CONSUMER PORTFOLIO SERVICES INC Form S-1/A December 09, 2010

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on December 9, 2010 333-168976

Reg. No.

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

Amendment No. 5 to FORM S-1

REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

CONSUMER PORTFOLIO SERVICES, INC. (Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

California 33-0459135

(State or other jurisdiction of (I.R.S. Employer Identification

incorporation or organization) Number)

With a copy to: Charles Bradley, Jr. Mark Harris, Esq. Chief Executive Officer Andrews Kurth LLP 19500 Jamboree Road Irvine, California 92612 19500 Jamboree Road 1717 Main Street, **Suite 3700** (949) 753-6800 Irvine, California 92612 Dallas, Texas 75201 Fax (949) 753-6897 (949) 753-6800 Telephone: (214) 659-4400

(Address, including zip code, and (Name, address, including F telephone number, including area zip code, and telephone code, of registrant's principal number, including area code,

executive offices) of agent for service)

Fax: (214) 659-4401

Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public: As soon as practicable after the effective date.

If any of the securities being registered on this Form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, check the following box. [x]

If this Form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, please check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering. []

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering. []

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(d) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering. []

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.

Large accelerated filer []	Accelerated filer []
Non-accelerated filer []	Smaller reporting company [X]

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of Each Class			Proposed				
of			Maximum				
Securities to Be	An	nount to be	Offering Price Per	Prop	posed Maximum	An	nount of
Registered	Re	gistered	Unit	Agg	regate Offering Price	Re	gistration Fee
Renewable	\$	44,000,000	(1)	\$	44,000,000	\$	3565.00
Unsecured							(2)
Subordinated Notes							

- (1) The Renewable Unsecured Subordinated Notes will be issued in denominations selected by the purchasers in any amount equal to or exceeding \$1,000.
- (2) A registration fee in the amount of \$3565.00 was paid concurrently with the initial filing of this registration statement on August 20, 2010.

The Registrant hereby amends this Registration Statement on such date or dates as may be necessary to delay its effective date until the Registrant shall file a further amendment which specifically states that this Registration Statement shall thereafter become effective in accordance with Section 8(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 or until the Registration Statement shall become effective on such date as the Commission, acting pursuant to said Section 8(a), may determine.

\$44,000,000 Consumer Portfolio Services, Inc.

Three and Six Month Renewable Unsecured Subordinated Notes

One, Two, Three, Four, Five and Ten Year Renewable Unsecured Subordinated Notes

We are offering our renewable unsecured subordinated notes to new purchasers and existing noteholders. We are offering the notes for cash and as renewals of previously-issued or to-be-issued notes, up to a maximum of \$44,000,000 in aggregate principal amount (inclusive of renewals). As of the date of this prospectus, we are offering the notes with maturities ranging from three months to ten years. However, depending on our capital needs, notes with certain terms may not always be offered. We will establish interest rates on the notes offered in this prospectus from time to time in interest rate supplements to this prospectus. Our filing such an interest rate supplement will not affect the interest rates applicable to any notes previously sold.

The notes are unsecured obligations and your right to payment is subordinated in right of payment to substantially all of our existing and future indebtedness, other than our issued and outstanding renewable unsecured subordinated notes, each of which is pari passu in right of payment with the notes offered hereby. Upon maturity, your notes will be automatically renewed for the same term as your maturing notes. The interest rate will be what we are then offering to other investors with similar aggregate note portfolios for notes of the same term, as specified in the most recently filed interest rate supplement, unless we elect not to have your notes renewed or unless you notify us within 15 days after the maturity date for your notes that you want your notes repaid. If notes of the same term are not then being offered, the interest rate upon renewal will be the rate specified by us on or before maturity or, if no such rate is specified, the rate of the existing note. The interest rate on your renewed note may differ from the interest rate applicable to your note during the prior term. After giving you thirty days' advance notice, we may redeem all or a portion of your notes for their original principal amount plus accrued and unpaid interest. You also may request us to repurchase your notes prior to maturity; however, unless the request is due to your death or total permanent disability, we are currently prohibited by contract from making any such repurchases. See "Description Of The Notes - Redemption or Repurchase Prior To Stated Maturity - Repurchase At Request of Holder."

We will market and sell the notes directly to the public. The notes will not be listed on any securities exchange or quoted on Nasdaq or any over-the-counter market. We do not intend to make a market in the notes and we do not anticipate that a market in the notes will develop. There will be significant restrictions on your ability to transfer or resell the notes. We have not requested a rating for the notes; however, third parties may independently rate them.

The notes are not certificates of deposit or similar obligations of, and are not guaranteed or insured by, any depository institution, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Securities Investor Protection Corporation or any other governmental or private fund or entity. Investing in the notes involves risks, which are described in "Risk Factors" beginning on page 6 of this prospectus.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

Per Note Total
Public offering price 100.00% 100.00%

Selling agent commissions Proceeds to CPS, before expenses	none 100.00%	none 100.00%	
See "Plan of Distribution" for a description of anticipated selling the notes. There will be no underwriting discount. amount of notes in order to accept subscriptions.	•		_
We will issue the notes in book-entry or uncertificated for receive a certificated security or a negotiable instrument the confirmations to purchasers of the notes. Wells Fargo Bartrustee for the notes.	hat evidences your note	es. We will deliver written	
The date of this Prospe	ectus is, 20	010	

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Caption	Page
PROSPECTUS SUMMARY	1
CPS	1
The Offering	2
INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN	5
INFORMATION BY REFERENCE	
WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION	5
RISK FACTORS	6
Risk Relating to the Notes	6
Risk Relating to Our Business	10
Risk Relating to General Factors	17
RECENT DEVELOPMENTS	19
FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS	21
RATIOS OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES	21
USE OF PROCEEDS	22
CAPITALIZATION	22
DESCRIPTION OF NOTES	22
MATERIAL FEDERAL INCOME TAX	33
CONSEQUENCES	
PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION	34
LEGAL MATTERS	35
EXPERTS	35
GLOSSARY	35

PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

This summary highlights selected information from this prospectus and from our reports filed with the SEC, and may not contain all the information that may be important to you. You should read the entire prospectus and the other information that is incorporated by reference into this prospectus before making an investment decision. Certain industry terms that we use are defined in the glossary, which begins on page 35.

CPS

We are a specialty finance company. Our business is to purchase and service retail automobile contracts originated primarily by franchised automobile dealers and, to a lesser extent, by select independent dealers in the United States in the sale of new and used automobiles, light trucks and passenger vans. Through our automobile contract purchases, we provide indirect financing to the customers of dealers who have limited credit histories, low incomes or past credit problems, who we refer to as sub-prime customers. We serve as an alternative source of financing for dealers, facilitating sales to customers who otherwise might not be able to obtain financing from traditional sources, such as commercial banks, credit unions and the captive finance companies affiliated with major automobile manufacturers. In addition to purchasing installment purchase contracts directly from dealers, we have also (i) acquired installment purchase contracts in three merger and acquisition transactions, (ii) purchased immaterial amounts of vehicle purchase money loans from non-affiliated lenders, and (iii) directly originated an immaterial amount of vehicle purchase money loans by lending money directly to consumers. In this report, we refer to all of such contracts and loans as "automobile contracts."

We were incorporated and began our operations in March 1991. From inception through December 31, 2009, we have purchased a total of approximately \$8.7 billion of automobile contracts from dealers. In addition, we obtained a total of approximately \$605.0 million of automobile contracts in mergers and acquisitions in 2002, 2003 and 2004. In 2004 and 2009, we were appointed as a third-party servicer for certain portfolios of automobile receivables originated and owned by entities not affiliated with us. During 2008, 2009 and 2010, unlike recent prior years, our managed portfolio decreased from the previous year due to our strategy of decreasing automobile contract purchases to conserve our liquidity in response to adverse economic conditions, as discussed further below in "Risk Factors - We Need Substantial Liquidity to Operate Our Business. Our total managed portfolio was approximately \$1,194.7 million at December 31, 2009 compared to \$1,664.1 million at December 31, 2008, \$2,162.2 million as of December 31, 2007 and \$1,565.9 million as of December 31, 2006. Our total managed portfolio was approximately \$843.0 million at September 30, 2010, compared to \$1197.3 million at September 30, 2009.

We have incurred net losses every quarter subsequent to the quarter ended June 30, 2008. We have been adversely affected by the economic recession affecting the United States as a whole, by increased financing costs and decreased availability of capital to fund our purchases of automobile contracts, and by a decrease in the overall level of sales of automobiles and light trucks. We expect to return to profitability at some time within the calendar year 2011; however, there can be no assurance as to that expectation. Our expectation of profitability is a forward-looking statement. We identify important factors that could cause actual results to differ, generally in the "Risk Factors" section of this prospectus, and more specifically under the caption "Forward-Looking Statements."

We purchase automobile contracts with the intention of placing them into securitizations. Securitizations are transactions in which we sell a specified pool of automobile contracts to a special purpose entity of ours, which in turn issues asset-backed securities to fund the purchase of the pool of automobile contracts from us. Depending on the structure of the securitization, the transaction may be properly accounted for as a sale of the automobile contracts or as

a secured financing. Since September 2003, we have structured our securitization transactions to be reflected as secured financings for financial accounting purposes, except that in September 2008, we securitized \$198.7 million of our automobile contracts in a structure that is treated as a sale of the receivables for financial accounting purposes.

We are headquartered in Irvine, California, where most operational and administrative functions are centralized. All credit and underwriting functions are performed in our California headquarters, and we service our automobile contracts from our California headquarters and from three servicing branches in Virginia, Florida and Illinois. Our principal executive offices are located at 19500 Jamboree Road, Irvine, California 92612, and our telephone number is (949) 753-6800.

The Offering

Issuer Consumer Portfolio Services, Inc.

Trustee Wells Fargo Bank, National Association

Selling Agent None

Paying Agent Wells Fargo Bank, National Association

Securities Offered Renewable Unsecured Subordinated Notes. The notes represent

our unsecured promise to repay principal at maturity and to pay interest during the term or at maturity. By purchasing a note, you

are lending money to us without any collateral security.

Method of Purchase Prior to your purchase of notes, you will be required to complete

a subscription agreement that will set forth the principal amount of your purchase, the term of the notes and certain other

information regarding your ownership of the notes. The form of subscription agreement is filed as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part. We will mail you

written confirmation that your subscription has been accepted.

Denomination You may choose the denomination of the notes you purchase in

any principal amount of \$1,000 or more, including odd amounts.

Offering Price 100% of the principal amount per note.

Rescission Right You may rescind your investment within five business days of

the postmark date of your purchase confirmation without incurring an early redemption penalty. In addition, if your subscription agreement is accepted at a time when we have determined that a post-effective amendment to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part must be filed with

the Securities and Exchange Commission, but such

post-effective amendment has not yet been declared effective, you will be able to rescind your investment subject to the conditions set forth in this prospectus. See "Description of the

Notes — Rescission Right" for additional information.

Maturity You may generally choose maturities for your notes of 3 or

6 months or 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 10 years; however, depending on our capital requirements, we may not sell notes of all maturities at

all times.

Interest Rate The interest rate of the notes will be established at the time you

purchase them, or at the time of renewal, based upon the rates

we are offering in our latest interest rate supplement to this prospectus, and will remain fixed throughout each term. We may offer higher rates of interest to investors with larger aggregate note portfolios, as set forth in the then current interest rate supplement.

Interest Payment Dates You may choose to receive interest payments monthly,

quarterly, semiannually, annually or at maturity. If you choose to receive interest payments monthly, you may choose the day on which you will be paid. Subject to our approval, you may change the interest payment schedule or interest payment date

once during each term of your notes.

Principal Payment We will not pay principal over the term of the notes. We are

obligated to pay the entire principal balance of the outstanding

notes upon maturity.

Payment Method Principal and interest payments will be made by direct deposit to

the account you designate in your subscription documents.

Renewal or Redemption at Maturity

Upon maturity, the notes will be automatically renewed for the same term at the interest rate we are offering at that time to other investors with similar aggregate note portfolios for notes of the same maturity, unless we notify you prior to the maturity date that we intend to repay the notes. You may also notify us within 15 days after the maturity date that you want your notes repaid. This 15 day period will be automatically extended if you would otherwise be required to make the repayment election at a time when we have determined that a post-effective amendment to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part must be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, but such post-effective amendment has not yet been declared effective. If notes with similar terms are not being offered at the time of renewal, the interest rate upon renewal will be (a) the rate specified by us on or before the maturity date or (b) if no such rate is specified, the rate of your existing notes. The interest rate being offered upon renewal may, however, differ from the interest rate applicable to your notes during the prior term. See "Description of the Notes — Renewal or Redemption on Maturity."

Optional Redemption or Repurchase

After giving you 30 days' prior notice, we may redeem some or all of your notes at a price equal to their original principal amount plus accrued but unpaid interest.

You may request us to repurchase your notes prior to maturity; however, unless the request is due to your death or total permanent disability, we are currently prohibited by contract from making any such repurchases.

See "Description of Notes — Redemption or Repurchase Prior To Stated Maturity- Repurchase At Request of Holder."

Consolidation, Merger or Sale

Upon any consolidation, merger or sale of our company, we will either redeem all of the notes or our successor will be required to assume our obligations to pay principal and interest on the notes pursuant to the indenture for the notes. For a description of these provisions see "Description of the Notes - Consolidation, Merger or Sale."

Ranking; No Security

The notes:

- are unsecured;
- rank junior to our existing and future secured debt, including the debt of our special purpose entities;

- rank junior to our existing and future senior unsecured debt, including debt we may incur under our existing and future credit facilities; and
- rank pari passu to our issued and outstanding renewable unsecured subordinated notes.

As of September 30, 2010, we had approximately \$743.7 million of debt outstanding that is senior to the notes, of which approximately \$716.7 million was issued by our consolidated special purpose entities. Including an additional approximately \$90.5 million of debt that does not appear on our consolidated financial statements (which was issued by our off-balance sheet special purpose entities), we had approximately \$855.5 million of debt outstanding that is senior to the notes. See "Capitalization."

Limited Restrictive Covenants

The indenture governing the notes contains very limited restrictive covenants. One of these covenants prohibits us from paying dividends on our capital stock if there is an event of default with respect to the notes or if payment of the dividend would result in an event of default. We are not restricted from entering into qualified sales or financing transactions or incurring additional indebtedness.

The covenants set forth in the indenture are more fully described under "Description of Notes — Restrictive Covenants." These covenants have significant exceptions. We do not plan to issue any debt that is subordinate to the notes.

Use of Proceeds

If all the notes are sold, we would expect to receive up to approximately \$43.5 million of net proceeds from this offering after paying the estimated offering expenses. To the extent that we sell the notes in exchange for outstanding notes, our net proceeds will be correspondingly reduced. The exact amount of net proceeds also may vary considerably depending on how long the notes are offered and other factors. We intend to use the net proceeds to fund the purchase of automobile contracts and for other general corporate purposes, which may include the payment of general and administrative expenses. See "Use of Proceeds."

Absence of Public Market and Restrictions on Transfers

There is no existing market for the notes.

and Restrictions on Transfers We do not anticipate that a secondary market for the notes will develop. We do not intend to apply for listing of the notes on any securities exchange or for quotation of the notes in any automated dealer quotation system, including without limitation the OTC Bulletin Board or any over-the-counter market.

You will be able to transfer or pledge the notes only with our prior written consent. See "Description of the Notes - Transfers."

Book Entry

The notes will be issued in book entry or uncertificated form only. Except under limited circumstances, the notes will not be evidenced by certificated securities or negotiable instruments. See "Description of the Notes — Book Entry Registration and Transfers."

INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to "incorporate by reference" the information we file with it, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. The information incorporated by reference into this prospectus is an important part of this prospectus. Specifically, we are incorporating by reference the documents listed below:

- Our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009, including an amendment thereto filed April 30, 2010;
- Our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended March 31, June 30, 2010 and September 30, 2010;
- Our Current Reports on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on April 1, April 7, June 3, June 16, August 30, September 7 and October 1, 2010; and
 - Our definitive proxy statement filed August 2, 2010.

You should rely only on the information we include or incorporate by reference in this prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with information different from that contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus. The information contained in this prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement is accurate only as of the date on the front of those documents, regardless of the time of delivery of this prospectus or the applicable prospectus supplement or of any sale of our securities.

Any statement contained in this prospectus or in a document incorporated by reference in this prospectus is deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this prospectus to the extent that any of the following modifies or supersedes a statement in this prospectus or incorporated by reference in this prospectus:

- in the case of a statement in a previously filed document incorporated by reference in this prospectus, a statement contained in this prospectus;
 - a statement contained in any accompanying prospectus supplement relating to our offering of the notes; or
- a statement contained in any other subsequently filed document that is also incorporated by reference in this prospectus.

Any modified or superseded statement will not be deemed to constitute a part of this prospectus or any accompanying prospectus supplement, except as modified or superseded. Except as provided by the above mentioned exceptions, all information appearing in this prospectus and each accompanying prospectus supplement is qualified in its entirety by the information appearing in the documents incorporated by reference.

We will provide without charge to each person to whom a copy of this prospectus is delivered, including any beneficial owner, upon his or her written or oral request, a copy of any or all of the documents incorporated in this prospectus by reference, other than exhibits to the documents, unless the exhibits are incorporated specifically by reference in the documents. We will provide those documents, including any exhibits that are incorporated by reference into those documents, without cost to the requester. Requests for copies should be directed to:

Consumer Portfolio Services, Inc. 19500 Jamboree Road Irvine, California 92612

Attention: Corporate Secretary (949) 753-6800 notesinfo@consumerportfolio.com

You may also obtain copies of any of such reports at our website, free of charge, at http://www.consumerportfolio.com/investorinfo.htm.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We file annual, quarterly and special reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. You may read and copy any document we file at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the operation of the Public Reference Room. Our SEC filings are also available to the public at the SEC's web site at http://www.sec.gov, and at our website at http://www.consumerportfolio.com/investorinfo.htm.

We have also filed a registration statement on Form S-1 under the Securities Act with the SEC with respect to the notes offered by this prospectus. This prospectus has been filed as part of that registration statement. This prospectus does not contain all of the information set forth in the registration statement because parts of the registration statement are omitted in accordance with the rules and regulations of the SEC. The registration statement is available for inspection and copying as set forth above.

RISK FACTORS

The risks described below set forth the material risks associated with the purchase of notes and our company. Before you invest in the notes, you should carefully consider these risk factors, as well as the other information regarding the notes and the company contained in this prospectus and in the documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus.

Risk Factors Relating to the Notes

Because of their characteristics, the notes may not be a suitable investment for you.

The notes may not be a suitable investment for you, and we advise you to consult your investment, tax and other professional financial advisors prior to purchasing notes. The characteristics of the notes, including maturity, interest rate and lack of liquidity, may not satisfy your investment objectives. The notes may not be a suitable investment for you based on your ability to withstand a loss of interest or principal or other aspects of your financial situation, including your income, net worth, financial needs, investment risk profile, return objectives, investment experience and other factors. Prior to purchasing any notes, you should consider your investment allocation with respect to the amount of your contemplated investment in the notes in relation to your other investment holdings and the diversity of those holdings.

Because the notes rank junior to substantially all of our existing and future debt and other financial obligations, your notes will lack priority in payment.

Your right to receive payments on the notes is junior to substantially all of our existing indebtedness and future borrowings (including debt of our special purpose entities). Your notes will be subordinated to the prior payment in full of all of our other debt obligations, other than our issued and outstanding renewable unsecured subordinated notes, and your notes will be pari passu in right of payment with our issued and outstanding renewable unsecured subordinated notes. As of September 30, 2010, we had approximately \$743.7 million of debt outstanding that is senior to your notes, of which approximately \$716.7 million was issued by our consolidated special purpose entities. Including an additional approximately \$90.5 million of debt that does not appear on our consolidated financial statements (which was issued by our off-balance sheet special purpose entities), we had approximately \$855.5 million of debt outstanding that is senior to your notes. We may also incur substantial additional indebtedness in the future that would also rank senior to your notes. Because of the subordination provisions of the notes, in the event of our bankruptcy, liquidation or dissolution, our assets would be available to make payments to you under the notes only after all payments had been made on all of our secured and unsecured indebtedness and other obligations that are senior to the notes. Sufficient assets may not remain after all such senior payments have been made to make any payments to you under the notes, including payments of interest when due or principal upon maturity.

Because there will be no trading market for the notes and because transfers of the notes require our consent, it may be difficult to sell your notes.

Your ability to liquidate your investment is limited because of transfer restrictions, the lack of a trading market and the limitation on repurchase requests prior to maturity. Your notes may not be transferred without our prior written

consent. In addition, there will be no trading market for the notes. Due to the restrictions on transfer of the notes and the lack of a market for the sale of the notes, even if we permitted a transfer, you might be unable to sell, pledge or otherwise liquidate your investment. We are currently subject to contractual restrictions that prohibit us from repurchasing notes except in the case of death or total permanent disability of the related holder. In any event, the total principal amount of notes that we would be required to repurchase in any calendar quarter, for any reason, will be limited to the greater of \$1 million or 2% of the aggregate principal amount of all notes outstanding at the end of the previous quarter. See "Description of the Notes."

Because the notes will have no sinking fund, collateral security, insurance or guarantee, you may lose all or a part of your investment in the notes if we do not have enough cash to pay the notes.

There is no sinking fund, collateral security, insurance or guarantee of our obligation to make payments on the notes. The notes are not secured by any of our assets. We will not contribute funds to a separate account, commonly known as a sinking fund, to make interest or principal payments on the notes. The notes are not certificates of deposit or similar obligations of, and are not guaranteed or insured by, any depository institution, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Securities Investor Protection Corporation, or any other governmental or private fund or entity. Therefore, if you invest in the notes, you will have to rely only on our cash flow from operations and other sources of funds for repayment of principal at maturity or redemption and for payment of interest when due. Our cash flow from operations could be impaired under the circumstances described under "—Risks Related to Our Business". If our cash flow from operations and other sources of funds are not sufficient to pay any amounts owed under the notes, then you may lose all or part of your investment.

The notes will automatically renew unless you request repayment.

Upon maturity, the notes will be automatically renewed for the same term as your maturing note and at an interest rate that we are offering at that time to other investors with similar aggregate note portfolios for notes of the same term, unless we notify you prior to the maturity date that we intend to repay the notes or you notify us within 15 days after the maturity date that you want your notes repaid. This 15 day period will be automatically extended if you would otherwise be required to make the repayment election at a time when we have determined that a post-effective amendment to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part must be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, but such post-effective amendment has not yet been declared effective. If notes with the same term are not then being offered, the interest rate upon renewal will be the rate specified by us on or before the maturity date, or the rate of the existing note if no such rate is specified. The interest rate on your renewed note may be lower than the interest rate of your original note. Any requests for repurchases after your notes are renewed will be subject to contractual restrictions that presently prohibit us from making any such repurchases and, in any event, to limitations on the amount of notes we would be willing to repurchase in any calendar quarter.

Because we have substantial indebtedness that is senior to the notes, our ability to pay the notes may be impaired.

We have now and, after we sell these notes, will continue to have a substantial amount of indebtedness. At September 30, 2010, we had approximately \$855.5 million of debt outstanding, comprising (in thousands):

Warehouse lines of credit (1)	39,692
Subordinated renewable notes	21,300
Residual interest financing (1)	44,252
Securitization trust debt (1)	632,783
Senior secured debt, related party	26,950
Total on balance sheet debt	764,977
Off-balance sheet securitization trust debt (1)(2)	
Total on and off-balance sheet debt	

- (1) Debt obligations of our special purpose entities
- (2) Debt obligations of our special purpose entities where the securitization transactions were structured as sales for accounting purposes

90,541 855,518

Our debt to net worth ratio at September 30, 2010 was 47.6 (including all debt issued by off-balance sheet special purpose entities our debt to net worth ratio was 53.2 and excluding all securitization trust debt, our debt to net worth

ratio was 8.2), and our ratio of earnings to fixed charges, including interest expense on the above-mentioned debt, was 0.77.

Our substantial indebtedness could adversely affect our financial condition and prevent us from fulfilling our obligations under the notes by, among other things:

- increasing our vulnerability to general adverse economic and industry conditions;
- requiring us to dedicate a substantial portion of our cash flow from operations to payments on our indebtedness, thereby reducing amounts available for working capital, capital expenditures and other general corporate purposes;
- limiting our flexibility in planning for, or reacting to, changes in our business and the industry in which we operate;
 - placing us at a competitive disadvantage compared to our competitors that have less debt; and
 - limiting our ability to borrow additional funds.

Although we believe we will generate sufficient free cash flow to service this debt and our obligations under the notes, there is no assurance that we will be able to do so. If we do not generate sufficient operating profits, our ability to make required payments on our senior debt, as well as on the debt represented by the notes described in this prospectus, may be impaired.

If we incur substantially more indebtedness that is senior to your notes, our ability to pay the notes may be impaired.

Subject to limitations contained in our credit facilities and in the indenture, we may incur substantial additional indebtedness in the future. The indenture for the notes does not prohibit us from incurring additional indebtedness. Any such borrowings would be senior to the notes. If we borrow more money, the risks to noteholders described in this prospectus could intensify.

Our management has broad discretion over the use of proceeds from the offering.

We expect to use the proceeds from the offering to fund the purchase of automobile contracts and for other general corporate purposes, which may include the payment of general and administrative expenses. Because no specific allocation of the proceeds is required in the indenture, our management will have broad discretion in determining how the proceeds of the offering will be used. See "Use of Proceeds."

Because we are subject to many restrictions in our existing credit facilities, our ability to pay the notes may be impaired.

The terms of our existing credit facilities and our securitization trust debt impose significant operating and financial restrictions on us and our subsidiaries and require us to meet certain financial tests. The indenture for the notes also imposes certain limited restrictions on our ability and that of our subsidiaries to take certain actions. Such terms and restrictions may be amended or supplemented from time to time without requiring any notice to or consent of the holders of the notes or the trustee. These restrictions may have an adverse impact on our business activities, results of operations and financial condition. These restrictions may also significantly limit or prohibit us from engaging in certain transactions, including the following:

- incurring or guaranteeing additional indebtedness;
- making capital expenditures in excess of agreed upon amounts;
- paying dividends or other distributions to our stockholders or redeeming, repurchasing or retiring our capital stock or subordinated obligations;
 - making investments;

- creating or permitting liens on our assets or the assets of our subsidiaries;
 - issuing or selling capital stock of our subsidiaries;
 - transferring or selling our assets;
 - engaging in mergers or consolidations;
 - permitting a change of control of our company;
 - liquidating, winding up or dissolving our company;

- changing our name or the nature of our business, or the names or nature of the business of our subsidiaries; and
 - engaging in transactions with our affiliates outside the normal course of business.

These restrictions may limit our ability to obtain additional sources of capital, which may limit our ability to repay the notes. In addition, the failure to comply with any of the covenants of our existing credit facilities or the indenture or to maintain certain indebtedness ratios would cause a default under one or more of our credit facilities and may cause a default under the indenture or our other debt agreements that may be outstanding from time to time. A default, if not waived, could result in acceleration of the related indebtedness, in which case such debt would become immediately due and payable. A continuing default or acceleration of one or more of our credit facilities, the indenture or any other debt agreement, will likely cause a default under the indenture and other debt agreements that otherwise would not be in default, in which case all such related indebtedness could be accelerated. If this occurs, we may not be able to repay our debt or borrow sufficient funds to refinance our indebtedness. Even if any new financing is available, it may not be on terms that are acceptable to us or it may not be sufficient to refinance all of our indebtedness as it becomes due. Complying with these covenants may cause us to take actions that are not favorable to holders of the notes. See "Description of the Notes – Restrictive Covenants."

Because there are limited restrictions on our activities under the indenture, you will have only limited protections under the indenture.

In comparison to the restrictive covenants that are imposed on us by our existing credit facilities and other borrowing arrangements, the indenture governing the notes contains relatively minimal restrictions on our activities. In addition, the indenture contains only limited events of default other than our failure to timely pay principal and interest on the notes. Because there are only very limited restrictions and limited events of default under the indenture, we will not be restricted from issuing additional debt senior to your notes or be required to maintain any ratios of assets to debt in order to increase the likelihood of timely payments to you under the notes. Further, if we default in the payment of the notes or otherwise under the indenture, you will likely have to rely on the trustee to exercise your remedies on your behalf. You may not be able to seek remedies against us directly. See "Description of the Notes – Events of Default."

Because there are no financial covenants in the Indenture, we will not be required to maintain a positive net worth.

Unlike the indenture for our renewable unsecured subordinated notes issued prior to August 1, 2010, the indenture for the notes offered hereby does not contain any financial covenants relating to our net worth. Accordingly, we will not be required to maintain a positive net worth. However, if we fail to maintain a positive net worth, a majority of the holders of our renewable unsecured subordinated notes that were issued prior to August 1, 2010 will have the right to declare an event of default under the related indenture and accelerate the maturity of their notes. Any such acceleration may have a material and adverse effect on our liquidity and results of operation, which could impair our ability to make payments on the notes offered hereby.

Because we may redeem the notes at any time prior to their maturity, you may be subject to reinvestment risk.

We have the right to redeem any note at any time prior to its stated maturity upon 30 days written notice to you. The notes would be redeemed at 100% of the principal amount plus accrued but unpaid interest up to but not including the redemption date. Any such redemption may have the effect of reducing the income or return on investment that any investor may receive on an investment in the notes by reducing the term of the investment. If this occurs, you may not be able to reinvest the proceeds at an interest rate comparable to the rate paid on the notes. See "Description of the Notes – Redemption or Repurchase Prior To Stated Maturity."

Under certain circumstances, you may be required to pay taxes on accrued interest on the notes prior to receiving a sufficient amount of cash interest payments.

If you choose to have interest on your note paid at maturity and the term of your note exceeds one year, you may be required to pay taxes on the accrued interest prior to our making any interest payments to you. You should consult your tax advisor to determine your tax obligations.

Risk Factors Relating to CPS

We remind you that there are substantial risk factors relating to our business generally, in addition to those described above relating specifically to the Notes.

Our business, operating results and financial condition could be adversely affected by any of the following specific risks. In addition to the risks described below, we may encounter risks that are not currently known to us or that we currently deem immaterial, which may also impair our business operations.

Risks Related to Our Business

We Require a Substantial Amount of Cash to Service Our Substantial Debt.

To service our existing substantial indebtedness, we require a significant amount of cash. Our ability to generate cash depends on many factors, including our successful financial and operating performance. Our financial and operational performance depends upon a number of factors, many of which are beyond our control. These factors include, without limitation:

- the economic and competitive conditions in the asset-backed securities market;
 - the performance of our current and future automobile contracts;
- the performance of our residual interests from our securitizations and warehouse credit facilities;
 - any operating difficulties or pricing pressures we may experience;
 - our ability to obtain credit enhancement for our securitizations;
 - our ability to establish and maintain dealer relationships;
 - the passage of laws or regulations that affect us adversely;
 - our ability to compete with our competitors; and
 - our ability to acquire and finance automobile contracts.

Depending upon the outcome of one or more of these factors, we may not be able to generate sufficient cash flow from operations or obtain sufficient funding to satisfy all of our obligations. We presently find that funding in the asset-backed securities market is difficult to secure, that the credit performance of our automobile contracts has been adversely affected by general economic conditions, and that adverse effects on performance of our automobile contracts held in securitization pools result in an adverse effect on performance of residual interests. Such factors may result in our being unable to pay our debts timely or as agreed. If we were unable to pay our debts, we would be required to pursue one or more alternative strategies, such as selling assets, refinancing or restructuring our indebtedness or selling additional equity capital. These alternative strategies might not be feasible at the time, might prove inadequate or could require the prior consent of our lenders.

We Need Substantial Liquidity to Operate Our Business.

We have historically funded our operations principally through internally generated cash flows, sales of debt and equity securities, including through securitizations and warehouse credit facilities, borrowings under senior subordinated debt agreements and sales of subordinated notes. However, we may not be able to obtain sufficient funding for our future operations from such sources. As of the date of this report, our access to the capital markets is impaired with respect to long-term debt, and the terms on which we are able to access short-term debt are inferior to those available to us in years immediately prior to the commencement of the current recession. As a consequence, our results of operations, financial condition and cash flows have been and may continue to be materially and adversely affected. We require a substantial amount of cash liquidity to operate our business. Among other things, we use such

cash liquidity to:

- acquire automobile contracts;
- fund overcollateralization in warehouse credit facilities and securitizations;
- pay securitization fees and expenses;
- fund spread accounts in connection with securitizations;
- satisfy working capital requirements and pay operating expenses;
- pay taxes; and
- pay interest expense.

We have to date matched our liquidity needs to our available sources of funding by reducing our acquisition of new automobile contracts, at times to merely nominal levels. There can be no assurance that we will continue to be successful with that strategy.

We Are Not Presently Profitable

We have incurred net losses every quarter subsequent to the quarter ended June 30, 2008. We have been adversely affected by the economic recession affecting the United States as a whole, by increased financing costs and decreased availability of capital to fund our purchases of automobile contracts, and by a decrease in the overall level of sales of automobiles and light trucks. We expect to return to profitability at some time within the calendar year 2011; however, there can be no assurance as to that expectation. Our expectation of profitability is a forward-looking statement. We discuss the assumptions underlying that expectation under the caption "Forward-Looking Statements" in this prospectus. We identify important factors that could cause actual results to differ, generally in the "Risk Factors" section of this prospectus, and also under the caption "Forward-Looking Statements."

Our Results of Operations Will Depend on Our Ability to Secure and Maintain Adequate Credit and Warehouse Financing on Favorable Terms.

Our business strategy requires that warehouse credit facilities be available in order to purchase significant volumes of receivables.

Historically, our primary sources of day-to-day liquidity were our warehouse credit facilities, in which we sold and contributed automobile contracts, as often as twice a week, to special-purpose subsidiaries, where they were "warehoused" until they were securitized, at which time funds advanced under one or more warehouse credit facilities were repaid from the proceeds of the securitizations. The special-purpose subsidiaries obtained the funds to purchase these automobile contracts by pledging the automobile contracts to a trustee for the benefit of senior warehouse lenders, who advanced funds to our special-purpose subsidiaries based on the dollar amount of the automobile contracts pledged. Through November 2008, we depended substantially on two warehouse credit facilities: (i) a \$200 million warehouse credit facility, which we established in November 2005 and expired by its terms in November 2008; and (ii) a \$200 million warehouse credit facility, which we established in June 2004 and which was amended in December 2008 to eliminate future advances and to provide for repayment of the related debt from the cash collections on the related pledged automobile contracts, and certain other principal reductions until it was repaid in September 2009. In September 2009 we entered into a new \$50 million two-year multiple-draw credit facility, which, like a warehouse facility, allows us advances against new purchases of automobile contracts, and in March 2010 we entered into a second \$50 million delayed draw credit facility, which likewise allows us advances against new purchases of automobile contracts.

As stated elsewhere in this report, since the fourth quarter of 2007 we have observed adverse changes in the market for securitized pools of automobile contracts. If we are unable to maintain warehouse financing on acceptable terms, our results of operations, financial condition and cash flows could be materially and adversely affected.

Our Results of Operations Will Depend on Our Ability to Securitize Our Portfolio of Automobile Contracts.

Historically we have depended upon our ability to obtain permanent financing for pools of automobile contracts by conducting term securitization transactions. By "permanent financing" we mean financing that extends to cover the full term during which the underlying automobile contracts are outstanding and requires repayment as the underlying automobile contracts are repaid or charged off. By contrast, our warehouse credit facilities permit us to borrow against the value of such receivables only for limited periods of time. Our past practice and future plan has been and is to repay loans made to us under our warehouse credit facilities with the proceeds of securitizations. There can be no assurance that any securitization transaction will be available on terms acceptable to us, or at all. The timing of any

securitization transaction is affected by a number of factors beyond our control, any of which could cause substantial delays, including, without limitation:

- market conditions;
- the approval by all parties of the terms of the securitization;
- the availability of credit enhancement on acceptable terms; and
- our ability to acquire a sufficient number of automobile contracts for securitization.

As stated elsewhere in this report, since the fourth quarter of 2007 we have observed adverse changes in the market for securitized pools of automobile contracts, which has made permanent financing in the form of securitization transactions difficult to obtain and more costly than in prior periods. These changes include reduced liquidity

and reduced demand for asset-backed securities, particularly for securities carrying a financial guaranty or for securities backed by sub-prime automobile receivables. Should we choose not to securitize automobile contracts in the future or do so on the more costly terms prevalent in current market conditions, we could expect a further material adverse effect on our results of operations.

Our Results of Operations Will Depend on Cash Flows from Our Residual Interests in Our Securitization Program and Our Warehouse Credit Facilities.

When we finance our automobile contracts through securitizations and warehouse credit facilities, we receive cash and a residual interest in the assets financed. Those financed assets are owned by the special-purpose subsidiary that is formed for the related securitization. This residual interest represents the right to receive the future cash flows to be generated by the automobile contracts in excess of (i) the interest and principal paid to investors or lenders on the indebtedness issued in connection with the financing, (ii) the costs of servicing the automobile contracts and (iii) certain other costs incurred in connection with completing and maintaining the securitization or warehouse credit facility. We sometimes refer to these future cash flows as "excess spread cash flows."

Under the financial structures we have used to date in our securitizations and warehouse credit facilities, excess spread cash flows that would otherwise be paid to the holder of the residual interest are first used to increase overcollateralization or are retained in a spread account within the securitization trusts or the warehouse facility to provide liquidity and credit enhancement for the related securities.

While the specific terms and mechanics vary among transactions, our securitization and warehousing agreements generally provide that we will receive excess spread cash flows only if the amount of overcollateralization and spread account balances have reached specified levels and/or the delinquency, defaults or net losses related to the automobile contracts in the automobile contract pools are below certain predetermined levels. In the event delinquencies, defaults or net losses on automobile contracts exceed these levels, the terms of the securitization or warehouse credit facility:

- may require increased credit enhancement, including an increase in the amount required to be on deposit in the spread account to be accumulated for the particular pool;
- may restrict the distribution to us of excess spread cash flows associated with other securitized or warehoused pools; and
- in certain circumstances, may permit affected parties to require the transfer of servicing on some or all of the securitized or warehoused automobile contracts from us to an unaffiliated servicer.

We typically retain residual interests or use them as collateral to borrow cash. In any case, the future excess spread cash flow received in respect of the residual interests is integral to the financing of our operations. The amount of cash received from residual interests depends in large part on how well our portfolio of securitized and warehoused automobile contracts performs. If our portfolio of securitized and warehoused automobile contracts has higher delinquency and loss ratios than expected, then the amount of money realized from our retained residual interests, or the amount of money we could obtain from the sale or other financing of our residual interests, would be reduced. Such higher than expected losses have been incurred, which has had an adverse effect on our operations, financial condition and cash flows. Should losses continue to rise, we would expect further material adverse effects on our results of operations, financial condition and cash flows.

We May Have Rescission Liability in Connection with Sales of Our Renewable Unsecured Subordinated Notes to Certain Purchasers

We filed a registration statement on Form S-2 with respect to our renewable unsecured subordinated notes on January 7, 2005 and subsequently filed amendments to such registration statement on April 13, May 2, and May 20, 2005 and April 11, 2006 (such registration statement, as so amended, the "Former Registration Statement"). We recently discovered that, under a rule of the SEC, we are no longer permitted to offer and sell our renewable unsecured subordinated notes in reliance on the Former Registration Statement. Consequently, purchasers who acquired such notes within the past twelve months may have a statutory right to rescind their purchases. As a result, we could be required to repurchase some or all of such notes at the original sale price plus statutory interest, less the amount of any income received by the purchasers. Within the twelve months immediately preceding December 8, 2010, we sold a total of approximately \$ 11.67 million of such notes, including renewals of previously sold notes, but excluding notes that we have repaid.

Sales of such notes could also subject us to regulatory sanctions by the SEC, which might include the imposition of civil penalties. Although we do not expect any rescissions or regulatory actions to have a material adverse effect on us, we are unable to predict the full consequences of these events and regulatory actions at this time.

Our results of operations, financial condition and cash flows could be materially and adversely affected if a substantial number of purchasers of such notes were to successfully assert rescission rights or if we were to be assessed substantial penalties by regulatory authorities. The exercise of rescission rights would not have any direct material effect on our results of operations, as any rescission of sales of such notes would involve simultaneous and approximately equal reductions in our assets and our liabilities. However, if holders of sufficient amounts of such notes were to demand rescission and to prevail in that demand, the adverse effect on our liquidity could be material, which could in turn impair our ability to conduct our business as otherwise planned. In such event, our ability to perform our obligations under the renewable unsecured subordinated notes, including those offered by this Prospectus, could also be materially and adversely affected.

If We Are Unable to Obtain Credit Enhancement for Our Securitizations Upon Favorable Terms, Our Results of Operations Would Be Impaired.

In our securitizations, we historically have utilized credit enhancement in the form of one or more financial guaranty insurance policies issued by financial guaranty insurance companies. Each of these policies unconditionally and irrevocably guarantees certain interest and principal payments on the senior classes of the securities issued in our securitizations. These guarantees enabled these securities to achieve the highest credit rating available. This form of credit enhancement reduced the costs of our securitizations relative to alternative forms of credit enhancement available to us at the time. Such financial guaranty insurance policies are not at present available to us. Due to significantly reduced investor demand for securities carrying such a financial guaranty, it is likely that this form of credit enhancement, even if it were again to become available to us, may not be economic for us in the future. As we pursue future securitizations, we may not be able to obtain:

- credit enhancement in any form on terms acceptable to us, or at all; or
- similar ratings for senior classes of securities to be issued in future securitizations.

Based on indications from market participants as to reduced investor comfort with credit ratings and financial guarantees, we believe that even if we were unable to obtain such enhancements or such ratings, we would expect to incur increased interest expense. Such increased interest expense would adversely affect our results of operations.

If We Are Unable to Successfully Compete With Our Competitors, Our Results of Operations May Be Impaired.

The automobile financing business is highly competitive. We compete with a number of national, regional and local finance companies. In addition, competitors or potential competitors include other types of financial services companies, such as commercial banks, savings and loan associations, leasing companies, credit unions providing retail loan financing and lease financing for new and used vehicles and captive finance companies affiliated with major automobile manufacturers such as Ford Motor Credit Corporation. Many of our competitors and potential competitors possess substantially greater financial, marketing, technical, personnel and other resources than we do, including greater access to capital markets for unsecured commercial paper and investment grade rated debt

instruments, and to other funding sources which may be unavailable to us. Moreover, our future profitability will be directly related to the availability and cost of our capital relative to that of our competitors. Many of these companies also have long-standing relationships with automobile dealers and may provide other financing to dealers, including floor plan financing for the dealers' purchases of automobiles from manufacturers, which we do not offer. There can be no assurance that we will be able to continue to compete successfully and, as a result, we may not be able to purchase automobile contracts from dealers at a price acceptable to us, which could result in reductions in our revenues or the cash flows available to us.

If Our Dealers Do Not Submit a Sufficient Number of Suitable Automobile Contracts to Us for Purchase, Our Results of Operations May Be Impaired.

We are dependent upon establishing and maintaining relationships with a large number of unaffiliated automobile dealers to supply us with automobile contracts. During the year ended December 31, 2009, no single dealer accounted for more than 8.0% of the automobile contracts we purchased. The agreements we have with dealers to purchase automobile contracts do not require dealers to submit a minimum number of automobile contracts for purchase. The failure of dealers to submit automobile contracts that meet our underwriting criteria could result in reductions in our revenues or the cash flows available to us, and, therefore, could have an adverse effect on our results of operations.

If a Significant Number of Our Automobile Contracts Experience Defaults, Our Results of Operations May Be Impaired.

We specialize in the purchase and servicing of automobile contracts to finance automobile purchases by sub-prime customers, those who have limited credit history, low income, or past credit problems. Such automobile contracts entail a higher risk of non-performance, higher delinquencies and higher losses than automobile contracts with more creditworthy customers. While we believe that our pricing of the automobile contracts and the underwriting criteria and collection methods we employ enable us to control, to a degree, the higher risks inherent in automobile contracts with sub-prime customers, no assurance can be given that such pricing, criteria and methods will afford adequate protection against such risks. We have experienced increases in the delinquency of, and credit losses on, our automobile contracts.

If automobile contracts that we purchase and hold experience defaults to a greater extent than we have anticipated, this could materially and adversely affect our results of operations, financial condition, cash flows and liquidity. Our results of operations, financial condition, cash flows and liquidity, depend, to a material extent, on the performance of automobile contracts that we purchase, warehouse and securitize. A portion of the automobile contracts acquired by us will default or prepay. In the event of payment default, the collateral value of the vehicle securing an automobile contract realized by us in a repossession will most likely not cover the outstanding principal balance on that automobile contract and the related costs of recovery. We maintain an allowance for credit losses on automobile contracts held on our balance sheet, which reflects our estimates of probable credit losses that can be reasonably estimated for securitizations that are accounted for as financings and warehoused automobile contracts. If the allowance is inadequate, then we would recognize the losses in excess of the allowance as an expense and our results of operations could be adversely affected. In addition, under the terms of our warehouse credit facilities, we are not able to borrow against defaulted automobile contracts, including automobile contracts that are, at the time of default, funded under our warehouse credit facilities, which will reduce the overcollateralization of those warehouse credit facilities and possibly reduce the amount of cash flows available to us.

If We Lose Servicing Rights on Our Portfolio of Automobile Contracts, Our Results of Operations Would Be Impaired.

We are entitled to receive servicing fees only while we act as servicer under the applicable sale and servicing agreements governing our warehouse facilities and securitizations. Under such agreements, we may be terminated as

servicer upon the occurrence of certain events, including:

- our failure generally to observe and perform covenants and agreements applicable to us;
- certain bankruptcy events involving us; or
- the occurrence of certain events of default under the documents governing the facilities.

We have received waivers regarding the potential breach of certain covenants relating to minimum net worth and maintenance of active warehouse credit facilities. Without such waivers, certain credit enhancement providers would have had the right to terminate us as servicer with respect to certain of outstanding securitization pools.

Although such rights have been waived, such waivers are temporary, and there can be no assurance as to their future extension. We do, however, believe that we will obtain such future extensions because it is generally not in the interest of any party to the securitization transaction to transfer servicing. Nevertheless, there can be no assurance as to our belief being correct. The loss of our servicing rights could materially and adversely affect our results of operations, financial condition and cash flows. Our results of operations, financial condition and cash flows, would be materially and adversely affected if we were to be terminated as servicer with respect to a material portion of the automobile contracts for which we are receiving servicing fees.

If We Lose Key Personnel, Our Results of Operations May Be Impaired.

Our senior management team averages thirteen years of service with us. Charles E. Bradley, Jr., our President and CEO, has been our President since our formation in 1991. Our future operating results depend in significant part upon the continued service of our key senior management personnel, none of whom is bound by an employment agreement. Our future operating results also depend in part upon our ability to attract and retain qualified management, technical, sales and support personnel for our operations. Competition for such personnel is intense. We cannot assure you that we will be successful in attracting or retaining such personnel. Layoffs that we have implemented since 2008 may have reduced employee loyalty, which may in turn result in decreased employee performance. Conversely, adverse general economic conditions may have had a countervailing effect. The loss of any key employee, the failure of any key employee to perform in his or her current position or our inability to attract and retain skilled employees, as needed, could materially and adversely affect our results of operations, financial condition and cash flows.

If We Fail to Comply with Regulations, Our Results of Operations May Be Impaired.

Failure to materially comply with all laws and regulations applicable to us could materially and adversely affect our ability to operate our business. Our business is subject to numerous federal and state consumer protection laws and regulations, which, among other things:

- require us to obtain and maintain certain licenses and qualifications;
- limit the interest rates, fees and other charges we are allowed to charge;
- limit or prescribe certain other terms of our automobile contracts;
- require specific disclosures to our customers;
- define our rights to repossess and sell collateral; and
- maintain safeguards designed to protect the security and confidentiality of customer information.

We believe that we are in compliance in all material respects with all such laws and regulations, and that such laws and regulations have had no material adverse effect on our ability to operate our business. However, we may be materially and adversely affected if we fail to comply with:

- applicable laws and regulations;
- changes in existing laws or regulations;
- changes in the interpretation of existing laws or regulations; or
- any additional laws or regulations that may be enacted in the future.

Recent Legislation and Proposed Regulations May Have an Adverse Effect on Our Business.

The Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act ("Dodd-Frank") mandates the most wide-ranging overhaul of financial industry regulation in decades. Dodd-Frank was signed into law on July 21, 2010, and is now in the implementation stage. The law provides a regulatory framework and requires that regulators, some of which are new regulatory bodies created by Dodd-Frank, draft, review and approve more than 200 implementing regulations and conduct numerous studies that are likely to lead to more regulations. In addition, the Commission has recently

proposed amendments to regulations first adopted in 2005 known as Regulation AB. The amendments to Regulation AB have yet to be adopted and are expected to be significantly modified from the form initially proposed, however, the final form of the amendments to Regulation AB when adopted are expected to adversely affect CPS's ability to complete securitization transactions without increased expense.

Compliance with these new laws and regulations may be or likely will be costly and can affect operating results. Compliance requires forms, processes, procedures, controls and the infrastructure to support these requirements. Compliance may create operational constraints and place limits on pricing. Laws in the financial services industry are designed primarily for the protection of consumers. The failure to comply could result in significant statutory

civil and criminal penalties, monetary damages, attorneys' fees and costs, possible revocation of licenses and damage to reputation, brand and valued customer relationships.

At this time, it is difficult to predict the extent to which the Dodd-Frank Act or the resulting regulations or the Regulation AB amendments will affect our business. However, compliance with these new laws and regulations may result in additional cost and expenses, which may adversely affect our results of operations, financial condition or liquidity.

If We Experience Unfavorable Litigation Results, Our Results of Operations May Be Impaired.

Unfavorable outcomes in any of our current or future litigation proceedings could materially and adversely affect our results of operations, financial conditions and cash flows. As a consumer finance company, we are subject to various consumer claims and litigation seeking damages and statutory penalties based upon, among other things, disclosure inaccuracies and wrongful repossession, which could take the form of a plaintiff's class action complaint. We, as the assignee of finance automobile contracts originated by dealers, may also be named as a co-defendant in lawsuits filed by consumers principally against dealers. We are also subject to other litigation common to the automobile industry and businesses in general. The damages and penalties claimed by consumers and others in these types of matters can be substantial. The relief requested by the plaintiffs varies but includes requests for compensatory, statutory and punitive damages.

While we intend to vigorously defend ourselves against such proceedings, there is a chance that our results of operations, financial condition and cash flows could be materially and adversely affected by unfavorable outcomes.

If We Experience Problems with Our Originations, Accounting or Collection Systems, Our Results of Operations May Be Impaired.

We are dependent on our receivables originations, accounting and collection systems to service our portfolio of automobile contracts. Such systems are vulnerable to damage or interruption from natural disasters, power loss, telecommunication failures, terrorist attacks, computer viruses and other events. A significant number of our systems are not redundant, and our disaster recovery planning is not sufficient for every eventuality. Our systems are also subject to break-ins, sabotage and intentional acts of vandalism by internal employees and contractors as well as third parties. Despite any precautions we may take, such problems could result in interruptions in our services, which could harm our reputation and financial condition. We do not carry business interruption insurance sufficient to compensate us for losses that may result from interruptions in our service as a result of system failures. Such systems problems could materially and adversely affect our results of operations, financial conditions and cash flows.

We Have Substantial Indebtedness.

We have and will continue to have a substantial amount of indebtedness. At September 30, 2010, we had approximately \$765.0 million of debt outstanding. Such debt consisted primarily of \$632.8 million of securitization trust debt, and also included \$39.7 million of warehouse lines of credit, \$44.3 million of residual interest financing, \$27.0 million of senior secured related party debt, and \$21.3 million owed to holders of our renewable unsecured subordinated notes. We have offered our renewable unsecured subordinated notes to the public on a continuous basis from May 2005 through July 2010, and those notes have maturities that range from three months to ten years.

Our substantial indebtedness could adversely affect our financial condition by, among other things:

- increasing our vulnerability to general adverse economic and industry conditions;
- requiring us to dedicate a substantial portion of our cash flow from operations to payments on our indebtedness, thereby reducing amounts available for working capital, capital expenditures and other general corporate purposes;

- limiting our flexibility in planning for, or reacting to, changes in our business and the industry in which we operate;
 - placing us at a competitive disadvantage compared to our competitors that have less debt; and
 - limiting our ability to borrow additional funds.

Although we believe we are able to service and repay such debt, there is no assurance that we will be able to do so. If we do not generate sufficient operating profits, our ability to make required payments on our debt would be impaired. Failure to pay our indebtedness when due could have a material adverse effect.

Because We Are Subject to Many Restrictions in Our Existing Credit Facilities and Securitization Transactions, Our Ability to Pay Dividends or Engage in Specified Transactions May Be Impaired.

The terms of our existing credit facilities, term securitizations and our other outstanding debt impose significant operating and financial restrictions on us and our subsidiaries and require us to meet certain financial tests. These restrictions may have an adverse effect on our business activities, results of operations and financial condition. These restrictions may also significantly limit or prohibit us from engaging in certain transactions, including the following:

- incurring or guaranteeing additional indebtedness;
- making capital expenditures in excess of agreed upon amounts;
- paying dividends or other distributions to our stockholders or redeeming, repurchasing or retiring our capital stock or subordinated obligations;
 - making investments;
 - creating or permitting liens on our assets or the assets of our subsidiaries;
 - issuing or selling capital stock of our subsidiaries;
 - transferring or selling our assets;
 - engaging in mergers or consolidations;
 - permitting a change of control of our company;
 - liquidating, winding up or dissolving our company;
- changing our name or the nature of our business, or the names or nature of the business of our subsidiaries; and
 - engaging in transactions with our affiliates outside the normal course of business.

These restrictions may limit our ability to obtain additional sources of capital, which may limit our ability to generate earnings. In addition, the failure to comply with any of the covenants of one or more of our debt agreements could cause a default under other debt agreements that may be outstanding from time to time. A default, if not waived, could result in acceleration of the related indebtedness, in which case such debt would become immediately due and payable. A continuing default or acceleration of one or more of our credit facilities or any other debt agreement, would likely cause a default under other debt agreements that otherwise would not be in default, in which case all such related indebtedness could be accelerated. If this occurs, we may not be able to repay our debt or borrow sufficient funds to refinance our indebtedness. Even if any new financing is available, it may not be on terms that are acceptable to us or it may not be sufficient to refinance all of our indebtedness as it becomes due.

In addition, the transaction documents for our securitizations restrict our securitization subsidiaries from declaring or making payment to us of (i) any dividend or other distribution on or in respect of any shares of their capital stock, or (ii) any payment on account of the purchase, redemption, retirement or acquisition of any option, warrant or other right to acquire shares of their capital stock unless (in each case) at the time of such declaration or payment (and after giving effect thereto) no amount payable under any transaction document with respect to the related securitization is then due and owing, but unpaid. These restrictions may limit our ability to receive distributions in respect of the residual interests from our securitization facilities, which may limit our ability to generate earnings.

Risks Related to General Factors

If The Economy of All or Certain Regions of the United States Continues to Slow Down or the Current Recession Worsens, Our Results of Operations May Be Impaired.

Our business is directly related to sales of new and used automobiles, which are sensitive to employment rates, prevailing interest rates and other domestic economic conditions. Delinquencies, repossessions and losses generally increase during economic slowdowns or recessions. Because of our focus on sub-prime customers, the actual rates of delinquencies, repossessions and losses on our automobile contracts could be higher under adverse economic conditions than those experienced in the automobile finance industry in general, particularly in the states of Texas, California, Ohio, Florida, Pennsylvania and Louisiana, states in which our automobile contracts are geographically concentrated. Any sustained period of economic slowdown or recession could adversely affect our

ability to acquire suitable automobile contracts, or to securitize pools of such automobile contracts. The timing of any economic changes is uncertain, and weakness in the economy could have an adverse effect on our business and that of the dealers from which we purchase automobile contracts and result in reductions in our revenues or the cash flows available to us.

Our Results Of Operations May Be Impaired As a Result of Natural Disasters.

Our automobile contracts are geographically concentrated in the states of California, Texas, and Florida. Such states may be particularly susceptible to natural disasters: earthquake in the case of California, and hurricanes and flooding in the states of Florida and Texas. Natural disasters, in those states or others, could cause a material number of our vehicle purchasers to lose their jobs, or could damage or destroy vehicles that secure our automobile contracts. In either case, such events could result in our receiving reduced collections on our automobile contracts, and could thus result in reductions in our revenues or the cash flows available to us.

If an Increase in Interest Rates Results in a Decrease in Our Cash Flow from Excess Spread, Our Results of Operations May Be Impaired.

Our profitability is largely determined by the difference, or "spread," between the effective interest rate received by us on the automobile contracts that we acquire and the interest rates payable under warehouse credit facilities and on the asset-backed securities issued in our securitizations. Recent disruptions in the market for asset-backed securities are likely to result in an increase in the interest rates we would pay on asset-backed securities that we may issue in future securitizations. Although we have the ability to partially offset increases in our cost of funds by increasing fees we charge to dealers when purchasing automobile contracts, or by demanding higher interest rates on automobile contracts we purchase, there is no assurance that such actions will materially offset increases in interest we pay to finance our managed portfolio.

Several factors affect our ability to manage interest rate risk. Specifically, we are subject to interest rate risk during the period between when automobile contracts are purchased from dealers and when such automobile contracts are sold and financed in a securitization. Interest rates on warehouse credit facilities are typically adjustable while the interest rates on the automobile contracts are fixed. Therefore, if interest rates increase, the interest we must pay to the lenders under warehouse credit facilities is likely to increase while the interest realized by us from those warehoused automobile contracts remains the same, and thus, during the warehousing period, the excess spread cash flow received by us would likely decrease. Additionally, automobile contracts warehoused and then securitized during a rising interest rate environment may result in less excess spread cash flow realized by us under those securitizations as, historically, our securitization facilities pay interest to security holders on a fixed rate basis set at prevailing interest rates at the time of the closing of the securitization, which may be several months after the securitized automobile contracts were originated and entered the warehouse, while our customers pay fixed rates of interest on the automobile contracts, set at the time they purchase the underlying vehicles. A decrease in excess spread cash flow could adversely affect our earnings and cash flow.

To mitigate, but not eliminate, the short-term risk relating to interest rates payable by us under the warehouse facilities, we have historically held automobile contracts in the warehouse credit facilities for less than four months. To mitigate, but not eliminate, the long-term risk relating to interest rates payable by us in securitizations, we have in the past, and intend to continue to, structure some of our securitization transactions to include pre-funding structures, whereby the amount of securities issued exceeds the amount of automobile contracts initially sold into the securitization. In pre-funding, the proceeds from the pre-funded portion are held in an escrow account until we sell the additional automobile contracts into the securitization in amounts up to the balance of the pre-funded escrow account. In pre-funded securitizations, we effectively lock in our borrowing costs with respect to the automobile contracts we subsequently sell into the securitization. However, we incur an expense in pre-funded securitizations equal to the difference between the money market yields earned on the proceeds held in escrow prior to subsequent delivery of

automobile contracts and the interest rate paid on the securities issued in the securitization. The amount of such expense may vary. Despite these mitigation strategies, an increase in prevailing interest rates would cause us to receive less excess spread cash flows on automobile contracts, and thus could adversely affect our earnings and cash flows.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

Non-compliance with Nasdaq Listing Requirement

On August 24, 2010, we received from Nasdaq a staff deficiency letter indicating that we have failed to comply with the minimum bid price requirement for continued listing on the Nasdaq Global Market. A minimum bid price of \$1.00 per share is required by Nasdaq Rule 5450(a)(1). Our common stock remains listed on the Nasdaq Global Market during the 180-day grace period following such notification of noncompliance. We have until February 22, 2011 to regain compliance with the minimum price rule; otherwise our common stock would be subject to delisting. We are considering several steps that could be taken to maintain public trading of our common stock. Such steps include (i) proposing and submitting to our shareholders for approval a reverse stock split, (ii) transferring the listing of our common stock to the Nasdaq Capital Market, or (iii) arranging for the quotation of trades in respect of our common stock through market makers on the OTCQB market. It should be noted that alternative (ii), transfer to the Nasdaq Capital Market, does no more than extend the grace period for 180 days following transfer of listing.

Waivers and Amendments of Financial and Performance Covenants

Certain of our securitization transactions and our warehouse credit facilities contain various financial covenants requiring certain minimum financial ratios and results. Such covenants include (i) maintaining minimum levels of liquidity or warehouse financing availability, (ii) maintaining minimum levels of adjusted net worth, (iii) not exceeding maximum leverage levels, and (iv) not exceeding maximum financial losses. In addition, certain of our securitization and non-securitization related debt contains cross-default provisions which would allow certain of our creditors to declare a default if a default were declared under a different facility. As a result of waivers and amendments to these covenants and cross-default provisions throughout 2009 and during the first and second quarter of 2010, we were in compliance with all such covenants and cross-default provisions as of each monthly or quarterly measurement date and as of date of this prospectus.

There can be no assurance that we will remain in compliance with any of the covenants and cross-default provisions in our securitization transactions or our warehouse credit facilities (as the same have been and/or may be amended from time to time) or that we will be able to obtain waivers or amendments to any such covenants and cross default provisions from our senior lenders in the future. If we are unable to remain in compliance with any such covenants and cross-default provisions and we are not able to obtain waivers or amendments to any such covenants and cross-default provisions, we could be terminated as servicer under the terms of the related securitization transactions and warehouse credit facilities.

As of September 30, 2010, we were in compliance with all applicable financial covenants, in part by reason of having received waivers of compliance as summarized in the table below. All such waivers relate to securitization trust debt issued by our consolidated subsidiaries.

Applicable Standard	Status Requiring Waiver (as of or for the
	quarter ended September 30, 2010)
\$200 million of warehouse capacity	\$50 million of warehouse capacity
\$87.6 million	\$16.1 million
Not greater than 4.5:1	7.1:1
\$95.3 million	\$16.1 million
	\$200 million of warehouse capacity \$87.6 million Not greater than 4.5:1

The covenant regarding warehouse financing capacity is a covenant to maintain one or more credit facilities that allow us to finance acquisition of automobile contracts on a revolving basis, with a minimum aggregate capacity of \$200 million. The adjusted net worth covenants are covenants to maintain minimum levels of adjusted net worth, defined in each case as our consolidated book value under GAAP with the exclusion of intangible assets such as goodwill. The two separate adjusted net worth covenants run in favor of two separate financial guaranty insurers of classes of our outstanding securitization trust debt. The leverage covenant requires that we not exceed

the specified ratio of debt over the defined adjusted net worth. Debt is defined in this covenant to mean consolidated liabilities less warehouse lines of credit and securitization trust debt; using this definition at September 30, 2010, we had debt of \$113.4 million.

See "Risk Factors – Risk Factors Relating To CPS – Risks Related to Our Business – If We Lose Servicing Rights on Our Portfolio of Automobile Contracts, Our Results of Operations Would be Impaired."

Availability of Funding

Since the fourth quarter of 2007, we have observed unprecedented adverse changes in the market for securitized pools of automobile contracts. These changes include reduced liquidity, and reduced demand for asset-backed securities, particularly for securities carrying a financial guaranty and for securities backed by sub-prime receivables. Moreover, many of the firms that previously provided financial guarantees, which were an integral part of our securitizations, are no longer offering such guarantees. In November 2008, we lost the ability to draw against available warehouse facilities, causing us to conserve liquidity by reducing our purchases of automobile contracts to nominal levels. However, in September 2009 we entered into a \$50 million revolving credit facility that allows advances against new purchases of automobile contracts, and in March 2010 we entered into another \$50 million delayed draw credit facility, which also allows us advances against new purchases of automobile contracts. These facilities have provided us the liquidity to gradually increase our automobile contract purchases from dealers. Moreover, during 2009 and to date in 2010 we have observed an increase in demand for asset-backed securities, including, securities backed by sub-prime automobile receivables. Nevertheless, if the current adverse circumstances that have affected the capital markets should worsen, we may again curtail or cease our purchases of new automobile contracts, which could lead to a material adverse effect on our operations.

Contingent Rescission Liability

We filed a registration statement on Form S-2 with respect to our renewable unsecured subordinated notes on January 7, 2005 and subsequently filed amendments to such registration statement on April 13, May 2, and May 20, 2005 and April 11, 2006 (such registration statement, as so amended, the "Former Registration Statement"). We recently discovered that, under a rule of the SEC, we are no longer permitted to offer and sell our renewable unsecured subordinated notes in reliance upon the Former Registration Statement. Consequently, purchasers who acquired such notes within the immediately preceding twelve months may have a statutory right to rescind their purchases. As a result, we could be required to repurchase some or all of such notes at the original sale price plus statutory interest, less the amount of any income received by the purchasers. Within the twelve months immediately preceding December 8, 2010, we sold a total of approximately \$11.67 million of such notes, including renewals of previously sold notes, but excluding notes that we have repaid..

Sales of such notes could also subject us to regulatory sanctions by the SEC, which might include the imposition of civil penalties. Although we do not expect any rescissions or regulatory actions to have a material adverse effect on us, we are unable to predict the full consequences of these events and regulatory actions at this time.

Our results of operations, financial condition and cash flows could be materially and adversely affected if a substantial number of purchasers of such notes were to successfully exercise rescission rights, or if we were to be assessed substantial penalties by regulatory authorities. The exercise of rescission rights would not have any direct material effect on our results of operations, as any rescission of sales would involve simultaneous and approximately equal reductions in our assets and our liabilities. However, if holders of sufficient amounts of such notes were to demand rescission and to prevail in that demand, the adverse effect on our liquidity could be material, which could in turn impair our ability to conduct our business as otherwise planned. In such event, our ability to perform our obligations under the renewable unsecured subordinated notes, including those offered by this Prospectus, could also be materially and adversely affected.

Not Presently Profitable

We have incurred net losses every quarter subsequent to the quarter ended June 30, 2008. Our pretax loss for the third quarter of 2010 was \$(3.5) million, compared to a pretax loss of \$(4.3) million in the third quarter of 2009. Our net loss for the third quarter of 2010 was \$(4.5) million, or \$(0.26) per diluted share, compared to a net loss of \$(4.3) million, or \$(0.23) per diluted share, for the year-ago quarter. Net loss for the third quarter of 2010 includes a charge to income tax expense of \$(1.0) million, or \$(0.06) per diluted share, related to an addition to the valuation allowance against our deferred tax asset. Our pretax loss for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 was \$(14.7) million, compared to a pretax loss of \$(10.8) million for the nine months ended September 30, 2009. Our

net loss for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 was \$(19.3) million, or \$(1.10) per diluted share, compared to a net loss of \$(10.8) million, or \$(0.57) per diluted share, for the nine months ended September 30, 2009. Net loss for the first nine months of 2010 includes a charge to income tax expense of \$(4.6) million, or \$(0.26) per diluted share, related to additions to the valuation allowance against our deferred tax asset.

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus contains certain statements of a forward-looking nature relating to future events or our future performance. These forward-looking statements are based on our current expectations, assumptions, estimates and projections about us and our industry. When used in this prospectus, the words "expects," "believes," "anticipates," "estimates," "intends" and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. These statements include, but are not limited to, statements of our plans, strategies and prospects under the captions "Prospectus Summary," "Risk Factors," "Use of Proceeds," and other statements contained elsewhere in this prospectus. In particular, but without limitation, our statement that we expect to return to profitability within the calendar year 2011 is a forward-looking statement. That expectation is dependent on our ability to avoid or to mitigate the risks inherent in our business, which risks we have described above.

These forward-looking statements are only predictions and are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause actual events or results to differ materially from those projected. The cautionary statements made in this prospectus should be read as being applicable to all related forward-looking statements wherever they appear in this prospectus. We assume no obligation to update these forward-looking statements publicly for any reason. Actual results could differ materially from those anticipated in these forward-looking statements.

The risk factors discussed above could cause our actual results to differ materially from those expressed in any forward-looking statements, including, without limitation, our statement that we expect to return to profitability within the calendar year 2011. Factors that we believe are especially important with respect to that particular statement are those discussed above under the captions "We Require a Substantial Amount of Cash to Service Our Substantial Debt," "We Need Substantial Liquidity to Operate Our Business," "Our Results of Operations Will Depend on Our Ability to Secure and Maintain Adequate Credit and Warehouse Financing on Favorable Terms," "Our Results of Operations Will Depend on Our Ability to Securitize Our Portfolio of Automobile Contracts," "If We Lose Servicing Rights on Our Portfolio of Automobile Contracts, Our Results of Operations Would Be Impaired," "If We Experience Unfavorable Litigation Results, Our Results of Operations May Be Impaired," and "If The Economy of All or Certain Regions of the United States Continues to Slow Down or the Current Recession Worsens, Our Results of Operations May Be Impaired."

RATIOS OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES

			Year Ended			Nine Months Ended
	December 31, 2005	December 31, 2006	December 31, 2007	December 31, 2008	December 31, 2009	September 30, 2010
Ratio of earnings to fixed charges1	1.06	1.14	1.17	0.72	0.56	0.77
Deficiency2 (\$000s)				(43,455)	(49,407)	(14,684)

- 1 For purposes of computing our ratios of earnings to fixed charges, we calculated earnings by adding fixed charges to income before income taxes. Fixed charges consist of gross interest expenses and one-third of our rent expense, which is the amount we believe is representative of the interest factor component of our rent expense.
- 2 The deficiency is the amount by which the sum of earnings plus fixed charges, as calculated above, fell short of fixed charges. It is thus equal to our pre-tax loss recorded in the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2009, and the nine-month period ended September 30, 2010.

USE OF PROCEEDS

If all of the notes are sold for cash, we would expect to receive approximately \$43.5 million of net proceeds from this offering after payment of estimated offering expenses. Because we may sell the notes for cash or in exchange for surrender of outstanding notes (or surrender of other renewable subordinated notes issued prior to the date of this Prospectus), our actual cash proceeds will be less than that amount, to the extent of such sales in exchange. At September 30, 2010, there were \$21.3 million of such other renewable subordinated notes outstanding, Although we have no specific plan to allocate the proceeds, the general purpose of the offering is to raise capital to purchase automobile contracts and for other general corporate purposes, which may include payment of general and administrative expenses.

CAPITALIZATION

The following table sets forth our capitalization, as of September 30, 2010, and as adjusted assuming sale of all of the notes for cash. To the extent that we sell the notes in exchange for surrender of previously outstanding notes (or surrender of other renewable subordinated notes issued prior to the date of this Prospectus), the adjustments to the table below would be reduced, dollar-for-dollar. For a description of the application of the net proceeds see "Use of Proceeds" and "Risk Factors – Risk Factors Relating to the Notes – Our management has broad discretion over the use of proceeds from the offering."

		As of September 30, 2010 (in 000's)	
	Actual	As adjusted	
LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY		ŭ	
Liabilities			
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$20,932	\$20,932	
Warehouse lines of credit	39,692	39,692	
Residual interest financing	44,252	44,252	
Securitization trust debt	632,783	632,783	
Senior secured debt	26,950	26,950	
Renewable Subordinated Notes Subordinated debt	21,300	65,300	
	785,909	829,909	
Shareholders' Equity			
Preferred stock, \$1 par value;			
authorized 5,000,000 shares; none issued			
Series A preferred stock, \$1 par value;			
authorized 5,000,000 shares;			
None issued; none outstanding			
Common stock, no par value; authorized			
75,000,000 shares; 18,034,909			
shares issued and outstanding at September 30, 2010	54,352	54,352	
Additional paid-in capital, warrants	9,141	9,141	
Retained earnings (accumulated deficit)	(41,788) (41,788)	
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(5,636) (5,636)	
Total Shareholders' Equity	16,069	16,069	
Total capitalization	\$801,978	\$845,978	

Edgar Filing: CONSUMER PORTFOLIO SERVICES INC - Form S-1/A DESCRIPTION OF THE NOTES

General. The renewable unsecured subordinated notes we are offering will represent subordinated, unsecured debt obligations of CPS. We will issue the notes under an indenture between us and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as trustee. The terms and conditions of the notes include those stated in the indenture and those made part of the indenture by reference to the Trust Indenture Act of 1939. The following is a summary of the material provisions of the indenture. For a complete understanding of the notes, you should review the definitive terms and conditions contained in the indenture, which include definitions of certain terms used below. A copy of

the indenture has been filed with the SEC as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part and is available from us at no charge upon request.

The notes will be subordinated in right of payment to the prior payment in full of all our secured, unsecured, senior debt and other financial obligations, whether outstanding on the date of the indenture or incurred following the date of the indenture. Subject to limited restrictions contained in the indenture discussed below, there is no limit under the indenture on the amount of additional debt we may incur. See " – Subordination" below.

The notes are not secured by any collateral or lien and we are not required to establish or maintain a sinking fund to provide for payments on the notes. See "- No Security; No Sinking Fund" below. In addition, the notes are not bank certificates of deposit and are not insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Securities Investor Protection Corporation or any other agency or company.

You may select the amount (subject to a minimum principal amount of \$1,000) and term (ranging from 3 months to 10 years) of the notes you would like to purchase when you subscribe; however, depending upon our capital requirements, we may not always offer notes with the requested terms. See " – Denomination" and " – Term" below.

We will determine the rate at which we will pay you interest on the notes at the time of subscription and the rate will be fixed for the term of your note. Currently available rates will be set forth in interest rate supplements to this prospectus. The interest rate will vary based on the term to maturity of the note you purchase and the total principal amount of all notes owned by you and your immediate family. We may change the interest rates at which we are offering new or renewed notes based on market conditions, the demand for notes and other factors. See " – Interest Rate" below.

Upon acceptance of your subscription to purchase notes, we will create an account in a book-entry registration and transfer system for you, and credit the principal amount of your subscription to your account. We will send you a purchase confirmation that will indicate our acceptance of your subscription. You will have five business days from the postmark date of your purchase confirmation to rescind your subscription. If your subscription is rejected, or if you rescind your subscription during the rescission period, all funds deposited will be promptly returned to you without any interest. See "– Book-Entry Registration and Transfer" and "– Rescission Right" below. Investors whose subscriptions for notes have been accepted and anyone who subsequently acquires notes in a qualified transfer are referred to as "holders" or "registered holders" in this prospectus and in the indenture.

We may modify or supplement the terms of the notes described in this prospectus from time to time in a supplement to the indenture and a supplement to this prospectus. Except as set forth under " – Amendment, Supplement And Waiver" below, any modification or amendment will not affect notes outstanding at the time of such modification or amendment.

Denomination. You may purchase notes in the minimum principal amount of \$1,000 or any amount in excess of \$1,000. You will determine the original principal amount of each note you purchase when you subscribe. You may not cumulate purchases of multiple notes with principal amounts less than \$1,000 to satisfy the minimum denomination requirement.

Term. We may offer notes with the following terms to maturity:

- three months
- six months
- one year
- two years

- three years
- four years
- five years
- ten years

You will select the term of each note you purchase when you subscribe. You may purchase multiple notes with different terms by filling in investment amounts for more than one term on your subscription agreement. However, we may not always sell notes with all of the above terms.

Interest Rate. The rate of interest we will offer to pay you on notes at any particular time will vary based upon market conditions, and will be determined by the length of the term of the notes, the total principal amount of all notes owned by you and your immediate family, our capital requirements and other factors described below. The interest rate on a particular note will be determined at the time of subscription or renewal, and then remain fixed for the original or renewal term of the note. We will establish and may change the interest rates payable for notes of various terms and at various investment levels in an interest rate supplement to this prospectus.

The notes will earn incrementally higher interest rates when, at the time they are purchased or renewed, the aggregate principal amount of the note portfolio of the holder. The interest rates payable at each level of investment will be set forth in an interest rate supplement to this prospectus.

Interest rates we offer on the notes may vary based on numerous factors in addition to length of the term and aggregate principal amount. These factors may include, but are not limited to:

• the desire to attract new investors;