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

# **SCHEDULE 14A**

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No. )

Filed by the Registrant  $\boxtimes$ Filed by a Party other than the Registrant  $\square$ 

Check the appropriate box:

Image: Preliminary Proxy Statement

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□ Definitive Proxy Statement

□ Definitive Additional Materials

□ Soliciting Material Pursuant to §240.14a-12

# Inhibikase Therapeutics, Inc.

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

 $\boxtimes$  No fee required.

 $\Box$  Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.

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## INHIBIKASE THERAPEUTICS, INC. 3350 RIVERWOOD PARKWAY SE, SUITE 1900 ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30339 (678) 392-3419 April [], 2024

Dear Fellow Stockholder:

You are cordially invited to attend the 2024 Annual Meeting of Stockholders of Inhibikase Therapeutics, Inc. ("*Inhibikase*," the "*Company*," "we" or "us") to be held at **4:00 p.m., Eastern Time**, on **Friday, June 7, 2024**.

We are very pleased that this year's annual meeting will be a completely virtual meeting of stockholders, which will be conducted via live webcast, with no physical inperson meeting. You will be able to virtually attend the 2024 Annual Meeting of Stockholders online and submit your questions during the meeting by visiting https://web.lumiconnect.com/235841686, password inhibikase2024. You will also be able to vote your shares electronically at the annual meeting. You will not be able to attend the annual meeting in person.

We are pleased to use the latest technology to increase access, to improve communication and to obtain cost savings for our stockholders and the Company. Use of a virtual meeting will enable increased stockholder attendance and participation as stockholders can participate from any location.

At the meeting, you will be asked to (i) elect one director to the Board of Directors of the Company (the "*Board of Directors*") to serve as a Class I director, (ii) ratify our appointment of CohnReznick LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2024, (iii) approve an amendment to the Company's 2020 Equity Incentive Plan to increase the number of authorized shares of common stock reserved for issuance by 2,500,000 shares to replenish the number of authorized shares of common stock reserved for issuance by 2,500,000 shares to replenish the number of authorized shares of common stock reserved for issuance by 2,500,000 shares to replenish the number of authorized shares of common stock available for future grants, and (iv) approve an amendment to Article XII of our Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation") to eliminate the 66 2/3% affirmative vote requirement for amendments to Section 1 of Article IV thereof. In addition, we will be pleased to report on our affairs and a discussion period will be provided for questions and comments of general interest to stockholders. Detailed information with respect to these matters is set forth in the accompanying Proxy Statement, which we encourage you to carefully read in its entirety.

We look forward to greeting personally those stockholders who are able to attend the meeting online. However, whether or not you plan to join us at the meeting, it is important that your shares be represented. Stockholders of record at the close of business on April 15, 2024 are entitled to notice of and to vote at the meeting. We will be using the "Notice and Access" method of providing proxy materials to you via the Internet. On or about April 26, 2024, we will mail to our stockholders a Notice of Availability of Proxy Materials (the "*Notice*") containing instructions on how to access our Proxy Statement and our 2023 Annual Report on Form 10-K and vote electronically via the Internet. The Notice also contains instructions on how to receive a printed copy of your proxy materials.

You may vote over the Internet, as well as by telephone or, if you requested to receive printed proxy materials, you can also vote by mail pursuant to instructions provided on the proxy card. Please review the instructions for each of your voting options described in the Proxy Statement, as well as in the Notice you will receive in the mail.

Thank you for your ongoing support of Inhibikase.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Milton H. Werner

Milton H. Werner, Ph.D. President and Chief Executive Officer Table of Contents

# INHIBIKASE THERAPEUTICS, INC.

## NOTICE OF 2024 ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

Notice is hereby given that the 2024 Annual Meeting of Stockholders (the "Annual Meeting") of Inhibikase Therapeutics, Inc. ("Inhibikase" or the "Company"), will be held via live webcast on the Internet on Friday, June 7, 2024 at 4:00 p.m., Eastern Time, for the following purposes:

•to elect one director to the Board of Directors of the Company (the "Board of Directors") to serve as a Class I director, to serve until the Company's 2027 annual meeting of stockholders, or until his successor is duly elected and qualified;

•to ratify the appointment of CohnReznick LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2024;

•to approve an amendment to the Company's 2020 Equity Incentive Plan to increase the number of authorized shares of common stock reserved for issuance by 2,500,000 shares to replenish the number of authorized shares of common stock available for future grants;

•to approve an amendment to Article XII of our Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation (the "Certificate of Incorporation") to eliminate the 66 2/3% affirmative vote requirement for amendments to Section 1 of Article IV thereof; and

•to consider and act upon such other matters as may properly come before the meeting or any postponement or adjournment of the meeting.

These matters are more fully described in the accompanying Proxy Statement.

You will be able to virtually attend the annual meeting, vote and submit your questions during the meeting by visiting https://web.lumiconnect.com/235841686, password inhibikase2024 and entering the 11-digit control number included in the Notice of Internet Availability or proxy card that you receive. For further information about the virtual annual meeting, please see the section entitled "About the Annual Meeting" beginning on page 1 of the Proxy Statement.

Only stockholders of record at the close of business on April 15, 2024 are entitled to notice of and to vote at the Annual Meeting and any adjournment or postponement thereof. We have decided that the Annual Meeting will be held in a virtual format only, via the Internet, with no physical in-person meeting. Stockholders will have the ability to attend, vote and submit questions before and during the virtual meeting from any location via the Internet at https://web.lumiconnect.com/235841686, password inhibikase2024.

A complete list of these stockholders will be available in electronic form at the Annual Meeting and will be accessible for ten days prior to the Annual Meeting. All stockholders are cordially invited to virtually attend the Annual Meeting. On or about April 26, 2024, the Company will mail to its stockholders a Notice of Availability of Proxy Materials (the "*Notice*") containing instructions on how to access our Proxy Statement and our 2023 Annual Report on Form 10-K, how to vote electronically via the Internet or vote by telephone, and how to request printed proxy materials.

Your vote is very important. Whether or not you plan to attend the Annual Meeting, we encourage you to read the Proxy Statement and submit your proxy or voting instructions as soon as possible by Internet, telephone or mail. For specific instructions on how to vote your shares, please refer to the instructions on the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials you will receive in the mail, the section entitled "About the Annual Meeting" beginning on page 1 of the Proxy Statement or, if you request to receive printed proxy materials, your enclosed proxy card. Please note that shares held beneficially in street name may be voted by you at the Annual Meeting only if you obtain a legal proxy from the broker, bank, trustee, or other nominee that holds your shares giving you the right to vote the shares.

Very truly yours, /s/ Milton H. Werner

Milton H. Werner, Ph.D. President and Chief Executive Officer

Atlanta, Georgia April [], 2024

# Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the Annual Meeting of Stockholders To Be Held on June 7, 2024

The Proxy Statement, along with our 2023 Annual Report on Form 10-K, is available free of charge at the following website: http://www.astproxyportal.com/ast/23797.

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#### INHIBIKASE THERAPEUTICS, INC. 3350 RIVERWOOD PARKWAY SE, SUITE 1900 ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30339

#### PROXY STATEMENT

Our Board of Directors has made this Proxy Statement and related materials available to you on the Internet, or, upon your request, has delivered printed proxy materials to you by mail, in connection with the Board of Directors' solicitation of proxies for use at the 2024 Annual Meeting of Stockholders of Inhibikase Therapeutics, Inc. to be held online on Friday, June 7, 2024, beginning at 4:00 p.m., Eastern Time, and at any postponements or adjournments of the Annual Meeting. As a stockholder, you are invited to attend the Annual Meeting and are requested to vote on the items of business described in this Proxy Statement.

## ABOUT THE ANNUAL MEETING

## Why did I receive a notice in the mail regarding the Internet availability of proxy materials instead of a full set of proxy materials?

In accordance with rules adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"), we are providing access to our proxy materials over the Internet. Accordingly, we are sending a Notice Regarding Availability of Proxy Materials (the "*Notice*") to our stockholders of record and beneficial owners as of the record date (for more information on the record date, see "– Who is entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting?"). The mailing of the Notice to our stockholders is scheduled to begin on or about April 26, 2024. All stockholders will have the ability to access the proxy materials and our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023 (the "*Annual Report*") on a website referred to in the Notice or to request to receive a printed set of the proxy materials and the Annual Report. Instructions on how to access the proxy materials over the Internet or to request a printed copy may be found in the Notice. Stockholders may also request to receive proxy materials and our Annual Report in printed form by mail or electronically by email on an ongoing basis.

## How do I get electronic access to the proxy materials?

The Notice will provide you with instructions regarding how you can:

- •View our proxy materials for the Annual Meeting and our Annual Report on the Internet; and
- •Instruct us to send our future proxy materials to you electronically by email.

Choosing to receive your future proxy materials by email will save us the cost of printing and mailing documents to you, and will reduce the impact of printing and mailing these materials on the environment. Stockholders may also request to receive proxy materials and our Annual Report in printed form by mail or electronically by email on an ongoing basis. If you choose to receive future proxy materials by email, you will receive an email next year with instructions containing a link to those materials and a link to the proxy voting website. Your election to receive proxy materials by email will remain in effect until you terminate it.

#### What is the purpose of the Annual Meeting?

At our Annual Meeting, stockholders will act upon the matters outlined in the notice of meeting accompanying this Proxy Statement, consisting of voting on proposals to (i) elect one director to the Board of Directors of the Company (the "*Board of Directors*") to serve as the Class I director; (ii) ratify our appointment of CohnReznick LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2024, (iii) approve an amendment to the Company's 2020 Equity Incentive Plan to increase the number of authorized shares of common stock reserved for issuance by 2,500,000 shares to replenish the number of authorized shares of common stock available for future grants, and (iv) approve an amendment to Article XII of our Certificate of Incorporation to eliminate the 66 2/3% affirmative vote requirement for amendments to Section 1 of Article IV thereof, and transacting such other business that may properly come before the meeting or any postponement or adjournment thereof. In addition, management will report on our performance

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during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023 and more recent developments and respond to questions from stockholders. Our Board of Directors is not currently aware of any other matters which will come before the meeting.

## How do proxies work and how are votes counted?

The Board of Directors is asking for your proxy. Giving us your proxy means that you authorize us to vote your shares at the Annual Meeting in the manner you direct. You may vote for our director nominee or withhold your vote as to our director nominee. You may also vote for or against, or abstain from voting on the ratification of our selection of CohnReznick LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2024 or approving the proposed amendment to our Certificate of Incorporation. If a stockholder of record does not indicate instructions with respect to one or more matters on his, her or its proxy, the shares represented by that proxy will be voted as recommended by the Board of Directors (for more information, see "– How does the Board of Directors recommend that I vote?"). If a beneficial owner of shares held in street name does not provide instructions to the bank, broker, or other nominee holding those shares, please see the information below under the caption "– What if I am a beneficial owner and do not give voting instructions to my broker or other nominee?"

## Who is entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting?

Only stockholders of record at the close of business on April 15, 2024, the record date for the meeting, are entitled to receive notice of and to participate in the Annual Meeting, or any postponements and adjournments of the meeting. If you were a stockholder of record on that date, you will be entitled to vote all of the shares you held on that date at the meeting, or any postponements or adjournments of the meeting.

On April 15, 2024, the record date for the meeting, there were 6,476,844 shares of our common stock outstanding. Each outstanding share of common stock is entitled to one vote on each of the matters presented at the Annual Meeting or postponements and adjournments of the meeting.

#### What constitutes a quorum?

The presence at the meeting, in person or by proxy, of the holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of common stock as of the record date will constitute a quorum, permitting the Annual Meeting to conduct its business. As of the record date, 6,476,844 shares of common stock, representing the same number of votes, were outstanding. Thus, the presence of holders representing at least 3,238,423 shares will be required to establish a quorum.

If a stockholder abstains from voting as to any matter or matters, the shares held by such stockholder shall be deemed present at the Annual Meeting for purposes of determining a quorum. If a bank, broker, or other nominee returns a "broker non-vote" proxy, indicating a lack of voting instructions by the beneficial holder of the shares and a lack of discretionary authority on the part of the bank, broker, or other nominee to vote on a particular matter but has discretionary authority as to at least one matter, then the shares covered by such broker non-vote proxy shall be deemed present at the Annual Meeting for purposes of determining a quorum. For more information on discretionary and non-discretionary matters, see "– What if I am a beneficial owner and do not give voting instructions to my broker or other nominee?"

#### What vote is required to approve each matter and how are votes counted?

## Proposal No. 1: Election of Class I Director

The nominee who receives the highest number of affirmative votes of the shares present in person or represented by proxy and entitled to vote on the election of directors will be elected as our Class I director. Abstentions, broker non-votes and instructions on the accompanying proxy card to withhold authority to vote for one or more nominees will have no effect on the results of election of directors.

## Proposal No. 2: Ratification of Appointment of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

The affirmative vote of a majority of the issued and outstanding shares of our common stock present in person or represented by proxy at the Annual Meeting and entitled to vote on this proposal is required for the approval of this proposal. An abstention from voting by a stockholder present in person or represented by proxy at the meeting or a broker non-vote by a broker who elects to non-vote instead of using its discretion to vote has the same legal effect as a vote "against" the matter.



Proposal No. 3: Approval of an Amendment to the Company's 2020 Equity Incentive Plan to Increase the Number of Authorized Shares of Common Stock Reserved for Issuance by 2,500,000 Shares to Replenish the Number of Authorized Shares of Common Stock Available for Future Grants

The affirmative vote of a majority of the outstanding shares of our common stock present in person or represented by proxy at the Annual Meeting and entitled to vote on this proposal is required for the approval of this proposal. An abstention from voting by a stockholder present in person or represented by proxy at the meeting has the same legal effect as a vote "against" the matter. A broker non-vote for which the broker does not have voting discretion will be excluded entirely from the vote and will therefore have no effect on the outcome of the vote for this matter.

Proposal No. 4: Approval of an Amendment to Article XII of our Certificate of Incorporation to Eliminate the 66 2/3% Affirmative Vote Requirement for Amendments to Section 1 of Article IV Thereof

The affirmative vote of the holders of 66 2/3% of the issued and outstanding shares of our common stock entitled to vote on this proposal is required for the approval of this proposal. An abstention from voting by a stockholder present in person or represented by proxy at the meeting or a broker non-vote has the same legal effect as a vote "against" the matter.

#### How can you attend the Annual Meeting?

We will be hosting the Annual Meeting live via audio webcast. Any stockholder can attend the Annual Meeting live online at https://web.lumiconnect.com/235841686, password inhibikase2024. If you were a stockholder as of the record date, or you hold a valid proxy for the Annual Meeting, you can vote at the Annual Meeting. A summary of the information you need to attend the Annual Meeting online is provided below:

•Instructions on how to attend and participate via the Internet, including how to demonstrate proof of stock ownership, are posted at https://web.lumiagm.com/235841686, password inhibikase2024.

- •Assistance with questions regarding how to attend and participate via the Internet will be provided at www.voteproxy.com on the day of the Annual Meeting.
- •Webcast will start on June 7, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time.
- •You will need your 11-digit control number to enter the Annual Meeting.
- •Stockholders may submit questions while attending the Annual Meeting via the Internet.
- •Webcast replay of the Annual Meeting will be available until June 8, 2025.

To attend and participate in the Annual Meeting, you will need the 11-digit control number included in the Notice, on your proxy card, or on the instructions that accompanied your proxy materials. If your shares are held in "street name," you should contact your bank or broker to obtain your 11-digit control number or otherwise vote through the bank or broker. If you lose your 11-digit control number, you may join the Annual Meeting as a "Guest" but you will not be able to vote, ask questions or access the list of stockholders as of the record date.

#### Why hold a virtual meeting?

We are excited to use the latest technology to provide expanded access, improved communication and cost savings for our stockholders and the Company while providing stockholders the same rights and opportunities to participate as they would have at an in-person meeting. We believe the virtual meeting format enables increased stockholder attendance and participation because stockholders can participate from any location around the world.

### How do I ask questions at the virtual Annual Meeting?

During the virtual Annual Meeting, you may only submit questions in the question box provided at https://web.lumiconnect.com/235841686, password inhibikase2024. We will respond to as many inquiries at the virtual Annual Meeting as time allows.



## What if during the check-in time or during the virtual Annual Meeting I have technical difficulties or trouble accessing the virtual meeting website?

We will have technicians ready to assist you with any technical difficulties you may have accessing the virtual meeting website. If you encounter any difficulties accessing the virtual Annual Meeting during the check-in or meeting time, please call the technical support number that will be posted on the Annual Meeting website log-in page.

## How can I vote my shares?

## Record Owners and Beneficial Owners Who Have Been Provided With a 11 Digit Control Number

If you are a record holder, meaning your shares are registered in your name and not in the name of a broker, trustee, or other nominee, or a beneficial owner who has been provided by your broker with an 11 digit control number, you may vote:

1. Over the Internet – If you have Internet access, you may authorize the voting of your shares by accessing www.voteproxy.com and following the instructions set forth in the Proxy Materials. You must specify how you want your shares voted or your vote will not be completed and you will receive an error message. Your shares will be voted according to your instructions. You can also vote during the meeting by visiting https://web.lumiconnect.com/235841686, password inhibikase2024 and having available the 11 digit control number included on your proxy card or on the instructions that accompanied your Proxy Materials.

2. By Telephone – If you are a registered stockholder or a beneficial owner who has been provided with a control number on the voting instruction form that accompanied your Proxy Materials, you may call toll-free 1-800-PROXIES (1-800-776-9437) in the United Sates or 1-201-299-4446 from foreign countries to vote by telephone. Your shares will be voted according to your instructions.

3. By Mail If You Are a Record Owner – Complete and sign the attached WHITE proxy card and mail it in the enclosed postage prepaid envelope. Your shares will be voted according to your instructions. If you sign your WHITE proxy card but do not specify how you want your shares voted, they will be voted as recommended by our Board of Directors. Unsigned proxy cards will not be voted.

### **Beneficial Owners**

As the beneficial owner, you have the right to direct your broker, trustee, or other nominee on how to vote your shares. In most cases, when your broker provides you with proxy materials, they will also provide you with an 11 digit control number, which will allow you to vote as described above or at the Annual Meeting. If your broker has not provided you with an 11 digit control number, please contact your broker for instructions on how to vote your shares.

Stockholders who submit a proxy by Internet or telephone need not return a proxy card or any form forwarded by your broker, bank, trust or nominee. Stockholders who submit a proxy through the Internet or telephone should be aware that they may incur costs to access the Internet or telephone, such as usage charges from telephone companies or Internet service providers, and that these costs must be borne by the stockholder.

## What am I voting on at the Annual Meeting?

The following proposals are scheduled for a vote at the Annual Meeting:

• Proposal No. 1: to elect one director to the Board of Directors of the Company to serve as a Class I director, to serve until the Company's 2027 annual meeting of stockholders, or until their successor is duly elected and qualified;

•Proposal No. 2: to ratify the appointment of CohnReznick LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2024;

• Proposal No. 3: to approve an amendment to the Company's 2020 Equity Incentive Plan to increase the number of authorized shares of common stock reserved for issuance by 2,500,000 shares to replenish the number of authorized shares of common stock available for future grants; and

• Proposal No. 4: to approve an amendment to Article XII of our Certificate of Incorporation to eliminate the 66 2/3% affirmative vote requirement for amendments to Section 1 of Article IV thereof.

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Each of these proposals is described in further detail below.

## What happens if additional matters are presented at the Annual Meeting?

Other than the items of business described in this Proxy Statement, we are not currently aware of any other business to be acted upon at the Annual Meeting. If you grant a proxy, the persons named as proxy holders, Dr. Milton Werner, Chief Executive Officer, and Garth Lees-Rolfe, Chief Financial Officer, will have the discretion to vote your shares on any additional matters properly presented for a vote at the meeting. If for any reason the nominee is not available as a candidate for director, the persons named as proxies will vote your proxy for such other candidate or candidates as may be nominated by the Board of Directors.

## How does the Board of Directors recommend that I vote?

As to the proposals to be voted on at the Annual Meeting, the Board of Directors unanimously recommends that you vote:

• FOR Proposal No. 1, to elect one director to the Board of Directors of the Company to serve as a Class I director, to serve until the Company's 2027 annual meeting of stockholders, or until their successor is duly elected and qualified;

•FOR Proposal No. 2, to ratify the appointment of CohnReznick LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2024;

• FOR Proposal No. 3, to approve an amendment to the Company's 2020 Equity Incentive Plan to increase the number of authorized shares of common stock reserved for issuance by 2,500,000 shares to replenish the number of authorized shares of common stock available for future grants; and

• FOR Proposal No. 4, to approve an amendment to Article XII of our Certificate of Incorporation to eliminate the 66 2/3% affirmative vote requirement for amendments to Section 1 of Article IV thereof.

#### What if I am a stockholder of record and do not indicate voting instructions on my proxy?

If you are a stockholder of record and provide specific instructions on your proxy with regard to certain items, your shares will be voted as you instruct on such items. If no instructions are indicated on your proxy for one or more of the proposals to be voted on, the shares will be voted as recommended by the Board of Directors: (i) in favor of our Class I director nominee, (ii) for the ratification of CohnReznick LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2024, (iii) to approve an amendment to the Company's 2020 Equity Incentive Plan to increase the number of authorized shares of common stock reserved for issuance by 2,500,000 shares to replenish the number of authorized shares of common stock available for future grants, and (iv) to approve an amendment to Article XII of our Certificate of Incorporation to eliminate the 66 2/3% affirmative vote requirement for amendments to Section 1 of Article IV thereof. If any other matters are properly presented for consideration at the meeting, the individuals named as proxy holders, Dr. Milton Werner and Garth Lees-Rolfe, will vote the shares that they represent on those matters as recommended by the Board of Directors. If the Board of Directors does not make a recommendation, then they will vote in accordance with their best judgment.

#### What if I am a beneficial owner and do not give voting instructions to my broker or other nominee?

As a beneficial owner, in order to ensure your shares are voted in the way you would like, you must provide voting instructions to your bank, broker, or other nominee by the deadline provided in the materials you receive from your bank, broker, or other nominee or vote by mail, telephone or Internet according to instructions provided by your bank, broker, or other nominee. If you do not provide voting instructions to your bank, broker, or other nominee, whether your shares can be voted by such person or entity depends on the type of item being considered for vote.

•*Non-Discretionary Items.* The election of the Class I director, the proposal to approve an amendment to the Company's 2020 Equity Incentive Plan to increase the number of authorized shares of common stock reserved for issuance by 2,500,000 shares to replenish the number of authorized shares of common stock available for future grants and the proposal to approve an amendment to Article XII of our Certificate of Incorporation to eliminate the 66 2/3% affirmative vote requirement for amendments to Section 1 of Article IV thereof are each a non-discretionary item and may not be voted on by brokers, banks or other nominees who have not received specific voting instructions from beneficial owners. A broker non-vote occurs when a broker holding shares for

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a beneficial owner does not vote on a particular proposal because the broker does not have discretionary voting authority and has not received voting instructions from the beneficial owner.

• Discretionary Item. The proposal to ratify the appointment of CohnReznick LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2024 is a discretionary item. Generally, brokers, banks and other nominees that do not receive voting instructions from beneficial owners may vote on this proposal in their discretion.

We encourage you to provide instructions to your broker regarding the voting of your shares.

#### Can I change my vote or revoke my proxy?

Yes. If you are a stockholder of record, you may revoke your proxy by (i) following the instructions on the Notice and entering a new vote by telephone or over the Internet up until 11:59 P.M. Eastern Time on June 6, 2024, (ii) attending the Annual Meeting and voting (although attendance at the Annual Meeting will not in and of itself revoke a proxy) or (iii) entering a new vote by mail. Any written notice of revocation or subsequent proxy card must be received by the Secretary of the Company prior to the holding of the vote at the Annual Meeting at 4:00 p.m., Eastern Time, on June 7, 2024. Such written notice of revocation or subsequent proxy card should be hand delivered to the Secretary of the Company's principal executive offices at 3350 Riverwood Parkway SE, Suite 1900, Atlanta, Georgia 30339, Attention: Corporate Secretary. If a broker, bank, or other nominee holds your shares, you must contact them in order to find out how to change your vote.

The last proxy or vote that we receive from you will be the vote that is counted.

#### How are votes counted?

Votes will be counted by the inspector of elections appointed for the meeting.

## Who will bear the cost of soliciting votes for the Annual Meeting?

We will pay the entire cost of preparing, assembling, printing, mailing, and distributing these proxy materials and soliciting votes. If you choose to access the proxy materials and/or vote over the Internet, you are responsible for Internet access charges you may incur. If you choose to vote by telephone, you are responsible for telephone charges you may incur. In addition to the mailing of these proxy materials, the solicitation of proxies or votes may be made in person, by telephone, or by electronic communication by our directors, officers, and employees, who will not receive any additional compensation for such solicitation activities. We have engaged Kingsdale Shareholder Services US LLC (*"Kingsdale Advisors"*) to assist in soliciting proxies on our behalf. Kingsdale Advisors may solicit proxies personally, electronically or by telephone. We have agreed to pay Kingsdale Advisors a fee of \$10,500 plus \$4.50 per telephone call and \$6.00 per QuickVote received for its services. QuickVote is a service that allows Kingsdale Advisors to receard the votes of certain of our stockholders. We have also agreed to reimburse Kingsdale Advisors for its reasonable out-of-pocket expenses and to indemnify Kingsdale Advisors and its employees against certain liabilities arising from or in connection with the engagement.

#### What is "householding" and where can I get additional copies of proxy materials?

For information about householding and how to request additional copies of proxy materials, please see the section captioned "Householding of Proxy Materials."

## Whom may I contact if I have other questions about the Annual Meeting or voting?

You may contact the Company at 3350 Riverwood Parkway SE, Suite 1900, Atlanta, Georgia 30339, Attention: Milton H. Werner, Ph.D., or by telephone at (678) 392-3419. You may also contact Kingsdale Advisors by telephone at 1-855-682-9644.

## Where can I find the voting results of the Annual Meeting?

We will announce preliminary voting results at the Annual Meeting. Voting results will be disclosed on a Form 8-K filed with the SEC within four business days after the Annual Meeting, which will also be available on our website.

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We encourage you to vote by proxy over the Internet or by telephone by following the instructions provided in the Notice, or, if you requested to receive printed proxy materials, you can also vote by mail or telephone pursuant to instructions provided on the proxy card.

## **PROPOSAL NO. 1**

## ELECTION OF CLASS I DIRECTOR

One director is to be elected at the Annual Meeting to serve as our Class I director until the Company's 2027 annual meeting of stockholders, or until their successor is duly elected and qualified. The Class I director nominee is a current director and has been nominated for re-election by our Board of Directors. The Company intends that the proxy in the form presented will be voted, unless otherwise indicated, for the election of the Class I director nominee to serve until the 2027 annual meeting of stockholders, or until their successor is duly elected and qualified. Our Certificate of Incorporation provides that the number of directors that constitute the entire Board of Directors shall be determined in the manner designated in the Company's bylaws. The Company's Amended and Restated Bylaws provide that the number of directors is determined by resolution of the Board of Directors, provided that the Board of Directors shall consist of at least one member.

Should the Class I director nominee be unable to accept nomination or election as a director, the individuals named as proxy holders, Dr. Milton Werner and Garth Lees-Rolfe, will vote the shares that they represent for such other person as the Board of Directors may recommend. The Board of Directors has no present knowledge that the Class I director nominee named below will be unavailable to serve.

The Class I director standing for re-election, together with his age and certain other information, is:

Director	Age	Year First Became Director	Principal Occupation and Other Board of Directors Service During the Past Five Years
Milton H. Werner, Ph.D.	61	2010	Milton H. Werner, Ph.D. has been our President and Chief Executive Officer and a member of our board of directors since our formation as a Delaware corporation in June 2010. He founded our predecessor, Inhibikase Therapeutics, LLC, in 2008 as an entrepreneurial start-up in Atlanta, Georgia with initial financial support from the Georgia Research Alliance. Prior to founding Inhibikase, from May 2007 until August 2008, Dr. Werner served as Director of Research at Celtaxsys, Inc., a cell-free immunotherapeutics company. From September 1996 until June 2007, Dr. Werner was a Head of the Laboratory of Molecular Biophysics at The Rockefeller University and departed the University at the rank of Associate Professor. While at The Rockefeller University, Dr. Werner focused on developing more complete understandings of mechanisms of human disease in immunology, oncology and infectious disease. Dr. Werner is the author or co-author of more than 70 research articles, reviews and book chapters and has given lectures on his research grants totaling more than \$21 million, and of several awards, including the Young Investigator Award from the Sidney Kimmel Cancer Foundation, the Research Chair from the Brain Tumor Society and a \$1 million Distinguished Young Scholars in Medical Research award from the W. M. Keck Foundation. He is also an Adjunct Full Professor in the School of Biology at the Georgia Institute of Technology and a Member of the Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University, both in Atlanta, Georgia. Dr. Werner received his Ph.D. in Chemistry from the University of California, Berkeley and his B.S. in Biochemistry from the University of Southern California. He also completed his post-doctoral training at the National Institute of Health with a specialization in structural biology. We believe Dr. Werner is qualified to serve on our board of directors because of the perspective and experience he provides as our founder and as our President and Chief Executive Officer, as well as his experience within the pharmaceutic

No family relationships exist between any director, executive officer or person nominated or chosen to be a director or officer.

## **Delinquent Section 16(a) Reports**

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Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "*Exchange Act*"), requires our executive officers and directors, and persons who beneficially own more than 10% of a registered class of our common stock, to file initial reports of ownership and reports of changes in ownership with the SEC. These officers, directors and stockholders are required by SEC regulations to furnish us with copies of all reports that they file.

Based solely upon a review of copies of the reports furnished to us during the year ended December 31, 2023 and thereafter, or any written representations received by us from directors, officers and beneficial owners of more than 10% of our common stock (*"reporting persons"*) that no other reports were required, we believe that all reporting persons filed on a timely basis all reports required by Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act during the year ended December 31, 2023.

The Board of Directors unanimously recommends a vote "FOR" the election of the Class I director nominee to the Board of Directors named in this Proposal No. 1.

# PROPOSAL NO. 2

## RATIFICATION OF APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

Our audit committee of the Board of Directors has appointed CohnReznick LLP ("*CohnReznick*," the "*principal accountant*" or the "*independent accountant*") as the independent registered public accounting firm to audit our consolidated financial statements as of and for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2024. CohnReznick has been our independent registered public accounting firm since it was appointed in April 2018 to audit our consolidated financial statements for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016. Since that date, CohnReznick has also provided us certain tax and other audit-related services. The Board of Directors has directed that management submit the selection of our independent registered public accounting firm for ratification by the stockholders at the Annual Meeting. Representatives of CohnReznick are expected to be present at the Annual Meeting, will have an opportunity to make a statement if they so desire, and will be available to respond to appropriate questions. Notwithstanding its selection, the Board of Directors, in its discretion, may appoint another independent registered public accounting firm at any time during the year if the Board of Directors believes that such a change would be in our and our stockholders' best interests. If the appointment is not ratified by our stockholders, the Board of Directors may reconsider whether it should appoint another independent registered public accounting firm.

## Audit and Other Fees

The following table sets forth the aggregate fees billed by CohnReznick LLP in connection with audit and other services rendered during the past two fiscal years.

	12/31/2023	12/31/2022	
Audit Fees <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 259,927	\$ 238,900	
Audit-Related Fees <sup>(2)</sup>		40,145	
Tax Fees <sup>(3)</sup>	42,685	23,000	
Total	\$ 302,612	\$ 302,045	

(1)Audit fees in 2023 and 2022 include fees related to the annual audit of the Company's financial statements, the review of the interim financial statements included in our quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, and comfort letters, consents and assistance with and review of documents filed with the SEC.

(2)Audit-related fees represent fees for professional services rendered during 2022 in connection with our 2019 NIH grants program ("Yellow Book") audit. Audit-related fees represent fees for professional services rendered during 2022 and 2021 in connection with our 2021, 2020 and 2019 Yellow Book audits respectively.

(3)Tax fees are related to tax compliance, tax advice and tax planning services, including the review and preparation of our federal and state income tax returns.

## Audit Committee Report

The audit committee operates under a written charter approved by the Board of Directors, which provides that its responsibilities include assisting the Board of Directors in monitoring the integrity of the Company's financial statements, the qualifications and independence of the Company's independent auditors, the performance of the Company's internal audit function and independent auditors and the compliance by the Company with legal and regulatory requirements. For more information on the audit committee, see "Management and Corporate Governance – Board of Directors Committees – Audit Committee."

The audit committee oversees the Company's financial reporting process on behalf of the Board of Directors. Management is responsible for the Company's internal controls, financial reporting process, and compliance with laws and regulations and ethical business standards. CohnReznick was responsible for performing an independent audit of the Company's consolidated financial statements for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023 in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board of Directors (United States) (the "*PCAOB*"). The audit committee's main responsibility is to monitor and oversee this process.

The audit committee reviewed and discussed our audited consolidated financial statements as of and for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023 with management. The audit committee discussed with CohnReznick the matters required to be

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discussed by PCAOB Auditing Standard No. 16. The audit committee has received the written disclosures and the letter from the independent accountant required by applicable requirements of the PCAOB regarding the independent accountant's communications with the audit committee concerning independence, and has discussed with the independent accountant the independence.

The audit committee is responsible to consider any fees paid to CohnReznick for the provision of non-audit related services. All non-audit related services rendered by CohnReznick for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2023 and December 31, 2022 were approved by the audit committee.

Based on the review and discussions referred to above in this report, the audit committee recommended to the Board of Directors that such audited financial statements be included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023 for filing with the SEC.

## THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

Gisele Dion (Chairperson) Paul Grint, M.D. Dennis Berman

#### Audit Committee Pre-Approval Policies and Procedures

The audit committee is responsible for appointing, retaining, setting compensation for, and evaluating and overseeing the work of the independent registered public accounting firm. The audit committee's charter establishes a policy that all audit and permissible non-audit services provided by the independent registered public accounting firm will be pre-approved by the audit committee.

All such audit and permissible non-audit services were pre-approved in accordance with this policy during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023. These services may include audit services, audit-related services, tax services and other services. The audit committee considers whether the provision of each non-audit service is compatible with maintaining the independence of our independent registered public accounting firm. The responsibility to pre-approve audit and non-audit services may be delegated by the audit committee to one or more members of the audit committee; provided that any decisions made by such member or members must be presented to the full audit committee at its next scheduled meeting.

The Board of Directors deems Proposal No. 2 "Ratification of Appointment of Independent Registered Accounting Firm" to be in our and our stockholders' best interests and unanimously recommends a vote "FOR" approval thereof.

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#### PROPOSAL NO.3

## APPROVAL OF AN AMENDMENT TO THE COMPANY'S 2020 EQUITY INCENTIVE PLAN TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF AUTHORIZED SHARES OF COMMON STOCK RESERVED FOR ISSUANCE BY 2,500,000 SHARES TO REPLINISH THE NUMBER OF AUTHORIZED SHARES OF COMMON STOCK AVAILABLE FOR FUTURE GRANTS

#### Introduction

We are asking you to approve an amendment to the Company's 2020 Equity Incentive Plan, a copy of which is attached as Appendix A hereto (the "*Plan Amendment*"), to increase the number of authorized shares of common stock reserved for issuance by an additional 2,500,000 shares to replenish the number of authorized shares of common stock available for future grants. In this proxy statement, we refer to the Company's current 2020 Equity Incentive Plan as the "*Current Plan*" or the "2020 *Plan*," and we refer to the Current Plan, as modified by the Plan Amendment, as the "*Amended Plan*." On March 21, 2024, the Board of Directors approved the Plan Amendment, subject to stockholder approval, and directed that the Amended Plan be submitted to our stockholders for their approval at the Annual Meeting. The Amended Plan does not contain any modifications, alterations or revisions of any other term or provision of our Current Plan except with respect to the increase in the share reserve.

As of April 1, 2024, we had only 988,792 shares of common stock that remained available for issuance under the Current Plan. If Proposal No. 3 is approved, the Plan Amendment will become effective with respect to the increase in the number of authorized shares of common stock reserved for issuance. Without approval by stockholders of the Plan Amendment, the Company will be unable to continue to grant equity awards once the share pool is depleted, potentially resulting in the loss of employees and difficulties in recruiting new employees. If the Plan Amendment is not approved, the Company will become increasingly reliant on cash-based compensation, which will deplete the Company's finite cash resources. Accordingly, the Board of Directors recommends the approval of the Plan Amendment.

We recognize that issuance of employee, officer or director incentive options may one day have a dilutive impact on our stockholders. We balance this concern against the competitive market to hire the best employees who will maximize commitment to the Company. Incentive options are one of the strongest motivators of employee, officer and director performance. In determining the appropriate number of shares to request and add to the pool of shares available for issuance, the Board of Directors and the compensation committee of the Board of Directors worked with management to evaluate a number of factors and carefully considered (i) the potential dilutive impact that the increase would have on our stockholders, (ii) our historical burn rate and overhang, (iii) the number of shares remaining available under the Current Plan, (iv) the realities of equity awards being a key component of designing competitive compensation packages necessary for retaining key talent and directors in a competitive marketplace, specifically in light of our negative operating cashflows and historical operating losses, (v) our strategic growth plans, and (vi) the interests of our stockholders. The compensation committee monitors our equity award process to ensure that we maximize stockholder value by granting only the appropriate number of easing and directors. In addition, the Current Plan includes, and the Amended Plan will include, provisions designed to be less dilutive to stockholders. As described further below, the Current Plan does not, and the Amended Plan will not, contain an "evergreen" provision, so the number of shares available for issuance under the Current Plan for the last three fiscal years.

Name	Options Granted	RSUs Granted	Weighted Average Common Shares Outstanding Each Year
2023	111,669		5,333,096
	111,009	—	5,555,090
2022	138,319	—	4,223,099
2021	35,989	_	3,034,866

Maintaining our current equity compensation program is particularly critical at this time when competition for quality personnel is intense in the highly competitive biotechnology marketplace in which we operate, and our ability to successfully

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execute, compete and deliver value to stockholders could be significantly negatively impacted if we cannot maintain our current equity award practices in support of retaining and attracting key talent. If we are limited in our ability to grant desired equity awards to our employees and other eligible individuals, we may not be able to compete for or retain key talent, and/or we may have to increase cash-based compensation incentives, which could work against our current philosophy of aligning the interests of our personnel with the interests of our stockholders. This course of action could also be a distraction for our management team and employees because it would disrupt the normal and scheduled operations of our compensation programs and restrict their ability to utilize equity grants to retain and motivate our employees and other key talent. In recent years, our ability to offer competitive equity compensation packages was integral to hiring and retaining key performers who are instrumental in the operations of the Company. For these reasons, we believe it is critically important to approve the Plan Amendment at this time to ensure we have a sufficient number of shares authorized for issuance under the Amended Plan.

## History of the Current Plan

On July 21, 2020, the Board of Directors and our stockholders approved the Current Plan. The Current Plan became effective immediately prior to the closing of the Company's December 2020 initial public offering. The Current Plan provides for the granting of incentive stock options, nonqualified stock options, stock appreciation rights, restricted stock or restricted stock units to any of its employees, directors, consultants and other service providers or those of its affiliates. The Board of Directors has designated the compensation committee to administer the Current Plan. The compensation committee has broad authority to administer the Current Plan and to determine the vesting conditions for awards. Neither the compensation committee nor the Board of Directors is authorized to reprice outstanding options or stock appreciation rights without stockholder consent. In addition, any amendments to increase the total number of shares reserved for issuance under the Current Plan or modification of the classes of participants eligible to awards requires ratification by the stockholders. Subject to certain adjustments, the maximum number of shares of common stock that may be issued under the Current Plan in connection with awards is limited to 988,792 shares. On March 21, 2024, the Board of Directors approved and adopted the Plan Amendment, subject to stockholder approval at the Annual Meeting, to increase the number of authorized shares of common stock reserved for issuance pursuant to the Current Plan by 2,500,000 to replenish the number of authorized shares of common stock available for future grants.

Following the effectiveness of the Current Plan, the Company ceased making grants under its 2011 Equity Incentive Plan. However, the 2011 Equity Incentive Plan continues to govern the terms and conditions of the outstanding awards granted under the 2011 Equity Incentive Plan. Shares of common stock subject to awards granted under the 2011 Equity Incentive Plan that cease to be subject to such awards by forfeiture or otherwise after the effective date of the Current Plan will become available for issuance under the Current Plan or, if approved, the Amended Plan.

## **Equity Compensation Plan Information**

The table below sets forth information with respect to compensation plans under which our equity securities are authorized for issuance as of April 15, 2024:

Plan Category	Number of securities to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options, warrants and rights (a)	Weighted-average exercise price of outstanding options, warrants and rights (b)		Number of securities available for future issuance under equity compensation plans (excluding securities reflected in column (a)) (c)	
Equity compensation plans approved by security holders					
Inhibikase Therapeutics, Inc.2011 Equity Incentive Plan	514,191	\$	11.02	—	
Inhibikase Therapeutics, Inc. 2020 Equity Incentive Plan	471,089	\$	9.58	988,792	
Equity compensation plans not approved by security holders	—		_	—	
TOTAL	985,280			988,792	

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## **Remaining Share Reserve**

As of April 15, 2024, there were 6,476,844 shares of our common stock outstanding. As of the date hereof, the Company has awarded grants of options and RSUs to purchase shares of our common stock and grants of restricted stock units settled in our common stock, in each case, pursuant to the Current Plan, with the number of shares of our common stock underlying such grants totaling 471,089 in the aggregate. There are 988,792 authorized shares that could be issued remaining under the Current Plan. The increase of the current share pool by 2,500,000 authorized shares of common stock to replenish the number of authorized shares of common stock available for future grants will result in additional potential dilution of our outstanding common stock if issued.

With respect to options or stock appreciation rights that expire, terminate or are canceled or forfeited for any reason without having been exercised in full, the shares of our common stock associated with such awards will again become available for grant under the Amended Plan.

Awards that are assumed or substituted by us in connection with an acquisition will not reduce the current share pool. In the event of any merger, consolidation, reorganization, recapitalization, stock split, reverse stock split, split up, spin-off, combination of shares, exchange of shares, stock dividend, dividend in kind or other like change in capital structure (other than ordinary cash dividends) to our stockholders, or other similar corporate event or transaction that affects our common stock, the compensation committee shall make appropriate adjustments in the number and kind of shares authorized by the Amended Plan and covered under outstanding awards as it determines appropriate and equitable.

Additionally, with respect to awards previously granted under our 2011 Equity Incentive Plan that expire, terminate, are canceled or are forfeited for any reason after the effective date of the Current Plan, the shares subject to such awards will be added to the current share pool so that they can be utilized for new grants under the Current Plan. As of April 15, 2024, awards with respect to 514,191 shares of our common stock were outstanding under our 2011 Equity Incentive Plan.

The term of the Current Plan will expire on December 22, 2030.

## Summary of the Amended Plan

The principal provisions of the Amended Plan are summarized below. This summary is qualified in its entirety by reference to the actual Amended Plan, a copy of which is attached as Appendix A hereto.

#### Administration

The Amended Plan vests broad powers in a committee to administer and interpret the Amended Plan. The Board of Directors designated the compensation committee to administer the Amended Plan. Except when limited by the terms of the Amended Plan, the compensation committee has the authority to, among other things: select the persons to be granted awards; determine the type, size and term of awards; establish performance objectives and conditions for earning awards; determine whether such performance objectives and conditions have been met; and accelerate the vesting or exercisability of an award. In its discretion, the compensation committee may delegate all or part of its authority and duties with respect to granting awards to one or more of our officers, subject to certain limitations and provided applicable law so permits.

The Board of Directors may amend, alter or discontinue the Amended Plan and the compensation committee may amend any outstanding award at any time; provided, however, that no such amendment or termination may adversely affect awards then outstanding without the holder's permission. In addition, any amendments seeking to increase the total number of shares reserved for issuance under the Amended Plan or modifying the classes of participants eligible to receive awards under the Amended Plan will require ratification by our stockholders in accordance with applicable law. Additionally, as described more fully below, neither the compensation committee nor the Board of Directors is permitted to reprice outstanding options or stock appreciation rights without shareholder consent.

## Eligibility

Any of our employees, directors, consultants and other service providers, or those of our affiliates, will be eligible to participate in the Amended Plan. As of April 15, 2024, the Company employed or engaged approximately seven employees, four non-employee directors and four consultants who would be eligible to participate in the Amended Plan.

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## Vesting

The compensation committee determines the vesting conditions for awards. These conditions may include the continued employment or service of the participant, the attainment of specified individual or corporate performance goals, or other factors in the compensation committee's discretion (collectively, "Vesting Conditions").

#### Shares of Stock Available for Issuance

Subject to certain adjustments, the maximum number of shares of our common stock that may be issued under the Amended Plan in connection with awards is 3,959,881 (the "Amended Share Pool"). The number of shares in the Amended Share Pool is equal to the sum of the 471,089 grants issued under the 2020 Plan, the 988,792 shares that remain available for future grants under the 2020 Plan and the proposed increase of 2,500,000 shares to replenish the number of authorized shares of common stock available for future grants. However, if any award previously granted under our 2011 Equity Incentive Plan expires, terminates, is canceled or is forfeited for any reason after the effective date of the Amended Plan, the shares subject to that award will be added to the Amended Share Pool so that they can be utilized for new grants under the Amended Plan. As of April 15, 2024, awards with respect to 514,191 shares of our common stock were outstanding under our 2011 Equity Incentive Plan.

If any award granted under the Amended Plan expires, terminates, is canceled or is forfeited, the shares of our common stock underlying the award will be available for new grants under the Amended Plan. However, shares of our common stock that are withheld for the payment of taxes or in satisfaction of the exercise price for an option award will not become available for re-issuance under the Amended Plan.

Any shares of our common stock issued by the Company through the assumption or substitution of outstanding grants in connection with the acquisition of another entity will not reduce the Amended Share Pool.

The maximum total grant date fair value of awards granted under the Amended Plan to individuals in their capacity as non-employee directors may not exceed \$250,000 in any single calendar year.

The market value of a share of our common stock was \$2.195 as of April 15, 2024.

### Adjustments

In the event of any merger, consolidation, reorganization, recapitalization, stock split, reverse stock split, split up, spin-off, combination of shares, exchange of shares, stock dividend, dividend in kind or other like change in capital structure (other than ordinary cash dividends) to stockholders of the Company, or other similar corporate event or transaction that affects our common stock, the compensation committee shall make adjustments to the number and kind of shares authorized by the Amended Plan and covered under outstanding awards as it determines appropriate and equitable.

## **Types of Awards**

The following types of awards may be granted to participants under the Amended Plan: (i) incentive stock options ("ISOs"); (ii) nonqualified stock options ("NQOs" and together with ISOs, "options"); (iii) stock appreciation rights; (iv) restricted stock; or (v) restricted stock units ("RSUs").

Stock Options. An option entitles the holder to purchase from us a stated number of shares of our common stock. An ISO may only be granted to our employees or the employees of our affiliates. The compensation committee will specify the number of shares of our common stock subject to each option and the exercise price for such option, provided that the exercise price may not be less than the fair market value of a share of our common stock on the date the option is granted. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if ISOs are granted to any 10% stockholder, the exercise price shall not be less than 110% of the fair market value of common stock on the date the option is granted.

Generally, options may be exercised in whole or in part through a cash payment. The compensation committee may, in its sole discretion, permit payment of the exercise price of an option in the form of previously acquired shares based on the fair market value of the shares on the date the option is exercised, through means of "net settlement," which involves the cancellation of a portion of the option to cover the cost of exercising the balance of the option or by such other means as it deems acceptable.

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All options shall be or become exercisable in accordance with the terms of the applicable award agreement. The maximum term of an option shall be determined by the compensation committee on the date of grant but shall not exceed 10 years (5 years in the case of ISOs granted to any 10% stockholder). In the case of ISOs, the aggregate fair market value (determined as of the date of grant) of common stock with respect to which such ISOs become exercisable for the first time during any calendar year cannot exceed \$100,000. ISOs granted in excess of this limitation will be treated as non-qualified stock options.

Stock Appreciation Rights. A stock appreciation right represents the right to receive, upon exercise, any appreciation in a share of common stock over a particular time period. The base price of a stock appreciation right shall not be less than the fair market value of a share of our common stock on the date the stock appreciation right is granted. This award is intended to mirror the benefit the participant would have received if the compensation committee had granted the participant an option. The maximum term of a stock appreciation right shall be determined by the compensation committee on the date of grant but shall not exceed 10 years. Distributions with respect to stock appreciation rights may be made in cash, shares of our common stock, or a combination of both, at the compensation committee's discretion.

Unless otherwise provided in an award agreement or determined by the compensation committee, if a participant terminates employment with us (or our affiliates) due to death or disability, the participant's unexercised options and stock appreciation rights may be exercised, to the extent they were exercisable on the termination date, for a period of twelve months from the termination date or until the expiration of the original award term, whichever period is shorter. If the participant terminates employment with us (or our affiliates) for cause, (i) all unexercised options and stock appreciation rights (whether vested or unvested) shall terminate and be forfeited on the termination date, and (ii) any shares in respect of exercised options or stock appreciation rights for which we have not yet delivered share certificates will be forfeited and we will refund to the participant the option exercised potions exercised in the extent exercisable at the time of termination, for a period of ninety days from the termination date (or such time as specified by the compensation committee, any options and stock appreciation rights that are not exercisable at the time of termination of employment shall terminate and be forfeited on and stock appreciation rights that are not exercisable at the time of termination of employment shall terminate

<u>Restricted Stock</u>. A restricted stock award is a grant of shares of our common stock, which are subject to forfeiture restrictions during a restriction period. The compensation committee will determine the price, if any, to be paid by the participant for each share of our common stock subject to a restricted stock award. The restricted stock may be subject to Vesting Conditions. If the specified Vesting Conditions are not attained, the participant will forfeit the portion of the restricted stock award with respect to which those conditions are not attained, and the underlying common stock will be forfeited to us. At the end of the restriction period, if the Vesting Conditions have been satisfied, the restrictions imposed will lapse with respect to the applicable number of shares. Unless otherwise provided in an award agreement or determined by the compensation committee, upon termination a participant will forfeit all restricted stock that then remains subject to forfeiture restrictions.

<u>Restricted Stock Units</u>. RSUs are granted in reference to a specified number of shares of our common stock and entitle the holder to receive, on the achievement of applicable Vesting Conditions, shares of our common stock. Unless otherwise provided in an award agreement or determined by the compensation committee, upon termination a participant will forfeit all RSUs that then remain subject to forfeiture.

#### **Change in Control**

In the event of a change in control, the compensation committee may, on a participant-by-participant basis: (i) cause any or all outstanding awards to become vested and immediately exercisable (as applicable), in whole or in part; (ii) cause any outstanding option or stock appreciation right to become fully vested and immediately exercisable for a reasonable period in advance of the change in control and, to the extent not exercised prior to that change in control, cancel that option or stock appreciation right upon closing of the change in control; (iii) cancel any unvested award or unvested portion thereof, with or without consideration; (iv) cancel any award in exchange for a substitute award; (v) redeem any restricted stock or restricted stock unit for cash and/or other substitute consideration with value equal to the fair market value of an unrestricted stock appreciation right upon closing of the change in control; (vi) cancel any outstanding option or stock appreciation right with respect to all common stock for which the award remains unexercised in exchange for a cash payment equal to the excess (if any) of the fair market value of the common stock subject to the option or stock appreciation right over the exercise price of the option or stock appreciation right; (vii) impose vesting terms on cash or substitute consideration payable upon cancellation of an award

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that are substantially similar to those that applied to the cancelled award immediately prior to the change in control, and/or earn-out, escrow, holdback or similar arrangements, to the extent such arrangements are applicable to any consideration paid to stockholders in connection with the change in control; (viii) take such other action as the compensation committee shall determine to be reasonable under the circumstances; and/or (ix) in the case of any award subject to Section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), the compensation committee shall only be permitted to use discretion to alter the settlement timing of the award to the extent that such discretion would be permitted under Section 409A of the Code.

## Repricing

Neither the Board of Directors nor the Compensation Committee may, without obtaining prior approval of our stockholders: (i) implement any cancellation/re-grant program pursuant to which outstanding options or stock appreciation rights under the Amended Plan are cancelled and new options or stock appreciation rights are granted in replacement with a lower exercise per share; (ii) cancel outstanding options or stock appreciation rights under the Amended Plan with an exercise price per share in excess of the then current fair market value per share for consideration payable in our equity securities; or (iii) otherwise directly reduce the exercise price in effect for outstanding options or stock appreciation rights under the Amended Plan.

#### Federal Income Tax Consequences

The federal income tax consequences arising with respect to grants awarded under the Amended Plan will depend on the type of grant. The following provides only a general description of the application of federal income tax laws to certain grants under the Amended Plan. This discussion is intended for the information of stockholders considering how to vote at the meeting and not as tax guidance to participants in the Amended Plan, as the consequences may vary with the types of grants made, the identity of the recipients and the method of payment or settlement. The summary does not address the effects of other federal taxes (including possible "golden parachute" excise taxes) or taxes imposed under state, local or foreign tax laws. Tax laws are subject to change.

Under the Code, as currently in effect, a grant under the Amended Plan of options, stock appreciation rights, restricted stock or RSUs would have no federal income tax consequence at the time of grant. Generally, all amounts taxable as ordinary income to participants under the Amended Plan in respect of awards are expected to be deductible by the Company as compensation at the same time the participant recognizes the ordinary income, subject to the limitations of Section 162(m) of the Code.

Options and Stock Appreciation Rights. Upon exercise of a nonqualified stock option, the excess of the fair market value of the stock at the date of exercise over the exercise price is taxable to a participant as ordinary income. Similarly, upon exercise of a Stock Appreciation Right, the value of the shares or cash received is taxable to the participant as ordinary income. Upon exercise of an ISO, the participant will not have taxable income, except that alternative minimum tax may apply. When there is a disposition of the shares subject to the ISO, provided that such disposition occurs at least two years after the date of ISO grant and at least one year after the date of exercise, the difference, if any, between the sale price of the shares and the exercise price of the option is treated as long-term capital gain or loss. If the participant does not satisfy these holding period requirements, a "disqualifying disposition" occurs, and the participant will recognize ordinary income in the year of the disposition in an amount equal to the excess of the fair market value of the shares at the time the option was exercised over the exercise price of the option. In that case, any gain realized in excess of the fair market value at the time of exercise due to hong-term capital gain, depending on whether the shares were sold more than one year after the option was exercised.

<u>Restricted Stock</u>. Unless the participant elects to recognize its value as income at the time of the grant, by filing an election under Section 83(b) of the Code, restricted stock is taxable to a participant as ordinary income when it becomes vested.

<u>Restricted Stock Units</u>. When shares of our common stock or cash with respect to RSU awards are delivered to the participant, the value of the shares or cash is taxable to the participant as ordinary income.

#### Miscellaneous

Generally, awards granted under the Amended Plan shall be nontransferable except by will or by the laws of descent and distribution. The awards will be subject to our recoupment and stock ownership policies, as may be in effect from time to

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time. Awards will be subject to applicable tax withholding requirements, and the compensation committee may authorize the withholding of shares subject to the award to satisfy required tax withholding. The Amended Plan will expire on December 22, 2030.

The Board of Directors deems Proposal No. 3 "Approval of an Amendment to the Company's 2020 Equity Incentive Plan to Increase the Authorized Number of Shares of Common Stock Reserved for Issuance by 2,500,000 shares to replenish the number of authorized shares of common stock available for future grants" to be in our and our stockholders' best interests and unanimously recommends a vote "FOR" approval thereof.

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## PROPOSAL NO. 4 APPROVAL OF AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE XII OF OUR CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION TO ELIMINATE THE 66 2/3% AFFIRMATIVE VOTE REQUIREMENT FOR AMENDMENTS TO SECTION 1 OF ARTICLE IV THEREOF

#### General

Article XII of our Certificate of Incorporation currently provides that the Board of Directors acting pursuant to a resolution adopted by a majority of the Board of Directors and the affirmative vote of sixty-six and two-thirds percent (66 2/3%) of the outstanding voting securities of the Company, voting together as a single class, shall be required for the amendment, repeal or modification of the provisions of Section 1, Section 2 and Section 3 of Article IV, Section 1 and Section 2 of Article VI, Section 5 of Article VII, Article XII of our Certificate of Incorporation. Specifically, Section 1 of Article IV of our Certificate of Incorporation provides for the Company's authorized capital stock.

Our Board of Directors is seeking stockholder approval of an amendment to our Certificate of Incorporation that would eliminate the requirement for the affirmative vote of 66 2/3% for the amendment, repeal or modification of the provisions of Section 1 of Article IV of our Certificate of Incorporation (the "Stockholder Vote Amendment").

Section 1 of Article IV of our Certificate of Incorporation provides as follows:

Section 1. This Corporation is authorized to issue two classes of stock, to be designated, respectively, common stock and preferred stock. The total number of shares of stock that the Corporation shall have authority to issue is one hundred ten million (110,000,000) shares, of which one hundred million (100,000,000) shares are common stock, \$0.001 par value, and ten million (10,000,000) shares are preferred stock, \$0.001 par value.

We are seeking approval of the Stockholder Vote Amendment so that any proposed increase or decrease to the number of authorized shares of common stock or preferred stock could be enacted in accordance with the provisions of Section 242 (d)(2) of the Delaware General Corporation Law which requires that the votes cast by stockholders for such an increase or decrease exceed the votes cast by stockholders against the increase or decrease.

The proposed amendment would amend and restate Section 1 of Article XII of the Certificate of Incorporation as follows:

The Corporation reserves the right to amend or repeal any provision contained in this Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation in the manner prescribed by the laws of the State of Delaware and all rights conferred upon stockholders are granted subject to this reservation; provided, however, that notwithstanding any other provision of this Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation or any provision of law that might otherwise permit a lesser vote or no vote, the Board of Directors acting pursuant to a resolution adopted by a majority of the Board of Directors and the affirmative vote of sixty-six and two-thirds percent (66 2/3%) of the then outstanding voting securities of the Corporation, voting together as a single class, shall be required for the amendment, repeal or modification of the provisions of Section 2 and Section 3 of Article IV, Section 1 and Section 2 of Article V, Article VI, Section 5 of Article VII, Article VII, Article XI or Article XII of this Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation.

The form of the proposed certificate of amendment to the Certificate of Incorporation is attached hereto as Appendix B.

## **Reasons for the Stockholder Vote Amendment**

The Board of Directors is committed to ensuring effective corporate governance policies and practices, which ensure that the Company is governed in accordance with high standards of ethics, integrity and accountability and in the best interests of our stockholders. The Board of Directors has considered the advantages and disadvantages of maintaining the 66 2/3% voting provisions in our Certificate of Incorporation. The Board of Directors has considered this in light of any future amendments it may propose to increase or decrease the authorized number of shares of capital stock of the Company under Section 1 of Article IV. Upon review, the Board of Directors has determined that removing the 66 2/3% requirement with respect to amendments to the authorized number of shares of our capital stock is advisable and in the best interests of the

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Company and our stockholders. An increase in the authorized number of shares of our capital stock would increase the flexibility of the Company to meet future financing and compensation needs, including raising capital through issuances of common stock or securities that are convertible into common stock, potential business expansion through strategic mergers, acquisitions, or other business combinations through issuances of common stock, establishing potential strategic relationships with other companies through the issuance of common stock, exchanges of common stock or securities that are convertible into common stock for other outstanding securities, providing equity incentives to attract and retain employees, officers or directors, and other purposes.

## Potential Effects of the Vote Requirement Amendment

Following the Stockholder Vote Amendment, the requirement for future amendments to Section 1 of Article IV will be a resolution adopted by a majority of the Board of Directors and a stockholder vote in which votes cast by stockholders for such amendment which exceed the votes cast by stockholders against such amendment. Accordingly, the stockholder vote required to amend Section 1 of Article IV of the Certificate of Incorporation would no longer be 66 2/3% of the outstanding voting securities of the Company.

## Potential Effects if the Vote Requirement Amendment is not Approved

If the Stockholder Vote Requirement is not approved, the stockholder vote required to amend Section 1 of Article IV of the Certificate of Incorporation would remain at 66 2/3% of the outstanding voting securities of the Company. Accordingly, it will remain more difficult for the Company to obtain the stockholder vote required to amend the capital structure to meet future financing and compensation needs of the Company in the future.

## **Implementation of the Vote Requirement Amendment**

Following stockholder approval of this proposal, the Board of Directors will file a certificate of amendment with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware.

The Board of Directors deems Proposal No. 4 "Approval of an Amendment to Article XII of our Certificate of Incorporation to Eliminate the 66 2/3% Affirmative Vote Requirement for Amendments to Section 1 of Article IV Thereof" to be in our and our stockholders' best interests and unanimously recommends a vote "FOR" approval thereof.

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## MANAGEMENT AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

## **Executive Officers and Directors**

The following table sets forth the names, ages and positions of our executive officers and directors as of April 1, 2024:

Name	Age	Position
Executive Officers:		
Milton H. Werner, Ph.D.	61	President, Chief Executive Officer and Director
Garth Lees-Rolfe, C.P.A.	39	Chief Financial Officer
Non-Employee Directors:		
Gisele Dion(1)(2)(4)	57	Director
Roy Freeman, M.D.(2)(3)	72	Director
Paul Grint, M.D.(1)(2)(3)(5)	66	Director
Dennis Berman(1)(3)(6)	73	Director

(1)Member of audit committee

(2)Member of the compensation committee

(3)Member of the corporate governance and nominating committee

(4)Chair of audit committee

(5)Chair of compensation committee

(6)Chair of corporate governance and nominating committee

## **Executive Officers**

*Milton H. Werner, Ph.D.* has been our President and Chief Executive Officer and a member of our Board of Directors since our formation as a Delaware corporation in June 2010. He founded our predecessor, Inhibikase Therapeutics, LLC, in 2008 as an entrepreneurial start-up in Atlanta, Georgia with initial financial support from the Georgia Research Alliance. Prior to founding Inhibikase, from May 2007 until August 2008, Dr. Werner served as Director of Research at Celtaxsys, Inc., a cell-free immunotherapeutics company. From September 1996 until June 2007, Dr. Werner was a Head of the Laboratory of Molecular Biophysics at The Rockefeller University and departed the University at the rank of Associate Professor. While at The Rockefeller University, Dr. Werner focused on developing more complete understandings of mechanisms of human disease in immunology, oncology and infectious disease. Dr. Werner is the author or co-author of more than 70 research articles, reviews and book chapters and has given lectures on his research work on more than 150 occasions throughout the world. He is the recipient of numerous private and public research grants totaling more than \$21 million, and of several awards, including the Young Investigator Award from the Sidney Kimmel Cancer Foundation, the Research Chair from the Brain Tumor Society and a \$1 million Distinguished Young Scholars in Medical Research award from the W. M. Keck Foundation. He is also an Adjunct Full Professor in the School of Biology at the Georgia Institute of Technology and a Member of the Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University, both in Atlanta, Georgia. Dr. Werner received his post-doctoral training at the National Institute of Health with a specialization in structural biology. We believe Dr. Werner is qualified to serve on our Board of Directors because of the perspective and experience he provides as our founder and as our President and Chief Executive Officer, as well as his experience within the pharmaceutical industry, particularly in the area of n

*Garth Lees-Rolfe* has served as our Chief Financial Officer since April 2024 and served as our Vice President of Finance from November 2022 until his appointment as Chief Financial Officer. Mr. Lees-Rolfe previously served as the Vice-President, Finance for F-Star, Inc., a publicly traded global clinical-stage biotech company from December 2021 to November 2022. Prior to that, Mr. Lees-Rolfe worked for 16 years in public practice, most of which was with Ernst & Young, most recently as Senior Manager from 2016 to 2021. Mr. Lees-Rolfe earned a Bachelor of Business from the Queensland University of Technology and a Graduate Certificate in Applied Finance from Kaplan Professional. He is a licensed Certified Public Accountant in the state of Massachusetts and a licensed Chartered Accountant of Australia and New Zealand.

#### **Key Non-Executive Officers**

Surendra Singh, Ph.D. has served as our head of Chemistry, Manufacturing and Controls (CMC) as a consultant since August 2014. As our head of Chemistry, Manufacturing and Controls, Dr. Singh establishes and manages the commercial

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process, global outsourcing, and global vendor management, as well as participates in all aspects of the drafting and review of regulatory documents submitted to the FDA. Since 2011, Dr. Singh has served as chemical manufacturing and controls consultant at Syner-G Pharma Consulting, LLC, a pharmaceutical manufacturing consultancy. From 2001 to 2011, he served in various roles at Sunovion Pharmaceuticals Inc. and its predecessor, Sepracor Inc., including as a director of chemical process research. He is an expert in chemical process research and development, from lead optimization to launch, technology transfer and API manufacturing. Dr. Singh received his doctoral degree from the Indian Institute of Technology in 1991 and was a post-doctoral fellow at The Ohio State University from 1991 to 1994.

*Terence Kelly, Ph.D.* currently serves as our Medicinal Chemistry and Drug Discovery consultant. Since June 2014, he has served as a member of the board of directors of Cardax, Inc., a life sciences company that develops consumer health and pharmaceutical technologies. Dr. Kelly is a 30-year pharmaceutical industry veteran and, along with Dr. Werner, developed the RAMP<sup>MM</sup> approach to drug design. He is a founder of Kelly Pharma Research Consulting, LLC and has served as its President since January 2010. From June 2010 to July 2017, he held several positions at CoMentis, including President and CEO. From July 2002 to December 2009, he served as Vice-President of Medicinal Chemistry at Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Dr. Kelly received his B.S. in Chemistry from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and his Ph.D. in Chemistry from the University of Texas at Austin. He also completed postdoctoral work in natural products synthesis at Yale University and received an M.B.A. from New York University, Stern School of Business.

*Warren Olanow, M.D.* is our lead medical professional of Inhibikase and Chief Executive Officer of CLINTREX. He is the former Henry P. and Georgette Goldschmidt Professor and Chairman of the Department of Neurology at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York City, where he is presently Professor Emeritus in the Department of Neurology and in the Department of Neuroscience. Prior to joining Mount Sinai, he served on the faculties of McGill University, Duke University, and the University of South Florida. He is the former President of the Movement Disorder Society, past President of the International Society of Motor Disturbances, and former Treasurer of the American Neurological Association. He has served on the Board of Directors of the National Space Biomedical Research Institute and the executive committee of the Michael J. Fox Foundation Scientific Advisory Board, and he is the former Chairman of the Scientific Advisory Board of the Bachmann-Strauss Parkinson and of the Dystonia Foundation. Dr. Olanow is the former Co-Editor-in-Chief of the journal, Movement Disorders. He has been principal investigator of numerous studies leading to approval of drugs and devices for treating neurodegenerative diseases. Dr. Olanow received his medical degree from the University of Toronto, performed his neurology training at the New York Neurological Institute at Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center at Columbia University, and undertook postgraduate studies in neuroanatomy at Columbia University.

#### Non-Employee Directors

*Dennis Berman* has served as a member of our Board of Directors since December 22, 2020. He has been a co-founder, board member, and seed investor in many private biotechnology and technology companies, five of which have gone public. Currently, Mr. Berman is President of Molino Ventures, a board advisory and venture capital firm focused on privately held and publicly held health care and technology companies in all stages of development. Previously, he was Co-founder and Executive Vice President of Corporate Development of Tocagen Inc., a publicly traded gene therapy company utilizing a replicating retrovirus and prodrug to activate patients' immune systems against their cancers. Other public companies for which Mr. Berman has served as a seed investor, co-founder, and/or board member include Intervu Inc. (one of the first software-as-a-service companies), which was acquired by Akamai Technologies Inc.; Kintera, Inc. (online fundraising pioneer), which was acquired by Blackbaud, Inc.; Gensia Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (focused on purine/pyrimidine metabolism compounds), which was acquired by Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Limited; and Viagene Biotech Inc. (the first U.S. gene therapy company, which utilized a non- replicating retrovirus), which was acquired by Chron Corporation/Novartis AG. In addition, he was co-founder of Genovo Inc. (a private gene therapy company founded by James Wilson at the University of Pennsylvania). Mr. Berman also was a seed investor in Calabrian Corporation (a private water treatment company), which was acquired by SK Capital Partners. Earlier, Mr. Berman was a corporate law partner at several large law firms, including Sonnenschein Nath & Rosenthal LLP (now Dentons US LLP) and Reavis & McGrath (now Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP). Mr. Berman holds a Bachelor of Asts from the University of Pennsylvania in Economics and is a graduate of Harvard Law School. He has been an Entrepreneur in Residence at Harvard's Innovation Lab (i-lab) and a guest speaker at Harvard School of Public Health. W

*Gisele Dion* has served as a member of the Board of Directors since September 1, 2022. Ms. Dion has served as the Chief Accounting Officer of Alnylam Pharmaceuticals since September 2023. Ms. Dion is the former Chief Accounting Officer and Corporate Controller at Takeda Pharmaceutical Ltd. ("Takeda"). She also served as Senior Advisor to the Chief

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Financial Officer of Takeda. Prior to Takeda's acquisition of Shire Pharmaceuticals LLC, Ms. Dion was the Senior Vice President, Chief Accounting Officer and Corporate Controller at Shire Pharmaceuticals LLC ("Shire"), a biopharmaceutical company. Previous to Shire, Ms. Dion served as Corporate Controller and Senior Director of Technical Accounting at Biogen Inc., a biotechnology company. Ms. Dion currently serves on the board of Cytek Biosciences, Inc. where she is Chair of its Audit Committee. Her prior experience includes serving as a staff member of the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) and she has served as an Audit Advisor Group Member for the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA). Ms. Dion received a B.S. in Accounting and Management Information Systems from Fairfield University. We believe Ms. Dion's skills in corporate governance and corporate finance in early and late stage pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies makes her uniquely qualified to serve on our Board of Directors.

*Roy Freeman, M.D.* has served as a member of our Board of Directors since December 22, 2020. Dr. Freeman is a Professor of Neurology at the Harvard Medical School and the Director of the Center for Autonomic and Peripheral Nerve Disorders at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston, Massachusetts. Dr. Freeman is the former chairman of the World Federation of Neurology research group on the autonomic nervous system, former president of the American Autonomic Society, and former chairman of the Autonomic Section of the American Academy of Neurology. He serves on the Executive Committee and the Steering Committee of the Analgesic, Anesthetic, and Addiction Clinical Trial Translations, Innovations, Opportunities, and Networks (ACTTION), a public-private partnership with the United States FDA. Dr. Freeman is Editor-in-Chief of Autonomic Neuroscience: Basic and Clinical and on the editorial boards of The Journal of the Peripheral Mervous System and Clinical Autonomic Research. He is a founder of several companies in pain and neurodegenerative disease and is on the scientific advisory boards of many large and small pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies. He is on the board of directors of Cutaneous Neurodiagnostic Life Sciences. His research and clinical trial design methodology in peripheral and central nervous system disease. He is the principal investigator on NIH-funded studies on the neurological complications of diabetes, the neurobiology of stress, and biomarker development in alpha-synucleinopathies. He has been a principal investigator on many neurodegenerative diseases and neuropathic pain clinical trials. He has authored more than 280 original reports, chapters, and reviews. Dr. Freeman received his medical degree from the University of Cape Town. We believe Dr. Freeman's specific and extensive experience in clinical trials. The has authored more than 280 original reports, chapters, and reviews. Dr. Freeman received his medical degree from the University of Cape Town. We believe Dr. Freeman's spe

*Paul Grint, M.D.* has served as a member of our Board of Directors since December 22, 2020. Dr. Paul Grint was most recently CEO and a member of the board of directors of AmpliPhi Biosciences, which merged with C3J Therapeutics to form Armata Pharmaceuticals. Dr. Grint has more than two decades of experience in biologics and small-molecule research and development, including the successful approval and commercialization of products in the infectious diseases, immunology, and oncology therapeutic areas. Dr. Grint has also served in senior management roles at Cerexa, Forest Laboratories, Kalypsys, Pfizer, IDEC Pharmaceuticals, and Schering-Plough Corporation. He is currently a board member at January Therapeutics, Cardea Bio and Synedgen. He is a Fellow of the Royal College of Pathologists, a member of numerous professional and medical societies, and holds a bachelor's degree from St. Mary's Hospital College, University of London. Dr. Grint's extensive leadership experience as both Chief Executive Officer and as a director of privately held and public companies along with his extensive experience in clinical pharmaceutical development makes him uniquely qualified to serve on our Board of Directors.

#### Scientific Advisory Board

We have assembled a highly qualified scientific advisory board that collectively have deep domain expertise in neurodegenerative diseases, infectious disease in the brain, drug development and translational medicine.

*Dr. Ted Dawson, M.D., Ph.D.*, is a director at the Institute for Cell Engineering and Professor of Neurology at The John Hopkins University School of Medicine. He focuses on movement disorders, and many advances in neurobiology of disease have stemmed from Dr. Dawson's identification of the mechanisms of neuronal cell death and the elucidation of the molecular mechanisms of neurodegeneration. He pioneered the role of nitric oxide in neuronal injury in stroke and excitotoxicity and elucidated the molecular mechanisms by which nitric oxide and poly (ADP-ribose) polymerase kills neurons. His studies of nitric oxide led to major insights into the neurotransmitter functions of this gaseous messenger molecule. He co-discovered the neurotrophic properties of non-immunosuppressant immunophilin ligands. Dr. Dawson's discoveries have led to innovative approaches and helped with the enablement of the development of new agents to treat neurologic disorders, such as Parkinson's Disease and Alzheimer's disease as well as other neurodegenerative disorders. For



his participation on the Scientific Advisory Board, Dr. Dawson has received options for 131,123 shares of our common stock with an exercise price of \$2.31 per share, which will expire on December 31, 2027.

*Dr. Valina Dawson, Ph.D.*, is a Professor of Neurology, Neuroscience, Physiology and the Graduate Program in Cellular & Molecular Medicine at the John Hopkins University School of Medicine. She is co-director of the Neuroregeneration and Stem Cell Programs in the Institute for Cell Engineering. Dr. Dawson's laboratory is actively engaged in discovering and defining cell signaling pathways that lead to either neuronal survival or neuronal death. She explores the role of the monogenic forms of Parkinson's Disease with a focus on parkin, EIF4G1 and LRRK2 in order to begin to define the biochemical signaling important to Parkinson's Disease. She has developed yeast, cellular, fly and mouse models to explore the Parkinson's Disease causing mutations, and studied human neuronal cultures and human postmortem tissue to explore survival and disease signaling events relevant to Parkinson's Disease and stroke as well as to define neuron survival networks. For her participation on the Scientific Advisory Board, Dr. Dawson has received options for 131,123 shares of our common stock with an exercise price of \$2.31 per share, which will expire on December 31, 2027.

Dr. Warren Olanow, M.D., FRCPC is a member of our Scientific Advisory Board. For a description of Dr. Olanow's business experience and qualifications please see above in this section titled "Key Non-Executive Officers."

*Dr. Robert Hauser* is Professor of Neurology at the University of South Florida College of Medicine, in Tampa, Florida. He serves as Director of the USF Parkinson's Disease and Movement Disorders Center, a Parkinson Foundation Center of Excellence. Dr. Hauser earned a medical degree from Temple University School of Medicine in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and completed neurology training at the Eastern Virginia Graduate School of Medicine, in Norfolk, Virginia. Dr. Hauser completed a fellowship in Movement Disorders at the University of South Florida and became Center Director in 1994. Dr. Hauser has authored or co-authored more than 300 peer-reviewed publications and is one of the world's most cited Parkinson's Disease investigators. He is Past Chairman of the Interventional Neurology Section of the American Academy of Neurology, has served on the executive committee of the Parkinson Study Group, and was a member of the steering committee for the NIH-sponsored Neuroprotective Exploratory Trials in Parkinson's Disease and Related Disorders. He has extensive expertise in clinical trial design and execution. Outcome measures that he developed have become the gold standard for use in clinical trials. He maintains an active patient practice and has been voted a Top Doctor by his peers and Castle Connolly Medical Ltd. every year since 2003. His primary research interest is the development of new medical and surgical treatments for Parkinson's disease and other movement disorders.

*Dr. Karl Kieburtz, M.D., M.P.H.*, is the Robert J. Joynt Professor in Neurology, Senior Associate Dean for Clinical Research and Director of the Clinical & Translational Science Institute at the University of Rochester Medical Center (URMC). He is also Professor of Public Health Sciences and of Environmental Medicine, and was the founding Director of the Center for Human Experimental Therapeutics (CHET). CHET conducts learning phase clinical trials in a wide spectrum of disorders in collaboration with investigators within the URMC as well as with colleagues throughout North America, Europe, Asia and Oceania. Dr. Kieburtz's primary clinical and research interests are neurodegenerative diseases affecting the basal ganglia, particularly Parkinson disease, Huntington disease, and HIV-related neurologic disorders. He is the principal investigator for the NINDS sponsored trials of neuroprotective agents for PD (NET-PD) and directed the Coordination Center for an NEI-funded consortium in neuro-ophthalmology. He completed his M.D. and M.P.H. degrees at the University of Rochester, as well as his neurology residency and a fellowship in experimental therapeutics.

*Dr. Jeffrey H. Kordower, Ph.D.*, is the Alla V. and Solomon Jesmer Professor of Aging and Neurological Sciences, Rush University Medical Center. He is an international authority in the area of movement disorders, which special expertise in experimental therapeutics and pathogenesis in movement disorders. Dr. Kordower has been ranked 29th in Parkinson's disease expertise worldwide. He has performed numerous gene and cell therapy preclinical studies that have been translated into clinical trials. He has published landmark papers in the area of cell replacement strategies, including the first demonstration that fetal dopaminergic grafts can survive, innervate, and form synapses in patients with Parkinson's disease (NEJM). Furthermore, he demonstrated that long-term grafts in such patients can form Lewy bodies (Nature Medicine). He has co-authored a paper in Nature demonstrating that human dopaminergic stem cells can survive and function in parkinsonian mice, rats, and monkeys. With regard to gene therapy, he published the lead article in Science demonstrating that gene delivery GDNF can prevent the emergence of motor symptoms and prevents nigrostriatal degeneration in nonhuman primate models of Parkinson's disease. Dr. Kordower was also the first to demonstrate that gene delivery of CNTF can obviate neurodegenerative processes in a nonhuman primate model of Huntington's disease. Dr. Kordower has published more than 350 manuscripts and chapters, 14 of which are citation classics. He has lectured all over the world and has served on more than 20 journal editorial boards (Sections Head and Associate Editor on two, including Movement

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Disorders). He has also served on the program committee for the World Parkinson's Congress, is a Past-President of ASNTR, and is both a founding SAB member and two-time Executive Committee member of The Michael J. Fox Foundation. Dr. Kordower received B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. degrees from the City University of New York (CUNY). He was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Science degree from CUNY in 2004.

*Dr. Kenneth Marek* is President and senior scientist at the Institute for Neurodegenerative Disorders. Dr. Marek's major research interests include identification of biomarkers for early detection, assessment of disease progression, and development of new treatments for Parkinson's Disease and Alzheimer's disease and related neurodegenerative disorders. His specific interest has been in in vivo neuroreceptor imaging biomarkers. He has authored numerous neurology and neuroscience publications on these topics. Dr. Marek is the principal investigator of several ongoing multi-center international studies, including the Parkinson's Progression Marker Initiative (PPMI), the Parkinson Associated Risk Syndrome (PARS) study, and Pathways to Prevention (P2P). Dr. Marek serves on the scientific advisory board of The Michael J. Fox Foundation and is a special advisor to the foundation. He also was a co-founder of Molecular NeuroImaging, LLC, a company providing discovery and clinical neuroimaging research services. He received an A.B. in Biochemistry from Princeton University and an M.D. from Yale University.

*Dr. Jay Pasricha* is Vice-Chair of the Department of Medicine and Professor of Medicine and Neuroscience at The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, and Professor of Innovation Management at Johns Hopkins Carey Business School. He is Director of the Johns Hopkins Center for Neurogastroenterology and Director of the Amos Food, Body, and Mind Center at Johns Hopkins. Prior to his positions at Johns Hopkins, Dr. Pasricha served as Chief of Gastroenterology at Stanford University School of Medicine from 2007–2012. Prior to that, he led the GI Division at the University of Texas Medical Branch, where he was the Bassel and Frances Blanton Distinguished Professor in Internal Medicine. His specific interests are focused on molecular mechanisms of visceral pain, gastrointestinal motility, the gut-brain axis, microbiota, neuromodulation, and neural control of glycemic control and obesity. His clinical interests include GI motility disorders and abdominal pain as well as the development of novel endoscopic procedures and devices for a variety of gastrointestinal disorders. He has consistently been on Castle Connelly list of America's "Top Docs" as well as "Best Doctors" and has authored more than 300 manuscripts/book chapters. He has served on the National Commission on Digestive Diseases, appointed by Congress to provide a "roadmap" for progress in gastrointestinal disorders. He is also the founding Chair of the Center for Gastrointestinal Innovation and Technology, created by the AGA (American Gastroenterological Association). Dr. Pasricha served on the FDA GI Drug Advisory Committee for several years and continues to provide advice to the agency on an a hoc basis. Dr. Pasricha holds more than 50 patents issued by the USPTO and has co-founded several companies within the Medtech and biotech GI space including Apollo Endosurgery, Enterastim, First Aid Shot Therapeutics (FAST), Neurogastrx, Orphomed, and Glyscend. Dr. Pasricha received his Doctor of Medicine from the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences and tr

#### **Board of Directors Composition**

Our Board of Directors currently consists of five members. The number of directors is fixed by our Board of Directors, subject to the terms of our Certificate of Incorporation and Amended and Restated Bylaws. Each of our current directors will continue to serve as a director until the election and qualification of his or her successor, or until his or her earlier death, resignation or removal. During 2023, our Board of Directors held 14 meetings and took action by written consent on five other occasions. Each incumbent director attended at least 75% of the aggregate of the total number of meetings of our Board of Directors held during the period for which he or she was a director and the total number of meetings held by all committees on which he or she served during the periods that he or she served.

Our Certificate of Incorporation provides that our Board of Directors be divided into three classes with staggered three-year terms. Only one class of directors will be elected at each annual meeting of stockholders, with the other classes continuing for the remainder of their respective three-year terms. Our current directors are divided among the three classes as follows:

•the Class I director is Dr. Werner, and his term will expire at this Annual Meeting;

•the Class II directors are Dr. Freeman and Dr. Grint, and their terms will expire at the annual meeting of stockholders to be held in 2025; and

•the Class III directors are Mr. Berman and Ms. Dion, and their terms will expire at the annual meeting of stockholders to be held in 2026.

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At each annual meeting of stockholders, upon the expiration of the term of a class of directors, the successor to each such director in the class will be elected to serve from the time of election and qualification until the third annual meeting following his or her election and until his or her successor is duly elected and qualified, in accordance with our Certificate of Incorporation. Any additional directorships resulting from an increase in the number of directors will be distributed among the three classes so that, as nearly as possible, each class will consist of one-third of our directors.

This classification of our Board of Directors may have the effect of delaying or preventing changes in control of our Company.

In addition, under the terms of our Certificate of Incorporation and our Amended and Restated Bylaws, members of our Board of Directors may only be removed for cause. This may also have the effect of delaying or preventing changes in control of our Company.

#### **Board of Directors Leadership Structure**

Dr. Werner serves as our President and Chief Executive Officer. At the present time the Company does not expect to have a Chairperson of our Board of Directors. Such Chairperson of our Board of Directors, when and if appointed, will not be an officer. We expect and intend the positions of Chairperson of our Board of Directors, when and if appointed, and Chief Executive Officer to continue to be held by two separate individuals in the future.

### **Board of Directors Committees**

The Board of Directors has established three standing committees of the board consisting of an audit committee, a compensation committee and a corporate governance and nominating committee, each of which has the composition and the responsibilities described below. Each committee operates pursuant to a written charter that has been approved by our Board of Directors and the corresponding committee and that is reviewed annually and revised as appropriate. Each charter is available on our website at *https://www.inhibikase.com/investors/corporate-governance*. Information on our website is not, and shall not be deemed to be, a part of this Proxy Statement or incorporated into any other filings we make with the SEC.

#### Audit Committee

Ms. Dion, Dr. Grint and Mr. Berman each of whom is a non-employee member of our Board of Directors, comprise our audit committee. Ms. Dion is the chair of our audit committee, and is our audit committee financial expert, as that term is defined under the applicable SEC rules, and possesses financial sophistication, as defined under the rules of The Nasdaq Capital Market (*"Nasdaq"*). All of the members of our audit committee are independent, as that term is defined under the rules of Nasdaq. Our audit committee is responsible for overseeing our corporate accounting and financial reporting process, assisting our Board of Directors in monitoring our financial systems, and overseeing legal, healthcare and regulatory compliance. Our audit committee also:

•selects and hires the independent registered public accounting firm to audit our financial statements;

•helps to ensure the independence and performance of the independent registered public accounting firm;

·approves audit and non-audit services and fees;

•reviews financial statements and discusses with management and the independent registered public accounting firm our annual audited and quarterly financial statements, the results of the independent audit and the quarterly reviews and the reports and certifications regarding internal controls over financial reporting and disclosure controls;

•prepares the audit committee report that the SEC requires to be included in our annual proxy statement;

•reviews reports and communications from the independent registered public accounting firm;

•reviews the adequacy and effectiveness of our internal controls and disclosure controls and procedure;

•reviews our policies on risk assessment and risk management;

•reviews related party transactions; and

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•establishes and oversees procedures for the receipt, retention and treatment of accounting related complaints and the confidential submission by our employees of concerns regarding questionable accounting or auditing matters.

Our audit committee operates under a written charter, which we believe satisfies the applicable rules of the SEC and the listing standards of Nasdaq. During 2023, our audit committee held four meetings.

## **Compensation Committee**

Dr. Grint, Ms. Dion and Dr. Freeman each of whom is a non-employee member of our Board of Directors, comprise our compensation committee. Dr. Grint is the chair of our compensation committee. All of the members of our compensation committee are independent, as that term is defined under the rules of Nasdaq. Our compensation committee oversees our compensation policies, plans and benefits programs. The compensation committee also:

•oversees our overall compensation philosophy and compensation policies, plans and benefit programs;

•reviews and recommends to our Board of Directors for approval compensation for our executive officers and directors;

•prepares the compensation committee report that the SEC would require to be included in our annual proxy statement if we were no longer deemed to be an emerging growth company or a smaller reporting company; and

•administers our equity compensation plans.

Our compensation committee operates under a written charter, which satisfies the applicable rules of the SEC and the listing standards of Nasdaq. During 2023, our compensation committee held four meetings.

Our compensation committee also reviews the performance and development of our management in achieving corporate goals and objectives and assures that our executive officers (including our chief executive officer) are compensated effectively in a manner consistent with our strategy, competitive practice and stockholder interests, as well as such other matters as directed by the Board of Directors or the compensation committee charter.

Our compensation committee also has the authority to form and delegate authority to one or more subcommittees as it deems appropriate from time to time under the circumstances. The compensation committee annually reviews the performance of each of the executive officers, including the chief executive officer. It then determines and approves the compensation of each executive officer, other than the chief executive officer, and determines and makes recommendations regarding the chief executive officer's compensation level to the Board of Directors for approval.

## **Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee**

Mr. Berman, Dr. Grint and Dr. Freeman each of whom is a non-employee member of our Board of Directors, comprise our corporate governance and nominating committee. Mr. Berman is the chair of our corporate governance and nominating committee. All members are independent, as that term is defined under the rules of Nasdaq. Our corporate governance and nominating committee of Directors in reviewing and recommending nominees for election as directors. Specifically, the corporate governance and nominating committee also:

•identifies, evaluates and makes recommendations to our Board of Directors regarding nominees for election to our Board of Directors and its committees;

•considers and makes recommendations to our Board of Directors regarding the composition of our Board of Directors and its committees;

•reviews developments in corporate governance practices;

•evaluates the adequacy of our corporate governance practices and reporting; and

•evaluates the performance of our Board of Directors and of individual directors.

Our corporate governance and nominating committee operates under a written charter, which satisfies the applicable rules of the SEC and the listing standards of Nasdaq. During 2023, our corporate governance and nominating committee held two meetings.

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## **Compensation Committee Interlocks and Inside Participation**

None of the members of our compensation committee are or have been an officer or employee of our Company. None of our executive officers currently serve, or in the past fiscal year has served, on the board of directors or compensation committee (or other board of directors' committee performing equivalent functions) of any entity that has one or more executive officers serving on our Board of Directors or compensation committee.

#### **Risk Oversight**

In its governance role, and particularly in exercising its duty of care and diligence, the Board of Directors is responsible for ensuring that appropriate risk management policies and procedures are in place to protect the Company's assets and business. Our Board of Directors has broad and ultimate oversight responsibility for our risk management processes and programs and executive management is responsible for the day-to-day evaluation and management of risks to the Company.

#### **Code of Business Conduct and Ethics**

We have adopted a written code of business conduct and ethics that applies to our directors, officers and employees, including our principal executive officer, principal financial officer, principal accounting officer or controller, or persons performing similar functions. The code of business conduct and ethics is available on our website at www.inhibikase.com. We intend to disclose future amendments to such code, or any waivers of its requirements, applicable to any principal executive officer, principal financial officer, principal accounting officer or controller or persons performing similar functions or our directors on our website identified above. The inclusion of our website address in this Proxy Statement does not include or incorporate by reference the information on our website into this Proxy Statement. We will provide any person, without charge, upon request, a copy of our code of conduct and ethics. Such requests should be made in writing to the attention of Milton H. Werner, Ph.D., President and Chief Executive Officer at Inhibikase Therapeutics, Inc., 3350 Riverwood Parkway SE, Suite 1900, Atlanta, Georgia 30339.

## Limitation of Liability and Indemnification

Our Certificate of Incorporation and Amended and Restated Bylaws, which became effective upon the completion of our December 2020 initial public offering, provides that we indemnify our directors and officers, and may indemnify our employees and other agents, to the fullest extent permitted by Delaware law. Delaware law prohibits our Certificate of Incorporation from limiting the liability of our directors for the following:

- •any breach of the director's duty of loyalty to us or to our stockholders;
- •acts or omissions not in good faith or that involve intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of law;
- •unlawful payment of dividends or unlawful stock repurchases or redemptions; and
- •any transaction from which the director derived an improper personal benefit.

If Delaware law is amended to authorize corporate action further eliminating or limiting the personal liability of a director, then the liability of our directors will be eliminated or limited to the fullest extent permitted by Delaware law, as so amended. Our Certificate of Incorporation does not eliminate a director's duty of care and, in appropriate circumstances, equitable remedies, such as injunctive or other forms of non-monetary relief, remain available under Delaware law. This provision also does not affect a director's responsibilities under any other laws, such as the federal securities laws or other state or federal laws. Under our Amended and Restated Bylaws, we are also empowered to purchase insurance on behalf of any person whom we are required or permitted to indemnify. We have purchased and currently maintain directors' and officers' liability insurance.

In the case of an action or proceeding by or in the right of our Company or any of our subsidiaries, no indemnification will be provided for any claim where a court determines that the indemnified party is prohibited from receiving indemnification. We believe that these charter and bylaw provisions are necessary to attract and retain qualified persons as directors and officers.

The limitation of liability and indemnification provisions in our Certificate of Incorporation and Amended and Restated Bylaws may discourage stockholders from bringing a lawsuit against directors for breach of their fiduciary duties. They may also reduce the likelihood of derivative litigation against directors and officers, even though an action, if successful, might benefit us and our stockholders. Moreover, a stockholder's investment may be harmed to the extent we pay the costs of settlement and damage awards against directors and officers pursuant to these indemnification provisions.

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Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), may be permitted to our directors, officers and controlling persons pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, we have 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. There is no pending litigation or proceeding naming any of our directors or officers as to which indemnification is being sought, nor are we aware of any pending or threatened litigation that may result in claims for indemnification by any director or officer.

## Process for Identifying and Evaluating Nominees for the Board of Directors

#### **Director Qualifications**

The corporate governance and nominating committee has not formally established any specific, minimum qualifications that must be met by each candidate for the Board of Directors or specific qualities or skills that are necessary for one or more of the members of the Board of Directors to possess.

#### **Identifying Nominees**

The corporate governance and nominating committee has two primary methods for identifying director candidates (other than those proposed by our stockholders, as discussed below). First, on a periodic basis, the nominating committee will solicit ideas for possible candidates from a number of sources, including members of the Board of Directors, our executive officers and individuals personally known to the members of the Board of Directors. Second, the corporate governance and nominating committee is authorized to use its authority under its charter to retain at our expense one or more search firms to identify candidates (and to approve such firms' fees and other retention terms).

#### Stockholder Candidates

The corporate governance and nominating committee will consider candidates for nomination as a director submitted by stockholders. Although the corporate governance and nominating committee does not have a separate policy that addresses the consideration of director candidates recommended by stockholders, the Board of Directors does not believe that such a separate policy is necessary because our Amended and Restated Bylaws permit stockholders to nominate candidates and one of the duties set forth in the corporate governance and nominating committee charter is to consider director candidates submitted by stockholders in accordance with our Amended and Restated Bylaws. The corporate governance and nominating committee will evaluate individuals recommended by stockholders for nomination as directors according to the criteria discussed above and in accordance with our Amended and Restated Bylaws and the procedures described under "Stockholder Proposals and Nominations" below.

## **Review of Director Nominees**

The corporate governance and nominating committee will evaluate any candidates recommended by stockholders against the same criteria and pursuant to the same policies and procedures applicable to the evaluation of candidates proposed by our directors, executive officers, third-party search firms or other sources. In evaluating proposed director candidates, the corporate governance and nominating committee may consider, in addition to any minimum qualifications and other criteria for Board of Directors membership approved by the Board of Directors from time to time, all facts and circumstances that it deems appropriate or advisable, including, among other things, the proposed director candidate's understanding of our business and industry on a technical level, his or her judgment and skills, his or her depth and breadth of professional experience or other background characteristics, his or her independence, his or her willingness to devote the time and effort necessary to be an effective board member, and the needs of the Board of Directors. We do not have a formal policy with regard to the consideration of diversity in identifying director nominees. However, the Board of Directors believes that it is essential that its members represent diverse viewpoints, with a broad array of experiences, professions, skills, geographic representation and backgrounds that, when considered as a group, provide a sufficient mix of perspectives to allow the Board of Directors to best fulfill its responsibilities to the long-term interests of our stockholders. The corporate governance and nominating committee considers at least annually, and recommends to the Board of Directors suggested changes to, if any, the size, composition, organization and governance of the Board of Directors and its committees.

#### Stockholder Proposals and Nominations

In order for a stockholder to nominate a person for election as a director at the 2025 Annual Meeting of stockholders, you must provide written notice to Inhibikase Therapeutics, Inc., 3350 Riverwood Parkway SE, Suite 1900, Atlanta, Georgia 30339, c/o Corporate Secretary. The notice of a proposed director nomination must provide information and documentation

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as required in our Amended and Restated Bylaws which, in general, require that the notice of a director nomination include the information about the nominee that would be required to be disclosed in the solicitation of proxies for the election of a director under federal securities laws; a description of all arrangements or understandings between the stockholder and each nominee and any other person or persons (naming such person or persons) pursuant to which the nominations are to be made by the stockholder; a written statement executed by the nominee acknowledging that as a director of the Company, the nominee will owe a fiduciary duty under Delaware law with respect to the Company and its stockholders; and any other information relating to the nominee that would be required to be disclosed about such nominee if proxies were being solicited for the election or re-election of the nominee as a director, or that is otherwise required, in each case pursuant to Regulation 14A under the Exchange Act (including without limitation the nominee's written consent to being named in the proxy statement, if any, as a nominee and to serving as a director if elected or re-elected, as the case may be). A copy of the Amended and Restated Bylaw requirements will be provided upon request to the Corporate Secretary at the address above.

Effective September 1, 2022, Rule 14a-19 under the Exchange Act requires the use of a universal proxy card in contested director elections. Under this "universal proxy rule," a stockholder intending to engage in a director election contest with respect to an annual meeting of stockholders must give the Company notice of its intent to solicit proxies by providing the name(s) of the stockholder's nominee(s) and certain other information at least 60 calendar days prior to the anniversary of the previous year's annual meeting date (except that, if the Company did not hold an annual meeting during the previous year, or if the date of the meeting has changed by more than 30 calendar days from the previous year, then notice must be provided by the later of 60 calendar days prior to the date of the annual meeting or the 10th calendar day following the day on which public announcement of the date of the annual meeting is first made by the Company).

## Stockholder Communications with the Board of Directors

Stockholders and other interested parties may make their concerns known confidentially to the Board of Directors or the independent directors by submitting a communication in an envelope addressed to the "Board of Directors," a specifically named independent director or the "Independent Directors" as a group, in care of the Corporate Secretary. All such communications will be conveyed, as applicable, to the full Board of Directors, the specified independent director or the independent directors as a group.

## EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

Our named executive officers for fiscal 2023, who consist of our principal executive officer and our next most highly compensated executive officer, are:

•Milton H. Werner, Ph.D., our President and Chief Executive Officer; and

•Joseph Frattaroli, C.P.A., our former Chief Financial Officer.<sup>1</sup>

(1)As previously announced on January 16, 2024, Mr. Frattaroli retired from his position as Chief Financial Officer on March 31, 2024 and Garth Lees-Rolfe, our former Vice President of Finance, was appointed Chief Financial Officer effective April 1, 2024.

#### **Summary Compensation Table**

The following table sets forth information regarding the compensation of our named executive officers for the years ended December 31, 2023 and December 31, 2022:

Name and Principal Position	Year	Salary (\$)(1)	Bonus (\$)		Option Awards (\$)(2)	Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation (\$)(3)	All Other Compensation (\$)(4)	Total (\$)
Milton H. Werner, Ph.D.	2023	510,000		—	113,472	170,850	17,107	811,429
President and Chief Executive Officer	2022	500,833		_	85,865	140,250	17,107	744,055
Joseph Frattaroli, C.P.A.	2023	408,333		—	48,631	123,000		579,964
Former Chief Financial Officer	2022	395,833		—	42,932	136,000		574,765

(1)Dr. Werner's annual base salary rate was \$510,000 for the duration of fiscal 2023. Mr. Frattaroli's annual base salary rate increased from \$400,000 to \$410,000 effective March 1, 2023.

(2)The amount reported in this column for each named executive officer represents the aggregate grant date fair value of the option award made to such named executive officer, as calculated in accordance with FASB Accounting Standards Codification Topic 718, or ASC 718. The calculation of the grant date fair value of the

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option awards disclosed in this column is based on a risk-free interest rate of 4.3%, an expected volatility rate of 98.13%, an expected term of 4.5 years and an expected dividend yield of 0%.

(3)The amount reported in this column for each named executive officer represents the award earned by such named executive officer under our annual performancebased cash incentive program in respect of fiscal 2023 performance. These amounts were paid in 2024.

(4)The amount reported in this column represents \$5,023 paid by us for Dr. Werner's life insurance policy premiums and \$12,084 paid by us for Dr. Werner's automobile expenses.

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### **Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year-End**

The following table sets forth information concerning outstanding equity awards held by each of our named executive officers as of December 31, 2023:

	Option Awards					
Name	Grant Date	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#) Exercisable	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#) Unexercisable	Equity Incentive Awards: Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Unearned Options (#)	Option Exercise Price (\$)	Option Expiration Date
Milton H. Werner	11/1/2015 (1)	3,643		—	13.86	11/1/2025
	11/1/2016 (2)	3,643		—	13.86	11/1/2026
	11/1/2017 (3)	3,643		—	13.86	11/1/2027
	11/1/2018 (4)	3,643		—	28.76	11/1/2028
	11/1/2019 (5)	3,643	—	—	33.43	11/1/2029
	12/22/2020 (7)	16,667		—	60.00	12/22/2027
	3/7/2022 (8)	12,153	8,681	_	6.42	3/7/2029
	3/7/2022 (9)	—	—	41,667	6.42	3/7/2029
	3/1/2023 (10)	—	35,000	—	4.44	3/1/2030
	3/1/2023 (11)	—	—	17,500	4.44	3/1/2030
Joseph Frattaroli	8/25/2020 (6)	3,643	_	_	35.42	8/25/2027
<b>^</b>	8/25/2020 (6)	25,000	_	_	35.42	8/25/2027
	12/22/2020 (7)	16,667	_	_	60.00	12/22/2027
	3/7/2022 (8)	6,077	4,304		6.42	3/7/2029
	3/7/2022 (9)	_	_	20,834	6.42	3/7/2029
	3/1/2023 (10)	_	15,000		4.44	3/1/2030
	3/1/2023 (11)	_	—	7,500	4.44	3/1/2030

(1)All of the shares subject to this option were vested as of November 1, 2016.

(2)All of the shares subject to this option were vested as of November 1, 2017.

(3)All of the shares subject to this option were vested as of November 1, 2018.

(4)All of the shares subject to this option were vested as of November 1, 2019.

(5)All of the shares subject to this option were vested as of November 1, 2020.

(6)The option granted on August 25, 2020 was issued to Flagship Consulting, Inc. ("Flagship"). Flagship is owned and controlled by Mr. Frattaroli. All of the shares subject to this option were vested as of August 25, 2020.

(7)With respect to the options granted to each of Dr. Werner and Mr. Frattaroli on December 22, 2020, one-third of each such option vested and became exercisable on the first anniversary of the closing of our initial public offering (i.e., December 28, 2021), and the remainder vested and became exercisable in 24 equal monthly installments thereafter (commencing with January 1, 2022), subject generally to the relevant named executive officer's continued service through each vesting date.

(8)With respect to the options granted to each of Dr. Werner and Mr. Frattaroli on March 7, 2022 that are disclosed in these rows, one-third of each such option vested and became exercisable on March 7, 2023, and the remaining portion will vest and become exercisable in 24 equal monthly installments thereafter (commencing with April 1, 2023), subject generally to the relevant named executive officer's continued service through each vesting date.

(9)With respect to the options granted to each of Dr. Werner and Mr. Frattaroli on March 7, 2022 that are disclosed in these rows, each such option is subject to performance conditions and will vest and become exercisable only if and when the performance conditions have been met. There is no assurance that the performance conditions will be met, and therefore, all or a portion of these options may never vest or become exercisable. As of December 31, 2023, no performance conditions were met.

(10)With respect to the options granted to each of Dr. Werner and Mr. Frattaroli on March 1, 2023 that are disclosed in these rows, one-third of each such option will vest and become exercisable on March 1, 2024, and the remaining portion will vest and become exercisable in 24 equal monthly installments thereafter (commencing with April 1, 2024), subject generally to the relevant named executive officer's continued service through each vesting date.

(11)With respect to the options granted to each of Dr. Werner and Mr. Frattaroli on March 1, 2023 that are disclosed in these rows, each such option is subject to performance conditions and will vest and become exercisable only if and when the performance

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conditions have been met. There is no assurance that the performance conditions will be met, and therefore, all or a portion of these options may never vest or become exercisable. As of December 31, 2023, no performance conditions were met.

# **Employment Arrangements with Our Named Executive Officers**

### Milton H. Werner, Ph.D. Employment Agreement ("Werner Employment Agreement")

Dr. Werner received an annual base salary of \$510,000 during fiscal 2023, which was increased to \$535,500 effective April 1, 2024, and is eligible to receive an annual performance cash bonus with a target amount equal to 50% of his annual base salary, which cash bonus is earned based on the achievement of performance goals established by the compensation committee in the first quarter of the year. The performance goals may include a number of factors such as the successful progression of clinical trials, preclinical trials and development, the successful submission of regulatory filings, the discovery and development of additional candidate molecules, the entry into one or more strategic partnerships, the adequacy of the Company's working capital, investor relations and successful organizational growth.

Pursuant to the Werner Employment Agreement, Dr. Werner is subject to a one-year post-termination non-compete and non-solicit of employees and clients. He is also bound by confidentiality obligations.

In the event of a termination of Dr. Werner's employment by the Company without "cause" or by Dr. Werner for

"good reason" (in each case, other than within twelve months following a "change in control"), Dr. Werner is entitled to receive: (i) an amount equal to twelve months of his base salary, paid out in equal installments over a six-month period; (ii) payment of any annual bonus accrued for the year prior to the year of termination (to the extent not already paid); (iii) payment of a pro-rated annual bonus (pro-rated based on the number of days Dr. Werner was employed during the year) for the year of termination based on actual performance through the end of the year and paid when bonuses are paid to other senior executives of the Company; (iv) reimbursement of his COBRA premiums for up to twelve months; and (v) full vesting of any outstanding, unvested equity awards granted to him by the Company. Dr. Werner's outstanding vested stock options generally will remain exercisable no longer than six months following such a termination.

In the event of a termination of Dr. Werner's employment by the Company without "cause" or by Dr. Werner for "good reason" (in each case, within twelve months following a "change in control"), Dr. Werner is entitled to receive: (i) an amount equal to eighteen months of his base salary, paid out in equal installments over a 12-month period; (ii) payment of any annual bonus accrued for the year prior to the year of termination (to the extent not already paid); (iii) an amount equal to his-then target annual bonus; (iv) payment of a pro-rated target annual bonus (pro-rated based on the number of days Dr. Werner was employed during the year) for the year of termination; (v) reimbursement of his COBRA premiums for up to eighteen months; and (vi) full vesting for any outstanding, unvested equity awards granted to him by the Company. Dr. Werner's outstanding vested stock options generally will remain exercisable no longer than six months following such a termination.

The receipt of any termination benefits described above is subject to Dr. Werner's execution of a release of claims in favor of the Company, a form of which is attached as an exhibit to the Werner Employment Agreement.

In the event of Dr. Werner's termination due to death or disability, Dr. Werner will receive full vesting for any outstanding, unvested equity awards granted to him by the Company.

The Werner Employment Agreement also provides for monthly severance payments in connection with any termination other than by the Company without "cause", by Dr. Werner for "good reason" or due to Dr. Werner's death. Such severance payments are in an aggregate amount equal to one-half of Dr. Werner's highest annual base salary during the two years preceding termination. Such severance payments will be paid over either (i) a six-month period in the event of a termination that does not occur within twelve months following a "change in control," or (ii) a twelve-month period in the event the termination occurs within twelve months following a "change in control."

Under the Werner Employment Agreement, "cause" means generally: the conviction of or plea of nolo contendere to a felony; the commission of fraud, misappropriation or embezzlement against any person; the theft or misappropriation of Company property; the breach of the Werner Employment Agreement by Dr. Werner (subject to a cure right); the willful or gross neglect by Dr. Werner of his duties (subject to a cure right); willful or gross misconduct in Dr. Werner's performance of his duties (subject to a cure right); or the willful violation of any material Company policy (subject to a cure right).

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"Good reason" means generally: a material diminution in authority, duties or responsibilities; a material diminution in base salary that persists for longer than twelve months; or a material breach of the Werner Employment Agreement by the Company. For good reason to apply, Dr. Werner must provide notice to the Company within 90 days of the initial existence of one of the above conditions; the Company must fail to cure such condition within 30 days; and Dr. Werner must terminate his employment within 180 days following the initial existence of the condition.

"Change in control" means generally: a merger or consolidation of the Company with another corporation (other than a transaction in which the voting securities outstanding prior to the transaction continue to represent more than 50% of the total voting power of the surviving entity after the transaction); the approval of a plan of complete liquidation of the Company or an agreement for the sale of all or substantially all of the Company's assets; or a person or entity becomes the beneficial owner of securities of the Company representing 50% or more of the total voting power of the Company.

### Joseph Frattaroli, C.P.A. Employment Agreement ("Frattaroli Employment Agreement")

Mr. Frattaroli retired from his position as Chief Financial Officer effective March 31, 2024. Prior to his retirement, Mr. Frattaroli received an annual base salary of \$410,000 (increased effective March 1, 2023 from \$400,000) and was eligible to receive an annual performance cash bonus with a target amount equal to 40% of his annual base salary, which cash bonus was earned based on the achievement of performance goals established by the compensation committee of the Board of Directors in the first quarter of the year. The performance goals may have included a number of factors such as the successful progression of clinical trials, pre-clinical trials, and development, the successful submission of regulatory filings, the adequacy of the Company's working capital, investor relations, financial reporting and operations, budgeting and successful organizational growth.

Pursuant to the Mr. Frattaroli's employment agreement with the Company (the "Frattaroli Employment Agreement"), Mr. Frattaroli is subject to a one-year posttermination non-compete and non-solicit of employees and clients. He is also bound by confidentiality obligations.

In the event of a termination of Mr. Frattaroli's employment by the Company without "cause" or by Mr. Frattaroli for "good reason" other than in connection with a change in control, Mr. Frattaroli is entitled to receive: (i) severance payments equal to nine months of his base salary, paid out in equal installments in accordance with the Company's normal payroll practices; (ii) payment of any annual bonus accrued for the year prior to termination (to the extent not already paid); (iii) payment of a pro-rated annual bonus (pro-rated based on the number of days Mr. Frattaroli was employed during the year) for the year of termination based on actual performance through the end of the year and paid when bonuses are paid other senior executives of the Company; and (iv) reimbursement for the difference between the cost of COBRA and Mr. Frattaroli's contribution for health insurance for up to nine months following termination.

In the event of a termination of Mr. Frattaroli's employment by the Company without "cause" or by Mr. Frattaroli for "good reason" within 12 months following a change in control, Mr. Frattaroli is entitled to receive: (i) severance payments equal to 12 months of his base salary, paid in a lump sum; (ii) payment of any annual bonus accrued for the year prior to termination (to the extent not already paid); (iii) payment of a pro-rated annual bonus (pro-rated based on the number of days Mr. Frattaroli was employed during the year) for the year of termination based on target; (iv) an amount equal to his-then target annual bonus; (v) reimbursement for the difference between the cost of COBRA and Mr. Frattaroli's contribution for health insurance for up to 12 months following termination; and (vi) full vesting for any outstanding, unvested equity awards granted to him by the Company.

The receipt of any termination benefits described above is subject to Mr. Frattaroli's execution of a release of claims in favor of the Company, a form of which is attached as an exhibit to the Frattaroli Employment Agreement.

The Frattaroli Employment Agreement also provides for monthly severance payments in connection with any termination other than by the Company without "cause", by Mr. Frattaroli for "good reason" or due to death. Such severance payments are in an aggregate amount equal to one-half of Mr. Frattaroli's highest annual base salary during the two years preceding termination. Such severance payments will be paid over either (A) a nine-month period in the event of a termination that is not in connection with a change in control, or (B) a 12-month period in the event the termination occurs within 12 months following a change in control.

Under the Frattaroli Employment Agreement, "cause" means generally: the commission of an act of disloyalty, dishonesty, breach of trust, fraud, misconduct, bad faith, embezzlement, misappropriation of Company assets, or destruction of Company property; gross negligence in the performance of employment duties; refusal, failure or willful nonfeasance to

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perform employment duties; failure to comply with Company policy (subject to a cure right); conduct which is materially detrimental to the reputation, goodwill or business operation of the Company; the conviction for, or plea of nolo contendere, to a felony; or a breach of the Frattaroli Employment Agreement by Mr. Frattaroli (subject to a cure right).

"Good reason" and "change in control" under the Frattaroli Employment Agreement have the same meanings as those provided in the Werner Employment Agreement, as described above

### Equity Compensation

On March 1, 2023, we granted, under our 2020 Plan (as defined below), an option to purchase 35,000 shares of our common stock to Dr. Werner and an option to purchase 15,000 shares of our common stock to Mr. Frattaroli, both of which are subject to time-based vesting. One third of each such option award will vest and become exercisable on March 1, 2024, and the remaining portion will vest and become exercisable in 24 equal monthly installments thereafter (commencing with April 1, 2024), subject generally to the relevant named executive officer's continued service through each vesting date.

Also, on March 1, 2023, we granted, under our 2020 Plan, an option to purchase 17,500 shares of our common stock to Dr. Werner and an option to purchase 7,500 shares of our common stock to Mr. Frattaroli, both of which are subject to performance-based vesting.

The performance based criteria for vesting may include a number of factors such as the successful progression of clinical trials, pre-clinical trials, and development, the successful submission of regulatory filings, the discovery and development of additional candidate molecules, the entering into of one or more strategic partnerships, the adequacy of the Company's working capital, investor relations and successful organizational growth.

In connection with Mr. Frattaroli's retirement on March 31, 2024, the compensation committee of our board of directors has authorized the extension of the exercise period for each of Mr. Frattaroli's vested option awards subject to time-based vesting until the original expiration date of each of such option award.

### Other Benefits

We maintain a Simple IRA retirement savings plan for the benefit of our employees, including our named executive officers, who satisfy certain eligibility requirements. Under the Simple IRA, eligible employees may elect to defer a portion of their compensation, within the limits prescribed by the Code, on a pre-tax basis through contributions to the Simple IRA plan. The Simple IRA plan authorizes employer safe harbor matching contributions equal to 3% of covered compensation for eligible employees. The Simple IRA plan is intended to qualify under Sections 401(a) and 501(a) of the Code. As a tax-qualified retirement program, contributions to the Simple IRA plan and earnings on those contributions are not taxable to the employees until distributed from the Simple IRA plan.

Our named executive officers who are full time employees are eligible to participate in our medical and dental insurance plans, which are paid by the Company at 90% following the completion of the December 2020 initial public offering, with the remainder paid by the eligible employee. In addition, it is the Company's practice to reimburse Dr. Werner \$418.76 per month in respect of premiums that he pays on his life insurance policy. The Company also paid Dr. Werner \$12,084 in 2023 for automobile expenses.

### **Pledging and Hedging Policies**

Under the terms of our Insider Trading Policy, our executive officers and directors are prohibited from: trading in call or put options involving our securities and other derivative securities, engaging in short sales of our securities, holding our securities in a margin account, all forms of hedging or monetizing our transactions, such as zero-cost collars and forward sale contracts, and pledging Company securities to secure margin or other loans.

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# **Director Compensation**

The following table presents the total compensation earned for services by each of our non-employee directors during the year ended December 31, 2023.

Name	Fees Earned or Paid in Cash (\$)	Option Awards (\$) <sup>(1)</sup>	Total (\$)
Mr. Dennis Berman <sub>(2)</sub>	58,000	16,854	74,854
Dr. Roy Freeman <sub>(3)</sub>	49,000	16,854	65,854
Dr. Paul Grint <sub>(4)</sub>	64,000	16,854	80,854
Ms. Gisele Dion(5)	65,000	16,854	81,854

(1)The amounts disclosed represent the aggregate grant date fair value of the option award as calculated in accordance with FASB Accounting Standards Codification Topic 718, or ASC 718. The calculation of the grant date fair value of the option awards disclosed in this column includes a risk-free interest rate of 4.22%, expected volatility of 98.13%, expected term of 4 years and an expected dividend yield of 0%. These amounts do not correspond to the actual value that may be recognized by the directors upon vesting of the applicable awards.

(2)As of December 31, 2023, the aggregate number of shares of our common stock underlying the options granted to Mr. Berman was 40,106.

(3)As of December 31, 2023, the aggregate number of shares of our common stock underlying the options granted to Dr. Freeman was 40,106.

(4)As of December 31, 2023, the aggregate number of shares of our common stock underlying the options granted to Dr. Grint was 40,106.

(5)As of December 31, 2023, the aggregate number of shares of our common stock underlying the options granted to Ms. Dion was 16,667.

Our Board of Directors has approved the following compensation program for our non-employee directors, which became effective upon conclusion of the December 2020 initial public offering. Each non-employee director is eligible to receive compensation for his or her service consisting of annual cash retainers and equity awards as described below. Our Board of Directors may revise outside director compensation as it deems necessary or appropriate.

### **Cash Compensation**

All non-employee directors are entitled to receive the following cash compensation for their services:

•\$40,000 per year for service as a board member;

•\$30,000 per year additionally for service as non-executive Chairperson of the Board;

•\$20,000 per year additionally for service as chair of the audit committee;

•\$10,000 per year additionally for service as member of the audit committee, increased from \$5,000 per year, effective January 1, 2022 (excluding committee chair);

•\$10,000 per year additionally for service as chair of the compensation committee;

•\$5,000 per year additionally for service as member of the compensation committee (excluding committee chair);

•\$8,000 per year additionally for service as chair of the corporate governance and nominating committee, increased from \$5,000 per year, effective January 1, 2022; and

•\$4,000 per year additionally for service as member of the corporate governance and nominating committee, increased from \$3,000 per year, effective January 1, 2022 (excluding committee chair).

All cash payments to non-employee directors who served in the relevant capacity at any point during the immediately preceding prior fiscal quarter will be paid quarterly in arrears. A non-employee director who served in the relevant capacity during only a portion of the prior fiscal quarter will receive a pro-rated payment of the quarterly payment of the applicable cash retainer.

### Equity Compensation

Each new non-employee director will be granted an initial option grant with respect to 10,000 shares of our common stock, with

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50% of the grant vesting on each of the first two anniversaries of the date of grant. Commencing with fiscal 2023, each current non-employee director will be granted an annual option grant with respect to 6,667 shares of our common stock, with 100% of the grant vesting on the earlier of (i) the one year anniversary of the date of grant, and (ii) the day immediately prior to the next annual meeting of stockholders.

The Company intends to make annual equity grants to non-employee directors coincident with each annual meeting of stockholders. Accordingly, on June 30, 2023, each non-employee director received an annual option grant with respect to 6,667 shares of our common stock, with a grant date fair value of \$16,854, which grant will vest one year after the grant date, subject to the grantee's continued service through that date.

### Scientific Advisory Board Compensation

With the exception of Drs. Ted and Valina Dawson, each member of our scientific advisory board earns \$400-600 per hour for his or her service as a member of our scientific advisory board, and, in January 2021, received a one-time option grant in respect of 1,907 shares of our common stock. Unlike other scientific advisory board members, we have ongoing pre-clinical research collaborations with Drs. Ted and Valina Dawson, and therefore, they each received an option grant in 2017 in respect of 21,854 shares of our common stock with a five-year vesting period and an exercise price of \$13.86 per share. We also reimburse each member of our scientific advisory board for all reasonable and necessary expenses in connection with the performance of his or her services. Members of the scientific advisory board who are also our employees or directors receive no additional compensation for their service on the scientific advisory board.

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# CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS

In addition to the compensation arrangements, including employment, termination of employment and change in control arrangements, with our directors and executive officers, including those discussed in the section titled "Executive Compensation" in this Proxy Statement, since January 1, 2023, we have not been nor are we a party to any transaction or any currently proposed transaction in which:

•we have been or are to be a party to;

•the amount involved exceeded or exceeds \$120,000 or 1% of the average of our total assets as of the end of the last two completed fiscal years; and

• any of our directors, executive officers or holders of more than 5% of our outstanding capital stock, or any immediate family member of, or person sharing the household with, any of these individuals or entities, had or will have a direct or indirect material interest.

For information on our compensation arrangements, including employment, termination of employment and change in control arrangements, with our directors and executive officers, please see the section captioned "Executive Compensation" in this Proxy Statement.

#### **Indemnification Agreements**

We entered into separate indemnification agreements with each of our directors and executive officers, in addition to the indemnification that is provided for in our Certificate of Incorporation and Amended and Restated Bylaws. The indemnification agreements and our Certificate of Incorporation and Amended and Restated Bylaws that became effective upon the completion of December 2020 initial public offering require us to indemnify our directors, executive officers and certain controlling persons to the fullest extent permitted by Delaware law. See the section captioned "Management and Corporate Governance – Limitation of Liability and Indemnification" for additional information.

### **Director Independence**

Our common stock is listed on Nasdaq. Under the rules of Nasdaq, independent directors must comprise a majority of a listed company's board of directors. In addition, the rules of Nasdaq require that, subject to specified exceptions, each member of a listed company's audit, compensation and corporate governance and nominating committees be independent. Audit committee members and compensation committee members must also satisfy the independence criteria set forth in Rule 10A-3 and Rule 10C-1, respectively, under the Exchange Act. Under the rules of Nasdaq, a director will only qualify as an "independent director" if, in the opinion of that company's board of directors, that person does not have a relationship that would interfere with the exercise of independent judgment in carrying out the responsibilities of a director.

To be considered to be independent for purposes of Rule 10A-3 and under the rules of Nasdaq, a member of an audit committee of a listed company may not, other than in his or her capacity as a member of the audit committee, the board of directors, or any other board of directors committee: (1) accept, directly or indirectly, any consulting, advisory, or other compensatory fee from the listed company or any of its subsidiaries; or (2) be an affiliated person of the listed company or any of its subsidiaries.

To be considered independent for purposes of Rule 10C-1 and under the rules of Nasdaq, the board of directors must affirmatively determine that each member of the compensation committee is independent, including a consideration of all factors specifically relevant to determining whether the director has a relationship to the company which is material to that director's ability to be independent from management in connection with the duties of a compensation committee member, including, but not limited to: (i) the source of compensation of such director; and (ii) whether such director is affiliated with the company, a subsidiary of the company or an affiliate of a subsidiary of the company.

Our Board of Directors undertook a review of its composition, the composition of its committees and the independence of our directors and considered whether any director has a material relationship with us that could compromise his or her ability to exercise independent judgment in carrying out his or her responsibilities. Based upon information requested from and provided by each non-employee director concerning his or her background, employment and affiliations, including family relationships, our Board of Directors has determined that none of our directors have relationships that would interfere with the exercise of independent judgment in carrying out the responsibilities of a director and that each of these directors is

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"independent" as that term is defined under the rules of Nasdaq and Rule 10A-3 and Rule 10C-1under the Exchange Act. Only Dr. Werner is not independent under Nasdaq's independence standards.

In making these determinations, our Board of Directors considered the current and prior relationships that each non-employee director has with our Company and all other facts and circumstances our Board of Directors deemed relevant in determining their independence, including the beneficial ownership of our capital stock by each non-employee director, and the transactions involving them described in this section.

# Nasdaq Diversity Matrix

In accordance with Nasdaq's Board Diversity Rule, we have included our board diversity matrix in this proxy statement as set forth below.

# Board Diversity Matrix for Inhibikase Therapeutics, Inc.

# As of April 15, 2024

Total Number of Directors			5	
Part I: Gender Identity	Female	Male	Non-Binary	Did Not Disclose Gender
Directors	1	4	0	0
Part II: Demographic Background				
African American or Black	0	0	0	0
Alaskan Native or American Indian	0	0	0	0
Asian	0	0	0	0
Hispanic or Latinx	0	0	0	0
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0
White	1	4	0	0
Two or More Races or Ethnicities	0	0	0	0
LGBTQ+	0	0	0	0
Did Not Disclose Demographic Background	0	0	0	0

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# SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT AND RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS

The following table sets forth the beneficial ownership of our common stock as of April 15, 2024 by:

•each person, or group of affiliated persons, who is known by us to beneficially own more than 5% of our common stock;

•each of our named executive officers and current executive officers;

•each of our directors; and

•all of our current executive officers and directors as a group.

We have determined beneficial ownership in accordance with the rules of the SEC, and thus it represents sole or shared voting or investment power with respect to our securities. Unless otherwise indicated below, to our knowledge, the persons and entities named in the table have sole voting and sole investment power with respect to all shares that they beneficially owned, subject to community property laws where applicable. The information does not necessarily indicate beneficial ownership for any other purpose, including for purposes of Sections 13(d) and 13(g) of the Exchange Act.

We have based our calculation of the percentage of beneficial ownership on 6,476,844 shares of our common stock outstanding on April 15, 2024. We have deemed shares of our common stock subject to stock options that are currently exercisable or exercisable within 60 days of April 15, 2024, to be outstanding and to be beneficially owned by the person holding the stock option for the purpose of computing the percentage ownership of that person. We did not deem these shares outstanding, however, for the purpose of computing the percentage ownership of any other person. Unless otherwise indicated, the address of each beneficial owner listed in the table below is c/o Inhibikase Therapeutics, Inc., 3350 Riverwood Parkway SE, Suite 1900, Atlanta, GA 30339.

Shares Beneficially Owned	
Shares	Percentage
954,796	14.6 %
1,945	*
66,682	1.0 %
33,439	*
33,439	*
33,439	*
5,000	*
1,062,058	16.2 %
—	_
	954,796           1,945           66,682           33,439           33,439           33,439           5,000

(\*) Represents beneficial ownership of less than one percent.

(1)Consists of (a) 889,242 shares held of record by Milton H. Werner, Ph.D. and (b) 65,554 shares underlying options exercisable within 60 days of April 15, 2024.

(2)Consists of 1,945 shares underlying options exercisable within 60 days of April 15, 2024. Mr. Lees-Rolfe was appointed Chief Financial Officer effective April 1, 2024.

(3)Consists of (a) 7,357 shares held of record by Flagship Consulting, Inc., an entity controlled by Mr. Frattaroli, (b) 658 shares held directly and (c) 58,667 underlying options exercisable within 60 days of April 15, 2024. Mr. Frattaroli retired from his position as our Chief Financial Officer effective March 31, 2024.

(4)Consists of 33,439 shares underlying options exercisable within 60 days of April 15, 2024.

(5)Consists of 33,439 shares underlying options exercisable within 60 days of April 15, 2024.

(6)Consists of 33,439 shares underlying options exercisable within 60 days of April 15, 2024.

(7)Consists of 5,000 shares underlying options exercisable within 60 days of April 15, 2024.

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# HOUSEHOLDING OF PROXY MATERIALS

The SEC has adopted rules that permit companies and intermediaries such as brokers to satisfy delivery requirements for proxy materials with respect to two or more stockholders sharing the same address by delivering a single proxy statement addressed to those stockholders. This process, which is commonly referred to as "householding," potentially provides extra convenience for stockholders and cost savings for companies. The Company, as well as some brokers (or other nominees), household the Company's proxy materials, which means that we or they deliver a single proxy statement or Notice, as applicable, to multiple stockholders sharing an address unless contrary instructions have been received from the affected stockholders. Once you have received notice from your broker (or other nominee) or from us that they or we will be householding materials to your address, householding will continue until you are notified otherwise or until you revoke your consent. If, at any time, you no longer wish to participate in householding and would prefer to receive a separate proxy statement in the future, or if you are receiving multiple copies of the proxy statement and wish for only one copy to be delivered to your household in the future, please notify (i) your broker (or other nominee) if your shares are held in a brokerage or similar account or (ii) the Company if you hold registered shares in your own name. We will promptly deliver a separate proxy statement to record stockholders upon written or oral request. You can notify us of your instructions by telephone at (678) 392-3419 or by sending a written request to:

### INHIBIKASE THERAPEUTICS, INC.

# 3350 RIVERWOOD PARKWAY SE, SUITE 1900

### ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30339

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# **OTHER BUSINESS**

We do not know of any matters that are to be presented for action at the Annual Meeting other than those set forth above. If any other matters properly come before the Annual Meeting, the person named in the enclosed proxy card will vote the shares represented by proxies in accordance with their best judgment on such matters.

# STOCKHOLDER PROPOSALS AND NOMINATIONS

In order for a stockholder proposal to be considered for inclusion in the proxy statement for the 2025 annual meeting of stockholders, the written proposal must be received by the Corporate Secretary at the address below no earlier than **February 15**, 2025 and no later than **March 17**, 2025. In the event that the annual meeting of stockholders is called for a date that is not within 30 days before or after the first anniversary of the date of this year's annual meeting, the proposal must be received no later than a reasonable time before the Company begins to print and mail its proxy materials. The proposal will also need to comply with the SEC's regulations under Rule 14a-8 under the Exchange Act regarding the inclusion of stockholder proposals in company sponsored proxy materials. Proposals should be addressed to:

### INHIBIKASE THERAPEUTICS, INC.

### 3350 RIVERWOOD PARKWAY SE, SUITE 1900

# ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30339

For a stockholder proposal that is not intended to be included in the proxy statement for the 2025 annual meeting of stockholders, or if you want to nominate a person for election as a director, you must provide written notice to the Corporate Secretary at the address above. The Secretary must receive this notice not earlier than **February 15**, **2025** and no later than **March 17**, **2025**. However, if our 2025 annual meeting of stockholders is held *more than 30 days before or more than 60 days after June 7*, *2025*, then the Secretary must receive this notice not earlier than the close of business on the 120th day prior to the date of our 2025 annual meeting and not later than the close of business on the later of the 90th day prior to such annual meeting or the 10th day following the day on which we make a public announcement of the date of the meeting. The notice of a proposed item of business must provide information as required in our Amended and Restated Bylaws which, in general, require that the notice include for each matter a brief description of the matter to be brought before the meeting; the reason for bringing the matter before the meeting; your name, address, and number of shares you own beneficially or of record; and any material interest you have in the proposal.

Effective September 1, 2022, Rule 14a-19 under the Exchange Act requires the use of a universal proxy card in contested director elections. Under this "universal proxy rule," a stockholder intending to engage in a director election contest with respect to an annual meeting of stockholders must give the Company notice of its intent to solicit proxies by providing the name(s) of the stockholder's nominee(s) and certain other information at least 60 calendar days prior to the anniversary of the previous year's annual meeting date (except that, if the Company did not hold an annual meeting during the previous year, or if the date of the meeting has changed by more than 30 calendar days from the previous year, then notice must be provided by the later of 60 calendar days prior to the date of the annual meeting or the 10th calendar day following the day on which public announcement of the date of the annual meeting is first made by the Company).

The notice of a proposed director nomination must provide information and documentation as required in our Amended and Restated Bylaws which, in general, require that the notice of a director nomination include the information about the nominee that would be required to be disclosed in the solicitation of proxies for the election of a director under federal securities laws; a description of all arrangements or understandings between the stockholder and each nominee and any other person or persons (naming such person or persons) pursuant to which the nominations are to be made by the stockholder; a written statement executed by the nominee acknowledging that as a director of the Company, the nominee will owe a fiduciary duty under Delaware law with respect to the Company and its stockholders; and y other information relating to the nominee that would be required, in each case pursuant to Regulation 14A under the Exchange Act (including without limitation the nominee's written consent to being named in the proxy statement, if any, as a nominee and to serving as a director if elected or re-elected, as the case may be). A copy of the Amended and Restated Bylaw requirements will be provided upon request to the Corporate Secretary at the address above.

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# ANNUAL REPORT ON FORM 10-K AND OTHER INFORMATION

A copy of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023, including financial statements and any financial statement schedules required to be filed in accordance with SEC rules, will be sent without charge to any stockholder of the Company requesting it in writing from: Inhibikase Therapeutics, Inc., 3350 Riverwood Parkway SE, Suite 1900, Atlanta, Georgia 30339, Attention: Milton H. Werner, Ph.D. We also make available, free of charge on our website, all of our filings that are publicly filed on the SEC's EDGAR website, including Forms 10-K, 10-Q and 8-K, at *https://www.inhibikase.com/*.

By Order of the Board of Directors

/s/ Milton H. Werner

Milton H. Werner, Ph.D. President and Chief Executive Officer

Atlanta, Georgia April [ ], 2024

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### Appendix A

### AMENDMENT TO THE INHIBIKASE THERAPEUTICS, INC. 2020 EQUITY INCENTIVE PLAN.

The Inhibikase Therapeutics, Inc. 2020 Equity Incentive Plan (the "Plan") is hereby amended, effective as of the date of adoption of this Amendment by the Board of Directors of Inhibikase Therapeutics, Inc. (the "Company"), but subject to approval by the Company's stockholders in accordance with Section 11 of the Plan:

\*

1.Section 3(a) of the Plan is amended and restated in its entirety as follows:

(a) <u>Shares Subject to the Plan</u>. Subject to adjustment as provided in <u>Section 3(c)</u> of the Plan, the maximum aggregate number of Shares that may be issued in respect of Awards under the Plan is 3,959,881 (the "<u>Plan Limit</u>"). Subject to adjustment as provided in <u>Section 3(c)</u> of the Plan, the maximum aggregate number of Shares that may be issued under the Plan in respect of Incentive Stock Options is 3,959,881. Any Shares issued hereunder may consist, in whole or in part, of authorized and unissued Shares or treasury shares. Any Shares issued by the Company through the assumption or substitution of outstanding grants in connection with the acquisition of another entity shall not reduce the maximum number of Shares available for delivery under the Plan.

\*

Except as amended hereby, the terms and conditions of the Plan shall otherwise continue in full force and effect.

INHIBIKASE THERAPEUTICS, INC. By:

Name: Milton H. Werner, Ph.D. Title: President and Chief Executive Officer

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# Appendix B

### CERTIFICATE OF AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDED AND RESTATED CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION OF INHIBIKASE THERAPEUTICS, INC.

Inhibikase Therapeutics, Inc. (the "Corporation"), a corporation organized and existing under the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware, DOES HEREBY CERTIFY THAT:

FIRST: Article XII of the Certificate of Incorporation, as amended (the "Certificate of Incorporation"), of the Corporation is hereby amended and replaced in its entirety to read as follows:

"The Corporation reserves the right to amend or repeal any provision contained in this Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation in the manner prescribed by the laws of the State of Delaware and all rights conferred upon stockholders are granted subject to this reservation; provided, however, that notwithstanding any other provision of this Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation or any provision of law that might otherwise permit a lesser vote or no vote, the Board of Directors acting pursuant to a resolution adopted by a majority of the Board of Directors and the affirmative vote of sixty-six and two-thirds percent (66 2/3%) of the then outstanding voting securities of the Corporation, voting together as a single class, shall be required for the amendment, repeal or modification of the provisions of Section 2 and Section 3 of Article VI, Section 1 and Section 2 of Article V, Article VI, Section 5 of Article VII, Article XI or Article XII of this Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation." IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Corporation has caused this Certificate of Amendment of Certificate of Incorporation to be signed by its President and Chief Executive Officer on .

# INHIBIKASE THERAPEUTICS, INC.

By:

Name: Milton H. Werner, Ph.D. Title: President and Chief Executive Officer

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ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS OF
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# INHIBIKASE THERAPEUTICS, INC.

# June 7, 2024

GO GREEN

e-Consent makes it easy to go paperless. With e-Consent, you can quickly access your proxy material, statements and other eligible documents online, while reducing costs, clutter and paper waste. Enroll today via https://equiniti.com/us/ast-access to enjoy online access.

NOTICE OF INTERNET AVAILABILITY OF PROXY MATERIALS: The Notice of Meeting, Proxy Statement, Proxy Card and Annual Report to Stockholders are available at http://www.astproxyportal.com/ast/27379

> Please sign, date and mail your proxy card in the envelope provided as soon as possible.

Please detach along perforated line and mail in the envelope provided.

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	ELECTION OF THE DIRECTOR NOMINEE AND "FOR" PROPOSALS 2, 3 AND 4. IVELOPE. PLEASE MARK YOUR VOTE IN BLUE OR BLACK INK AS SHOWN HERE 🗵
1. Election of Director: POR THE NOMINEE Dr. Milton H. Werner WITHHOLD AUTHORITY FOR THE NOMINEE	2. To ratify the selection of CohnReznick LLP as the Company's      independent auditors for fiscal 2024;     3. To approve an amendment to our Company's 2020 Equity Incentive      Plan to increase the number of authorized shares of common stock      reserved for issuance by 2,500,000 shares to replenish the number      of authorized shares of common stock available for future grants;      and     4. To approve an amendment to Article XII of our Amended and      Restated Certificate of Incorporation to eliminate the 66 2/3%      affirmative vote requirement to amend Section 1 of Article IV thereof.     In their discretion, the proxies are authorized to vote upon such other business as may      properly come before the Annual Meeting. This proxy when properly executed will be voted
To shares the eddense on your economic places should be how of sight and	property come before the Anthual weeling. Integrating the process of the property executed will be voted as directed herein by the undersigned stockholder. If the odirection is made, this proxy will be voted FOR the election of the director nominee and FOR Proposals 2, 3 and 4.         MARK "X" HERE IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND THE VIRTUAL MEETING.
To charge the address on your account, please check the box at right and indicate your new address in the address space above. Please note that changes to the registered name(s) on the account may not be submitted via this method.  Signature of Stockholder Date	Signature of Stockholder
	Joine Joine Guide State