101 Questions to a Sponsor Before You Invest In A New Real Estate Syndication as a Passive investor

- 1. Why did you choose this market?
- 2. How long have you been in this market?
- 3. What's the biggest employer in the area?
- 4. What can you tell me about this submarket?
- 5. What other projects or developments are going on in this area?
- 6. Have you done other projects in this submarket?
- 7. When was this asset built?
- 8. What do you like about this asset class?
- 9. What don't you like about this asset class?
- 10. How many units are there?
- 11. What's the unit mix?
- 12. What is the cost per unit, and how does that compare to the average for this area?
- 13. What's the current occupancy?
- 14. What do you project the stabilized occupancy to be?
- 15. What's the median income for current tenants?
- 16. What's the business plan?
- 17. What are the projected premiums for renovated units?
- 18. How did you come up with the projected premiums?
- 19. How much money are you raising for this project?
- 20. How much of that is for the down payment?
- 21. How much of that is for cap ex (capital expenditures)?
- 22. What are the projected returns?
- 23. What is the overall equity multiple?
- 24. How is the deal structured?
- 25. What are the equity splits?
- 26. Is there a preferred return? Why or why not?
- 27. How often do you pay out investor distributions monthly, quarterly?
- 28. What's the projected hold time for this project?
- 29. How did you come up with that timeline?
- 30. What if the market is soft when the projected hold time ends?
- 31. How are investors kept up with the progress?
- 32. Are you taking an acquisition fee?
- 33. Are you taking an asset management fee?
- 34. Is there a refinance fee?
- 35. Is there a disposition fee?

- 36. What would happen if I had an emergency and needed access to my funds?
- 37. Who is the property manager?
- 38. How many deals have they managed like this?
- 39. Have you worked with this property manager before?
- 40. How did you find this property manager?
- 41. Why is the owner selling?
- 42. How did you find this deal?
- 43. How much experience do you have with this asset class?
- 44. What is the total loan amount?
- 45. What kind of loan are you getting?
- 46. Is the debt recourse or non-recourse?
- 47. What are the terms on the loan?
- 48. What is the LTV (loan-to-value) ratio?
- 49. What is the debt coverage ratio in year 1?
- 50. Did you walk the property?
- 51. Who is on the team?
- 52. What are their roles and responsibilities?
- 53. Have you done deals together as a team before?
- 54. What happens if you get hit by a bus?
- 55. Who is your securities attorney?
- 56. Is this offering open to non-accredited investors?
- 57. Is this a 506(b) offering? 506(c)? Other?
- 58. What will I find when I run your background check?
- 59. Have you ever been a passive investor?
- 60. What's your ultimate goal with syndications?
- 61. How would you feel about giving me a few references?
- 62. Are you raising enough for cap ex?
- 63. What are the chances of a capital call (i.e., the sponsors requesting more money from the investors)?
- 64. What's the purchase cap rate?
- 65. What's the projected reversion cap rate (i.e., exit cap rate)?
- 66. What did you do to stress test this deal?
- 67. Have you visited, toured, and secret-shopped the comps in the area?
- 68. May I visit the property?
- 69. Do you need a loan guarantor?
- 70. What's the worst case scenario?
- 71. How do you do your due diligence?
- 72. How much deferred maintenance is there on this property?
- 73. Are you doing this full time?
- 74. What did you do before this?
- 75. Why did you get into syndications?

- 76. Are you part of a syndication coaching or mentorship program?
- 77. Tell me about a time during a project when things didn't go according to plan.
- 78. Do you need anyone for the earnest money deposit (EMD)?
- 79. What do we get for helping with EMD?
- 80. When does EMD go hard?
- 81. What happens if you have my EMD, it goes hard, and you can't perform?
- 82. May I invest with retirement funds?
- 83. What's the minimum investment?
- 84. What's the maximum investment?
- 85. Who's your asset manager?
- 86. Who does your accounting?
- 87. When do you send out Schedule K-1s?
- 88. Will you be doing a cost segregation study?
- 89. What's the plan if the economy changes and you can't sell?
- 90. Does your lender offer loan extensions? How much do the extensions cost?
- 91. Are you bringing your own money into the deal?
- 92. How do I send in my funds wire, check, other?
- 93. What is the deadline for getting my funds in?
- 94. Will you be offering an investor webinar?
- 95. What percentage of the units will be renovated, and why?
- 96. Once the deal closes, what are the first three things you plan to do?
- 97. Are you rebranding the property?
- 98. If you could wave a magic wand and change one thing about this property, what would it be?
- 99. What are the biggest risks of investing in this deal?
- 100. What do you like about the deal?
- 101. What DON'T you like about the deal?