Iridium Communications Inc. Form SC 13G/A February 01, 2013

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

SCHEDULE 13G (Rule 13d-102)

INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED IN STATEMENTS FILED PURSUANT TO RULES 13d-1(b), (c) AND (d) AND AMENDMENTS THERETO FILED PURSUANT TO RULE 13d-2.

(Amendment No. 4)\*

Iridium Communications Inc. (Name of Issuer)

Common Stock, \$0.001 par value per share (Title of Class of Securities)

46269C102 (CUSIP Number)

December 31, 2012 (Date of Event which Requires Filing of this Statement)

Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which this Schedule is filed:

- o Rule 13d-1(b)
- o Rule 13d-1(c)
- x Rule 13d-1(d)

<sup>\*</sup> 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 the disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

| The information required in    | n the remainder of this cover p | age shall not be deemed to be     | e "filed" for the purpose of Section |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 18 of the Securities Exchar    | nge Act of 1934 or otherwise s  | ubject to the liabilities of that | t section of the Act but shall be    |
| subject to all other provision | ons of the Act (however, see th | e Notes).                         |                                      |
|                                |                                 |                                   |                                      |
|                                |                                 |                                   |                                      |
|                                |                                 |                                   |                                      |
|                                |                                 |                                   |                                      |
|                                |                                 |                                   |                                      |
|                                |                                 |                                   |                                      |
| Page 1 of 6                    |                                 |                                   |                                      |
|                                |                                 |                                   |                                      |

CUSIP No. 46269C102 13G

NAMES OF REPORTING PERSONS

Greenhill & Co., Inc.

2. CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP

(a) o

(b) o

- 3. SEC USE ONLY
- 4. CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

Delaware

NUMBER 5. SOLE VOTING POWER 5,084,016
OF 6. SHARED VOTING POWER: None

SHARES
RENEFICIALLY 7. SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER 5,084,016

BENEFICIALLY <sup>7</sup>. OWNED

BY

**EACH** 

REPORTING 8. SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER: None

**PERSON** 

WITH

9. AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON

5,084,016

- 10. CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES
- 11. PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9)

6.8%

12. TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON

CO

Page 2 of 6

Name of Issuer: Item 1(a). Iridium Communications Inc. Address of Issuer's Principal Executive Offices: Item 1(b). 1750 Tysons Boulevard, Suite 1400, McLean, Virginia 22102. Item 2(a). Name of Person Filing: Greenhill & Co., Inc. Item 2(b). Address of Principal Business Office or, if None, Residence: 300 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10022. Item 2(c). Citizenship: See item 4 on Cover Page to this Schedule 13G. Item 2(d). Title of Class of Securities: Common Stock, \$0.001 par value per share ("Common Stock") **CUSIP** Number: Item 2(e). 46269C102 Item 3. If this Statement is Filed Pursuant to Rule 13d-1(b), or 13d-2(b) or (c), Check Whether the Person Filing is a: o Broker or dealer registered under Section 15 of the Exchange Act; (a) o Bank as defined in Section 3(a)(6) of the Exchange Act; (b) o Insurance company as defined in Section 3(a)(19) of the Exchange Act; (c) o Investment company registered under Section 8 of the Investment Company Act; (d) o An investment adviser in accordance with Rule 13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(E); (e) o An employee benefit plan or endowment fund in accordance with Rule 13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(F); (f) o A parent holding company or control person in accordance with Rule 13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(G); (g) o A savings association as defined in Section 3(b) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act; (h) (i) o A church plan that is excluded from the definition of an investment company under Section 3(c)(14) of the Investment Company Act;

(j) o Group, in accordance with Rule 13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(J).

If this statement is filed pursuant to Rule 13d-1(c), check this box. o

Page 3 of 6

| Item 4.      |                                      | Ownership.  |  |  |
|--------------|--------------------------------------|---|--|--|
| Section 13(d | d) or 13(g) of the                   | hould not be construed as an admission by any person that such person is, for purposes of Exchange Act, the beneficial owner of any securities covered by this statement, other pposite such person's name in the table in Item 4(c) below. |  |  |
|              |                                      | (a) Amount beneficially owned:  |  |  |
|              |                                      | 5,084,016   |  |  |
|              |                                      | (b) Percent of class: 6.8%  |  |  |
|              | (c)                                  | Number of shares as to which such person has:   |  |  |
|              | (i)                                  | Sole power to vote or to direct the vote: 5,084,016   |  |  |
|              | (ii)                                 | Shared power to vote or to direct the vote: None  |  |  |
|              | (iii)                                | Sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of: 5,084,016  |  |  |
|              | (iv)                                 | Shared power to dispose or to direct the disposition of: None   |  |  |
| Item 5.      |                                      | Ownership of Five Percent or Less of a Class.   |  |  |
| Not applicat | ole.                                 |   |  |  |
| Item 6.      | (                                    | Ownership of More than Five Percent on Behalf of Another Person.  |  |  |
| Not applicat | ole.                                 |   |  |  |
|              | ification and Cla<br>at Holding Comp | ssification of the Subsidiary Which Acquired the Security Being Reported on by the any.   |  |  |
| See Exhibit  | A.                                   |   |  |  |
| Item 8.      |                                      | Identification and Classification of Members of the Group.  |  |  |
| Not applicat | ole.                                 |   |  |  |
| Item 9.      |                                      | Notice of Dissolution of Group.   |  |  |
| Not applicat | ole.                                 |   |  |  |
| Item 10.     |                                      | Certifications.   |  |  |
| Not applicat | ole.                                 |   |  |  |
|              |                                      |   |  |  |

Page 4 of 6

# **SIGNATURE**

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

Date: February 1, 2013

GREENHILL & CO., INC.

By: /s/ Gavin D. Solotar

Name: Gavin D. Solotar

Title: General Counsel & Secretary

Page 5 of 6

# Exhibit A

This Schedule 13G is filed by Greenhill & Co., Inc. on its own behalf and on behalf of its wholly-owned Subsidiary, Greenhill & Co. Europe Holdings Limited. Greenhill & Co., Inc. owns 3,088,387 shares of Common Stock and Greenhill & Co. Europe Holdings Limited owns 1,995,629 shares of Common Stock.

# Page 6 of 6

"TEXT-INDENT: 0pt; DISPLAY: block; MARGIN-LEFT: 0pt; MARGIN-RIGHT: 0pt" align="justify"> WE HOPE THIS WILL PROVE UNNECESSARY. WE REMAIN HOPEFUL THAT THE BOARD WILL TAKE A STEP BACK, LISTEN TO THE SHAREHOLDERS, AND ULTIMATELY DO WHAT IS RIGHT.

We are seeking your support to request that the Company call a special meeting of shareholders, in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Charter, Bylaws and FBCA. If we are successful in our solicitation of written requests, and the special meeting of shareholders is called and held, Starboard expects to present, at the special meeting, a proposal to approve a non-binding resolution urging the Board not to approve any agreement or proposed transaction involving a separation or spin-off of the Company's Red Lobster business prior to the 2014 Annual Meeting unless such agreement or transaction would require shareholder approval.

#### **PAST CONTACTS**

The following is a chronology of events leading up to the current solicitation:

- ·On December 19, 2013, Darden issued a press release announcing, among other things, that the Board has approved a proposed separation of the Company's Red Lobster business through a spin-off or sale transaction. In the press release, the Company stated that it expects the form of such separation for Red Lobster to be a spin-off.
- On December 23, 2013, Starboard filed a Schedule 13D with the SEC (the "Schedule 13D") disclosing a 5.6% interest in Darden. In the Schedule 13D, Starboard stated that it invested in the Company based on Starboard's belief that Darden is deeply undervalued and represents an attractive investment opportunity and that opportunities exist within the control of management and the Board to take actions that would create significant value for the benefit of all shareholders. Starboard further stated that it had conducted extensive research on Darden and had reviewed the proposed separation of Red Lobster as well as the second quarter financial results and believed that the plan outlined by management falls significantly short of the actions required to maximize shareholder value and that it is disappointed with the continued poor financial performance of the Company. Starboard also expressed its belief in the Schedule 13D that there is a significant opportunity to dramatically improve Darden's operating performance, as well as opportunities to realize substantial value from the Company's real estate holdings and to explore other strategic options available to Darden to maximize shareholder value, including alternative business sale or separation transactions.
- •On January 8, 2013, representatives of Starboard had a discussion with certain members of management to gain a better understanding of Darden as well as the proposed separation of Red Lobster.
- ·Over the following week, representatives of Starboard worked with Matthew Stroud, Darden's Vice President of Investor Relations, to schedule a meeting with management at the Company's headquarters in Orlando, FL. The meeting was scheduled for January 29, 2014.
- On January 21, 2014, Starboard delivered a letter to the Company's Chairman and CEO, Clarence Otis, and the Board expressing its serious concerns with the proposed separation of Red Lobster.

- •On January 29, 2014, representatives of Starboard met with certain members of management at the Company's headquarters in Orlando, FL to discuss the proposed separation of Red Lobster and the operations of the Company.
- ·On February 10, 2014, Starboard delivered a letter to the Company's Chairman and CEO, Clarence Otis, and the Board reiterating its belief that the Company's current plan to spin-out or sell Red Lobster is not in the best interests of shareholders.
  - On February 24, 2014, Starboard delivered an open letter to Darden's shareholders informing them that it has filed a preliminary solicitation statement seeking to call a special meeting of Darden's shareholders to provide shareholders with a democratic forum for expressing their views on the proposed separation of Red Lobster.
- ·On March 3, 2014, the Company issued a press release announcing the Company's conference call to investors and the investor presentation titled "Strategic Action Plan to Enhance Shareholder Value Spring 2014" prepared by the Company for use during the conference call, which states, among other things, that Darden remains on track to execute its previously announced plan to separate the Red Lobster business through either a spin-off or a sale of the Red Lobster business and that the sale process is well underway.
- ·On March 10, 2014, the Company issued a press release announcing that it has filed a Form 10 Registration Statement with the SEC in connection with the separation of Red Lobster.
- •On March 19, 2014, the Company filed a Revocation Solicitation Statement on Form PREC14A (the "Revocation Statement") with the SEC in response to Starboard's Solicitation Statement.

#### THE SPECIAL MEETING

Shareholders deserve a forum to discuss the separation of Red Lobster. At this time, Starboard is only soliciting your request to call the special meeting to discuss the proposed separation. Starboard is not currently seeking your proxy, consent, authorization or agent designation for approval of the Proposals or any other actions. In the event the special meeting is called, Starboard will send you proxy materials relating to the Proposals to be voted upon at the special meeting. While we understand that the Proposals, if approved, will not prohibit the Company from proceeding with the separation of Red Lobster, we believe shareholders deserve to have their voices heard on this very important issue and that it is imperative for the Board to have a clear picture of the level of support among its shareholder base for the proposed separation of Red Lobster.

Starboard is soliciting written requests to have the Company call a special meeting of shareholders pursuant to the Charter and FBCA. Starboard is furnishing this Solicitation Statement and the WHITE request card to enable you and the Company's other shareholders to support us in requesting the special meeting be called and held. For the special meeting to be properly requested in accordance with the Charter and FBCA, written requests in favor of calling the special meeting must be executed by the holders of not less than fifty percent (50%) of all votes entitled to be cast on any issue contemplated to be considered at the proposed special meeting.

According to the Company's Revocation Statement, as of March 14, 2014, there were 131,929,773 shares of Common Stock outstanding. Based on such number, and the fact that Starboard already owns in the aggregate 7,253,818 shares of Common Stock, additional written requests to call a special meeting from holders of an aggregate of at least 58,711,069 shares of Common Stock will be required to request the Company to call the special meeting. Please complete, sign and return the enclosed WHITE request card as promptly as possible. The failure to sign and return the WHITE request card will have the same effect as opposing the calling of the special meeting.

In order for our request to call a special meeting to be effective, the Company must receive properly completed and unrevoked written requests signed by a sufficient number of shareholders within seventy (70) days of the Record Date. Consequently, it is anticipated that by May 29, 2014, Starboard will need to deliver properly completed and unrevoked written requests to call the special meeting from holders of at least fifty percent (50%) of the shares of Common Stock outstanding as of the close of business on the Record Date. Nevertheless, we intend to set April 24, 2014 as the goal for submission of such written requests.

If Starboard is successful in its solicitation of written requests, the Company will be required under the Charter and FBCA to call and hold the special meeting. Upon receipt of the requisite number of written requests from shareholders in favor of calling the special meeting, Starboard anticipates delivering such written requests to the Company promptly, together with written notice of the business proposed to be brought before the special meeting pursuant to Article XI of the Charter, Section 8 of the Bylaws and Section 607.0702 of the FBCA.

Section 6 of the Bylaws requires the Company to mail or otherwise deliver notice of the special meeting, stating the time and place of the meeting and the general nature of the business to be considered, to shareholders entitled to vote at the meeting at least ten (10) days before the date of the special meeting.

After the special meeting is called, Starboard intends to solicit proxies from shareholders in support of the Proposals by sending you a notice of the special meeting, a proxy statement and a proxy card for use in connection with the special meeting. At the special meeting, shareholders will be asked to vote "FOR" the Proposals.

Starboard expects to request, in any future proxy solicitation relating to the special meeting, authority to (i) initiate and vote for proposals to recess or adjourn the special meeting for any reason and (ii) oppose and vote against any proposal to recess or adjourn the special meeting. Starboard does not currently anticipate additional proposals on any substantive matters. Nevertheless, Starboard reserves the right to either modify the Proposals or cause additional proposals to be identified in the notice of, and in, the proxy materials for the special meeting. Starboard is not aware of any other proposals to be brought before the special meeting. However, should other proposals be brought before the special meeting, Starboard will vote its proxies on such matters in its discretion.

#### WRITTEN REQUEST PROCEDURES

Starboard is only soliciting your written requests to call the special meeting to discuss this extremely important matter. In the event the special meeting is called, Starboard will send you proxy materials relating to the Proposals to be voted upon at the special meeting.

Pursuant to this Solicitation Statement, Starboard is soliciting written requests from holders of outstanding shares of Common Stock to call the special meeting. By executing a request, a shareholder is requesting the Company to call the special meeting and designating specified persons as the shareholder's agents and is authorizing the designated agents to (i) request that the Company call the special meeting and hold the special meeting as soon as possible, and (ii) exercise all rights of the holders of shares of Common Stock incidental to calling the special meeting and causing the purposes of the authority expressly granted pursuant to the written requests to the designated agents to be carried into effect, including to apply, if need be, to an appropriate court to order that the special meeting be held. Please note

that written requests to call the special meeting do not grant the designated agent(s) the power to vote your shares of Common Stock at the special meeting and do not commit you to cast any vote in favor or against any proposal to be brought before the special meeting. To vote on the matters to be brought before the special meeting, you must vote by proxy or in person at the special meeting.

You may revoke your written request to have the Company call a special meeting at any time before the delivery of requests from holders of shares of Common Stock representing in the aggregate, including shares held in the aggregate by Starboard, the requisite fifty percent (50%) threshold by delivering a written revocation to Starboard in care of Okapi Partners LLC at the address set forth on page 5 of this Solicitation Statement. Such a revocation must clearly state that your written request to call a special meeting is no longer effective. Any revocation of a written request to call a special meeting will not affect any action taken by the designated agent(s) pursuant to the written request prior to such revocation. Although such revocation is also effective if delivered to the Secretary of the Company or to such other recipient as the Company may designate as its agent, Starboard requests that either the original or photostatic copies of all revocations be mailed or faxed to Starboard, care of Okapi Partners LLC, so that Starboard will be aware of all revocations and can more accurately determine if and when enough requests have been received from shareholders to call a special meeting. While we urge you not to sign any revocation of a request card that may be sent to you by the Company, if you have done so or do so, you may revoke that revocation of your written request by delivering a later dated WHITE request card to Starboard, in care of Okapi Partners LLC, at its address listed herein, or to the principal executive offices of the Company. If so properly delivered, a later dated WHITE request card will constitute an effective revocation of any earlier-dated written revocation.

Upon receipt of the requisite number of written requests from shareholders in favor of calling a special meeting, Starboard anticipates delivering such written requests to the Company promptly. Only after the special meeting is called, will shareholders be asked to vote on the Proposals.

If your shares of Common Stock are held in the name of a brokerage firm, bank nominee or other institution, only it can sign a written request or revoke any request previously given with respect to your shares and only upon receipt of your specific instructions. Accordingly, please contact the person responsible for your account and give instructions for a WHITE request card representing your shares to be signed. Starboard urges you to confirm in writing your instructions to the person responsible for your account and to provide a copy of such instructions to Starboard, care of Okapi Partners LLC, at the address set forth on page 5 of this Solicitation Statement so that Starboard will be aware of all instructions given and can attempt to ensure that such instructions are followed.

# SOLICITATION OF REQUESTS; EXPENSES

The entire expense of preparing and mailing this Solicitation Statement and any other soliciting material and the total expenditures relating to the solicitation of requests to call the special meeting will be borne by Starboard. In addition to the use of the mails, requests may be solicited by Starboard by facsimile, telephone, telegraph, Internet, in person and by advertisements. Banks, brokerage houses, and other custodians, nominees and fiduciaries will be requested to forward solicitation material to the beneficial owners of the Common Stock that such institutions hold, and Starboard will reimburse such institutions for their reasonable out-of-pocket expenses in so doing.

Starboard has retained Okapi Partners LLC, a proxy solicitation firm, to assist in the solicitation of requests and the proxy solicitation in connection with the special meeting for a fee not to exceed \$275,000 plus reimbursement of reasonable out-of-pocket expenses. Okapi Partners LLC will be indemnified against certain liabilities and expenses, including certain liabilities under the federal securities laws. That firm will utilize approximately 35 persons in its solicitation efforts.

Starboard estimates that its total expenditures relating to the solicitation of requests to call a special meeting and the solicitation of proxies for approval of the Proposals at the special meeting will be approximately \$400,000. Total cash expenditures to date relating to these solicitations have been approximately \$75,000.

If Starboard is successful in its solicitation of requests to call a special meeting and in its solicitation of proxies approving the Proposals at the special meeting, it intends to seek reimbursement from the Company for the actual expenses incurred in connection with this solicitation and the solicitation of proxies approving the Proposals at the special meeting. Following the special meeting, Starboard will request that the Board approve a reimbursement of such expenses. Starboard does not currently intend to submit such matter to a vote of the Company's shareholders.

#### CERTAIN INFORMATION REGARDING THE PARTICIPANTS

The participants in this solicitation are Starboard Value and Opportunity Master Fund Ltd ("Starboard V&O Fund"), Starboard Value and Opportunity S LLC ("Starboard S LLC"), Starboard Value and Opportunity C LP ("Starboard C LP"), Starboard Leaders Delta LLC ("Delta LLC"), Starboard Leaders Fund LP ("Leaders Fund"), Starboard Value LP, Starboard Value GP LLC ("Starboard Value GP"), Starboard Principal Co LP ("Principal Co"), Starboard Principal Co GP LLC ("Principal GP"), Starboard Value A LP ("Starboard A LP"), Starboard Value A GP LLC ("Starboard A GP"), Starboard Value R LP ("Starboard R LP"), Starboard Value R GP LLC ("Starboard R GP"), Jeffrey C. Smith, Mark R. Mitchell, Peter A. Feld, Bradley D. Blum, Charles M. Sonsteby, Robert Mock and Craig S. Miller.

The principal business of Starboard V&O Fund, a Cayman Islands exempted company, is serving as a private investment fund. Starboard V&O Fund has been formed for the purpose of making equity investments and, on occasion, taking an active role in the management of portfolio companies in order to enhance shareholder value. Each of Starboard S LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, Starboard C LP, a Delaware limited partnership, and Delta LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, has been formed for the purpose of investing in securities and engaging in all related activities and transactions. The principal business of Leaders Fund, a Delaware limited partnership, is serving as a private investment partnership. Starboard Value LP, a Delaware limited partnership, provides investment advisory and management services and acts as the investment manager of Starboard V&O Fund, Starboard C LP, Delta LLC, Leaders Fund and of certain managed accounts (the "Starboard Value LP Accounts") and as the manager of Starboard S LLC. The principal business of Starboard Value GP, a Delaware limited liability company, is providing a full range of investment advisory, pension advisory and management services and serving as the general partner of Starboard Value LP. The principal business of Principal Co, a Delaware limited partnership, is providing investment advisory and management services. Principal Co is a member of Starboard Value GP. Principal GP, a Delaware limited liability company, serves as the general partner of Principal Co. Starboard A LP, a Delaware limited partnership, serves as the general partner of Leaders Fund and the managing member of Delta LLC. Starboard A GP, a Delaware limited liability company, serves as the general partner of Starboard A LP. Starboard R LP, a Delaware limited partnership, serves as the general partner of Starboard C LP. Starboard R GP, a Delaware limited liability company, serves as the general partner of Starboard R LP. Messrs. Smith, Mitchell and Feld serve as members of Principal GP and the members of each of the Management Committee of Starboard Value GP and the Management Committee of Principal GP. The principal occupation of Mr. Blum is serving as a restaurateur and the owner of BLUM Enterprises, LLC, a progressive restaurant company focused on creating and operating new restaurant brands. Among other restaurant industry roles, Mr. Blum formerly served as President of Olive Garden and as CEO of Burger King. The principal occupation of Mr. Sonsteby is serving as the Chief Financial Officer and Chief

Administrative Officer of each of The Michaels Companies, Inc. and Michaels Stores, Inc. Mr. Sonsteby formerly served as Chief Financial Officer and Executive Vice President of Brinker International, Inc. The principal occupation of Mr. Mock is serving as a restaurant consultant. Among other restaurant industry roles, Mr. Mock formerly served as Executive Vice President Operations of Olive Garden and Chief Operating Officer of Romano's Macaroni Grill. The principal occupation of Mr. Miller is serving as Chairman and Vice President of Miller Partners Restaurant Solutions Inc. and Managing Member of Miller Sinton Capital Partners LLC. Among other restaurant industry roles, Mr. Miller formerly served as President, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of Ruth's Chris Steak House Inc., Executive Vice President, Chief Operating Officer, President and Chief Executive Officer of Uno Restaurant Corporation and various positions at General Mills Restaurants. Messrs. Smith, Mitchell, Feld, Blum, Sonsteby, Mock and Miller are citizens of the United States.

The address of the principal office of each of Starboard S LLC, Starboard C LP, Delta LLC, Leaders Fund, Starboard Value LP, Starboard Value GP, Principal Co, Principal GP, Starboard A LP, Starboard A GP, Starboard R LP, Starboard R GP and Messrs. Smith, Mitchell and Feld is 830 Third Avenue, 3rd Floor, New York, New York 10022. The address of the principal office of Starboard V&O Fund is 89 Nexus Way, Camana Bay, PO Box 31106, Grand Cayman KY1-1205, Cayman Islands. The principal business address of Mr. Blum is c/o BLUM Enterprises, LLC, 126 Park Avenue South, Suite A, Winter Park, Florida 32789. The principal business address of Mr. Sonsteby is c/o Michaels Stores, Inc., 8000 Bent Branch Drive, Irving Texas 75063. The principal business address of Mr. Mock is 606 Crestwood Lane, Holmes Beach, Florida 34217. The principal business address of Mr. Miller is 2305 Edgewater Dr. #1212, Orlando, Florida 32804.

As of the date hereof, Starboard V&O Fund directly owns 1,161,790 shares of Common Stock. As of the date hereof, Starboard S LLC directly owns 281,286 shares of Common Stock. As of the date hereof, Starboard C LP directly owns 172,625 shares of Common Stock. Starboard R LP, as the general partner of Starboard C LP, may be deemed the beneficial owner of the 172,625 shares owned by Starboard C LP. Starboard R GP, as the general partner of Starboard R LP, may be deemed the beneficial owner of the 172,625 shares owned by Starboard C LP. As of the date hereof, Delta LLC directly owns 1,272,025 shares of Common Stock. Leaders Fund, as a member of Delta LLC, may be deemed the beneficial owner of the 1,272,025 shares owned by Delta LLC. Starboard A LP, as the general partner of Leaders Fund and the managing member of Delta LLC, may be deemed the beneficial owner of the 1,272,025 shares owned by Delta LLC. Starboard A GP, as the general partner of Starboard A LP, may be deemed the beneficial owner of the 1,272,025 shares owned by Delta LLC. As of the date hereof, Starboard Value LP beneficially owns 7,250,000 shares of Common Stock, consisting of shares of Common Stock owned directly by Starboard V&O Fund, Starboard S LLC, Starboard C LP and Delta LLC, and 4,362,274 shares of Common Stock held in the Starboard Value LP Accounts. Each of Starboard Value GP, as the general partner of Starboard Value LP, Principal Co, as a member of Starboard Value GP, Principal GP, as the general partner of Principal Co, and Messrs. Smith, Feld and Mitchell, each as a member of Principal GP and as a member of the Management Committee of Starboard Value GP and the Management Committee of Principal GP, may be deemed to be the beneficial owner of the aggregate of 7,250,000 shares of Common Stock owned directly by Starboard V&O Fund, Starboard S LLC, Starboard C LP, Delta LLC and held in the Starboard Value LP Accounts. As of the date hereof, Mr. Blum directly owns 1,000 shares of Common Stock. As of the date hereof, Mr. Sonsteby directly owns 1,500 shares of Common Stock. As of the date hereof, Mr. Mock directly owns 1,318 shares of Common Stock. As of the date hereof, Mr. Miller does not own any shares of Common Stock.

Each participant in this solicitation, as a member of a "group" with the other participants for the purposes of Section 13(d)(3) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), may be deemed to beneficially own the 7,253,818 shares of Common Stock owned in the aggregate by all of the participants in this solicitation. Each participant in this solicitation specifically disclaims beneficial ownership of the shares of Common Stock he or it does not directly own. For information regarding purchases and sales of securities of the Company during the past two years by the participants in this solicitation, see Schedule I.

The shares of Common Stock purchased by each of Starboard V&O Fund, Starboard S LLC, Starboard C LP, Delta LLC and through the Starboard Value LP Accounts were purchased with working capital (which may, at any given time, include margin loans made by brokerage firms in the ordinary course of business). The shares of Common Stock purchased by each of Messrs. Blum, Sonsteby and Mock were purchased in the open market with personal funds.

On February 19, 2014, Starboard Value LP entered into an advisor agreement (the "Advisor Agreement") with Mr. Blum in view of Mr. Blum's unique skill set, broad restaurant industry experience and extensive restaurant industry knowledge. Pursuant to the Advisor Agreement and in consideration for the performance of certain consulting and advisory services by Mr. Blum, Starboard Value LP agreed to pay Mr. Blum an upfront fee equal to \$50,000 in

cash. Mr. Blum agreed to use the after-tax proceeds from such compensation, or an equivalent amount of other funds, to acquire securities of the Company, no later than ten (10) business days after receipt of such compensation, except in certain limited circumstances.

On February 24, 2014, Starboard V&O Fund, Starboard S LLC, Starboard C LP, Delta LLC, Leaders Fund, Starboard Value LP, Starboard Value GP, Principal Co, Principal GP, Starboard A LP, Starboard A GP, Starboard R LP, Starboard R GP and Messrs. Smith, Mitchell, Feld and Blum entered into a Joint Filing and Solicitation Agreement in which, among other things, (a) they agreed to solicit proxies or written consents to (i) request that Darden call a special meeting of shareholders to approve the Proposals and (ii) approve the Proposals at any special meeting called for such purpose, and (b) Starboard V&O Fund, Starboard S LLC, Starboard C LP and Delta LLC agreed to bear all expenses incurred in connection with the activities of the joint filing participants, subject to certain limitations (the "Joint Filing and Solicitation Agreement").

On February 28, 2014, Starboard Value LP entered into an advisor agreement (the "Advisor Agreement") with Mr. Sonsteby in view of Mr. Sonsteby's unique skill set, broad restaurant industry experience and extensive restaurant industry knowledge. Pursuant to the Advisor Agreement and in consideration for the performance of certain consulting and advisory services by Mr. Sonsteby, Starboard Value LP agreed to pay Mr. Sonsteby an upfront fee equal to \$50,000 in cash. Mr. Sonsteby agreed to use the after-tax proceeds from such compensation, or an equivalent amount of other funds, to acquire securities of the Company, no later than ten (10) business days after receipt of such compensation, except in certain limited circumstances.

On March 4, 2014, Mr. Sonsteby entered into a Joinder Agreement to the Joint Filing Solicitation Agreement, pursuant to which he agreed to be bound by the terms and conditions set forth therein, including, among other things, the joint filing on behalf of each of the participants of statements on Schedule 13D, and any amendments thereto, with respect to the securities of the Company.

On March 9, 2014, Starboard Value LP entered into an advisor agreement (the "Advisor Agreement") with Mr. Mock in view of Mr. Mock's unique skill set, broad restaurant industry experience and extensive restaurant industry knowledge. Pursuant to the Advisor Agreement and in consideration for the performance of certain consulting and advisory services by Mr. Mock, Starboard Value LP agreed to pay Mr. Mock an upfront fee equal to \$50,000 in cash. Mr. Mock agreed to use the after-tax proceeds from such compensation, or an equivalent amount of other funds, to acquire securities of the Company, no later than ten (10) business days after receipt of such compensation, except in certain limited circumstances.

On March 10, 2014, Mr. Mock entered into a Joinder Agreement to the Joint Filing Solicitation Agreement, pursuant to which he agreed to be bound by the terms and conditions set forth therein, including, among other things, the joint filing on behalf of each of the participants of statements on Schedule 13D, and any amendments thereto, with respect to the securities of the Company.

On March 13, 2014, Starboard Value LP entered into an advisor agreement (the "Advisor Agreement") with Mr. Miller in view of Mr. Miller's unique skill set, broad restaurant industry experience and extensive restaurant industry knowledge. Pursuant to the Advisor Agreement and in consideration for the performance of certain consulting and advisory services by Mr. Miller, Starboard Value LP agreed to pay Mr. Miller an upfront fee equal to \$50,000 in cash. Mr. Miller agreed to use the after-tax proceeds from such compensation, or an equivalent amount of other funds, to acquire securities of the Company, no later than ten (10) business days after receipt of such compensation, except in certain limited circumstances.

On March 14, 2014, Mr. Miller entered into a Joinder Agreement to the Joint Filing Solicitation Agreement, pursuant to which he agreed to be bound by the terms and conditions set forth therein, including, among other things, the joint filing on behalf of each of the participants of statements on Schedule 13D, and any amendments thereto, with respect to the securities of the Company.

Except as set forth in this Solicitation Statement (including the Schedules hereto), (i) during the past 10 years, no participant in this solicitation has been convicted in a criminal proceeding (excluding traffic violations or similar misdemeanors); (ii) no participant in this solicitation directly or indirectly beneficially owns any securities of the Company; (iii) no participant in this solicitation owns any securities of the Company which are owned of record but not beneficially; (iv) no participant in this solicitation has purchased or sold any securities of the Company during the past two years; (v) no part of the purchase price or market value of the securities of the Company owned by any participant in this solicitation is represented by funds borrowed or otherwise obtained for the purpose of acquiring or holding such securities; (vi) no participant in this solicitation is, or within the past year was, a party to any contract, arrangements or understandings with any person with respect to any securities of the Company, including, but not limited to, joint ventures, loan or option arrangements, puts or calls, guarantees against loss or guarantees of profit, division of losses or profits, or the giving or withholding of proxies; (vii) no associate of any participant in this solicitation owns beneficially, directly or indirectly, any securities of the Company; (viii) no participant in this solicitation owns beneficially, directly or indirectly, any securities of any parent or subsidiary of the Company; (ix) no participant in this solicitation or any of his or its associates was a party to any transaction, or series of similar transactions, since the beginning of the Company's last fiscal year, or is a party to any currently proposed transaction, or series of similar transactions, to which the Company or any of its subsidiaries was or is to be a party, in which the amount involved exceeds \$120,000; (x) no participant in this solicitation or any of his or its associates has any arrangement or understanding with any person with respect to any future employment by the Company or its affiliates, or with respect to any future transactions to which the Company or any of its affiliates will or may be a party; (xi) no participant in this solicitation has a substantial interest, direct or indirect, by securities holdings or otherwise in any matter to be acted on at the special meeting; (xii) no participant in this solicitation holds any positions or offices with the Company; (xiii) no participant in this solicitation has a family relationship with any director, executive officer, or person nominated or chosen by the Company to become a director or executive officer; and (xiv) no corporations or organizations, with which any participant in this solicitation has been employed in the past five years, is a parent, subsidiary or other affiliate of the Company. There are no material proceedings to which any participant in this solicitation or any of his or its associates is a party adverse to the Company or any of its subsidiaries or has a material interest adverse to the Company or any of its subsidiaries.

#### **OTHER MATTERS**

The principal executive offices of the Company are located at 1000 Darden Center Drive, Orlando, Florida 32837. Except as otherwise noted herein, the information concerning the Company has been taken from or is based upon documents and records on file with the SEC and other publicly available information. Although Starboard does not have any knowledge that would indicate that any statement contained herein based upon such documents and records is untrue, it does not take any responsibility for the accuracy or completeness of the information contained in such documents and records, or for any failure by the Company to disclose events that may affect the significance or accuracy of such information. For information regarding the security ownership of certain beneficial owners and management of the Company, see Schedule II.

#### SHAREHOLDER PROPOSALS

According to the Company's Revocation Statement, any shareholder wishing to submit a proposal to be included in the Company's proxy statement for the 2014 Annual Meeting pursuant to Rule 14a-8, must deliver such proposal(s) to Darden's principal office on or before April 8, 2014. Shareholder proposals should be mailed to the Corporate Secretary, Darden Restaurants, Inc., 1000 Darden Center Drive, Orlando, Florida 32837.

In addition, according to the Company's Revocation Statement, under the Bylaws, any shareholder wishing to nominate a director or bring other business before the shareholders at the 2014 Annual Meeting, must notify the Company's Corporate Secretary in writing on or before May 21, 2014 and include in such notice the specific information required under the Bylaws.

The information set forth above regarding the procedures for submitting shareholder proposals for consideration at the 2014 Annual Meeting is based on information contained in the Company's Revocation Statement. The incorporation of this information in this Solicitation Statement should not be construed as an admission by Starboard that such procedures are legal, valid or binding.

#### YOUR SUPPORT IS IMPORTANT

NO MATTER HOW MANY OR HOW FEW SHARES YOU OWN WE ARE SEEKING YOUR SUPPORT. PLEASE SIGN, DATE AND MAIL IN THE ENCLOSED POSTAGE-PAID ENVELOPE THE ENCLOSED WHITE REQUEST CARD AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

IF YOUR SHARES OF COMMON STOCK ARE HELD IN THE NAME OF A BROKERAGE FIRM, BANK, BANK NOMINEE OR OTHER INSTITUTION, ONLY IT CAN SIGN A WRITTEN REQUEST WITH RESPECT TO YOUR COMMON STOCK. ACCORDINGLY, PLEASE CONTACT THE PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR ACCOUNT AND GIVE INSTRUCTIONS FOR A WRITTEN REQUEST TO BE SIGNED REPRESENTING YOUR SHARES OF COMMON STOCK.

#### WHOM YOU CAN CALL IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS

If you have any questions or require any assistance, please contact Okapi Partners LLC, Starboard's solicitation agent, at the following address and telephone numbers:

OKAPI PARTNERS LLC 437 Madison Avenue, 28th Floor New York, N.Y. 10022

# (212) 297-0720 Stockholders Call Toll-Free at: (877) 285-5990 E-mail: info@okapipartners.com

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU SIGN AND DATE YOUR WHITE REQUEST CARD AND RETURN IT PROMPTLY IN THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE TO AVOID UNNECESSARY EXPENSE AND DELAY. NO POSTAGE IS NECESSARY.

# STARBOARD VALUE LP

March 20, 2014

# SCHEDULE I

# TRANSACTIONS IN SECURITIES OF THE COMPANY DURING THE PAST TWO YEARS

Shares of Common Stock
Purchased/(Sold)
Date of
Purchase / Sale

# STARBOARD VALUE AND OPPORTUNITY MASTER FUND LTD

| 56,300   | 10/01/2013 |
|----------|------------|
| 42,225   | 10/02/2013 |
| 14,075   | 10/03/2013 |
| 112,600  | 10/09/2013 |
| 84,450   | 10/10/2013 |
| 84,450   | 10/11/2013 |
| 28,150   | 10/15/2013 |
| (56,300) | 10/17/2013 |
| (28,150) | 10/25/2013 |
| (42,225) | 10/28/2013 |
| 126,675  | 10/29/2013 |
| 42,225   | 10/30/2013 |
| 28,150   | 10/31/2013 |
| 28,250   | 11/01/2013 |
| 13,683   | 12/11/2013 |
| 6,754    | 12/12/2013 |
| 62,886   | 12/19/2013 |
| 44,100   | 12/19/2013 |
| 28,848   | 12/19/2013 |
| 380,764  | 12/19/2013 |
| 25,200   | 12/19/2013 |
| 50,776   | 12/20/2013 |
| 27,904   | 12/20/2013 |
|          |            |

# STARBOARD VALUE AND OPPORTUNITY S LLC

| 13,800   | 10/01/2013 |
|----------|------------|
| 10,350   | 10/02/2013 |
| 3,450    | 10/03/2013 |
| 27,600   | 10/09/2013 |
| 20,700   | 10/10/2013 |
| 20,700   | 10/11/2013 |
| 6,900    | 10/15/2013 |
| (13,800) | 10/17/2013 |
| (6,900)  | 10/25/2013 |
| (10,350) | 10/28/2013 |
| 31,050   | 10/29/2013 |
| 10,350   | 10/30/2013 |
| 6,900    | 10/31/2013 |

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| 6,800  | 11/01/2013 |
|--------|------------|
| 2,582  | 12/11/2013 |
| 1,269  | 12/12/2013 |
| 15,191 | 12/19/2013 |
| 10,653 | 12/19/2013 |
| 6,969  | 12/19/2013 |
| 91,978 | 12/19/2013 |
| 6,087  | 12/19/2013 |
| 12,266 | 12/20/2013 |
| 6,741  | 12/20/2013 |

# STARBOARD VALUE AND OPPORTUNITY C LP

| 8,300   | 10/01/2013 |
|---------|------------|
| 6,225   | 10/02/2013 |
| 2,075   | 10/03/2013 |
| 16,600  | 10/09/2013 |
| 12,450  | 10/10/2013 |
| 12,450  | 10/11/2013 |
| 4,150   | 10/15/2013 |
| (8,300) | 10/17/2013 |
| (4,150) | 10/25/2013 |
| (6,225) | 10/28/2013 |
| 18,675  | 10/29/2013 |
| 6,225   | 10/30/2013 |
| 4,150   | 10/31/2013 |
| 4,150   | 11/01/2013 |
| 2,191   | 12/11/2013 |
| 1,083   | 12/12/2013 |
| 9,383   | 12/19/2013 |
| 6,580   | 12/19/2013 |
| 4,304   | 12/19/2013 |
| 56,810  | 12/19/2013 |
| 3,760   | 12/19/2013 |
| 7,576   | 12/20/2013 |
| 4,163   | 12/20/2013 |
|         |            |

# STARBOARD LEADERS DELTA LLC

| 121,481 | 12/19/2013 |
|---------|------------|
| 85,189  | 12/19/2013 |
| 55,725  | 12/19/2013 |
| 735,543 | 12/19/2013 |
| 48,680  | 12/19/2013 |
| 145,466 | 12/20/2013 |
| 79,941  | 12/20/2013 |

# STARBOARD VALUE LP (Through the Starboard Value LP Accounts)

| 2   | 21,600     | 10/01/2013 |
|-----|------------|------------|
| 1   | 16,200     | 10/02/2013 |
|     | 5,400      | 10/03/2013 |
|     | 13,200     | 10/09/2013 |
|     | 32,400     | 10/10/2013 |
|     | 32,400     | 10/11/2013 |
|     | 10,800     | 10/15/2013 |
|     | 21,600)    | 10/17/2013 |
|     | 10,800)    | 10/25/2013 |
| -   | 16,200)    | 10/28/2013 |
|     | 18,600     | 10/29/2013 |
|     | 16,200     | 10/30/2013 |
|     | 10,800     | 10/31/2013 |
|     | 10,800     | 11/01/2013 |
|     | 00,000     | 11/19/2013 |
|     | 00,000     | 11/20/2013 |
|     | 22,680     | 11/20/2013 |
|     | 8,000      | 11/21/2013 |
|     | 69,320     | 11/26/2013 |
|     | 25,000     | 11/20/2013 |
|     | 15,000     | 12/03/2013 |
|     | •          | 12/03/2013 |
|     | 31,544     |            |
|     | 55,894     | 12/12/2013 |
|     | 90,160     | 12/19/2013 |
|     | 03,478     | 12/19/2013 |
|     | 33,104     | 12/19/2013 |
|     | 756,854    | 12/19/2013 |
|     | 16,273     | 12/19/2013 |
|     | 38,916     | 12/20/2013 |
| 1   | 86,251     | 12/20/2013 |
|     | BRADLEY    | D. BLUM    |
|     | 1 000      | 02/02/2014 |
|     | 1,000      | 03/03/2014 |
|     | CHARLES M. | SONSTEBY   |
|     | 500        | 02/14/2014 |
|     | 1,000      | 03/04/2014 |
|     | ROBERT     |            |
|     | KOBEKI     |            |
| (2, | 008.267)   | 04/18/2012 |
|     | 54.44)     | 09/24/2012 |
| 745 |            | 03/13/2014 |
|     |            |            |

#### **SCHEDULE II**

The following table is reprinted from the Company's Revocation Solicitation Statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 19, 2014.

|  | Number of Shares   | Percent of |
|--|--------------------|------------|
| Name of Beneficial Owner (1)                           | Beneficially Owned | All Shares |
| Capital Research Global Investors                      |                    |            |
| 333 South Hope Street                                  |                    |            |
| Los Angeles, CA 90071                                  | 14,419,500         | 11.0%      |
| Vanguard Group, Inc.                                   |                    |            |
| 100 Vanguard Blvd.                                     |                    |            |
| Malvern, PA 19355                                      | 9,024,152          | 6.9%       |
| BlackRock, Inc.  |                    |            |
| 40 East 52nd Street                                    |                    |            |
| New York, NY 10022                                     | 8,527,032          | 6.5%       |
| Starboard Value LP                                     |                    |            |
| 830 Third Avenue, 3rd Floor                            |                    |            |
| New York, New York 10022                               | 7,253,818          | 5.5%       |
| Michael W. Barnes                                      | 4,732              | *          |
| Leonard L. Berry                                       | 44,369             | *          |
| Christopher J. Fraleigh                                | 28,945             | *          |
| Victoria D. Harker                                     | 11,620             | *          |
| David H. Hughes  | 97,289             | *          |
| Charles A. Ledsinger, Jr.                              | 79,618             | *          |
| William M. Lewis, Jr.                                  | 122,195            | *          |
| Connie Mack III  | 35,457             | *          |
| Clarence Otis, Jr.                                     | 1,483,658          | 1.11%      |
| Michael D. Rose  | 157,579            | *          |
| Maria A. Sastre  | 49,757             | *          |
| William S. Simon                                       | 4,732              | *          |
| C. Bradford Richmond                                   | 260,488            | *          |
| David T. Pickens                                       | 415,744            | *          |
| Eugene Lee   | 280,832            | *          |
| All directors and officers as a group (24 individuals) | 4,116,209          | 3.12%      |

<sup>\*</sup> Less than 1% of the outstanding common stock.

<sup>(1)</sup> Under SEC rules, a person is deemed to be a "beneficial owner" of a security if that person has or shares "voting power," which includes the power to dispose of or to direct the disposition of such security. A person also is deemed to be a beneficial owner of any securities which that person has a right to acquire within 60 days. Under these rules, more than one person may be deemed to be a beneficial owner of the same securities and a person may be deemed to be a beneficial owner of securities as to which he or she has no economic or pecuniary interest.

# WRITTEN REQUEST OF SHAREHOLDERS OF DARDEN RESTAURANTS, INC.

# SOLICITED BY STARBOARD VALUE LP TO CALL A SPECIAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS OF DARDEN RESTAURANTS, INC.

#### THIS SOLICITATION IS NOT BEING MADE ON BEHALF OF DARDEN RESTAURANTS, INC.

Each of the undersigned hereby constitutes and appoints Jeffrey C. Smith and Peter A. Feld, or either of them, with full power of substitution, the agents of the undersigned (said agents, together with each substitute appointed, if any, collectively, the "Designated Agents") in respect of all shares of common stock, no par value per share (the "Common Stock"), of Darden Restaurants, Inc. (the "Company") owned by each of the undersigned to do any or all of the following, to which each of the undersigned hereby consents:

- 1. The demand of the call of a special meeting of shareholders of the Company pursuant to Section 607.0702 of the Florida Business Corporations Act and Article XI of the Company's Articles of Incorporation, as amended, for the following purposes: (i) to approve a non-binding resolution urging the Board of Directors of the Company not to approve any agreement or proposed transaction involving a separation or spin-off of the Company's Red Lobster business prior to the Company's 2014 Annual Meeting of Shareholders unless such agreement or transaction would require shareholder approval, and (ii) to transact such other business as may properly come before the special meeting.
- 2. The exercise of any and all rights of each of the undersigned incidental to calling the special meeting and causing the purposes of the authority expressly granted herein to the Designated Agents to be carried into effect; provided, however, that nothing contained in this instrument shall be construed to grant the Designated Agents the right, power or authority to vote any shares of Common Stock owned by the undersigned at the special meeting or at any other shareholders meeting.

The undersigned hereby authorizes and designates the Designated Agents to collect and deliver this request to the Company, and to deliver any other information required in connection therewith.

This request supersedes, and the undersigned hereby revokes, any earlier dated revocation which the undersigned may have submitted to Starboard, the Company or any designee of either.

| Print Name:                                   |
|---|
| Signature:                                    |
| Signature (if held jointly):                  |
| Title (only if shares are held by an entity): |
| Dated:  |

Please sign exactly as your shares are registered. When shares are held by joint tenants, both should sign. When signing as an attorney, executor, administrator, trustee or guardian, please give full title as such. If a corporation, please sign in full corporation name by a duly authorized officer. If a partnership, please sign in partnership name by authorized person. This demand will represent all shares held in all capacities.

PLEASE COMPLETE, SIGN, DATE AND MAIL
IN THE ENCLOSED POSTAGE-PAID ENVELOPE AS PROMPTLY AS POSSIBLE