#### U.S. SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM N-2

**REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933** 

□ Pre-Effective Amendment No.☑ Post-Effective Amendment No. 2

# STELLUS CAPITAL INVESTMENT CORPORATION

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

4400 Post Oak Parkway, Suite 2200 Houston, TX 77027 (Address of Principal Executive Offices)

(713) 292-5400 (Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code)

> Robert T. Ladd Chief Executive Officer and President Stellus Capital Investment Corporation 4400 Post Oak Parkway, Suite 2200 Houston, TX 77027 (Name and Address of Agent for Service)

COPIES TO: Steven B. Boehm, Esq. Stephani M. Hildebrandt, Esq. Eversheds Sutherland (US) LLP 700 Sixth Street, NW, Suite 700 Washington, DC 20001-3980 Tel: (202) 383-0100 Fax: (202) 637-3593

Approximate date of proposed public offering: As soon as practicable after the effective date of this Registration Statement.

If any of the securities being registered on this form are offered on a delayed or continuous basis in reliance on Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, other than securities offered in connection with a dividend reinvestment plan, check the following box.

It is proposed that this filing will become effective (check appropriate box):

 $\Box$  when declared effective pursuant to section 8(c).

# EXPLANATORY NOTE

This Post-Effective Amendment No. 2 to the Registration Statement on Form N-2 (File No. 333-231111) is being filed pursuant to Rule 462(d) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), solely for the purpose of adding exhibits to such Registration Statement. Accordingly, this Post-Effective Amendment No. 2 consists only of a facing page, this explanatory note, and Part C of the Registration Statement on Form N-2. This Post-Effective Amendment No. 2 does not change the form of prospectus relating to the Registration Statement on Form N-2 previously filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"). As permitted by Rule 462(d), this Post-Effective Amendment No. 2 shall become effective upon filing with the SEC.

# Item 25. Financial Statements and Exhibits

### (1) Financial statements

The following financial statements are set forth in Item 8:

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#### (2) Exhibits

The following exhibits are filed as part of this report or hereby incorporated by reference to exhibits previously filed with the SEC:

- (a)(1) Articles of Amendment and Restatement (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (a)(1) to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form N-2 (File No. 333-184195), filed on October 23, 2012).
- (b)(1) Bylaws (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (b)(1) to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form N-2 (File No. 333-184195), filed on October 23, 2012).
- (c) Not applicable
- (d)(1) Form of Stock Certificate (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (d) to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form N-2 (File No. 333-184195), filed on October 23, 2012).
- (d)(2) Form of Indenture (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (d)(2) to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form N-2 (File No. 333-189938, filed January 29, 2014).



- (d)(3) Second Supplemental Indenture between the Registrant and U.S. Bank National Association, date August 21, 2017, (Incorporated by reference on exhibit (d)(6) to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form N-2 (File No. 333-216138), filed on August 23, 2017).
- (d)(4) Form of Global Note with respect to the 5.75% Note due 2022 (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (d)(3)).
- (d)(5) <u>Statement of Eligibility of Trustee on Form T-1.<sup>(2)</sup></u>
- (d)(6) Form of Warrant Agreement and Warrant Certificate.<sup>(1)</sup>
- (d)(7) Form of Preferred Stock Certificate.<sup>(1)</sup>
- (d)(8) Form of Subscription Certificate.<sup>(1)</sup>
- (e) Dividend Reinvestment Plan (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (e) to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form N-2 (File No. 333-184195), filed on October 23, 2012).
- (f) Not applicable
- (g)(1) Form of Investment Advisory Agreement between Registrant and Stellus Capital Management, LLC (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (g) (1) to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form N-2 (File No. 333-184195), filed on October 23, 2012).
- (h)(1) Underwriting Agreement.<sup>(1)</sup>
- (h)(2) <u>At Market Issuance Sales Agreement, dated September 9, 2019, by and between the Registrant, Stellus Capital Management, LLC and Raymond James & Associates, Inc.</u><sup>(2)</sup>
- (i) Not applicable
- (j) Custody Agreement between Registrant and ZB, National Association (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K (File No. 814-00971), filed on November 7, 2017).
- (k)(1) Administration Agreement between Registrant and Stellus Capital Management, LLC (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (k)(1) to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form N-2 (File No. 333-184195), filed on October 23, 2012).
- (k)(2) Form of License Agreement between the Registrant and Stellus Capital Management (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (k)(2) to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form N-2 (File No. 333-184195), filed on October 23, 2012).
- (k)(3) Form of Indemnification Agreement between the Registrant and the directors (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (k)(3) to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form N-2 (File No. 333-184195), filed on October 23, 2012).
- (k)(4) Amended and Restated Credit Agreement, dated as of September 18, 2020, among Stellus Capital Investment Corporation, the lenders party thereto, and Zions Bancorporation, N.A. dba Amegy Bank, as the administrative agent (incorporated by reference to the Exhibit 10.1 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K (File No. 814-00971), filed on September 21, 2020).
- (1)(1) Form of Opinion and Consent of Eversheds Sutherland (US) LLP, counsel for Registrant.<sup>(2)</sup>
- (1)(2) Opinion Constant of Eversheds Sutherland (US) LLP, counsel to the Registrant.<sup>(2)</sup>
- (m) Not applicable
- (<u>n</u>)(<u>1</u>) <u>Consent of Grant Thornton LLP.<sup>(2)</sup></u>
- (n)(2) Consent of Grant Thornton LLP\*
- (n)(3) Report of Grant Thornton LLP with respect to the "Senior Securities" table. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (n)(4) to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form N-2 (File No. 333-216138), filed on March 14, 2019).
- (n)(4) Report of Grant Thornton LLP with respect to the "Senior Securities" table.\*
- (o) Not applicable

(p) Not applicable

(q) Not applicable

- (r)(1) Code of Ethics of Stellus Capital Investment Corporation (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (r)(1) to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form N-2 (File No. 333-184195), filed on October 23, 2012).
- (r)(2) Code of Ethics of Stellus Capital Management, LLC (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (r)(2) to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form N-2 (File No. 333-184195), filed on October 23, 2012).
- \* Filed as an exhibit hereto.
- (1) To be filed by post-effective amendment, if applicable.
- (2) Previously filed as an exhibit to this registration statement.

#### Item 26. Marketing Arrangements

The information contained under the heading "Underwriting" on this Registration Statement is incorporated herein by reference.

## Item 27. Other Expenses of Issuance and Distribution

Securities and Exchange Commission registration fee	\$ 24,240
FINRA filing fee	\$ 30,500
New York Stock Exchange listing fees <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 64,000
Printing expenses <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 100,000
Accounting fees and expenses <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 80,000
Legal fees and expenses <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 200,000
Miscellaneous <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 20,000
Total(1)	\$ 518,740

\* To be included by pre-effective amendment.

(1) These amounts are estimates.

#### Item 28. Persons Controlled by or Under Common Control

None.

## Item 29. Number of Holders of Securities

The following table sets forth the approximate number of record holders of the Company's common stock as of June 19, 2019.

	Number of
Title of Class	<b>Record Holders</b>
Common Stock, \$0.001 par value	10

## Item 30. Indemnification

Reference is made to Section 2-418 of the Maryland General Corporation Law, Article VII of the Registrant's charter and Article XI of the Registrant's Amended and Restated Bylaws.

Maryland law permits a Maryland corporation to include in its charter a provision limiting the liability of its directors and officers to the corporation and its stockholders for money damages except for liability resulting from (a) actual receipt of an improper benefit or profit in money, property or services or (b) active and deliberate dishonesty established by a final judgment as being material to the cause of action. The Registrant's charter contains such a provision which eliminates directors' and officers' liability to the maximum extent permitted by Maryland law, subject to the requirements of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"). The Registrant's charter authorizes the Registrant, to the maximum extent permitted by Maryland law and subject to the requirements of the 1940 Act, to indemnify any present or former director or officer or any individual who, while serving as the Registrant's director or officer and at the Registrant's request, serves or has served another corporation, real estate investment trust, partnership, joint venture, trust, employee benefit plan or other enterprise as a director, officer, partner or trustee, from and against any claim or liability to which that person may become subject or which that person may incur by reason of his or her service in any such capacity and to pay or reimburse their reasonable expenses in advance of final disposition of a proceeding. The Registrant's bylaws obligate the Registrant, to the maximum extent permitted by Maryland law and subject to the requirements of the 1940 Act, to indemnify any present or former director or officer or any individual who, while serving as the Registrant's director or officer and at the Registrant's request, serves or has served another corporation, real estate investment trust, partnership, joint venture, trust, employee benefit plan or other enterprise as a director, officer, partner or trustee and who is made, or threatened to be made, a party to the proceeding by reason of his or her service in that capacity from and against any claim or liability to which that person may become subject or which that person may such capacity and to pay or reimburses in advance of final disposition of a sorvice in that capacity from and against any claim or liability to which that person may incur by reason of his or her service in that capacity from and against any claim or liability to which that person may become subject or which that person may incur by reason of his or her service in any such capacity and to pay or reimburses his or her reasonable expenses in advance of final disposition of a proceeding. The charter and bylaws also permit the Registrant to indemni

Maryland law requires a corporation (unless its charter provides otherwise, which the Registrant's charter does not) to indemnify a director or officer who has been successful in the defense of any proceeding to which he or she is made, or threatened to be made, a party by reason of his or her service in that capacity. Maryland law permits a corporation to indemnify its present and former directors and officers, among others, against judgments, penalties, fines, settlements and reasonable expenses actually incurred by them in connection with any proceeding to which they may be made, or threatened to be made, a party by reason of their service in those or other capacities unless it is established that (a) the act or omission of the director or officer was material to the matter giving rise to the proceeding and (1) was committed in bad faith or (2) was the result of active and deliberate dishonesty, (b) the director or officer actually received an improper personal benefit in money, property or services or (c) in the case of any criminal proceeding, the director or officer had reasonable cause to believe that the act or omission was unlawful. However, under Maryland law, a Maryland corporation may not indemnify for an adverse judgment in a suit by or in the right of the corporation or for a judgment of liability on the basis that a personal benefit was improperly received unless, in either case, a court orders indemnification, and then only for expenses. In addition, Maryland law permits a corporation to advance reasonable expenses to a director or officer in advance of final disposition of a proceeding upon the corporation's receipt of (a) a written affirmation by the director or officer of his or her good faith belief that he or she has met the standard of conduct necessary for indemnification by the corporation and (b) a written undertaking by him or her or on his or her behalf to repay the amount paid or reimbursed by the corporation if it is ultimately determined that the standard of conduct was not met.

#### **Adviser and Administrator**

The investment advisory agreement provides that, absent willful misfeasance, bad faith or gross negligence in the performance of its duties or by reason of the reckless disregard of its duties and obligations, Stellus Capital Management LLC (the "investment adviser") and its officers, managers, agents, employees, controlling persons, members and any other person or entity affiliated with it are entitled to indemnification from the Registrant for any damages, liabilities, costs and expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees and amounts reasonably paid in settlement) arising from the rendering of the investment adviser's services under the investment advisory agreement or otherwise as an investment adviser of the Registrant.

The administration agreement provides that, absent willful misfeasance, bad faith or gross negligence in the performance of its duties or by reason of the reckless disregard of its duties and obligations, Stellus Capital Management LLC and its officers, managers, agents, employees, controlling persons, members and any other person or entity affiliated with it are entitled to indemnification from the Registrant for any damages, liabilities, costs and expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees and amounts reasonably paid in settlement) arising from the rendering of Stellus Capital Management LLC's services under the administration agreement or otherwise as administrator for the Registrant.

The law also provides for comparable indemnification for corporate officers and agents. Insofar as indemnification for liability arising under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act") may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the Registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the Registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the Registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the Registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the Registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

The Registrant has entered into indemnification agreements with its directors. The indemnification agreements are intended to provide the Registrant's directors the maximum indemnification permitted under Maryland law and the 1940 Act. Each indemnification agreement provides that the Registrant shall indemnify the director who is a party to the agreement (an "Indemnitee"), including the advancement of legal expenses, if, by reason of his or her corporate status, the Indemnitee is, or is threatened to be, made a party to or a witness in any threatened, pending, or completed proceeding, other than a proceeding by or in the right of the Registrant.

## Item 31. Business and Other Connections of Investment Adviser

A description of any other business, profession, vocation or employment of a substantial nature in which the Adviser, and each managing director, director or executive officer of the Adviser, is or has been during the past two fiscal years, engaged in for his or her own account or in the capacity of director, officer, employee, partner or trustee, is set forth in Part A of this Registration Statement in the sections entitled "Management." Additional information regarding the Adviser and its officers and directors is set forth in its Form ADV, which is filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

#### Item 32. Location of Accounts and Records

All accounts, books and other documents required to be maintained by Section 31(a) of the Investment Company Act of 1940, and the rules thereunder are maintained at the offices of:

- (1) the Registrant, Stellus Capital Investment Corporation, 4400 Post Oak Parkway, Suite 2200, Houston, TX 77027;
- (2) the Transfer Agent, State Street Bank and Trust Company, 225 Franklin Street, Boston, MA 02110;
- (3) the Custodian, ZB, N.A., dba Amegy Bank, 1717 West Loop South, 23rd floor, Houston, Texas 77027; and
- (4) the Adviser, Stellus Capital Management, LLC, 4400 Post Oak Parkway, Suite 2200, Houston, TX 77027.

## Item 33. Management Services

Not Applicable.

## Item 34. Undertakings

- (1) The Registrant undertakes to suspend the offering of the shares of common stock covered hereby until it amends its prospectus contained herein if (a) subsequent to the effective date of this Registration Statement, its net asset value per share of common stock declines more than 10% from its net asset value per share of common stock as of the effective date of this Registration Statement, or (b) its net asset value per share of common stock increases to an amount greater than its net proceeds as stated in the prospectus contained herein.
- (2) Not applicable.
- (3) The Registrant undertakes in the event that the securities being registered are to be offered to existing stockholders pursuant to warrants or rights, and any securities not taken by shareholders are to be reoffered to the public, to supplement the prospectus, after the expiration of the subscription period, to set forth the results of the subscription offer, the transactions by the underwriters during the subscription period, the amount of unsubscribed securities to be purchased by underwriters, and the terms of any subsequent reoffering thereof. Registrant further undertakes that if any public offering by the underwriters of the securities being registered is to be made on terms differing from those set forth on the cover page of the prospectus, the Registrant shall file a post-effective amendment to set forth the terms of such offering.
- (4) Registrant undertakes:
  - a. to file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this registration statement:
    - (i) To include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act of 1933.
    - (ii) To reflect in the prospectus any facts or events after the effective date of the registration statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the registration statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high end of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of prospectus filed with the SEC pursuant to Rule 424(b), or other applicable SEC rule under the Securities Act, if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than 20% change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the "Calculation of Registration Fee" table in the effective registration statement.
    - (iii) To include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the registration statement or any material change to such information in the registration statement; provided, however, that paragraphs 4(a)(i), (ii), and (iii) of this section do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in reports filed with or furnished to the SEC by the Registrant pursuant to section 13, section 14 or section 15(d) of the Exchange Act that are incorporated by reference into the registration statement, or is contained in a form of prospectus filed pursuant to Rule 424(b), or other applicable SEC rule under the Securities Act, that is part of the registration statement.
  - b. that, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of those securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof;
  - c. to remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering;

- d. That, for the purpose of determining liability under the Securities Act to any purchaser:
  - (i) if the Registrant is relying on Rule 430B:
    - (A) Each prospectus filed by the Registrant pursuant to Rule 424(b)(3) shall be deemed to be part of the registration statement as of the date the filed prospectus was deemed part of and included in the registration statement; and
    - (B) Each prospectus required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424(b)(2), (b)(5), or (b)(7) as part of a registration statement in reliance on Rule 430B relating to an offering made pursuant to Rule 415(a)(1)(i), (x), or (xi) for the purpose of providing the information required by Section 10(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 shall be deemed to be part of and included in the registration statement as of the earlier of the date such form of prospectus is first used after effectiveness or the date of the first contract of sale of securities in the offering described in the prospectus. As provided in Rule 430B, for liability purposes of the issuer and any person that is at that date an underwriter, such date shall be deemed to be a new effective date of the registration statement relating to the securities in the registration statement to which that prospectus relates, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof. *Provided, however*, that no statement made in a registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement or made in a document incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference into the registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement that was made in the registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement that was made in the registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement will, as to a purchaser with a time of contract of sale prior to such effective date, supersede or modify any statement that was made in the registration statement or prospectus that was part of the registration statement or made in any such document immediately prior to such effective date; or
  - (ii) if the Registrant is subject to Rule 430C, each prospectus filed pursuant to Rule 424(b) under the Securities Act of 1933 as part of a registration statement relating to an offering, other than registration statements relying on Rule 430B or other than prospectuses filed in reliance on Rule 430A, shall be deemed to be part of and included in the registration statement as of the date it is first used after effectiveness. Provided, however, that no statement made in a registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement or made in a document incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference into the registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement will, as to a purchaser with a time of contract of sale prior to such first use, supersede or modify any statement that was made in the registration statement or prospectus that was part of the registration statement or made in any such document immediately prior to such date of first use.
- e. that for the purpose of determining liability of the Registrant under the Securities Act of 1933 to any purchaser in the initial distribution of securities, the undersigned Registrant undertakes that in a primary offering of securities of the undersigned Registrant pursuant to this registration statement, regardless of the underwriting method used to sell the securities to the purchaser, if the securities are offered or sold to such purchaser by means of any of the following communications, the undersigned Registrant will be a seller to the purchaser and will be considered to offer or sell such securities to the purchaser:
  - (i) any preliminary prospectus or prospectus of the undersigned Registrant relating to the offering required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424 or Rule 497 under the Securities Act of 1933, as applicable;
  - (ii) free writing prospectus relating to the offering prepared by or on behalf of the undersigned Registrant or used or referred to by the undersigned Registrant;
  - (iii) the portion of any other free writing prospectus or advertisement pursuant to Rule 482 under the Securities Act of 1933 relating to the offering containing material information about the undersigned Registrant or its securities provided by or on behalf of the undersigned Registrant; and



(iv) any other communication that is an offer in the offering made by the undersigned Registrant to the purchaser.

- f. To file a post-effective amendment to the registration statement, and to suspend any offers or sales pursuant the registration statement until such post-effective amendment has been declared effective under the 1933 Act, in the event the shares of Registrant are trading below its net asset value and either (i) Registrant receives, or has been advised by its independent registered accounting firm that it will receive, an audit report reflecting substantial doubt regarding the Registrant's ability to continue as a going concern or (ii) Registrant has concluded that a material adverse change has occurred in its financial position or results of operations that has caused the financial statements and other disclosures on the basis of which the offering would be made to be materially misleading.
- (5) For the purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, the information omitted from the form of prospectus filed as part of a registration statement in reliance upon Rule 430A and contained in the form of prospectus filed by the Registrant under Rule 497(h) under the Securities Act of 1933 shall be deemed to be part of the Registration Statement as of the time it was declared effective.

a. N/A

- b. For the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each post-effective amendment that contains a form of prospectus shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of the securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.
- (6) The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each filing of the Registrant's annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act that is incorporated by reference in the registration statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.
- (7) Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the Registrant, the Registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the SEC such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the Registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the Registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the Registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.
- (8) The Registrants undertake to send by first class mail or other means designed to ensure equally prompt delivery within two business days of receipt of a written or oral request, any Statement of Additional Information.

## SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the Registrant has duly caused this Post-Effective Amendment No. 2 to the Registration Statement on Form N-2 to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in The City of Houston, in the State of Texas, on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2021.

## STELLUS CAPITAL INVESTMENT CORPORATION

By: <u>/S/ ROBERT T. LADD</u> Name: Robert T. Ladd Title: Chief Executive Officer

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this Registration Statement on Form N-2 has been signed below by the following persons in the capacities and on the dates indicated:

Signature	Title	Date
/S/ Robert T. Ladd Robert T. Ladd	Chief Executive Officer and Director (Principal Executive Officer)	January 11, 2021
/S/ W. Todd Huskinson W. Todd Huskinson	Chief Financial Officer, Chief Compliance Officer and Secretary (Principal Financial and Accounting Officer) Director	January 11, 2021
* Dean D'Angelo	Director	January 11, 2021
* J. Tim Arnoult	Director	January 11, 2021
* Bruce R. Bilger	Director	January 11, 2021
* William C. Repko	Director	January 11, 2021

\* Signed by Robert T.Ladd pursuant to a power of attorney signed by each individual on April 29, 2019.

### CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

We have issued our reports dated March 2, 2020 with respect to the consolidated financial statements and financial highlights and internal control over financial reporting of Stellus Capital Investment Corporation for the year ended December 31, 2019, which are incorporated by reference in this Prospectus and Registration Statement and our report dated January 11, 2021 with respect to the Senior Securities table contained in this Prospectus and Registration Statement. We consent to the use of the aforementioned reports in the Prospectus and Registration Statement, and to the use of our name as it appears under the captions "Selected Financial Data," "Senior Securities," and "Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm."

/s/ GRANT THORNTON LLP

Dallas, Texas January 11, 2021

### REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

Board of Directors and Shareholders Stellus Capital Investment Corporation

#### **Opinion on financial statement schedule**

We have audited in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) ("PCAOB") the consolidated financial statements of Stellus Capital Investment Corporation and subsidiaries (the "Company") referred to in our report dated March 2, 2020, which is incorporated by reference in the Prospectus Supplement filed by the Company with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission on January 11, 2021. Our audits of the consolidated financial statements also included the audit of the Senior Securities table appearing on page S-22. In our opinion, the Senior Securities table, when considered in relation to the consolidated financial statements as a whole, present fairly, in all material respects, the information set forth therein.

#### **Basis for opinion**

This financial statement schedule is the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company's financial statement schedule based on our audits. We are a public accounting firm registered with the PCAOB and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

/s/ GRANT THORNTON LLP

Dallas, TX January 11, 2021