ASSURANCEAMERICA CORP Form 10-Q November 14, 2008

# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, DC 20549 FORM 10-Q

(Mark one)

(Mark one)							
DESCRIPTION OF THE SECURITIES DESCRIPTION PRODUCTION PRODUCTION PRODUCTION OF THE SECURITIES DESCRIPTION OF THE SECURITIES							
For the quart	For the quarterly period ended September 30, 2008						
	TRANSITION R OF 1934	EPORT PURSUANT T	O SECTION 13 OR 15 (D) OF	THE EXCHANGE ACT			
For the trans	ition period from	to					
			e Number: 0-06334 erica Corporation				
	(Exact		g company as specified in its cha	rter)			
Nevada			87-02	81240			
	(State of Incorpo	oration)	(IRS Employer ID Number)				
5500 Int	terstate North Pa	rkway, Suite 600	303	328			
(Addr	ess of principal ex	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	(Zip C	Code)			
		` '	952-0200				
(Issuer s telephone number, including area code) Check whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. YES b NO o Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of large accelerated filer, accelerated filer and smaller reporting company in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):							
Large acceler		Accelerated filer o	Non-accelerated filer o (Do not check if a smaller reporting company) Il company (as defined in Rule 12)	Smaller reporting company þ			
Act). YES o	NO þ						
There were 64	,953,881 shares of	f the Registrant s \$.01 pa	ar value Common Stock outstand	ling as of November 8, 2008.			

# ASSURANCEAMERICA CORPORATION Index to Form 10-Q

	Page
PART I FINANCIAL INFORMATION	
Item 1 Financial Statements	
Consolidated Balance Sheets as of September 30, 2008 and December 31, 2007	3
Consolidated Statements of Operations for the Three Months and Nine Months Ended September 30,	
2008 and September 30, 2007	4
Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income for the Three Months and Nine Months Ended	
September 30, 2008 and September 30, 2007	5
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for Nine Months ended September 30, 2008 and September 30,	
<u>2007</u>	6
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements	7
Item 2 Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations	14
Item 3 Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk	18
Item 4 Controls and Procedures	20
PART II OTHER INFORMATION	
Item 1 - Legal Proceedings	N/A
<u>Item 1 - A Risk Factors</u>	20
<u> Item 2 - Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities</u>	26
Item 3 - Defaults Upon Senior Securities	N/A
Item 4 - Submission of Matters to A Vote of Security Holders	N/A
Item 5 - Other Information	N/A
<u>Item 6 - Exhibits</u>	27
<u>Signatures</u>	28
EX-31.1	
EX-31.2 EX-32.1	
2	
<b>~</b>	

#### PART I FINANCIAL INFORMATION

#### **Item 1. Financial Statements**

### ASSURANCEAMERICA CORPORATION CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS September 30, 2008 and December 31, 2007

	eptember 30, 2008 Unaudited)	I	December 31, 2007 (Audited)
Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 4,605,317	\$	5,511,842
Short-term investments	650,849		642,924
Long-term investments, available for sale at fair value	8,048,731		14,838,738
Marketable equity securities	2,315,562		2,563,040
Other securities	155,000		155,000
Investment income due and accrued	133,719		158,981
Receivable from insureds	31,732,984		28,802,125
Reinsurance recoverable (including \$14,428,845 and \$6,077,396 on			
paid losses)	41,174,765		29,327,012
Prepaid reinsurance premiums	23,814,634		21,145,161
Deferred acquisition costs	2,431,606		2,130,323
Property and equipment (net of accumulated depreciation of			
\$3,382,440 and \$2,737,288)	2,706,630		2,360,747
Other receivables	3,760,538		2,966,287
Prepaid expenses	1,079,115		861,588
Intangibles (net of accumulated amortization of \$2,559,414 and			
\$2,240,233)	11,104,655		11,368,383
Security deposits	94,687		86,438
Prepaid income tax	479,949		148,677
Deferred tax assets	2,182,449		1,824,453
Other assets	351,710		361,419
Total assets	\$ 136,822,900	\$	125,253,138
Liabilities and stockholders equity			
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 9,208,051	\$	7,184,132
Unearned premium	34,103,588		30,991,565
Unpaid losses and loss adjustment expenses	38,468,909		33,660,814
Reinsurance payable	30,194,813		25,174,138
Provisional commission reserve	2,971,594		2,963,308
Notes payable, related party	1,996,967		4,482,862
Junior subordinated debentures payable	4,973,518		4,968,519
Total liabilities	121,917,440		109,425,338
Commitments and contingencies Stockholders equity Common stock, .01 par value (authorized 120,000,000, outstanding			
64,953,881 and 64,803,881)	649,539		648,039

Edgar Filing: ASSURANCEAMERICA CORP - Form 10-Q

Surplus-paid in	16,904,933	16,782,588
Accumulated deficit	(2,058,751)	(1,673,332)
Accumulated other comprehensive income:		
Net unrealized gains (losses) on investment securities, net of taxes	(590,261)	70,505
Total stockholders equity	14,905,460	15,827,800
Total liabilities and stockholders equity	\$ 136,822,900	\$ 125,253,138

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

3

# ASSURANCEAMERICA CORPORATION (Unaudited) CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS For the Three and Nine Months Ended September 30, 2008 and 2007

	Three Months Ended September 30, 2008 2007		Nine Months Ended September 30, 2008 2007			er 30,		
Revenue:								
Gross premiums written	\$ 2	22,168,416	\$	21,535,015	\$	71,336,281	\$	69,964,867
Gross premiums ceded	(	15,263,051)	(	14,553,205)	(	49,304,392)	(	47,230,864)
Net premiums written		6,905,365		6,981,810		22,031,889		22,734,003
Decrease (Increase) in unearned premiums,								
net of prepaid reinsurance premiums		473,519		(185,972)		(442,549)		(3,985,676)
Net premiums earned		7,378,884		6,795,838		21,589,340		18,748,327
Commission income		5,117,743		4,498,414		16,501,325		16,302,203
Managing general agent fees		2,962,309		2,871,324		9,080,139		8,109,556
Net investment income		159,597		209,132		549,410		602,935
Net investment gains (losses) on securities		(92,312)		(9,573)		(149,035)		16,666
Other fee income		112,680		49,578		370,298		297,794
Total revenue		15,638,901		14,414,713		47,941,477		44,077,481
Expenses:		6 260 259		4 726 402		17 404 400		12 502 464
Losses and loss adjustment expenses		6,360,258		4,726,493		17,494,409		13,593,464
Selling, general and administrative		0.712.440		0.021.000		20 424 251		27 002 762
expenses		9,713,440		9,021,080		29,434,351		27,003,762
Stock option expense		527		110,888		42,346		329,000
Depreciation and amortization expense		325,933		256,016		964,781		904,665
Interest expense		154,074		255,785		569,010		775,161
<b>Total operating expenses</b>		16,554,232		14,370,262		48,504,897		42,606,052
Income (loss) before provision for								
income tax expense		(915,331)		44,451		(563,420)		1,471,429
Income tax provision (benefit)		(296,845)		89,942		(178,001)		752,777
Net income (loss) before minority								
interest		(618,486)		(45,491)		(385,419)		718,652
Minority interest				(1,971)				2,655
Net income (loss)	\$	(618,486)	\$	(43,520)	\$	(385,419)	\$	715,997
Earnings per common share								
Basic	\$	(0.009)	\$	(0.001)	\$	(0.006)	\$	0.012
Diluted	\$	(0.009)	\$	(0.001)	\$	(0.006)	\$	0.012
Weighted average shares outstanding-basic Weighted average shares	(	54,941,381		64,731,908		64,911,655		60,939,646
outstanding-diluted	(	54,941,381		65,475,724		64,911,655		61,732,488

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

4

# ASSURANCEAMERICA CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES (Unaudited) CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME For the Three and Nine Months Ended September 30, 2008 and 2007

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,			
	2008	2007	2008	2007		
Net income (loss)	\$ (618,486)	\$ (43,520)	\$ (385,419)	\$715,997		
Other comprehensive income (loss):						
Change in unrealized gains (losses) of investments						
arising during the period	(568,256)	215,191	(1,206,261)	12,605		
Reclassification adjustment for realized losses						
(gains) recognized during the year	92,312	9,573	149,035	(16,666)		
Net change in unrealized (losses) gains	(475,944)	224,764	(1,057,226)	(4,061)		
Deferred tax (loss) benefit on above changes	178,479	(84,287)	396,460	1,523		
Other comprehensive losses	(297,465)	140,477	(660,766)	(2,538)		
Comprehensive income (loss)	\$ (915,951)	\$ 96,957	\$ (1,046,185)	\$713,459		

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

5

### ASSURANCEAMERICA CORPORATION (Unaudited) CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS For the Nine Months Ending September 30, 2008 and 2007

	<b>Nine Months Ended</b>			
	September 30,			•
		2008		2007
Cash flows from operating activities:	Φ.	(207.440)	4	<b>-</b> 1.5.00 <b>-</b>
Net income (loss)	\$	(385,419)	\$	715,997
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating				
activities:		1.40.025		(16.666)
Net investment losses (gains) on securities		149,035		(16,666)
Depreciation and amortization		964,781		909,663
Stock-based compensation options		42,348		329,000
Stock-based compensation director fees		81,500		116,600
Deferred tax provision		38,464		442,563
Changes in assets and liabilities:				
Investment income due and accrued		25,262		(82,494)
Receivables		(3,731,831)	(	13,855,635)
Prepaid expenses and other assets		(216,067)		(97,242)
Unearned premiums		3,112,023		12,298,713
Unpaid loss and loss adjustment expenses		4,808,095		5,847,610
Ceded reinsurance payable		5,020,675		12,808,182
Reinsurance recoverable	(	11,847,753)		(9,446,962)
Prepaid reinsurance premiums		(2,669,473)		(8,313,037)
Accounts payable and accrued expenses		2,023,919		2,962,225
Prepaid income taxes		(331,272)		303,187
Deferred acquisition costs		(301,283)		(1,117,101)
Provisional commission reserve		8,286		314,534
Net cash provided by operating activities		(3,208,710)		4,119,137
Cash flows from investing activities:				
Purchases of property and equipment, net		(998,615)		(548,839)
Proceeds from sales, call and maturities of investments		10,570,879		1,433,650
Purchases of investments		(4,734,320)		(5,898,942)
Cash paid for acquisition of agencies, net of cash acquired		(55,200)		(400,000)
Net cash provided (used) by investing activities		4,782,744		(5,414,131)
Cash flows from financing activities:				
Repayments of notes payable		(2,480,559)		(1,178,804)
Repayments on capital lease obligation		( , , ,		(64,759)
Net used provided by financing activities:		(2,480,559)		(1,243,563)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents		(906,525)		(2,538,557)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period		5,511,842		8,185,539

## Cash and cash equivalents, end of period

\$ 4,605,317

\$ 5,646,982

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

6

#### ASSURANCEAMERICA CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements September 30, 2008 and 2007

#### (1) Description of Business

AssuranceAmerica Corporation, a Nevada corporation (the Company ) is an insurance holding company whose business is comprised of AssuranceAmerica Insurance Company ( AAIC ), AssuranceAmerica Managing General Agency, LLC ( MGA ) and TrustWay Insurance Agencies, LLC ( TrustWay ), each wholly-owned. The Company solicits and underwrites nonstandard private passenger automobile insurance. The Company is headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia.

#### (2) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies Basis of Consolidation and Presentation

The accompanying unaudited consolidated financial statements of the Company have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) for interim financial information and in accordance with the instructions to Form 10-Q and Article 10 of Regulation S-X. Such financial statements do not include all of the information and disclosures required by GAAP for complete financial statements. In our opinion, all adjustments (consisting solely of normal recurring accruals) necessary for a fair presentation have been included in the accompanying financial statements. Certain items in prior period financial statements have been reclassified to conform to the current presentation. For further information, please refer to our audited consolidated financial statements appearing in the Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007.

#### **Estimates**

A discussion of our significant accounting policies and the use of estimates is included in the notes to the consolidated financial statements included in the Company s Financial Statements for the year ended December 31, 2007 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission in the 2007 Form 10-K.

#### **New Accounting Standards Adopted**

Effective January 1, 2008, the Company adopted Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 157, Fair Value Measurements (SFAS 157) which defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value, and expands disclosures about the information used to measure fair value. SFAS 157 applies whenever other accounting pronouncements require, or permit, assets or liabilities to be measured at fair value; it does not require any new fair value measurements. The adoption of SFAS 157 did not have a material impact on the results of operations or financial position of the Company (See Note 10 for required disclosures).

Effective January 1, 2008, the Company adopted SFAS No. 159, The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities including an amendment of FASB Statement No. 115 (SFAS 159) which permits entities to voluntarily choose to measure many financial instruments at fair value. The election is made on an instrument-by-instrument basis and is irrevocable. If the fair value is elected for an instrument, the statement specifies that entities report in earnings unrealized gains and losses at each subsequent reporting date. The Company did not elect the fair value option for any of its financial assets or liabilities.

#### (3) Losses and Loss Adjustment Expenses

The estimated liabilities for losses and loss adjustment expenses (LAE) include the accumulation of estimates for losses for claims reported prior to the balance sheet dates (case reserves), estimates (based upon actuarial analysis of historical data) of losses for claims incurred but not reported (IBNR) and for the development of case reserves to ultimate values, and estimates of expenses for investigating, adjusting and settling all incurred claims. Amounts reported are estimates of the ultimate costs of settlement, net of estimated salvage and subrogation. These estimated liabilities are subject to the outcome of future events, such as changes in medical and repair costs as well as economic and social conditions that impact the settlement of claims. Management believes that, given the inherent variability in any such estimates, the aggregate reserves are within a reasonable and acceptable range of adequacy. The methods of making such estimates and for establishing the resulting reserves are reviewed and updated quarterly and any resulting adjustments are reflected in current operations.

7

A summary of unpaid losses and loss adjustment expenses, net of reinsurance ceded, is as follows:

	September 30, 2008			December 31, 2007		
Case basis IBNR	\$	4,077,396 7,645,593	\$	4,200,577 6,210,621		
Total	\$	11,722,989	\$	10,411,198		

#### (4) Reinsurance

In the normal course of business, the Company seeks to reduce its overall risk levels by obtaining reinsurance from other insurance enterprises or reinsurers. Reinsurance premiums and reserves on reinsured business are accounted for on a basis consistent with those used in accounting for the original policies issued and the terms of the reinsurance contracts.

Reinsurance contracts do not relieve the Company from its obligations to policyholders. The Company periodically reviews the financial condition of its reinsurers to minimize its exposure to losses from reinsurer insolvencies. Reinsurance assets include balances due from other insurance companies under the terms of reinsurance agreements. Amounts applicable to ceded unearned premiums, ceded loss payments and ceded claims liabilities are reported as assets in the accompanying balance sheets. The Company believes the fair value of its reinsurance recoverables approximates their carrying amounts.

The impact of reinsurance on the statements of operations for the three and nine-month periods ended September 30, 2008 and 2007 is as follows:

		Months tember 30,	Nine Months Ended September 30,		
	2008	2007	2008	2007	
Premiums written:					
Direct	\$ 21,948,630	\$ 21,145,204	\$70,425,262	\$68,784,027	
Assumed	219,786	389,811	911,019	1,180,840	
Ceded	15,263,051	14,553,205	49,304,392	47,230,864	
Net	\$ 6,905,365	\$ 6,981,810	\$ 22,031,889	\$ 22,734,003	
Premiums earned:					
Direct	\$ 23,344,385	\$ 20,348,021	\$67,111,079	\$ 56,885,146	
Assumed	303,812	369,866	1,113,178	781,009	
Ceded	16,269,313	13,922,049	46,634,917	38,917,828	
Net	\$ 7,378,884	\$ 6,795,838	\$21,589,340	\$ 18,748,327	
Losses and loss adjustment expenses incurred:					
Direct	\$ 20,868,196	\$ 14,686,373	\$ 56,229,573	\$43,410,668	
Assumed	287,861	312,760	982,042	543,172	
Ceded	14,795,799	10,272,640	39,717,266	30,360,376	
Net	\$ 6,360,258	\$ 4,726,493	\$ 17,494,409	\$ 13,593,464	

The impact of reinsurance on the balance sheets as of September 30, 2008 and December 31, 2007 is as follows:

Edgar Filing: ASSURANCEAMERICA CORP - Form 10-Q

	Se	September 30, 2008		ecember 31, 2007
Unpaid losses and loss adjustment expense:				
Direct	\$	38,189,103	\$	33,391,172
Assumed		279,806		269,642
Ceded		26,745,920		23,249,616
Net	\$	11,722,989	\$	10,411,198
Unearned premiums:				
Direct	\$	33,809,372	\$	30,495,191
Assumed		294,216		496,374
Ceded		23,814,634		21,145,161
Net	\$	10,288,954	\$	9,846,404
8				

#### **Table of Contents**

The Company received \$3,968,393 and \$12,819,142 in commissions on premiums ceded during the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2008, respectively. Had all of the Company s reinsurance agreements been cancelled at September 30, 2008, the Company would have returned \$6,191,805 in reinsurance commissions to its reinsurers and its reinsurers would have returned \$23,814,634 in unearned premiums to the Company.

#### (5) Income Taxes

The provision for federal and state income taxes for the period ended September 30, 2008 and 2007 were as follows:

	Three Months		<b>Nine Months</b>		
	Ended Sept	tember 30,	Ended September 30,		
	2008	2007	2008	2007	
Current	\$ (289,689)	\$ (79,368)	\$ (216,465)	\$310,214	
Deferred	(7,156)	169,310	38,464	442,563	
Total provision for income taxes	\$ (296,845)	\$ 89,942	\$ (178,001)	\$ 752,777	

#### (6) Capital Stock

#### **Common Stock**

During the first nine months of 2007, 840,000 shares of preferred stock converted to 8,400,000 shares of common stock. During the first nine months of 2008, the Company issued 120,000 shares of common stock, \$.01 par value to its board of directors.

#### **Stock-Based Compensation**

The weighted-average grant date fair value of options granted during the nine months ended September 30, 2008 and September 30, 2007, using the Black-Scholes-Merton option-pricing model, was \$0.4499 and \$0.7844, respectively. The total intrinsic value of options exercised during the nine months September 30, 2007 was \$162,000 respectively. There were no options exercised during the nine months ended September 30, 2008.

Total compensation cost for share-based payment arrangements recognized for the three and nine months periods ended September 30, 2008 was \$527 and \$42,346, respectively. Total compensation cost for share-based payment arrangements recognized for the three and nine months periods ended September 30, 2007 was \$110,888 and \$329,000 respectively. The fair value of each option award is estimated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes-Merton option-pricing model using the assumptions noted in the following table.

	S	eptember 30, 2008	September 30, 2007		
Weighted-average-grant-date fair value	\$	0.4499	\$	0.7844	
Expected volatility		108% - 110%		106% - 120%	
Weighted average volatility		109%		113%	
Risk-free interest rate		3.45% - 3.85%		2.00% - 2.70%	
Expected term (in years)		7.4		5.0	
	9				

#### **Table of Contents**

A summary of all stock option activity during the nine months ending September 30, 2008 and 2007 follows:

	Septembe	September 30,2008 Weighted			
	Number of	Average Exercise	Number of	Number of	
<b>Options Outstanding</b>	Shares	Price	Shares	Shares	
January 1	4,946,665	\$ 0.80	5,347,225	\$ 0.85	
Add (deduct):					
Granted	462,500	\$ 0.55	330,000	\$ 1.06	
Exercised			(50,000)	\$ 0.25	
Forfeited	(109,040)	\$ 0.82	(416,750)	\$ 0.78	
Expired					
March 31	5,300,125	\$ 0.75	5,210,475	\$ 0.87	
Add (deduct):					
Granted			1,091,000	\$ 0.96	
Exercised			(120,000)	\$ 0.60	
Forfeited	(18,500)	\$ 0.83	(1,099,510)	\$ 0.83	
Expired			(20,000)	\$ 0.75	
June 30	5,281,625	\$ 0.75	5,061,965	\$ 0.91	
Add (deduct):					
Granted	677,943	\$ 0.50	235,000	\$ 0.91	
Exercised	(50,000)	\$ 0.25	(144,000)	\$ 0.46	
Forfeited	(651,060)	\$ 0.78	(170,000)	\$ 0.92	
Expired			(80,000)	\$ 5.25	
September 30	5,258,508	\$ 0.83	4,902,965	\$ 0.86	
Exercisable, September 30,	1,810,900	\$ 0.68	1,166,183	\$ 0.57	

## (7) Commitments and Contingencies

#### **Contractual Commitments**

The Company leases office space for its corporate headquarters in Atlanta, Georgia under a 12-year lease that commenced on May 1, 2003. The Company leases retail office space at various locations in Georgia, Florida and Alabama under short to medium term commercial leases. The Company also leases office equipment for use in its various locations. Rent expense for long-term leases with predetermined minimum rental escalations is recognized on a straight-line basis, and the difference between the recognized rental expense and amounts payable under the leases, or deferred rent, is included in other liabilities. The Company has a software license agreement with a term greater than one year.

The Company also has contractual commitments in association with long-term debt owed to current and former owners of the Company and in connection with a Junior Subordinated Debentures issued in December 2005. Please refer to Note 6 of the *Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements*, as of December 31, 2007 included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for additional information about the long-term debt arrangements.

Minimum amounts due under the Company s noncancelable commitments at September 30, 2008 are as follows:

Edgar Filing: ASSURANCEAMERICA CORP - Form 10-Q

Payments due by period	Long-Term Debt Deby period Obligations		Operating Lease Obligations		Total	
Less than 1 year 1-3 years	\$	296,921 1,581,242	\$	503,533 2,995,330	\$ 800,454 4,576,572	
4-5 years More than 5 years		115,468 4,976,854		2,528,579 1,912,321	2,644,047 6,889,175	
Total	\$	6,970,485	\$	7,939,763	\$ 14,910,248	
	10					

#### **Table of Contents**

#### **Defined Contribution Plan**

The Company s associates participate in the AssuranceAmerica Corporation 401(k) defined contribution retirement plan. Under the plan, the Company can elect to make discretionary contributions. Effective January 1, 2008, the Company elected to match 33% of employee contributions up to 6% of gross earnings. Matching contributions during the first nine months of 2008 and 2007 were \$72,394 and \$37,054, respectively. The eligibility requirements are 21 years of age, 6 months of service and full time employment.

#### (8) Net Income Per Share

Basic and diluted income per common share is computed using the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the period. Potential common shares not included in the calculations of net income per share for the periods ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, because their inclusion would be anti-dilutive, are as follows:

	Three N	<b>Three Months</b>			
	Ended Sept	tember 30,	Ended September 30,		
	2008	2007	2008	2007	
Stock options	5,258,500	3,576,965	5,258,500	3,576,965	

The reconciliation of the amounts used in the computation of both basic earnings per share and diluted earnings per share for the periods ended September 30, 2008 and 2007 are as follows:

		Vet Income	Average Shares	Per Share
	1	(Loss)	Outstanding	Amount
For the three months ended September 30, 2008: Net income basic	\$	(618,486)	64,941,381	(0.009)
Effect of dilutive stock warrants and options				
Net income diluted	\$	(618,486)	64,941,381	(0.009)
For the three months ended September 30, 2007: Net income basic	\$	(43,520)	64,731,908	(0.001)
Effect of dilutive stock warrants and options			743,816	
Net income diluted	\$	(43,520)	65,475,724	(0.001)
For the nine months ended September 30, 2008: Net income basic	\$	(385,419)	64,911,655	(0.006)
Effect of dilutive stock warrants and options				
Net income diluted	\$	(385,419)	64,911,655	(0.006)
For the nine months ended September 30, 2007: Net income basic	\$	715,997	60,939,646	0.012
Effect of dilutive stock warrants and options			792,842	

Net income diluted \$ 715,997 61,732,488 0.012

#### (9) Supplemental Cash Flow Information

2008 2007
Cash paid during the nine months ended September 30:
Interest \$569,011 \$775,158

Income taxes \$ 114,807 \$ 7,025

The Company recorded net unrealized losses on investment securities in the amount of \$660,766 and \$2,538, net of taxes, for the nine month period ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively.

On January 3, 2007, the Company purchased the assets of Frontline Insurance Group, LLC. As part of the purchase agreement, the Company issued a note payable in the amount of \$114,400.

On January 16, 2008 the Company purchased the assets of Alabama One Stop, LLC for cash.

11

#### **Table of Contents**

On August 5, 2008, the Company purchased the remaining minority interest in TW Partners Agencies for cash. The following table illustrates the composition of acquisitions for the nine months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007:

	2008	2007
Fair value of assets acquired	\$ 55,200	\$ 604,400
Cash paid to sellers	(55,200)	(400,000)
******	do.	Φ 204 400
Liabilities assumed	\$	\$ 204,400

During the first nine months of 2008, the Company issued 120,000 shares of common stock, \$.01 par value, to members of its board of directors pursuant to the director compensation program in lieu of cash directors fees.

#### (10) Fair Value Disclosures

The fair value of our investments in fixed income and equity securities is based on observable market quotations, other market observable data, or is derived from such quotations and market observable data. We utilize third party pricing servicers, brokers and internal valuation models to determine fair value. We gain assurance of the overall reasonableness and consistent application of the assumptions and methodologies and compliance with accounting standards for fair value determination through our ongoing monitoring of the fair values received or derived internally. Level 1 inputs are unadjusted, quoted prices in active markets for identical instruments at the measurement date (e.g., U.S. Government securities and active exchange-traded equity securities). Level 2 securities are comprised of securities whose fair value was determined by a nationally recognized pricing service using observable market inputs. Level 3 securities are comprised of (i) securities for which the pricing service is unable to provide a fair value, (ii) securities whose fair value is determined by the pricing service based on unobservable inputs and (iii) securities, other than securities backed by the U.S. Government, that are not rated by a Nationally Recognized Statistical Rating Organization.

The following table illustrates the fair value measurements as of September 30, 2008:

	Quoted Prices in Active Markets (Level 1)		Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)		Significant Other Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)	
<b>Description:</b> Available for sale securities Marketable equity securities	\$	2,932,223 2,315,562	\$	5,116,508	\$	
Total	\$	5,247,785	\$	5,116,508	\$	

#### (11) Segment Reporting

The Company s subsidiaries are each unique operating entities performing a separate business function. AAIC, a property and casualty insurance company focuses on writing nonstandard automobile business in the states of Georgia, Alabama, Arizona, Florida, Louisiana, Indiana, Mississippi, South Carolina and Texas. MGA markets AAIC s policies through more than 1,800 independent agencies in these states. MGA provides all of the underwriting, accounting, product management, legal, policyholder administration and claims functions for AAIC and for two unaffiliated insurer s that retain the non-standard automobile insurance policies produced by MGA in Florida and Texas. MGA receives various fees related to insurance transactions that vary according

#### **Table of Contents**

to state insurance laws and regulations. TrustWay is comprised of 49 retail insurance agencies that focus on selling nonstandard automobile policies and related coverages in Georgia, Florida and Alabama. TrustWay receives commissions and various fees associated with the sale of the products and services from its appointing insurance carriers.

The Company evaluates profitability based on pretax income. Pretax income for each segment is defined as the revenues less the segment s operating expenses including depreciation, amortization and interest. Following are the operating results for the Company s various segments and an overview of segment assets:

(\$ in thousands) THIRD QUARTER 2008	MGA	TrustWay	AAIC	Company	Eliminations	Consolidated
Revenues External customer Intersegment Income	\$ 6,499 1,643	\$ 1,669 614	\$ 7,471 749	\$ 699	\$ (3,705)	\$ 15,639
Segment pretax income(loss) Assets	779	(1,556)	(182)	44		(915)
Segment assets	12,292	4,634	116,859	26,922	(23,884)	136,823
(\$ in thousands) THIRD QUARTER 2007	MGA	TrustWay	AAIC	Company	Eliminations	Consolidated
Revenues External customer Intersegment Income	\$ 6,539 1,620	\$ 877 813	\$ 6,998 743	\$ 743	\$ (3,919)	\$ 14,414
Segment pretax income(loss) Assets	354	(1,475)	1,358	(192)		45
Segment assets	8,168	11,155	110,531	23,047	(22,799)	130,102
(\$ in thousands) FIRST NINE MONTHS 2008 Revenues	MGA	TrustWay	AAIC	Company	Eliminations	Consolidated
External customer Intersegment Income	\$ 20,557 5,188	\$ 5,260 2,379	\$ 22,124 2,363	\$ 2,097	\$ (12,062)	\$ 47,941
Segment pretax income(loss)	2,973	(3,690)	98	56		(563)
Assets Segment assets	12,292	4,634	116,859	26,922	(23,884)	136,823
(\$ in thousands) FIRST NINE MONTHS 2007 Revenues	MGA	TrustWay	<b>AAIC</b>	Company		Consolidated
External customer	\$ 20,632	\$ 4,074	\$ 19,371	\$	\$	<b>\$ 44,077</b>

Edgar Filing: ASSURANCEAMERICA CORP - Form 10-Q

Intersegment Income	5,335	3,372	2,412	2,228	(13,347)	
Segment pretax income(loss)	966	(1,954)	3,190	(730)		1,472
Assets Segment assets	8,168	11,155	110,531 13	23,047	(22,799)	130,102

## ITEM 2. MANAGEMENT S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

#### **Financial Condition**

Investments and cash as of September 30, 2008, decreased \$7.9 million to \$15.8 million from investments and cash of \$23.7 million as of December 31, 2007. The decrease was due in part to \$3.2 million decline in cash and income related to operating activities. This increase was offset by \$5.8 million in net sales of investments, \$1.0 million in purchases of property and equipment and \$2.5 million in principal payments on notes payable. The Company continues to invest in upgrading its retail stores and invest in technology to strengthen our infrastructure and support expansion. The Company s investments of \$11.1 million are primarily in direct obligations of the U.S. Treasury as well as those securities unconditionally guaranteed as to the payment of principal and interest by the United States government or any agency thereof and in high-quality corporate and municipal bonds of Georgia-based issuers. The Company s investment activities are made in accordance with the Company s Investment Policy. The objectives of the Investment Policy are to obtain favorable after-tax returns on investments through a diversified portfolio of fixed income, equity and real estate holdings. The Company s investment criteria and practices reflect the short-term duration of its contractual obligations with policyholders and regulators. Tax considerations include federal and state income tax as well as premium tax abatement and credit opportunities offered to insurance companies in the states where AAIC writes policies.

Premiums receivable as of September 30, 2008, increased \$2.9 million to \$31.7 million compared to December 31, 2007. The balance represents amounts due from AAIC s insureds and the increase is directly attributable to the increase in AAIC s premium writings during the first nine months of 2008. The Company s policy is to write off receivable balances immediately upon cancellation or expiration, and the Company does not consider an allowance for doubtful accounts to be necessary.

Reinsurance recoverable as of September 30, 2008, increased \$11.8 million to \$41.2 million compared to December 31, 2007. The increase is mainly attributable to AAIC s continued growth and loss experience. AAIC maintains a quota-share reinsurance treaty with its reinsurers in which it cedes 70% of the majority of premiums and losses. The \$41.1 million represents the reinsurers portion of losses and loss adjustment expense, both paid and unpaid. All amounts are considered current.

Prepaid reinsurance premiums as of September 30, 2008, increased \$2.7 million to \$23.8 million compared to December 31, 2007. The increase results from AAIC s continued growth, and represents premiums ceded to its reinsurers which have not been fully earned.

Deferred acquisition costs as of September 30, 2008 increased \$0.3 million to \$2.4 million compared to December 31, 2007. The increase resulted from AAIC s continued growth. The amount represents agents commissions and other variable expenses associated with acquiring the insurance policies that are being deferred to coincide with the earnings of the related policy premiums.

Intangible assets as of September 30, 2008, decreased \$0.3 million to \$11.1 million from the balance of \$11.4 million as of December 31, 2007. This decrease is directly related to the amortization of acquired assets.

Accounts payable and accrued expenses as of September 30, 2008, increased \$2.0 million from December 31, 2007 to \$9.2 million. The increase is due to \$0.2 million of accrued commissions due to agents, \$0.2 million of expenses and \$0.3 million increase in the liability for premium taxes.

Unearned premium as of September 30, 2008 increased \$3.1 million to \$34.1 million from December 31, 2007, and represents premiums written but not earned. This is directly attributable to the increase in AAIC s premium writings during the first nine months of 2008.

Unpaid losses and loss adjustment expenses increased \$4.8 million to \$38.5 million as of September 30, 2008 from \$33.7 million at December 31, 2007. This amount represents management sestimates of future amounts needed to pay claims and related expenses and the increase correlates with the increase in AAIC s writings and anticipated future losses.

Reinsurance payable as of September 30, 2008 increased \$5.0 million to \$30.2 million, compared to the balance at December 31, 2007. The amount represents premiums owed to the Company s reinsurers. AAIC maintains a quota-share reinsurance treaty with its reinsurers in which it cedes 70% of the majority of both premiums and losses.

The increase is directly attributable to the increase in AAIC s premium writings during the first nine months of 2008.

#### **Table of Contents**

Provisional commission reserves represent the difference between our minimum ceding commission and the provisional amount paid by the reinsurers. This balance as of September 30, 2008 increased \$0.01 million to \$2.9 million, compared to the balance at December 31, 2007. The increase is related to a provisional commission payment during the third quarter of 2008.

#### **Liquidity and Capital Resources**

Net cash used by operating activities for the nine months ended September 30, 2008 was \$3.2 million compared to net cash provided by operating activities of \$4.2 million for the same period of 2007.

Investing activities for the nine months ended September 30, 2008 consisted of the purchase of leasehold improvements and property and equipment in the amount of \$1.0 million in our retail stores and new technology and \$5.8 million in net sales of investments in compliance with various Departments of Insurance requirements for issuance of Certificates of Authority and general investment policies of the Company.

Financing activities for the nine months ended September 30, 2008 consisted of debt repayments for the nine months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007 of \$2.5 million, compared to \$1.2 million during the same period in 2007.

The Company s liquidity and capital needs have been met in the past through premium, commission and fee income, loan from its Chairman and issuance of its Series A Convertible Preferred Stock, common stock and debt securities. The Company s related party debt consists of unsecured promissory notes payable to its Chairman. The promissory notes carry an interest rate of 8% per annum and provide for the repayment of principal on an annual basis. On December 22, 2005, the Company, through a newly-formed Delaware statutory trust, AssuranceAmerica Capital Trust I (the Trust ), consummated the private placement of 5,000 of the Trust s floating rate capital securities, with a liquidation amount of \$1,000 per capital security (the Capital Securities ). In connection with the Trust s issuance and sale of the Capital Securities, the Company purchased from the Trust 155 of the Trust s floating rate common securities, with a liquidation amount of \$1,000 per common security (the Common Securities ). The Trust used the proceeds from the issuance and sale of the Capital Securities and the Common Securities to purchase \$5,155,000 in aggregate principal amount of the floating rate junior subordinated debentures of the Company (the Debentures ). The Capital Securities mature on December 31, 2035, but may be redeemed at par beginning December 31, 2010 if and to the extent the Company exercises its right to redeem the Debentures. The Capital Securities require quarterly distributions by the Trust to the holders of the Capital Securities, at a floating rate of three-month LIBOR plus 5.75% per annum, reset quarterly. Distributions are cumulative and will accrue from the date of original issuance but may be deferred for a period of up to 20 consecutive quarterly interest payment periods if the Company exercises its right under the Indenture to defer the payment of interest on the Debentures.

The growth of the Company has and will continue to strain its liquidity and capital resources. AAIC is required by the state of South Carolina to maintain minimum capital and surplus of \$3.0 million. As of September 30, 2008, AAIC s statutory capital and surplus was \$11.4 million.

#### **Results of Operations**

The Company reported a net loss of \$0.6 million and \$0.4 million for the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2008 compared to net loss of \$0.01 million and net income of \$0.8 million for the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2007, respectively. The Company reported basic losses per common share of \$0.009 and \$0.005 for the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2008 compared to basic losses per common share of \$0.001 and basic gain per common share of \$0.012 for the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2007. Fully diluted losses per common share was \$0.009 and \$0.012 for the three and nine month period ended September 30, 2008 compared to \$0.001 fully diluted losses per common share and \$0.012 fully diluted earnings per common share for the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2007.

15

#### **Table of Contents**

#### Revenues

Premiums

Gross premiums written for the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2008 were \$22.2 million and \$71.3 million, respectively. In the comparable period for 2007, AAIC recorded \$21.5 million and \$70.0 million, respectively, in gross premiums written. 2008 gross premiums written includes insurance premiums written directly by AAIC, or direct premiums written, of \$21.9 million and \$70.4 million in the respective three and nine month periods, plus \$0.4 and \$0.9 million, in the respective three and nine month periods, of premiums associated with the insurance risk transferred to AAIC by two unaffiliated insurance companies pursuant to a reinsurance contract, referred to as assumed premiums written. 2007 gross premiums written includes direct premiums written of \$21.1 million and \$68.8 million in the respective three and nine month periods, plus \$0.4 million and \$1.2 million, in the respective three and nine month periods, of assumed premiums written. The majority of our growth occurred in Louisiana and Arizona, where AAIC began writing policies in Louisiana in 2007 and in Arizona where AAIC began writing policies in the first quarter of 2008. Entry into Louisiana accounted for \$5.9 million and Arizona was \$1.4 million of the increase during 2008 over the comparable 2007 period. As of September 30, 2008 the soft market and economic factors continues to put pressure on our writings in Georgia and Florida. The decline in Georgia premium for the nine months ended September 30, 2008 was \$2.3 million or 8% from the 2007 comparable period. Florida premium declined \$4.6 million when compared with the first nine months of 2007. Policies inforce increased 12% from December 31, 2007 to September 30, 2008. The Company cedes approximately 70% of its direct premiums written to its reinsurers and the total amount ceded for the nine months ended September 30, 2008, was \$49.3 million.

Premiums written refers to the total amount of premiums billed to the policyholder less the amount of premiums returned, generally as a result of cancellations, during a given period. Premiums written become premiums earned as the policy ages. Barring premium rate changes, if an insurance company writes the same mix of business each year, premiums written and premiums earned will be equal and the unearned premium reserve will remain constant. During periods of growth, the unearned premium reserve will increase, causing premiums earned to be less than premiums written. Conversely, during periods of decline, the unearned premium reserve will decrease, causing premiums earned to be greater than premiums written. The Company s net earned premium, after deducting reinsurance, was \$7.4 million and \$21.6 million for the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2008 and compares to \$6.8 million and \$18.7 million, respectively, for the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2007. *Commission and Fee Income* 

MGA and TrustWay produce and service non-standard personal automobile insurance business for our own carrier and other insurers. We receive service fees for agency, underwriting, policy administration, and claims adjusting services performed on behalf of these insurers. We also receive commission and service fee income in TrustWay on other insurance products produced for unaffiliated insurance companies on which we do not bear underwriting risk, including travel protection, vehicle protection and hospital indemnity insurance policies. Commission rates vary between carriers and are applied to written premium to determine commission income.

Commission income, as a result of business produced in both TrustWay and MGA, increased 14% and 1% for the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2008, respectively, compared to the same periods ended September 30, 2007. Total commission income earned by TrustWay from the production of AAIC for the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2008 totaled \$0.6 million and \$2.4 million, respectively and this amount is eliminated from total commission income (revenue) and commission expense. AAIC pays MGA commission on the 30% of premium which AAIC retains. This amount is subsequently eliminated upon consolidation. The amount eliminated was \$1.6 million and \$5.2 million, respectively, for the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2008.

Managing general agent fees for the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2008 were \$3.0 million and \$9.1 million, respectively, an increase of \$0.1 million and \$1.0 million, when compared to the same periods of 2007.

Other fee income was increased \$0.1 million for each of the three and nine month ended September 30, 2008 from the comparable periods of 2007. TrustWay collects fees for various services performed and for additional products sold to insureds. As TrustWay writes less agency bill policies, the fee income will decline slightly.

#### **Table of Contents**

#### Net Investment Income

Our investment portfolio is generally highly liquid and consists substantially of readily marketable, investment-grade debt and equity securities. Net investment income is primarily comprised of interest and dividends earned on these securities, net of related investment expenses. Net investment income decreased \$50,000 and \$54,000 for the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2008 from \$0.2 million and \$0.6 million in the comparable 2007 periods. This is primarily a result of a decrease in average invested assets.

#### **Expenses**

### Insurance Loss and Loss Adjustment Expenses

Insurance losses and loss adjustment expenses include payments made to settle claims, estimates for future claim payments and changes in those estimates for current and prior periods, as well as loss adjustment expenses incurred in connection with settling claims. Insurance losses and loss adjustment expenses are influenced by many factors, such as claims frequency and severity trends, the impact of changes in estimates for prior accident years, and increases in the cost of medical treatment and automobile repairs. The anticipated impact of inflation is considered when we establish our premium rates and set loss reserves. We perform a rolling quarterly actuarial analysis each month and establish or adjust (for prior accident quarters) reserves, based upon our estimate of the ultimate incurred losses and loss adjustment expenses to reflect loss development information and trends that have been updated for the most recent quarter s activity. Each month our estimate of ultimate loss and loss adjustment expenses is evaluated by accident quarter, by state and by major coverage grouping (e.g., bodily injury, physical damage) and changes in estimates are reflected in the period the additional information becomes known.

We have historically used reinsurance to manage our exposure to loss by ceding a portion of our gross losses and loss adjustment expenses to reinsurers. We remain obligated for amounts covered by reinsurance, however, in the event that the reinsurers do not meet their obligations under the agreements (due to, for example, disputes with the reinsurer or the reinsurer s insolvency). The Company cedes approximately 70% of its direct loss and loss adjustment expenses incurred to its reinsurers and the amount ceded for the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2008, was \$14.8 million and \$39.7 million, respectively.

After making deductions for the effect of reinsurance, losses and loss adjustment expenses were \$6.4 million and \$17.5 million for the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2008. As a percentage of earned premiums, this amount increased for the three month period ended September 30, 2008, from 69.5% to 86.2%, when compared with the same period in 2007. As a percentage of earned premiums, this amount decreased for the nine month period ended September 30, 2008, from 72.5% to 81.0%, when compared with the same period in 2007. The amount represents actual payments made and changes in estimated future payments to be made to or on behalf of its policyholders, including the expenses associated with settling claims. The increase in the year-over-year loss ratio is in part due to adverse loss development experienced due to storm activity and increased claim frequency in various states.

#### Other Expenses

Other operating expenses, including selling and general and administrative increased \$0.7 million and \$2.4 million for the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2008 when compared to the same periods of 2007. As a percentage of revenue, selling and general and administrative expenses for the three month period ended September 30, 2008 decreased from 62.6% to 62.1% when compared to the 2007 period. As a percentage of revenue, selling and general and administrative expenses for the nine month period ended September 30, 2008 increased from 61.3% to 61.4% when compared to the 2007 period. The increase in selling expenses is primarily attributable to additional staffing costs as compared to the 2007 period.

#### Income Tax Expense

The provision for income taxes for the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2008, consists of federal and state income taxes at the Company's effective tax rate. The Company had a tax benefit of \$0.3 million and \$0.2 million for the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2008, representing an effective tax benefit rate of 31.6% for the year. This tax expense compares with \$0.1 million and \$0.8 million for the comparable 2007 periods, which was an effective tax rate of 51.25% for the year. The Company experienced a higher tax rate in 2007 due to the impact of incentive stock options compensation expense.

17

#### ITEM 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

We are primarily exposed to the impact of interest rate changes, changes in market values of investments and to credit risk.

In the normal course of business, we employ established policies and procedures to manage our exposure to changes in interest rates, fluctuations in the fair market value of debt and equity securities and credit risk. We seek to mitigate these risks by various actions described below.

Our cash flows from operations and short-term cash position generally have been more than sufficient to meet our projected obligations for claim payments, which by the nature of the personal automobile insurance business, tend to have an average duration of less than one year. As a result, it has been unnecessary for the Company to employ elaborate market risk management techniques involving complicated asset and liability duration matching or hedging strategies.

#### Interest Rate Risk

Investments. Our investment portfolio consists primarily of fixed-maturity debt securities, all of which are classified as available for sale. For these securities, we seek to provide for liquidity and diversification while maximizing income without sacrificing investment quality. The value of the fixed maturity securities portfolio is subject to interest rate risk where the value of the fixed maturity securities portfolio decreases as market interest rates increase, and conversely, when market interest rates decrease, the value of the fixed maturity securities portfolio increases. Duration is a common measure of the sensitivity of a fixed maturity security s value to changes in interest rates. More specifically, it is the approximate percentage change in the value of a bond or bond portfolio due to a 100 basis point change in interest rates. The higher the duration, the more sensitive a fixed maturity security is to market interest rate fluctuations. Effective duration also measures this sensitivity, but it takes into account call terms, as well as changes in remaining term, coupon rate, cash flow, and other items. We strive to limit interest rate risk by selecting investments with characteristics such as duration, yield and liquidity tailored to the anticipated cash outflow characteristics of our liabilities. Interest rate risk includes the risk from movements in the underlying market rate and in the credit spread of the respective sectors of the debt securities in our portfolio. We do not hedge our exposure to interest rate risk because we have the capacity to, and typically, hold fixed-maturity investments to maturity. The effective duration of the portfolio as of September 30, 2008 was 5.31 years. Should market interest rates increase 1.0%, our fixed income portfolio would be expected to decline in market value by \$0.9 million, or 10.8%. Conversely, a 1.0% decline in interest rates would result in approximately \$0.1 million, or 1%, depreciation in the market value of our fixed income portfolio.

*Credit Facility.* We also have exposure to market risk for changes in interest rates because we have variable rate debt. The interest rate we pay increases or decreases with the changes in LIBOR. Based on our borrowings under the floating rate credit agreement at September 30, 2008, a 10% increase in market interest rates would increase our annual net interest expense by approximately \$21,134. Conversely, a 10% decrease in market interest rates would decrease our annual net interest expense by approximately \$21,134.

The graphical depiction of the relationship between the yield on bonds of the same credit quality with different maturities is usually referred to as a yield curve. Because the yield on U.S. Treasury securities is the base rate (or risk free rate ) from which non-government bond yields are normally benchmarked, the most commonly constructed yield curve is derived from the observation of prices and yields in the Treasury market. An upward sloping curve, where yield rises steadily as maturity increases, is referred to as a normal yield curve.

The following table shows the carrying values of our fixed maturity securities, which are reported at fair value. The table also presents estimated fair values at adjusted market rates assuming a parallel 100 basis point increase in market interest rates, given the effective duration noted above. The following sensitivity analysis summarizes only the exposure to market interest rate risk:

Estimated Carrying Value at

Change in Value as a

		Adjusted Market	
(Dollar amounts in thousands)	Carrying	Rates/Prices Indicated	Percentage of Carrying
<b>September 30, 2008</b>	Value	Above	Value
Fixed maturity securities available-for-sale, at fair value	\$8,676.7	\$ 8,048.7	(7.2)%
18			

#### **Table of Contents**

The discussion above provides only a limited, point-in-time view of the market risk sensitivity of our fixed rate financial instruments. The actual impact of interest rate changes on our fixed maturity securities in particular may differ significantly from those shown, as the analysis assumes a parallel shift in market interest rates. The analysis also does not consider any actions we could take in response to actual and/or anticipated changes in interest rates.

The difference between long-term Treasury yields and short-term Treasury yields are usually referred as the slope of the yield curve. If the spread between the long end of the curve, where maturities are high, and the short end of the curve, where maturities are low, narrows, the yield curve is said to be flattening. Conversely, if the spread between the long end of the curve and the short end of the curve widens, the yield curve is said to be steepening. If the yields on the long end of the curve fall below those of the short end of the curve, the yield curve is said to be inverted.

The analysis above assumes a parallel shift in interest rates. However, the curve may also steepen, flatten or become inverted. This type of behavior may affect certain sections of the curve in disproportionate amounts. For example, if short-term Treasury yields rise and the yield curve flattens, fixed maturity instruments with short duration may be impacted to a greater degree than fixed maturity instruments with long duration may be impacted to a greater degree than fixed maturity instruments with long duration may be impacted to a greater degree than fixed maturity instruments with shorter duration.

The following summarizes the effective duration distribution of our fixed maturity securities portfolio.

September 30, 2008	Below 1	1 to 3	3 to 5	5 to 7	7 to 10	10 to 20
Fair value percentage of fixed						
maturity security portfolio	0.0%	18.0%	31.3%	25.1%	25.6%	0.0%
Fauity Dries Disk						

#### **Equity Price Risk**

*Investments*. The marketable equity securities portfolio of our insurance subsidiary, which is carried on our consolidated balance sheets at estimated fair value, has exposure to price risk, which is the risk of potential loss in estimated fair value resulting from adverse changes in prices. The objective of our insurance subsidiary is to earn competitive relative returns by investing in diverse portfolios of high-quality, liquid securities.

#### Credit Risk

Investments. The fixed maturity securities portfolio of our insurance subsidiary is subject to credit risk. This risk is the potential loss in market value resulting from adverse changes in the borrower sability to repay the debt. We attempt to manage our credit risk through issuer and industry diversification. We regularly monitor our overall investment results and review compliance with our investment objectives and guidelines. Our investment guidelines include limitations on the minimum rating of debt securities in our investment portfolio, as well as restrictions on investments in debt securities of a single issuer. All of the debt securities in our portfolio were rated investment grade by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners, or the NAIC, and Standard & Poor s as of September 30, 2008.

Reinsurance. We place reinsurance with four major unaffiliated reinsurers. Two of the reinsurers are authorized and two are unauthorized To the extent that a reinsurer may be unable to pay losses for which it is liable to us under the terms of its reinsurance agreement, we remain liable for such losses. The Company attempts to minimize this risk by maintaining reinsurance agreements with financially sound reinsurers. The Company maintains security trust agreements with the two unauthorized reinsurers, whereby all reinsurance receivables are pre-funded and secured. As of September 30, 2008, there were no amounts deemed uncollectible

Table of Contents 31

19

#### ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

#### **Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures**

As of the end of the period covered by this report on Form 10-Q, the Company s Chief Executive Officer and Acting Chief Financial Officer carried out an evaluation of the effectiveness of the design and operation of the Company s disclosure controls and procedures in accordance with Rule 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the Exchange Act ). Based on this evaluation, the Company s Chief Executive Officer and Acting Chief Financial Officer have concluded that the Company s disclosure controls and procedures are effective to ensure that information required to be disclosed by the Company in the reports that it files or submits under the Exchange Act is accumulated and communicated to the Company s management, including its principal executive officer and principal financial officer, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure and are effective to ensure that such information is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the Securities and Exchange Commissions rules and forms.

#### Management s Annual Report on Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting

Our management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f). Our internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Management assessed the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of September 30, 2008. In making this assessment, management used the criteria described in Internal Control Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with policies and procedures may deteriorate. Based on this evaluation, management determined that, as of September 30, 2008, we maintained effective internal control over financial reporting, and there were no changes in our internal control over financial reporting made during our most recent fiscal quarter that materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

## PART II OTHER INFORMATION ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

An investment in Company common stock involves a number of risks. Investors should carefully consider the following information, together with the other information contained in the Company s Annual Report on Form 10-K, before investing in Company common stock. Further, such factors could cause actual results to differ materially from those contained in any forward-looking statement contained in this report, statements by us in periodic press releases and oral statements by Company officials to securities analysts and stockholders during presentations about us.

#### We face intense competition from other automobile insurance providers.

The non-standard automobile insurance business is highly competitive and, except for regulatory considerations, there are relatively few barriers to entry. We compete with both large national insurance providers and smaller regional companies. The largest automobile insurance companies include The Progressive Corporation, The Allstate Corporation, State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company, GEICO, Farmers Insurance Group, Safeco Corp., and American International Group (AIG). Our chief competitors include some of these companies as well as Mercury General Corporation, Infinity Property & Casualty Corporation, Affirmative Insurance Holdings, Inc., and Direct General Corporation. Some of our competitors have more capital, higher ratings and greater resources than we have, and may offer a broader range of products and lower prices and down payments than we offer. Some of our competitors that sell insurance policies directly to customers, rather than through agencies or brokerages as we do, may have certain competitive advantages, including increased name recognition among customers, direct relationships with policyholders and potentially lower cost structures. In addition, it is possible that new competitors will enter the non-standard automobile insurance market. Our loss of business to competitors could have a material impact on our growth and profitability. Further, competition could result in lower premium rates and less favorable policy terms and conditions, which could reduce our underwriting margins.

#### **Table of Contents**

## <u>Our concentration on non-standard automobile insurance could make us more susceptible to unfavorable market conditions.</u>

We underwrite exclusively non-standard automobile insurance. Given this focus, negative developments in the economic, competitive or regulatory conditions affecting the non-standard automobile insurance industry could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations, financial condition and cash flows. In addition, these developments could have a greater effect on us, compared to mor