137)
Interest expense		26,602		26,614
		26,577		26,477
Earnings before gain on disposition of real estate		64,693		59,024
Gain on disposition of real estate		38,596		14,624
Earnings including noncontrolling interests		103,289		73,648
Loss (earnings) attributable to noncontrolling interests		(9)		9
Net earnings attributable to NNN		103,280		73,657
Series D preferred stock dividends		_		(3,598)
Series E preferred stock dividends		(4,097)		(4,097)
Series F preferred stock dividends		(4,485)		(4,485)
Excess of redemption value over carrying value of Series D preferred shares redeemed				(9,855)
Net earnings available to common stockholders	<u>\$</u>	94,698	\$	51,622
Weighted average common shares outstanding:				
Basic		153,041		146,930
Diluted		153,393		147,280
Net earnings per share available to common stockholders:				
Basic	\$	0.62	\$	0.35
Diluted	\$	0.62	\$	0.35

(in thousands, except per share data) (unaudited)

	Quarter Ended March 31,			
		2018		2017
Funds From Operations (FFO) Reconciliation:				
Net earnings available to common stockholders	\$	94,698	\$	51,622
Real estate depreciation and amortization		44,419		40,063
Gain on disposition of real estate		(38,596)		(14,624)
Impairment losses – depreciable real estate, net of recoveries		2,248		1,206
Total FFO adjustments		8,071		26,645
FFO available to common stockholders	\$	102,769	\$	78,267
FFO per common share:				
Basic	\$	0.67	\$	0.53
Diluted	\$	0.67	\$	0.53
Core Funds From Operations Reconciliation:				
Net earnings available to common stockholders	\$	94,698	\$	51,622
Total FFO adjustments		8,071		26,645
FFO available to common stockholders		102,769		78,267
Excess of redemption value over carrying value of preferred share redemption		_		9,855
Retirement severance costs		261		_
Total Core FFO adjustments		261		9,855
Core FFO available to common stockholders	\$	103,030	\$	88,122
Core FFO per common share:				
Basic	\$	0.67	\$	0.60
Diluted	\$	0.67	\$	0.60

(in thousands, except per share data) (unaudited)

Ouarter Ended

	March 31,			
		2018		2017
Adjusted Funds From Operations (AFFO) Reconciliation:				
Net earnings available to common stockholders	\$	94,698	\$	51,622
Total FFO adjustments		8,071		26,645
Total Core FFO adjustments		261		9,855
Core FFO available to common stockholders		103,030		88,122
Straight line accrued rent		(998)		(675)
Net capital lease rent adjustment		228		231
Below-market rent amortization		(697)		(660)
Stock based compensation expense		2,145		2,581
Capitalized interest expense		(828)		(554)
Total AFFO adjustments		(150)		923
AFFO available to common stockholders	\$	102,880	\$	89,045
AFFO per common share:				
Basic	\$	0.67	\$	0.61
Diluted	\$	0.67	\$	0.60
Other Information:				
Percentage rent	\$	546	\$	548
Amortization of debt costs	\$	888	\$	859
Scheduled debt principal amortization (excluding maturities)	\$	134	\$	127
Non-real estate depreciation expense	\$	81	\$	82
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2018 Earnings Guidance:

Core FFO guidance for 2018 is \$2.62 to \$2.66 per share. The 2018 AFFO is estimated to be \$2.66 to \$2.70 per share. The FFO guidance equates to net earnings of \$1.51 to \$1.55 per share, plus \$1.11 per share of expected real estate depreciation and amortization and excludes any gains from the sale of real estate and any charges for impairments and retirement severance costs. 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

	2018 Guidance
Net earnings per common share excluding any gains on sale of real estate, impairment charges or retirement severance costs Real estate depreciation and amortization per share	\$1.51 - \$1.55 per share \$1.11 per share
Core FFO per share	\$2.62 - \$2.66 per share
AFFO per share	\$2.66 - \$2.70 per share
G&A expenses (excluding retirement severance costs)	\$34 - \$35 Million
Real estate expenses, net of tenant reimbursements	\$8 - \$9 Million
Acquisition volume	\$500 - \$600 Million
Disposition volume	\$100 - \$140 Million

(in thousands) (unaudited)

	March 31, 2018		De	December 31, 2017	
Balance Sheet Summary					
Assets:					
Real estate:					
Accounted for using the operating method, net of accumulated depreciation and amortization	\$	6,529,910	\$	6,426,640	
Accounted for using the direct financing method		9,422		9,650	
Real estate held for sale		3,791		6,371	
Cash and cash equivalents		4,002		1,364	
Receivables, net of allowance		3,863		4,317	
Accrued rental income, net of allowance		26,361		25,916	
Debt costs, net of accumulated amortization		5,062		5,380	
Other assets	Φ.	78,245	Φ.	80,896	
Total assets	\$	6,660,656	\$	6,560,534	
Liabilities:					
Line of credit payable	\$	176,400	\$	120,500	
Mortgages payable, including unamortized premium and net of unamortized debt cost		13,149		13,300	
Notes payable, net of unamortized discount and unamortized debt costs		2,447,393		2,446,407	
Accrued interest payable		36,379		20,311	
Other liabilities		122,829		119,106	
Total liabilities		2,796,150		2,719,624	
Stockholders' equity of NNN		3,864,180		3,840,593	
Noncontrolling interests		326		317	
Total equity		3,864,506		3,840,910	
Total liabilities and equity	\$	6,660,656	\$	6,560,534	
Common shares outstanding		153,848		153,577	
Gross leasable area, Property Portfolio (square feet)		29,116		29,093	

Debt Summary As of March 31, 2018 (in thousands) (unaudited)

Unsecured Debt		Principal	U	Principal, Net of Inamortized Discount	Stated Rate	Effective Rate	Maturity Date
Line of credit payable	\$	176,400	\$	176,400	L + 87.5 bps	2.546%	January 2022
Unsecured notes payable:							
2021		300,000		298,324	5.500%	5.689%	July 2021
2022		325,000		322,523	3.800%	3.985%	October 2022
2023		350,000		348,584	3.300%	3.388%	April 2023
2024		350,000		349,533	3.900%	3.924%	June 2024
2025		400,000		399,236	4.000%	4.029%	November 2025
2026		350,000		346,564	3.600%	3.733%	December 2026
2027		400,000		398,446	3.500%	3.548%	October 2027
Total	_	2,475,000		2,463,210			
Total unsecured debt ⁽¹⁾	\$	2,651,400	\$	2,639,610			
Debt costs				(22,682)			
Accumulated amortization				6,865			
Debt costs, net of accumulated amortization			(15,817)				
Notes payable, net of unamortize unamortized debt costs	d di	scount and	\$	2,447,393			

⁽¹⁾ Unsecured notes payable have a weighted average interest rate of 4.0% and a weighted average maturity of 6.7 years.

Mortgages Payable	Principal Balance	Interest Rate	Maturity Date
Mortgage ⁽¹⁾	13,236	5.230%	July 2023
Debt costs	(147)		
Accumulated amortization	60		
Debt costs, net of accumulated amortization	(87)		
Mortgages payable, including unamortized premium and net of unamortized debt costs	\$ 13,149		

⁽¹⁾ Includes unamortized premium

National Retail Properties, Inc. Property Portfolio

Top 20 Lines of Trade

As	of	March	31,
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	Line of Trade	$2018^{(1)}$	2017(2)
1.	Convenience stores	17.9%	16.8%
2.	Restaurants – full service	12.0%	11.7%
3.	Restaurants – limited service	8.0%	7.5%
4.	Automotive service	7.6%	7.0%
5.	Family entertainment centers	6.4%	6.1%
6.	Health and fitness	5.6%	5.7%
7.	Theaters	4.8%	4.9%
8.	Automotive parts	3.6%	3.8%
9.	Recreational vehicle dealers, parts and accessories	3.1%	3.4%
10.	Wholesale clubs	2.4%	2.3%
11.	Banks	2.4%	2.7%
12.	Medical service providers	2.3%	2.4%
13.	Equipment rental	2.0%	0.7%
14.	Drug stores	2.0%	2.1%
15.	Furniture	1.9%	1.9%
16.	General merchandise	1.8%	1.8%
17.	Travel plazas	1.8%	1.9%
18.	Consumer electronics	1.7%	1.9%
19.	Home improvement	1.7%	1.9%
20.	Home furnishings	1.6%	1.7%
	Other	9.4%	11.8%
	Total	100.0%	100.0%

Top 10 States

State	% of Total ⁽¹⁾	State	% of Total ⁽¹⁾
1. Texas	18.0%	6. Georgia	4.8%
2. Florida	8.8%	7. Tennessee	3.9%
3. Ohio	5.5%	8. Indiana	3.9%
4. Illinois	5.3%	9. Virginia	3.9%
5. North Carolina	5.0%	10. Alabama	3.1%

⁽¹⁾ Based on the annualized base rent for all leases in place as of March 31, 2018.

⁽²⁾ Based on the annualized base rent for all leases in place as of March 31, 2017.

National Retail Properties, Inc. Property Portfolio

Top Tenants (\geq 2.0%)

	Properties	% of Total ⁽¹⁾
7-Eleven	152	6.2%
Mister Car Wash	96	4.1%
Camping World	40	3.9%
LA Fitness	30	3.9%
AMC Theatre	20	3.4%
Couche-Tard (Pantry)	86	3.2%
GPM Investments (Convenience Stores)	103	2.8%
Bell American (Taco Bell)	115	2.6%
BJ's Wholesale Club	9	2.4%
Chuck E. Cheese's	53	2.3%
SunTrust	99	2.3%
Frisch's Restaurant	74	2.0%

Lease Expirations(2)

	% of Total ⁽¹⁾	# of Properties	Gross Leasable Area ⁽³⁾		% of Total ⁽¹⁾	# of Properties	Gross Leasable Area ⁽³⁾
2018	1.4%	46	520,000	2024	2.2%	50	833,000
2019	2.6%	74	1,079,000	2025	4.6%	129	1,132,000
2020	3.5%	126	1,576,000	2026	5.6%	183	1,854,000
2021	4.1%	121	1,320,000	2027	8.4%	194	2,717,000
2022	6.3%	125	1,697,000	2028	5.6%	174	1,353,000
2023	2.9%	110	1,293,000	Thereafter	52.8%	1,439	13,378,000

⁽¹⁾ Based on the annual base rent of \$594,023,000, which is the annualized base rent for all leases in place as of March 31, 2018.

⁽²⁾ As of March 31, 2018, the weighted average remaining lease term is 11.4 years.

⁽³⁾ Square feet.