

PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP
Form 10-Q
November 07, 2014
[Table of Contents](#)

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20549

FORM 10-Q

Quarterly Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

For the quarterly period ended September 30, 2014

or

Transition Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission File Number 001-11339

PROTECTIVE LIFE CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

DELAWARE

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

95-2492236

(IRS Employer Identification Number)

2801 HIGHWAY 280 SOUTH

BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA 35223

(Address of principal executive offices and zip code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code **(205) 268-1000**

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes No

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, or a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See definition of "accelerated filer and large accelerated filer" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer

Accelerated Filer

Non-accelerated filer

Smaller Reporting Company

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Act). Yes No

Number of shares of Common Stock, \$0.50 Par Value, outstanding as of October 27, 2014: 79,288,518

Table of Contents

PROTECTIVE LIFE CORPORATION
QUARTERLY REPORT ON FORM 10-Q
FOR QUARTERLY PERIOD ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2014

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PART I

	Page
Item 1.	
Financial Statements (unaudited):	
<u>Consolidated Condensed Statements of Income For The Three and Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014 and 2013</u>	3
<u>Consolidated Condensed Statements of Comprehensive Income (Loss) For The Three and Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014 and 2013</u>	4
<u>Consolidated Condensed Balance Sheets as of September 30, 2014 and December 31, 2013</u>	5
<u>Consolidated Condensed Statements of Shareowners' Equity For The Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014</u>	7
<u>Consolidated Condensed Statements of Cash Flows For The Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014 and 2013</u>	8
<u>Notes to Consolidated Condensed Financial Statements</u>	9
<u>Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u>	68
<u>Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk</u>	135
<u>Item 4. Controls and Procedures</u>	135

PART II

<u>Item 1. Legal Proceedings</u>	136
<u>Item 1A. Risk Factors and Cautionary Factors that may Affect Future Results</u>	137
<u>Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds</u>	147
<u>Item 6. Exhibits</u>	148
<u>Signature</u>	149

Table of Contents

PROTECTIVE LIFE CORPORATION

CONSOLIDATED CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF INCOME

(Unaudited)

	For The Three Months Ended September 30,		For The Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
(Dollars In Thousands, Except Per Share Amounts)				
Revenues				
Premiums and policy fees	\$ 759,038	\$ 657,218	\$ 2,426,736	\$ 2,140,396
Reinsurance ceded	(277,136)	(270,730)	(947,817)	(996,570)
Net of reinsurance ceded	481,902	386,488	1,478,919	1,143,826
Net investment income	558,174	454,275	1,647,153	1,378,129
Realized investment gains (losses):				
Derivative financial instruments	3,781	41,326	(191,495)	192,592
All other investments	1,194	(19,508)	153,456	(133,631)
Other-than-temporary impairment losses	(1,142)	(6,635)	(2,026)	(9,764)
Portion recognized in other comprehensive income (before taxes)	(1,212)	(2,046)	(3,379)	(7,501)
Net impairment losses recognized in earnings	(2,354)	(8,681)	(5,405)	(17,265)
Other income	105,389	98,794	311,359	278,213
Total revenues	1,148,086	952,694	3,393,987	2,841,864
Benefits and expenses				
Benefits and settlement expenses, net of reinsurance ceded: (three months: 2014 - \$217,641; 2013 - \$204,065; nine months: 2014 - \$851,028; 2013 - \$882,123)	630,285	624,577	2,106,620	1,764,323
Amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs and value of business acquired	134,918	22,446	242,031	149,631
Other operating expenses, net of reinsurance ceded: (three months: 2014 - \$49,196; 2013 - \$47,506; nine months: 2014 - \$139,507; 2013 - \$138,901)	198,000	163,550	573,038	511,149
Total benefits and expenses	963,203	810,573	2,921,689	2,425,103
Income before income tax	184,883	142,121	472,298	416,761
Income tax expense	65,974	49,060	161,773	142,210
Net income	\$ 118,909	\$ 93,061	\$ 310,525	\$ 274,551
Net income - basic	\$ 1.48	\$ 1.17	\$ 3.88	\$ 3.46
Net income - diluted	\$ 1.46	\$ 1.15	\$ 3.82	\$ 3.39
Cash dividends paid per share	\$ 0.24	\$ 0.20	\$ 0.68	\$ 0.58
Average shares outstanding - basic	80,231,591	79,492,274	79,942,018	79,346,771
Average shares outstanding - diluted	81,458,870	80,852,078	81,261,249	80,882,552

See Notes to Consolidated Condensed Financial Statements

Table of Contents**PROTECTIVE LIFE CORPORATION****CONSOLIDATED CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)**

(Unaudited)

	For The Three Months Ended September 30,		For The Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
	(Dollars In Thousands)			
Net income	\$ 118,909	\$ 93,061	\$ 310,525	\$ 274,551
Other comprehensive income (loss):				
Change in net unrealized gains (losses) on investments, net of income tax: (three months: 2014 - \$(44,766); 2013 - \$(145,224); nine months: 2014 - \$431,299; 2013 - \$(641,532))	(83,138)	(269,703)	800,982	(1,191,416)
Reclassification adjustment for investment amounts included in net income, net of income tax: (three months: 2014 - \$(7,446); 2013 - \$(653); nine months: 2014 - \$(16,027); 2013 - \$(9,488))	(13,827)	(1,212)	(29,763)	(17,621)
Change in net unrealized gains (losses) relating to other-than-temporary impaired investments for which a portion has been recognized in earnings, net of income tax: (three months: 2014 - \$561; 2013 - \$(1,543) nine months: 2014 - \$2,419; 2013 - \$1,383)	1,044	(2,865)	4,494	2,570
Change in accumulated (loss) gain - derivatives, net of income tax: (three months: 2014 - \$(22); 2013 - \$8; nine months: 2014 - \$(31); 2013 - \$(55))	(41)	14	(58)	(103)
Reclassification adjustment for derivative amounts included in net income, net of income tax: (three months: 2014 - \$103; 2013 - \$200; nine months: 2014 - \$552; 2013 - \$577)	190	372	1,025	1,072
Change in postretirement benefits liability adjustment, net of income tax: (three months: 2014 - \$631; 2013 - \$(922); nine months: 2014 - \$1,895; 2013 - \$(2,766))	1,173	(1,712)	3,520	(5,136)
Total other comprehensive income (loss)	(94,599)	(275,106)	780,200	(1,210,634)
Total comprehensive income (loss)	\$ 24,310	\$ (182,045)	\$ 1,090,725	\$ (936,083)

See Notes to Consolidated Condensed Financial Statements

Table of Contents

PROTECTIVE LIFE CORPORATION
CONSOLIDATED CONDENSED BALANCE SHEETS

(Unaudited)

	September 30, 2014	As of December 31, 2013
	(Dollars In Thousands)	
Assets		
Fixed maturities, at fair value (amortized cost: 2014 - \$34,222,620; 2013 - \$33,668,770)	\$ 36,922,395	\$ 34,823,093
Fixed maturities, at amortized cost (fair value: 2014 - \$453,741; 2013 - \$335,676)	415,000	365,000
Equity securities, at fair value (cost: 2014 - \$791,964; 2013 - \$675,758)	809,648	646,027
Mortgage loans (2014 and 2013 includes \$489,667 and \$627,731 related to securitizations)	5,232,463	5,493,492
Investment real estate, net of accumulated depreciation (2014 - \$376; 2013 - \$1,066)	13,998	20,413
Policy loans	1,767,228	1,815,744
Other long-term investments	470,174	521,811
Short-term investments	183,411	134,146
Total investments	45,814,317	43,819,726
Cash	328,487	466,542
Accrued investment income	491,864	465,333
Accounts and premiums receivable, net of allowance for uncollectible amounts (2014 - \$3,839; 2013 - \$4,283)	123,136	101,039
Reinsurance receivables	6,132,550	6,175,115
Deferred policy acquisition costs and value of business acquired	3,263,299	3,570,215
Goodwill	103,139	105,463
Property and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation (2014 - \$116,986; 2013 - \$111,579)	52,939	52,403
Other assets	371,233	426,471
Income tax receivable	18,257	
Assets related to separate accounts		
Variable annuity	13,040,828	12,791,438
Variable universal life	813,178	783,618
Total assets	\$ 70,553,227	\$ 68,757,363

See Notes to Consolidated Condensed Financial Statements

Table of Contents**PROTECTIVE LIFE CORPORATION****CONSOLIDATED CONDENSED BALANCE SHEETS**

(continued)

(Unaudited)

	As of	
	September 30, 2014	December 31, 2013
	(Dollars In Thousands)	
Liabilities		
Future policy benefits and claims	\$ 29,876,778	\$ 29,772,325
Unearned premiums	1,521,330	1,549,815
Total policy liabilities and accruals	31,398,108	31,322,140
Stable value product account balances	2,261,546	2,559,552
Annuity account balances	11,083,763	11,125,253
Other policyholders funds	1,377,504	1,214,380
Other liabilities	1,469,374	1,144,853
Income tax payable		12,761
Deferred income taxes	1,476,749	1,050,533
Non-recourse funding obligations	594,066	562,448
Repurchase program borrowings	359,804	350,000
Debt	1,380,000	1,585,000
Subordinated debt securities	540,593	540,593
Liabilities related to separate accounts		
Variable annuity	13,040,828	12,791,438
Variable universal life	813,178	783,618
Total liabilities	65,795,513	65,042,569
Commitments and contingencies - Note 10		
Shareowners equity		
Preferred Stock; \$1 par value, shares authorized: 4,000,000; Issued: None		
Common Stock, \$.50 par value, shares authorized: 2014 and 2013 - 160,000,000 shares issued: 2014 and 2013 - 88,776,960	\$ 44,388	\$ 44,388
Additional paid-in-capital	599,199	606,934
Treasury stock, at cost (2014 - 9,490,513; 2013 - 10,199,514)	(186,818)	(200,416)
Retained earnings	3,026,679	2,769,822
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss):		
Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments, net of income tax: (2014 - \$705,180; 2013 - \$289,908)	1,309,619	538,400
Net unrealized (losses) gains relating to other-than-temporary impaired investments for which a portion has been recognized in earnings, net of income tax: (2014 - \$2,744; 2013 - \$325)	5,097	603
Accumulated loss - derivatives, net of income tax: (2014 - \$(145); 2013 - \$(666))	(268)	(1,235)
Postretirement benefits liability adjustment, net of income tax: (2014 - \$(21,637); 2013 - \$(23,532))	(40,182)	(43,702)
Total shareowners equity	4,757,714	3,714,794
Total liabilities and shareowners equity	\$ 70,553,227	\$ 68,757,363

See Notes to Consolidated Condensed Financial Statements

Table of Contents**PROTECTIVE LIFE CORPORATION****CONSOLIDATED CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF SHAREOWNERS EQUITY**

(Unaudited)

	Common Stock	Additional Paid-In- Capital	Treasury Stock	Retained Earnings	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income	Total Shareowners Equity
	(Dollars In Thousands)					
Balance, December 31, 2013	\$ 44,388	\$ 606,934	\$ (200,416)	\$ 2,769,822	\$ 494,066	\$ 3,714,794
Net income for the nine months ended September 30, 2014				310,525		310,525
Other comprehensive income					780,200	780,200
Comprehensive income for the nine months ended September 30, 2014						1,090,725
Cash dividends (\$0.68 per share)				(53,668)		(53,668)
Stock-based compensation		(7,735)	13,598			5,863
Balance, September 30, 2014	\$ 44,388	\$ 599,199	\$ (186,818)	\$ 3,026,679	\$ 1,274,266	\$ 4,757,714

See Notes to Consolidated Condensed Financial Statements

Table of Contents

PROTECTIVE LIFE CORPORATION

CONSOLIDATED CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

(Unaudited)

	For The Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2014	2013
	(Dollars In Thousands)	
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net income	\$ 310,525	\$ 274,551
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Realized investment losses (gains)	43,444	(41,696)
Amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs and value of business acquired	242,031	149,631
Capitalization of deferred policy acquisition costs	(215,616)	(240,398)
Depreciation expense	5,687	6,731
Deferred income tax	8,390	154,457
Accrued income tax	(11,220)	6,857
Interest credited to universal life and investment products	663,117	532,396
Policy fees assessed on universal life and investment products	(729,929)	(659,058)
Change in reinsurance receivables	42,565	60,600
Change in accrued investment income and other receivables	(28,297)	7,370
Change in policy liabilities and other policyholders' funds of traditional life and health products	12,184	261,691
Trading securities:		
Maturities and principal reductions of investments	71,646	152,948
Sale of investments	187,829	220,711
Cost of investments acquired	(160,134)	(297,558)
Other net change in trading securities	(43,699)	(9,069)
Change in other liabilities	220,160	(48,694)
Other income - gains on repurchase of non-recourse funding obligations	(4,587)	(3,359)
Other, net	(8,593)	(85,008)
Net cash provided by operating activities	605,503	443,103
Cash flows from investing activities		
Maturities and principal reductions of investments, available-for-sale	941,989	752,754
Sale of investments, available-for-sale	1,465,632	1,718,810
Cost of investments acquired, available-for-sale	(3,056,904)	(3,076,555)
Change in investments, held-to-maturity	(50,000)	(50,000)
Mortgage loans:		
New lendings	(649,125)	(392,883)
Repayments	908,364	543,297
Change in investment real estate, net	6,048	1,300
Change in policy loans, net	48,516	9,058
Change in other long-term investments, net	(69,778)	(169,668)
Change in short-term investments, net	(26,392)	(10,912)
Net unsettled security transactions	8,243	31,686
Purchase of property and equipment	(6,223)	(17,983)
Sales of property and equipment		86
Payments for business acquisitions	(906)	
Net cash used in investing activities	(480,536)	(661,010)
Cash flows from financing activities		
Borrowings under line of credit arrangements and debt	190,000	430,000
Principal payments on line of credit arrangement and debt	(395,000)	(380,000)
Issuance (repayment) of non-recourse funding obligations	31,651	33,900

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

Repurchase program borrowings	9,804	(50,000)
Dividends to shareowners	(53,668)	(45,474)
Investment product deposits and change in universal life deposits	2,415,424	2,413,676
Investment product withdrawals	(2,461,200)	(2,198,547)
Other financing activities, net	(33)	
Net cash (used in) provided by financing activities	(263,022)	203,555
Change in cash	(138,055)	(14,352)
Cash at beginning of period	466,542	368,801
Cash at end of period	\$ 328,487	\$ 354,449

See Notes to Consolidated Condensed Financial Statements

Table of Contents

PROTECTIVE LIFE CORPORATION

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED CONDENSED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Unaudited)

1. BASIS OF PRESENTATION

Basis of Presentation

The accompanying unaudited consolidated condensed financial statements of Protective Life Corporation and subsidiaries (the Company) have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) for interim financial information and with the instructions to Form 10-Q and Rule 10-01 of Regulation S-X. Accordingly, they do not include all of the disclosures required by GAAP for complete financial statements. In the opinion of management, the accompanying financial statements reflect all adjustments (consisting only of normal recurring items) necessary for a fair statement of the results for the interim periods presented. Operating results for the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2014, are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the year ending December 31, 2014. The year-end consolidated condensed financial data was derived from audited financial statements but does not include all disclosures required by GAAP. For further information, refer to the consolidated financial statements and notes thereto included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013.

The operating results of companies in the insurance industry have historically been subject to significant fluctuations due to changing competition, economic conditions, interest rates, investment performance, insurance ratings, claims, persistency, and other factors.

Reclassifications

Certain reclassifications have been made in the previously reported financial statements and accompanying notes to make the prior year amounts comparable to those of the current year. Such reclassifications had no effect on previously reported net income or shareowners' equity.

Entities Included

The consolidated condensed financial statements include the accounts of Protective Life Corporation and subsidiaries and its affiliate companies in which the Company holds a majority voting or economic interest. Intercompany balances and transactions have been eliminated.

2. **SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

Significant Accounting Policies

For a full description of significant accounting policies, see Note 2 to consolidated financial statements included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013. Although there were no significant changes to the Company's accounting policies during the nine months ended September 30, 2014, the Company has clarified the disclosures related to its reinsurance accounting methodology as follows:

Reinsurance Accounting Methodology Ceded premiums of the Company's traditional life insurance products are treated as an offset to direct premium and policy fee revenue and are recognized when due to the assuming company. Ceded claims are treated as an offset to direct benefits and settlement expenses and are recognized when the claim is incurred on a direct basis. Ceded policy reserve changes are also treated as an offset to benefits and settlement expenses and are recognized during the applicable financial reporting period. Expense allowances paid by the assuming companies which are allocable to the current period are treated as an offset to other operating expenses. Since reinsurance treaties typically provide for allowance percentages that decrease over the lifetime of a policy, allowances in excess of the ultimate or final level allowance are capitalized. Amortization of capitalized reinsurance expense allowances representing recovery of acquisition costs is treated as an offset to direct amortization of DAC or VOBA.

Table of Contents

Amortization of deferred expense allowances is calculated as a level percentage of expected premiums in all durations given expected future lapses and mortality and accretion due to interest.

The Company utilizes reinsurance on certain short duration insurance contracts (primarily issued through the Asset Protection segment). As part of these reinsurance transactions the Company receives reinsurance allowances which reimburse the Company for acquisition costs such as commissions and premium taxes. A ceding fee is also collected to cover other administrative costs and profits for the Company. As a component of reinsurance costs, reinsurance allowances are accounted for in accordance with the relevant provisions of ASC Financial Services Insurance Topic, which state that reinsurance costs should be amortized over the contract period of the reinsurance if the contract is short-duration. Accordingly, reinsurance allowances received related to short-duration contracts are capitalized and charged to expense in proportion to premiums earned. Ceded unamortized acquisition costs are netted with direct unamortized acquisition costs in the balance sheet.

Ceded premiums and policy fees on the Company's universal life (UL), VUL, bank-owned life insurance (BOLI), and annuity products reduce premiums and policy fees recognized by the Company. Ceded claims are treated as an offset to direct benefits and settlement expenses and are recognized when the claim is incurred on a direct basis. Ceded policy reserve changes are also treated as an offset to benefits and settlement expenses and are recognized during the applicable valuation period.

Since reinsurance treaties typically provide for allowance percentages that decrease over the lifetime of a policy, allowances in excess of the ultimate or final level allowance are capitalized. Amortization of capitalized reinsurance expense allowances are amortized based on future expected gross profits. Assumptions regarding mortality, lapses, and interest rates are continuously reviewed and may be periodically changed. These changes will result in unlocking that changes the balance in the ceded deferred acquisition cost and can affect the amortization of DAC and VOBA. Ceded unearned revenue liabilities are also amortized based on expected gross profits. Assumptions are based on the best current estimate of expected mortality, lapses and interest spread.

The Company has also assumed certain policy risks written by other insurance companies through reinsurance agreements. *Premiums and policy fees* as well as *Benefits and settlement expenses* include amounts assumed under reinsurance agreements and are net of reinsurance ceded. Assumed reinsurance is accounted for in accordance with ASC Financial Services Insurance Topic.

Reinsurance Allowances – Long-Duration Contracts Reinsurance allowances are intended to reimburse the ceding company for some portion of the ceding company's commissions, expenses, and taxes. The amount and timing of reinsurance allowances (both first year and renewal allowances) are contractually determined by the applicable reinsurance contract and do not necessarily bear a relationship to the amount and incidence of expenses actually paid by the ceding company in any given year.

Ultimate reinsurance allowances are defined as the lowest allowance percentage paid by the reinsurer in any policy duration over the lifetime of a universal life policy (or through the end of the level term period for a traditional life policy). Ultimate reinsurance allowances are determined during the negotiation of each reinsurance agreement and will differ between agreements.

The Company determines its cost of reinsurance to include amounts paid to the reinsurer (ceded premiums) net of amounts reimbursed by the reinsurer (in the form of allowances). As noted within ASC Financial Services Insurance Topic, The difference, if any, between amounts paid for a reinsurance contract and the amount of the liabilities for policy benefits relating to the underlying reinsured contracts is part of the

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

estimated cost to be amortized. The Company's policy is to amortize the cost of reinsurance over the life of the underlying reinsured contracts (for long-duration policies) in a manner consistent with the way in which benefits and expenses on the underlying contracts are recognized. For the Company's long-duration contracts, it is the Company's practice to defer reinsurance allowances as a component of the cost of reinsurance and recognize the portion related to the recovery of acquisition costs as a reduction of applicable unamortized acquisition costs in such a manner that net acquisition costs are capitalized and charged to expense in proportion to net revenue recognized. The remaining balance of reinsurance allowances are included as a component of the cost of reinsurance and those allowances which are allocable to the current period are recorded as an offset to operating expenses in the current period consistent with the recognition of benefits and expenses on the underlying reinsured contracts. This practice is consistent with the Company's practice of

Table of Contents

capitalizing direct expenses (e.g. commissions), and results in the recognition of reinsurance allowances on a systematic basis over the life of the reinsured policies on a basis consistent with the way in which acquisition costs on the underlying reinsured contracts would be recognized. In some cases reinsurance allowances allocable to the current period may exceed non-deferred direct costs, which may cause net other operating expenses (related to specific contracts) to be negative.

Amortization of Reinsurance Allowances Reinsurance allowances do not affect the methodology used to amortize DAC and VOBA, or the period over which such DAC and VOBA are amortized. Reinsurance allowances offset the direct expenses capitalized, reducing the net amount that is capitalized. DAC and VOBA on traditional life policies are amortized based on the pattern of estimated gross premiums of the policies in force. Reinsurance allowances do not affect the gross premiums, so therefore they do not impact traditional life amortization patterns. DAC and VOBA on universal life products are amortized based on the pattern of estimated gross profits of the policies in force. Reinsurance allowances are considered in the determination of estimated gross profits, and therefore do impact amortization patterns.

Reinsurance Liabilities Claim liabilities and policy benefits are calculated consistently for all policies in accordance with GAAP, regardless of whether or not the policy is reinsured. Once the claim liabilities and policy benefits for the underlying policies are estimated, the amounts recoverable from the reinsurers are estimated based on a number of factors including the terms of the reinsurance contracts, historical payment patterns of reinsurance partners, and the financial strength and credit worthiness of reinsurance partners. Liabilities for unpaid reinsurance claims are produced from claims and reinsurance system records, which contain the relevant terms of the individual reinsurance contracts. The Company monitors claims due from reinsurers to ensure that balances are settled on a timely basis. Incurred but not reported claims are reviewed by the Company's actuarial staff to ensure that appropriate amounts are ceded.

The Company analyzes and monitors the credit worthiness of each of its reinsurance partners to minimize collection issues. For newly executed reinsurance contracts with reinsurance companies that do not meet predetermined standards, the Company requires collateral such as assets held in trusts or letters of credit.

Components of Reinsurance Cost The following income statement lines are affected by reinsurance cost:

Premiums and policy fees (reinsurance ceded on the Company's financial statements) represent consideration paid to the assuming company for accepting the ceding company's risks. Ceded premiums and policy fees increase reinsurance cost.

Benefits and settlement expenses include incurred claim amounts ceded and changes in ceded policy reserves. Ceded benefits and settlement expenses decrease reinsurance cost.

Amortization of deferred policy acquisition cost and VOBA reflects the amortization of capitalized reinsurance allowances representing recovery of acquisition costs. Ceded amortization decreases reinsurance cost.

Other expenses include reinsurance allowances paid by assuming companies to the Company less amounts representing recovery of acquisition costs. Reinsurance allowances decrease reinsurance cost.

The Company's reinsurance programs do not materially impact the other income line of the Company's income statement. In addition, net investment income generally has no direct impact on the Company's reinsurance cost. However, it should be noted that by ceding business to the assuming companies, the Company forgoes investment income on the reserves ceded to the assuming companies. Conversely, the assuming companies will receive investment income on the reserves assumed which will increase the assuming companies' profitability on business assumed from the Company.

Accounting Pronouncements Not Yet Adopted

Accounting Standards Update (ASU) No. 2014-08 Reporting Discontinued Operations and Disclosure of Disposals of Components of an Entity. This Update changes the requirements for reporting discontinued operations and related disclosures. The Update limits the definition of a discontinued operation to

Table of Contents

disposals that represent strategic shifts that will have a major effect on an entity's operation and financial results. Additionally, the Update requires enhanced disclosures about the components of discontinued operations and the financial effects of the disposal. The amendments in this Update are effective for annual and interim periods beginning after December 15, 2014. The Company is reviewing the additional disclosures required by the Update, and will apply the revised guidance to any disposals occurring after the effective date.

ASU No. 2014-09 Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606)This Update provides for significant revisions to the recognition of revenue from contracts with customers across various industries. Under the new guidance, entities are required to apply a prescribed 5-step process to depict the transfer of promised goods or services to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration to which the entity expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. The accounting for revenues associated with insurance products is not within the scope of this Update. The Update is effective for annual and interim periods beginning after December 15, 2016. The Company is reviewing its policies and processes to ensure compliance with the requirements in this Update, upon adoption.

ASU No. 2014-11 Repurchase-to-Maturity Transactions, Repurchase Financings, and Disclosures. This Update changes the requirements for classification of certain repurchase agreements, and will expand the use of secured borrowing accounting for repurchase-to-maturity transactions. In addition, the Update requires additional disclosures for repurchase agreements accounted for both as sales and as secured borrowings. The amendments in this Update are effective for annual and interim periods beginning after December 15, 2014. The Update is not anticipated to impact the Company's financial position or results of operations. The Company is reviewing its policies and processes to ensure compliance with the additional disclosure requirements in this Update.

ASU No. 2014-15 Presentation of Financial Statements Going Concern (Subtopic 205-40): Disclosure of Uncertainties about an Entity's Ability to Continue as a Going Concern. This Update will require management to assess an entity's ability to continue as a going concern, and will require footnote disclosures in certain circumstances. Under the updated guidance, management should consider relevant conditions and evaluate whether it is probable that the entity will be unable to meet its obligations within one year after the issuance date of the financial statements. The Update is effective for annual periods ending December 31, 2016 and interim periods thereafter, with early adoption is permitted. The amendments in this Update will not impact the Company's financial position or results of operations. However, the new guidance will require a formal assessment of going concern by management based on criteria prescribed in the new guidance. The Company is reviewing its policies and processes to ensure compliance with the new guidance.

3. SIGNIFICANT ACQUISITIONS

On October 1, 2013 Protective Life Insurance Company (PLICO) completed the acquisition contemplated by the master agreement (the Master Agreement) dated April 10, 2013. Pursuant to that Master Agreement with AXA Financial, Inc. (AXA) and AXA Equitable Financial Services, LLC (AEFS), PLICO acquired the stock of MONY Life Insurance Company (MONY) from AEFS and entered into a reinsurance agreement (the Reinsurance Agreement) pursuant to which it reinsured on a 100% indemnity reinsurance basis certain business (the MLOA Business) of MONY Life Insurance Company of America (MLOA). The final aggregate purchase price of MONY was \$689 million. The ceding commission for the reinsurance of the MLOA Business was \$370 million. Together, the purchase of MONY and reinsurance of the MLOA Business are hereto referred to as (the MONY acquisition). The MONY acquisition allowed the Company to invest its capital and increase the scale of its Acquisitions segment. The MONY acquisition business is comprised of traditional and universal life insurance policies and fixed and variable annuities, most of which were written prior to 2004.

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

The MONY acquisition was accounted for under the acquisition method of accounting under ASC Topic 805. In accordance with ASC 805-20-30, all identifiable assets acquired and liabilities assumed were measured at fair value as of the acquisition date. During the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as a result of new information obtained about facts and circumstances that existed as of the acquisition date, the Company recorded certain measurement period adjustments to fixed maturities, mortgage loans, cash, accounts and premiums receivable, VOBA, other assets, deferred income taxes, future policy benefits and claims, other policyholders' funds, and other liabilities. These were customary adjustments that occurred during the normal course of reviewing and integrating the MONY acquisition. The net result on the amount of VOBA recorded by the Company in relation to the MONY acquisition was to decrease VOBA by approximately \$14.0 million. This impact has been revised in the comparative consolidated balance sheet presented as

Table of Contents

of December 31, 2013. The Company has determined that the impact on amortization and other related amounts within the comparative interim and annual periods from that previously presented in the annual or interim consolidated condensed statements of income is immaterial. The amounts presented in the following table related to the MONY acquisition (presented as of the acquisition date of October 1, 2013) have been retrospectively revised for the aforementioned measurement period adjustments.

The following table summarizes the consideration paid for the acquisition and the determination of the fair value of assets acquired and liabilities assumed at the acquisition date:

	Fair Value
	As of
	October 1, 2013
	(Dollars In Thousands)
Assets	
Fixed maturities, at fair value	\$ 6,557,853
Equity securities, at fair value	108,413
Mortgage loans	830,415
Policy loans	967,534
Short-term investments	130,963
Total investments	8,595,178
Cash	216,164
Accrued investment income	114,695
Accounts and premiums receivable, net of allowance for uncollectible amounts	26,055
Reinsurance receivable	422,692
Value of business acquired	205,767
Other assets	5,104
Income tax receivables	21,197
Deferred income taxes	188,142
Separate account assets	195,452
Total assets	\$ 9,990,446
Liabilities	
Future policy benefits and claims	\$ 7,645,969
Unearned premiums	3,066
Total policy liabilities and accruals	7,649,035
Annuity account balances	752,163
Other policyholders funds	636,448
Other liabilities	66,124
Non-recourse funding obligation	2,548
Separate account liabilities	195,344
Total liabilities	9,301,662
Net assets acquired	\$ 688,784

Table of Contents

The following (unaudited) pro forma condensed consolidated results of operations assumes that the aforementioned acquisition was completed as of January 1, 2012:

	Unaudited	
	For The Three Months Ended September 30, 2013	For The Nine Months Ended September 30, 2013
	(Dollars In Thousands)	
Revenue	\$ 1,166,516	\$ 3,482,582
Net income	\$ 128,036	\$ 333,552
EPS - basic	\$ 1.61	\$ 4.20
EPS - diluted	\$ 1.58	\$ 4.12

4. MONY CLOSED BLOCK OF BUSINESS

In 1998, MONY converted from a mutual insurance company to a stock corporation (demutualization). In connection with its demutualization, an accounting mechanism known as a closed block (the Closed Block) was established for certain individuals' participating policies in force as of the date of demutualization. Assets, liabilities, and earnings of the Closed Block are specifically identified to support its participating policyholders. The Company acquired the Closed Block in conjunction with the MONY acquisition as discussed in Note 3, *Significant Acquisitions*.

Assets allocated to the Closed Block inure solely to the benefit of each Closed Block's policyholders and will not revert to the benefit of MONY or the Company. No reallocation, transfer, borrowing or lending of assets can be made between the Closed Block and other portions of MONY's general account, any of MONY's separate accounts or any affiliate of MONY without the approval of the Superintendent of The New York State Insurance Department (the Superintendent). Closed Block assets and liabilities are carried on the same basis as similar assets and liabilities held in the general account.

The excess of Closed Block liabilities over Closed Block assets (adjusted to exclude the impact of related amounts in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) (AOCI)) at the acquisition date represented the estimated maximum future post-tax earnings from the Closed Block that would be recognized in income from continuing operations over the period the policies and contracts in the Closed Block remain in force. In connection with the acquisition of MONY, the Company has developed an actuarial calculation of the expected timing of MONY's Closed Block's earnings as of October 1, 2013.

If the actual cumulative earnings from the Closed Block are greater than the expected cumulative earnings, only the expected earnings will be recognized in the Company's net income. Actual cumulative earnings in excess of expected cumulative earnings at any point in time are recorded as a policyholder dividend obligation because they will ultimately be paid to Closed Block policyholders as an additional policyholder dividend unless offset by future performance that is less favorable than originally expected. If a policyholder dividend obligation has been previously established and the actual Closed Block earnings in a subsequent period are less than the expected earnings for that period, the policyholder dividend obligation would be reduced (but not below zero). If, over the period the policies and contracts in the Closed Block remain in force, the actual cumulative earnings of the Closed Block are less than the expected cumulative earnings, only actual earnings would be recognized in income from continuing operations. If the Closed Block has insufficient funds to make guaranteed policy benefit payments, such payments will be made from assets outside the Closed Block.

Many expenses related to Closed Block operations, including amortization of VOBA, are charged to operations outside of the Closed Block; accordingly, net revenues of the Closed Block do not represent the actual profitability of the Closed Block operations. Operating costs and expenses outside of the Closed Block are, therefore, disproportionate to the business outside of the Closed Block.

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

Table of Contents

Summarized financial information for the Closed Block from December 31, 2013 through September 30, 2014 is as follows:

	September 30, 2014	As of	December 31, 2013
	(Dollars In Thousands)		
Closed block liabilities			
Future policy benefits, policyholders' account balances and other	\$ 6,172,310	\$	6,261,819
Policyholder dividend obligation	301,215		190,494
Other liabilities	28,102		1,259
Total closed block liabilities	6,501,627		6,453,572
Closed block assets			
Fixed maturities, available-for-sale, at fair value	\$ 4,441,257	\$	4,113,829
Equity securities, available-for-sale, at fair value	5,384		5,223
Mortgage loans on real estate	483,836		601,959
Policy loans	780,450		802,013
Cash and other invested assets	16,411		140,577
Other assets	214,785		206,938
Total closed block assets	5,942,123		5,870,539
Excess of reported closed block liabilities over closed block assets	559,504		583,033
Portion of above representing accumulated other comprehensive income:			
Net unrealized investment gains (losses) net of deferred tax benefit of \$0 and \$1,074			
net of policyholder dividend obligation of \$69,409 and \$12,720			(1,994)
Future earnings to be recognized from closed block assets and closed block liabilities	\$ 559,504	\$	581,039

Reconciliation of the policyholder dividend obligation from December 31, 2013 through September 30, 2014 is as follows:

	For The	
	Nine Months Ended	
	September 30, 2014	
	(Dollars In Thousands)	
Policyholder dividend obligation, at December 31, 2013	\$	190,494
Applicable to net revenue (losses)		(8,781)
Change in net unrealized investment gains (losses) allocated to the policyholder dividend obligation		119,502
Policyholder dividend obligation, end of period	\$	301,215

Table of Contents

Closed Block revenues and expenses were as follows:

	For The		For The	
	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 30, 2014		September 30, 2014	
	(Dollars In Thousands)			
Revenues				
Premiums and other income	\$	48,596	\$	151,442
Net investment income		63,847		176,470
Net investment gains		223		6,328
Total revenues		112,666		334,240
Benefits and other deductions				
Benefits and settlement expenses		101,200		300,735
Other operating expenses		286		376
Total benefits and other deductions		101,486		301,111
Net revenues before income taxes		11,180		33,129
Income tax expense		3,913		11,595
Net revenues	\$	7,267	\$	21,534

5. PROPOSED DAI-ICHI MERGER

On June 3, 2014, the Company entered into an Agreement and Plan of Merger (the "Merger Agreement") with The Dai-ichi Life Insurance Company, Limited, a *kabushiki kaisha* organized under the laws of Japan ("Dai-ichi") and DL Investment (Delaware), Inc., a Delaware corporation and wholly owned subsidiary of Dai-ichi which provides for the merger of DL Investment (Delaware), Inc. with and into the Company (the "Merger"), with the Company surviving the Merger as a wholly owned subsidiary of Dai-ichi.

The Company's Board of Directors unanimously (1) determined that the Merger and the other transactions contemplated by the Merger Agreement are fair to, advisable and in the best interests of, the Company and its shareowners, (2) approved the execution, delivery and performance of the Merger Agreement by the Company and the consummation of the Merger and the other transactions contemplated by the Merger Agreement, and (3) resolved to recommend the approval and adoption of the Merger Agreement and the transactions contemplated by the Merger Agreement by the shareowners of the Company. The Board of Directors received an opinion as to the fairness of the Merger consideration to be received by the shareowners of the Company from its financial advisor, Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC related to the terms of the Merger Agreement.

If the proposed Merger is completed, at the effective time of the Merger (the "Effective Time"), each share of the Company's common stock, par value \$0.50 per share, issued and outstanding immediately prior to the Effective Time, other than certain excluded shares, will be converted into the right to receive \$70 in cash, without interest (the "Per Share Merger Consideration"). Shares of common stock held by Dai-ichi or the Company or their respective direct or indirect wholly-owned subsidiaries will not be entitled to receive the Merger Consideration. Stock appreciation rights, restricted stock units and performance shares issued under various benefit plans will be paid out as described below under "Treatment of Benefit Plans".

Completion of the Merger is subject to various closing conditions, including, but not limited to, (1) adoption of the Merger Agreement by the affirmative vote of the holders of at least a majority of all outstanding shares of the Company's common stock, which adoption was approved at a

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

Special Meeting of Shareholders held on October 6, 2014, (2) requisite approval of the Japan Financial Services Agency of an application and notification filing by Dai-ichi and its affiliates, (3) the receipt of certain insurance regulatory approvals, (4) the absence of any laws that have been adopted or promulgated, or any order, injunction, decision or decree issued or remaining in effect, that would prohibit the Merger or make the Merger illegal, and (5) the expiration or termination of the applicable waiting period under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act of 1976, as amended, which waiting period terminated on July 25, 2014, pursuant to a grant of early termination by the Federal Trade Commission. Each party's obligation to consummate the Merger also is subject to certain additional conditions that include the accuracy of the other party's representations and warranties contained in the Merger Agreement (subject to certain materiality qualifiers) and the

Table of Contents

other party's compliance with its covenants and agreements contained in the Merger Agreement in all material respects. The Merger Agreement does not contain a financing condition.

The Merger Agreement contains representations and warranties customary for transactions of this type. The Company has agreed to various customary covenants and agreements, including, among others, agreements to conduct its business in the ordinary course during the period between the execution of the Merger Agreement and the Effective Time, and not to engage in certain kinds of transactions during this period. In addition, and subject to certain limitations, either party may terminate the Merger Agreement if the Merger is not consummated by February 28, 2015, which date is extended until April 30, 2015 in the event of delays in obtaining regulatory approval.

Treatment of Benefit Plans

Pursuant to the Merger Agreement, at or immediately prior to the Effective Time, each stock appreciation right with respect to shares of Common Stock granted under any Stock Plan (each, a SAR) that is outstanding and unexercised immediately prior to the Effective Time and that has a base price per share of Common Stock underlying such SAR (the Base Price) that is less than the Per Share Merger Consideration (each such SAR, an In-the-Money SAR), whether or not exercisable or vested, will be cancelled and converted into the right to receive an amount in cash, without interest, determined by multiplying (i) the excess of the Per Share Merger Consideration over the Base Price of such In-the-Money SAR by (ii) the number of shares of Common Stock subject to such In-the-Money SAR (such amount, the SAR Consideration). At the Effective Time, each SAR that has a Base Price that is equal to or greater than the Per Share Merger Consideration, whether or not exercisable or vested, will be cancelled and the holder of such SAR will not be entitled to receive any payment in exchange for such cancellation.

Pursuant to the Merger Agreement, at or immediately prior to the Effective Time, each restricted share unit with respect to a share of Common Stock granted under any Stock Plan (each, a RSU) that is outstanding immediately prior to the Effective Time, whether or not vested, will be cancelled and converted into the right to receive an amount in cash, without interest, determined by multiplying (i) the Per Share Merger Consideration by (ii) the number of RSUs.

Pursuant to the Merger Agreement, at or immediately prior to the Effective Time, the number of performance shares earned for each award of performance shares granted under any Stock Plan will be calculated by determining the number of performance shares that would have been paid if the subject award period had ended on the December 31 immediately preceding the Effective Time (based on the conditions set for payment of performance share awards for the subject award period), provided that the number of performance shares earned for each award will not be less than the aggregate number of performance shares at the target performance level, and provided further that with respect to awards granted in the year in which the Effective Time occurs, performance shares will be earned at the same percentage as awards granted in the year preceding the year in which the Effective Time occurs. At or immediately prior to the Effective Time, each performance share so earned (each, a Performance Share) that is outstanding immediately prior to the Effective Time, whether or not vested, will be cancelled and converted into the right to receive an amount in cash, without interest, determined by multiplying (i) the Per Share Merger Consideration by (ii) the number of Performance Shares.

Table of Contents**6. INVESTMENT OPERATIONS**

Net realized gains (losses) for all other investments are summarized as follows:

	For The Three Months Ended September 30,		For The Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
	(Dollars In Thousands)			
Fixed maturities	\$ 22,329	\$ 10,546	\$ 49,897	\$ 42,007
Equity securities	1,298		1,298	2,367
Impairments on fixed maturity securities	(2,354)	(7,421)	(5,405)	(13,918)
Impairments on equity securities		(1,260)		(3,347)
Modco trading portfolio	(17,225)	(25,960)	110,067	(167,982)
Other investments	(5,208)	(4,094)	(7,806)	(10,023)
Total realized gains (losses) - investments	\$ (1,160)	\$ (28,189)	\$ 148,051	\$ (150,896)

For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2014, gross realized gains on investments available-for-sale (fixed maturities, equity securities, and short-term investments) were \$23.9 million and \$51.9 million and gross realized losses were \$2.5 million and \$5.9 million, including \$2.3 million and \$5.1 million of impairment losses, respectively.

For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2013, gross realized gains on investments available-for-sale (fixed maturities, equity securities, and short-term investments) were \$11.7 million and \$48.5 million and gross realized losses were \$9.6 million and \$20.8 million, including \$8.5 million and \$16.7 million of impairment losses, respectively.

For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2014, the Company sold securities in an unrealized gain position with a fair value (proceeds) of \$497.1 million and \$1.1 billion, respectively. The gain realized on the sale of these securities was \$23.9 million and \$51.9 million, respectively.

For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2013, the Company sold securities in an unrealized gain position with a fair value (proceeds) of \$332.1 million and \$1.1 billion, respectively. The gain realized on the sale of these securities was \$11.7 million and \$48.5 million, respectively.

For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2014, the Company sold securities in an unrealized loss position with a fair value (proceeds) of \$2.3 million and \$6.7 million, respectively. The losses realized on the sale of these securities were \$0.3 million and \$0.8 million, respectively. These securities were sold in conjunction with the Company's overall asset liability management process.

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2013, the Company sold securities in an unrealized loss position with a fair value (proceeds) of \$7.0 million and \$64.2 million, respectively. The losses realized on the sale of these securities were \$1.1 million and \$4.1 million, respectively. These securities were sold in conjunction with the Company's overall asset liability management process.

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

Table of Contents

The amortized cost and fair value of the Company's investments classified as available-for-sale as of September 30, 2014 and December 31, 2013, are as follows:

	Amortized Cost	Gross Unrealized Gains	Gross Unrealized Losses	Fair Value	Total OTTI Recognized in OCI(1)
(Dollars In Thousands)					
2014					
Fixed maturities:					
Bonds					
Residential mortgage-backed securities	\$ 1,405,720	\$ 51,253	\$ (14,134)	\$ 1,442,839	\$ 7,945
Commercial mortgage-backed securities	1,137,642	43,744	(5,863)	1,175,523	
Other asset-backed securities	869,175	13,437	(34,273)	848,339	(105)
U.S. government-related securities	1,563,337	43,178	(22,305)	1,584,210	
Other government-related securities	19,004	3,016		22,020	1
States, municipals, and political subdivisions	1,371,113	243,943	(2,349)	1,612,707	
Corporate bonds	25,026,858	2,497,515	(117,387)	27,406,986	
	31,392,849	2,896,086	(196,311)	34,092,624	7,841
Equity securities	767,889	34,209	(16,525)	785,573	
Short-term investments	108,088			108,088	
	\$ 32,268,826	\$ 2,930,295	\$ (212,836)	\$ 34,986,285	\$ 7,841
2013					
Fixed maturities:					
Bonds					
Residential mortgage-backed securities	\$ 1,435,477	\$ 34,155	\$ (24,564)	\$ 1,445,068	\$ 979
Commercial mortgage-backed securities	963,461	26,900	(19,705)	970,656	
Other asset-backed securities	926,396	15,135	(69,548)	871,983	(51)
U.S. government-related securities	1,529,818	32,150	(54,078)	1,507,890	
Other government-related securities	49,171	2,257	(1)	51,427	
States, municipals, and political subdivisions	1,315,457	103,663	(8,291)	1,410,829	
Corporate bonds	24,650,500	1,508,317	(392,067)	25,766,750	
	30,870,280	1,722,577	(568,254)	32,024,603	928
Equity securities	654,579	6,631	(36,362)	624,848	
Short-term investments	81,703			81,703	
	\$ 31,606,562	\$ 1,729,208	\$ (604,616)	\$ 32,731,154	\$ 928

(1)These amounts are included in the gross unrealized gains and gross unrealized losses columns above.

The amortized cost and fair value of the Company's investments classified as held-to-maturity as of September 30, 2014 and December 31, 2013, are as follows:

	Amortized Cost	Gross Unrealized Gains	Gross Unrealized Losses	Fair Value	Total OTTI Recognized in OCI
(Dollars In Thousands)					
2014					

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

Fixed maturities:

Other	\$	415,000	\$	38,741	\$	453,741	\$
	\$	415,000	\$	38,741	\$	453,741	\$

2013

Fixed maturities:

Other	\$	365,000	\$		\$	(29,324)	\$	335,676	\$
	\$	365,000	\$		\$	(29,324)	\$	335,676	\$

Table of Contents

During the nine months ended September 30, 2014 and the year ended December 31, 2013, the Company did not record any other-than-temporary impairments on held-to-maturity securities. The Company's held-to-maturity securities had no gross unrecognized holding losses for the period ended September 30, 2014 and \$29.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2013. The Company does not consider these unrecognized holding losses to be other-than-temporary based on certain positive factors associated with the securities which include credit ratings, financial health of the issuer, continued access of the issuer to capital markets and other pertinent information.

As of September 30, 2014 and December 31, 2013, the Company had an additional \$2.8 billion and \$2.8 billion of fixed maturities, \$24.1 million and \$21.2 million of equity securities, and \$75.3 million and \$52.4 million of short-term investments classified as trading securities, respectively.

The amortized cost and fair value of available-for-sale and held-to-maturity fixed maturities as of September 30, 2014, by expected maturity, are shown below. Expected maturities of securities without a single maturity date are allocated based on estimated rates of prepayment that may differ from actual rates of prepayment.

	Available-for-sale		Held-to-maturity	
	Amortized Cost (Dollars In Thousands)	Fair Value	Amortized Cost (Dollars In Thousands)	Fair Value
Due in one year or less	\$ 1,043,275	\$ 1,057,236	\$	\$
Due after one year through five years	4,538,893	4,831,128		
Due after five years through ten years	8,886,075	9,347,371		
Due after ten years	16,924,606	18,856,889	415,000	453,741
	\$ 31,392,849	\$ 34,092,624	\$ 415,000	\$ 453,741

During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2014, the Company recorded pre-tax other-than-temporary impairments of investments of \$1.1 million and \$2.0 million, all of which related to fixed maturities, respectively. Credit impairments recorded in earnings during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2014 were \$2.3 million and \$5.4 million, respectively. During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2014, \$1.2 million and \$3.4 million of non-credit losses previously recorded in other comprehensive income were recorded in earnings as credit losses, respectively. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2014, there were no other-than-temporary impairments related to fixed maturities or equity securities that the Company intended to sell or expected to be required to sell.

During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2013, the Company recorded pre-tax other-than-temporary impairments of investments of \$6.7 million and \$9.8 million, of which \$5.4 million and \$6.4 million related to fixed maturities and \$1.3 million and \$3.4 million related to equity securities, respectively. Credit impairments recorded in earnings during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2013 were \$8.7 million and \$17.3 million, respectively. During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2013, \$2.0 million and \$7.5 million of non-credit losses previously recorded in other comprehensive income were recorded in earnings as credit losses, respectively. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2013, there were no other-than-temporary impairments related to fixed maturities or equity securities that the Company intended to sell or expected to be required to sell.

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

Table of Contents

The following chart is a rollforward of available-for-sale credit losses on fixed maturities held by the Company for which a portion of other-than-temporary impairments were recognized in other comprehensive income (loss):

	For The Three Months Ended September 30,		For The Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
	(Dollars In Thousands)			
Beginning balance	\$ 17,985	\$ 51,832	\$ 41,692	\$ 122,121
Additions for newly impaired securities		1,663		3,278
Additions for previously impaired securities	626	4,840	1,653	7,894
Reductions for previously impaired securities due to a change in expected cash flows	(3,672)	(6,537)	(28,406)	(74,007)
Reductions for previously impaired securities that were sold in the current period				(7,488)
Ending balance	\$ 14,939	\$ 51,798	\$ 14,939	\$ 51,798

The following table includes the gross unrealized losses and fair value of the Company's investments that are not deemed to be other-than-temporarily impaired, aggregated by investment category and length of time that individual securities have been in a continuous unrealized loss position as of September 30, 2014:

	Less Than 12 Months		12 Months or More		Total	
	Fair Value	Unrealized Loss	Fair Value	Unrealized Loss	Fair Value	Unrealized Loss
	(Dollars In Thousands)					
Residential mortgage-backed securities	\$ 149,282	\$ (7,781)	\$ 88,374	\$ (6,353)	\$ 237,656	\$ (14,134)
Commercial mortgage-backed securities	123,244	(1,534)	124,578	(4,329)	247,822	(5,863)
Other asset-backed securities	109,657	(5,537)	551,045	(28,736)	660,702	(34,273)
U.S. government-related securities	374,160	(7,835)	348,900	(14,470)	723,060	(22,305)
Other government-related securities						
States, municipalities, and political subdivisions	880	(6)	40,936	(2,343)	41,816	(2,349)
Corporate bonds	2,218,594	(54,117)	995,498	(63,270)	3,214,092	(117,387)
Equities	90,797	(1,305)	128,465	(15,220)	219,262	(16,525)
	\$ 3,066,614	\$ (78,115)	\$ 2,277,796	\$ (134,721)	\$ 5,344,410	\$ (212,836)

RMBS have a gross unrealized loss greater than twelve months of \$6.4 million as of September 30, 2014. Factors such as the credit enhancement within the deal structure, the average life of the securities, and the performance of the underlying collateral support the recoverability of these investments.

CMBS have a gross unrealized loss greater than twelve months of \$4.3 million as of September 30, 2014. Factors such as the credit enhancement within the deal structure, the average life of the securities, and the performance of the underlying collateral support the recoverability of these investments.

The other asset-backed securities have a gross unrealized loss greater than twelve months of \$28.7 million as of September 30, 2014. This category predominately includes student-loan backed auction rate securities, the underlying collateral, of which is at least 97% guaranteed by the Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP). These unrealized losses have occurred within the Company's auction rate securities (ARS) portfolio since the market collapse during 2008. At this time, the Company has no reason to believe that the U.S. Department of Education would not honor the FFELP guarantee, if it were necessary.

The U.S. government-related category has gross unrealized losses greater than twelve months of \$14.5 million as of September 30, 2014. These declines were entirely related to changes in interest rates.

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

Table of Contents

The corporate bonds category has gross unrealized losses greater than twelve months of \$63.3 million as of September 30, 2014. These declines were primarily related to changes in interest rates during the period. The aggregate decline in market value of these securities was deemed temporary due to positive factors supporting the recoverability of the respective investments. Positive factors considered include credit ratings, the financial health of the issuer, the continued access of the issuer to capital markets, and other pertinent information.

The equities category has a gross unrealized loss greater than twelve months of \$15.2 million as of September 30, 2014. The aggregate decline in market value of these securities was deemed temporary due to factors supporting the recoverability of the respective investments. Positive factors include credit ratings, the financial health of the issuer, the continued access of the issuer to the capital markets, and other pertinent information.

The Company does not consider these unrealized loss positions to be other-than-temporary, based on the factors discussed and because the Company has the ability and intent to hold these investments until the fair values recover, and does not intend to sell or expect to be required to sell the securities before recovering the Company's amortized cost of the securities.

The following table includes the gross unrealized losses and fair value of the Company's investments that are not deemed to be other-than-temporarily impaired, aggregated by investment category and length of time that individual securities have been in a continuous unrealized loss position as of December 31, 2013:

	Less Than 12 Months		12 Months or More		Total	
	Fair Value	Unrealized Loss	Fair Value	Unrealized Loss	Fair Value	Unrealized Loss
	(Dollars In Thousands)					
Residential mortgage-backed securities	\$ 333,235	\$ (14,051)	\$ 210,486	\$ (10,513)	\$ 543,721	\$ (24,564)
Commercial mortgage-backed securities	429,228	(18,467)	13,840	(1,238)	443,068	(19,705)
Other asset-backed securities	175,846	(14,555)	497,512	(54,993)	673,358	(69,548)
U.S. government-related securities	891,698	(53,508)	6,038	(570)	897,736	(54,078)
Other government-related securities	10,161	(1)			10,161	(1)
States, municipalities, and political subdivisions	172,157	(8,113)	335	(178)	172,492	(8,291)
Corporate bonds	7,484,010	(353,211)	272,423	(38,856)	7,756,433	(392,067)
Equities	376,776	(27,861)	21,974	(8,501)	398,750	(36,362)
	\$ 9,873,111	\$ (489,767)	\$ 1,022,608	\$ (114,849)	\$ 10,895,719	\$ (604,616)

RMBS had a gross unrealized loss greater than twelve months of \$10.5 million as of December 31, 2013. Factors such as the credit enhancement within the deal structure, the average life of the securities, and the performance of the underlying collateral support the recoverability of these investments.

CMBS had a gross unrealized loss greater than twelve months of \$1.2 million as of December 31, 2013. Factors such as the credit enhancement within the deal structure, the average life of the securities, and the performance of the underlying collateral support the recoverability of these

investments.

The other asset-backed securities had a gross unrealized loss greater than twelve months of \$55.0 million as of December 31, 2013. This category predominately includes student-loan backed auction rate securities, the underlying collateral, of which is at least 97% guaranteed by the FFELP. These unrealized losses have occurred within the Company's ARS portfolio since the market collapse during 2008. At this time, the Company has no reason to believe that the U.S. Department of Education would not honor the FFELP guarantee, if it were necessary.

The corporate bonds category had gross unrealized losses greater than twelve months of \$38.9 million as of December 31, 2013. The aggregate decline in market value of these securities was deemed temporary due to positive factors supporting the recoverability of the respective investments. Positive factors considered include credit ratings, the financial health of the issuer, the continued access of the issuer to capital markets, and other pertinent information.

The equities category had a gross unrealized loss greater than twelve months of \$8.5 million as of December 31, 2013. The aggregate decline in market value of these securities was deemed temporary due to factors supporting the recoverability of the respective investments. Positive factors include credit ratings, the financial health of the issuer, the continued access of the issuer to the capital markets, and other pertinent information.

Table of Contents

The Company does not consider these unrealized loss positions to be other-than-temporary, based on the factors discussed and because the Company has the ability and intent to hold these investments until the fair values recover, and does not intend to sell or expect to be required to sell the securities before recovering the Company's amortized cost of the securities.

As of September 30, 2014, the Company had securities in its available-for-sale portfolio which were rated below investment grade of \$1.7 billion and had an amortized cost of \$1.6 billion. In addition, included in the Company's trading portfolio, the Company held \$322.6 million of securities which were rated below investment grade. Approximately \$786.5 million of the below investment grade securities were not publicly traded.

The change in unrealized gains (losses), net of income tax, on fixed maturity and equity securities, classified as available-for-sale is summarized as follows:

	For The Three Months Ended September 30,		For The Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
	(Dollars In Thousands)			
Fixed maturities	\$ (143,367)	\$ (156,636)	\$ 1,004,990	\$ (1,175,458)
Equity securities	(2,184)	(12,791)	30,820	(17,393)

Variable Interest Entities

The Company holds certain investments in entities in which its ownership interests could possibly be considered variable interests under Topic 810 of the FASB ASC (excluding debt and equity securities held as trading, available for sale, or held to maturity). The Company reviews the characteristics of each of these applicable entities and compares those characteristics to applicable criteria to determine whether the entity is a Variable Interest Entity (VIE). If the entity is determined to be a VIE, the Company then performs a detailed review to determine whether the interest would be considered a variable interest under the guidance. The Company then performs a qualitative review of all variable interests with the entity and determines whether the Company is the primary beneficiary. ASC 810 provides that an entity is the primary beneficiary of a VIE if the entity has 1) the power to direct the activities of the VIE that most significantly impact the VIE's economic performance, and 2) the obligation to absorb losses of the VIE that could potentially be significant to the VIE or the right to receive benefits from the entity that could potentially be significant to the VIE.

Based on this analysis, the Company had an interest in one wholly owned subsidiary, Red Mountain, LLC (Red Mountain), that was continued to be classified as a VIE as of September 30, 2014 and December 31, 2013. The activity most significant to Red Mountain is the issuance of a note in connection with a financing transaction involving Golden Gate V Vermont Captive Insurance Company (Golden Gate V) and the Company in which Golden Gate V issued non-recourse funding obligations to Red Mountain and Red Mountain issued the note to Golden Gate V. Credit enhancement on the Red Mountain Note is provided by an unrelated third party. For details of this transaction, see Note 9, *Debt and Other Obligations*. The Company had the power, via its 100% ownership through an affiliate, to direct the activities of the VIE, but did not have the obligation to absorb losses related to the primary risks or sources of variability to the VIE. The variability of loss would be borne primarily by the third party in its function as provider of credit enhancement on the Red Mountain Note. Accordingly, it was determined that the Company is not the primary beneficiary of the VIE. The Company's risk of loss related to the VIE is limited to its investment of \$10,000. Additionally, the holding company (PLC) has guaranteed the VIE's payment obligation for the credit enhancement fee to the unrelated third party provider. As of September 30, 2014, no payments have been made or required related to this guarantee.

Table of Contents

7. MORTGAGE LOANS

Mortgage Loans

The Company invests a portion of its investment portfolio in commercial mortgage loans. As of September 30, 2014, the Company's mortgage loan holdings were approximately \$5.2 billion. The Company has specialized in making loans on either credit-oriented commercial properties or credit-anchored strip shopping centers and apartments. The Company's underwriting procedures relative to its commercial loan portfolio are based, in the Company's view, on a conservative and disciplined approach. The Company concentrates on a small number of commercial real estate asset types associated with the necessities of life (retail, multi-family, professional office buildings, and warehouses). The Company believes these asset types tend to weather economic downturns better than other commercial asset classes in which it has chosen not to participate. The Company believes this disciplined approach has helped to maintain a relatively low delinquency and foreclosure rate throughout its history. The majority of the Company's mortgage loans portfolio was underwritten and funded by the Company. From time to time, the Company may acquire loans in conjunction with an acquisition.

The Company's commercial mortgage loans are stated at unpaid principal balance, adjusted for any unamortized premium or discount, and net of valuation allowances. Interest income is accrued on the principal amount of the loan based on the loan's contractual interest rate. Amortization of premiums and discounts is recorded using the effective yield method. Interest income, amortization of premiums and discounts and prepayment fees are reported in net investment income.

Certain of the Company's mortgage loans have call options or interest rate reset options between 3 and 10 years. However, if interest rates were to significantly increase, the Company may be unable to exercise the call options or increase the interest rates on its existing mortgage loans commensurate with the significantly increased market rates. Assuming the loans are with these options called at their next call dates, approximately \$29.9 million would become due for the remainder of 2014, \$1.1 billion in 2015 through 2019, \$510.0 million in 2020 through 2024, and \$129.3 million thereafter.

The Company offers a type of commercial mortgage loan under which the Company will permit a loan-to-value ratio of up to 85% in exchange for a participating interest in the cash flows from the underlying real estate. As of September 30, 2014 and December 31, 2013, approximately \$583.4 million and \$666.6 million, respectively, of the Company's mortgage loans have this participation feature. Cash flows received as a result of this participation feature are recorded as interest income. During the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2014 and 2013, the Company recognized \$8.0 million, \$13.8 million, \$3.7 million and \$12.9 million, respectively, of participating mortgage loan income.

As of September 30, 2014, approximately \$34.0 million, or 0.07%, of invested assets consisted of nonperforming, restructured or mortgage loans that were foreclosed and were converted to real estate properties. The Company does not expect these investments to adversely affect its liquidity or ability to maintain proper matching of assets and liabilities. During the nine months ended September 30, 2014, certain mortgage loan transactions occurred that were accounted for as troubled debt restructurings under Topic 310 of the FASB ASC. For all mortgage loans, the impact of troubled debt restructurings is generally reflected in our investment balance and in the allowance for mortgage loan credit losses. Transactions accounted for as troubled debt restructurings during the quarter included either the acceptance of assets in satisfaction of principal at a future date or the recognition of permanent impairments to principal, and were the result of agreements between the creditor and the debtor. During the three and nine month periods ending September 30, 2014, the Company accepted or agreed to accept assets of \$11.2 million and \$26.3 million in satisfaction of \$14.6 million and \$30.6 million of principal, respectively. The Company also identified one loan whose principal of \$12.6 million was permanently impaired to a value of \$7.3 million. These transactions resulted in a \$5.3 million and \$6.2 million decrease in the Company's investment in mortgage loans net of existing allowances for mortgage loans losses. Of the mortgage loan transactions accounted

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

for as troubled debt restructurings, \$21.8 million remain on the Company's balance sheet as of September 30, 2014.

The Company's mortgage loan portfolio consists of two categories of loans: (1) those not subject to a pooling and servicing agreement and (2) those subject to a contractual pooling and servicing agreement. As of September 30,

Table of Contents

2014, \$34.0 million of mortgage loans not subject to a pooling and servicing agreement were nonperforming or restructured; \$21.8 million of these nonperforming loans were restructured during the nine months ended September 30, 2014. The Company did not foreclose on any loans during the nine months ended September 30, 2014.

As of September 30, 2014, none of the loans subject to a pooling and servicing agreement were nonperforming. The Company did not foreclose on any nonperforming loans during the nine months ended September 30, 2014.

As of September 30, 2014 and December 31, 2013, the Company had an allowance for mortgage loan credit losses of \$3.7 million and \$3.1 million, respectively. Due to the Company's loss experience and nature of the loan portfolio, the Company believes that a collectively evaluated allowance would be inappropriate. The Company believes an allowance calculated through an analysis of specific loans that are believed to have a higher risk of credit impairment provides a more accurate presentation of expected losses in the portfolio and is consistent with the applicable guidance for loan impairments in ASC Subtopic 310. Since the Company uses the specific identification method for calculating the allowance, it is necessary to review the economic situation of each borrower to determine those that have higher risk of credit impairment. The Company has a team of professionals that monitors borrower conditions such as payment practices, borrower credit, operating performance, and property conditions, as well as ensuring the timely payment of property taxes and insurance. Through this monitoring process, the Company assesses the risk of each loan. When issues are identified, the severity of the issues are assessed and reviewed for possible credit impairment. If a loss is probable, an expected loss calculation is performed and an allowance is established for that loan based on the expected loss. The expected loss is calculated as the excess carrying value of a loan over either the present value of expected future cash flows discounted at the loan's original effective interest rate, or the current estimated fair value of the loan's underlying collateral. A loan may be subsequently charged off at such point that the Company no longer expects to receive cash payments, the present value of future expected payments of the renegotiated loan is less than the current principal balance, or at such time that the Company is party to foreclosure or bankruptcy proceedings associated with the borrower and does not expect to recover the principal balance of the loan.

A charge off is recorded by eliminating the allowance against the mortgage loan and recording the renegotiated loan or the collateral property related to the loan as investment real estate on the balance sheet, which is carried at the lower of the appraised fair value of the property or the unpaid principal balance of the loan, less estimated selling costs associated with the property:

	As of	
	September 30, 2014	December 31, 2013
	(Dollars In Thousands)	
Beginning balance	\$ 3,130	\$ 2,875
Charge offs	(416)	(6,838)
Recoveries	(2,600)	(1,016)
Provision	3,536	8,109
Ending balance	\$ 3,650	\$ 3,130

It is the Company's policy to cease to carry accrued interest on loans that are over 90 days delinquent. For loans less than 90 days delinquent, interest is accrued unless it is determined that the accrued interest is not collectible. If a loan becomes over 90 days delinquent, it is the Company's general policy to initiate foreclosure proceedings unless a workout arrangement to bring the loan current is in place. For loans subject to a pooling and servicing agreement, there are certain additional restrictions and/or requirements related to workout proceedings, and as such, these loans may have different attributes and/or circumstances affecting the status of delinquency or categorization of those in nonperforming status. An analysis of the delinquent loans is shown in the following chart as of September 30, 2014.

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

	30-59 Days Delinquent	60-89 Days Delinquent	Greater than 90 Days Delinquent	Total Delinquent
	(Dollars In Thousands)			
Commercial mortgage loans	\$ 15,104	\$ 1,659	\$ 10,502	\$ 27,265
Number of delinquent commercial mortgage loans	5	1	5	11

Table of Contents

The Company's commercial mortgage loan portfolio consists of mortgage loans that are collateralized by real estate. Due to the collateralized nature of the loans, any assessment of impairment and ultimate loss given a default on the loans is based upon a consideration of the estimated fair value of the real estate. The Company limits accrued interest income on impaired loans to 90 days of interest. Once accrued interest on the impaired loan is received, interest income is recognized on a cash basis. For information regarding impaired loans, please refer to the following chart as of September 30, 2014 and December 31, 2013:

	Recorded Investment	Unpaid Principal Balance	Related Allowance (Dollars In Thousands)	Average Recorded Investment	Interest Income Recognized	Cash Basis Interest Income
2014						
Commercial mortgage loans:						
With no related allowance recorded	\$ 6,045	\$ 7,558	\$	\$ 1,511	\$	\$
With an allowance recorded	16,054	16,043	3,650	3,211	187	187
2013						
Commercial mortgage loans:						
With no related allowance recorded	\$ 2,208	\$ 2,208	\$	\$ 2,208	\$ 31	\$
With an allowance recorded	21,288	21,281	3,130	5,322	304	304

Mortgage loans that were modified in a troubled debt restructuring were as follows:

	Number of Contracts	Pre-Modification Outstanding Recorded Investment (Dollars In Thousands)	Post- Modification Outstanding Recorded Investment
2014			
Troubled debt restructuring:			
Commercial mortgage loans	5	\$ 27,164	\$ 21,848

8. GOODWILL

During the nine months ended September 30, 2014, the Company decreased its goodwill balance by approximately \$2.3 million. The decrease was due to an adjustment in the Acquisitions segment related to tax benefits realized during 2014 on the portion of tax goodwill in excess of GAAP basis goodwill. As of September 30, 2014, the Company had an aggregate goodwill balance of \$103.1 million.

Accounting for goodwill requires an estimate of the future profitability of the associated lines of business to assess the recoverability of the capitalized acquisition goodwill. The Company evaluates the carrying value of goodwill at the segment (or reporting unit) level at least annually and between annual evaluations if events occur or circumstances change that would more likely than not reduce the fair value of the reporting unit below its carrying amount. Such circumstances could include, but are not limited to: 1) a significant adverse change in legal factors or in business climate, 2) unanticipated competition, or 3) an adverse action or assessment by a regulator. When evaluating whether goodwill is impaired, the Company first determines through qualitative analysis whether relevant events and circumstances indicate that it is more likely than not that segment goodwill balances are impaired as of the testing date. If it is determined that it is more likely than not that impairment exists, the Company compares its estimate of the fair value of the reporting unit to which the goodwill is assigned to the reporting unit's carrying

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

amount, including goodwill. The Company utilizes a fair value measurement (which includes a discounted cash flows analysis) to assess the carrying value of the reporting units in consideration of the recoverability of the goodwill balance assigned to each reporting unit as of the measurement date. The Company's material goodwill balances are attributable to certain of its operating segments (which are each considered to be reporting units). The cash flows used to determine the fair value of the Company's reporting units are dependent on a number of significant assumptions. The Company's estimates, which

Table of Contents

consider a market participant view of fair value, are subject to change given the inherent uncertainty in predicting future results and cash flows, which are impacted by such things as policyholder behavior, competitor pricing, capital limitations, new product introductions, and specific industry and market conditions. Additionally, the discount rate used is based on the Company's judgment of the appropriate rate for each reporting unit based on the relative risk associated with the projected cash flows. As of December 31, 2013, the Company performed its annual evaluation of goodwill and determined that no adjustment to impair goodwill was necessary. During the nine months ended September 30, 2014, no events occurred which indicate an impairment should be recorded or which would invalidate the previous results of the Company's impairment assessment.

9. DEBT AND OTHER OBLIGATIONS

The Company has access to a Credit Facility that provides the ability to borrow on an unsecured basis up to an aggregate principal amount of \$750 million. The Company has the right in certain circumstances to request that the commitment under the Credit Facility be increased up to a maximum principal amount of \$1.0 billion. Balances outstanding under the Credit Facility accrue interest at a rate equal to, at the option of the Borrowers, (i) LIBOR plus a spread based on the ratings of the Company's senior unsecured long-term debt (Senior Debt), or (ii) the sum of (A) a rate equal to the highest of (x) the Administrative Agent's prime rate, (y) 0.50% above the Federal Funds rate, or (z) the one-month LIBOR plus 1.00% and (B) a spread based on the ratings of the Company's Senior Debt. The Credit Facility also provides for a facility fee at a rate that varies with the ratings of the Company's Senior Debt and that is calculated on the aggregate amount of commitments under the Credit Facility, whether used or unused. The maturity date on the Credit Facility is July 17, 2017. The Company is not aware of any non-compliance with the financial debt covenants of the Credit Facility as of September 30, 2014. There was an outstanding balance of \$280.0 million at an interest rate of LIBOR plus 1.20% under the Credit Facility as of September 30, 2014.

Non-Recourse Funding Obligations

Golden Gate II Captive Insurance Company

Golden Gate II Captive Insurance Company (Golden Gate II), a South Carolina special purpose financial captive insurance company wholly owned by PLICO, had \$575 million of outstanding non-recourse funding obligations as of September 30, 2014. These outstanding non-recourse funding obligations were issued to special purpose trusts, which in turn issued securities to third parties. Certain of our affiliates own a portion of these securities. As of September 30, 2014, securities related to \$176.6 million of the outstanding balance of the non-recourse funding obligations were held by external parties and securities related to \$398.4 million of the non-recourse funding obligations were held by our affiliates. The Company has entered into certain support agreements with Golden Gate II obligating the Company to make capital contributions or provide support related to certain of Golden Gate II's expenses and in certain circumstances, to collateralize certain of the Company's obligations to Golden Gate II. These support agreements provide that amounts would become payable by the Company to Golden Gate II if its annual general corporate expenses were higher than modeled amounts or if Golden Gate II's investment income on certain investments or premium income was below certain actuarially determined amounts. As of September 30, 2014, no payments have been made under these agreements.

Golden Gate V Vermont Captive Insurance Company

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

On October 10, 2012, Golden Gate V, a Vermont special purpose financial insurance company, and Red Mountain, both wholly owned subsidiaries of PLICO, entered into a 20-year transaction to finance up to \$945 million of XXXX reserves related to a block of universal life insurance policies with secondary guarantees issued by our direct wholly owned subsidiary PLICO and indirect wholly owned subsidiary, West Coast Life Insurance Company (WCL). Golden Gate V issued non-recourse funding obligations to Red Mountain, and Red Mountain issued a note with an initial principal amount of \$275 million, increasing to a maximum of \$945 million in 2027, to Golden Gate V for deposit to a reinsurance trust supporting Golden Gate V's obligations under a reinsurance agreement with WCL, pursuant to which WCL cedes liabilities relating to the policies of WCL and retrocedes liabilities relating to the policies of PLICO. Through the structure, Hannover Life Reassurance Company of America (Hannover Re), the ultimate risk taker in the transaction, provides credit enhancement to the Red Mountain note for the 20-year term in exchange for a fee. The transaction is non-recourse to Golden Gate V, Red Mountain, WCL, PLICO and the Company, meaning that none of these companies are liable for the reimbursement of any credit enhancement payments required to be made. As

Table of Contents

of September 30, 2014, the principal balance of the Red Mountain note was \$415 million. In connection with the transaction, the Company has entered into certain support agreements under which it guarantees or otherwise supports certain obligations of Golden Gate V or Red Mountain. Future scheduled capital contributions to prefund credit enhancement fees amount to approximately \$144.3 million and will be paid in annual installments through 2031. The support agreements provide that amounts would become payable by the Company if Golden Gate V's annual general corporate expenses were higher than modeled amounts or in the event write-downs due to other-than-temporary impairments on assets held in certain accounts exceed defined threshold levels. Additionally, the Company has entered into separate agreements to indemnify Golden Gate V with respect to material adverse changes in non-guaranteed elements of insurance policies reinsured by Golden Gate V, and to guarantee payment of certain fee amounts in connection with the credit enhancement of the Red Mountain note. As of September 30, 2014, no payments have been made under these agreements.

In connection with the transaction outlined above, Golden Gate V had a \$415 million outstanding non-recourse funding obligation as of September 30, 2014. This non-recourse funding obligation matures in 2037, has scheduled increases in principal to a maximum of \$945 million, and accrues interest at a fixed annual rate of 6.25%.

Non-recourse funding obligations outstanding as of September 30, 2014, on a consolidated basis, are shown in the following table:

Issuer	Balance (Dollars In Thousands)	Maturity Year	Year-to-Date Weighted-Avg Interest Rate
Golden Gate II Captive Insurance Company	\$ 176,551	2052	1.12%
Golden Gate V Vermont Captive Insurance Company(1)	415,000	2037	6.25%
MONY Life Insurance Company(1)	2,515	2024	6.63%
Total	\$ 594,066		

(1) Fixed rate obligations

During the nine months ended September 30, 2014, the Company repurchased \$18.3 million of its outstanding non-recourse funding obligations, at a discount. These repurchases resulted in a \$4.6 million pre-tax gain for the Company. During the nine months ended September 30, 2013, the Company repurchased \$16.1 million of its outstanding non-recourse funding obligations, at a discount. These repurchases resulted in a \$3.4 million pre-tax gain for the Company. These gains are recorded in other income in the consolidated statements of income.

Letters of Credit

Golden Gate III Vermont Captive Insurance Company (Golden Gate III), a Vermont special purpose financial insurance company and wholly owned subsidiary of PLICO, is party to a Reimbursement Agreement (the Reimbursement Agreement) with UBS AG, Stamford Branch (UBS), as issuing lender. Under the original Reimbursement Agreement, dated April 23, 2010, UBS issued a letter of credit (the LOC) in the initial amount of \$505 million to a trust for the benefit of WCL. The Reimbursement Agreement was subsequently amended and restated effective November 21, 2011 (the First Amended and Restated Reimbursement Agreement), to replace the existing LOC with one or more letters of credit from UBS, and to extend the maturity date from April 1, 2018, to April 1, 2022. On August 7, 2013, the Company entered into a Second Amended and Restated Reimbursement Agreement with UBS (the Second Amended and Restated Reimbursement Agreement), which amended

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

and restated the First Amended and Restated Reimbursement Agreement. Under the Second and Amended and Restated Reimbursement Agreement a new LOC in an initial amount of \$710 million was issued by UBS in replacement of the existing LOC issued under the First Amended and Restated Reimbursement Agreement. The term of the LOC was extended from April 1, 2022 to October 1, 2023, subject to certain conditions being satisfied including scheduled capital contributions being made to Golden Gate III by one of its affiliates. The maximum stated amount of the LOC was increased from \$610 million to \$720 million in 2015 if certain conditions are met. On June 25, 2014, the Company entered into a Third Amended and Restated Reimbursement Agreement with UBS (the Third Amended and Restated Reimbursement Agreement), which amended and restated the Second Amended and Restated Reimbursement Agreement. Under the Third Amended and Restated Reimbursement Agreement, a new LOC in an initial amount of \$915 million was issued by UBS in

Table of Contents

replacement of the existing LOC issued under the Second Amended and Restated Reimbursement Agreement. The term of the LOC was extended from October 1, 2023 to April 1, 2025, subject to certain conditions being satisfied including scheduled capital contributions being made to Golden Gate III by one of its affiliates. The maximum stated amount of the LOC was increased from \$720 million to \$935 million in 2015 if certain conditions are met. The LOC is held in trust for the benefit of WCL, and supports certain obligations of Golden Gate III to WCL under an indemnity reinsurance agreement originally effective April 1, 2010, as amended and restated on November 21, 2011, and as further amended and restated on August 7, 2013 and on June 25, 2014 to include additional blocks of policies, and pursuant to which WCL cedes liabilities relating to the policies of WCL and retrocedes liabilities relating to the policies of PLICO. The LOC balance was \$925 million as of September 30, 2014. Subject to certain conditions, the amount of the LOC will be periodically increased up to a maximum of \$935 million in 2015. The term of the LOC is expected to be approximately 15 years from the original issuance date. This transaction is non-recourse to WCL, PLICO, and the Company, meaning that none of these companies other than Golden Gate III are liable for reimbursement on a draw of the LOC. The Company has entered into certain support agreements with Golden Gate III obligating the Company to make capital contributions or provide support related to certain of Golden Gate III's expenses and in certain circumstances, to collateralize certain of the Company's obligations to Golden Gate III. Future scheduled capital contributions amount to approximately \$122.5 million and will be paid in three installments with the last payment occurring in 2021, and these contributions may be subject to potential offset against dividend payments as permitted under the terms of the Third Amended and Restated Reimbursement Agreement. The support agreements provide that amounts would become payable by the Company to Golden Gate III if its annual general corporate expenses were higher than modeled amounts or if specified catastrophic losses occur during defined time periods with respect to the policies reinsured by Golden Gate III. Pursuant to the terms of an amended and restated letter agreement with UBS, the Company has continued to guarantee the payment of fees to UBS as specified in the Third Amended and Restated Reimbursement Agreement. As of September 30, 2014, no payments have been made under these agreements.

Golden Gate IV Vermont Captive Insurance Company (Golden Gate IV), a Vermont special purpose financial insurance company and wholly owned subsidiary of PLICO, is party to a Reimbursement Agreement with UBS AG, Stamford Branch, as issuing lender. Under the Reimbursement Agreement, dated December 10, 2010, UBS issued an LOC in the initial amount of \$270 million to a trust for the benefit of WCL. The LOC balance increased, in accordance with the terms of the Reimbursement Agreement, during the third quarter of 2014 and was \$740 million as of September 30, 2014. Subject to certain conditions, the amount of the LOC will be periodically increased up to a maximum of \$790 million in 2016. The term of the LOC is expected to be 12 years from the original issuance date (stated maturity of December 30, 2022). The LOC was issued to support certain obligations of Golden Gate IV to WCL under an indemnity reinsurance agreement, pursuant to which WCL cedes liabilities relating to the policies of WCL and retrocedes liabilities relating to the policies of PLICO. This transaction is non-recourse to WCL, PLICO, and the Company, meaning that none of these companies other than Golden Gate IV are liable for reimbursement on a draw of the LOC. The Company has entered into certain support agreements with Golden Gate IV obligating the Company to make capital contributions or provide support related to certain of Golden Gate IV's expenses and in certain circumstances, to collateralize certain of the Company's obligations to Golden Gate IV. The support agreements provide that amounts would become payable by the Company to Golden Gate IV if its annual general corporate expenses were higher than modeled amounts or if specified catastrophic losses occur during defined time periods with respect to the policies reinsured by Golden Gate IV. The Company has also entered into a separate agreement to guarantee the payments of LOC fees under the terms of the Reimbursement Agreement. As of September 30, 2014, no payments have been made under these agreements.

Repurchase Program Borrowings

While the Company anticipates that the cash flows of its operating subsidiaries will be sufficient to meet its investment commitments and operating cash needs in a normal credit market environment, the Company recognizes that investment commitments scheduled to be funded may, from time to time, exceed the funds then available. Therefore, the Company has established repurchase agreement programs for certain of its insurance subsidiaries to provide liquidity when needed. The Company expects that the rate received on its investments will equal or exceed its borrowing rate. Under this program, the Company may, from time to time, sell an investment security at a specific price and agree to repurchase that security at another specified price at a later date. These borrowings are for a term less than 90 days. The market value of securities to be repurchased is monitored and collateral levels are adjusted where appropriate to protect the counterparty against credit exposure. Cash received is invested in fixed maturity securities, and the agreements provided for net settlement in the event of default or on termination of the agreements. As of

Table of Contents

September 30, 2014, the fair value of securities pledged under the repurchase program was \$402.0 million and the repurchase obligation of \$359.8 million was included in the Company's consolidated condensed balance sheets (at an average borrowing rate of 8 basis points). During the nine months ended September 30, 2014, the maximum balance outstanding at any one point in time related to these programs was \$633.7 million. The average daily balance was \$511.3 million (at an average borrowing rate of 10 basis points) during the nine months ended September 30, 2014. As of December 31, 2013, the Company had a \$350.0 million outstanding balance related to such borrowings. During 2013, the maximum balance outstanding at any one point in time related to these programs was \$815.0 million. The average daily balance was \$496.9 million (at an average borrowing rate of 11 basis points) during the year ended December 31, 2013.

10. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

The Company has entered into indemnity agreements with each of its current directors that provide, among other things and subject to certain limitations, a contractual right to indemnification to the fullest extent permissible under the law. The Company has agreements with certain of its officers providing up to \$10 million in indemnification. These obligations are in addition to the customary obligation to indemnify officers and directors contained in the Company's governance documents.

Under insurance guaranty fund laws, in most states insurance companies doing business therein can be assessed up to prescribed limits for policyholder losses incurred by insolvent companies. In addition, from time to time, companies may be asked to contribute amounts beyond prescribed limits. Most insurance guaranty fund laws provide that an assessment may be excused or deferred if it would threaten an insurer's own financial strength. The Company does not believe its insurance guaranty fund assessments will be materially different from amounts already provided for in the financial statements.

A number of civil jury verdicts have been returned against insurers, broker dealers and other providers of financial services involving sales, refund or claims practices, alleged agent misconduct, failure to properly supervise representatives, relationships with agents or persons with whom the insurer does business, and other matters. Often these lawsuits have resulted in the award of substantial judgments that are disproportionate to the actual damages, including material amounts of punitive and non-economic compensatory damages. In some states, juries, judges, and arbitrators have substantial discretion in awarding punitive non-economic compensatory damages which creates the potential for unpredictable material adverse judgments or awards in any given lawsuit or arbitration. Arbitration awards are subject to very limited appellate review. In addition, in some class action and other lawsuits, companies have made material settlement payments. Publicly held companies in general and the financial services and insurance industries in particular are also sometimes the target of law enforcement and regulatory investigations relating to the numerous laws and regulations that govern such companies. Some companies have been the subject of law enforcement or regulatory actions or other actions resulting from such investigations. The Company, in the ordinary course of business, is involved in such matters.

The Company establishes liabilities for litigation and regulatory actions when it is probable that a loss has been incurred and the amount of the loss can be reasonably estimated. For matters where a loss is believed to be reasonably possible, but not probable, no liability is established. For such matters, the Company may provide an estimate of the possible loss or range of loss or a statement that such an estimate cannot be made. The Company reviews relevant information with respect to litigation and regulatory matters on a quarterly and annual basis and updates its established liabilities, disclosures and estimates of reasonably possible losses or range of loss based on such reviews.

Since the entry into the Merger Agreement on June 3, 2014, four lawsuits have been filed against the Company, our directors, Dai-ichi and DL Investment (Delaware), Inc. on behalf of alleged Company shareowners. On June 11, 2014, a putative class action lawsuit styled *Edelman, et al. v. Protective Life Corporation, et al.*, Civil Action No. 01-CV-2014-902474.00, was filed in the Circuit Court of Jefferson County, Alabama. On

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

July 30, 2014, the plaintiff in *Edelman* filed an amended complaint. Three putative class action lawsuits were filed in the Court of Chancery of the State of Delaware, *Martin, et al. v. Protective Life Corporation, et al.*, Civil Action No. 9794-CB, filed June 19, 2014, *Leyendecker, et al. v. Protective Life Corporation, et al.*, Civil Action No. 9931-CB, filed July 22, 2014 and *Hilburn, et al. v. Protective Life Corporation, et al.*, Civil Action No. 9937-CB, filed July 23, 2014. The Delaware Court of Chancery consolidated the *Martin*, *Leyendecker* and *Hilburn* actions under the caption *In*

Table of Contents

re Protective Life Corp. Stockholders Litigation, Consolidated Civil Action No. 9794-CB, designated the *Hilburn* complaint as the operative consolidated complaint (the Delaware Action) and appointed Charlotte Martin, Samuel J. Leyendecker, Jr., and Deborah J. Hilburn to serve as co-lead plaintiffs. These lawsuits alleged that our Board of Directors breached its fiduciary duties to our shareowners, that the Merger involves an unfair price, an inadequate sales process, and unreasonable deal protection devices that purportedly preclude competing offers, and that the preliminary proxy statement filed with the SEC on July 10, 2014 failed to disclose purportedly material information. The complaints also alleged that the Company, Dai-ichi and DL Investment (Delaware), Inc. aided and abetted those alleged breaches of fiduciary duties. The complaints seek injunctive relief, including enjoining or rescinding the Merger, and attorneys' and other fees and costs, in addition to other relief. The Delaware Action also seeks an award of unspecified damages.

With respect to the *Edelman* lawsuit, on September 5, 2014, the court held a hearing to address motions to dismiss the lawsuit filed on behalf of the Company, the members of the Company's Board, and DL Investment (Delaware), Inc. On September 19, 2014, the court granted those motions and dismissed the *Edelman* lawsuit in its entirety and with prejudice, pending a possible appeal by the plaintiff. With respect to the Delaware Action, on September 24, 2014, the Company, each of the members of the Company's Board, Dai-ichi, and DL Investment (Delaware), Inc. entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (the MOU) with the plaintiffs in that case, which sets forth the parties' agreement in principle for a settlement of the Delaware Action. As set forth in the MOU, the Company, the members of the Company's Board, Dai-ichi, and DL Investment (Delaware), Inc. agreed to the settlement solely to eliminate the burden, expense, distraction, and uncertainties inherent in further litigation, and without admitting any liability or wrongdoing. The MOU contemplates that the parties will seek to enter into a stipulation of settlement providing for the certification of a mandatory non opt-out class, for settlement purposes only, to include any and all record and beneficial owners of shares (excluding the members of the Company's Board and their immediate family members, any entity in which any member of the Company's Board has a controlling interest, and any successors in interest thereto) that held shares at any time during the period beginning on June 3, 2014, through the date of consummation or termination of the proposed Merger, including any and all of their respective successors in interest, successors, predecessors in interest, representatives, trustees, executors, administrators, heirs, assigns, or transferees, immediate and remote, and any person or entity acting for or on behalf of, or claiming under, any of them, together with their predecessors, successors and assigns, and a global release of claims relating to the Merger as set forth in the MOU. As part of the settlement, the Company agreed to make certain additional disclosures related to the Merger which are set forth in the Company's Form 8-K filed on September 25, 2014 and which supplement the information contained in the Company's definitive proxy statement filed with the SEC on August 25, 2014, as amended on August 27, 2014. Nothing in the Form 8-K or any stipulation of settlement shall be deemed an admission of the legal necessity or materiality of any of the disclosures set forth in the Form 8-K. The claims in the Delaware Action will not be released until the stipulation of settlement is approved by the Court of Chancery of the State of Delaware. The settlement will not affect the consideration to be received by the Company stockholders in connection with the Merger.

Although the Company cannot predict the outcome of any litigation or regulatory action or provide assurances as to the ultimate settlement of the Delaware Action, the Company does not believe that any such outcome will have an impact, either individually or in the aggregate, on its financial condition or results of operations that differs materially from the Company's established liabilities. Given the inherent difficulty in predicting the outcome of such matters, however, it is possible that an adverse outcome in certain such matters could be material to the Company's financial condition or results of operations for any particular reporting period.

The Company was audited by the IRS and the IRS proposed favorable and unfavorable adjustments to the Company's 2003 through 2007 reported taxable income. The Company protested certain unfavorable adjustments and sought resolution at the IRS Appeals Division. The case has followed normal procedure and is now under review at Congress Joint Committee on Taxation. The Company believes the matter will conclude within the next twelve months. If the IRS prevails on every issue that it identified in this audit, and the Company does not litigate these issues, then the Company will make an income tax payment of approximately \$26.6 million. However, this payment, if it were to occur, would not materially impact the Company or its effective tax rate.

Through the acquisition of MONY by PLICO certain income tax credit carryforwards, which arose in MONY's pre-acquisition tax years, transferred to the Company. This transfer was in accordance with the applicable rules of the Internal Revenue Code and the related Regulations. In spite of this transfer, AXA, the former parent of the consolidated income tax return group in which MONY was a member, retains the right to

utilize these credits in the

Table of Contents

future to offset future increases in its 2010 through 2013 tax liabilities. The Company had determined that, based on all information known as of the acquisition date and through the March 31, 2014 reporting date, it was probable that a loss of the utilization of these carryforwards had been incurred. Due to indemnification received from AXA during the quarter ending June 30, 2014, the probability of loss of these carryforwards has been eliminated. Accordingly, in the table summarizing the fair value of net assets acquired from the Acquisition, the amount of the deferred tax asset from the credit carryforwards is no longer offset by a liability.

The Company has received notice from two third party auditors that certain of the Company's insurance subsidiaries, as well as certain other insurance companies for which the Company has coinsured blocks of life insurance and annuity policies, are under audit for compliance with the unclaimed property laws of a number of states. The audits are being conducted on behalf of the treasury departments or unclaimed property administrators in such states. The focus of the audits is on whether there have been unreported deaths, maturities, or policies that have exceeded limiting age with respect to which death benefits or other payments under life insurance or annuity policies should be treated as unclaimed property that should be escheated to the state. The Company is presently unable to estimate the reasonably possible loss or range of loss that may result from the audits due to a number of factors, including uncertainty as to the legal theory or theories that may give rise to liability, the early stages of the audits being conducted, and, with respect to one block of life insurance policies that is co-insured by a subsidiary of the Company, uncertainty as to whether the Company or other companies are responsible for the liabilities, if any, arising in connection with such policies. The Company will continue to monitor the matter for any developments that would make the loss contingency associated with the audits probable or reasonably estimable.

Certain of the Company's subsidiaries have received notice that they are subject to a targeted multi-state examination with respect to their claims paying practices and their use of the U.S. Social Security Administration's Death Master File or similar databases (a "Death Database") to identify unreported deaths in their life insurance policies, annuity contracts and retained asset accounts. There is no clear basis in previously existing law for requiring a life insurer to search for unreported deaths in order to determine whether a benefit is owed, and substantial legal authority exists to support the position that the prevailing industry practice was lawful. A number of life insurers, however, have entered into settlement or consent agreements with state insurance regulators under which the life insurers agreed to implement procedures for periodically comparing their life insurance and annuity contracts and retained asset accounts against a Death Database, treating confirmed deaths as giving rise to a death benefit under their policies, locating beneficiaries and paying them the benefits and interest, and escheating the benefits and interest as well as penalties to the state if the beneficiary could not be found. It has been publicly reported that the life insurers have paid substantial administrative and/or examination fees to the insurance regulators in connection with the settlement or consent agreements. The Company believes it is reasonably possible that insurance regulators could demand from the Company administrative and/or examination fees relating to the targeted multi-state examination. Based on publicly reported payments by other life insurers, the Company estimates the range of such fees to be from \$0 to \$3.5 million.

11. STOCK-BASED COMPENSATION

During the nine months ended September 30, 2014, 203,295 performance shares with an estimated fair value of \$10.5 million were awarded. The criteria for payment of the 2014 performance awards is based primarily on the Company's average operating return on average equity (ROE) over a three-year period. If the Company's ROE is below 10.5%, no award is earned. If the Company's ROE is at or above 12.0%, the award maximum is earned. Awards are paid in shares of the Company's common stock.

Restricted stock units are awarded to participants and include certain restrictions relating to vesting periods. The Company issued 98,700 restricted stock units for the nine months ended September 30, 2014. These awards had a total fair value at grant date of \$5.1 million. Approximately half of these restricted stock units vest after three years from the grant date and the remainder vest after four years.

Table of Contents

Stock appreciation right (SARs) have historically been granted to certain officers of the Company to provide long-term incentive compensation based solely on the performance of the Company's common stock. The SARs are exercisable either five years after the date of grant or in three or four equal annual installments beginning one year after the date of grant (earlier upon the death, disability, or retirement of the officer, or in certain circumstances, of a change in control of the Company) and expire after ten years or upon termination of employment. The SARs activity as well as weighted-average base price is as follows:

	Weighted-Average Base Price per share	No. of SARs
Balance at December 31, 2013	\$ 23.08	1,305,101
SARs granted		
SARs exercised / forfeited	21.94	(1,127,156)
Balance at September 30, 2014	\$ 30.27	177,945

The Company will pay an amount in stock equal to the difference between the specified base price of the Company's common stock and the market value at the exercise date for each SAR. There were no SARs issued for the nine months ended September 30, 2014.

For more information about the impact that the proposed merger with Dai-ichi will have on stock-based compensation, refer to Note 5, *Proposed Dai-ichi Merger*.

12. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLANS

Components of the net periodic benefit cost of the Company's defined benefit pension plan and unfunded excess benefit plan are as follows:

	For The Three Months Ended September 30,		For The Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
	(Dollars In Thousands)			
Service cost – benefits earned during the period	\$ 2,453	\$ 2,708	\$ 7,359	\$ 8,124
Interest cost on projected benefit obligation	2,993	2,553	8,979	7,659
Expected return on plan assets	(3,065)	(2,759)	(9,195)	(8,277)
Amortization of prior service cost/(credit)	(95)	(95)	(285)	(285)
Amortization of actuarial losses	1,897	2,729	5,691	8,187
Total benefit cost	\$ 4,183	\$ 5,136	\$ 12,549	\$ 15,408

During the nine months ended September 30, 2014, the Company contributed \$9.0 million to its defined benefit pension plan for the 2013 plan year and \$6.3 million for the 2014 plan year. During October of 2014, the Company contributed \$0.2 million to the defined benefit pension plan for the 2014 plan year. The Company will continue to make contributions in future periods as necessary to at least satisfy minimum funding requirements. The Company may also make additional contributions in future periods to maintain an adjusted funding target attainment percentage (AFTAP) of at least 80% and to avoid certain Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC) reporting triggers.

In addition to pension benefits, the Company provides life insurance benefits to eligible retirees and limited healthcare benefits to eligible retirees who are not yet eligible for Medicare. For a closed group of retirees over age 65, the Company provides a prescription drug benefit. The cost of these plans for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, was immaterial to the Company's financial statements.

Table of Contents**13. ACCUMULATED OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)**

The following tables summarize the changes in the accumulated balances for each component of accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) (AOCI) as of September 30, 2014 and December 31, 2013.

Changes in Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss) by Component

	Unrealized Gains and Losses on Investments(2)	Accumulated Gain and Loss Derivatives (Dollars In Thousands, Net of Tax)	Minimum Pension Liability Adjustment	Total Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)
Beginning Balance, December 31, 2013	\$ 539,003	\$ (1,235)	\$ (43,702)	\$ 494,066
Other comprehensive income (loss) before reclassifications	800,982	(58)		800,924
Other comprehensive income (loss) relating to other- than-temporary impaired investments for which a portion has been recognized in earnings	4,494			4,494
Amounts reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)(1)	(29,763)	1,025	3,520	(25,218)
Net current-period other comprehensive income (loss)	775,713	967	3,520	780,200
Ending Balance, September 30, 2014	\$ 1,314,716	\$ (268)	\$ (40,182)	\$ 1,274,266

(1) See Reclassification table below for details.

(2) These balances were offset by the impact of DAC and VOBA by \$198.1 million and \$380.4 million as of December 31, 2013 and September 30, 2014, respectively.

Changes in Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss) by Component

	Unrealized Gains and Losses on Investments(2)	Accumulated Gain and Loss Derivatives (Dollars In Thousands, Net of Tax)	Minimum Pension Liability Adjustment	Total Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)
Beginning Balance, December 31, 2012	\$ 1,813,516	\$ (3,496)	\$ (73,298)	\$ 1,736,722
Other comprehensive income (loss) before reclassifications	(1,250,498)	734	29,596	(1,220,168)
Other comprehensive income (loss) relating to other- than-temporary impaired investments	4,591			4,591

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

for which a portion has been recognized in earnings

Amounts reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)(1)	(28,606)	1,527	(27,079)
Net current-period other comprehensive income (loss)	(1,274,513)	2,261	29,596
Ending Balance, December 31, 2013	\$ 539,003	\$ (1,235)	\$ (43,702)

(1) See Reclassification table below for details.

(2) These balances were offset by the impact of DAC and VOBA by \$204.9 million and \$198.1 million as of December 31, 2012 and December 31, 2013, respectively.

Table of Contents

The following tables summarize the reclassifications amounts out of AOCI for the three months ended September 30, 2014 and 2013.

Reclassifications Out of Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)

	Amount Reclassified from Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss) (Dollars In Thousands)	Affected Line Item in the Consolidated Condensed Statements of Income
Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss) Components		
For The Three Months Ended September 30, 2014		
Gains and losses on derivative instruments		
Net settlement (expense)/benefit(1)	\$ (293)	Benefits and settlement expenses, net of reinsurance ceded
	(293)	Total before tax
	103	Tax (expense) or benefit
	\$ (190)	Net of tax
Unrealized gains and losses on available-for-sale securities		
Net investment gains/losses	\$ 23,627	Realized investment gains (losses): All other investments
Impairments recognized in earnings	(2,354)	Net impairment losses recognized in earnings
	21,273	Total before tax
	(7,446)	Tax (expense) or benefit
	\$ 13,827	Net of tax
Postretirement benefits liability adjustment		
Amortization of net actuarial gain/(loss)	\$ (1,900)	Other operating expenses
Amortization of prior service credit/(cost)	95	Other operating expenses
	(1,805)	Total before tax
	632	Tax (expense) or benefit
	\$ (1,173)	Net of tax

(1) See Note 17, Derivative Financial Instruments for additional information.

Table of Contents**Reclassifications Out of Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)**

	Amount Reclassified from Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss) (Dollars In Thousands)	Affected Line Item in the Consolidated Condensed Statements of Income
Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss) Components		
For The Three Months Ended September 30, 2013		
Gains and losses on derivative instruments		
Net settlement (expense)/benefit(1)	\$ (572)	Benefits and settlement expenses, net of reinsurance ceded
	(572)	Total before tax
	200	Tax (expense) or benefit
	\$ (372)	Net of tax
Unrealized gains and losses on available-for-sale securities		
Net investment gains/losses	\$ 10,546	Realized investment gains (losses): All other investments
Impairments recognized in earnings	(8,681)	Net impairment losses recognized in earnings
	1,865	Total before tax
	(653)	Tax (expense) or benefit
	\$ 1,212	Net of tax

(1) See Note 17, Derivative Financial Instruments for additional information.

Table of Contents

The following tables summarize the reclassifications amounts out of AOCI for the nine months ended September 30, 2014 and 2013.

Reclassifications Out of Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)

	Amount Reclassified from Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss) (Dollars In Thousands)	Affected Line Item in the Consolidated Condensed Statements of Income
Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss) Components		
For The Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014		
Gains and losses on derivative instruments		
Net settlement (expense)/benefit(1)	\$ (1,577)	Benefits and settlement expenses, net of reinsurance ceded
	(1,577)	Total before tax
	552	Tax (expense) or benefit
	\$ (1,025)	Net of tax
Unrealized gains and losses on available-for-sale securities		
Net investment gains/losses	\$ 51,195	Realized investment gains (losses): All other investments
Impairments recognized in earnings	(5,405)	Net impairment losses recognized in earnings
	45,790	Total before tax
	(16,027)	Tax (expense) or benefit
	\$ 29,763	Net of tax
Postretirement benefits liability adjustment		
Amortization of net actuarial gain/(loss)	\$ (5,700)	Other operating expenses
Amortization of prior service credit/(cost)	285	Other operating expenses
	(5,415)	Total before tax
	1,895	Tax (expense) or benefit
	\$ (3,520)	Net of tax

(1) See Note 17, Derivative Financial Instruments for additional information.

Table of Contents**Reclassifications Out of Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)**

	Amount Reclassified from Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss) (Dollars In Thousands)	Affected Line Item in the Consolidated Condensed Statements of Income
Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss) Components		
For The Nine Months Ended September 30, 2013		
Gains and losses on derivative instruments		
Net settlement (expense)/benefit(1)	\$ (1,649)	Benefits and settlement expenses, net of reinsurance ceded
	(1,649)	Total before tax
	577	Tax (expense) or benefit
	\$ (1,072)	Net of tax
Unrealized gains and losses on available-for-sale securities		
Net investment gains/losses	\$ 44,374	Realized investment gains (losses): All other investments
Impairments recognized in earnings	(17,265)	Net impairment losses recognized in earnings
	27,109	Total before tax
	(9,488)	Tax (expense) or benefit
	\$ 17,621	Net of tax

(1) See Note 17, Derivative Financial Instruments for additional information.

Table of Contents**14. EARNINGS PER SHARE**

Basic earnings per share is computed by dividing net income by the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding during the period, including shares issuable under various deferred compensation plans. Diluted earnings per share is computed by dividing net income by the weighted-average number of common shares and dilutive potential common shares outstanding during the period, assuming the shares were not anti-dilutive, including shares issuable under various stock-based compensation plans and stock purchase contracts.

A reconciliation of the numerators and denominators of the basic and diluted earnings per share is presented below:

	For The Three Months Ended September 30,		For The Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
(Dollars In Thousands, Except Per Share Amounts)				
Calculation of basic earnings per share:				
Net income	\$ 118,909	\$ 93,061	\$ 310,525	\$ 274,551
Average shares issued and outstanding	79,095,917	78,521,996	78,860,218	78,396,347
Issuable under various deferred compensation plans	1,135,674	970,278	1,081,800	950,424
Weighted shares outstanding - basic	80,231,591	79,492,274	79,942,018	79,346,771
Per share:				
Net income - basic	\$ 1.48	\$ 1.17	\$ 3.88	\$ 3.46
Calculation of diluted earnings per share:				
Net income	\$ 118,909	\$ 93,061	\$ 310,525	\$ 274,551
Weighted shares outstanding - basic	80,231,591	79,492,274	79,942,018	79,346,771
Stock appreciation rights (SARs)(1)	72,223	409,964	342,203	433,174
Issuable under various other stock-based compensation plans	869,320	592,580	718,215	758,976
Restricted stock units	285,736	357,260	258,813	343,631
Weighted shares outstanding - diluted	81,458,870	80,852,078	81,261,249	80,882,552
Per share:				
Net income - diluted	\$ 1.46	\$ 1.15	\$ 3.82	\$ 3.39

(1)Excludes 454,925 SARs as of September 30, 2013, respectively, that are antidilutive. In the event the average market price exceeds the issue price of the SARs, such rights would be dilutive to the Company's earnings per share and will be included in the Company's calculation of the diluted average shares outstanding, for applicable periods.

15. INCOME TAXES

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

In the IRS audit that concluded in 2012, the IRS proposed favorable and unfavorable adjustments to the Company's 2003 through 2007 reported taxable incomes. The Company protested certain unfavorable adjustments and is seeking resolution at the IRS Appeals Division. If the IRS prevails at Appeals, and the Company does not litigate these issues, then an acceleration of tax payments will occur. However, such accelerated payments would not materially impact the Company or its effective tax rate.

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

Table of Contents

A reconciliation of the beginning and ending amount of unrecognized tax benefits is as follows:

	September 30, 2014	As of December 31, 2013
	(Dollars In Thousands)	
Balance, beginning of period	\$ 105,881	\$ 75,292
Additions for tax positions of the current year	6,898	7,465
Additions for tax positions of prior years	41,109	26,386
Reductions of tax positions of prior years:		
Changes in judgment	(9,294)	(2,740)
Settlements during the period		
Lapses of applicable statute of limitations		(522)
Balance, end of period	\$ 144,594	\$ 105,881

The Company believes that it is possible that in the next 12 months approximately \$115.3 million of these unrecognized tax benefits will be reduced due to the expected closure of the aforementioned Appeals process and the lapsing of previous tax years' statutes of limitations. In general, this closure would represent the Company's possible successful negotiation of certain issues, coupled with its payment of the assessed taxes on the remaining issues. Regarding the amounts reported above for the nine months ended September 30, 2014 and the twelve months ended December 31, 2013, discussions with the IRS during these periods, which related to their ongoing examination of tax years 2008 through 2011, prompted the Company to contemporaneously revise upward its measurement of unrecognized tax benefits. These revisions included increasing prior determinations of amounts accrued for in earlier years as well as reducing some previously accrued amounts. These changes were almost entirely related to timing issues. Therefore, aside from the cost of interest, such changes did not result in any impact on the Company's effective tax rate.

In July 2014, the IRS issued guidance related to the tax method of accounting for hedges of guaranteed benefits on variable annuity contracts. The Company has issued contracts that provide such benefits. It has treated the derivatives that economically hedge the risk associated with such contracts as tax hedges. There are several uncertainties regarding the provisions of this guidance. Examples include its effective date and its scope. Therefore, it is uncertain at this time whether this guidance will be applicable to the Company and whether it will adopt this guidance's prescribed methodology. Consequently, the Company currently believes that the amounts of unrecognized tax benefits that relate to this issue and that are disclosed above are appropriate.

The Company used its estimate of its annual 2014 and 2013 income in computing its effective income tax rates for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2014 and 2013. The effective tax rates for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2014 were 35.7% and 34.3%, respectively, and 34.5% and 34.1% for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2013, respectively.

In general, the Company is no longer subject to U.S. federal, state, and local income tax examinations by taxing authorities for tax years that began before 2003.

Based on the Company's current assessment of future taxable income, including available tax planning opportunities, the Company anticipates that it is more likely than not that it will generate sufficient taxable income to realize all of its material deferred tax assets. The Company did not record a valuation allowance against its material deferred tax assets as of September 30, 2014.

Table of Contents

16. FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Company determined the fair value of its financial instruments based on the fair value hierarchy established in FASB guidance referenced in the Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures Topic which requires an entity to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs when measuring fair value. The Company has adopted the provisions from the FASB guidance that is referenced in the Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures Topic for non-financial assets and liabilities (such as property and equipment, goodwill, and other intangible assets) that are required to be measured at fair value on a periodic basis. The effect on the Company's periodic fair value measurements for non-financial assets and liabilities was not material.

The Company has categorized its financial instruments, based on the priority of the inputs to the valuation technique, into a three level hierarchy. The fair value hierarchy gives the highest priority to quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3). If the inputs used to measure fair value fall within different levels of the hierarchy, the category level is based on the lowest priority level input that is significant to the fair value measurement of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities recorded at fair value on the consolidated balance sheets are categorized as follows:

- **Level 1:** Unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in an active market.

- **Level 2:** Quoted prices in markets that are not active or significant inputs that are observable either directly or indirectly. Level 2 inputs include the following:
 - a) Quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets
 - b) Quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in non-active markets
 - c) Inputs other than quoted market prices that are observable
 - d) Inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data through correlation or other means.

- **Level 3:** Prices or valuation techniques that require inputs that are both unobservable and significant to the overall fair value measurement. They reflect management's own assumptions about the assumptions a market participant would use in pricing the asset or liability.

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

Table of Contents

The following table presents the Company's hierarchy for its assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of September 30, 2014:

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
	(Dollars In Thousands)			
Assets:				
Fixed maturity securities - available-for-sale				
Residential mortgage-backed securities	\$	\$ 1,442,834	\$ 5	\$ 1,442,839
Commercial mortgage-backed securities		1,175,523		1,175,523
Other asset-backed securities		282,971	565,368	848,339
U.S. government-related securities	1,316,839	267,371		1,584,210
State, municipalities, and political subdivisions		1,609,032	3,675	1,612,707
Other government-related securities		22,020		22,020
Corporate bonds	132	26,029,048	1,377,806	27,406,986
Total fixed maturity securities - available-for-sale	1,316,971	30,828,799	1,946,854	34,092,624
Fixed maturity securities - trading				
Residential mortgage-backed securities		290,862		290,862
Commercial mortgage-backed securities		151,870		151,870
Other asset-backed securities		101,523	170,676	272,199
U.S. government-related securities	229,222	4,889		234,111
State, municipalities, and political subdivisions		284,132		284,132
Other government-related securities		55,901		55,901
Corporate bonds		1,517,519	23,177	1,540,696
Total fixed maturity securities - trading	229,222	2,406,696	193,853	2,829,771
Total fixed maturity securities	1,546,193	33,235,495	2,140,707	36,922,395
Equity securities	637,708	98,882	73,058	809,648
Other long-term investments(1)	99,961	71,316	105,417	276,694
Short-term investments	146,557	36,854		183,411
Total investments	2,430,419	33,442,547	2,319,182	38,192,148
Cash	328,487			328,487
Other assets	11,692			11,692
Assets related to separate accounts				
Variable annuity	13,040,828			13,040,828
Variable universal life	813,178			813,178
Total assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis	\$ 16,624,604	\$ 33,442,547	\$ 2,319,182	\$ 52,386,333
Liabilities:				
Annuity account balances(2)	\$	\$	\$ 98,129	\$ 98,129
Other liabilities (1)	39,510	46,155	533,746	619,411
Total liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis	\$ 39,510	\$ 46,155	\$ 631,875	\$ 717,540

(1)Includes certain freestanding and embedded derivatives.

(2)Represents liabilities related to fixed indexed annuities.

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

Table of Contents

The following table presents the Company's hierarchy for its assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of December 31, 2013:

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
	(Dollars In Thousands)			
Assets:				
Fixed maturity securities - available-for-sale				
Residential mortgage-backed securities	\$	\$ 1,445,040	\$ 28	\$ 1,445,068
Commercial mortgage-backed securities		970,656		970,656
Other asset-backed securities		326,175	545,808	871,983
U.S. government-related securities	1,211,141	296,749		1,507,890
State, municipalities, and political subdivisions		1,407,154	3,675	1,410,829
Other government-related securities		51,427		51,427
Corporate bonds	107	24,216,703	1,549,940	25,766,750
Total fixed maturity securities - available-for-sale	1,211,248	28,713,904	2,099,451	32,024,603
Fixed maturity securities - trading				
Residential mortgage-backed securities		310,877		310,877
Commercial mortgage-backed securities		158,570		158,570
Other asset-backed securities		93,278	194,977	288,255
U.S. government-related securities	191,332	4,906		196,238
State, municipalities, and political subdivisions		260,892		260,892
Other government-related securities		57,097		57,097
Corporate bonds		1,497,362	29,199	1,526,561
Total fixed maturity securities - trading	191,332	2,382,982	224,176	2,798,490
Total fixed maturity securities	1,402,580	31,096,886	2,323,627	34,823,093
Equity securities	523,219	50,927	71,881	646,027
Other long-term investments (1)	56,469	54,965	196,133	307,567
Short-term investments	132,544	1,602		134,146
Total investments	2,114,812	31,204,380	2,591,641	35,910,833
Cash	466,542			466,542
Other assets	10,979			10,979
Assets related to separate accounts				
Variable annuity	12,791,438			12,791,438
Variable universal life	783,618			783,618
Total assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis	\$ 16,167,389	\$ 31,204,380	\$ 2,591,641	\$ 49,963,410
Liabilities:				
Annuity account balances (2)	\$	\$	\$ 107,000	\$ 107,000
Other liabilities (1)	30,241	156,931	270,630	457,802
Total liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis	\$ 30,241	\$ 156,931	\$ 377,630	\$ 564,802

(1)Includes certain freestanding and embedded derivatives.

(2)Represents liabilities related to fixed indexed annuities.

Determination of fair values

The valuation methodologies used to determine the fair values of assets and liabilities reflect market participant assumptions and are based on the application of the fair value hierarchy that prioritizes observable market inputs over unobservable inputs. The Company determines the fair values of certain financial assets and financial liabilities based on quoted market prices, where available. The Company also determines certain fair values based on future cash flows discounted at the appropriate current market rate. Fair values reflect adjustments for counterparty credit quality, the Company's credit standing, liquidity, and where appropriate, risk margins on unobservable parameters. The following is a discussion of the methodologies used to determine fair values for the financial instruments as listed in the above table.

The fair value of fixed maturity, short-term, and equity securities is determined by management after considering one of three primary sources of information: third party pricing services, non-binding independent broker quotations, or pricing matrices. Security pricing is applied using a waterfall approach whereby publicly available

Table of Contents

prices are first sought from third party pricing services, the remaining unpriced securities are submitted to independent brokers for non-binding prices, or lastly, securities are priced using a pricing matrix. Typical inputs used by these three pricing methods include, but are not limited to: benchmark yields, reported trades, broker/dealer quotes, issuer spreads, two-sided markets, benchmark securities, bids, offers, and reference data including market research publications. Third party pricing services price approximately 90% of the Company's available-for-sale and trading fixed maturity securities. Based on the typical trading volumes and the lack of quoted market prices for available-for-sale and trading fixed maturities, third party pricing services derive the majority of security prices from observable market inputs such as recent reported trades for identical or similar securities making adjustments through the reporting date based upon available market observable information outlined above. If there are no recent reported trades, the third party pricing services and brokers may use matrix or model processes to develop a security price where future cash flow expectations are developed based upon collateral performance and discounted at an estimated market rate. Certain securities are priced via independent non-binding broker quotations, which are considered to have no significant unobservable inputs. When using non-binding independent broker quotations, the Company obtains one quote per security, typically from the broker from which we purchased the security. A pricing matrix is used to price securities for which the Company is unable to obtain or effectively rely on either a price from a third party pricing service or an independent broker quotation.

The pricing matrix used by the Company begins with current spread levels to determine the market price for the security. The credit spreads, assigned by brokers, incorporate the issuer's credit rating, liquidity discounts, weighted-average of contracted cash flows, risk premium, if warranted, due to the issuer's industry, and the security's time to maturity. The Company uses credit ratings provided by nationally recognized rating agencies.

For securities that are priced via non-binding independent broker quotations, the Company assesses whether prices received from independent brokers represent a reasonable estimate of fair value through an analysis using internal and external cash flow models developed based on spreads and, when available, market indices. The Company uses a market-based cash flow analysis to validate the reasonableness of prices received from independent brokers. These analytics, which are updated daily, incorporate various metrics (yield curves, credit spreads, prepayment rates, etc.) to determine the valuation of such holdings. As a result of this analysis, if the Company determines there is a more appropriate fair value based upon the analytics, the price received from the independent broker is adjusted accordingly. The Company did not adjust any quotes or prices received from brokers during the nine months ended September 30, 2014.

The Company has analyzed the third party pricing services' valuation methodologies and related inputs and has also evaluated the various types of securities in its investment portfolio to determine an appropriate fair value hierarchy level based upon trading activity and the observability of market inputs that is in accordance with the Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures Topic of the ASC. Based on this evaluation and investment class analysis, each price was classified into Level 1, 2, or 3. Most prices provided by third party pricing services are classified into Level 2 because the significant inputs used in pricing the securities are market observable and the observable inputs are corroborated by the Company. Since the matrix pricing of certain debt securities includes significant non-observable inputs, they are classified as Level 3.

Asset-Backed Securities

This category mainly consists of residential mortgage-backed securities, commercial mortgage-backed securities, and other asset-backed securities (collectively referred to as asset-backed securities or ABS). As of September 30, 2014, the Company held \$3.4 billion of ABS classified as Level 2. These securities are priced from information provided by a third party pricing service and independent broker quotes. The third party pricing services and brokers mainly value securities using both a market and income approach to valuation. As part of this valuation process they consider the following characteristics of the item being measured to be relevant inputs: 1) weighted-average coupon rate, 2) weighted-average years to maturity, 3) types of underlying assets, 4) weighted-average coupon rate of the underlying assets, 5) weighted-average years to maturity of the underlying assets, 6) seniority level of the tranches owned, and 7) credit ratings of the securities.

After reviewing these characteristics of the ABS, the third party pricing service and brokers use certain inputs to determine the value of the security. For ABS classified as Level 2, the valuation would consist of predominantly market observable inputs such as, but not limited to: 1) monthly principal and interest payments on the underlying

Table of Contents

assets, 2) average life of the security, 3) prepayment speeds, 4) credit spreads, 5) treasury and swap yield curves, and 6) discount margin. The Company reviews the methodologies and valuation techniques (including the ability to observe inputs) in assessing the information received from external pricing services and in consideration of the fair value presentation.

As of September 30, 2014, the Company held \$736.1 million of Level 3 ABS, which included \$565.4 million of other asset-backed securities classified as available-for-sale and \$170.7 million of other asset-backed securities classified as trading. These securities are predominantly ARS whose underlying collateral is at least 97% guaranteed by the FFELP. As a result of the ARS market collapse during 2008, the Company prices its ARS using an income approach valuation model. As part of the valuation process the Company reviews the following characteristics of the ARS in determining the relevant inputs: 1) weighted-average coupon rate, 2) weighted-average years to maturity, 3) types of underlying assets, 4) weighted-average coupon rate of the underlying assets, 5) weighted-average years to maturity of the underlying assets, 6) seniority level of the tranches owned, 7) credit ratings of the securities, 8) liquidity premium, and 9) paydown rate.

Corporate bonds, U.S. Government-related securities, States, municipals, and political subdivisions, and Other government related securities

As of September 30, 2014, the Company classified approximately \$29.8 billion of corporate bonds, U.S. government-related securities, states, municipals, and political subdivisions, and other government-related securities as Level 2. The fair value of the Level 2 bonds and securities is predominantly priced by broker quotes and a third party pricing service. The Company has reviewed the valuation techniques of the brokers and third party pricing service and has determined that such techniques used Level 2 market observable inputs. The following characteristics of the bonds and securities are considered to be the primary relevant inputs to the valuation: 1) weighted- average coupon rate, 2) weighted-average years to maturity, 3) seniority, and 4) credit ratings. The Company reviews the methodologies and valuation techniques (including the ability to observe inputs) in assessing the information received from external pricing services and in consideration of the fair value presentation.

The brokers and third party pricing service utilize valuation models that consist of a hybrid income and market approach to valuation. The pricing models utilize the following inputs: 1) principal and interest payments, 2) treasury yield curve, 3) credit spreads from new issue and secondary trading markets, 4) dealer quotes with adjustments for issues with early redemption features, 5) liquidity premiums present on private placements, and 6) discount margins from dealers in the new issue market.

As of September 30, 2014, the Company classified approximately \$1.4 billion of bonds and securities as Level 3 valuations. Level 3 bonds and securities primarily represent investments in illiquid bonds for which no price is readily available. To determine a price, the Company uses a discounted cash flow model with both observable and unobservable inputs. These inputs are entered into an industry standard pricing model to determine the final price of the security. These inputs include: 1) principal and interest payments, 2) coupon rate, 3) sector and issuer level spread over treasury, 4) underlying collateral, 5) credit ratings, 6) maturity, 7) embedded options, 8) recent new issuance, 9) comparative bond analysis, and 10) an illiquidity premium.

Equities

As of September 30, 2014, the Company held approximately \$171.9 million of equity securities classified as Level 2 and Level 3. Of this total, \$66.0 million represents Federal Home Loan Bank (FHLB) stock. The Company believes that the cost of the FHLB stock approximates fair value. The remainder of these equity securities is primarily investments in preferred stock.

Table of Contents

Other long-term investments and Other liabilities

Other long-term investments and other liabilities consist entirely of free-standing and embedded derivative financial instruments. Refer to Note 17, *Derivative Financial Instruments* for additional information related to derivatives. Derivative financial instruments are valued using exchange prices, independent broker quotations, or pricing valuation models, which utilize market data inputs. Excluding embedded derivatives, as of September 30, 2014, 98.2% of derivatives based upon notional values were priced using exchange prices or independent broker quotations. The remaining derivatives were priced by pricing valuation models, which predominantly utilize observable market data inputs. Inputs used to value derivatives include, but are not limited to, interest swap rates, credit spreads, interest rate and equity market volatility indices, equity index levels, and treasury rates. The Company performs monthly analysis on derivative valuations that includes both quantitative and qualitative analyses.

Derivative instruments classified as Level 1 generally include futures and puts, which are traded on active exchange markets.

Derivative instruments classified as Level 2 primarily include interest rate and inflation swaps, options, and swaptions. These derivative valuations are determined using independent broker quotations, which are corroborated with observable market inputs.

Derivative instruments classified as Level 3 were embedded derivatives and include at least one significant non-observable input. A derivative instrument containing Level 1 and Level 2 inputs will be classified as a Level 3 financial instrument in its entirety if it has at least one significant Level 3 input.

The Company utilizes derivative instruments to manage the risk associated with certain assets and liabilities. However, the derivative instruments may not be classified within the same fair value hierarchy level as the associated assets and liabilities. Therefore, the changes in fair value on derivatives reported in Level 3 may not reflect the offsetting impact of the changes in fair value of the associated assets and liabilities.

The embedded derivatives are carried at fair value in other long-term investments and other liabilities on the Company's consolidated balance sheet. The changes in fair value are recorded in earnings as Realized investment gains (losses) Derivative financial instruments. Refer to Note 17, *Derivative Financial Instruments* for more information related to each embedded derivatives gains and losses.

The fair value of the guaranteed minimum withdrawal benefits (GMWB) embedded derivative is derived through the income method of valuation using a valuation model that projects future cash flows using multiple risk neutral stochastic equity scenarios and policyholder behavior assumptions. The risk neutral scenarios are generated using the current swap curve and projected equity volatilities and correlations. The projected equity volatilities are based on a blend of historical volatility and near-term equity market implied volatilities. The equity correlations are based on historical price observations. For policyholder behavior assumptions, expected lapse and utilization assumptions are used and updated for actual experience, as necessary. The Company assumes age-based mortality from the National Association of Insurance Commissioners 1994 Variable Annuity MGDB Mortality Table for company experience, with attained age factors varying from 49% - 80%. The present value of the cash flows is determined using the discount rate curve, which is based upon LIBOR plus a credit spread (to represent the Company's non-performance risk). As a result of using significant unobservable inputs, the GMWB embedded derivative is categorized as Level 3. These assumptions are reviewed on a quarterly basis.

The balance of the fixed indexed annuities (FIA) embedded derivative is impacted by policyholder cash flows associated with the FIA product that are allocated to the embedded derivative in addition to changes in the fair value of the embedded derivative during the reporting period. The fair value of the FIA embedded derivative is derived through the income method of valuation using a valuation model that projects future cash flows using current index values and volatility, the hedge budget used to price the product, and policyholder assumptions (both elective and non-elective). For policyholder behavior assumptions, expected lapse and withdrawal assumptions are used and updated for actual experience, as necessary. The Company assumes age-based mortality from the 1994 Variable Annuity MGDB mortality table modified for company experience, with attained age factors varying from 49% - 80%. The present value of the cash flows is determined using the discount rate curve, which is based upon LIBOR up to one year and constant maturity treasury rates plus a credit spread (to represent the Company's non-performance risk) thereafter. Policyholder

Table of Contents

assumptions are reviewed on an annual basis. As a result of using significant unobservable inputs, the FIA embedded derivative is categorized as Level 3.

The balance of the indexed universal life (IUL) embedded derivative is impacted by policyholder cash flows associated with the IUL product that are allocated to the embedded derivative in addition to changes in the fair value of the embedded derivative during the reporting period. The fair value of the IUL embedded derivative is derived through the income method of valuation using a valuation model that projects future cash flows using current index values and volatility, the hedge budget used to price the product, and policyholder assumptions (both elective and non-elective). For policyholder behavior assumptions, expected lapse and withdrawal assumptions are used and updated for actual experience, as necessary. The Company assumes age-based mortality from the SOA 2008 VBT Primary Tables modified for company experience, with attained age factors varying from 37% - 74%. The present value of the cash flows is determined using the discount rate curve, which is based upon LIBOR up to one year and constant maturity treasury rates plus a credit spread (to represent the Company's non-performance risk) thereafter. Policyholder assumptions are reviewed on an annual basis. As a result of using significant unobservable inputs, the IUL embedded derivative is categorized as Level 3.

The Company has assumed and ceded certain blocks of policies under modified coinsurance agreements in which the investment results of the underlying portfolios inure directly to the reinsurers. As a result, these agreements contain embedded derivatives that are reported at fair value. Changes in their fair value are reported in earnings. The investments supporting these agreements are designated as trading securities ; therefore changes in their fair value are also reported in earnings. The fair value of the embedded derivative is the difference between the statutory policy liabilities (net of policy loans) of \$2.6 billion and the fair value of the trading securities of \$2.9 billion. As a result, changes in the fair value of the embedded derivatives are largely offset by the changes in fair value of the related investments and each are reported in earnings. The fair value of the embedded derivative is considered a Level 3 valuation due to the unobservable nature of the policy liabilities.

Annuity account balances

The Company records certain of its FIA reserves at fair value. The fair value is considered a Level 3 valuation. The FIA valuation model calculates the present value of future benefit cash flows less the projected future profits to quantify the net liability that is held as a reserve. This calculation is done using multiple risk neutral stochastic equity scenarios. The cash flows are discounted using LIBOR plus a credit spread. Best estimate assumptions are used for partial withdrawals, lapses, expenses and asset earned rate with a risk margin applied to each. These assumptions are reviewed at least annually as a part of the formal unlocking process. If an event were to occur within a quarter that would make the assumptions unreasonable, the assumptions would be reviewed within the quarter.

The discount rate for the fixed indexed annuities is based on an upward sloping rate curve which is updated each quarter. The discount rates for September 30, 2014, ranged from a one month rate of 0.29%, a 5 year rate of 2.58%, and a 30 year rate of 4.21%. A credit spread component is also included in the calculation to accommodate non-performance risk.

Separate Accounts

Separate account assets are invested in open-ended mutual funds and are included in Level 1.

Table of Contents

Valuation of Level 3 Financial Instruments

The following table presents the valuation method for material financial instruments included in Level 3, as well as the unobservable inputs used in the valuation of those financial instruments:

Assets:				
Corporate bonds	1,312,780	Discounted cash flow	Spread over treasury	0.51% - 5.75% (1.86%)
Embedded derivatives - GMWB(1)	\$ 24,854	Actuarial cash flow model	Mortality	49% to 80% of 1994 MGDB table
			Lapse	0% - 24%, depending on product/duration/funded status of guarantee
			Utilization	97% - 103%
			Nonperformance risk	0.13% - 1.02%
Embedded derivative - FIA	103,497	Actuarial cash flow model	Expenses	\$83 - \$97 per policy
			Withdrawal rate	1.1% - 4.5% depending on duration and tax qualification
			Mortality	49% to 80% of 1994 MGDB table
			Lapse	2.5% - 40.0%, depending on duration/surrender charge period
			Nonperformance risk	0.13% - 1.02%

(1)The fair value for the GMWB embedded derivative is presented as a net liability for the purposes of this chart. Excludes modified coinsurance arrangements.

(2)Represents account balance liabilities related to fixed indexed annuities.

The chart above excludes Level 3 financial instruments that are valued using broker quotes and those which book value approximates fair value.

The Company has considered all reasonably available quantitative inputs as of September 30, 2014, but the valuation techniques and inputs used by some brokers in pricing certain financial instruments are not shared with the Company. This resulted in \$248.4 million of financial instruments being classified as Level 3 as of September 30, 2014. Of the \$248.4 million, \$171.2 million are other asset backed securities, \$74.2 million are corporate bonds, and \$3.0 million are equity securities.

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

Table of Contents

In certain cases the Company has determined that book value materially approximates fair value. As of September 30, 2014, the Company held \$87.7 million of financial instruments where book value approximates fair value. Of the \$87.7 million, \$70.0 million represents equity securities, which are predominantly FHLB stock, \$14.0 million are corporate bonds, and \$3.7 million are other fixed maturity securities.

The following table presents the valuation method for material financial instruments included in Level 3, as well as the unobservable inputs used in the valuation of those financial instruments:

	Fair Value As of December 31, 2013 (Dollars In Thousands)	Valuation Technique	Unobservable Input	Range (Weighted Average)
Assets:				
Other asset-backed securities	\$ 545,808	Discounted cash flow	Liquidity premium	1.00% - 1.68% (1.08%)
			Paydown rate	8.57% - 16.87% (12.05%)
Corporate bonds	1,555,898	Discounted cash flow	Spread over treasury	0.11% - 6.75% (2.06%)
Embedded derivatives - GMWB(1)	156,287	Actuarial cash flow model	Mortality	49% to 80% of 1994 MGDB table
			Lapse	0% - 24%, depending on product/duration/funded status of guarantee
			Utilization	97% - 103%
			Nonperformance risk	0.15% - 1.06%
Liabilities:				
Annuity account balances(2)	\$ 107,000	Actuarial cash flow model	Asset earned rate	5.37%
			Expenses	\$88 - \$102 per policy
			Withdrawal rate	2.20%
			Mortality	49% to 80% of 1994 MGDB table
			Lapse	2.2% - 33.0%, depending on duration/surrender charge period
			Return on assets	1.50% - 1.85% depending on surrender charge period
			Nonperformance risk	0.15% - 1.06%
Embedded derivative - FIA	25,324	Actuarial cash flow model	Expenses	\$83 - \$97 per policy
			Withdrawal rate	1.1% - 4.5% depending on duration and tax qualification
			Mortality	49% to 80% of 1994 MGDB table
			Lapse	2.2% - 45.0%, depending on duration/surrender charge period
			Nonperformance risk	0.15% - 1.06%

(1)The fair value for the GMWB embedded derivative is presented as a net asset for the purposes of this chart. Excludes modified coinsurance arrangements.

(2)Represents liabilities related to fixed indexed annuities.

Table of Contents

The chart above excludes Level 3 financial instruments that are valued using broker quotes and those which book value approximates fair value.

The Company has considered all reasonably available quantitative inputs as of December 31, 2013, but the valuation techniques and inputs used by some brokers in pricing certain financial instruments are not shared with the Company. This resulted in \$216.6 million of financial instruments being classified as Level 3 as of December 31, 2013. Of the \$216.6 million, \$195.0 million are other asset backed securities, \$21.0 million are corporate bonds, and \$0.6 million are equity securities.

In certain cases the Company has determined that book value materially approximates fair value. As of December 31, 2013, the Company held \$77.2 million of financial instruments where book value approximates fair value. Of the \$77.2 million, \$71.3 million represents equity securities, which are predominantly FHLB stock, \$2.2 million of other corporate bonds, and \$3.7 million of other fixed maturity securities.

The asset-backed securities classified as Level 3 are predominantly ARS. A change in the paydown rate (the projected annual rate of principal reduction) of the ARS can significantly impact the fair value of these securities. A decrease in the paydown rate would increase the projected weighted average life of the ARS and increase the sensitivity of the ARS fair value to changes in interest rates. An increase in the liquidity premium would result in a decrease in the fair value of the securities, while a decrease in the liquidity premium would increase the fair value of these securities.

The fair value of corporate bonds classified as Level 3 is sensitive to changes in the interest rate spread over the corresponding U.S. Treasury rate. This spread represents a risk premium that is impacted by company specific and market factors. An increase in the spread can be caused by a perceived increase in credit risk of a specific issuer and/or an increase in the overall market risk premium associated with similar securities. The fair values of corporate bonds are sensitive to changes in spread. When holding the treasury rate constant, the fair value of corporate bonds increase when spreads decrease, and decrease when spreads increase.

The fair value of the GMWB embedded derivative is sensitive to changes in the discount rate which includes the Company's nonperformance risk, volatility, lapse, and mortality assumptions. The volatility assumption is an observable input as it is based on market inputs. The Company's nonperformance risk, lapse, and mortality are unobservable. An increase in the three unobservable assumptions would result in a decrease in the fair value and conversely, if there is a decrease in the assumptions the fair value would increase. The fair value is also dependent on the assumed policyholder utilization of the GMWB where an increase in assumed utilization would result in an increase in the fair value and conversely, if there is a decrease in the assumption, the fair value would decrease.

The fair value of the FIA account balance liability is predominantly impacted by observable inputs such as discount rates and equity returns. However, the fair value of the FIA account balance liability is sensitive to the asset earned rate and required return on assets, which are unobservable. The value of the liability increases with an increase in required return on assets and a decrease in the asset earned rate and conversely, the value of the liability decreases with a decrease in required return on assets and an increase in the asset earned rate.

The fair value of the FIA embedded derivative is predominantly impacted by observable inputs such as discount rates and equity returns. However, the fair value of the FIA embedded derivative is sensitive to non-performance risk, which is unobservable. The value of the liability increases with decreases in the discount rate and non-performance risk and decreases with increases in the discount rate and non-performance risk. The value of the liability increases with increases in equity returns and the liability decreases with a decrease in equity returns.

The fair value of the IUL embedded derivative is predominantly impacted by observable inputs such as discount rates and equity returns. However, the fair value of the IUL embedded derivative is sensitive to non-performance risk. The value of the liability increases with decreases in the discount rate and non-performance risk and decreases with increases in the discount rate and nonperformance risk, which is unobservable. The value of the liability increases with increases in equity returns and the liability decreases with a decrease in equity returns.

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

Table of Contents

The following table presents a reconciliation of the beginning and ending balances for fair value measurements for the three months ended September 30, 2014, for which the Company has used significant unobservable inputs (Level 3):

	Beginning Balance	Total Realized Gains Included in Earnings	Total Unrealized Gains Included in Comprehensive Income	Total Realized Losses Included in Earnings	Total Unrealized Losses Included in Comprehensive Income	Purchases	Sales	Issuances	Settlements	Transfers in/out of Level 3	Other	Ending Balance	Total Gains (losses) included in Earnings related to Instruments still held at the Reporting Date
	(Dollars In Thousands)												
Assets:													
Fixed maturity securities available-for-sale													
Residential mortgage-backed securities	\$ 10	\$	\$	\$ (1)	\$ (5)	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$ 1	\$ 5	
Commercial mortgage-backed securities													
Other asset-backed securities	568,097		2,161	(71)	(4,299)		(140)				(380)	565,368	
U.S. government-related securities													
States, municipals, and political subdivisions	3,675											3,675	
Other government-related securities													
Corporate bonds	1,524,297	201	8,435		(9,452)	11,797	(59,352)			(96,565)	(1,555)	1,377,806	
Total fixed maturity securities - available-for-sale	2,096,079	201	10,596	(71)	(13,752)	11,797	(59,497)			(96,565)	(1,934)	1,946,854	
Fixed maturity securities - trading													
Residential mortgage-backed securities	842	11								(853)			
Commercial mortgage-backed securities													
Other asset-backed securities	176,386	1,834		(837)			(7,137)				430	170,676	1,287
U.S. government-related securities													
States, municipals and political subdivisions													
Other government-related securities													
Corporate bonds	31,520	182		(676)			(5,583)			(2,518)	252	23,177	234
Total fixed maturity securities - trading	208,748	2,027		(1,513)			(12,720)			(3,371)	682	193,853	1,521
Total fixed maturity securities	2,304,827	2,228	10,596	(1,584)	(13,752)	11,797	(72,217)			(99,936)	(1,252)	2,140,707	1,521

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

Equity securities	81,784	1,298	2,461	(91)	(1,742)			(10,651)	(1)	73,058	
Other long-term investments(1)	123,301	233		(18,117)						105,417	(17,884)
Short-term investments											
Total investments	2,509,912	3,759	13,057	(19,701)	(13,843)	10,055	(72,217)	(110,587)	(1,253)	2,319,182	(16,363)
Total assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis	\$ 2,509,912	\$ 3,759	\$ 13,057	\$ (19,701)	\$ (13,843)	\$ 10,055	\$ (72,217)	\$	\$ (110,587)	\$ (1,253)	\$ 2,319,182 (16,363)
Liabilities:											
Annuity account balances(2)	\$ 102,456	\$ 862	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$ 125	\$ 3,590	\$	\$ 98,129	\$
Other liabilities(1)	484,747	22,317		(71,316)						533,746	(48,999)
Total liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis	\$ 587,203	\$ 23,179	\$	\$ (71,316)	\$	\$	\$ 125	\$ 3,590	\$	\$ 631,875	\$ (48,999)

(1)Represents certain freestanding and embedded derivatives.

(2)Represents liabilities related to fixed indexed annuities.

For the three months ended September 30, 2014, there were no transfers into Level 3.

For the three months ended September 30, 2014, there were \$110.6 million of securities transferred out of Level 3. This amount was transferred to Level 2. These transfers resulted from securities that were priced using significant unobservable inputs in previous periods, but are now priced by independent pricing services or brokers, using no significant unobservable inputs as of September 30, 2014.

For the three months ended September 30, 2014, there were no transfers from Level 2 to Level 1.

For the three months ended September 30, 2014, there were no transfers from Level 1.

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

Table of Contents

The following table presents a reconciliation of the beginning and ending balances for fair value measurements for the three months ended September 30, 2013, for which the Company has used significant unobservable inputs (Level 3):

	Beginning Balance	Total Realized and Unrealized Gains Included in Earnings	Total Unrealized Gains Included in Comprehensive Income	Total Realized and Unrealized Losses Included in Earnings	Total Unrealized Losses Included in Comprehensive Income	Purchases	Sales	Issuances	Settlements	Transfers in/out of Level 3	Other	Ending Balance	Total Gains (losses) included in Earnings related to Instruments still held at the Reporting Date
	(Dollars In Thousands)												
Assets:													
Fixed maturity securities available-for-sale													
Residential mortgage-backed securities	\$ 14,062	\$	\$ 1,310	\$	\$	\$	\$ (12)	\$	\$ (15,333)	\$ 11	\$	\$ 38	\$
Commercial mortgage-backed securities													
Other asset-backed securities	576,396		52	(26,969)	11,769	(12,085)				(392)		548,771	
U.S. government-related securities													
States, municipals, and political subdivisions	4,330											4,330	
Other government-related securities	20,000		1				(20,000)				(1)		
Corporate bonds	194,895		1,662	(3,513)	11,002	(13,558)				(3,385)	385	187,488	
Total fixed maturity securities - available-for-sale	809,683		3,025	(30,482)	22,771	(45,655)				(18,718)	3	740,627	
Fixed maturity securities - trading													
Residential mortgage-backed securities	1,582			(1)			(72)			(1,494)	(15)		
Commercial mortgage-backed securities													
Other asset-backed securities	168,851	3,167		(1,080)	16,394	(16,568)					203	170,967	1,596
U.S. government-related securities													
States, municipals and political subdivisions	3,500			(123)						(3,377)			
Other government-related securities													
Corporate bonds	5,092			(4)							4	5,092	(4)
Total fixed maturity securities - trading	179,025	3,167		(1,208)	16,394	(16,640)				(4,871)	192	176,059	1,592
Total fixed maturity securities	988,708	3,167	3,025	(1,208)	(30,482)	39,165	(62,295)			(23,589)	195	916,686	1,592

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

Equity securities	69,418									69,418		
Other long-term investments(1)	100,072	53,791		(300)						153,563	53,491	
Short-term investments												
Total investments	1,158,198	56,958	3,025	(1,508)	(30,482)	39,165	(62,295)		(23,589)	195	1,139,667	55,083
Total assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis	\$ 1,158,198	\$ 56,958	\$ 3,025	\$ (1,508)	\$ (30,482)	\$ 39,165	\$ (62,295)	\$	\$ (23,589)	\$ 195	\$ 1,139,667	\$ 55,083
Liabilities:												
Annuity account balances(2)	\$ 114,614	\$	\$	\$ (2,472)	\$	\$	\$	\$ 46	\$ 6,542	\$	\$ 110,590	\$
Other liabilities(1)	335,581	72,905		(23,854)							286,530	49,051
Total liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis	\$ 450,195	\$ 72,905	\$	\$ (26,326)	\$	\$	\$	\$ 46	\$ 6,542	\$	\$ 397,120	\$ 49,051

(1)Represents certain freestanding and embedded derivatives.

(2)Represents liabilities related to fixed indexed annuities.

For the three months ended September 30, 2013, \$1.3 million of securities were transferred into Level 3. This amount was transferred from Level 2. These transfers resulted from securities that were priced by independent pricing services or brokers in previous periods, using no significant unobservable inputs, but were priced internally using significant unobservable inputs where market observable inputs were no longer available as of September 31, 2013.

For the three months ended September 30, 2013, there were \$24.9 million of securities transferred out of Level 3. This amount was transferred into Level 2. These transfers resulted from securities that were priced using significant unobservable inputs in previous periods, but are now priced by independent pricing services or brokers, using no significant unobservable inputs as of September 30, 2013.

For the three months ended September 30, 2013, there were no transfers from Level 2 to Level 1.

For the three months ended September 30, 2013, there were no transfers from Level 1.

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

Table of Contents

The following table presents a reconciliation of the beginning and ending balances for fair value measurements for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, for which the Company has used significant unobservable inputs (Level 3):

	Beginning Balance	Total Realized and Unrealized Gains Included in Other Comprehensive Earnings	Total Realized and Unrealized Losses Included in Other Comprehensive Earnings	Purchases	Sales	Issuances	Settlements	Transfers in/out of Level 3	Other	Ending Balance	Total Gains (losses) included in Earnings related to Instruments still held at the Reporting Date
(Dollars In Thousands)											
Assets:											
Fixed maturity securities available-for-sale											
Residential mortgage-backed securities	\$ 28	\$	\$	\$ (1)	\$ (23)	\$	\$	\$	\$ 1	\$ 5	
Commercial mortgage-backed securities											
Other asset-backed securities	545,808	36,227	(71)	(5,532)	(9,934)				(1,130)	565,368	
U.S. government-related securities											
States, municipals, and political subdivisions	3,675									3,675	
Other government-related securities											
Corporate bonds	1,549,940	1,170	62,723	(16,717)	102,029	(162,391)		(151,858)	(7,090)	1,377,806	
Total fixed maturity securities - available-for-sale	2,099,451	1,170	98,950	(71)	(22,250)	102,029	(172,348)	(151,858)	(8,219)	1,946,854	
Fixed maturity securities - trading											
Residential mortgage-backed securities		11			842			(853)			
Commercial mortgage-backed securities											
Other asset-backed securities	194,977	8,685	(3,951)		(29,832)				797	170,676	1,959
U.S. government-related securities											
States, municipals and political subdivisions											
Other government-related securities											
Corporate bonds	29,199	1,060	(729)		4,059	(10,693)		4	277	23,177	(1)
Total fixed maturity securities - trading	224,176	9,756	(4,680)		4,901	(40,525)		(849)	1,074	193,853	1,958
Total fixed maturity securities	2,323,627	10,926	98,950	(4,751)	(22,250)	106,930	(212,873)	(152,707)	(7,145)	2,140,707	1,958

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

Equity securities	71,881	1,298	3,653	(257)	9,551	(2,416)	(10,651)	(1)	73,058
Other long-term investments(1)	196,133	478	(91,194)						105,417 (90,716)
Short-term investments									
Total investments	2,591,641	12,702	102,603	(95,945)	(22,507)	116,481	(215,289)	(163,358)	(7,146) 2,319,182 (88,758)
Total assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis	\$ 2,591,641	\$ 12,702	\$ 102,603	\$ (95,945)	\$ (22,507)	\$ 116,481	\$ (215,289)	\$ (163,358)	\$ (7,146) \$ 2,319,182 \$ (88,758)
Liabilities:									
Annuity account balances(2)	\$ 107,000	\$	\$ (2,261)	\$	\$	\$ 300	\$ 11,432	\$	\$ 98,129 \$
Other liabilities(1)	270,630	22,342	(285,458)						533,746 (263,116)
Total liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis	\$ 377,630	\$ 22,342	\$ (287,719)	\$	\$	\$ 300	\$ 11,432	\$	\$ 631,875 \$ (263,116)

(1)Represents certain freestanding and embedded derivatives.

(2)Represents liabilities related to fixed indexed annuities.

For the nine months ended September 30, 2014, \$31.0 million of securities were transferred into Level 3. This amount was transferred from Level 2. These transfers resulted from securities that were priced by independent pricing services or brokers in previous periods, using no significant unobservable inputs, but were priced internally using significant unobservable inputs where market observable inputs were no longer available as of September 30, 2014. All transfers are recognized as of the end of the period.

For the nine months ended September 30, 2014, there were \$194.4 million of securities transferred into Level 2. This amount was transferred from Level 3. These transfers resulted from securities that were previously priced using significant unobservable inputs, now priced by independent pricing services or brokers.

For the nine months ended September 30, 2014, there were no transfers from Level 2 to Level 1.

For the nine months ended September 30, 2014, there were no transfers out of Level 1.

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

Table of Contents

The following table presents a reconciliation of the beginning and ending balances for fair value measurements for the nine months ended September 30, 2013, for which the Company has used significant unobservable inputs (Level 3):

	Beginning Balance	Total Realized and Unrealized Gains Included in Earnings	Total Unrealized Gains Included in Comprehensive Income	Total Realized and Unrealized Losses Included in Earnings	Total Unrealized Losses Included in Comprehensive Income	Purchases	Sales	Issuances	Settlements	Transfers in/out of Level 3	Other	Ending Balance	Total Gains (losses) included in Earnings related to Instruments still held at the Reporting Date
Assets:													
Fixed maturity securities available-for-sale													
Residential mortgage-backed securities	\$ 4		\$ 1,310		\$ (337)	\$ 14,349	\$ (12)		\$ (15,287)		\$ 11		38
Commercial mortgage-backed securities													
Other asset-backed securities	596,143		43,808		(54,517)	24,931	(62,471)			1,227	(350)	548,771	
U.S. government-related securities													
States, municipals, and political subdivisions	4,335						(5)					4,330	
Other government-related securities	20,011		2		(3)		(20,000)				(10)		
Corporate bonds	167,892	116	2,673		(13,559)	29,277	(58,742)			58,945	886	187,488	
Total fixed maturity securities - available-for-sale	788,385	116	47,793		(68,416)	68,557	(141,230)			44,885	537	740,627	
Fixed maturity securities - trading													
Residential mortgage-backed securities					(1)	1,582	(72)			(1,494)	(15)		
Commercial mortgage-backed securities													
Other asset-backed securities	70,535	7,964		(3,949)		122,224	(29,344)			2,210	1,327	170,967	4,814
U.S. government-related securities													
States, municipals and political subdivisions				(123)		3,500				(3,377)			
Other government-related securities													
Corporate bonds	115	1		(27)			(17)			5,013	7	5,092	(4)
Total fixed maturity securities - trading	70,650	7,965		(4,100)		127,306	(29,433)			2,352	1,319	176,059	4,810
Total fixed maturity securities	859,035	8,081	47,793	(4,100)	(68,416)	195,863	(170,663)			47,237	1,856	916,686	4,810

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

Equity securities	69,418									69,418		
Other long-term investments(1)	31,591	122,643		(671)						153,563	121,972	
Short-term investments												
Total investments	960,044	130,724	47,793	(4,771)	(68,416)	195,863	(170,663)		47,237	1,856	1,139,667	126,782
Total assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis	\$ 960,044	\$ 130,724	\$ 47,793	\$ (4,771)	\$ (68,416)	\$ 195,863	\$ (170,663)	\$	\$ 47,237	\$ 1,856	\$ 1,139,667	\$ 126,782
Liabilities:												
Annuity account balances(2)	\$ 129,468	\$	\$	\$ (6,159)	\$	\$	\$	\$ 247	\$ 25,284	\$	\$ 110,590	\$
Other liabilities(1)	611,437	377,398		(52,491)							286,530	(324,907)
Total liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis	\$ 740,905	\$ 377,398	\$	\$ (58,650)	\$	\$	\$	\$ 247	\$ 25,284	\$	\$ 397,120	\$ (324,907)

(1)Represents certain freestanding and embedded derivatives.

(2)Represents liabilities related to fixed indexed annuities.

For the nine months ended September 30, 2013, \$72.1 million of securities were transferred into Level 3. This amount was transferred from Level 2. These transfers resulted from securities that were priced by independent pricing services or brokers in previous periods, using no significant unobservable inputs, but were priced internally using significant unobservable inputs where market observable inputs were no longer available as of September 30, 2013. All transfers are recognized as of the end of the period.

For the nine months ended September 30, 2013, there were \$24.9 million of securities transferred out of Level 3. This amount was transferred to Level 2. These transfers resulted from securities that were priced using significant unobservable inputs in previous periods, but are now priced by independent pricing services or brokers, using no significant unobservable inputs as of September 30, 2013.

For the nine months ended September 30, 2013, there were no transfers from Level 2 to Level 1.

For the nine months ended September 30, 2013, there were no transfers out of Level 1.

Table of Contents

Total realized and unrealized gains (losses) on Level 3 assets and liabilities are primarily reported in either realized investment gains (losses) within the consolidated statements of income (loss) or other comprehensive income (loss) within shareowners' equity based on the appropriate accounting treatment for the item.

Purchases, sales, issuances, and settlements, net, represent the activity that occurred during the period that results in a change of the asset or liability but does not represent changes in fair value for the instruments held at the beginning of the period. Such activity primarily relates to purchases and sales of fixed maturity securities and issuances and settlements of fixed indexed annuities.

The Company reviews the fair value hierarchy classifications each reporting period. Changes in the observability of the valuation attributes may result in a reclassification of certain financial assets or liabilities. Such reclassifications are reported as transfers in and out of Level 3 at the beginning fair value for the reporting period in which the changes occur.

The amount of total gains (losses) for assets and liabilities still held as of the reporting date primarily represents changes in fair value of trading securities and certain derivatives that exist as of the reporting date and the change in fair value of fixed indexed annuities.

Estimated Fair Value of Financial Instruments

The carrying amounts and estimated fair values of the Company's financial instruments as of the periods shown below are as follows:

	Fair Value Level	September 30, 2014		As of December 31, 2013	
		Carrying Amounts	Fair Values	Carrying Amounts	Fair Values
(Dollars In Thousands)					
Assets:					
Mortgage loans on real estate	3	\$ 5,232,463	\$ 5,727,368	\$ 5,493,492	\$ 5,956,133
Policy loans	3	1,767,228	1,767,228	1,815,744	1,815,744
Fixed maturities, held-to-maturity(1)	3	415,000	453,741	365,000	335,676
Liabilities:					
Stable value product account balances	3	\$ 2,261,546	\$ 2,278,155	\$ 2,559,552	\$ 2,566,209
Annuity account balances	3	11,083,763	10,667,467	11,125,253	10,639,637
Debt:					
Bank borrowings	3	\$ 280,000	\$ 280,000	\$ 485,000	\$ 485,000
Senior Notes	2	1,100,000	1,356,020	1,100,000	1,294,675
Subordinated debt securities	2	540,593	548,783	540,593	473,503
Non-recourse funding obligations(2)	3	594,066	575,532	562,448	470,709

Except as noted below, fair values were estimated using quoted market prices.

-
- (1) Security purchased from unconsolidated subsidiary, Red Mountain LLC.
- (2) Of this carrying amount, \$415.0 million, fair value of \$431.1 million, as of September 30, 2014, and \$365.0 million, fair value of \$321.5 million as of December 31, 2013, relates to non-recourse funding obligations issued by Golden Gate V.

Fair Value Measurements

Mortgage loans on real estate

The Company estimates the fair value of mortgage loans using an internally developed model. This model includes inputs derived by the Company based on assumed discount rates relative to the Company's current mortgage

Table of Contents

loan lending rate and an expected cash flow analysis based on a review of the mortgage loan terms. The model also contains the Company's determined representative risk adjustment assumptions related to credit and liquidity risks.

Policy loans

The Company believes the fair value of policy loans approximates book value. Policy loans are funds provided to policy holders in return for a claim on the policy. The funds provided are limited to the cash surrender value of the underlying policy. The nature of policy loans is to have a negligible default risk as the loans are fully collateralized by the value of the policy. Policy loans do not have a stated maturity and the balances and accrued interest are repaid either by the policyholder or with proceeds from the policy. Due to the collateralized nature of policy loans and unpredictable timing of repayments, the Company believes the fair value of policy loans approximates carrying value.

Fixed maturities, held-to-maturity

The Company estimates the fair value of its fixed maturity, held-to-maturity securities using internal discounted cash flow models. The discount rates used in the model were based on a current market yield for similar financial instruments.

Stable value product and Annuity account balances

The Company estimates the fair value of stable value product account balances and annuity account balances using models based on discounted expected cash flows. The discount rates used in the models were based on a current market rate for similar financial instruments.

Debt

Bank borrowings

The Company believes the carrying value of its bank borrowings approximates fair value as the borrowings pay a floating interest rate plus a spread based on the rating of the Company's senior debt which the Company believes approximates a market interest rate.

Non-recourse funding obligations

The Company estimates the fair value of its non-recourse funding obligations using internal discounted cash flow models. The discount rates used in the model were based on a current market yield for similar financial instruments.

17. DERIVATIVE FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Types of Derivative Instruments and Derivative Strategies

The Company utilizes a risk management strategy that incorporates the use of derivative financial instruments to reduce exposure to certain risks, including but not limited to, interest rate risk, inflation risk, currency exchange risk, volatility risk, and equity market risk. These strategies are developed through the Company's analysis of data from financial simulation models and other internal and industry sources, and are then incorporated into the Company's risk management program.

Derivative instruments expose the Company to credit and market risk and could result in material changes from period to period. The Company attempts to minimize its credit risk by entering into transactions with highly rated counterparties. The Company manages the market risk by establishing and monitoring limits as to the types and degrees of risk that may be undertaken. The Company monitors its use of derivatives in connection with its overall asset/liability management programs and risk management strategies. In addition, all derivative programs are monitored by our risk management department.

Table of Contents

Derivatives Related to Interest Rate Risk Management

Derivative instruments that are used as part of the Company's interest rate risk management strategy include interest rate swaps, interest rate futures, interest rate caps, and interest rate swaptions. The Company's inflation risk management strategy involves the use of swaps that requires the Company to pay a fixed rate and receive a floating rate that is based on changes in the Consumer Price Index (CPI).

Derivatives Related to Risk Mitigation of Variable Annuity Contracts

The Company may use the following types of derivative contracts to mitigate its exposure to certain guaranteed benefits related to variable annuity contracts and fixed indexed annuities:

- Foreign Currency Futures
- Variance Swaps
- Interest Rate Futures
- Equity Options
- Equity Futures
- Credit Derivatives
- Interest Rate Swaps
- Interest Rate Swaptions
- Volatility Futures
- Volatility Options
- Total Return Swaps

Accounting for Derivative Instruments

The Company records its derivative financial instruments in the consolidated condensed balance sheet in other long-term investments and other liabilities in accordance with GAAP, which requires that all derivative instruments be recognized in the balance sheet at fair value. The change

in the fair value of derivative financial instruments is reported either in the statement of income or in other comprehensive income (loss), depending upon whether it qualified for and also has been properly identified as being part of a hedging relationship, and also on the type of hedging relationship that exists.

For a derivative financial instrument to be accounted for as an accounting hedge, it must be identified and documented as such on the date of designation. For cash flow hedges, the effective portion of their realized gain or loss is reported as a component of other comprehensive income and reclassified into earnings in the same period during which the hedged item impacts earnings. Any remaining gain or loss, the ineffective portion, is recognized in current earnings. For fair value hedge derivatives, their gain or loss, as well as the offsetting loss or gain attributable to the hedged risk of the hedged item is recognized in current earnings. Effectiveness of the Company's hedge relationships is assessed on a quarterly basis.

The Company reports changes in fair values of derivatives that are not part of a qualifying hedge relationship through earnings in the period of change. Changes in the fair value of derivatives that are recognized in current earnings are reported in Realized investment gains (losses) - Derivative financial instruments .

Derivative Instruments Designated and Qualifying as Hedging Instruments

Cash-Flow Hedges

- In connection with the issuance of inflation-adjusted funding agreements, the Company has entered into swaps to convert the floating CPI-linked interest rate on these agreements to a fixed rate. The Company pays a fixed rate on the swap and receives a floating rate primarily determined by the period's change in the CPI. The amounts that are received on the swaps are equal to the amounts that are paid on the agreements.

Table of Contents

Derivative Instruments Not Designated and Not Qualifying as Hedging Instruments

The Company uses various other derivative instruments for risk management purposes that do not qualify for hedge accounting treatment. Changes in the fair value of these derivatives are recognized in earnings during the period of change.

Derivatives Related to Variable Annuity Contracts

- The Company uses equity, interest rate, currency, and volatility futures to mitigate the risk related to certain guaranteed minimum benefits, including GMWB, within its VA products. In general, the cost of such benefits varies with the level of equity and interest rate markets, foreign currency levels, and overall volatility. No volatility future positions were held as of September 30, 2014.
- The Company uses equity options, variance swaps, and volatility options to mitigate the risk related to certain guaranteed minimum benefits, including GMWB, within its VA products. In general, the cost of such benefits varies with the level of equity markets and overall volatility. No volatility option positions were held as of September 30, 2014.
- The Company uses interest rate swaps and interest rate swaptions to mitigate the risk related to certain guaranteed minimum benefits, including GMWB, within its VA products.
- The Company markets certain VA products with a GMWB rider. The GMWB component is considered an embedded derivative, not considered to be clearly and closely related to the host contract.

Derivatives Related to Fixed Annuity Contracts

- The Company uses equity and volatility futures to mitigate the risk within its fixed indexed annuity products. In general, the cost of such benefits varies with the level of equity and overall volatility.
- The Company used equity options to mitigate the risk within its fixed indexed annuity products. In general, the cost of such benefits varies with the level of equity markets.

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

- The Company markets certain fixed indexed annuity products. The FIA component is considered an embedded derivative, not considered to be clearly and closely related to the host contract.

Other Derivatives

- The Company uses certain interest rate swaps to mitigate the price volatility of fixed maturities. None of these positions were held as of September 30, 2014.

- The Company purchased interest rate caps to mitigate its risk with respect to the Company's LIBOR exposure and the potential impact of European financial market distress. None of these positions were held as of September 30, 2014.

- The Company uses various swaps and other types of derivatives to manage risk related to other exposures.

- The Company markets certain IUL products. The IUL component is considered an embedded derivative, not considered to be clearly and closely related to the host contract.

- The Company is involved in various modified coinsurance and funds withheld arrangements which contain embedded derivatives. Changes in their fair value are recorded in current period earnings. The investment portfolios that support the related modified coinsurance reserves and funds withheld arrangements had fair value changes which substantially offset the gains or losses on these embedded derivatives.

Table of Contents

The following table sets forth realized investments gains and losses for the periods shown:

Realized investment gains (losses) - derivative financial instruments

	For The Three Months Ended September 30,		For The Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
	(Dollars In Thousands)			
Derivatives related to variable annuity contracts:				
Interest rate futures - VA	\$ 1,979	\$ (2,255)	\$ 12,777	\$ (26,393)
Equity futures - VA	861	(12,568)	(9,049)	(39,829)
Currency futures - VA	10,185	(6,531)	6,020	1,440
Variance swaps - VA	1,570	(1,347)	(1,103)	(9,566)
Equity options - VA	2,050	(29,094)	(31,240)	(65,631)
Interest rate swaptions - VA	(2,812)	1,725	(17,213)	(738)
Interest rate swaps - VA	22,011	(19,224)	124,548	(125,502)
Embedded derivative - GMWB	(51,429)	80,541	(181,105)	264,231
Total derivatives related to variable annuity contracts	(15,585)	11,247	(96,365)	(1,988)
Derivatives related to FIA contracts:				
Embedded derivative - FIA	(2,462)	(104)	(9,036)	(145)
Equity futures - FIA	117	(42)	1,067	(42)
Volatility futures - FIA	(4)		4	
Equity options - FIA	1,099	104	5,077	85
Total derivatives related to FIA contracts	(1,250)	(42)	(2,888)	(102)
Derivatives related to IUL contracts:				
Embedded derivative - IUL	347		62	
Equity futures - IUL	16		16	
Equity options - IUL	(24)		(24)	
Total derivatives related to IUL contracts	339		54	
Embedded derivative - Modco reinsurance treaties	20,426	30,074	(91,945)	191,847
Interest rate swaps		72		2,984
Other derivatives	(149)	(25)	(351)	(149)
Total realized gains (losses) - derivatives	\$ 3,781	\$ 41,326	\$ (191,495)	\$ 192,592

The following table sets forth realized investments gains and losses for Modco trading portfolio that is included in realized investment gains (losses) all other investments:

Realized investment gains (losses) - all other investments

	For The Three Months Ended September 30,	For The Nine Months Ended September 30,
--	--	---

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

	2014	2013	2014	2013
	(Dollars In Thousands)			
Modco trading portfolio(1)	\$ (17,225)	\$ (25,960)	\$ 110,067	\$ (167,982)

(1)The Company elected to include the use of alternate disclosures for trading activities.

Table of Contents

The following tables present the components of the gain or loss on derivatives that qualify as a cash flow hedging relationship:

Gain (Loss) on Derivatives in Cash Flow Relationship

	Amount of Gains (Losses) Deferred in Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss) on Derivatives (Effective Portion)		Amount and Location of Gains (Losses) Reclassified from Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss) into Income (Loss) (Effective Portion) Benefits and settlement expenses (Dollars In Thousands)		Amount and Location of (Losses) Recognized in Income (Loss) on Derivatives (Ineffective Portion) Realized investment gains (losses)
For The Three Months Ended September 30, 2014					
Inflation	\$ (64)	\$	(293)	\$	(79)
Total	\$ (64)	\$	(293)	\$	(79)
For The Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014					
Inflation	\$ (90)	\$	(1,577)	\$	(205)
Total	\$ (90)	\$	(1,577)	\$	(205)

Gain (Loss) on Derivatives in Cash Flow Relationship

	Amount of Gains (Losses) Deferred in Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss) on Derivatives (Effective Portion)		Amount and Location of Gains (Losses) Reclassified from Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss) into Income (Loss) (Effective Portion) Benefits and settlement expenses (Dollars In Thousands)		Amount and Location of (Losses) Recognized in Income (Loss) on Derivatives (Ineffective Portion) Realized investment gains (losses)
For The Three Months Ended September 30, 2013					
Inflation	\$ 22	\$	(572)	\$	(62)
Total	\$ 22	\$	(572)	\$	(62)
For The Nine Months Ended September 30, 2013					
Inflation	\$ (157)	\$	(1,649)	\$	(253)
Total	\$ (157)	\$	(1,649)	\$	(253)

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

Table of Contents

The tables below present information about the nature and accounting treatment of the Company's primary derivative financial instruments and the location in and effect on the consolidated condensed financial statements for the periods presented below:

	As of September 30, 2014		As of December 31, 2013	
	Notional Amount	Fair Value	Notional Amount	Fair Value
(Dollars In Thousands)				
Other long-term investments				
Derivatives not designated as hedging instruments:				
Interest rate swaps	\$ 345,000	\$ 6,426	\$ 200,000	\$ 1,961
Embedded derivative - Modco reinsurance treaties	65,241	1,381	80,376	1,517
Embedded derivative - GMWB	4,637,095	104,036	6,113,017	194,616
Equity futures	291,062	5,451	3,387	111
Currency futures	87,061	1,963	14,338	321
Equity options	2,212,459	144,029	1,376,205	78,277
Interest rate swaptions	625,000	13,078	625,000	30,291
Other	592	330	425	473
	\$ 8,263,510	\$ 276,694	\$ 8,412,748	\$ 307,567
Other liabilities				
Cash flow hedges:				
Inflation	\$ 105,786	\$ 433	\$ 182,965	\$ 1,865
Derivatives not designated as hedging instruments:				
Interest rate swaps	1,130,000	43,470	1,230,000	153,322
Variance swaps	1,000	2,252	1,500	1,744
Embedded derivative - Modco reinsurance treaties	2,539,004	298,728	2,578,590	206,918
Embedded derivative - GMWB	5,109,066	128,912	2,494,142	38,388
Embedded derivative - FIA	689,543	103,497	244,424	25,324
Embedded derivative - IUL	5,232	2,609		
Interest rate futures	337,015	1,949	322,902	5,221
Equity futures	57,615	604	164,595	6,595
Currency futures	81,945	124	118,008	840
Equity options	587,303	36,811	257,065	17,558
Other	358	22	230	27
	\$ 10,643,867	\$ 619,411	\$ 7,594,421	\$ 457,802

Based on the expected cash flows of the underlying hedged items, the Company expects to reclassify \$0.3 million out of accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) into earnings during the next twelve months.

Table of Contents**18. OFFSETTING OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**

Certain of the Company's derivative instruments are subject to enforceable master netting arrangements that provide for the net settlement of all derivative contracts between the Company and a counterparty in the event of default or upon the occurrence of certain termination events. Collateral support agreements associated with each master netting arrangement provide that the Company will receive or pledge financial collateral in the event either minimum thresholds, or in certain cases ratings levels, have been reached. Additionally, certain of the Company's repurchase agreements provide for net settlement on termination of the agreement. Refer to Note 9, *Debt and Other Obligations* for details of the Company's repurchase agreement programs.

The tables below present the derivative instruments by assets and liabilities for the Company as of September 30, 2014:

	Gross Amounts of Recognized Assets	Gross Amounts Offset in the Statement of Financial Position	Net Amounts of Assets Presented in the Statement of Financial Position (Dollars In Thousands)	Gross Amounts Not Offset in the Statement of Financial Position Financial Instruments	Cash Collateral Received	Net Amount
Offsetting of Derivative Assets						
Derivatives:						
Free-Standing derivatives	\$ 170,970	\$	\$ 170,970	\$ 58,156	\$ 34,311	\$ 78,503
Embedded derivative - Modco reinsurance treaties	1,381		1,381			1,381
Embedded derivative - GMWB	104,036		104,036			104,036
Total derivatives, subject to a master netting arrangement or similar arrangement	276,387		276,387	58,156	34,311	183,920
Total derivatives, not subject to a master netting arrangement or similar arrangement	307		307			307
Total derivatives	276,694		276,694	58,156	34,311	184,227
Total Assets	\$ 276,694	\$	\$ 276,694	\$ 58,156	\$ 34,311	\$ 184,227

Table of Contents

	Gross Amounts of Recognized Liabilities	Gross Amounts Offset in the Statement of Financial Position	Net Amounts of Liabilities Presented in the Statement of Financial Position (Dollars In Thousands)	Gross Amounts Not Offset in the Statement of Financial Position Financial Instruments	Cash Collateral Paid	Net Amount
Offsetting of Derivative Liabilities						
Derivatives:						
Free-Standing derivatives	\$ 85,665	\$	\$ 85,665	\$ 58,156	\$ 25,961	\$ 1,548
Embedded derivative - Modco reinsurance treaties	298,728		298,728			298,728
Embedded derivative - GMWB	128,912		128,912			128,912
Embedded derivative - FIA	103,497		103,497			103,497
Embedded derivative - IUL	2,609		2,609			2,609
Total derivatives, subject to a master netting arrangement or similar arrangement	619,411		619,411	58,156	25,961	535,294
Total derivatives, not subject to a master netting arrangement or similar arrangement						
Total derivatives	619,411		619,411	58,156	25,961	535,294
Repurchase agreements(1)	359,804		359,804			359,804
Total Liabilities	\$ 979,215	\$	\$ 979,215	\$ 58,156	\$ 25,961	\$ 895,098

(1) Borrowings under repurchase agreements are for a term less than 90 days.

The tables below present the derivative instruments by assets and liabilities for the Company as of December 31, 2013:

	Gross Amounts of Recognized Assets	Gross Amounts Offset in the Statement of Financial Position	Net Amounts of Assets Presented in the Statement of Financial Position (Dollars In Thousands)	Gross Amounts Not Offset in the Statement of Financial Position Financial Instruments	Cash Collateral Received	Net Amount
Offsetting of Derivative Assets						
Derivatives:						
Free-Standing derivatives	\$ 110,983	\$	\$ 110,983	\$ 52,487	\$ 10,700	\$ 47,796
Embedded derivative - Modco reinsurance treaties	1,517		1,517			1,517
Embedded derivative - GMWB	194,616		194,616			194,616
Total derivatives, subject to a master netting arrangement or similar arrangement	307,116		307,116	52,487	10,700	243,929
Total derivatives, not subject to a master netting arrangement or similar arrangement	451		451			451
Total derivatives	307,567		307,567	52,487	10,700	244,380
Total Assets	\$ 307,567	\$	\$ 307,567	\$ 52,487	\$ 10,700	\$ 244,380

Table of Contents

	Gross Amounts of Recognized Liabilities	Gross Amounts Offset in the Statement of Financial Position	Net Amounts of Liabilities Presented in the Statement of Financial Position (Dollars In Thousands)	Gross Amounts Not Offset in the Statement of Financial Position Financial Instruments	Cash Collateral Paid	Net Amount
Offsetting of Derivative Liabilities						
Derivatives:						
Free-Standing derivatives	\$ 187,172	\$	\$ 187,172	\$ 52,487	\$ 98,359	\$ 36,326
Embedded derivative - Modco reinsurance treaties	206,918		206,918			206,918
Embedded derivative - GMWB	38,388		38,388			38,388
Embedded derivative - FIA	25,324		25,324			25,324
Total derivatives, subject to a master netting arrangement or similar arrangement	457,802		457,802	52,487	98,359	306,956
Total derivatives, not subject to a master netting arrangement or similar arrangement						
Total derivatives	457,802		457,802	52,487	98,359	306,956
Repurchase agreements(1)	350,000		350,000			350,000
Total Liabilities	\$ 807,802	\$	\$ 807,802	\$ 52,487	\$ 98,359	\$ 656,956

(1) Borrowings under repurchase agreements are for a term less than 90 days.

19. OPERATING SEGMENTS

The Company has several operating segments each having a strategic focus. An operating segment is distinguished by products, channels of distribution, and/or other strategic distinctions. The Company periodically evaluates its operating segments, as prescribed in the ASC Segment Reporting Topic, and makes adjustments to its segment reporting as needed. A brief description of each segment follows.

- The Life Marketing segment markets fixed universal life (UL), variable universal life (VUL), bank-owned life insurance (BOLI), and level premium term insurance (traditional) products on a national basis primarily through networks of independent insurance agents and brokers, broker-dealers, financial institutions, and independent marketing organizations.

- The Acquisitions segment focuses on acquiring, converting, and servicing policies from other companies. The segment's primary focus is on life insurance policies and annuity products that were sold to individuals. The level of the segment's acquisition activity is predicated upon many factors, including available capital, operating capacity, potential return on capital, and market dynamics. Policies acquired through the Acquisitions segment are typically blocks of business where no new policies are being marketed. Therefore earnings and account values are expected to decline as the result of lapses, deaths, and other terminations of coverage unless new acquisitions are made.

- The Annuities segment markets fixed and variable annuity products. These products are primarily sold through broker-dealers, financial institutions, and independent agents and brokers.

- The Stable Value Products segment sells fixed and floating rate funding agreements directly to the trustees of municipal bond proceeds, money market funds, bank trust departments, and other institutional investors. The segment also issues funding agreements to the FHLB, and markets guaranteed investment contracts (GICs) to 401(k) and other qualified retirement savings plans. Additionally, the Company has contracts outstanding pursuant to a funding agreement-backed notes program registered with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC) which offered notes to both institutional and retail investors.

Table of Contents

- The Asset Protection segment markets extended service contracts and credit life and disability insurance to protect consumers investments in automobiles, watercraft, and recreational vehicles. In addition, the segment markets a guaranteed asset protection (GAP) product. GAP coverage covers the difference between the loan pay-off amount and an asset s actual cash value in the case of a total loss.

- The Corporate and Other segment primarily consists of net investment income not assigned to the segments above (including the impact of carrying liquidity), expenses not attributable to the segments above (including interest on certain corporate debt). This segment includes earnings from several non-strategic or runoff lines of business, various investment-related transactions, the operations of several small subsidiaries, and the repurchase of non-recourse funding obligations.

The Company uses the same accounting policies and procedures to measure segment operating income (loss) and assets as it uses to measure consolidated net income and assets. Segment operating income (loss) is income before income tax, excluding realized gains and losses on investments and derivatives net of the amortization related to deferred acquisition costs (DAC) value of business acquired (VOBA), and benefits and settlement expenses. Operating earnings exclude changes in the GMWB embedded derivatives (excluding the portion attributed to economic cost), realized and unrealized gains (losses) on derivatives used to hedge the VA product, actual GMWB incurred claims and the related amortization of DAC attributed to each of these items.

Segment operating income (loss) represents the basis on which the performance of the Company s business is internally assessed by management. Premiums and policy fees, other income, benefits and settlement expenses, and amortization of DAC/VOBA are attributed directly to each operating segment. Net investment income is allocated based on directly related assets required for transacting the business of that segment. Realized investment gains (losses) and other operating expenses are allocated to the segments in a manner that most appropriately reflects the operations of that segment. Investments and other assets are allocated based on statutory policy liabilities net of associated statutory policy assets, while DAC/VOBA and goodwill are shown in the segments to which they are attributable.

There were no significant intersegment transactions during the three or nine months ended September 30, 2014 and 2013.

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

Table of Contents

The following tables summarize financial information for the Company's segments:

	For The Three Months Ended September 30,		For The Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
(Dollars In Thousands)				
Revenues				
Life Marketing	\$ 400,706	\$ 377,416	\$ 1,192,504	\$ 1,092,063
Acquisitions	408,522	240,067	1,273,714	752,247
Annuities	182,239	196,305	482,313	547,259
Stable Value Products	38,713	25,208	93,641	91,596
Asset Protection	70,584	71,495	207,837	210,879
Corporate and Other	47,322	42,203	143,978	147,820
Total revenues	\$ 1,148,086	\$ 952,694	\$ 3,393,987	\$ 2,841,864
Segment Operating Income (Loss)				
Life Marketing	\$ 32,820	\$ 29,218	\$ 82,654	\$ 77,598
Acquisitions	72,929	29,429	198,807	93,241
Annuities	49,335	50,866	156,236	130,646
Stable Value Products	19,506	19,206	54,190	59,514
Asset Protection	8,530	6,827	23,433	20,292
Corporate and Other	(15,110)	(14,251)	(42,520)	(35,066)
Total segment operating income	168,010	121,295	472,800	346,225
Realized investment (losses) gains - investments(1)	(4,836)	(36,282)	138,617	(165,349)
Realized investment (losses) gains - derivatives	21,709	57,108	(139,119)	235,885
Income tax expense	(65,974)	(49,060)	(161,773)	(142,210)
Net income	\$ 118,909	\$ 93,061	\$ 310,525	\$ 274,551
Investment gains (losses)(2)	\$ (1,160)	\$ (28,189)	\$ 148,051	\$ (150,896)
Less: amortization related to DAC/VOBA and benefits and settlement expenses	3,676	8,093	9,434	14,453
Realized investment gains (losses) - investments	\$ (4,836)	\$ (36,282)	\$ 138,617	\$ (165,349)
Derivative gains (losses)(3)	\$ 3,781	\$ 41,326	\$ (191,495)	\$ 192,592
Less: VA GMWB economic cost	(17,928)	(15,782)	(52,376)	(43,293)
Realized investment gains (losses) - derivatives	\$ 21,709	\$ 57,108	\$ (139,119)	\$ 235,885

(1) Includes credit related other-than-temporary impairments of \$2.3 million and \$5.4 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2014, respectively, as compared to \$8.7 million and \$17.3 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2013, respectively.

(2) Includes realized investment gains (losses) before related amortization.

(3) Includes realized gains (losses) on derivatives before the VA GMWB economic cost.

Table of Contents

Operating Segment Assets As of September 30, 2014 (Dollars In Thousands)				
	Life Marketing	Acquisitions	Annuities	Stable Value Products
Investments and other assets	\$ 13,699,580	\$ 19,895,240	\$ 20,595,599	\$ 2,260,840
Deferred policy acquisition costs and value of business acquired	1,950,507	635,336	637,752	706
Goodwill	10,192	30,194		
Total assets	\$ 15,660,279	\$ 20,560,770	\$ 21,233,351	\$ 2,261,546

	Asset Protection	Corporate and Other	Adjustments	Total Consolidated
Investments and other assets	\$ 917,926	\$ 9,802,176	\$ 15,428	\$ 67,186,789
Deferred policy acquisition costs and value of business acquired	38,596	402		3,263,299
Goodwill	62,670	83		103,139
Total assets	\$ 1,019,192	\$ 9,802,661	\$ 15,428	\$ 70,553,227

Operating Segment Assets As of December 31, 2013 (Dollars In Thousands)				
	Life Marketing	Acquisitions	Annuities	Stable Value Products
Investments and other assets	\$ 13,135,914	\$ 20,188,321	\$ 19,974,246	\$ 2,558,551
Deferred policy acquisition costs and value of business acquired	2,071,470	799,255	647,485	1,001
Goodwill	10,192	32,517		
Total assets	\$ 15,217,576	\$ 21,020,093	\$ 20,621,731	\$ 2,559,552

	Asset Protection	Corporate and Other	Adjustments	Total Consolidated
Investments and other assets	\$ 852,273	\$ 8,355,618	\$ 16,762	\$ 65,081,685
Deferred policy acquisition costs and value of business acquired	50,358	646		3,570,215
Goodwill	62,671	83		105,463
Total assets	\$ 965,302	\$ 8,356,347	\$ 16,762	\$ 68,757,363

20. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

The Company has evaluated the effects of events subsequent to September 30, 2014, and through the date we filed our consolidated condensed financial statements with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission. All accounting and disclosure requirements related to subsequent events are included in our consolidated condensed financial statements.

On September 15, 2014, the Company announced that it had issued notice to redeem the entire \$100,000,000 outstanding principal amount of the Company's 8.00% Senior Notes issued on October 9, 2009. The payment in respect of the redemption of the Senior Notes was made on October 15, 2014.

The Company held a Special Meeting of Shareholders on October 6, 2014. At the meeting, the Company's shareowners voted upon and approved a proposal to adopt the Merger Agreement.

Table of Contents

Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

The following Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations (MD&A) should be read in conjunction with our consolidated condensed financial statements included under Part I, Item 1, *Financial Statements (Unaudited)*, of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q and our audited consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2013, included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K.

For a more complete understanding of our business and current period results, please read the following MD&A in conjunction with our latest Annual Report on Form 10-K and other filings with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC).

Certain reclassifications have been made in the previously reported financial statements and accompanying notes to make the prior period amounts comparable to those of the current period. Such reclassifications had no effect on previously reported net income or shareowners' equity.

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS CAUTIONARY LANGUAGE

This report reviews our financial condition and results of operations including our liquidity and capital resources. Historical information is presented and discussed, and where appropriate, factors that may affect future financial performance are also identified and discussed. Certain statements made in this report include forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements include any statement that may predict, forecast, indicate, or imply future results, performance, or achievements instead of historical facts and may contain words like believe, expect, estimate, project, budget, forecast, anticipate, plan, will, other words, phrases, or expressions with similar meaning. Forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties, which may cause actual results to differ materially from the results contained in the forward-looking statements, and we cannot give assurances that such statements will prove to be correct. Given these risks and uncertainties, investors should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements as a prediction of actual results. We undertake no obligation to publicly update any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future developments or otherwise. For more information about the risks, uncertainties, and other factors that could affect our future results, please refer to Part I, Item 2, *Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations*, Risks and Uncertainties, and Part II, Item 1A, *Risk Factors and Cautionary Factors that may Affect Future Results*, of this report, as well as Part I, Item 1A, *Risk Factors and Cautionary Factors that may Affect Future Results*, of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013.

OVERVIEW

Our business

We are a holding company headquartered in Birmingham, Alabama, with subsidiaries that provide financial services through the production, distribution, and administration of insurance and investment products. Founded in 1907, Protective Life Insurance Company (PLICO) is our largest operating subsidiary. Unless the context otherwise requires, the Company, we, us, or our refers to the consolidated group of Protective Life Corporation and our subsidiaries.

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

We have several operating segments, each having a strategic focus. An operating segment is distinguished by products, channels of distribution, and/or other strategic distinctions. We periodically evaluate our operating segments as prescribed in the Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) Segment Reporting Topic, and make adjustments to our segment reporting as needed.

Our operating segments are Life Marketing, Acquisitions, Annuities, Stable Value Products, Asset Protection, and Corporate and Other.

- **Life Marketing** - We market fixed universal life (UL), variable universal life (VUL), bank-owned life insurance (BOLI), and level premium term insurance (traditional) products on a national basis

Table of Contents

primarily through networks of independent insurance agents and brokers, broker-dealers, financial institutions, and independent marketing organizations.

- **Acquisitions** - We focus on acquiring, converting, and servicing policies from other companies. The segment's primary focus is on life insurance policies and annuity products that were sold to individuals. The level of the segment's acquisition activity is predicated upon many factors, including available capital, operating capacity, potential return on capital, and market dynamics. Policies acquired through the Acquisition segment are typically blocks of business where no new policies are being marketed. Therefore earnings and account values are expected to decline as the result of lapses, deaths, and other terminations of coverage unless new acquisitions are made.
- **Annuities** - We market fixed and variable annuity (VA) products. These products are primarily sold through broker-dealers, financial institutions, and independent agents and brokers.
- **Stable Value Products** - We sell fixed and floating rate funding agreements directly to the trustees of municipal bond proceeds, money market funds, bank trust departments, and other institutional investors. The segment also issues funding agreements to the Federal Home Loan Bank (FHLB), and markets guaranteed investment contracts (GICs) to 401(k) and other qualified retirement savings plans. Additionally, we have contracts outstanding pursuant to a funding agreement-backed notes program registered with the SEC which offered notes to both institutional and retail investors.
- **Asset Protection** - We market extended service contracts and credit life and disability insurance to protect consumers' investments in automobiles, watercraft, and recreational vehicles. In addition, the segment markets a guaranteed asset protection (GAP) product. GAP coverage covers the difference between the loan pay-off amount and an asset's actual cash value in the case of a total loss.
- **Corporate and Other** - This segment primarily consists of net investment income not assigned to the segments above (including the impact of carrying liquidity) and expenses not attributable to the segments above (including interest on certain corporate debt). This segment includes earnings from several non-strategic or runoff lines of business, various investment-related transactions, the operations of several small subsidiaries, and the repurchase of non-recourse funding obligations.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Net income for the three months ended September 30, 2014 was \$118.9 million or \$1.46 per average diluted share. After-tax operating income for the three months ended September 30, 2014 was \$107.9 million or \$1.33 per average diluted share.

We reported strong financial results for the first nine months of 2014 and we remain confident in our ability to execute on our plans for the remainder of the year.

Significant financial information related to each of our segments is included in Results of Operations .

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS PROPOSED DAI-ICHI MERGER

As described in Note 5, *Proposed Dai-ichi Merger*, to the consolidated condensed financial statements, on June 3, 2014, we entered into an Agreement and Plan of Merger (the Merger Agreement) with The Dai-ichi Life Insurance Company, Limited, a *kabushiki kaisha* organized under the laws of Japan (Dai-ichi) and DL Investment (Delaware), Inc., a Delaware corporation and wholly owned subsidiary of Dai-ichi, which provides for the merger of DL Investment (Delaware), Inc. with and into the Company (the Merger), with the Company surviving the Merger as a wholly owned subsidiary of Dai-ichi. If the proposed Merger is completed, at the effective time of the Merger (the Effective Time), each share of our common stock, par value \$0.50 per share, issued and outstanding immediately prior to the Effective Time, other than certain excluded shares, will be converted into the right to receive \$70 in cash, without interest (the Per Share Merger Consideration). Shares of common stock held by Dai-ichi or the Company or their respective direct or indirect wholly-owned subsidiaries will not be entitled to receive the Merger Consideration. Stock appreciation rights, restricted stock units and performance shares issued under various benefit plans will be paid

Table of Contents

out as described in Note 5, *Proposed Dai-ichi Merger*, to the consolidated condensed financial statements included in this report, under the heading Treatment of Benefit Plans .

Completion of the Merger is subject to various closing conditions, including, but not limited to, (1) adoption of the Merger Agreement by the affirmative vote of the holders of at least a majority of all outstanding shares of common stock, which adoption was approved at a Special Meeting of Shareholders held on October 6, 2014, (2) requisite approval of the Japan Financial Services Agency of an application and notification filing by Dai-ichi and its affiliates, (3) the receipt of certain insurance regulatory approvals, (4) the absence of any laws that have been adopted or promulgated, or any order, injunction, decision or decree issued or remaining in effect, that would prohibit the Merger or make the Merger illegal, and (5) the expiration or termination of the applicable waiting period under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act of 1976, as amended, which waiting period terminated on July 25, 2014, pursuant to a grant of early termination by the Federal Trade Commission. Each party's obligation to consummate the Merger also is subject to certain additional conditions that include the accuracy of the other party's representations and warranties contained in the Merger Agreement (subject to certain materiality qualifiers) and the other party's compliance with its covenants and agreements contained in the Merger Agreement in all material respects. The Merger Agreement does not contain a financing condition. Subject to certain limitations, either party may terminate the Merger Agreement if the Merger is not consummated by February 28, 2015, which date is extended until April 30, 2015 in the event of delays in obtaining regulatory approval.

For additional information regarding the Merger and related matters, including the treatment of benefit plans, please refer to our Current Reports on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on June 4, 2014 and September 25, 2014, our definitive proxy statement filed with the SEC on August 25, 2014, as amended on August 27, 2014, and Note 5, *Proposed Dai-ichi Merger*, to the consolidated condensed financial statements included in this report.

RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The factors which could affect our future results include, but are not limited to, general economic conditions and the following risks and uncertainties:

Risks Related to the Proposed Dai-ichi Merger

- the Merger is subject to various closing conditions, including regulatory and third party approvals;
- failure to timely complete the Merger could adversely impact our stock price, business, financial condition, and results of operations;
- the pendency of the Merger and operating restrictions contained in the Merger Agreement could adversely affect our business and operations;
- shareowner litigation against the Company, our directors and/or Dai-ichi could delay or prevent the Merger and cause us to incur significant costs and expenses; and;
- our debt ratings and the financial strength ratings of our insurance subsidiaries may be adversely affected by the transactions contemplated by the Merger Agreement;

General

- exposure to the risks of natural and man-made disasters and catastrophes, diseases, epidemics, pandemics, malicious acts, terrorist acts and climate change, which could adversely affect our operations and results;
- a disruption affecting the electronic systems of the Company or those on whom the Company relies could adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations;
- confidential information maintained in our systems could be compromised or misappropriated, damaging our business and reputation and adversely affecting our financial condition and results of operations;
- our results and financial condition may be negatively affected should actual experience differ from management's assumptions and estimates;
- we may not realize our anticipated financial results from our acquisitions strategy;
- we may not be able to achieve the expected results from our recent acquisition;

Table of Contents

- assets allocated to the MONY Closed Block benefit only the holders of certain policies; adverse performance of Closed Block assets or adverse experience of Closed Block liabilities may negatively affect us;
- we are dependent on the performance of others;
- our risk management policies, practices, and procedures could leave us exposed to unidentified or unanticipated risks, which could negatively affect our business or result in losses;
- our strategies for mitigating risks arising from our day-to-day operations may prove ineffective resulting in a material adverse effect on our results of operations and financial condition;

Financial environment

- interest rate fluctuations and sustained periods of low interest rates could negatively affect our interest earnings and spread income, or otherwise impact our business;
- our investments are subject to market and credit risks, which could be heightened during periods of extreme volatility or disruption in financial and credit markets;
- equity market volatility could negatively impact our business;
- our use of derivative financial instruments within our risk management strategy may not be effective or sufficient;
- credit market volatility or disruption could adversely impact our financial condition or results from operations;
- our ability to grow depends in large part upon the continued availability of capital;
- we could be adversely affected by a ratings downgrade or other negative action by a ratings organization;
- we could be forced to sell investments at a loss to cover policyholder withdrawals;
- disruption of the capital and credit markets could negatively affect our ability to meet our liquidity and financing needs;
- difficult general economic conditions could materially adversely affect our business and results of operations;
- we may be required to establish a valuation allowance against our deferred tax assets, which could materially adversely affect our results of operations, financial condition, and capital position;
- we could be adversely affected by an inability to access our credit facility;
- we could be adversely affected by an inability to access FHLB lending;
- our financial condition or results of operations could be adversely impacted if our assumptions regarding the fair value and future performance of our investments differ from actual experience;

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

- the amount of statutory capital that we have and the amount of statutory capital that we must hold to maintain our financial strength and credit ratings and meet other requirements can vary significantly from time to time and is sensitive to a number of factors outside of our control;
- we operate as a holding company and depend on the ability of our subsidiaries to transfer funds to us to meet our obligations and pay dividends;

Industry

- we are highly regulated, are subject to routine audits, examinations and actions by regulators, law enforcement agencies, and self-regulatory organizations;
- changes to tax law or interpretations of existing tax law could adversely affect our ability to compete with non-insurance products or reduce the demand for certain insurance products;
- financial services companies are frequently the targets of legal proceedings, including class action litigation, which could result in substantial judgments;
- publicly held companies in general and the financial services industry in particular are sometimes the target of law enforcement investigations and the focus of increased regulatory scrutiny;
- new accounting rules, changes to existing accounting rules, or the grant of permitted accounting practices to competitors could negatively impact us;
- use of reinsurance introduces variability in our statements of income;
- our reinsurers could fail to meet assumed obligations, increase rates, or be subject to adverse developments that could affect us;
- our policy claims fluctuate from period to period resulting in earnings volatility;

Table of Contents

Competition

- we operate in a mature, highly competitive industry, which could limit our ability to gain or maintain our position in the industry and negatively affect profitability;
- our ability to maintain competitive unit costs is dependent upon the level of new sales and persistency of existing business; and
- we may not be able to protect our intellectual property and may be subject to infringement claims.

For more information about the risks, uncertainties, and other factors that could affect our future results, please see Part II, Item 1A of this report and our Annual Report on Form 10-K.

CRITICAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Our accounting policies require the use of judgments relating to a variety of assumptions and estimates, including, but not limited to expectations of current and future mortality, morbidity, persistency, expenses, and interest rates, as well as expectations around the valuations of securities. Because of the inherent uncertainty when using the assumptions and estimates, the effect of certain accounting policies under different conditions or assumptions could be materially different from those reported in the consolidated condensed financial statements. For a complete listing of our critical accounting policies, refer to our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013.

Deferred Policy Acquisition Costs

Based on the Accounting Standards Codification (ASC or Codification) Financial Services Insurance Topic, we make certain assumptions regarding the mortality, persistency, expenses, and interest rates we expect to experience in future periods. These assumptions are to be best estimates and are periodically updated whenever actual experience and/or expectations for the future change from that assumed. Additionally, using guidance from ASC Investments-Debt and Equity Securities Topic, these costs have been adjusted by an amount equal to the amortization that would have been recorded if unrealized gains or losses on investments associated with our universal life an investment products had been realized. Acquisition costs for stable value contracts are amortized over the term of the contracts using the effective yield method.

RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

We use the same accounting policies and procedures to measure segment operating income (loss) and assets as we use to measure consolidated net income and assets. Segment operating income (loss) is income before income tax, excluding realized gains and losses on investments and derivatives net of the amortization related to deferred acquisition costs (DAC), value of business acquired (VOBA), and benefits and settlement expenses. Operating earnings exclude changes in the guaranteed minimum withdrawal benefits (GMWB) embedded derivatives (excluding the portion attributed to economic cost), realized and unrealized gains (losses) on derivatives used to hedge the VA product, actual GMWB incurred

claims, and the related amortization of DAC attributed to each of these items.

Segment operating income (loss) represents the basis on which the performance of our business is internally assessed by management. Premiums and policy fees, other income, benefits and settlement expenses, and amortization of DAC/VOBA are attributed directly to each operating segment. Net investment income is allocated based on directly related assets required for transacting the business of that segment. Realized investment gains (losses) and other operating expenses are allocated to the segments in a manner that most appropriately reflects the operations of that segment. Investments and other assets are allocated based on statutory policy liabilities net of associated statutory policy assets, while DAC/VOBA and goodwill are shown in the segments to which they are attributable.

However, segment operating income (loss) should not be viewed as a substitute for accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) net income. In addition, our segment operating income (loss) measures may not be comparable to similarly titled measures reported by other companies.

We periodically review and update as appropriate our key assumptions on products using the ASC Financial Services-Insurance Topic, including future mortality, expenses, lapses, premium persistency, benefit utilization, investment yields, interest spreads, and equity market returns. Changes to these assumptions result in adjustments which increase or decrease DAC amortization and/or benefits and expenses. The periodic review and updating of assumptions is referred to as unlocking . When referring to DAC amortization or unlocking on products covered under the ASC Financial Services-Insurance Topic, the reference is to changes in all balance sheet components amortized over estimated gross profits.

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

Table of Contents

The following table presents a summary of results and reconciles segment operating income (loss) to consolidated net income:

	For The Three Months Ended September 30,			For The Nine Months Ended September 30,			Change
	2014 (Dollars In Thousands)	2013	Change	2014 (Dollars In Thousands)	2013	Change	
Segment Operating Income (Loss)							
Life Marketing	\$ 32,820	\$ 29,218	12.3%	\$ 82,654	\$ 77,598	6.5%	
Acquisitions	72,929	29,429	n/m	198,807	93,241	n/m	
Annuities	49,335	50,866	(3.0)	156,236	130,646	19.6	
Stable Value Products	19,506	19,206	1.6	54,190	59,514	(8.9)	
Asset Protection	8,530	6,827	24.9	23,433	20,292	15.5	
Corporate and Other	(15,110)	(14,251)	(6.0)	(42,520)	(35,066)	(21.3)	
Total segment operating income	168,010	121,295	38.5	472,800	346,225	36.6	
Realized investment gains (losses) - investments(1)	(4,836)	(36,282)		138,617	(165,349)		
Realized investment gains (losses) - derivatives	21,709	57,108		(139,119)	235,885		
Income tax expense	(65,974)	(49,060)		(161,773)	(142,210)		
Net income	\$ 118,909	\$ 93,061	27.8	\$ 310,525	\$ 274,551	13.1	
Investment gains (losses)(2)	\$ (1,160)	\$ (28,189)		\$ 148,051	\$ (150,896)		
Less: amortization related to DAC/VOBA and benefits and settlement expenses	3,676	8,093		9,434	14,453		
Realized investment gains (losses) - investments	\$ (4,836)	\$ (36,282)		\$ 138,617	\$ (165,349)		
Derivative gains (losses) (3)	\$ 3,781	\$ 41,326		\$ (191,495)	\$ 192,592		
Less: VA GMWB economic cost	(17,928)	(15,782)		(52,376)	(43,293)		
Realized investment gains (losses) - derivatives	\$ 21,709	\$ 57,108		\$ (139,119)	\$ 235,885		

(1) Includes credit related other-than-temporary impairments of \$2.3 million and \$5.4 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2014, respectively, as compared to \$8.7 million and \$17.3 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2013, respectively.

(2) Includes realized investment gains (losses) before related amortization.

(3) Includes realized gains (losses) on derivatives before the VA GMWB economic cost.

For The Three Months Ended September 30, 2014 as compared to The Three Months Ended September 30, 2013

Net income for the three months ended September 30, 2014, included a \$46.7 million, or 38.5%, increase in segment operating income. The increase consisted of a \$3.6 million increase in the Life Marketing segment, a \$43.5 million increase in the Acquisitions segment, a \$0.3 million increase in the Stable Value Products segment, and a \$1.7 million increase in the Asset Protection segment. These increases were partially offset by a \$1.5 million decrease in the Annuities segment and a \$0.9 million decrease in the Corporate and Other segment.

We experienced net realized gains of \$2.6 million for the three months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to net realized gains of \$13.1 million for the three months ended September 30, 2013. The gains realized for the three months ended September 30, 2014, were primarily related to \$23.6 million of gains related to investment securities sale activity, \$3.2 million of gains related to the net activity of the modified coinsurance portfolio, and net gains of \$0.3 million of derivatives related to indexed universal life (IUL) contracts. Partially offsetting these gains were \$2.3 million of other-than-temporary impairment credit-related losses, \$5.4 million of losses related to other investment and derivative activity, \$15.6 million of losses on derivatives related to variable annuity contracts, and net losses of \$1.3 million of derivatives related to fixed indexed annuity (FIA) contracts.

- Life Marketing segment operating income was \$32.8 million for the three months ended September 30, 2014, representing an increase of \$3.6 million, or 12.3%, from the three months ended September 30, 2013. The

Table of Contents

increase was primarily due to higher universal life premiums and policy fees, favorable traditional mortality, and higher investment income due to an increase in reserves. These items were largely offset by the impact of prospective unlocking and an increase in non-deferred expenses. The segment recorded an unfavorable \$2.6 million of prospective unlocking for the three months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to a favorable \$2.4 million of prospective unlocking for the three months ended September 30, 2013.

- Acquisitions segment operating income was \$72.9 million for the three months ended September 30, 2014, an increase of \$43.5 million as compared to the three months ended September 30, 2013, primarily due to the impact of the MONY acquisition which occurred in the fourth quarter of 2013. MONY operating income was \$29.3 million for the three months ended September 30, 2014. In addition, the increase was driven by a \$15.9 million favorable variance related to prospective unlocking. For the three months ended September 30, 2014, the segment recorded favorable prospective unlocking of \$11.7 million as compared to an unfavorable \$4.2 million of prospective unlocking for the three months ended September 30, 2013.

- Annuities segment operating income was \$49.3 million for the three months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to \$50.9 million for the three months ended September 30, 2013, a decrease of \$1.5 million or 3.0%. This variance included an unfavorable change in unlocking and other operating expenses partially offset by higher net policy fees and other income in the VA line and lower credited interest. The segment recorded an unfavorable \$3.4 million of unlocking for the three months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to favorable unlocking of \$4.9 million for the three months ended September 30, 2013.

- Stable Value Products segment operating income was \$19.5 million and increased \$0.3 million, or 1.6%, for the three months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the three months ended September 30, 2013. The increase in operating earnings resulted from an increase in participating mortgage income offset by lower adjusted operating spreads and a decline in average account values. Participating mortgage income for the three months ended September 30, 2014 was \$3.9 million compared to \$2.4 million for the three months ended September 30, 2013. The adjusted operating spread, which excludes participating income, decreased by 5 basis points for the three months ended September 30, 2014 over the prior year.

- Asset Protection segment operating income was \$8.5 million, representing an increase of \$1.7 million, or 24.9%, for the three months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the three months ended September 30, 2013. Service contract earnings increased \$1.6 million, primarily due to lower losses. Credit insurance earnings increased \$0.1 million, primarily resulting from lower expenses. Earnings from the GAP product were consistent with the prior year.

- Corporate & Other segment operating loss was \$15.1 million for the three months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to an operating loss of \$14.3 million for the three months ended September 30, 2013. The change was primarily due to higher overhead expenses partially offset by a \$7.5 million favorable investment income variance related to called securities compared to the three months ended September 30, 2013.

For The Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014 as compared to The Nine Months Ended September 30, 2013

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

Net income for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, included a \$126.6 million, or 36.6%, increase in segment operating income. The increase consisted of a \$5.1 million increase in the Life Marketing segment, a \$105.6 million increase in the Acquisitions segment, a \$25.6 million increase in the Annuities segment, and a \$3.1 million increase in the Asset Protection segment. These increases were partially offset by a \$5.3 million decrease in the Stable Value Products segment and a \$7.5 million decrease in the Corporate and Other segment.

We experienced net realized losses of \$43.4 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to net realized gains of \$41.7 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2013. The losses realized for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, were primarily related to \$96.4 million of losses on derivatives related to variable annuity contracts, \$5.4 million of other-than-temporary impairment credit-related losses, net losses of \$2.9 million of derivatives related to FIA contracts, and \$8.2 million of losses related to other investment and derivative activity. Partially offsetting these losses were gains of \$51.2 million related to investment securities sale activity, \$18.1

Table of Contents

million of gains related to the net activity of the modified coinsurance portfolio, and net gains of \$0.1 million of derivatives related to IUL contracts.

- Life Marketing segment operating income was \$82.7 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, representing an increase of \$5.1 million, or 6.5%, from the nine months ended September 30, 2013. The increase was primarily due to higher universal life premiums and policy fees, higher investment income due to an increase in reserves, and favorable traditional mortality. This increase was largely offset by less favorable universal life mortality and unfavorable prospective unlocking compared to 2013. The segment recorded an unfavorable \$2.6 million of prospective unlocking for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to a favorable \$2.4 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2013.
- Acquisitions segment operating income was \$198.8 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, an increase of \$105.6 million as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2013. This was primarily due to the impact of the MONY acquisition which occurred in the fourth quarter of 2013. MONY operating income was \$86.3 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2014. In addition, the increase was driven by a \$15.9 million favorable variance related to prospective unlocking. For the nine months ended September 30, 2014, the segment recorded favorable prospective unlocking of \$11.7 million as compared to an unfavorable \$4.2 million of prospective unlocking for the nine months ended September 30, 2013.
- Annuities segment operating income was \$156.2 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to \$130.6 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2013, an increase of \$25.6 million, or 19.6%. This variance was a result of higher net policy fees and other income in the VA line and lower credited interest. These favorable variances were partially offset by an unfavorable change in unlocking and other operating expenses. The segment recorded a favorable \$0.1 million of unlocking for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to favorable unlocking of \$8.5 million for the three months ended September 30, 2013.
- Stable Value Products segment operating income was \$54.2 million and decreased \$5.3 million, or 8.9%, for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2013. The decrease in operating earnings resulted from a decrease in participating mortgage income and a decline in average account values. Participating mortgage income for the nine months ended September 30, 2014 was \$4.9 million compared to \$9.5 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2013.
- Asset Protection segment operating income was \$23.4 million, representing an increase of \$3.1 million, or 15.5%, for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2013. Service contract earnings increased \$3.1 million primarily due to lower loss ratios and higher volume. Credit insurance earnings increased \$0.8 million primarily due to lower losses and lower expenses in 2014. Earnings from the GAP product line decreased \$0.8 million primarily resulting from higher losses.
- Corporate and Other segment operating loss was \$42.5 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to an operating loss of \$35.1 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2013. The change resulted from an \$11.9 million unfavorable variance in other operating expenses partially offset by a \$2.6 million increase in net investment income and a \$1.2 million increase in other income as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2013.

Table of Contents**Life Marketing***Segment results of operations*

Segment results were as follows:

	For The Three Months Ended September 30,			For The Nine Months Ended September 30,			Change
	2014 (Dollars In Thousands)	2013	Change	2014 (Dollars In Thousands)	2013	Change	
REVENUES							
Gross premiums and policy fees	\$ 377,014	\$ 356,809	5.7%	\$ 1,226,218	\$ 1,217,852	0.7%	
Reinsurance ceded	(150,586)	(145,075)	(3.8)	(550,661)	(607,917)	9.4	
Net premiums and policy fees	226,428	211,734	6.9	675,557	609,935	10.8	
Net investment income	139,818	129,935	7.6	410,550	387,237	6.0	
Other income	31,435	32,144	(2.2)	94,537	91,288	3.6	
Total operating revenues	397,681	373,813	6.4	1,180,644	1,088,460	8.5	
Realized gains (losses) - investments	2,686	3,603	(25.5)	11,806	3,603	n/m	
Realized gains (losses) - derivatives	339		n/m	54		n/m	
Total revenues	400,706	377,416	6.2	1,192,504	1,092,063	9.2	
BENEFITS AND EXPENSES							
Benefits and settlement expenses	215,949	330,156	(34.6)	819,615	866,995	(5.5)	
Amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs	106,737	(24,284)	n/m	148,179	16,804	n/m	
Other operating expenses	42,175	38,723	8.9	130,196	127,063	2.5	
Operating benefits and expenses	364,861	344,595	5.9	1,097,990	1,010,862	8.6	
Amortization related to benefits and settlement expenses	29	483	(94.0)	1,740	483	n/m	
Amortization of DAC related to realized gains (losses) - investments	200	819	(75.6)	3,555	819	n/m	
Total benefits and expenses	365,090	345,897	5.5	1,103,285	1,012,164	9.0	
INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAX							
	35,616	31,519	13.0	89,219	79,899	11.7	
Less: realized gains (losses)	3,025	3,603		11,860	3,603		
Less: amortization related to benefits and settlement expenses	(29)	(483)		(1,740)	(483)		
Less: related amortization of DAC	(200)	(819)		(3,555)	(819)		
OPERATING INCOME	\$ 32,820	\$ 29,218	12.3	\$ 82,654	\$ 77,598	6.5	

Table of Contents

The following table summarizes key data for the Life Marketing segment:

	For The Three Months Ended September 30,			Change	For The Nine Months Ended September 30,			Change
	2014 (Dollars In Thousands)	2013			2014 (Dollars In Thousands)	2013		
Sales By Product								
Traditional	\$ 183	\$ 390	(53.1)%	\$ 433	\$ 1,091	(60.3)%		
Universal life	33,058	32,261	2.5	93,942	123,437	(23.9)		
BOLI			n/m	22		n/m		
	\$ 33,241	\$ 32,651	1.8	\$ 94,397	\$ 124,528	(24.2)		
Sales By Distribution Channel								
Independent agents	\$ 24,587	\$ 23,395	5.1	\$ 70,945	\$ 86,040	(17.5)		
Stockbrokers / banks	7,923	8,608	(8.0)	21,409	36,831	(41.9)		
BOLI / other	731	648	12.8	2,043	1,657	23.3		
	\$ 33,241	\$ 32,651	1.8	\$ 94,397	\$ 124,528	(24.2)		
Average Life Insurance In-force(1)								
Traditional	\$ 399,961,084	\$ 423,831,748	(5.6)	\$ 405,583,949	\$ 430,538,542	(5.8)		
Universal life	139,804,885	109,933,560	27.2	132,052,762	100,813,147	31.0		
	\$ 539,765,969	\$ 533,765,308	1.1	\$ 537,636,711	\$ 531,351,689	1.2		
Average Account Values								
Universal life	\$ 7,175,792	\$ 7,003,612	2.5	\$ 7,142,767	\$ 6,865,081	4.0		
Variable universal life	561,709	468,595	19.9	545,762	440,238	24.0		
	\$ 7,737,501	\$ 7,472,207	3.6	\$ 7,688,529	\$ 7,305,319	5.2		

(1) Amounts are not adjusted for reinsurance ceded.

Table of Contents*Operating expenses detail*

Other operating expenses for the segment were as follows:

	For The Three Months Ended September 30,			For The Nine Months Ended September 30,			Change
	2014 (Dollars In Thousands)	2013	Change	2014 (Dollars In Thousands)	2013	Change	
Insurance companies:							
First year commissions	\$ 38,881	\$ 39,168	(0.7)%	\$ 111,925	\$ 135,332	(17.3)%	
Renewal commissions	7,653	8,238	(7.1)	22,319	25,426	(12.2)	
First year ceding allowances	(663)	(939)	29.4	(1,556)	(3,035)	48.7	
Renewal ceding allowances	(37,755)	(40,322)	6.4	(100,571)	(120,393)	16.5	
General & administrative	44,849	41,005	9.4	132,415	130,001	1.9	
Taxes, licenses, and fees	7,235	8,153	(11.3)	20,401	28,666	(28.8)	
Other operating expenses incurred	60,200	55,303	8.9	184,933	195,997	(5.6)	
Less: commissions, allowances & expenses capitalized	(47,700)	(46,636)	(2.3)	(144,728)	(156,364)	7.4	
Other insurance company operating expenses	12,500	8,667	44.2	40,205	39,633	1.4	
Marketing companies:							
Commissions	21,801	22,298	(2.2)	66,450	64,610	2.8	
Other operating expenses	7,874	7,758	1.5	23,541	22,820	3.2	
Other marketing company operating expenses	29,675	30,056	(1.3)	89,991	87,430	2.9	
Other operating expenses	\$ 42,175	\$ 38,723	8.9	\$ 130,196	\$ 127,063	2.5	

*For The Three Months Ended September 30, 2014 as compared to The Three Months Ended September 30, 2013**Segment operating income*

Operating income was \$32.8 million for the three months ended September 30, 2014, representing an increase of \$3.6 million, or 12.3%, from the three months ended September 30, 2013. The increase was primarily due to higher universal life premiums and policy fees, favorable traditional mortality, and higher investment income due to an increase in reserves. These items were largely offset by the impact of prospective unlocking and an increase in non-deferred expenses. The segment recorded an unfavorable \$2.6 million of prospective unlocking for the three months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to a favorable \$2.4 million of prospective unlocking for the three months ended September 30, 2013.

Operating revenues

Total operating revenues for the three months ended September 30, 2014, increased \$23.9 million, or 6.4%, as compared to the three months ended September 30, 2013. This increase was driven by higher net premiums and policy fees due to continued growth in the universal life block and higher investment income due to increases in net in force reserves.

Net premiums and policy fees

Net premiums and policy fees increased by \$14.7 million, or 6.9%, for the three months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the three months ended September 30, 2013, due to continued growth in the universal life block, partially offset by decreases in traditional life premiums.

Net investment income

Net investment income in the segment increased \$9.9 million, or 7.6%, for the three months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the three months ended September 30, 2013. Of the increase in net investment income, \$4.7

Table of Contents

million was attributable to a net increase in universal life reserves. Additionally, traditional life investment income increased \$4.5 million primarily due to higher reserve balances.

Other income

Other income decreased \$0.7 million, or 2.2%, for the three months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the three months ended September 30, 2013, primarily due to lower revenue in the segment's non-insurance operations.

Benefits and settlement expenses

Benefits and settlement expenses decreased by \$114.2 million, or 34.6%, for the three months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the three months ended September 30, 2013, due primarily to the impact of unlocking and favorable traditional and universal life mortality, which was partially offset by growth in retained universal life insurance in-force. For the three months ended September 30, 2014, universal life and BOLI unlocking decreased policy benefits and settlement expenses \$78.7 million as compared to an increase of \$41.2 million in the three months ended September 30, 2013. Unlocking in 2014 was largely driven by assumption changes to mortality, reinsurance and yields. Reinsurance, lapses, yields, and credited interest contributed to the unlocking in 2013.

Amortization of DAC

DAC amortization increased \$131.0 million for the three months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the three months ended September 30, 2013, primarily due to the impact of unlocking. For the three months ended September 30, 2014, universal life and BOLI unlocking increased amortization by \$90.6 million, largely driven by assumption changes to mortality, reinsurance and yields. For the three months ended September 30, 2013, universal life and BOLI unlocking decreased amortization \$40.3 million.

Other operating expenses

Other operating expenses increased \$3.5 million for the three months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the three months ended September 30, 2013. This increase reflects higher new business acquisition costs associated with slightly higher sales and higher general administrative expenses of \$3.8 million.

Sales

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

Sales for the segment increased \$0.6 million for the three months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the three months ended September 30, 2013.

For The Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014 as compared to The Nine Months Ended September 30, 2013

Segment operating income

Operating income was \$82.7 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, representing an increase of \$5.1 million, or 6.5%, from the nine months ended September 30, 2013. The increase was primarily due to higher universal life premiums and policy fees, higher investment income due to an increase in reserves, and favorable traditional life mortality. This increase was largely offset by less favorable universal life mortality and unfavorable prospective unlocking compared to 2013. The segment recorded an unfavorable \$2.6 million of prospective unlocking for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to a favorable \$2.4 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2013.

Operating revenues

Total operating revenues for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, increased \$92.2 million, or 8.5%, as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2013. This increase was driven by higher net premiums and policy fees due to continued growth in the universal life block and higher investment income due to increases in net in force reserves.

Table of Contents

Net premiums and policy fees

Net premiums and policy fees increased by \$65.6 million, or 10.8%, for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2013, due to an increase in premiums and policy fees associated with growth of the universal life block of business, and the impact of unlocking on ceded premiums, which was almost entirely offset in benefit and settlement expense in the second quarter of 2014. The increase was partially offset by decreases in traditional life premiums.

Net investment income

Net investment income in the segment increased \$23.3 million, or 6.0%, for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2013. Of the increase in net investment income, \$14.9 million was the result of a net increase in universal life reserves. Additionally, traditional life investment income increased \$6.8 million due to higher reserves, higher tax benefits and lower funding costs.

Other income

Other income increased \$3.2 million, or 3.6%, for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2013, primarily due to higher revenue in the segment's non-insurance operations.

Benefits and settlement expenses

Benefits and settlement expenses decreased by \$47.4 million, or 5.5%, for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2013, due to the impact of unlocking and favorable traditional life mortality, partially offset by growth in retained universal life insurance in-force and less favorable mortality in the universal life block. For the nine months ended September 30, 2014, universal life and BOLI unlocking decreased policy benefits and settlement expenses \$57.5 million as compared to an increase of \$42.8 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2013. Unlocking in 2014 was largely driven by assumption changes to mortality, reinsurance, and yields. Of the total impact due to unlocking, \$23.5 million is offset within the decline in ceded premiums in the second quarter of 2014. Reinsurance, lapses, yields, and credited interest contributed to the unlocking in 2013.

Amortization of DAC

DAC amortization increased \$131.4 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2013, primarily due to differing impacts of unlocking. In 2014, universal life and BOLI unlocking increased amortization \$95.8 million, as compared to a decrease of \$42.6 million in 2013.

Other operating expenses

Other operating expenses increased \$3.1 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2013. This increase reflects higher marketing company expenses of \$2.6 million and higher general administrative expenses, offset by reduced new business acquisition costs associated with lower sales.

Sales

Sales for the segment decreased \$30.1 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2013. Universal life sales decreased \$29.5 million due to sales in 2013 of a product we are no longer marketing.

Table of Contents**Reinsurance**

Currently, the Life Marketing segment reinsures significant amounts of its life insurance in-force. Pursuant to the underlying reinsurance contracts, reinsurers pay allowances to the segment as a percentage of both first year and renewal premiums. Reinsurance allowances represent the amount the reinsurer is willing to pay for reimbursement of acquisition costs incurred by the direct writer of the business. A portion of reinsurance allowances received is deferred as part of DAC and a portion is recognized immediately as a reduction of other operating expenses. As the non-deferred portion of allowances reduces operating expenses in the period received, these amounts represent a net increase to operating income during that period.

Reinsurance allowances do not affect the methodology used to amortize DAC or the period over which such DAC is amortized. However, they do affect the amounts recognized as DAC amortization. DAC on universal life-type, limited-payment long duration, and investment contracts business is amortized based on the estimated gross profits of the policies in-force. Reinsurance allowances are considered in the determination of estimated gross profits, and therefore, impact DAC amortization on these lines of business. Deferred reinsurance allowances on level term business are recorded as ceded DAC, which is amortized over estimated ceded premiums of the policies in-force. Thus, deferred reinsurance allowances may impact DAC amortization. A more detailed discussion of the components of reinsurance can be found in the Reinsurance section of Note 2, *Summary of Significant Accounting Policies* of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013.

Impact of reinsurance

Reinsurance impacted the Life Marketing segment line items as shown in the following table:

Life Marketing Segment**Line Item Impact of Reinsurance**

	For The Three Months Ended September 30,		For The Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
	(Dollars In Thousands)			
REVENUES				
Reinsurance ceded	\$ (150,586)	\$ (145,075)	\$ (550,661)	\$ (607,917)
BENEFITS AND EXPENSES				
Benefits and settlement expenses	(131,579)	(121,278)	(558,976)	(596,141)
Amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs	(26,144)	(9,279)	(45,333)	(33,717)
Other operating expenses (1)	(36,119)	(35,227)	(101,763)	(101,592)
Total benefits and expenses	(193,842)	(165,784)	(706,072)	(731,450)
NET IMPACT OF REINSURANCE (2)	\$ 43,256	\$ 20,709	\$ 155,411	\$ 123,533
Allowances received	\$ (38,418)	\$ (41,261)	\$ (102,127)	\$ (120,427)

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

Less: Amount deferred		2,299		6,034		364		18,835
Allowances recognized								
(ceded other operating expenses) (1)	\$	(36,119)	\$	(35,227)	\$	(101,763)	\$	(101,592)

(1) Other operating expenses ceded per the income statement are equal to reinsurance allowances recognized after capitalization.

(2) Assumes no investment income on reinsurance. Foregone investment income would substantially reduce the favorable impact of reinsurance. The Company estimates that the impact of foregone investment income would reduce the net impact of reinsurance by 90% to 160%.

Table of Contents

The table above does not reflect the impact of reinsurance on our net investment income. By ceding business to the assuming companies, we forgo investment income on the reserves ceded. Conversely, the assuming companies will receive investment income on the reserves assumed, which will increase the assuming companies' profitability on the business we cede. The net investment income impact to us and the assuming companies has not been quantified. The impact of including foregone investment income would be to substantially reduce the favorable net impact of reinsurance reflected above. We estimate that the impact of foregone investment income would be to reduce the net impact of reinsurance presented in the table above by 90% to 160%. The Life Marketing segment's reinsurance programs do not materially impact the other income line of our income statement.

As shown above, reinsurance had a favorable impact on the Life Marketing segment's operating income for the periods presented above. The impact of reinsurance is largely due to our quota share coinsurance program in place prior to mid-2005. Under that program, generally 90% of the segment's traditional new business was ceded to reinsurers. Since mid-2005, a much smaller percentage of overall term business has been ceded due to a change in reinsurance strategy on traditional business. In addition, since 2012, a much smaller percentage of the segment's new universal life business has been ceded. As a result of that change, the relative impact of reinsurance on the Life Marketing segment's overall results is expected to decrease over time. While the significance of reinsurance is expected to decline over time, the overall impact of reinsurance for a given period may fluctuate due to variations in mortality, unlocking of balances, and variations from term business during the post level premium period.

For The Three Months Ended September 30, 2014 as compared to The Three Months Ended September 30, 2013

The higher ceded premiums for 2014 as compared to 2013 were caused primarily by higher universal life premiums and policy fees of \$4.4 million. Ceded universal life premiums increased with the increase in the direct universal life premiums and policy fees.

Ceded benefits and settlement expenses were higher for the three months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the three months ended September 30, 2013, due to higher universal life ceded claims, partially offset by decreases in ceded reserves. Traditional ceded benefits decreased \$4.3 million for the three months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the three months ended September 30, 2013, due to lower ceded claims, slightly offset by an increase in ceded reserves. Universal life ceded benefits increased \$14.7 million for the three months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the three months ended September 30, 2013, due to higher ceded claims partially offset by a decrease in change in ceded reserves. Ceded universal life claims were \$19.0 million higher for the three months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the three months ended September 30, 2013.

Ceded amortization of deferred policy acquisitions costs increased for the three months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the three months ended September 30, 2013, primarily due to the differences in unlocking between the two periods.

Ceded other operating expenses reflect the impact of reinsurance allowances on net income. Allowances decreased in the traditional life block, reflecting runoff of business and increased in the universal life block reflecting the impact of unlocking on reinsurance.

For The Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014 as compared to The Nine Months Ended September 30, 2013

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

The lower ceded premiums for 2014 as compared to 2013 were caused primarily by lower universal life premiums and policy fees of \$11.5 million and lower traditional life premiums of \$46.5 million. Ceded traditional premium for the nine months ended September 30, 2014 decreased from the nine months ended September 30, 2013, primarily due to fluctuations in the number of policies entering their post level period. Ceded universal life premiums for the nine months ended September 30, 2014 decreased from the nine months ended September 30, 2013 primarily due to the second quarter 2014 impact of unlocking on ceded premiums, almost entirely offset in benefit and settlement expenses.

Ceded benefits and settlement expenses were lower for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2013, due to a decrease in change in ceded reserves, partially offset by higher ceded claims. Traditional ceded benefits decreased \$47.5 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2013, due to a decrease in change in ceded reserves and a

Table of Contents

decrease in ceded death benefits. Universal life ceded benefits increased \$11.0 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2013, due to an increase in ceded claims, partially offset by a decrease in ceded reserves due to the impact of unlocking on ceded premium. Ceded universal life claims were \$68.2 million higher for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2013.

Ceded amortization of deferred policy acquisitions costs increased for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2013, primarily due to the differences in unlocking between the two periods.

Ceded other operating expenses reflect the impact of reinsurance allowances on net income. Allowances decreased in the traditional line reflecting runoff of business, and increased in the universal life line reflecting the allowance pattern on older business, changes in the mix of business, and the impact of unlocking on reinsurance.

Table of Contents**Acquisitions***Segment results of operations*

Segment results were as follows:

	For The Three Months Ended September 30,			For The Nine Months Ended September 30,			Change
	2014 (Dollars In Thousands)	2013	Change	2014 (Dollars In Thousands)	2013	Change	
REVENUES							
Gross premiums and policy fees	\$ 270,959	\$ 194,379	39.4%	\$ 872,356	\$ 611,299	42.7%	
Reinsurance ceded	(90,744)	(92,970)	2.4	(293,459)	(292,229)	(0.4)	
Net premiums and policy fees	180,215	101,409	77.7	578,897	319,070	81.4	
Net investment income	219,453	133,695	64.1	656,113	403,050	62.8	
Other income	3,036	1,004	n/m	10,386	3,033	n/m	
Total operating revenues	402,704	236,108	70.6	1,245,396	725,153	71.7	
Realized gains (losses) - investments	(14,718)	(24,992)	41.1	119,927	(163,726)	n/m	
Realized gains (losses) - derivatives	20,536	28,951	(29.1)	(91,609)	190,820	n/m	
Total revenues	408,522	240,067	70.2	1,273,714	752,247	69.3	
BENEFITS AND EXPENSES							
Benefits and settlement expenses	295,252	173,423	70.2	919,849	530,773	73.3	
Amortization of value of business acquired	2,703	18,030	(85.0)	37,106	54,904	(32.4)	
Other operating expenses	31,820	15,226	n/m	89,634	46,235	93.9	
Operating benefits and expenses	329,775	206,679	59.6	1,046,589	631,912	65.6	
Amortization related to benefits and settlement expenses	2,564	104	n/m	13,595	104	n/m	
Amortization of VOBA related to realized gains (losses) - investments	612	398	53.8	1,393	1,514	(8.0)	
Total benefits and expenses	332,951	207,181	60.7	1,061,577	633,530	67.6	
INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAX							
	75,571	32,886	n/m	212,137	118,717	78.7	
Less: realized gains (losses)	5,818	3,959		28,318	27,094		
Less: amortization related to benefits and settlement expenses	(2,564)	(104)		(13,595)	(104)		
Less: related amortization of VOBA	(612)	(398)		(1,393)	(1,514)		
OPERATING INCOME	\$ 72,929	\$ 29,429	n/m	\$ 198,807	\$ 93,241	n/m	

Table of Contents

The following table summarizes key data for the Acquisitions segment:

	For The Three Months Ended September 30,			Change	For The Nine Months Ended September 30,			Change
	2014 (Dollars In Thousands)	2013			2014 (Dollars In Thousands)	2013		
Average Life Insurance In-Force(1)								
Traditional	\$ 186,577,010	\$ 166,134,343		12.3%	\$ 190,139,888	\$ 169,083,110		12.5%
Universal life	34,619,902	27,475,762		26.0	35,366,654	28,050,853		26.1
	\$ 221,196,912	\$ 193,610,105		14.2	\$ 225,506,542	\$ 197,133,963		14.4
Average Account Values								
Universal life	\$ 4,540,271	\$ 3,318,872		36.8	\$ 4,573,397	\$ 3,338,832		37.0
Fixed annuity(2)	3,765,858	3,018,382		24.8	3,795,553	3,048,919		24.5
Variable annuity	1,462,919	577,578		n/m	1,492,537	576,569		n/m
	\$ 9,769,048	\$ 6,914,832		41.3	\$ 9,861,487	\$ 6,964,320		41.6
Interest Spread - UL & Fixed Annuities								
Net investment income yield(3)	5.66%	5.73%			5.67%	5.70%		
Interest credited to policyholders	3.97	4.02			3.98	3.99		
Interest spread	1.69%	1.71%			1.69%	1.71%		

(1) Amounts are not adjusted for reinsurance ceded.

(2) Includes general account balances held within variable annuity products and is net of coinsurance ceded.

(3) Earned rates exclude portfolios supporting modified coinsurance and crediting rates exclude 100% cessions.

For The Three Months Ended September 30, 2014 as compared to The Three Months Ended September 30, 2013

Segment operating income

Operating income was \$72.9 million for the three months ended September 30, 2014, an increase of \$43.5 million as compared to the three months ended September 30, 2013, primarily due to the impact of the MONY acquisition which occurred in the fourth quarter of 2013. MONY operating income was \$29.3 million for the three months ended September 30, 2014. In addition, the increase was driven by a \$15.9 million favorable variance related to prospective unlocking. For the three months ended September 30, 2014, the segment recorded favorable prospective unlocking of \$11.7 million as compared to an unfavorable \$4.2 million of prospective unlocking for the three months ended September 30, 2013.

Operating revenues

Net premiums and policy fees increased \$78.8 million, or 77.7%, for the three months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the three months ended September 30, 2013, primarily due to the impact of the MONY acquisition which occurred in the fourth quarter of 2013. MONY net premiums for the three months ended September 30, 2014 were \$79.1 million, and were partly offset by runoff of other business. Net investment income increased \$85.8 million, or 64.1%, for the three months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the three months ended September 30, 2013, due to the \$94.0 million impact of MONY partly offset by expected runoff of business.

Total benefits and expenses

Total benefits and expenses increased \$125.8 million, or 60.7%, for the three months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the three months ended September 30, 2013. The increase was primarily due to the MONY acquisition increasing operating benefits and expenses \$145.7 million, partly offset by runoff and the impact of favorable unlocking of \$9.7 million for the three months ended September 30, 2014 as compared to an unfavorable \$1.7 million for three months ended September 30, 2013.

Table of Contents

For The Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014 as compared to The Nine Months Ended September 30, 2013

Segment operating income

Operating income was \$198.8 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, an increase of \$105.6 million as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2013. This was primarily due to the impact of the MONY acquisition which occurred in the fourth quarter of 2013. MONY operating income was \$86.3 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2014. In addition, the increase was driven by a \$15.9 million favorable variance related to prospective unlocking. For the nine months ended September 30, 2014, the segment recorded favorable prospective unlocking of \$11.7 million as compared to an unfavorable \$4.2 million of prospective unlocking for the nine months ended September 30, 2013.

Operating revenues

Net premiums and policy fees increased \$259.8 million, or 81.4%, for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2013, primarily due to the impact of the MONY acquisition which occurred in the fourth quarter of 2013. MONY net premiums for the nine months ended September 30, 2014 were \$282.5 million, and were partly offset by runoff of other business. Net investment income increased \$253.1 million, or 62.8%, for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2013, due to the \$272.9 million impact of MONY, partly offset by expected runoff of business.

Total benefits and expenses

Total benefits and expenses increased \$428.0 million, or 67.6%, for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2013. The increase was primarily due to the MONY acquisition, partly offset by the impact of favorable unlocking of \$6.3 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2014 as compared to an unfavorable \$2.4 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2013. The MONY acquisition increased operating benefits and expenses \$475.9 million.

Reinsurance

The Acquisitions segment currently reinsures portions of both its life and annuity in-force. The cost of reinsurance to the segment is reflected in the chart shown below. A more detailed discussion of the components of reinsurance can be found in the Reinsurance section of Note 2, *Summary of Significant Accounting Policies* of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013.

Table of Contents*Impact of reinsurance*

Reinsurance impacted the Acquisitions segment line items as shown in the following table:

Acquisitions Segment**Line Item Impact of Reinsurance**

	For The Three Months Ended September 30,		For The Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
(Dollars In Thousands)				
REVENUES				
Reinsurance ceded	\$ (90,744)	\$ (92,970)	\$ (293,459)	\$ (292,229)
BENEFITS AND EXPENSES				
Benefits and settlement expenses	(69,300)	(65,336)	(240,838)	(238,789)
Amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs	(3,544)	(2,718)	(9,703)	(7,307)
Other operating expenses	(12,027)	(12,014)	(34,972)	(36,460)
Total benefits and expenses	(84,871)	(80,068)	(285,513)	(282,556)
NET IMPACT OF REINSURANCE (1)	\$ (5,873)	\$ (12,902)	\$ (7,946)	\$ (9,673)

(1) Assumes no investment income on reinsurance. Foregone investment income would substantially reduce the favorable impact of reinsurance.

The segment's reinsurance programs do not materially impact the other income line of the income statement. In addition, net investment income generally has no direct impact on reinsurance cost. However, by ceding business to the assuming companies, we forgo investment income on the reserves ceded to the assuming companies. Conversely, the assuming companies will receive investment income on the reserves assumed which will increase the assuming companies' profitability on business assumed from the Company. For business ceded under modified coinsurance arrangements, the amount of investment income attributable to the assuming company is included as part of the overall change in policy reserves and, as such, is reflected in benefit and settlement expenses. The net investment income impact to us and the assuming companies has not been quantified as it is not fully reflected in our consolidated financial statements.

The net impact of reinsurance was more favorable by \$7.0 million for the three months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the three months ended September 30, 2013, primarily due to a favorable impact from the MONY acquisition. In the three months ended September 30, 2014, ceded revenues increased by \$2.2 million and ceded benefits and expenses increased by \$4.8 million as the impact of the MONY acquisition more than offset runoff in other blocks.

The net impact of reinsurance was more favorable by \$1.7 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2013, primarily due to a favorable impact from the MONY acquisition. In the nine months ended September 30,

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

2014, ceded revenues increased by \$1.2 million and ceded benefits and expenses increased by \$3.0 million as the impact of the MONY acquisition more than offset runoff in other blocks.

Table of Contents**Annuities***Segment results of operations*

Segment results were as follows:

	For The Three Months Ended September 30,			For The Nine Months Ended September 30,		
	2014 (Dollars In Thousands)	2013	Change	2014 (Dollars In Thousands)	2013	Change
REVENUES						
Gross premiums and policy fees	\$ 38,614	\$ 34,870	10.7%	\$ 112,445	\$ 96,387	16.7%
Reinsurance ceded			n/m			n/m
Net premiums and policy fees	38,614	34,870	10.7	112,445	96,387	16.7
Net investment income	117,646	116,699	0.8	351,943	352,045	n/m
Realized gains (losses) - derivatives	(17,928)	(15,782)	(13.6)	(52,376)	(43,293)	(21.0)
Other income	38,027	33,295	14.2	109,444	90,690	20.7
Total operating revenues	176,359	169,082	4.3	521,456	495,829	5.2
Realized gains (losses) - investments	4,787	236	n/m	7,734	10,227	(24.4)
Realized gains (losses) - derivatives, net of economic cost	1,093	26,987	(95.9)	(46,877)	41,203	n/m
Total revenues	182,239	196,305	(7.2)	482,313	547,259	(11.9)
BENEFITS AND EXPENSES						
Benefits and settlement expenses	78,031	80,963	(3.6)	232,864	243,804	(4.5)
Amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs and value of business acquired	18,336	11,246	63.0	44,504	37,663	18.2
Other operating expenses	30,657	26,007	17.9	87,852	83,716	4.9
Operating benefits and expenses	127,024	118,216	7.5	365,220	365,183	n/m
Amortization related to benefits and settlement expenses	290	(2,276)	n/m	2,297	(3,132)	n/m
Amortization of DAC related to realized gains (losses) - investments	(19)	8,565	n/m	(13,146)	14,665	n/m
Total benefits and expenses	127,295	124,505	2.2	354,371	376,716	(5.9)
INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAX						
	54,944	71,800	(23.5)	127,942	170,543	(25.0)
Less: realized gains (losses) - investments	4,787	236		7,734	10,227	
Less: realized gains (losses) - derivatives, net of economic cost	1,093	26,987		(46,877)	41,203	
Less: amortization related to benefits and settlement expenses	(290)	2,276		(2,297)	3,132	
Less: related amortization of DAC	19	(8,565)		13,146	(14,665)	
OPERATING INCOME	\$ 49,335	\$ 50,866	(3.0)	\$ 156,236	\$ 130,646	19.6

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

Table of Contents

The following table summarizes key data for the Annuities segment:

	For The Three Months Ended September 30,			For The Nine Months Ended September 30,		
	2014 (Dollars In Thousands)	2013	Change	2014 (Dollars In Thousands)	2013	Change
Sales						
Fixed annuity	\$ 267,604	\$ 180,714	48.1%	\$ 717,359	\$ 434,165	65.2%
Variable annuity	279,458	357,484	(21.8)	686,966	1,656,066	(58.5)
	\$ 547,062	\$ 538,198	1.6	\$ 1,404,325	\$ 2,090,231	(32.8)
Average Account Values						
Fixed annuity(1)	\$ 8,243,541	\$ 8,214,702	0.4	\$ 8,212,895	\$ 8,251,504	(0.5)
Variable annuity	12,456,974	10,989,161	13.4	12,268,923	10,354,702	18.5
	\$ 20,700,515	\$ 19,203,863	7.8	\$ 20,481,818	\$ 18,606,206	10.1
Interest Spread - Fixed Annuities(2)						
Net investment income yield	5.47%	5.50%		5.48%	5.51%	
Interest credited to policyholders	3.33	3.50		3.34	3.54	
Interest spread	2.14%	2.00%		2.14%	1.97%	

(1) Includes general account balances held within variable annuity products.

(2) Interest spread on average general account values.

	For The Three Months Ended September 30,			For The Nine Months Ended September 30,		
	2014 (Dollars In Thousands)	2013	Change	2014 (Dollars In Thousands)	2013	Change
Derivatives related to variable annuity contracts:						
Interest rate futures - VA	\$ 1,979	\$ (2,255)	\$ 4,234	\$ 12,777	\$ (26,393)	\$ 39,170
Equity futures - VA	861	(12,568)	13,429	(9,049)	(39,829)	30,780
Currency futures - VA	10,185	(6,531)	16,716	6,020	1,440	4,580
Variance swaps - VA	1,570	(1,347)	2,917	(1,103)	(9,566)	8,463
Equity options - VA	2,050	(29,094)	31,144	(31,240)	(65,631)	34,391
Interest rate swaptions - VA	(2,812)	1,725	(4,537)	(17,213)	(738)	(16,475)
Interest rate swaps - VA	22,011	(19,224)	41,235	124,548	(125,502)	250,050
Embedded derivative - GMWB(1)	(51,429)	80,541	(131,970)	(181,105)	264,231	(445,336)
Total derivatives related to variable annuity contracts	(15,585)	11,247	(26,832)	(96,365)	(1,988)	(94,377)
Derivatives related to FIA contracts:						
Embedded derivative - FIA	(2,462)	(104)	(2,358)	(9,036)	(145)	(8,891)
Equity futures - FIA	117	(42)	159	1,067	(42)	1,109
Volatility futures - FIA	(4)		(4)	4		4
Equity options - FIA	1,099	104	995	5,077	85	4,992
Total derivatives related to FIA contracts	(1,250)	(42)	(1,208)	(2,888)	(102)	(2,786)

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

Economic cost - VA GMWB(2)	17,928	15,782	2,146	52,376	43,293	9,083
Realized gains (losses) - derivatives, net of economic cost	\$ 1,093	\$ 26,987	\$ (25,894)	\$ (46,877)	\$ 41,203	\$ (88,080)

(1) Includes impact of nonperformance risk of \$10.0 million for the three months ended September 30, 2014 and a net zero impact for the nine months ended September 30, 2014 and \$(10.5) million and \$(3.1) million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2013, respectively.

(2) Economic cost is the long-term expected average cost of providing the product benefit over the life of the policy based on product pricing assumptions. These include assumptions about the economic/market environment, and elective and non-elective policy owner behavior (e.g. lapses, withdrawal timing, mortality, etc.).

Table of Contents

	As of		
	September 30, 2014	December 31, 2013	Change
	(Dollars In Thousands)		
GMDB - Net amount at risk(1)	\$ 98,901	\$ 90,021	9.9%
GMDB Reserves	20,526	16,001	28.3
GMWB and GMAB Reserves	24,891	(156,228)	n/m
Account value subject to GMWB rider	9,711,404	9,513,847	2.1
GMWB Benefit Base	9,741,126	9,162,797	6.3
GMAB Benefit Base	5,035	5,441	(7.5)
S&P 500® Index	1,972	1,848	6.7

(1) Guaranteed benefits in excess of contract holder account balance.

For The Three Months Ended September 30, 2014 as compared to The Three Months Ended September 30, 2013*Segment operating income*

Segment operating income was \$49.3 million for the three months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to \$50.9 million for the three months ended September 30, 2013, a decrease of \$1.5 million or 3.0%. This variance included an unfavorable change in unlocking and other operating expenses partially offset by higher net policy fees and other income in the VA line and lower credited interest. The segment recorded an unfavorable \$3.4 million of unlocking for the three months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to favorable unlocking of \$4.9 million for the three months ended September 30, 2013.

Operating revenues

Segment operating revenues increased \$7.3 million, or 4.3%, for the three months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the three months ended September 30, 2013, primarily due to increases in net policy fees and other income from the VA line of business. Those increases were partially offset by increased GMWB economic cost in the VA line of business. Average fixed account balances increased 0.4% and average variable account balances grew 13.4% for the three months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the three months ended September 30, 2013.

Benefits and settlement expenses

Benefits and settlement expenses decreased \$2.9 million, or 3.6%, for the three months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the three months ended September 30, 2013. This decrease was primarily the result of lower credited interest and a \$1.0 million favorable change in unlocking. Partially offsetting these favorable changes was an unfavorable change of \$1.4 million in guaranteed benefit reserves.

Amortization of DAC

DAC amortization increased \$7.1 million, or 63.0%, for the three months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the three months ended September 30, 2013, primarily due to an unfavorable change in unlocking. DAC unlocking for the three months ended September 30, 2014 was \$3.5 million unfavorable as compared to \$5.8 million favorable unlocking for the three months ended September 30, 2013.

Other operating expenses

Other operating expenses increased \$4.7 million, or 17.9%, for the three months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the three months ended September 30, 2013. The increase is primarily due to higher renewal commissions.

Sales

Total sales increased \$8.9 million, or 1.6%, for the three months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the three months ended September 30, 2013. Sales of variable annuities decreased \$78.0 million, or 21.8% for the three

Table of Contents

months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the three months ended September 30, 2013. Sales of fixed annuities increased by \$86.9 million, or 48.1% for the three months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the three months ended September 30, 2013, driven by an increase in fixed indexed annuities (FIA) sales.

For The Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014 as compared to The Nine Months Ended September 30, 2013

Segment operating income

Segment operating income was \$156.2 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to \$130.6 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2013, an increase of \$25.6 million, or 19.6%. This variance was a result of higher net policy fees and other income in the VA line and lower credited interest. These favorable variances were partially offset by an unfavorable change in unlocking and other operating expenses. The segment recorded a favorable \$0.1 million of unlocking for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to favorable unlocking of \$8.5 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2013.

Operating revenues

Segment operating revenues increased \$25.6 million, or 5.2%, for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2013, primarily due to increases in policy fees and other income from the VA line of business. Those increases were partially offset by increased GMWB economic cost in the VA line of business. Average fixed account balances decreased 0.5% while average variable account balances grew 18.5% for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2013.

Benefits and settlement expenses

Benefits and settlement expenses decreased \$10.9 million, or 4.5%, for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2013. This decrease was primarily the result of lower credited interest, lower realized losses in the MVA annuities line and a \$0.5 million favorable change in unlocking. These favorable changes were partially offset by unfavorable changes in guaranteed benefit reserves and the SPIA mortality variance.

Amortization of DAC

DAC amortization increased \$6.8 million, or 18.2%, for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2013, primarily due to an unfavorable change in unlocking. DAC unlocking for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, was \$1.0 million favorable as compared to \$9.9 million favorable unlocking for the nine months ended September 30, 2013.

Other operating expenses

Other operating expenses increased \$4.1 million, or 4.9%, for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2013. The increase is due to higher renewal commissions partially offset by lower acquisition expenses and lower guaranty fund allocations.

Sales

Total sales decreased \$685.9 million, or 32.8%, for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2013. Sales of variable annuities decreased \$969.1 million, or 58.5% for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2013. Sales of fixed annuities increased by \$283.2 million, or 65.2% for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2013, driven by an increase in FIA sales.

Table of Contents**Stable Value Products***Segment results of operations*

Segment results were as follows:

	For The Three Months Ended September 30,			For The Nine Months Ended September 30,		
	2014	2013	Change	2014	2013	Change
	(Dollars In Thousands)			(Dollars In Thousands)		
REVENUES						
Net investment income	\$ 28,781	\$ 29,478	(2.4)%	\$ 83,737	\$ 93,203	(10.2)%
Other income			n/m	1		n/m
Total operating revenues	28,781	29,478	(2.4)	83,738	93,203	(10.2)
Realized gains (losses)	9,932	(4,270)	n/m	9,903	(1,607)	n/m
Total revenues	38,713	25,208	53.6	93,641	91,596	2.2
BENEFITS AND EXPENSES						
Benefits and settlement expenses	8,793	9,639	(8.8)	28,126	31,925	(11.9)
Amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs	96	110	(12.7)	295	287	2.8
Other operating expenses	386	523	(26.2)	1,127	1,477	(23.7)
Total benefits and expenses	9,275	10,272	(9.7)	29,548	33,689	(12.3)
INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAX						
	29,438	14,936	97.1	64,093	57,907	10.7
Less: realized gains (losses)	9,932	(4,270)		9,903	(1,607)	
OPERATING INCOME	\$ 19,506	\$ 19,206	1.6	\$ 54,190	\$ 59,514	(8.9)

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

Table of Contents

The following table summarizes key data for the Stable Value Products segment:

	For The Three Months Ended September 30,			For The Nine Months Ended September 30,			Change
	2014 (Dollars In Thousands)	2013	Change	2014 (Dollars In Thousands)	2013	Change	
Sales							
GIC	\$ 15,000	\$ 80,200	(81.3)%	\$ 40,850	\$ 397,504	(89.7)%	
GFA - Direct Institutional			n/m	50,000		n/m	
	\$ 15,000	\$ 80,200	(81.3)	\$ 90,850	\$ 397,504	(77.1)	
Average Account Values							
Average Account Values	\$ 2,358,842	\$ 2,503,294	(5.8)%	\$ 2,478,224	\$ 2,529,382	(2.0)%	
Ending Account Values	\$ 2,261,546	\$ 2,531,262	(10.7)%	\$ 2,261,546	\$ 2,531,262	(10.7)%	
Operating Spread							
Net investment income yield	4.88%	4.71%		4.51%	4.91%		
Interest credited	1.49	1.54		1.51	1.68		
Operating expenses	0.08	0.10		0.08	0.09		
Operating spread	3.31%	3.07%		2.92%	3.14%		
Adjusted operating spread(1)	2.64%	2.69%		2.65%	2.64%		

(1) Excludes participating mortgage loan income and other income.

For The Three Months Ended September 30, 2014 as compared to The Three Months Ended September 30, 2013

Segment operating income

Operating income was \$19.5 million and increased \$0.3 million, or 1.6%, for the three months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the three months ended September 30, 2013. The increase in operating earnings resulted from an increase in participating mortgage income offset by lower adjusted operating spreads and a decline in average account values. Participating mortgage income for the three months ended September 30, 2014 was \$3.9 million compared to \$2.4 million for the three months ended September 30, 2013. The adjusted operating spread, which excludes participating income, decreased by 5 basis points for the three months ended September 30, 2014 over the prior year.

For The Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014 as compared to The Nine Months Ended September 30, 2013

Segment operating income

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

Operating income was \$54.2 million and decreased \$5.3 million, or 8.9%, for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2013. The decrease in operating earnings resulted from a decrease in participating mortgage income and a decline in average account values. Participating mortgage income for the nine months ended September 30, 2014 was \$4.9 million compared to \$9.5 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2013.

Table of Contents**Asset Protection***Segment results of operations*

Segment results were as follows:

	For The Three Months Ended September 30,			Change	For The Nine Months Ended September 30,			Change
	2014 (Dollars In Thousands)	2013			2014 (Dollars In Thousands)	2013		
REVENUES								
Gross premiums and policy fees	\$ 68,340	\$ 66,604	2.6%	\$ 203,052	\$ 200,993	1.0%		
Reinsurance ceded	(35,804)	(32,681)	(9.6)	(103,689)	(96,416)	(7.5)		
Net premiums and policy fees	32,536	33,923	(4.1)	99,363	104,577	(5.0)		
Net investment income	5,589	5,804	(3.7)	17,043	17,440	(2.3)		
Other income	32,459	31,768	2.2	91,431	88,862	2.9		
Total operating revenues	70,584	71,495	(1.3)	207,837	210,879	(1.4)		
BENEFITS AND EXPENSES								
Benefits and settlement expenses	24,745	26,384	(6.2)	73,813	77,006	(4.1)		
Amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs	6,133	7,402	(17.1)	19,782	22,471	(12.0)		
Other operating expenses	31,176	30,882	1.0	90,809	91,110	(0.3)		
Total benefits and expenses	62,054	64,668	(4.0)	184,404	190,587	(3.2)		
INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAX								
	8,530	6,827	24.9	23,433	20,292	15.5		
OPERATING INCOME	\$ 8,530	\$ 6,827	24.9	\$ 23,433	\$ 20,292	15.5		

The following table summarizes key data for the Asset Protection segment:

	For The Three Months Ended September 30,			Change	For The Nine Months Ended September 30,			Change
	2014 (Dollars In Thousands)	2013			2014 (Dollars In Thousands)	2013		
Sales								
Credit insurance	\$ 7,754	\$ 9,105	(14.8)%	\$ 22,812	\$ 26,291	(13.2)%		
Service contracts	104,821	102,796	2.0	289,068	283,984	1.8		
GAP	19,193	18,140	5.8	54,951	50,359	9.1		
	\$ 131,768	\$ 130,041	1.3	\$ 366,831	\$ 360,634	1.7		
Loss Ratios(1)								
Credit insurance	30.5%	20.7%		29.2%	34.8%			
Service contracts	92.5	99.0		88.8	92.0			
GAP	53.2	46.0		56.5	41.7			

(1) Incurred claims as a percentage of earned premiums

For The Three Months Ended September 30, 2014 as compared to The Three Months Ended September 30, 2013

Segment operating income

Operating income was \$8.5 million, representing an increase of \$1.7 million, or 24.9%, for the three months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the three months ended September 30, 2013.

Table of Contents

Service contract earnings increased \$1.6 million, primarily due to lower losses. Credit insurance earnings increased \$0.1 million, primarily resulting from lower expenses. Earnings from the GAP product were consistent with the prior year.

Net premiums and policy fees

Net premiums and policy fees decreased \$1.4 million, or 4.1%, for the three months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the three months ended September 30, 2013. Service contract premiums decreased \$1.0 million and GAP premiums decreased \$0.5 million primarily due to higher ceded premiums. Credit insurance premiums increased \$0.1 million.

Other income

Other income increased \$0.7 million, or 2.2%, for the three months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the three months ended September 30, 2013 due primarily to higher volume in the service contract and GAP product lines.

Benefits and settlement expenses

Benefits and settlement expenses decreased \$1.6 million, or 6.2%, for the three months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the three months ended September 30, 2013. Service contract claims decreased \$2.4 million resulting from lower loss ratios and higher ceded losses. The decrease was partially offset by an increase in GAP claims of \$0.3 million and credit insurance claims of \$0.4 million due to higher loss ratios.

Amortization of DAC and Other operating expenses

Amortization of DAC was \$1.3 million, or 17.1%, lower for the three months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the three months ended September 30, 2013, primarily due to lower DAC balances and a change in the mix of business in the GAP product line. Other operating expenses increased \$0.3 million, or 1.0%, for the three months ended September 30, 2014.

Sales

Total segment sales increased \$1.7 million, or 1.3%, for the three months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the three months ended September 30, 2013. Higher auto sales helped drive increased service contract sales of \$2.0 million and GAP product sales of \$1.1 million. Credit insurance sales decreased \$1.4 million due to the decreasing demand for this product.

For The Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014 as compared to The Nine Months Ended September 30, 2013

Segment operating income

Operating income was \$23.4 million, representing an increase of \$3.1 million, or 15.5%, for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2013. Service contract earnings increased \$3.1 million primarily due lower loss ratios and higher volume. Credit insurance earnings increased \$0.8 million primarily due to lower losses and lower expenses in 2014. Earnings from the GAP product line decreased \$0.8 million primarily resulting from higher losses.

Net premiums and policy fees

Net premiums and policy fees decreased \$5.2 million, or 5.0%, for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2013. Service contract premiums decreased \$3.4 million and GAP premiums decreased \$2.3 million primarily due to higher ceded premiums. Credit insurance premiums increased \$0.5 million.

Table of Contents

Other income

Other income increased \$2.6 million, or 2.9%, for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2013 due primarily to higher volume in the service contract and GAP product lines.

Benefits and settlement expenses

Benefits and settlement expenses decreased \$3.2 million, or 4.1%, for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2013. Service contract claims decreased \$5.2 million due to higher ceded losses and lower loss ratios. Credit insurance claims decreased \$0.5 million, primarily due to lower loss ratios. The decreases were partially offset by an increase of \$2.5 million in GAP claims due to higher loss ratios.

Amortization of DAC and Other operating expenses

Amortization of DAC was \$2.7 million, or 12.0%, lower for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2013, primarily due to lower DAC balances and a change in the mix of business in the GAP product line. Other operating expenses decreased \$0.3 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2014.

Sales

Total segment sales increased \$6.2 million, or 1.7%, for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2013. Higher auto sales in 2014 helped drive increased service contract sales of \$5.1 million and GAP product sales of \$4.6 million. The increase was partly offset by a decrease in credit insurance sales of \$3.5 million due to the decreasing demand for this product.

Reinsurance

The majority of the Asset Protection segment's reinsurance activity relates to the cession of single premium credit life and credit accident and health insurance, vehicle service contracts, and guaranteed asset protection insurance to producer affiliated reinsurance companies (PARCs). These arrangements are coinsurance contracts ceding the business on a first dollar quota share basis at 100% to limit our exposure and allow the PARCs to share in the underwriting income of the product. Reinsurance contracts do not relieve us from our obligations to our policyholders. A more detailed discussion of the components of reinsurance can be found in the Reinsurance section of Note 2, *Summary of Significant Accounting Policies* to our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013.

Table of Contents

Reinsurance impacted the Asset Protection segment line items as shown in the following table:

Asset Protection Segment**Line Item Impact of Reinsurance**

	For The Three Months Ended September 30,		For The Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
(Dollars In Thousands)				
REVENUES				
Reinsurance ceded	\$ (35,804)	\$ (32,681)	\$ (103,689)	\$ (96,416)
BENEFITS AND EXPENSES				
Benefits and settlement expenses	(15,462)	(14,993)	(46,222)	(42,894)
Amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs	(1,595)	(1,770)	(4,633)	(5,192)
Other operating expenses	(1,762)	(1,530)	(5,434)	(4,494)
Total benefits and expenses	(18,819)	(18,293)	(56,289)	(52,580)
NET IMPACT OF REINSURANCE (1)	\$ (16,985)	\$ (14,388)	\$ (47,400)	\$ (43,836)

(1) Assumes no investment income on reinsurance. Foregone investment income would substantially change the impact of reinsurance.

For The Three Months Ended September 30, 2014 as compared to The Three Months Ended September 30, 2013

Reinsurance premiums ceded increased \$3.1 million, or 9.6%, for the three months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the three months ended September 30, 2013. The increase was primarily due to an increase in ceded GAP and service contract premiums, somewhat offset by a decline in ceded dealer credit insurance premiums due to lower sales.

Benefits and settlement expenses ceded increased \$0.5 million, or 3.1%, for the three months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the three months ended September 30, 2013. The increase was primarily due to higher ceded losses in the service contract and GAP lines, somewhat offset by lower ceded losses in the dealer credit line.

Amortization of DAC ceded decreased \$0.2 million while other operating expenses increased \$0.2 million for the three months ended September 30, 2014 as compared to the three months ended September 30, 2013.

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

Net investment income has no direct impact on reinsurance cost. However, by ceding business to the assuming companies, we forgo investment income on the reserves ceded. Conversely, the assuming companies will receive investment income on the reserves assumed which generally will increase the assuming companies' profitability on business we cede. The net investment income impact to us and the assuming companies has not been quantified as it is not reflected in our consolidated financial statements.

For The Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014 as compared to The Nine Months Ended September 30, 2013

Reinsurance premiums ceded increased \$7.3 million, or 7.5%, for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2013. The increase was primarily due to an increase in ceded GAP and service contract premiums, somewhat offset by a decline in ceded dealer credit insurance premiums due to lower sales.

Benefits and settlement expenses ceded increased \$3.3 million, or 7.8%, for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2013. The increase was primarily due to higher ceded losses in the service contract line.

Table of Contents

Amortization of DAC ceded decreased \$0.6 million, or 10.8%, for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2013, primarily as the result of a decrease in ceded activity in the dealer credit line and a change in the mix of business in the GAP product line. Other operating expenses increased \$0.9 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2013 mainly due to increased ceded activity in the GAP line.

Net investment income has no direct impact on reinsurance cost. However, by ceding business to the assuming companies, we forgo investment income on the reserves ceded. Conversely, the assuming companies will receive investment income on the reserves assumed which generally will increase the assuming companies' profitability on business we cede. The net investment income impact to us and the assuming companies has not been quantified as it is not reflected in our consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents**Corporate and Other***Segment results of operations*

Segment results were as follows:

	For The Three Months Ended September 30,			For The Nine Months Ended September 30,			Change
	2014 (Dollars In Thousands)	2013	Change	2014 (Dollars In Thousands)	2013	Change	
REVENUES							
Gross premiums and policy fees	\$ 4,111	\$ 4,556	(9.8)%	\$ 12,665	\$ 13,865	(8.7)%	
Reinsurance ceded	(2)	(4)	50.0	(8)	(8)	n/m	
Net premiums and policy fees	4,109	4,552	(9.7)	12,657	13,857	(8.7)	
Net investment income	46,887	38,664	21.3	127,767	125,154	2.1	
Other income	432	583	(25.9)	5,560	4,340	28.1	
Total operating revenues	51,428	43,799	17.4	145,984	143,351	1.8	
Realized gains (losses) - investments	(3,926)	(2,829)	(38.8)	(1,524)	354	n/m	
Realized gains (losses) - derivatives	(180)	1,233	n/m	(482)	4,115	n/m	
Total revenues	47,322	42,203	12.1	143,978	147,820	(2.6)	
BENEFITS AND EXPENSES							
Benefits and settlement expenses	4,632	5,701	(18.8)	14,721	16,365	(10.0)	
Amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs	120	160	(25.0)	363	504	(28.0)	
Other operating expenses	61,786	52,189	18.4	173,420	161,548	7.3	
Total benefits and expenses	66,538	58,050	14.6	188,504	178,417	5.7	
INCOME (LOSS) BEFORE INCOME TAX							
	(19,216)	(15,847)	(21.3)	(44,526)	(30,597)	(45.5)	
Less: realized gains (losses) - investments	(3,926)	(2,829)		(1,524)	354		
Less: realized gains (losses) - derivatives	(180)	1,233		(482)	4,115		
OPERATING INCOME (LOSS)	\$ (15,110)	\$ (14,251)	(6.0)	\$ (42,520)	\$ (35,066)	(21.3)	

For The Three Months Ended September 30, 2014 as compared to The Three Months Ended September 30, 2013

Segment operating income (loss)

Corporate & Other segment operating loss was \$15.1 million for the three months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to an operating loss of \$14.3 million for the three months ended September 30, 2013. The change was primarily due to higher overhead expenses partially offset by a \$7.5 million favorable investment income variance related to called securities compared to the three months ended September 30, 2013.

Operating revenues

Net investment income for the segment increased \$8.2 million, or 21.3%, for the three months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the three months ended September 30, 2013. The increase in net investment income was primarily due to a \$7.5 million favorable variance related to called securities and a \$0.9 million increase related to a portfolio of securities designated for trading as compared to the three months ended September 30, 2013. Net premiums and policy fees decreased \$0.4 million, or 9.7%, for the three months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the three months ended September 30, 2013 and other income decreased \$0.2 million.

Table of Contents

Total benefits and expenses

Total benefits and expenses increased \$8.5 million for the three months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the three months ended September 30, 2013, primarily due to higher overhead expenses for the three months ended September 30, 2014.

For The Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014 as compared to The Nine Months Ended September 30, 2013

Segment operating income (loss)

Corporate and Other segment operating loss was \$42.5 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to an operating loss of \$35.1 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2013. The change resulted from an \$11.9 million unfavorable variance in other operating expenses partially offset by a \$2.6 million increase in net investment income and a \$1.2 million increase in other income as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2013.

Operating revenues

Net investment income for the segment increased \$2.6 million, or 2.1%, for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2013, and net premiums and policy fees decreased \$1.2 million, or 8.7%. The increase in net investment income included a \$5.5 million favorable variance related to called securities and a \$1.8 million increase related to a portfolio of securities designated for trading as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2013. Partially offsetting these increases was a \$2.0 million unfavorable variance related to mortgage loan prepayment fee income as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2013 and lower core net investment income. Other income increased \$1.2 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2014 as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2013, primarily due to a \$1.2 million favorable variance related to gains generated on the repurchase of non-recourse funding obligations.

Total benefits and expenses

Total benefits and expenses increased \$10.1 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2013, primarily due to higher overhead expenses.

Table of Contents**CONSOLIDATED INVESTMENTS**

Certain reclassifications have been made in the previously reported financial statements and accompanying tables to make the prior year amounts comparable to those of the current year. Such reclassifications had no effect on previously reported net income, shareowners' equity, or the totals reflected in the accompanying tables.

Portfolio Description

As of September 30, 2014, our investment portfolio was approximately \$45.8 billion. The types of assets in which we may invest are influenced by various state insurance laws which prescribe qualified investment assets. Within the parameters of these laws, we invest in assets giving consideration to such factors as liquidity and capital needs, investment quality, investment return, matching of assets and liabilities, and the overall composition of the investment portfolio by asset type and credit exposure.

The following table presents the reported values of our invested assets:

	September 30, 2014	As of (Dollars In Thousands)		December 31, 2013	
Publicly issued bonds (amortized cost: 2014 - \$26,810,505; 2013 - \$26,112,290)	\$ 28,997,046	63.3%	\$	27,069,262	61.8%
Privately issued bonds (amortized cost: 2014 - \$7,827,115; 2013 - \$7,921,480)	8,340,349	18.2		8,118,831	18.5
Fixed maturities	37,337,395	81.5		35,188,093	80.3
Equity securities (cost: 2014 - \$791,964; 2013 - \$675,758)	809,648	1.8		646,027	1.5
Mortgage loans	5,232,463	11.4		5,493,492	12.5
Investment real estate	13,998			20,413	
Policy loans	1,767,228	3.9		1,815,744	4.1
Other long-term investments	470,174	1.0		521,811	1.2
Short-term investments	183,411	0.4		134,146	0.4
Total investments	\$ 45,814,317	100.0%	\$	43,819,726	100.0%

Included in the preceding table are \$2.8 billion and \$2.8 billion of fixed maturities and \$75.3 million and \$52.4 million of short-term investments classified as trading securities as of September 30, 2014 and December 31, 2013, respectively. The trading portfolio includes invested assets of \$2.8 billion and \$2.8 billion as of September 30, 2014 and December 31, 2013, respectively, held pursuant to modified coinsurance (Modco) arrangements under which the economic risks and benefits of the investments are passed to third party reinsurers. Also included above are \$415.0 million and \$365.0 million of securities classified as held-to-maturity as of September 30, 2014 and December 31, 2013, respectively.

Fixed Maturity Investments

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

As of September 30, 2014, our fixed maturity investment holdings were approximately \$37.3 billion. The approximate percentage distribution of our fixed maturity investments by quality rating is as follows:

Rating	As of	
	September 30, 2014	December 31, 2013
AAA	12.5%	12.5%
AA	7.1	7.0
A	32.3	32.2
BBB	41.5	41.7
Below investment grade	5.5	5.6
Not rated	1.1	1.0
	100.0%	100.0%

Table of Contents

We use various Nationally Recognized Statistical Rating Organizations (NRSRO) ratings when classifying securities by quality ratings. When the various NRSRO ratings are not consistent for a security, we use the second-highest convention in assigning the rating. When there are no such published ratings, we assign a rating based on the statutory accounting rating system if such ratings are available.

We do not have material exposure to financial guarantee insurance companies with respect to our investment portfolio. As of September 30, 2014, based upon amortized cost, \$35.5 million of our securities were guaranteed either directly or indirectly by third parties out of a total of \$34.3 billion fixed maturity securities held by us (0.1% of total fixed maturity securities).

Changes in fair value for our available-for-sale portfolio, net of related DAC, VOBA, and policyholder dividend obligation are charged or credited directly to shareowners' equity, net of tax. Declines in fair value that are other-than-temporary are recorded as realized losses in the consolidated statements of income, net of any applicable non-credit component of the loss, which is recorded as an adjustment to other comprehensive income (loss).

The distribution of our fixed maturity investments by type is as follows:

Type	As of	
	September 30, 2014	December 31, 2013
	(Dollars In Millions)	
Corporate bonds	\$ 28,947.7	\$ 27,293.4
Residential mortgage-backed securities	1,733.7	1,756.0
Commercial mortgage-backed securities	1,327.4	1,129.2
Other asset-backed securities	1,120.5	1,160.2
U.S. government-related securities	1,818.3	1,704.1
Other government-related securities	77.9	108.5
States, municipals, and political subdivisions	1,896.9	1,671.7
Other	415.0	365.0
Total fixed income portfolio	\$ 37,337.4	\$ 35,188.1

Within our fixed maturity investments, we maintain portfolios classified as available-for-sale, trading, and held-to-maturity. We purchase our available-for-sale investments with the intent to hold to maturity by purchasing investments that match future cash flow needs. However, we may sell any of our available-for-sale and trading investments to maintain proper matching of assets and liabilities. Accordingly, we classified \$34.1 billion, or 91.3%, of our fixed maturities as available-for-sale as of September 30, 2014. These securities are carried at fair value on our consolidated condensed balance sheets.

Fixed maturities that we have both the positive intent and ability to hold to maturity are classified as held-to-maturity. We classified \$415.0 million, or 1.1% of our fixed maturities as held-to-maturity as of September 30, 2014. These securities are carried at amortized cost on our consolidated condensed balance sheets.

Table of Contents

Trading securities are carried at fair value and changes in fair value are recorded on the income statement as they occur. Our trading portfolio accounts for \$2.8 billion, or 7.6%, of our fixed maturities and \$75.3 million of short-term investments as of September 30, 2014. Changes in fair value on the trading portfolio, including gains and losses from sales, are passed to the reinsurers through the contractual terms of the reinsurance arrangements. Partially offsetting these amounts are corresponding changes in the fair value of the embedded derivative associated with the underlying reinsurance arrangement. The total Modco trading portfolio fixed maturities by rating is as follows:

Rating	As of	
	September 30, 2014	December 31, 2013
	(Dollars In Thousands)	
AAA	\$ 446,609	\$ 419,866
AA	270,741	266,173
A	896,117	854,020
BBB	893,708	924,554
Below investment grade	319,453	324,453
Total Modco trading fixed maturities	\$ 2,826,628	\$ 2,789,066

A portion of our bond portfolio is invested in residential mortgage-backed securities (RMBS), commercial mortgage-backed securities (CMBS), and other asset-backed securities (collectively referred to as asset-backed securities or ABS). ABS are securities that are backed by a pool of assets. These holdings as of September 30, 2014, were approximately \$4.2 billion. Mortgage-backed securities (MBS) are constructed from pools of mortgages and may have cash flow volatility as a result of changes in the rate at which prepayments of principal occur with respect to the underlying loans. Excluding limitations on access to lending and other extraordinary economic conditions, prepayments of principal on the underlying loans can be expected to accelerate with decreases in market interest rates and diminish with increases in interest rates.

Table of Contents

Residential mortgage-backed securities - As of September 30, 2014, our RMBS portfolio was approximately \$1.7 billion. Sequential securities receive payments in order until each class is paid off. Planned amortization class securities (PACs) pay down according to a schedule. Pass through securities receive principal as principal of the underlying mortgages is received.

The tables below include a breakdown of these holdings by type and rating as of September 30, 2014.

Type	Percentage of Residential Mortgage- Backed Securities
Sequential	27.7%
PAC	36.9
Pass Through	10.4
Other	25.0
	100.0%

Rating	Percentage of Residential Mortgage-Backed Securities
AAA	64.0%
AA	0.1
A	0.9
BBB	0.4
Below investment grade	34.6
	100.0%

Table of Contents*Alt-A Collateralized Holdings*

As of September 30, 2014, we held securities with a fair value of \$377.4 million, or 0.8% of invested assets, supported by collateral classified as Alt-A. As of December 31, 2013, we held securities with a fair value of \$395.0 million supported by collateral classified as Alt-A. We included in this classification certain whole loan securities where such securities had underlying mortgages with a high level of limited loan documentation. As of September 30, 2014, these securities had a fair value of \$135.9 million and an unrealized gain of \$34.0 million.

The following table includes the percentage of our collateral classified as Alt-A, grouped by rating category, as of September 30, 2014:

Rating	Percentage of Alt-A Securities
A	1.3%
BBB	0.3
Below investment grade	98.4
	100.0%

The following tables categorize the estimated fair value and unrealized gain/(loss) of our mortgage-backed securities collateralized by Alt-A mortgage loans by rating as of September 30, 2014:

Alt-A Collateralized Holdings

Rating	Estimated Fair Value of Security by Year of Security Origination					Total
	2010 and Prior	2011	2012	2013	2014	
	(Dollars In Millions)					
A	\$ 5.1	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$ 5.1
BBB	1.2					1.2
Below investment grade	371.1					371.1
Total mortgage-backed securities collateralized by Alt-A mortgage loans	\$ 377.4	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$ 377.4

Rating	Estimated Unrealized Gain (Loss) of Security by Year of Security Origination					Total
	2010 and Prior	2011	2012	2013	2014	
	(Dollars In Millions)					
A	\$ 0.1	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$ 0.1
BBB	0.1					0.1
Below investment grade	44.2					44.2
Total mortgage-backed securities collateralized by Alt-A mortgage loans	\$ 44.4	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$ 44.4

Table of Contents**Sub-prime Collateralized Holdings**

As of September 30, 2014, we held securities with a total fair value of \$1.8 million that were supported by collateral classified as sub-prime. As of December 31, 2013, we held securities with a fair value of \$2.0 million that were supported by collateral classified as sub-prime.

Prime Collateralized Holdings

As of September 30, 2014, we had RMBS collateralized by prime mortgage loans (including agency mortgages) with a total fair value of \$1.4 billion, or 3.0%, of total invested assets. As of December 31, 2013, we held securities with a fair value of \$1.4 billion of RMBS collateralized by prime mortgage loans (including agency mortgages).

The following table includes the percentage of our collateral classified as prime, grouped by rating category, as of September 30, 2014:

Rating	Percentage of Prime Securities
AAA	82.0%
AA	0.2
A	0.7
BBB	0.4
Below investment grade	16.7
	100.0%

The following tables categorize the estimated fair value and unrealized gain/(loss) of our mortgage-backed securities collateralized by prime mortgage loans (including agency mortgages) by rating as of September 30, 2014:

Prime Collateralized Holdings

Rating	Estimated Fair Value of Security by Year of Security Origination						Total
	2010 and Prior	2011	2012	2013	2014	(Dollars In Millions)	
AAA	\$ 509.4	\$ 316.6	\$ 26.9	\$ 152.1	\$ 105.4	\$	1,110.4
AA	0.2				2.3		2.5
A	9.8						9.8
BBB	5.4						5.4
Below investment grade	226.4						226.4
Total mortgage-backed securities collateralized by prime mortgage	\$ 751.2	\$ 316.6	\$ 26.9	\$ 152.1	\$ 107.7	\$	1,354.5

loans

Rating	Estimated Unrealized Gain (Loss) of Security by Year of Security Origination						Total
	2010 and Prior	2011	2012	2013	2014	(Dollars In Millions)	
AAA	\$ 24.0	\$ 11.5	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.4	\$ (0.4)	\$ 35.6	
AA							
A	0.5					0.5	
BBB	0.5					0.5	
Below investment grade	10.8					10.8	
Total mortgage-backed securities collateralized by prime mortgage loans	\$ 35.8	\$ 11.5	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.4	\$ (0.4)	\$ 47.4	

Table of Contents

Commercial mortgage-backed securities - Our CMBS portfolio consists of commercial mortgage-backed securities issued in securitization transactions. As of September 30, 2014, the CMBS holdings were approximately \$1.3 billion. As of December 31, 2013, the CMBS holdings were approximately \$1.1 billion.

The following table includes the percentages of our CMBS holdings, grouped by rating category, as of September 30, 2014:

Rating	Percentage of Commercial Mortgage-Backed Securities
AAA	70.6%
AA	15.3
A	12.4
BBB	1.7
	100.0%

The following tables categorize the estimated fair value and unrealized gain/(loss) of our CMBS as of September 30, 2014:

Commercial Mortgage-Backed Securities

Rating	Estimated Fair Value of Security by Year of Security Origination						Total
	2010 and Prior	2011	2012	2013	2014	(Dollars In Millions)	
AAA	\$ 149.8	\$ 211.9	\$ 308.0	\$ 147.9	\$ 119.1	\$ 936.7	
AA	32.9	38.1	42.5	29.9	59.3	202.7	
A	79.9	52.0	13.6	19.6		165.1	
BBB	22.9					22.9	
Total commercial mortgage-backed securities	\$ 285.5	\$ 302.0	\$ 364.1	\$ 197.4	\$ 178.4	\$ 1,327.4	

Rating	Estimated Unrealized Gain (Loss) of Security by Year of Security Origination						Total
	2010 and Prior	2011	2012	2013	2014	(Dollars In Millions)	
AAA	\$ 8.3	\$ 18.9	\$ 2.9	\$ 0.5	\$ 0.4	\$ 31.0	
AA	2.1	3.1	(1.4)	(0.3)	0.2	3.7	
A	3.2	0.6	(0.8)	(0.8)		2.2	
BBB	0.4					0.4	
Total commercial mortgage-backed securities	\$ 14.0	\$ 22.6	\$ 0.7	\$ (0.6)	\$ 0.6	\$ 37.3	

Table of Contents

Other asset-backed securities Other asset-backed securities pay down based on cash flow received from the underlying pool of assets, such as receivables on auto loans, student loans, credit cards, etc. As of September 30, 2014, these holdings were approximately \$1.1 billion. As of December 31, 2013, these holdings were approximately \$1.2 billion.

The following table includes the percentages of our other asset-backed holdings, grouped by rating category, as of September 30, 2014:

Rating	Percentage of Other Asset-Backed Securities
AAA	51.3%
AA	19.0
A	17.4
BBB	0.6
Below investment grade	11.7
	100.0%

The following tables categorize the estimated fair value and unrealized gain/(loss) of our asset-backed securities as of September 30, 2014:

Other Asset-Backed Securities

Rating	Estimated Fair Value of Security by Year of Security Origination						Total
	2010 and Prior	2011	2012	2013	2014	(Dollars In Millions)	
AAA	\$ 490.9	\$ 13.2	\$ 31.8	\$ 19.1	\$ 20.1	\$ 575.1	
AA	156.2		56.5			212.7	
A	43.5	51.5	56.0	34.5	10.0	195.5	
BBB	6.4					6.4	
Below investment grade	130.8					130.8	
Total other asset-backed securities	\$ 827.8	\$ 64.7	\$ 144.3	\$ 53.6	\$ 30.1	\$ 1,120.5	

Rating	Estimated Unrealized Gain (Loss) of Security by Year of Security Origination						Total
	2010 and Prior	2011	2012	2013	2014	(Dollars In Millions)	
AAA	\$ (16.7)	\$ 1.2	\$ 0.5	\$ 0.6	\$ 0.2	\$ (14.2)	
AA	(10.0)		(0.9)			(10.9)	
A	4.0	4.6	(0.6)	2.0		10.0	
BBB	0.3					0.3	
Below investment grade	12.1					12.1	
Total other asset-backed securities	\$ (10.3)	\$ 5.8	\$ (1.0)	\$ 2.6	\$ 0.2	\$ (2.7)	

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

Table of Contents

We obtained ratings of our fixed maturities from Moody's Investors Service, Inc. (Moody's), Standard & Poor's Corporation (S&P), and/or Fitch Ratings (Fitch). If a fixed maturity is not rated by Moody's, S&P, or Fitch, we use ratings from the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC), or we rate the fixed maturity based upon a comparison of the unrated issue to rated issues of the same issuer or rated issues of other issuers with similar risk characteristics. As of September 30, 2014, 98.9% of our fixed maturities were rated by Moody's, S&P, Fitch, and/or the NAIC.

The industry segment composition of our fixed maturity securities is presented in the following table:

	As of September 30, 2014	% Fair Value (Dollars In Thousands)	As of December 31, 2013	% Fair Value
Banking	\$ 2,857,662	7.7%	\$ 2,664,495	7.6%
Other finance	669,372	1.8	620,544	1.8
Electric	3,916,855	10.5	3,752,261	10.7
Natural gas	2,722,243	7.3	2,369,185	6.7
Insurance	2,927,633	7.8	2,634,325	7.5
Energy	2,097,747	5.6	1,947,154	5.5
Communications	1,506,470	4.0	1,500,544	4.3
Basic industrial	1,861,834	5.0	1,674,169	4.8
Consumer noncyclical	3,201,955	8.6	3,040,080	8.6
Consumer cyclical	2,082,199	5.6	2,141,961	6.1
Finance companies	237,263	0.6	261,871	0.7
Capital goods	1,353,734	3.6	1,300,671	3.7
Transportation	974,658	2.6	909,574	2.6
Other industrial	360,121	1.0	390,766	1.1
Brokerage	619,523	1.7	627,630	1.8
Technology	1,075,231	2.9	1,009,357	2.9
Real estate	250,985	0.7	269,378	0.8
Other utility	232,198	0.6	179,346	0.5
Commercial mortgage-backed securities	1,327,393	3.6	1,129,226	3.2
Other asset-backed securities	1,120,538	3.0	1,160,238	3.3
Residential mortgage-backed non-agency securities	807,126	2.2	800,154	2.3
Residential mortgage-backed agency securities	926,575	2.5	955,791	2.7
U.S. government-related securities	1,818,321	4.9	1,704,128	4.8
Other government-related securities	77,920	0.2	108,524	0.3
State, municipals, and political divisions	1,896,839	5.1	1,671,721	4.8
Other	415,000	0.9	365,000	0.9
Total	\$ 37,337,395	100.0%	\$ 35,188,093	100.0%

Our investments classified as available-for-sale and trading in debt and equity securities are reported at fair value. Our investments classified as held-to-maturity are reported at amortized cost. As of September 30, 2014, our fixed maturity investments (bonds and redeemable preferred stocks) had a market value of \$37.3 billion, which was 8.7% above amortized cost of \$34.3 billion. These assets are invested for terms approximately corresponding to anticipated future benefit payments. Thus, market fluctuations are not expected to adversely affect liquidity.

Market values for private, non-traded securities are determined as follows: 1) we obtain estimates from independent pricing services and 2) we estimate market value based upon a comparison to quoted issues of the same issuer or issues of other issuers with similar terms and risk

characteristics. We analyze the independent pricing services valuation methodologies and related inputs, including an assessment of the observability of market inputs. Upon obtaining this information related to market value, management makes a determination as to the appropriate valuation amount.

Table of Contents

Mortgage Loans

We invest a portion of our investment portfolio in commercial mortgage loans. As of September 30, 2014, our mortgage loan holdings were approximately \$5.2 billion. We have specialized in making loans on either credit-oriented commercial properties or credit-anchored strip shopping centers and apartments. Our underwriting procedures relative to our commercial loan portfolio are based, in our view, on a conservative and disciplined approach. We concentrate on a small number of commercial real estate asset types associated with the necessities of life (retail, multi-family, professional office buildings, and warehouses). We believe these asset types tend to weather economic downturns better than other commercial asset classes in which it has chosen not to participate. We believe this disciplined approach has helped to maintain a relatively low delinquency and foreclosure rate throughout its history. The majority of our mortgage loans portfolio was underwritten and funded by us. From time to time, we may acquire loans in conjunction with an acquisition.

Our commercial mortgage loans are stated at unpaid principal balance, adjusted for any unamortized premium or discount, and net of valuation allowances. Interest income is accrued on the principal amount of the loan based on the loan's contractual interest rate. Amortization of premiums and discounts is recorded using the effective yield method. Interest income, amortization of premiums and discounts, and prepayment fees are reported in net investment income.

Certain of our mortgage loans have call options or interest rate reset options between 3 and 10 years. However, if interest rates were to significantly increase, we may be unable to exercise the call options or increase the interest rates on our existing mortgage loans commensurate with the significantly increased market rates. Assuming the loans are called at their next call dates, approximately \$29.9 million will become due in the remainder of 2014, \$1.1 billion in 2015 through 2019, \$510.0 million in 2020 through 2024, and \$129.3 million thereafter.

We also offer a type of commercial mortgage loan under which we will permit a loan-to-value ratio of up to 85% in exchange for a participating interest in the cash flows from the underlying real estate. As of September 30, 2014 and December 31, 2013, approximately \$583.4 million and \$666.6 million, respectively, of our mortgage loans had this participation feature. Cash flows received as a result of this participation feature are recorded as interest income. During the three and nine month period ended September 30, 2014 and 2013, we recognized \$8.0 million and \$13.8 million and \$3.7 million and \$12.9 million, respectively, of participating mortgage loan income.

We record mortgage loans net of an allowance for credit losses. This allowance is calculated through analysis of specific loans that have indicators of potential impairment based on current information and events. As of September 30, 2014 and December 31, 2013, our allowance for mortgage loan credit losses was \$3.7 million and \$3.1 million, respectively. While our mortgage loans do not have quoted market values, as of September 30, 2014, we estimated the fair value of our mortgage loans to be \$5.7 billion (using discounted cash flows from the next call date), which was approximately 8.9% greater than the amortized cost, less any related loan loss reserve.

At the time of origination, our mortgage lending criteria targets that the loan-to-value ratio on each mortgage is 75% or less. We target projected rental payments from credit anchors (i.e., excluding rental payments from smaller local tenants) of 70% of the property's projected operating expenses and debt service.

As of September 30, 2014, approximately \$34.0 million, or 0.07%, of invested assets consisted of nonperforming, restructured or mortgage loans that were foreclosed and were converted to real estate properties. We do not expect these investments to adversely affect its liquidity or ability to

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

maintain proper matching of assets and liabilities. During the nine months ended September 30, 2014, certain mortgage loan transactions occurred that were accounted for as troubled debt restructurings under Topic 310 of the FASB ASC. For all mortgage loans, the impact of troubled debt restructurings is generally reflected in our investment balance and in the allowance for mortgage loan credit losses. Transactions accounted for as troubled debt restructurings during the quarter included either the acceptance of assets in satisfaction of principal at a future date or the recognition of permanent impairments to principal, and were the result of agreements between the creditor and the debtor. During the three and nine month periods ending September 30, 2014, we accepted or agreed to accept at a date prior to year end 2014, assets of \$11.2 million and \$26.3 million in satisfaction of \$14.6 million and \$30.6 million of principal. We also identified one \$12.6 million loan whose principal was permanently impaired to a value of \$7.3 million. These transactions resulted in a \$5.3 million and \$6.2 million decrease in our investment in mortgage loans net of existing allowances for mortgage loans

Table of Contents

losses. Of the mortgage loan transactions accounted for as troubled debt restructurings, \$21.8 million remain on our balance sheet as of September 30, 2014.

Our mortgage loan portfolio consists of two categories of loans: (1) those not subject to a pooling and servicing agreement and (2) those subject to a contractual pooling and servicing agreement. As of September 30, 2014, \$34.0 million of mortgage loans not subject to a pooling and servicing agreement were nonperforming or restructured. \$21.8 million of these nonperforming loans were restructured during the nine months ended September 30, 2014. We did not foreclose on any loans during the nine months ended September 30, 2014.

As of September 30, 2014, none of the loans subject to a pooling and servicing agreement were nonperforming. We did not foreclose on any nonperforming loans during the nine months ended September 30, 2014.

We do not expect these investments to adversely affect our liquidity or ability to maintain proper matching of assets and liabilities.

It is our policy to cease to carry accrued interest on loans that are over 90 days delinquent. For loans less than 90 days delinquent, interest is accrued unless it is determined that the accrued interest is not collectible. If a loan becomes over 90 days delinquent, it is our general policy to initiate foreclosure proceedings unless a workout arrangement to bring the loan current is in place. For loans subject to a pooling and servicing agreement, there are certain additional restrictions and/or requirements related to workout proceedings, and as such, these loans may have different attributes and/or circumstances affecting the status of delinquency or categorization of those in nonperforming status.

Risk Management and Impairment Review

We monitor the overall credit quality of our portfolio within established guidelines. The following table includes our available-for-sale fixed maturities by credit rating as of September 30, 2014:

Rating	Fair Value (Dollars In Thousands)	Percent of Fair Value
AAA	\$ 4,225,854	12.4%
AA	2,389,486	7.0
A	11,179,642	32.8
BBB	14,618,108	42.9
Investment grade	32,413,090	95.1
BB	1,076,734	3.2
B	176,328	0.5
CCC or lower	426,472	1.2
Below investment grade	1,679,534	4.9
Total	\$ 34,092,624	100.0%

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

Not included in the table above are \$2.5 billion of investment grade and \$322.6 million of below investment grade fixed maturities classified as trading securities and \$415.0 million of fixed maturities classified as held-to-maturity.

Table of Contents

Limiting bond exposure to any creditor group is another way we manage credit risk. We held no credit default swaps on the positions listed below as of September 30, 2014. The following table summarizes our ten largest maturity exposures to an individual creditor group as of September 30, 2014:

Creditor	Fair Value of		Total Fair Value
	Funded Securities	Unfunded Exposures (Dollars In Millions)	
Berkshire Hathaway Inc.	\$ 214.6	\$	\$ 214.6
Bank of America Corp.	186.7	0.3	187.0
General Electric	185.0		185.0
Duke Energy Corp.	183.4		183.4
Wells Fargo & Co.	178.4		178.4
Comcast Corp.	178.2		178.2
Nextera Energy Inc.	174.3		174.3
Exelon Corp.	172.6		172.6
JP Morgan Chase and Company	152.3	19.0	171.3
Rio Tinto PLC	162.3		162.3

Determining whether a decline in the current fair value of invested assets is an other-than-temporary decline in value is both objective and subjective, and can involve a variety of assumptions and estimates, particularly for investments that are not actively traded in established markets. We review our positions on a monthly basis for possible credit concerns and review our current exposure, credit enhancement, and delinquency experience.

Management considers a number of factors when determining the impairment status of individual securities. These include the economic condition of various industry segments and geographic locations and other areas of identified risks. Since it is possible for the impairment of one investment to affect other investments, we engage in ongoing risk management to safeguard against and limit any further risk to our investment portfolio. Special attention is given to correlative risks within specific industries, related parties, and business markets.

For certain securitized financial assets with contractual cash flows, including RMBS, CMBS, and other asset-backed securities (collectively referred to as asset-backed securities or ABS), GAAP requires us to periodically update our best estimate of cash flows over the life of the security. If the fair value of a securitized financial asset is less than its cost or amortized cost and there has been a decrease in the present value of the expected cash flows since the last revised estimate, considering both timing and amount, an other-than-temporary impairment charge is recognized. Estimating future cash flows is a quantitative and qualitative process that incorporates information received from third party sources along with certain internal assumptions and judgments regarding the future performance of the underlying collateral. Projections of expected future cash flows may change based upon new information regarding the performance of the underlying collateral. In addition, we consider our intent and ability to retain a temporarily depressed security until recovery.

Securities in an unrealized loss position are reviewed at least quarterly to determine if an other-than-temporary impairment is present based on certain quantitative and qualitative factors. We consider a number of factors in determining whether the impairment is other-than-temporary. These include, but are not limited to: 1) actions taken by rating agencies, 2) default by the issuer, 3) the significance of the decline, 4) an assessment of our intent to sell the security (including a more likely than not assessment of whether we will be required to sell the security) before recovering the security's amortized cost, 5) the duration of the decline, 6) an economic analysis of the issuer's industry, and 7) the financial strength, liquidity, and recoverability of the issuer. Management performs a security-by-security review each quarter in evaluating the need for any other-than-temporary impairments. Although no set formula is used in this process, the investment performance, collateral position, and continued viability of the issuer are significant measures considered, along with an analysis regarding our expectations for recovery of the

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

security's entire amortized cost basis through the receipt of future cash flows. Based on our analysis, for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2014, we concluded that approximately \$2.3 million and \$5.4 million, respectively, of investment securities in an unrealized loss position was other-than-temporarily impaired, due to credit-related factors, resulting in a charge to earnings. Additionally, we recognized \$1.2 million and \$3.4 million, respectively, of non-credit losses

Table of Contents

previously recorded in other comprehensive income (loss) that were recorded in earnings. These non-credit gains were caused by recognizing, in the current quarter, credit losses in earnings that had previously been recognized as non-credit losses in other comprehensive income.

There are certain risks and uncertainties associated with determining whether declines in market values are other-than-temporary. These include significant changes in general economic conditions and business markets, trends in certain industry segments, interest rate fluctuations, rating agency actions, changes in significant accounting estimates and assumptions, commission of fraud, and legislative actions. We continuously monitor these factors as they relate to the investment portfolio in determining the status of each investment.

We have deposits with certain financial institutions which exceed federally insured limits. We have reviewed the creditworthiness of these financial institutions and believe there is minimal risk of a material loss.

Certain European countries have experienced varying degrees of financial stress. Risks from the continued debt crisis in Europe could continue to disrupt the financial markets which could have a detrimental impact on global economic conditions and on sovereign and non-sovereign obligations. There remains considerable uncertainty as to future developments in the European debt crisis and the impact on financial markets.

The chart shown below includes our non-sovereign fair value exposures in these countries as of September 30, 2014. As September 30, 2014, we had no unfunded exposure and had no direct sovereign fair value exposure.

Financial Instrument and Country	Non-sovereign Debt		Total Gross Funded Exposure
	Financial	Non-financial (Dollars In Millions)	
Securities:			
United Kingdom	\$ 537.1	\$ 803.9	\$ 1,341.0
Netherlands	159.1	203.8	362.9
France	104.6	236.8	341.4
Switzerland	150.3	159.3	309.6
Germany	97.0	136.4	233.4
Spain	42.7	148.6	191.3
Sweden	125.9	38.1	164.0
Belgium		109.9	109.9
Norway	12.4	91.5	103.9
Italy		101.9	101.9
Ireland	11.5	69.9	81.4
Luxembourg		67.7	67.7
Portugal		15.5	15.5
Denmark	13.9		13.9
Total securities	1,254.5	2,183.3	3,437.8
Derivatives:			
United Kingdom	16.4		16.4
Germany	10.1		10.1
Switzerland	8.7		8.7
Total derivatives	35.2		35.2
Total securities	\$ 1,289.7	\$ 2,183.3	\$ 3,473.0

Table of Contents**Realized Gains and Losses**

The following table sets forth realized investment gains and losses for the periods shown:

	For The Three Months Ended September 30,			For The Nine Months Ended September 30,			Change
	2014	2013	Change (Dollars In Thousands)	2014	2013	Change	
Fixed maturity gains - sales	\$ 22,586	\$ 11,666	\$ 10,920	\$ 50,650	\$ 46,110	\$ 4,540	
Fixed maturity losses - sales	(257)	(1,120)	863	(753)	(4,103)	3,350	
Equity gains - sales	1,298		1,298	1,298	2,367	(1,069)	
Equity losses - sales							
Impairments on fixed maturity securities	(2,354)	(7,421)	5,067	(5,405)	(13,918)	8,513	
Impairments on equity securities		(1,260)	1,260		(3,347)	3,347	
Modco trading portfolio	(17,225)	(25,960)	8,735	110,067	(167,982)	278,049	
Other	(5,208)	(4,094)	(1,114)	(7,806)	(10,023)	2,217	
Total realized gains (losses) - investments	\$ (1,160)	\$ (28,189)	\$ 27,029	\$ 148,051	\$ (150,896)	\$ 298,947	
Derivatives related to variable annuity contracts:							
Interest rate futures - VA	\$ 1,979	\$ (2,255)	\$ 4,234	\$ 12,777	\$ (26,393)	\$ 39,170	
Equity futures - VA	861	(12,568)	13,429	(9,049)	(39,829)	30,780	
Currency futures - VA	10,185	(6,531)	16,716	6,020	1,440	4,580	
Variance swaps - VA	1,570	(1,347)	2,917	(1,103)	(9,566)	8,463	
Equity options - VA	2,050	(29,094)	31,144	(31,240)	(65,631)	34,391	
Interest rate swaptions - VA	(2,812)	1,725	(4,537)	(17,213)	(738)	(16,475)	
Interest rate swaps - VA	22,011	(19,224)	41,235	124,548	(125,502)	250,050	
Embedded derivative - GMWB	(51,429)	80,541	(131,970)	(181,105)	264,231	(445,336)	
Total derivatives related to variable annuity contracts	(15,585)	11,247	(26,832)	(96,365)	(1,988)	(94,377)	
Derivatives related to FIA contracts:							
Embedded derivative - FIA	(2,462)	(104)	(2,358)	(9,036)	(145)	(8,891)	
Equity futures - FIA	117	(42)	159	1,067	(42)	1,109	
Volatility futures - FIA	(4)		(4)	4		4	
Equity options - FIA	1,099	104	995	5,077	85	4,992	
Total derivatives related to FIA contracts	(1,250)	(42)	(1,208)	(2,888)	(102)	(2,786)	
Derivatives related to IUL contracts:							
Embedded derivative - IUL	347		347	62		62	
Equity futures - IUL	16		16	16		16	
Equity options - IUL	(24)		(24)	(24)		(24)	
Total derivatives related to IUL contracts	339		339	54		54	
Embedded derivative - Modco reinsurance treaties	20,426	30,074	(9,648)	(91,945)	191,847	(283,792)	
Interest rate swaps		72	(72)		2,984	(2,984)	
Other derivatives	(149)	(25)	(124)	(351)	(149)	(202)	
Total realized gains (losses) - derivatives	\$ 3,781	\$ 41,326	\$ (37,545)	\$ (191,495)	\$ 192,592	\$ (384,087)	

Realized gains and losses on investments reflect portfolio management activities designed to maintain proper matching of assets and liabilities and to enhance long-term investment portfolio performance. The change in net realized investment gains (losses), excluding impairments and Modco trading portfolio activity during the nine months ended September 30, 2014, primarily reflects the normal operation of our asset/liability program within the context of the changing interest rate and spread environment, as well as tax planning strategies designed to utilize capital loss carryforwards.

Realized losses are comprised of both write-downs of other-than-temporary impairments and actual sales of investments. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2014, we recognized pre-tax other-than-temporary impairments of \$2.3 million and \$5.4 million, respectively, due to credit-related factors, resulting in a charge to earnings. Additionally, we recognized \$1.2 million and \$3.4 million, respectively, of non-credit losses previously

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

Table of Contents

recorded in other comprehensive income in earnings as credit losses. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2013, we recognized pre-tax other-than-temporary impairments of \$8.7 million and \$17.3 million, respectively. These other-than-temporary impairments resulted from our analysis of circumstances and our belief that credit events, loss severity, changes in credit enhancement, and/or other adverse conditions of the respective issuers have caused, or will lead to, a deficiency in the contractual cash flows related to these investments. These other-than-temporary impairments, net of Modco recoveries, are presented in the chart below:

	For The Three Months Ended September 30,		For The Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
	(Dollars In Millions)			
Alt-A MBS	\$ 0.8	\$ 1.5	\$ 2.8	\$ 4.5
Other MBS	0.7	1.6	1.8	5.1
Corporate bonds		4.3		4.3
Equities		1.3		3.4
Other	0.8		0.8	
Total	\$ 2.3	\$ 8.7	\$ 5.4	\$ 17.3

As previously discussed, management considers several factors when determining other-than-temporary impairments. Although we purchase securities with the intent to hold them until maturity, we may change our position as a result of a change in circumstances. Any such decision is consistent with our classification of all but a specific portion of our investment portfolio as available-for-sale. For the nine months ended September 30, 2014, we sold securities in an unrealized loss position with a fair value of \$6.7 million. For such securities, the proceeds, realized loss, and total time period that the security had been in an unrealized loss position are presented in the table below:

	Proceeds	% Proceeds	Realized Loss	% Realized Loss
	(Dollars In Thousands)			
<= 90 days	\$ 4,077	60.6%	\$ (247)	32.9%
>90 days but <= 180 days	630	9.4	(99)	13.1
>180 days but <= 270 days	210	3.1	(16)	2.1
>270 days but <= 1 year	135	2.0	(20)	2.7
>1 year	1,675	24.9	(371)	49.2
Total	\$ 6,727	100.0%	\$ (753)	100.0%

For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2014, we sold or otherwise disposed of securities in an unrealized loss position with a fair value (proceeds) of \$2.3 million and \$6.7 million, respectively. The loss realized on the sale of these securities was \$0.3 million and \$0.8 million, respectively. We made the decision to exit these holdings in conjunction with our overall asset liability management process.

For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2014, we sold securities in an unrealized gain position with a fair value of \$497.1 million and \$1.1 billion, respectively. The gain realized on the sale of these securities was \$23.9 million and \$51.9 million, respectively.

The \$5.2 million of other realized losses recognized for the three months ended September 30, 2014, consists of the decrease in the mortgage loan reserves of \$0.6 million, mortgage loan losses of \$5.9 million, and partnership gains of \$0.1 million. The \$7.8 million of other realized losses recognized for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, consists of the increase in the mortgage loan reserves of \$0.6 million, mortgage loan losses of \$6.9 million, and real estate losses of \$0.3 million.

For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2014, net losses of \$17.2 million and net gains of \$110.1 million primarily related to changes in fair value on our Modco trading portfolios were included in realized gains and losses, respectively. Of this amount, approximately \$4.7 million and \$16.4 million, respectively, of gains were realized through the sale of certain securities, which will be reimbursed to our reinsurance partners over time through the

Table of Contents

reinsurance settlement process for this block of business. The Modco embedded derivative associated with the trading portfolios had realized pre-tax gains of \$20.4 million and losses of \$91.9 million during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2014, respectively. These gains for the three months ended September 30, 2014, were due to the credit spreads widening slightly and the nine months ended September 30, 2014 losses were primarily the result of credit spreads modestly retightening and lower treasury yields.

Realized investment gains and losses related to derivatives represent changes in their fair value during the period and termination gains/(losses) on those derivatives that were closed during the period.

We use equity, interest rate, currency, and volatility futures to mitigate the risk related to certain guaranteed minimum benefits, including GMWB, within our VA products. In general, the cost of such benefits varies with the level of equity and interest rate markets, foreign currency levels, and overall volatility. The equity futures resulted in net pre-tax gains of \$0.9 million and losses of \$9.0 million, interest rate futures resulted in pre-tax gains of \$2.0 million and \$12.8 million, currency futures resulted in net pre-tax gains of \$10.2 million and \$6.0 million, and volatility futures resulted in no pre-tax gains or losses for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2014, respectively. No volatility future positions were held as of September 30, 2014.

We also use equity options, variance swaps, and volatility options to mitigate the risk related to certain guaranteed minimum benefits, including GMWB, within our VA products. In general, the cost of such benefits varies with the level of equity markets and overall volatility. The equity options resulted in net pre-tax gains of \$2.1 million and losses of \$31.2 million, the variance swaps resulted in a net pre-tax gain of \$1.6 million and a loss of \$1.1 million, and the volatility options resulted in no pre-tax gains or losses, respectively, for three and nine months ended September 30, 2014. No volatility options positions were held as of September 30, 2014.

We use interest rate swaps and interest rate swaptions to mitigate the risk related to certain guaranteed minimum benefits, including GMWB, within our VA products. The interest rate swaps resulted in net pre-tax gains of \$22.0 million and \$124.5 million and interest rate swaptions resulted in a net pre-tax loss of \$2.8 million and \$17.2 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2014, respectively.

The GMWB rider embedded derivative on variable deferred annuities, with a GMWB rider, had net realized losses of \$51.4 million and \$181.1 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2014, respectively. The loss was primarily the result of a change in interest rates during 2014.

We use certain interest rate swaps to mitigate the price volatility of fixed maturities. These positions resulted in no pre-tax gains or losses for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2014. None of these positions were held as of September 30, 2014.

We purchased interest rate caps during 2011, to mitigate our credit risk with respect to our LIBOR exposure and the potential impact of European financial market distress. These caps resulted in no pre-tax gains or losses for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2014. No interest rate caps were held as of September 30, 2014.

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

We also use various swaps and other types of derivatives to mitigate risk related to other exposures. These contracts generated net pre-tax losses of \$0.1 million and \$0.4 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2014, respectively.

We recognized pre-tax losses of \$2.5 million and \$9.0 million, respectively, for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2014 related to the embedded derivative on the FIA product. We use certain equity options as well as equity and volatility futures to mitigate certain equity market risks associated with the FIA. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2014, we recognized pre-tax gains of \$1.2 million and \$6.1 million related to these derivatives, respectively.

We recognized pre-tax gains of \$0.3 million and \$0.1 million, respectively, for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2014 related to the embedded derivative on the indexed universal life (IUL) product. We use certain equity options as well as equity futures to mitigate certain equity market risks associated with the IUL.

Table of Contents**Unrealized Gains and Losses - Available-for-Sale Securities**

The information presented below relates to investments at a certain point in time and is not necessarily indicative of the status of the portfolio at any time after September 30, 2014. Information about unrealized gains and losses is subject to rapidly changing conditions, including volatility of financial markets and changes in interest rates. Management considers a number of factors in determining if an unrealized loss is other-than-temporary, including the expected cash to be collected and the intent, likelihood, and/or ability to hold the security until recovery. Consistent with our long-standing practice, we do not utilize a "bright line test" to determine other-than-temporary impairments. On a quarterly basis, we perform an analysis on every security with an unrealized loss to determine if an other-than-temporary impairment has occurred. This analysis includes reviewing several metrics including collateral, expected cash flows, ratings, and liquidity. Furthermore, since the timing of recognizing realized gains and losses is largely based on management's decisions as to the timing and selection of investments to be sold, the tables and information provided below should be considered within the context of the overall unrealized gain/(loss) position of the portfolio. We had an overall net unrealized gain of \$2.7 billion, prior to tax and DAC offsets, as of September 30, 2014, and an overall net unrealized gain of \$1.1 billion as of December 31, 2013.

For fixed maturity and equity securities held that are in an unrealized loss position as of September 30, 2014, the fair value, amortized cost, unrealized loss, and total time period that the security has been in an unrealized loss position are presented in the table below:

	Fair Value	% Fair Value	Amortized Cost (Dollars In Thousands)	% Amortized Cost	Unrealized Loss	% Unrealized Loss
<= 90 days	\$ 2,962,129	55.4%	\$ 3,036,237	54.6%	\$ (74,108)	34.8%
>90 days but <= 180 days	37,685	0.7	39,509	0.7	(1,824)	0.9
>180 days but <= 270 days	35,436	0.7	36,216	0.7	(780)	0.4
>270 days but <= 1 year	31,363	0.6	32,766	0.6	(1,403)	0.7
>1 year but <= 2 years	1,588,804	29.7	1,671,210	30.1	(82,406)	38.7
>2 years but <= 3 years	388,448	7.3	414,446	7.5	(25,998)	12.2
>3 years but <= 4 years	32,022	0.6	34,032	0.6	(2,010)	0.9
>4 years but <= 5 years	12,973	0.2	15,637	0.3	(2,664)	1.3
>5 years	255,549	4.8	277,192	4.9	(21,643)	10.1
Total	\$ 5,344,409	100.0%	\$ 5,557,245	100.0%	\$ (212,836)	100.0%

The majority of the unrealized loss as of September 30, 2014 for both investment grade and below investment grade securities is attributable to fluctuations in credit and mortgage spreads for certain securities. The negative impact of spread levels for certain securities was partially offset by lower treasury yield levels and the associated positive effect on security prices. Spread levels have improved since December 31, 2013. However, certain types of securities, including tranches of RMBS and ABS, continue to be priced at a level which has caused the unrealized losses noted above. We believe spread levels on these RMBS and ABS are largely due to uncertainties regarding future performance of the underlying mortgage loans and/or assets.

As of September 30, 2014, the Barclays Investment Grade Index was priced at 111.2 bps versus a 10 year average of 165.0 bps. Similarly, the Barclays High Yield Index was priced at 463.9 bps versus a 10 year average of 602.2 bps. As of September 30, 2014, the five, ten, and thirty-year U.S. Treasury obligations were trading at levels of 1.757%, 2.490%, and 3.197%, as compared to 10 year averages of 2.564%, 3.368%, and 4.094%, respectively.

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

As of September 30, 2014, 80.1% of the unrealized loss was associated with securities that were rated investment grade. We have examined the performance of the underlying collateral and cash flows and expect that our investments will continue to perform in accordance with their contractual terms. Factors such as credit enhancements within the deal structures and the underlying collateral performance/characteristics support the recoverability of the investments. Based on the factors discussed, we do not consider these unrealized loss positions to be other-than-temporary. However, from time to time, we may sell securities in the ordinary course of managing our portfolio to meet diversification, credit quality, yield enhancement, asset/liability management, and liquidity requirements.

Table of Contents

Expectations that investments in mortgage-backed and asset-backed securities will continue to perform in accordance with their contractual terms are based on assumptions a market participant would use in determining the current fair value. It is reasonably possible that the underlying collateral of these investments will perform worse than current market expectations and that such an event may lead to adverse changes in the cash flows on our holdings of these types of securities. This could lead to potential future write-downs within our portfolio of mortgage-backed and asset-backed securities. Expectations that our investments in corporate securities and/or debt obligations will continue to perform in accordance with their contractual terms are based on evidence gathered through our normal credit surveillance process. Although we do not anticipate such events, it is reasonably possible that issuers of our investments in corporate securities will perform worse than current expectations. Such events may lead us to recognize potential future write-downs within our portfolio of corporate securities. It is also possible that such unanticipated events would lead us to dispose of those certain holdings and recognize the effects of any such market movements in our financial statements.

As of September 30, 2014, there were estimated gross unrealized losses of \$7.6 million related to our mortgage-backed securities collateralized by Alt-A mortgage loans. Gross unrealized losses in our securities collateralized by Alt-A residential mortgage loans as of September 30, 2014, were primarily the result of continued widening spreads, representing marketplace uncertainty arising from higher defaults in Alt-A residential mortgage loans and rating agency downgrades of securities collateralized by Alt-A residential mortgage loans. As of September 30, 2014, we reviewed the performance of the underlying collateral supporting these securities and determined that the expected cash flows were in line with the valuation. As such, we believe unrealized losses as of September 30, 2014 were temporary in nature.

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

Table of Contents

We have no material concentrations of issuers or guarantors of fixed maturity securities. The industry segment composition of all securities in an unrealized loss position held as of September 30, 2014, is presented in the following table:

	Fair Value	% Fair Value	Amortized Cost (Dollars In Thousands)	% Amortized Cost	Unrealized Loss	% Unrealized Loss
Banking	\$ 491,912	9.2%	\$ 514,676	9.3%	\$ (22,764)	10.7%
Other finance	137,490	2.6	141,164	2.5	(3,674)	1.7
Electric	170,406	3.2	174,691	3.1	(4,285)	2.0
Natural gas	172,506	3.2	175,175	3.2	(2,669)	1.3
Insurance	318,328	6.0	326,396	5.9	(8,068)	3.8
Energy	231,992	4.3	241,769	4.4	(9,777)	4.6
Communications	229,853	4.3	239,186	4.3	(9,333)	4.4
Basic industrial	322,829	6.0	345,516	6.2	(22,687)	10.7
Consumer noncyclical	529,133	9.9	553,385	10.0	(24,252)	11.4
Consumer cyclical	263,020	4.9	272,503	4.9	(9,483)	4.5
Finance companies	2,460		2,993	0.1	(533)	0.3
Capital goods	126,972	2.4	130,816	2.4	(3,844)	1.8
Transportation	90,972	1.7	93,772	1.7	(2,800)	1.3
Other industrial	90,602	1.7	92,936	1.7	(2,334)	1.1
Brokerage	34,903	0.7	34,982	0.6	(79)	
Technology	215,012	4.0	222,315	4.0	(7,303)	3.4
Real estate						
Other utility	4,964	0.1	4,991	0.1	(27)	
Commercial mortgage-backed securities	247,821	4.6	253,684	4.6	(5,863)	2.8
Other asset-backed securities	660,703	12.4	694,976	12.5	(34,273)	16.1
Residential mortgage-backed non-agency securities	199,676	3.7	211,164	3.8	(11,488)	5.4
Residential mortgage-backed agency securities	37,980	0.7	40,626	0.7	(2,646)	1.2
U.S. government-related securities	723,059	13.5	745,364	13.4	(22,305)	10.5
Other government-related securities						
States, municipals, and political divisions	41,816	0.9	44,165	0.6	(2,349)	1.0
Total	\$ 5,344,409	100.0%	\$ 5,557,245	100.0%	\$ (212,836)	100.0%

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

Table of Contents

The percentage of our unrealized loss positions, segregated by industry segment, is presented in the following table:

	September 30, 2014	As of December 31, 2013
Banking	10.7%	8.1%
Other finance	1.7	2.3
Electric	2.0	7.0
Natural gas	1.3	5.1
Insurance	3.8	4.2
Energy	4.6	2.4
Communications	4.4	5.6
Basic industrial	10.7	5.1
Consumer noncyclical	11.4	12.1
Consumer cyclical	4.5	6.1
Finance companies	0.3	0.2
Capital goods	1.8	2.8
Transportation	1.3	2.4
Other industrial	1.1	1.6
Brokerage		0.7
Technology	3.4	3.9
Real estate		0.6
Other utility		0.7
Commercial mortgage-backed securities	2.8	3.3
Other asset-backed securities	16.1	11.5
Residential mortgage-backed non-agency securities	5.4	2.5
Residential mortgage-backed agency securities	1.2	1.6
U.S. government-related securities	10.5	8.9
Other government-related securities		
States, municipals, and political divisions	1.0	1.3
Total	100.0%	100.0%

The range of maturity dates for securities in an unrealized loss position as of September 30, 2014, varies, with 5.7% maturing in less than 5 years, 31.6% maturing between 5 and 10 years, and 62.7% maturing after 10 years. The following table shows the credit rating of securities in an unrealized loss position as of September 30, 2014:

S&P or Equivalent Designation	Fair Value	% Fair Value	Amortized Cost (Dollars In Thousands)	% Amortized Cost	Unrealized Loss	% Unrealized Loss
AAA/AA/A	\$ 2,780,736	52.0%	\$ 2,882,679	51.9%	\$ (101,943)	47.9%
BBB	2,060,227	38.5	2,128,760	38.3	(68,533)	32.2
Investment grade	4,840,963	90.5	5,011,439	90.2	(170,476)	80.1
BB	251,434	4.7	277,815	5.0	(26,381)	12.4
B	55,484	1.1	57,302	1.0	(1,818)	0.8
CCC or lower	196,528	3.7	210,689	3.8	(14,161)	6.7
Below investment grade	503,446	9.5	545,806	9.8	(42,360)	19.9
Total	\$ 5,344,409	100.0%	\$ 5,557,245	100.0%	\$ (212,836)	100.0%

As of September 30, 2014, we held a total of 471 positions that were in an unrealized loss position. Included in that amount were 92 positions of below investment grade securities with a fair value of \$503.4 million that were in an unrealized loss position. Total unrealized losses related to

below investment grade securities were \$42.4 million, of

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

Table of Contents

which \$29.0 million had been in an unrealized loss position for more than twelve months. Below investment grade securities in an unrealized loss position were 1.1% of invested assets.

As of September 30, 2014, securities in an unrealized loss position that were rated as below investment grade represented 9.5% of the total fair value and 19.9% of the total unrealized loss. After a review of each security and its expected cash flows, we believe the decline in market value to be temporary. We have the ability and intent to hold these securities to maturity. As of September 30, 2014, total unrealized losses for all securities in an unrealized loss position for more than twelve months were \$134.7 million. A widening of credit spreads is estimated to account for unrealized losses of \$453.2 million, with changes in treasury rates offsetting this loss by an estimated \$318.5 million.

The majority of our RMBS holdings as of September 30, 2014, were super senior or senior bonds in the capital structure. Our total non-agency portfolio has a weighted-average life of 6.29 years. The following table categorizes the weighted-average life for our non-agency portfolio, by category of material holdings, as of September 30, 2014:

Non-agency portfolio	Weighted-Average Life
Prime	7.43
Alt-A	4.58

The following table includes the fair value, amortized cost, unrealized loss, and total time period that the security has been in an unrealized loss position for all below investment grade securities as of September 30, 2014:

	Fair Value	% Fair Value	Amortized Cost	% Amortized Cost	Unrealized Loss	% Unrealized Loss
	(Dollars In Thousands)					
<= 90 days	\$ 227,236	45.1%	\$ 238,286	43.7%	\$ (11,050)	26.1%
>90 days but <= 180 days	29,665	5.9	31,380	5.7	(1,715)	4.0
>180 days but <= 270 days	7,588	1.5	8,055	1.5	(467)	1.1
>270 days but <= 1 year	5,475	1.1	5,615	1.0	(140)	0.3
>1 year but <= 2 years	95,047	18.9	105,924	19.4	(10,877)	25.7
>2 years but <= 3 years	19,589	3.9	26,092	4.8	(6,503)	15.4
>3 years but <= 4 years	16,580	3.3	17,093	3.1	(513)	1.2
>4 years but <= 5 years	564	0.1	637	0.1	(73)	0.2
>5 years	101,702	20.2	112,724	20.7	(11,022)	26.0
Total	\$ 503,446	100.0%	\$ 545,806	100.0%	\$ (42,360)	100.0%

LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

Liquidity

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

Liquidity refers to a company's ability to generate adequate amounts of cash to meet its needs. We meet our liquidity requirements primarily through positive cash flows from our operating subsidiaries. Primary sources of cash from the operating subsidiaries are premiums, deposits for policyholder accounts, investment sales and maturities, and investment income. Primary uses of cash include benefit payments, withdrawals from policyholder accounts, investment purchases, policy acquisition costs, interest payments, and other operating expenses. We believe that we have sufficient liquidity to fund our cash needs under normal operating scenarios.

In the event of significant unanticipated cash requirements beyond our normal liquidity needs, we have additional sources of liquidity available depending on market conditions and the amount and timing of the liquidity need. These additional sources of liquidity include cash flows from operations, the sale of liquid assets, accessing our credit facility, and other sources described herein.

Our decision to sell investment assets could be impacted by accounting rules, including rules relating to the likelihood of a requirement to sell securities before recovery of our cost basis. Under stressful market and economic

Table of Contents

conditions, liquidity may broadly deteriorate which could negatively impact our ability to sell investment assets. If we require on short notice significant amounts of cash in excess of normal requirements, we may have difficulty selling investment assets in a timely manner, be forced to sell them for less than we otherwise would have been able to realize, or both.

While we anticipate that the cash flows of our operating subsidiaries will be sufficient to meet our investment commitments and operating cash needs in a normal credit market environment, we recognize that investment commitments scheduled to be funded may, from time to time, exceed the funds then available. Therefore, we have established repurchase agreement programs for certain of our insurance subsidiaries to provide liquidity when needed. We expect that the rate received on our investments will equal or exceed our borrowing rate. Under this program, we may, from time to time, sell an investment security at a specific price and agree to repurchase that security at another specified price at a later date. These borrowings are for a term less than 90 days. The market value of securities to be repurchased is monitored and collateral levels are adjusted where appropriate to protect the counterparty against credit exposure. The agreements provide for net settlement in the event of default or on termination of the agreements. As of September 30, 2014, the fair value of securities pledged under the repurchase program was \$402.0 million and the repurchase obligation of \$359.8 million was included in our consolidated condensed balance sheets (at an average borrowing rate of 8 basis points). During the nine months ended September 30, 2014, the maximum balance outstanding at any one point in time related to these programs was \$633.7 million. The average daily balance was \$511.3 million (at an average borrowing rate of 10 basis points) during the nine months ended September 30, 2014. As of December 31, 2013, we had a \$350.0 million outstanding balance related to such borrowings. During 2013, the maximum balance outstanding at any one point in time related to these programs was \$815.0 million. The average daily balance was \$496.9 million (at an average borrowing rate of 11 basis points) during the year ended December 31, 2013.

Additionally, we may, from time to time, sell short-duration stable value products to complement our cash management practices. Depending on market conditions, we may also use securitization transactions involving our commercial mortgage loans to increase liquidity for the operating subsidiaries.

Credit Facility

We have access to a Credit Facility that provides the ability to borrow on an unsecured basis up to an aggregate principal amount of \$750 million. We have the right in certain circumstances to request that the commitment under the Credit Facility be increased up to a maximum principal amount of \$1.0 billion. Balances outstanding under the Credit Facility accrue interest at a rate equal to, at the option of the Borrowers, (i) LIBOR plus a spread based on the ratings of our senior unsecured long-term debt (Senior Debt), or (ii) the sum of (A) a rate equal to the highest of (x) the Administrative Agent's prime rate, (y) 0.50% above the Federal Funds rate, or (z) the one-month LIBOR plus 1.00% and (B) a spread based on the ratings of our Senior Debt. The Credit Facility also provides for a facility fee at a rate, currently 0.175%, that varies with the ratings of our Senior Debt and that is calculated on the aggregate amount of commitments under the Credit Facility, whether used or unused. The maturity date on the Credit Facility is July 17, 2017. We were not aware of any non-compliance with the financial debt covenants of the Credit Facility as of September 30, 2014. There was an outstanding balance of \$280.0 million at an interest rate of LIBOR plus 1.20% under the Credit Facility as of September 30, 2014.

Sources and Use of Cash

Our primary sources of funding are dividends from our operating subsidiaries; revenues from investments, data processing, legal, and management services rendered to subsidiaries; investment income; and external financing. These sources of cash support our general corporate needs including our common stock dividends and debt service. The states in which our insurance subsidiaries are domiciled impose certain restrictions on the insurance subsidiaries' ability to pay us dividends. These restrictions are based in part on the prior year's statutory income

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

and/or surplus. Generally, these restrictions pose no short-term liquidity concerns. We plan to retain portions of the earnings of our insurance subsidiaries in those companies primarily to support their future growth.

We are a member of the FHLB of Cincinnati. FHLB advances provide an attractive funding source for short-term borrowing and for the sale of funding agreements. Membership in the FHLB requires that we purchase FHLB capital stock based on a minimum requirement and a percentage of the dollar amount of advances outstanding. Our borrowing capacity is determined by the following factors: 1) total advance capacity is limited to the lower of 50% of

Table of Contents

total assets or 100% of mortgage-related assets of Protective Life Insurance Company, our largest insurance subsidiary, 2) ownership of appropriate capital and activity stock to support continued membership in the FHLB and current and future advances, and 3) the availability of adequate eligible mortgage or treasury/agency collateral to back current and future advances.

We held \$66.0 million of FHLB common stock as of September 30, 2014, which is included in equity securities. In addition, our obligations under the advances must be collateralized. We maintain control over any such pledged assets, including the right of substitution. As of September 30, 2014, we had \$771.9 million of funding agreement-related advances and accrued interest outstanding under the FHLB program.

As of September 30, 2014, we reported approximately \$614.7 million (fair value) of Auction Rate Securities (ARS) in non-Modco portfolios. As of September 30, 2014, 100% of these ARS were rated Aaa/AA+. While the auction rate market has experienced liquidity constraints, we believe that based on our current liquidity position and our operating cash flows, any lack of liquidity in the ARS market will not have a material impact on our liquidity, financial condition, or cash flows.

All of the auction rate securities held, on a consolidated basis, in non-Modco portfolios as of September 30, 2014, were student loan-backed auction rate securities, for which the underlying collateral is at least 97% guaranteed by the Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP). As there is no active market for these auction rate securities, we use a valuation model, which incorporates, among other inputs, the contractual terms of each indenture and current valuation information from actively-traded asset-backed securities with comparable underlying assets (i.e. FFELP-backed student loans) and vintage.

We use an income approach valuation model to determine the fair value of our student loan-backed auction rate securities. Specifically, a discounted cash flow method is used. The expected yield on the auction rate securities is estimated for each coupon date, based on the contractual terms on each indenture. The estimated market yield is based on comparable securities with observable yields and an additional yield spread for illiquidity of auction rate securities in the current market.

The auction rate securities held in non-Modco portfolios are classified as a Level 2 or Level 3 valuation. An unrealized loss of \$27.8 million and \$57.2 million was recorded as of September 30, 2014 and December 31, 2013, respectively, and we have not recorded any other-than-temporary impairment because the underlying collateral for each of the auction rate securities is at least 97% guaranteed by the FFELP and there are subordinate tranches within each of these auction rate security issuances that would support the senior tranches in the event of default. In the event of a complete and total default by all underlying student loans, the principal shortfall, in excess of the 97% FFELP guarantee, would be absorbed by the subordinate tranches. Our credit exposure is to the FFELP guarantee, not the underlying student loans. At this time, we have no reason to believe that the U.S. Department of Education would not honor the FFELP guarantee, if it were necessary. In addition, we do not intend to sell or expect to be required to sell the securities before recovering our amortized cost of these securities. Therefore, we believe that no other-than-temporary impairment has been experienced.

The liquidity requirements of our regulated insurance subsidiaries primarily relate to the liabilities associated with their various insurance and investment products, operating expenses, and income taxes. Liabilities arising from insurance and investment products include the payment of policyholder benefits, as well as cash payments in connection with policy surrenders and withdrawals, policy loans, and obligations to redeem funding agreements.

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

Our insurance subsidiaries maintain investment strategies intended to provide adequate funds to pay benefits and expected surrenders, withdrawals, loans, and redemption obligations without forced sales of investments. In addition, our insurance subsidiaries hold highly liquid, high-quality short-term investment securities and other liquid investment grade fixed maturity securities to fund our expected operating expenses, surrenders, and withdrawals. As of September 30, 2014, our total cash and invested assets were \$46.1 billion. The life insurance subsidiaries were committed as of September 30, 2014, to fund mortgage loans in the amount of \$407.0 million.

Our positive cash flows from operations are used to fund an investment portfolio that provides for future benefit payments. We employ a formal asset/liability program to manage the cash flows of our investment portfolio relative to our long-term benefit obligations. Our insurance subsidiaries held approximately \$388.2 million in cash and

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

Table of Contents

short-term investments as of September 30, 2014, and we held \$57.6 million in cash available for general corporate purposes.

The following chart includes the cash flows provided by or used in operating, investing, and financing activities for the following periods:

	For The Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2014	2013
	(Dollars In Thousands)	
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$ 605,503	\$ 443,103
Net cash used in investing activities	(480,536)	(661,010)
Net cash (used in) provided by financing activities	(263,022)	203,555
Total	\$ (138,055)	\$ (14,352)

For The Nine Months Ended September 30, 2014 as compared to The Nine Months Ended September 30, 2013

Net cash provided by operating activities - Cash flows from operating activities are affected by the timing of premiums received, fees received, investment income, and expenses paid. Principal sources of cash include sales of our products and services. We typically generate positive cash flows from operating activities, as premiums and deposits collected from our insurance and investment products exceed benefit payments and redemptions, and we invest the excess. Accordingly, in analyzing our cash flows we focus on the change in the amount of cash available and used in investing activities.

Net cash used in investing activities - Changes in cash from investing activities primarily related to the activity in our investment portfolio.

Net cash (used in) provided by financing activities - Changes in cash from financing activities included \$9.8 million inflows from repurchase program borrowings for the nine months ended September 30, 2014 as compared to outflows of \$50.0 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2013 and \$45.8 million outflows of investment product and universal life net activity for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to \$215.1 million of inflows in the prior year. Net activity related to credit facility borrowings resulted in outflows of \$205.0 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to net inflows of \$50.0 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2013. Net issuance of non-recourse funding obligations equaled \$31.7 million during the nine months ended September 30, 2014, as compared to issuance of \$33.9 million during the nine months ended September 30, 2013.

Capital Resources

To give us flexibility in connection with future acquisitions and other funding needs, we have debt securities, preferred and common stock, and additional preferred securities of special purpose finance subsidiaries registered under the Securities Act of 1933 on a delayed (or shelf) basis. Additionally, we have access to the Credit Facility previously mentioned.

Captive Reinsurance Companies

Golden Gate Captive Insurance Company (Golden Gate), a South Carolina special purpose financial captive insurance company and wholly owned subsidiary of PLICO, had three series of Surplus Notes with a total outstanding balance of \$800 million as of September 30, 2014. We hold the entire outstanding balance of Surplus Notes. The Series A1 Surplus Notes have a balance of \$400 million and accrue interest at 7.375%, the Series A2 Surplus Notes have a balance of \$100 million and accrue interest at 8%, and the Series A3 Surplus Notes have a balance of \$300 million and accrue interest at 8.45%.

Table of Contents

Golden Gate II Captive Insurance Company (Golden Gate II), a special purpose financial captive insurance company wholly owned by PLICO, had \$575 million of outstanding non-recourse funding obligations as of September 30, 2014. These outstanding non-recourse funding obligations were issued to special purpose trusts, which in turn issued securities to third parties. Certain of our affiliates own a portion of these securities. As of September 30, 2014, securities related to \$176.6 million of the outstanding balance of the non-recourse funding obligations were held by external parties and securities related to \$398.4 million of the non-recourse funding obligations were held by our affiliates. These non-recourse funding obligations mature in 2052. \$275 million of this amount is currently accruing interest at a rate of LIBOR plus 30 basis points. We have experienced higher borrowing costs than were originally expected associated with \$300 million of our non-recourse funding obligations supporting the business reinsured to Golden Gate II. These higher costs are the result of a higher spread component of interest expense associated with the illiquidity of the current market for auction rate securities, as well as a rating downgrade of our guarantor by certain rating agencies. The current rate associated with these obligations is LIBOR plus 200 basis points, which is the maximum rate we can be required to pay under these obligations. We have contingent approval to issue an additional \$100 million of obligations. Under the terms of the non-recourse funding obligations, the special purpose trusts, as holders of the non-recourse funding obligations, cannot require repayment from us or any of our subsidiaries, other than Golden Gate II, the direct issuer of the non-recourse funding obligations, although we have agreed to indemnify Golden Gate II for certain costs and obligations (which obligations do not include payment of principal and interest on the surplus notes). In addition, we have entered into certain support agreements with Golden Gate II obligating us to make capital contributions or provide support related to certain of Golden Gate II's expenses and in certain circumstances, to collateralize certain of our obligations to Golden Gate II. These support agreements provide that amounts would become payable by us to Golden Gate II if its annual general corporate expenses were higher than modeled amounts or if Golden Gate II's investment income on certain investments or premium income was below certain actuarially determined amounts. As of September 30, 2014, no payments have been made under these agreements.

On October 10, 2012, Golden Gate V Vermont Captive Insurance Company (Golden Gate V), a Vermont special purpose financial insurance company, and Red Mountain, LLC (Red Mountain), both wholly owned subsidiaries of PLICO, entered into a 20-year transaction to finance up to \$945 million of XXXX reserves related to a block of universal life insurance policies with secondary guarantees issued by our direct wholly owned subsidiary PLICO and indirect wholly owned subsidiary, WCL. Golden Gate V issued non-recourse funding obligations to Red Mountain, and Red Mountain issued a note with an initial principal amount of \$275 million, increasing to a maximum of \$945 million in 2027, to Golden Gate V for deposit to a reinsurance trust supporting Golden Gate V's obligations under a reinsurance agreement with WCL, pursuant to which WCL cedes liabilities relating to the policies of WCL and retrocedes liabilities relating to the policies of PLICO. Through the structure, Hannover Life Reassurance Company of America (Hannover Re), the ultimate risk taker in the transaction, provides credit enhancement to the Red Mountain note for the 20-year term in exchange for a fee. The transaction is non-recourse to Golden Gate V, Red Mountain, WCL, PLICO and the Company, meaning that none of these companies are liable for the reimbursement of any credit enhancement payments required to be made. As of September 30, 2014, the principal balance of the Red Mountain note was \$415 million. In connection with the transaction, we have entered into certain support agreements under which we guarantee or otherwise support certain obligations of Golden Gate V or Red Mountain. Future scheduled capital contributions to prefund credit enhancement fees amount to approximately \$144.3 million and will be paid in annual installments through 2031. The support agreements provide that amounts would become payable by us if Golden Gate V's annual general corporate expenses were higher than modeled amounts or in the event write-downs due to other-than-temporary impairments on assets held in certain accounts exceed defined threshold levels. Additionally, we have entered into separate agreements to indemnify Golden Gate V with respect to material adverse changes in non-guaranteed elements of insurance policies reinsured by Golden Gate V, and to guarantee payment of certain fee amounts in connection with the credit enhancement of the Red Mountain note. As of September 30, 2014, no payments have been made under these agreements.

Letters of Credit

Golden Gate III Vermont Captive Insurance Company (Golden Gate III), a Vermont special purpose financial insurance company and wholly owned subsidiary of PLICO, is party to a Reimbursement Agreement (the Reimbursement Agreement) with UBS AG, Stamford Branch (UBS), as issuing lender. Under the original Reimbursement Agreement, dated April 23, 2010, UBS issued a letter of credit (the LOC) in the initial amount of \$505 million to a trust for the benefit of WCL. The Reimbursement Agreement was subsequently amended and restated effective November 21, 2011 (the First Amended and Restated Reimbursement Agreement), to replace the existing

Table of Contents

LOC with one or more letters of credit from UBS, and to extend the maturity date from April 1, 2018, to April 1, 2022. On August 7, 2013, we entered into a Second Amended and Restated Reimbursement Agreement with UBS (the "Second Amended and Restated Reimbursement Agreement"), which amended and restated the First Amended and Restated Reimbursement Agreement. Under the Second and Amended and Restated Reimbursement Agreement a new LOC in an initial amount of \$710 million was issued by UBS in replacement of the existing LOC issued under the First Amended and Restated Reimbursement Agreement. The term of the LOC was extended from April 1, 2022 to October 1, 2023, subject to certain conditions being satisfied including scheduled capital contributions being made to Golden Gate III by one of its affiliates. The maximum stated amount of the LOC was increased from \$610 million to \$720 million in 2015 if certain conditions are met. On June 25, 2014, we entered into a Third Amended and Restated Reimbursement Agreement with UBS (the "Third Amended and Restated Reimbursement Agreement"), which amended and restated the Second Amended and Restated Reimbursement Agreement. Under the Third Amended and Restated Reimbursement Agreement, a new LOC in an initial amount of \$915 million was issued by UBS in replacement of the existing LOC issued under the Second Amended and Restated Reimbursement Agreement. The term of the LOC was extended from October 1, 2023 to April 1, 2025, subject to certain conditions being satisfied including scheduled capital contributions being made to Golden Gate III by one of its affiliates. The maximum stated amount of the LOC was increased from \$720 million to \$935 million in 2015 if certain conditions are met. The LOC is held in trust for the benefit of WCL, and supports certain obligations of Golden Gate III to WCL under an indemnity reinsurance agreement originally effective April 1, 2010, as amended and restated on November 21, 2011, and as further amended and restated on August 7, 2013 and on June 25, 2014 to include additional blocks of policies, and pursuant to which WCL cedes liabilities relating to the policies of WCL and retrocedes liabilities relating to the policies of PLICO. The LOC balance was \$925 million as of September 30, 2014. Subject to certain conditions, the amount of the LOC will be periodically increased up to a maximum of \$935 million in 2015. The term of the LOC is expected to be approximately 15 years from the original issuance date. This transaction is non-recourse to WCL, PLICO, and the Company, meaning that none of these companies other than Golden Gate III are liable for reimbursement on a draw of the LOC. We have entered into certain support agreements with Golden Gate III obligating us to make capital contributions or provide support related to certain of Golden Gate III's expenses and in certain circumstances, to collateralize certain of our obligations to Golden Gate III. Future scheduled capital contributions amount to approximately \$122.5 million and will be paid in three installments with the last payment occurring in 2021, and these contributions may be subject to potential offset against dividend payments as permitted under the terms of the Third Amended and Restated Reimbursement Agreement. The support agreements provide that amounts would become payable by us to Golden Gate III if its annual general corporate expenses were higher than modeled amounts or if specified catastrophic losses occur during defined time periods with respect to the policies reinsured by Golden Gate III. Pursuant to the terms of an amended and restated letter agreement with UBS, we have continued to guarantee the payment of fees to UBS as specified in the Third Amended and Restated Reimbursement Agreement. As of September 30, 2014, no payments have been made under these agreements.

Golden Gate IV Vermont Captive Insurance Company ("Golden Gate IV"), a Vermont special purpose financial insurance company and wholly owned subsidiary of PLICO, is party to a Reimbursement Agreement with UBS AG, Stamford Branch, as issuing lender. Under the Reimbursement Agreement, dated December 10, 2010, UBS issued an LOC in the initial amount of \$270 million to a trust for the benefit of WCL. The LOC balance increased, in accordance with the terms of the Reimbursement Agreement, during the third quarter of 2014 and was \$740 million as of September 30, 2014. Subject to certain conditions, the amount of the LOC will be periodically increased up to a maximum of \$790 million in 2016. The term of the LOC is expected to be 12 years from the original issuance date (stated maturity of December 30, 2022). The LOC was issued to support certain obligations of Golden Gate IV to WCL under an indemnity reinsurance agreement, pursuant to which WCL cedes liabilities related to the policies of WCL and retrocedes liabilities relating to the policies of PLICO. This transaction is non-recourse to WCL, PLICO, and the Company, meaning that none of these companies other than Golden Gate IV are liable for reimbursement on a draw of the LOC. We have entered into certain support agreements with Golden Gate IV obligating us to make capital contributions or provide support related to certain of Golden Gate IV's expenses and in certain circumstances, to collateralize certain of our obligations to Golden Gate IV. The support agreements provide that amounts would become payable by us to Golden Gate IV if its annual general corporate expenses were higher than modeled amounts or if specified catastrophic losses occur during defined time periods with respect to the policies reinsured by Golden Gate IV. We have also entered into a separate agreement to guarantee the payments of LOC fees under the terms of the Reimbursement Agreement. As of September 30, 2014, no payments have been made under these agreements.

Table of Contents

A life insurance company's statutory capital is computed according to rules prescribed by the NAIC, as modified by state law. Generally speaking, other states in which a company does business defer to the interpretation of the domiciliary state with respect to NAIC rules, unless inconsistent with the other state's regulations. Statutory accounting rules are different from GAAP and are intended to reflect a more conservative view, for example, requiring immediate expensing of policy acquisition costs. The NAIC's risk-based capital requirements require insurance companies to calculate and report information under a risk-based capital formula. The achievement of long-term growth will require growth in the statutory capital of our insurance subsidiaries. The subsidiaries may secure additional statutory capital through various sources, such as retained statutory earnings or our equity contributions. In general, dividends up to specified levels are considered ordinary and may be paid 30 days after written notice to the insurance commissioner of the state of domicile unless such commissioner objects to the dividend prior to the expiration of such period. Dividends in larger amounts are considered extraordinary and are subject to affirmative prior approval by such commissioner. The maximum amount that would qualify as an ordinary dividend to us from our insurance subsidiaries in 2014 is estimated to be \$305.1 million.

State insurance regulators and the NAIC have adopted risk-based capital (RBC) requirements for life insurance companies to evaluate the adequacy of statutory capital and surplus in relation to investment and insurance risks. The requirements provide a means of measuring the minimum amount of statutory surplus appropriate for an insurance company to support its overall business operations based on its size and risk profile. A company's risk-based statutory surplus is calculated by applying factors and performing calculations relating to various asset, premium, claim, expense, and reserve items. Regulators can then measure the adequacy of a company's statutory surplus by comparing it to the RBC. We manage our capital consumption by using the ratio of our total adjusted capital, as defined by the insurance regulators, to our company action level RBC (known as the RBC ratio), also as defined by insurance regulators.

Statutory reserves established for VA contracts are sensitive to changes in the equity markets and are affected by the level of account values relative to the level of any guarantees and product design. As a result, the relationship between reserve changes and equity market performance may be non-linear during any given reporting period. Market conditions greatly influence the capital required due to their impact on the valuation of reserves and derivative investments mitigating the risk in these reserves. Risk mitigation activities may result in material and sometimes counterintuitive impacts on statutory surplus and RBC ratio. Notably, as changes in these market and non-market factors occur, both our potential obligation and the related statutory reserves and/or required capital can vary at a non-linear rate.

In an effort to mitigate the equity market risks discussed above relative to PLICO's RBC ratio, PLICO has reinsured GMWB and GMDB riders related to its variable annuity contracts to Shades Creek Captive Insurance Company (Shades Creek), a Vermont captive insurance company, a wholly owned insurance subsidiary of the Company. The purpose of Shades Creek is to reduce the volatility in RBC due to non-economic variables included within the RBC calculation.

We have an intercompany capital support agreement with Shades Creek. The agreement provides through a guarantee that we will contribute assets or purchase surplus notes (or cause an affiliate or third party to contribute assets or purchase surplus notes) in amounts necessary for Shades Creek's regulatory capital levels to equal or exceed minimum thresholds as defined by the agreement. As of September 30, 2014, Shades Creek maintained capital levels in excess of the required minimum thresholds. The maximum potential future payment amount which could be required under the capital support agreement will be dependent on numerous factors, including the performance of equity markets, the level of interest rates, performance of associated hedges, and related policyholder behavior.

We cede material amounts of insurance and transfer related assets to other insurance companies through reinsurance. However, notwithstanding the transfer of related assets, we remain liable with respect to ceded insurance should any reinsurer fail to meet the obligations that it assumed. We evaluate the financial condition of our reinsurers and monitor the associated concentration of credit risk. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2014, we ceded premiums to unaffiliated third party reinsurers amounting to \$277.1 million and \$947.8 million, respectively. In addition, we had receivables from unaffiliated reinsurers amounting to \$6.1 billion as of September 30, 2014. We review

reinsurance receivable amounts for collectability and establish bad debt reserves if deemed appropriate.

Table of Contents*Ratings*

Various Nationally Recognized Statistical Rating Organizations (rating organizations) review the financial performance and condition of insurers, including our insurance subsidiaries, and publish their financial strength ratings as indicators of an insurer's ability to meet policyholder and contract holder obligations. These ratings are important to maintaining public confidence in an insurer's products, its ability to market its products and its competitive position. The following table summarizes the financial strength ratings of our significant member companies from the major independent rating organizations as of September 30, 2014:

Ratings	A.M. Best	Fitch	Standard & Poor's	Moody's
Insurance company financial strength rating:				
Protective Life Insurance Company	A+	A	AA-	A2
West Coast Life Insurance Company	A+	A	AA-	A2
Protective Life and Annuity Insurance Company	A+	A	AA-	
Lyndon Property Insurance Company	A-			
MONY Life Insurance Company	A+	A	A+	A2

Our ratings are subject to review and change by the rating organizations at any time and without notice. A downgrade or other negative action by a ratings organization with respect to the financial strength ratings of our insurance subsidiaries could adversely affect sales, relationships with distributors, the level of policy surrenders and withdrawals, competitive position in the marketplace, and the cost or availability of reinsurance. With the announcement of the Dai-ichi transaction, each rating agency has undertaken a review of our insurance company subsidiaries' financial strength ratings in light of the transaction. The rating agencies may take various actions, positive or negative, and their actions may not be known until the Merger closes.

Rating organizations also publish credit ratings for the issuers of debt securities, including the Company. Credit ratings are indicators of a debt issuer's ability to meet the terms of debt obligations in a timely manner. These ratings are important in the debt issuer's overall ability to access credit markets and other types of liquidity. Ratings are not recommendations to buy our securities or products. A downgrade or other negative action by a ratings organization with respect to our credit rating could limit our access to capital markets, increase the cost of issuing debt, and a downgrade of sufficient magnitude, combined with other negative factors, could require us to post collateral. As is the case with the financial strength ratings of our insurance subsidiaries, the rating agencies have undertaken a review of our debt ratings in light of the Dai-ichi transaction.

LIABILITIES

Many of our products contain surrender charges and other features that are designed to reward persistency and penalize the early withdrawal of funds. Certain stable value and annuity contracts have market-value adjustments that protect us against investment losses if interest rates are higher at the time of surrender than at the time of issue.

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

As of September 30, 2014, we had policy liabilities and accruals of approximately \$31.4 billion. Our interest-sensitive life insurance policies have a weighted average minimum credited interest rate of approximately 3.51%.

Contractual Obligations

We enter into various obligations to third parties in the ordinary course of our operations. However, we do not believe that our cash flow requirements can be assessed solely based upon an analysis of these obligations. The most significant factors affecting our future cash flows are our ability to earn and collect cash from our customers, and the cash flows arising from our investment program. Future cash outflows, whether they are contractual obligations or not, will also vary based upon our future needs. Although some outflows are fixed, others depend on future events. Examples of fixed obligations include our obligations to pay principal and interest on fixed-rate borrowings. Examples of obligations that will vary include obligations to pay interest on variable-rate borrowings and insurance liabilities that

Table of Contents

depend on future interest rates, market performance, or surrender provisions. Many of our obligations are linked to cash-generating contracts. In addition, our operations involve significant expenditures that are not based upon contractual obligations. These include expenditures for income taxes and payroll.

As of September 30, 2014, we carried a \$142.1 million liability for uncertain tax positions, including interest on unrecognized tax benefits. These amounts are not included in the long-term contractual obligations table because of the difficulty in making reasonably reliable estimates of the occurrence or timing of cash settlements with the respective taxing authorities.

The table below sets forth future maturities of our contractual obligations:

	Total	Payments due by period			
		Less than 1 year	1-3 years	3-5 years	More than 5 years
			(Dollars In Thousands)		
Debt(1)	\$ 2,206,678	\$ 319,190	\$ 415,703	\$ 262,500	\$ 1,209,285
Non-recourse funding obligations(2)	2,107,689	30,178	73,115	86,964	1,917,432
Subordinated debt securities(3)	1,410,309	33,283	66,566	66,566	1,243,894
Stable value products(4)	2,333,243	856,555	938,283	463,462	74,943
Operating leases(5)	17,409	6,136	7,108	2,041	2,124
Home office lease(6)	80,206	1,226	2,455	76,525	
Mortgage loan and investment commitments	415,067	415,067			
Repurchase program borrowings(7)	359,805	359,805			
Policyholder obligations(8)	42,481,870	1,314,009	2,931,811	3,135,158	35,100,892
Total(9)	\$ 51,412,276	\$ 3,335,449	\$ 4,435,041	\$ 4,093,216	\$ 39,548,570

(1) Debt includes all principal amounts owed on note agreements and expected interest payments due over the term of the notes.

(2) Non-recourse funding obligations include all undiscounted principal amounts owed and expected future interest payments due over the term of the notes. Of the total undiscounted cash flows, \$1.9 billion relates to the Golden Gate V transaction. These cash out flows are matched and predominantly offset by the cash inflows Golden Gate V receives from notes issued by a nonconsolidated variable interest entity. The remaining amounts are associated with the Golden Gate II notes outstanding and held by third parties as well as certain obligations assumed with the acquisition of MONY Life Insurance Company.

(3) Subordinated debt securities includes all principal amounts and interest payments due over the term of the obligations.

(4) Anticipated stable value products cash flows including interest.

(5) Includes all lease payments required under operating lease agreements.

(6) The lease payments shown assume we exercise our option to purchase the building at the end of the lease term. Additionally, the payments due by the periods above were computed based on the terms of the renegotiated lease agreement, which was entered in December 2013.

(7) Represents secured borrowings as part of our repurchase program as well as related interest.

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

(8) Estimated contractual policyholder obligations are based on mortality, morbidity, and lapse assumptions comparable to our historical experience, modified for recent observed trends. These obligations are based on current balance sheet values and do not incorporate an expectation of future sales. Due to the significance of the assumptions used, the amounts presented could materially differ from actual results. Separate account obligations are excluded from the chart as variable separate account obligations are legally insulated from general account obligations and will be fully funded by cash flows from variable separate account assets. We expect to fully fund the general account obligations from cash flows from general account assets.

(9) Excluded from this table are certain pension obligations.

FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

FASB guidance defines fair value for GAAP and establishes a framework for measuring fair value as well as a fair value hierarchy based on the quality of inputs used to measure fair value and enhances disclosure requirements for fair value measurements. The term *fair value* in this document is defined in accordance with GAAP. The standard describes three levels of inputs that may be used to measure fair value. For more information, see Note 2, *Summary of Significant Accounting Policies* and Note 16, *Fair Value of Financial Instruments*.

Table of Contents

Available-for-sale securities and trading account securities are recorded at fair value, which is primarily based on actively traded markets where prices are based on either direct market quotes or observed transactions. Liquidity is a significant factor in the determination of the fair value for these securities. Market price quotes may not be readily available for some positions or for some positions within a market sector where trading activity has slowed significantly or ceased. These situations are generally triggered by the market's perception of credit uncertainty regarding a single company or a specific market sector. In these instances, fair value is determined based on limited available market information and other factors, principally from reviewing the issuer's financial position, changes in credit ratings, and cash flows on the investments. As of September 30, 2014, \$2.2 billion of available-for-sale and trading account assets, excluding other long-term investments, were classified as Level 3 fair value assets.

The fair values of derivative assets and liabilities include adjustments for market liquidity, counterparty credit quality, and other deal specific factors, where appropriate. The fair values of derivative assets and liabilities traded in the over-the-counter market are determined using quantitative models that require the use of multiple market inputs including interest rates, prices, and indices to generate continuous yield or pricing curves and volatility factors. The predominance of market inputs are actively quoted and can be validated through external sources. Estimation risk is greater for derivative financial instruments that are either option-based or have longer maturity dates where observable market inputs are less readily available or are unobservable, in which case quantitative based extrapolations of rate, price, or index scenarios are used in determining fair values. As of September 30, 2014, the Level 3 fair values of derivative assets and liabilities determined by these quantitative models were \$105.4 million and \$533.7 million, respectively.

The liabilities of certain of our annuity account balances are calculated at fair value using actuarial valuation models. These models use various observable and unobservable inputs including projected future cash flows, policyholder behavior, our credit rating, and other market conditions. As of September 30, 2014, the Level 3 fair value of these liabilities was \$98.1 million.

For securities that are priced via non-binding independent broker quotations, we assess whether prices received from independent brokers represent a reasonable estimate of fair value through an analysis using internal and external cash flow models developed based on spreads and, when available, market indices. We use a market-based cash flow analysis to validate the reasonableness of prices received from independent brokers. These analytics, which are updated daily, incorporate various metrics (yield curves, credit spreads, prepayment rates, etc.) to determine the valuation of such holdings. As a result of this analysis, if we determine there is a more appropriate fair value based upon the analytics, the price received from the independent broker is adjusted accordingly. We did not adjust any quotes or prices received from brokers during the nine months ended September 30, 2014.

Of our \$2.3 billion, or 4.4%, of total assets (measured at fair value on a recurring basis) classified as Level 3 assets, \$736.1 million were ABS. Of this amount, \$574.1 million were student loan related ABS and \$162.0 million were non-student loan related ABS. The years of issuance of the ABS are as follows:

Year of Issuance	Amount (In Millions)	
2002	\$	292.4
2003		96.9
2004		117.4
2006		13.1
2007		93.8
2012		97.2
2013		25.3
Total	\$	736.1

The ABS was rated as follows: \$477.9 million were AAA rated, \$162.7 million were AA rated, \$92.6 million were A rated, \$2.4 million were BBB rated, and \$0.5 million were less than investment grade. We do not expect any credit losses on these securities related to student loans since the majority of the underlying collateral of the student loan asset-backed securities is guaranteed by the U.S. Department of Education.

Table of Contents

MARKET RISK EXPOSURES AND OFF-BALANCE SHEET ARRANGEMENTS

Our financial position and earnings are subject to various market risks including changes in interest rates, the yield curve, spreads between risk-adjusted and risk-free interest rates, foreign currency rates, used vehicle prices, and equity price risks and issuer defaults. We analyze and manage the risks arising from market exposures of financial instruments, as well as other risks, through an integrated asset/liability management process. Our asset/liability management programs and procedures involve the monitoring of asset and liability durations for various product lines; cash flow testing under various interest rate scenarios; and the continuous rebalancing of assets and liabilities with respect to yield, credit and market risk, and cash flow characteristics. These programs also incorporate the use of derivative financial instruments primarily to reduce our exposure to interest rate risk, inflation risk, currency exchange risk, volatility risk, and equity market risk. See Note 17, *Derivative Financial Instruments* for additional information on our financial instruments.

The primary focus of our asset/liability program is the management of interest rate risk within the insurance operations. This includes monitoring the duration of both investments and insurance liabilities to maintain an appropriate balance between risk and profitability for each product category, and for us as a whole. It is our policy to maintain asset and liability durations within one year of one another, although, from time to time, a broader interval may be allowed.

We are exposed to credit risk within our investment portfolio and through derivative counterparties. Credit risk relates to the uncertainty of an obligor's continued ability to make timely payments in accordance with the contractual terms of the instrument or contract. We manage credit risk through established investment policies which attempt to address quality of obligors and counterparties, credit concentration limits, diversification requirements, and acceptable risk levels under expected and stressed scenarios. Derivative counterparty credit risk is measured as the amount owed to us, net of collateral held, based upon current market conditions. In addition, we periodically assess exposure related to potential payment obligations between us and our counterparties. We minimize the credit risk in derivative financial instruments by entering into transactions with high quality counterparties, (A-rated or higher at the time we enter into the contract) and we maintain credit support annexes with certain of those counterparties.

We utilize a risk management strategy that includes the use of derivative financial instruments. Derivative instruments expose us to credit market and basis risk. Such instruments can change materially in value from period-to-period. We minimize our credit risk by entering into transactions with highly rated counterparties. We manage the market and basis risks by establishing and monitoring limits as to the types and degrees of risk that may be undertaken. We monitor our use of derivatives in connection with our overall asset/liability management programs and procedures. In addition, all derivative programs are monitored by our risk management department.

Derivative instruments that are used as part of our interest rate risk management strategy include interest rate swaps, interest rate futures, interest rate caps, and interest rate options. Our inflation risk management strategy involves the use of swaps that require us to pay a fixed rate and receive a floating rate that is based on changes in the Consumer Price Index (CPI).

We may use the following types of derivative contracts to mitigate our exposure to certain guaranteed benefits related to variable annuity contracts and fixed indexed annuities:

- Foreign Currency Futures

- Variance Swaps
- Interest Rate Futures
- Equity Options
- Equity Futures
- Credit Derivatives
- Interest Rate Swaps
- Interest Rate Swaptions
- Volatility Futures
- Volatility Options
- Total Return Swaps

Table of Contents

We believe our asset/liability management programs and procedures and certain product features provide protection against the effects of changes in interest rates under various scenarios. Additionally, we believe our asset/liability management programs and procedures provide sufficient liquidity to enable us to fulfill our obligation to pay benefits under our various insurance and deposit contracts. However, our asset/liability management programs and procedures incorporate assumptions about the relationship between short-term and long-term interest rates (i.e., the slope of the yield curve), relationships between risk-adjusted and risk-free interest rates, market liquidity, spread movements, implied volatility, policyholder behavior, and other factors, and the effectiveness of our asset/liability management programs and procedures may be negatively affected whenever actual results differ from those assumptions.

In the ordinary course of our commercial mortgage lending operations, we may commit to provide a mortgage loan before the property to be mortgaged has been built or acquired. The mortgage loan commitment is a contractual obligation to fund a mortgage loan when called upon by the borrower. The commitment is not recognized in our financial statements until the commitment is actually funded. The mortgage loan commitment contains terms, including the rate of interest, which may be different than prevailing interest rates. As of September 30, 2014, we had outstanding mortgage loan commitments of \$407.0 million at an average rate of 4.79%.

Impact of continued low interest rate environment

Significant changes in interest rates expose us to the risk of not realizing anticipated spreads between the interest rate earned on investments and the interest rate credited to in-force policies and contracts. In addition, certain of our insurance and investment products guarantee a minimum credited interest rate (MGIR). In periods of prolonged low interest rates, the interest spread earned may be negatively impacted to the extent our ability to reduce policyholder crediting rates is limited by the guaranteed minimum credited interest rates. Additionally, those policies without account values may exhibit lower profitability in periods of prolonged low interest rates due to reduced investment income.

Table of Contents

The table below presents account values by range of current minimum guaranteed interest rates and current crediting rates for our universal life and deferred fixed annuity products:

Credited Rate Summary

As of September 30, 2014

Minimum Guaranteed Interest Rate Account Value	At MGIR	1-50 bps above MGIR	More than 50 bps above MGIR	Total
	(Dollars In Millions)			
Universal Life Insurance				
>2% - 3%	\$ 186	\$ 941	\$ 2,005	\$ 3,132
>3% - 4%	3,515	1,684	137	5,336
>4% - 5%	2,049	15		2,064
>5% - 6%	225			225
Subtotal	5,975	2,640	2,142	10,757
Fixed Annuities				
1%	\$ 564	\$ 186	\$ 285	\$ 1,035
>1% - 2%	609	518	207	1,334
>2% - 3%	1,992	113	539	2,644
>3% - 4%	296			296
>4% - 5%	303			303
Subtotal	3,764	817	1,031	5,612
Total	\$ 9,739	\$ 3,457	\$ 3,173	\$ 16,369
Percentage of Total	59%	21%	20%	100%

Table of Contents

The table below presents account values by range of current minimum guaranteed interest rates and current crediting rates for our universal life and deferred fixed annuity products:

Credited Rate Summary**As of December 31, 2013**

Minimum Guaranteed Interest Rate Account Value	At MGIR	1-50 bps above MGIR	More than 50 bps above MGIR	Total
	(Dollars In Millions)			
Universal Life Insurance				
>2% - 3%	\$ 43	\$ 1,024	\$ 1,984	\$ 3,051
>3% - 4%	3,109	2,099	150	5,358
>4% - 5%	2,110	15		2,125
>5% - 6%	232			232
Subtotal	5,494	3,138	2,134	10,766
Fixed Annuities				
1%	\$ 422	\$ 173	\$ 461	\$ 1,056
>1% - 2%	612	518	279	1,409
>2% - 3%	1,846	308	632	2,786
>3% - 4%	309			309
>4% - 5%	313			313
Subtotal	3,502	999	1,372	5,873
Total	\$ 8,996	\$ 4,137	\$ 3,506	\$ 16,639
Percentage of Total	54%	25%	21%	100%

We are active in mitigating the impact of a continued low interest rate environment through product design, as well as adjusting crediting rates on current in-force policies and contracts. We also manage interest rate and reinvestment risks through our asset/liability management process. Our asset/liability management programs and procedures involve the monitoring of asset and liability durations; cash flow testing under various interest rate scenarios; and the regular rebalancing of assets and liabilities with respect to yield, credit and market risk, and cash flow characteristics. These programs also incorporate the use of derivative financial instruments primarily to reduce our exposure to interest rate risk, inflation risk, currency exchange risk, volatility risk, and equity market risk.

IMPACT OF INFLATION

Inflation increases the need for life insurance. Many policyholders who once had adequate insurance programs may increase their life insurance coverage to provide the same relative financial benefit and protection. Higher interest rates may result in higher sales of certain of our investment products.

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

The higher interest rates that have traditionally accompanied inflation could also affect our operations. Policy loans increase as policy loan interest rates become relatively more attractive. As interest rates increase, disintermediation of stable value and annuity account balances and individual life policy cash values may increase. The market value of our fixed-rate, long-term investments may decrease, we may be unable to implement fully the interest rate reset and call provisions of our mortgage loans, and our ability to make attractive mortgage loans, including participating mortgage loans, may decrease. In addition, participating mortgage loan income may decrease. The difference between the interest rate earned on investments and the interest rate credited to life insurance and investment products may also be adversely affected by rising interest rates.

Table of Contents

RECENTLY ISSUED ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

See Note 2, *Summary of Significant Accounting Policies*, to the consolidated condensed financial statements for information regarding recently issued accounting standards.

Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk

See Part I, Item 2, *Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations*, Executive Summary and Liquidity and Capital Resources, and Part II, Item 1A, *Risk Factors* of this Report for market risk disclosures in light of the current conditions in the financial and credit markets, and the economy generally.

Item 4. Controls and Procedures

(a) Disclosure controls and procedures

In order to ensure that the information the Company must disclose in its filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission is recorded, processed, summarized, and reported on a timely basis, the Company's management, with the participation of its Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, evaluated the effectiveness of the design and operation of its disclosure controls and procedures (as such term is defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act)), except as otherwise noted below. Based on their evaluation as of the end of the period covered by this Form 10-Q, the Company's Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer have concluded that the Company's disclosure controls and procedures were effective. It should be noted that any system of controls, no matter how well designed and operated, can provide only reasonable, not absolute, assurance that the control system's objectives will be met. Further, the design of any control system is based in part upon certain judgments, including the costs and benefits of controls and the likelihood of future events. Because of these and other inherent limitations of control systems, no evaluation of controls can provide absolute assurance that all control issues, if any, within the Company have been detected.

In conducting our evaluation of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting as of September 30, 2014, the Company has excluded the internal controls relating to the administrative systems and processes being provided by third parties for MONY Life Insurance Company (MONY) and the blocks of life and health business reinsured from MONY Life Insurance Company of America (MLOA Business). As of September 30, 2014, the Company is in the process of, but has not completed its own evaluation of the design and operation of the internal controls relating to the administrative systems and processes, including those currently being provided by third parties, for MONY and the MLOA business. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2014, MONY and the MLOA Business represented revenues and pre-tax income of \$175.8 million and \$569.7 million and \$27.4 million and \$79.9 million, respectively, of the Company's consolidated income before income tax.

(b) Changes in internal control over financial reporting

During the second quarter of 2014, the Company began the conversion and integration of administrative processing into its internal controls over financial reporting for the MONY and MLOA blocks of business. The conversion to the Company's operating environment was substantially complete as of September 30, 2014.

There have been no changes in the Company's internal control over financial reporting during the nine months ended September 30, 2014, that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting. The Company's internal controls exist within a dynamic environment and the Company continually strives to improve its internal controls and procedures to enhance the quality of its financial reporting.

Table of Contents**PART II****Item 1. Legal Proceedings**

Since the entry into the Merger Agreement on June 3, 2014, four lawsuits have been filed against the Company, our directors, Dai-ichi and DL Investment (Delaware), Inc. on behalf of alleged Company shareowners. On June 11, 2014, a putative class action lawsuit styled *Edelman, et al. v. Protective Life Corporation, et al.*, Civil Action No. 01-CV-2014-902474.00, was filed in the Circuit Court of Jefferson County, Alabama. On July 30, 2014, the plaintiff in *Edelman* filed an amended complaint. Three putative class action lawsuits were filed in the Court of Chancery of the State of Delaware, *Martin, et al. v. Protective Life Corporation, et al.*, Civil Action No. 9794-CB, filed June 19, 2014, *Leyendecker, et al. v. Protective Life Corporation, et al.*, Civil Action No. 9931-CB, filed July 22, 2014 and *Hilburn, et al. v. Protective Life Corporation, et al.*, Civil Action No. 9937-CB, filed July 23, 2014. The Delaware Court of Chancery consolidated the *Martin, Leyendecker*, and *Hilburn* actions under the caption *In re Protective Life Corp. Stockholders Litigation*, Consolidated Civil Action No. 9794-CB, designated the *Hilburn* complaint as the operative consolidated complaint (the Delaware Action) and appointed Charlotte Martin, Samuel J. Leyendecker, Jr., and Deborah J. Hilburn to serve as co-lead plaintiffs. These lawsuits allege that our Board of Directors breached its fiduciary duties to our shareowners, that the Merger involves an unfair price, an inadequate sales process, and unreasonable deal protection devices that purportedly preclude competing offers, and that the preliminary proxy statement filed with the SEC on July 10, 2014 failed to disclose purportedly material information. The complaints also alleged that the Company, Dai-ichi and DL Investment (Delaware), Inc. aided and abetted those alleged breaches of fiduciary duties. The complaints seek injunctive relief, including enjoining or rescinding the Merger, and attorneys' fees and costs, in addition to other relief. The Delaware Action also seeks an award of unspecified damages.

With respect to the *Edelman* lawsuit, on September 5, 2014, the court held a hearing to address motions to dismiss the lawsuit filed on behalf of the Company, the members of the Company's Board, and DL Investment (Delaware), Inc. On September 19, 2014, the court granted those motions and dismissed the *Edelman* lawsuit in its entirety and with prejudice, pending a possible appeal by the plaintiff. With respect to the Delaware Action, on September 24, 2014, the Company, each of the members of the Company's Board, Dai-ichi, and DL Investment (Delaware), Inc. entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (the MOU) with the plaintiffs in that case, which sets forth the parties' agreement in principle for a settlement of the Delaware Action. As set forth in the MOU, the Company, the members of the Company's Board, Dai-ichi, and DL Investment (Delaware), Inc. agreed to the settlement solely to eliminate the burden, expense, distraction, and uncertainties inherent in further litigation, and without admitting any liability or wrongdoing. The MOU contemplates that the parties will seek to enter into a stipulation of settlement providing for the certification of a mandatory non opt-out class, for settlement purposes only, to include any and all record and beneficial owners of shares (excluding the members of the Company's Board and their immediate family members, any entity in which any member of the Company's Board has a controlling interest, and any successors in interest thereto) that held shares at any time during the period beginning on June 3, 2014, through the date of consummation or termination of the proposed Merger, including any and all of their respective successors in interest, successors, predecessors in interest, representatives, trustees, executors, administrators, heirs, assigns, or transferees, immediate and remote, and any person or entity acting for or on behalf of, or claiming under, any of them, together with their predecessors, successors and assigns, and a global release of claims relating to the Merger as set forth in the MOU. As part of the settlement, the Company agreed to make certain additional disclosures related to the Merger which are set forth in the Company's Form 8-K filed on September 25, 2014 and which supplement the information contained in the Company's definitive proxy statement filed with the SEC on August 25, 2014, as amended on August 27, 2014. Nothing in the Form 8-K or any stipulation of settlement shall be deemed an admission of the legal necessity or materiality of any of the disclosures set forth in the Form 8-K. The claims in the Delaware Action will not be released until the stipulation of settlement is approved by the Court of Chancery of the State of Delaware. The settlement will not affect the consideration to be received by the Company stockholders in connection with the Merger. There can be no assurance that the parties to the Delaware Action will ultimately enter into a stipulation of settlement or that the court will approve such settlement even if the parties were to enter into such stipulation, or the extent to which attorneys' fees and expenses will be awarded to the plaintiffs' counsel. The Company cannot provide assurances as to the ultimate settlement of the Delaware Action or with respect to any lawsuits regarding the Merger that may be filed in the future.

Table of Contents

Except as set forth above, to the knowledge and in the opinion of management, there are no material pending legal proceedings, other than ordinary routine litigation incidental to the business of the Company, to which the Company or any of its subsidiaries is a party or of which any of our properties is the subject. For additional information regarding legal proceedings, see Part II, Item 1A, *Risk Factors and Cautionary Factors that may Affect Future Results*, of this report and Note 10, *Commitments and Contingencies*, to the consolidated condensed financial statements.

Item 1A. Risk Factors and Cautionary Factors that may Affect Future Results

The operating results of companies in the insurance industry have historically been subject to significant fluctuations. The factors which could affect the Company's future results include, but are not limited to, general economic conditions and known trends and uncertainties. In addition to other information set forth in this report, you should carefully consider the factors discussed in Part I, Item 1A, *Risk Factors and Cautionary Factors that may Affect Future Results* in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013, and the factors discussed in Part II, Item 1A, *Risk Factors and Cautionary Factors that may Affect Future Results* in the Company's Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended March 31, 2014 and June 30, 2014, which could materially affect the Company's business, financial condition, or future results of operations.

Risks Related to the Proposed Dai-ichi Merger

The Merger is subject to various closing conditions, including regulatory and third party approvals.

As discussed above, on June 3, 2014, the Company entered into the Merger Agreement pursuant to which it would become a wholly owned subsidiary of Dai-ichi. Completion of the Merger is subject to certain closing conditions, including, without limitation, approval of the Company's shareowners, which approval was received at a Special Meeting of Shareholders held on October 6, 2014, the receipt of required third party consents and regulatory approvals, including those of the Financial Services Agency of Japan and domestic insurance regulators, the expiration or termination of the applicable waiting period under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act of 1976, which waiting period terminated on July 25, 2014, pursuant to a grant of early termination by the Federal Trade Commission, the absence of legal impediments or a material adverse effect with respect to the Company preventing the consummation of the Merger, as well as other conditions to closing as are customary in transactions such as the Merger. A number of the closing conditions are outside of our control and we cannot predict with certainty whether all of the required closing conditions will be satisfied or waived or if other uncertainties may arise. In addition, regulators could impose additional requirements or obligations as conditions for their approvals, which may be burdensome. Despite our best efforts, we may not be able to satisfy the various closing conditions or obtain the necessary waivers or approvals in a timely fashion or at all, in which case the Merger would be prevented or delayed.

Failure to timely complete the Merger could adversely impact our stock price, business, financial condition and results of operations.

There is no assurance that the conditions to the Merger will be satisfied in a timely manner, or that the Merger will occur. A failure to consummate the Merger on a timely basis or at all could result in negative publicity and cause the price of our common stock to decline, to the extent our current stock price reflects a market assumption that the Merger will occur. In addition, as a result of the announcement of the Merger Agreement, trading in our stock has increased substantially. If the Merger is not consummated, the investment goals of our shareowners may be

materially different than those of our shareowners on a pre-Merger announcement basis. In addition, we will remain liable for significant transaction costs that will be payable even if the Merger is not completed and could also be required to pay a termination fee to Dai-ichi in certain specific circumstances. For these and other reasons, failure to timely consummate the Merger could adversely impact our stock price and perceived acquisition value, business, financial condition and results of operations.

The pendency of the Merger and operating restrictions contained in the Merger Agreement could adversely affect our business and operations.

The proposed Merger could cause disruptions to the Company's business and business relationships, which could have an adverse impact on the Company's results of operations, liquidity and financial condition. For example, the attention of the Company's management may be directed to Merger related considerations, the Company's current

Table of Contents

and prospective employees may experience uncertainty about their future roles with the Company which may adversely affect our ability to retain and hire key personnel, and parties with which the Company has business relationships, including customers, potential customers and distributors, may experience uncertainty as to the future of such relationships and seek alternative relationships with third parties or seek to alter their present business relationships with us in a manner that negatively impacts the Company. In addition, the Company has incurred, and will continue to incur, significant transaction costs in connection with the Merger, and many of these fees and costs are payable regardless of whether the Merger is consummated.

Shareowner litigation against the Company, our directors and/or Dai-ichi could delay or prevent the Merger and cause us to incur significant costs and expenses.

Transactions such as the Merger are often subject to lawsuits by shareowners. To date, multiple purported class action lawsuits have been filed by shareowners seeking injunctive relief, including enjoining or rescinding the Merger, an award of unspecified damages, attorneys' and other fees and costs, and other relief. Conditions to the closing of the Merger require that no laws or legal restraints must have been adopted or in effect, and that no restraining order, injunction or other order, judgment, decision, opinion or decree must have been issued, in each case having the effect of making the Merger illegal or otherwise prohibiting the consummation of the Merger. While one lawsuit filed in Alabama has been dismissed with prejudice and the parties have reached a Memorandum of Understanding to settle all outstanding claims in the consolidated Delaware Action, we cannot assure you that other actions will not be filed or as to the outcome of any pending or similar future lawsuits, including the costs associated with defending the claims or any other liabilities that may be incurred in connection with the litigation or settlement of these lawsuits. If the plaintiffs in any action are successful in obtaining an injunction prohibiting the parties from completing the Merger on the agreed-upon terms, such an injunction may prevent the completion of the Merger in the expected time frame or altogether.

Our debt ratings and the financial strength ratings of our insurance subsidiaries may be adversely affected by the transactions contemplated by the Merger Agreement.

Following the announcement of the Dai-ichi transaction, the rating agencies have undertaken a review of our debt ratings and our insurance company subsidiaries' financial strength ratings. See Item 2, *Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations - Liquidity and Capital Resources - Ratings*, for additional information regarding the rating agencies and our ratings. The rating agencies may take various actions, positive or negative, and the result may not be known until the Merger closes. Any negative action by a ratings agency could have a material adverse impact on the Company's financial condition or results of operations.

General Risk Factors

The Company is exposed to risks related to natural and man-made disasters and catastrophes, diseases, epidemics/pandemics, malicious acts, terrorist acts and climate change, which could adversely affect the Company's operations and results.

While the Company has obtained insurance, implemented risk management and contingency plans, and taken preventive measures and other precautions, no predictions of specific scenarios can be made nor can assurance be given that there are not scenarios that could have an adverse effect on the Company. A natural or man-made disaster or catastrophe, including a severe weather or geological event such as a storm, tornado, fire, flood, or earthquake, disease, epidemic, pandemic, malicious act, terrorist act, or the occurrence of climate change, could cause the

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

Company's workforce to be unable to engage in operations at one or more of its facilities or result in short or long-term interruptions in the Company's business operations, any of which could be material to the Company's operating results for a particular period. In addition, such events could adversely affect the mortality, morbidity, or other experience of the Company or its reinsurers and have a significant negative impact on the Company. In addition, claims arising from the occurrence of such events or conditions could have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial condition and results of operations. Such events or conditions could also have an adverse effect on lapses and surrenders of existing policies, as well as sales of new policies. The Company's risk management efforts and other precautionary plans and activities may not adequately predict the impact on the Company from such events.

Table of Contents

In addition, such events or conditions could result in a decrease or halt in economic activity in large geographic areas, adversely affecting the marketing or administration of the Company's business within such geographic areas and/or the general economic climate, which in turn could have an adverse effect on the Company. Such events or conditions could also result in additional regulation or restrictions on the Company in the conduct of its business. The possible macroeconomic effects of such events or conditions could also adversely affect the Company's asset portfolio, as well as many other aspects of the Company's business, financial condition, and results of operations.

The Company may not realize its anticipated financial results from its acquisitions strategy.

The Company's acquisitions of companies and acquisitions or coinsurance of blocks of insurance business have increased its earnings in part by allowing the Company to position itself to realize certain operating efficiencies. However, there can be no assurance that the Company will have future suitable opportunities for, or sufficient capital available to fund, such transactions. If our competitors have access to capital on more favorable terms or at a lower cost, our ability to compete for acquisitions may be diminished. In addition, there can be no assurance that the Company will realize the anticipated financial results from such transactions.

The Company may be unable to complete an acquisition transaction. Completion of an acquisition transaction may be more costly or take longer than expected, or may have a different or more costly financing structure than initially contemplated. In addition, the Company may not be able to complete or manage multiple acquisition transactions at the same time, or the completion of such transactions may be delayed or be more costly than initially contemplated. The Company or other parties to the transaction may be unable to obtain regulatory approvals required to complete an acquisition transaction. If the Company identifies and completes suitable acquisitions, it may not be able to successfully integrate the business in a timely or cost-effective manner. In addition, there may be unforeseen liabilities that arise in connection with businesses or blocks of insurance business that the Company acquires.

Additionally, in connection with its acquisition transactions that involve reinsurance, the Company assumes, or otherwise becomes responsible for, the obligations of policies and other liabilities of other insurers. Any regulatory, legal, financial, or other adverse development affecting the other insurer could also have an adverse effect on the Company.

Risks Related to the Financial Environment

The Company's investments are subject to market and credit risks. These risks could be heightened during periods of extreme volatility or disruption in financial and credit markets.

The Company's invested assets and derivative financial instruments are subject to risks of credit defaults and changes in market values. These risks could be heightened during periods of extreme volatility or disruption in the financial and credit markets, including as a result of social or political unrest or instability domestically or abroad. A widening of credit spreads will increase the unrealized losses in the Company's investment portfolio. The factors affecting the financial and credit markets could lead to other-than-temporary impairments of assets in the Company's investment portfolio.

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

The value of the Company's commercial mortgage loan portfolio depends in part on the financial condition of the tenants occupying the properties that the Company has financed. The value of the Company's investment portfolio, including its portfolio of government debt obligations, debt obligations of those entities with an express or implied governmental guarantee and debt obligations of other issuers holding a large amount of such obligations, depends in part on the ability of the issuers or guarantors of such debt to maintain their credit ratings and meet their contractual obligations. Factors that may affect the overall default rate on, and market value of, the Company's invested assets, derivative financial instruments, and mortgage loans include interest rate levels, financial market performance, and general economic conditions as well as particular circumstances affecting the individual tenants, borrowers, issuers and guarantors.

Significant continued financial and credit market volatility, changes in interest rates and credit spreads, credit defaults, real estate values, market illiquidity, declines in equity prices, acts of corporate malfeasance, ratings downgrades of the issuers or guarantors of these investments, and declines in general economic conditions, either alone or in combination, could have a material adverse impact on the Company's results of operations, financial condition, or

Table of Contents

cash flows through realized losses, impairments, changes in unrealized loss positions, and increased demands on capital, including obligations to post additional capital and collateral. In addition, market volatility can make it difficult for the Company to value certain of its assets, especially if trading becomes less frequent. Valuations may include assumptions or estimates that may have significant period-to-period changes that could have an adverse impact on the Company's results of operations or financial condition.

Credit market volatility or disruption could adversely impact the Company's financial condition or results from operations.

Significant volatility or disruption in domestic or foreign credit markets, including as a result of social or political unrest or instability, could have an adverse impact in several ways on either the Company's financial condition or results from operations. Changes in interest rates and credit spreads could cause market price and cash flow variability in the fixed income instruments in the Company's investment portfolio. Significant volatility and lack of liquidity in the credit markets could cause issuers of the fixed-income securities in the Company's investment portfolio to default on either principal or interest payments on these securities. Additionally, market price valuations may not accurately reflect the underlying expected cash flows of securities within the Company's investment portfolio.

The Company's statutory surplus is also impacted by widening credit spreads as a result of the accounting for the assets and liabilities on its fixed market value adjusted (MVA) annuities. Statutory separate account assets supporting the fixed MVA annuities are recorded at fair value. In determining the statutory reserve for the fixed MVA annuities, the Company is required to use current crediting rates based on U.S. Treasuries. In many capital market scenarios, current crediting rates based on U.S. Treasuries are highly correlated with market rates implicit in the fair value of statutory separate account assets. As a result, the change in the statutory reserve from period to period will likely substantially offset the change in the fair value of the statutory separate account assets. However, in periods of volatile credit markets, actual credit spreads on investment assets may increase sharply for certain sub-sectors of the overall credit market, resulting in statutory separate account asset market value losses. Credit spreads are not consistently fully reflected in crediting rates based on U.S. Treasuries, and the calculation of statutory reserves will not substantially offset the change in fair value of the statutory separate account assets resulting in reductions in statutory surplus. This situation would result in the need to devote significant additional capital to support fixed MVA annuity products.

Volatility or disruption in the credit markets could also impact the Company's ability to efficiently access financial solutions for purposes of issuing long-term debt for financing purposes, its ability to obtain financial solutions for purposes of supporting certain traditional and universal life insurance products for capital management purposes, or result in an increase in the cost of existing securitization structures.

The ability of the Company to implement financing solutions designed to fund a portion of statutory reserves on both the traditional and universal life blocks of business is dependent upon factors such as the ratings of the Company, the size of the blocks of business affected, the mortality experience of the Company, the credit markets, and other factors. The Company cannot predict the continued availability of such solutions or the form that the market may dictate. To the extent that such financing solutions were desired but are not available, the Company's financial position could be adversely affected through impacts including, but not limited to, higher borrowing costs, surplus strain, lower sales capacity, and possible reduced earnings expectations.

The Company could be adversely affected by an inability to access FHLB lending.

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

The Company is a member of the Federal Home Loan Bank (the FHLB) of Cincinnati, which provides the Company with access to FHLB financial services, including advances that provide an attractive funding source for short-term borrowing and for the sale of funding agreements. In recent years, the Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA) has released proposed rules, which include revised member participation standards, and advisory bulletins addressing concerns associated with insurance company (as opposed to federally-backed bank) access to FHLB financial services, the state insurance regulatory framework and FHLB creditor status in the event of member insurer insolvency. In response to FHFA actions, FHLB members, the NAIC and trade groups developed model legislation that would enable insurers to access FHLB funding on similar collateral terms as federally insured depository institutions. While members of the FHLB and NAIC were not able to agree on certain points, legislation based on this model has been introduced in several states and is not being opposed by the NAIC. It is unclear at this time whether or to what

Table of Contents

extent additional or new legislation or regulatory action regarding continued membership in and access to FHLB financial services will be enacted or adopted. Any developments that limit access to FHLB financial services or eliminate the Company's eligibility for continued FHLB membership could have a material adverse effect on the Company.

Industry Related Risks

The business of the Company is highly regulated and is subject to routine audits, examinations and actions by regulators, law enforcement agencies and self-regulatory organizations.

The Company is subject to government regulation in each of the states in which it conducts business. In many instances, the regulatory models emanate from the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC). Such regulation is vested in state agencies having broad administrative and in some instances discretionary power dealing with many aspects of the Company's business, which may include, among other things, premium rates and increases thereto, underwriting practices, reserve requirements, marketing practices, advertising, privacy, policy forms, reinsurance reserve requirements, insurer use of captive reinsurance companies, acquisitions, mergers, capital adequacy, claims practices and the remittance of unclaimed property. In addition, some state insurance departments may enact rules or regulations with extra-territorial application, effectively extending their jurisdiction to areas such as permitted insurance company investments that are normally the province of an insurance company's domiciliary state regulator.

At any given time, a number of financial, market conduct, or other examinations or audits of the Company's subsidiaries may be ongoing. It is possible that any examination or audit may result in payments of fines and penalties, payments to customers, or both, as well as changes in systems or procedures, any of which could have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial condition or results of operations.

The Company's insurance subsidiaries are required to obtain state regulatory approval for rate increases for certain health insurance products. The Company's profits may be adversely affected if the requested rate increases are not approved in full by regulators in a timely fashion.

State insurance regulators and the NAIC regularly re-examine existing laws and regulations applicable to insurance companies and their products. Changes in these laws and regulations, or in interpretations thereof, are often made for the benefit of the consumer and may lead to additional expense for the insurer and, thus, could have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial condition and results of operations. The NAIC may also be influenced by the initiatives and regulatory structures or schemes of international regulatory bodies, and those initiatives or regulatory structures or schemes may not translate readily into the regulatory structures or schemes or the legal system (including the interpretation or application of standards by juries) under which U.S. insurers must operate. In August 2013, the Financial Stability Board (FSB) released a report encouraging the U.S. to move toward a federal regulatory system for insurance. The International Association of Insurance Supervisors (IAIS) is developing group-wide supervision requirements, including a global capital standard, to be applied to large, internationally active insurance groups (IAIGs), as well as standards for companies posing systemic risk to be applied to global systemically important insurers (G-SII s). These are only a few examples of international developments impacting the global insurance market. At this time, FSB reports, IAIS Insurance Core Principles, and other international work products are not directly binding on the Company, and the Company has not been identified as either an IAIG or G-SII. However, there is increasing pressure to conform to international standards due to the globalization of the business of insurance and the recent financial crisis. Any international reports, standards or mandates that directly impact, or indirectly influence, the nature of U.S. regulation or industry operations, or become applicable to the Company, directly or indirectly, as a result of the Merger, could impact the Company and its reserve and capital requirements, financial condition or results of operations.

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

Although some NAIC pronouncements, particularly as they affect accounting, reserving and risk based capital issues, may take effect automatically without affirmative action taken by the states, the NAIC is not a governmental entity and its processes and procedures do not comport with those to which governmental entities typically adhere. Therefore, it is possible that actions could be taken by the NAIC that become effective without the procedural safeguards that would be present if governmental action was required. In addition, with respect to some financial regulations and guidelines, states sometimes defer to the interpretation of the insurance department of a non-domiciliary

Table of Contents

state. Neither the action of the domiciliary state nor the action of the NAIC is binding on a state. Accordingly, a state could choose to follow a different interpretation. The Company is also subject to the risk that compliance with any particular regulator's interpretation of a legal, accounting or actuarial issue may result in non-compliance with another regulator's interpretation of the same issue, particularly when compliance is judged in hindsight. There is an additional risk that any particular regulator's interpretation of a legal, accounting or actuarial issue may change over time to the Company's detriment, or that changes to the overall legal or market environment may cause the Company to change its practices in ways that may, in some cases, limit its growth or profitability. Statutes, regulations, interpretations, and instructions may be applied with retroactive impact, particularly in areas such as accounting, reserve and risk based capital requirements. Also, regulatory actions with prospective impact can potentially have a significant impact on currently sold products.

The NAIC has announced more focused inquiries on certain matters that could have an impact on the Company's financial condition and results of operations. Such inquiries concern, for example, examination of statutory accounting disclosures for separate accounts, insurer use of captive reinsurance companies, certain aspects of insurance holding company reporting and disclosure, reserving for universal life products with secondary guarantees, reinsurance, and risk based capital calculations. In addition, the NAIC continues to consider various initiatives to change and modernize its financial and solvency requirements and regulations. It is considering changing to, or has considered and passed, a principles-based reserving method for life insurance and annuity reserves, changes to the accounting and risk-based capital regulations, changes to the governance practices of insurers, and other items. Some of these proposed changes, including implementing a principles-based reserving methodology, would require the approval of state legislatures. The Company cannot provide any estimate as to what impact these more focused inquiries or proposed changes, if they occur, will have on its product mix, product profitability, reserve and capital requirements, financial condition or results of operations.

With respect to reserving requirements for universal life policies with secondary guarantees (ULSG), in 2012 the NAIC adopted revisions to Actuarial Guideline XXXVIII (AG38) addressing those requirements. Some of the regulatory participants in the AG38 revision process appeared to believe that one of the purposes of the revisions was to calculate reserves for ULSG similarly to reserves for guaranteed level term life insurance contracts with the same guarantee period. The effect of the revisions was to increase the level of reserves that must be held by insurers on ULSG with certain product designs that are issued on and after January 1, 2013, and to cause insurers to test the adequacy of reserves, and possibly increase the reserves, on ULSG with certain product designs that were issued before January 1, 2013. The Company has developed and introduced a new ULSG product for sales in 2013. The Company cannot predict future regulatory actions that could negatively impact the Company's ability to market its new product. Such regulatory reactions could include, for example, withdrawal of state approvals of the new product, or adoption of further changes to AG38 or other adverse action including retroactive regulatory action that could negatively impact the Company's new product. A disruption of the Company's ability to sell financially viable life insurance products or an increase in reserves on ULSG policies issued either before or after January 1, 2013, could have a material adverse impact on the Company's financial condition or results of operations.

The Company currently uses affiliated captive reinsurance companies in various structures relating to term life insurance and universal life insurance with secondary guarantees, and certain guaranteed benefits relating to variable annuities, to finance statutory requirements for so-called XXX and AXXX reserves and reserves for variable annuity contracts with guaranteed minimum withdrawal and death benefits. The NAIC, through various committees, subgroups and dedicated task forces, has undertaken a review of the use of captives and special purpose vehicles used to transfer insurance risk in relation to existing state laws and regulations, and several committees have adopted or exposed for comment white papers and reports that, if or when implemented, could place significant limitations on the use of captives and other reinsurers (including traditional reinsurers) (the Affected Business). The NAIC's Financial Condition (E) Committee adopted an interim solution for captives in the form of a new charge requiring the Financial Analysis Working Group (or FAWG) to review captive transactions submitted by the states in a peer review and comment process. The Principles Based Reserving Implementation (EX) Task Force of the NAIC, charged with analysis of the adoption of a principles-based reserving methodology, recently adopted the conceptual framework contained in a report issued by Rector & Associates, Inc., dated June 4, 2014 (as modified or supplemented, the Rector Report), that contains numerous recommendations pertaining to the regulation and use of captive reinsurers. Certain high-level recommendations have been adopted and assigned to various NAIC working groups, which working groups are in various stages of discussions regarding recommendations. However, the recommendations in the Rector Report are subject to ongoing comment and revision. It is unclear at this time to what extent the recommendations in the Rector

Table of Contents

Report, or additional or revised recommendations relating to captive transactions or reinsurance transactions in general, will be adopted by the NAIC. If the recommendations proposed in the Rector Report are implemented, it will likely be difficult for the Company to establish new captive financing arrangements on a basis consistent with past practices and in some circumstances could impact the Company's ability to engage in certain reinsurance transactions with non-affiliates.

The NAIC's Financial Regulation Standards and Accreditation (F) Committee is considering a proposal to include insurer-owned captives and special purpose vehicles that are single-state licensed but assume reinsurance from cedants operating in multiple states within the definition of "multi-state insurer" found in the preambles to Parts A and B of the NAIC Financial Regulation Standards and Accreditation Program. If adopted, the revised definition would subject captives (on a prospective basis, as proposed) to all of the Accreditation Standards applicable to other traditional multi-state insurers, including standards related to capital and surplus requirements, risk-based capital requirements, investment laws and credit for reinsurance laws. Such application would likely have a significant and adverse impact on the Company's ability to engage in captive finance transactions on the same or a similar basis as in past periods.

Any regulatory action or changes in interpretation that materially adversely affects the Company's use or materially increases the Company's cost of using captives or reinsurers for the Affected Business, either retroactively or prospectively, could have a material adverse impact on the Company's financial condition or results of operations. If the Company were required to discontinue its use of captives for intercompany reinsurance transactions on a retroactive basis, adverse impacts would include early termination fees payable with respect to certain structures, diminished capital position and higher cost of capital. Additionally, finding alternative means to support policy liabilities efficiently is an unknown factor that would be dependent, in part, on future market conditions and the Company's ability to obtain required regulatory approvals. On a prospective basis, discontinuation of the use of captives could impact the types, amounts and pricing of products offered by the Company's insurance subsidiaries.

Recently, new laws and regulations have been adopted in certain states that require life insurers to search for unreported deaths. The National Conference of Insurance Legislators (NCOIL) has adopted the Model Unclaimed Life Insurance Benefits Act (the "Unclaimed Benefits Act") and legislation has been enacted in various states that is similar to the Unclaimed Benefits Act, although each state's version differs in some respects. The Unclaimed Benefits Act would impose new requirements on insurers to periodically compare their in-force life insurance and annuity contracts and retained asset accounts against a Death Database, investigate any potential matches to confirm the death and determine whether benefits are due, and to attempt to locate the beneficiaries of any benefits that are due or, if no beneficiary can be located, escheat the benefit to the state as unclaimed property. Other states in which the Company does business may also consider adopting legislation similar to the Unclaimed Benefits Act. The Company cannot predict whether such legislation will be proposed or enacted in additional states. Additionally, the NAIC Unclaimed Life Insurance Benefits (A) Working Group recently recommended to its parent committee the development of an NAIC model unclaimed property law that, if developed, would overlap with the NCOIL based laws already adopted in several states. Other life insurance industry associations and regulatory associations are also considering these matters.

A number of state treasury departments and administrators of unclaimed property have audited life insurance companies for compliance with unclaimed property laws. The focus of the audits has been to determine whether there have been maturities of policies or contracts, or policies that have exceeded limiting age with respect to which death benefits or other payments under the policies should be treated as unclaimed property that should be escheated to the state. In addition, the audits have sought to identify unreported deaths of insureds. There is no clear basis in previously existing law for treating an unreported death as giving rise to a policy benefit that would be subject to unclaimed property procedures. A number of life insurers, however, have entered into resolution agreements with state treasury departments under which the life insurers agreed to procedures for comparing their previously issued life insurance and annuity contracts and retained asset accounts against a Death Database, treating confirmed deaths as giving rise to a death benefit under their policies, locating beneficiaries and paying them the benefits and interest, and escheating the benefits and interest to the state if the beneficiary could not be found. The amounts publicly reported to have been paid to beneficiaries and/or escheated to the states have been substantial.

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

The NAIC has established an Investigations of Life/Annuity Claims Settlement Practices (D) Task Force to coordinate targeted multi-state examinations of life insurance companies on claims settlement practices. The state insurance regulators on the Task Force have initiated targeted multi-state examinations of life insurance companies with respect to the companies' claims paying practices and use of a Death Database to identify unreported deaths in their life.

Table of Contents

insurance policies, annuity contracts and retained asset accounts. There is no clear basis in previously existing law for requiring a life insurer to search for unreported deaths in order to determine whether a benefit is owed. A number of life insurers, however, have entered into settlement or consent agreements with state insurance regulators under which the life insurers agreed to implement systems and procedures for periodically comparing their life insurance and annuity contracts and retained asset accounts against a Death Database, treating confirmed deaths as giving rise to a death benefit under their policies, locating beneficiaries and paying them the benefits and interest, and escheating the benefits and interest to the state if the beneficiary could not be found. It has been publicly reported that the life insurers have paid substantial administrative and/or examination fees to the insurance regulators in connection with the settlement or consent agreements.

Certain of the Company's subsidiaries as well as certain other insurance companies from whom the Company has reinsured blocks of life insurance and annuity policies are subject to unclaimed property audits and/or targeted multistate examinations by insurance regulators similar to those described above. It is possible that the audits, examinations and/or the enactment of state laws similar to the Unclaimed Benefits Act could result in additional payments to beneficiaries, additional escheatment of funds deemed abandoned under state laws, payment of administrative penalties and/or examination fees to state authorities, and changes to the Company's procedures for identifying unreported deaths and escheatment of abandoned property. It is possible any such additional payments and any costs related to changes in Company procedures could materially impact the Company's financial results from operations. It is also possible that life insurers, including the Company, may be subject to claims, regulatory actions, law enforcement actions, and civil litigation arising from their prior business practices. Any resulting liabilities, payments or costs, including initial and ongoing costs of changes to the Company's procedures or systems, could be significant and could have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial condition or results of operations.

During December 2012, the West Virginia Treasurer filed actions against the Company's subsidiaries Protective Life Insurance Company and West Coast Life Insurance Company in West Virginia state court (*State of West Virginia ex rel. John D. Perdue v. Protective Life Insurance Company, State of West Virginia ex rel. John D. Perdue v. West Coast Life Insurance Company; Defendants' Motions to Dismiss granted on December 27, 2013; Notice of Appeal filed on January 27, 2014*). The actions, which also name numerous other life insurance companies, allege that the companies violated the West Virginia Uniform Unclaimed Property Act, seek to compel compliance with the Act, and seek payment of unclaimed property, interest, and penalties. While the legal theory or theories that may give rise to liability in the West Virginia Treasurer litigation are uncertain, it is possible that other jurisdictions may pursue similar actions. The Company does not currently believe that losses, if any, arising from the West Virginia Treasurer litigation will be material. The Company cannot, however, predict whether other jurisdictions will pursue similar actions or, if they do, whether such actions will have a material impact on the Company's financial results from operations. Additionally, the California Controller has recently sued several insurance carriers for alleged failure to comply with audit requests from an appointed third party auditor. The Company cannot predict whether California might pursue a similar action against the Company and further cannot predict whether other jurisdictions might pursue similar actions. The Company does not believe however that any such action would have a material impact on the Company's financial condition or results of operations.

Under insurance guaranty fund laws in most states, insurance companies doing business therein can be assessed up to prescribed limits for policyholder losses incurred by insolvent companies. From time to time, companies may be asked to contribute amounts beyond prescribed limits. The Company cannot predict the amount or timing of any future assessments.

The purchase of life insurance products is limited by state insurable interest laws, which in most jurisdictions require that the purchaser of life insurance name a beneficiary that has some interest in the sustained life of the insured. To some extent, the insurable interest laws present a barrier to the life settlement, or "stranger-owned" industry, in which a financial entity acquires an interest in life insurance proceeds, and efforts have been made in some states to liberalize the insurable interest laws. To the extent these laws are relaxed, the Company's lapse assumptions may prove to be incorrect.

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

At the federal level, bills are routinely introduced in both chambers of the United States Congress (Congress) that could affect life insurers. In the past, Congress has considered legislation that would impact insurance companies in numerous ways, such as providing for an optional federal charter or a federal presence for insurance, preempting state law in certain respects regarding the regulation of reinsurance, increasing federal oversight in areas

Table of Contents

such as consumer protection and other matters. The Company cannot predict whether or in what form legislation will be enacted and, if so, whether the enacted legislation will positively or negatively affect the Company or whether any effects will be material.

The Company is subject to various conditions and requirements of the Healthcare Act. The Healthcare Act makes significant changes to the regulation of health insurance and may affect the Company in various ways. The Healthcare Act may affect the small blocks of business the Company has offered or acquired over the years that are, or are deemed to constitute, health insurance. The Healthcare Act may also affect the benefit plans the Company sponsors for employees or retirees and their dependents, the Company's expense to provide such benefits, the tax liabilities of the Company in connection with the provision of such benefits, and the Company's ability to attract or retain employees. In addition, the Company may be subject to regulations, guidance or determinations emanating from the various regulatory authorities authorized under the Healthcare Act. The Company cannot predict the effect that the Healthcare Act, or any regulatory pronouncement made thereunder, will have on its results of operations or financial condition.

The Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (Dodd-Frank) enacted in July 2010 made sweeping changes to the regulation of financial services entities, products and markets. Certain provisions of Dodd-Frank are or may become applicable to the Company, its competitors or those entities with which the Company does business. Such provisions include, but are not limited to the following: the establishment of the Federal Insurance Office, changes to the regulation and standards applicable to broker-dealers and investment advisors, changes to the regulation of reinsurance, changes to regulations affecting the rights of shareowners, and the imposition of additional regulation over credit rating agencies.

Dodd-Frank also created the Financial Stability Oversight Council (the FSOC), which has issued a final rule and interpretive guidance setting forth the methodology by which it will determine whether a non-bank financial company is a systemically important financial institution (SIFI). A non-bank financial company, such as the Company, that is designated as a SIFI by the FSOC will become subject to supervision by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (the Federal Reserve). The Company is not currently supervised by the Federal Reserve. Such supervision could impact the Company's requirements relating to capital, liquidity, stress testing, limits on counterparty credit exposure, compliance and governance, early remediation in the event of financial weakness and other prudential matters, and in other ways the Company currently cannot anticipate. FSOC-designated non-bank financial companies will also be required to prepare resolution plans, so-called living wills, that set out how they could most efficiently be liquidated if they endangered the U.S. financial system or the broader economy. The FSOC has made its initial SIFI designations, and the Company was not designated as such. However, the Company could be considered and designated at any time. Because the process is in its initial stages, the Company is at this time unable to predict the impact on an entity that is supervised as a SIFI by the Federal Reserve Board. The Company is not able to predict whether the capital requirements or other requirements imposed on SIFIs may impact the requirements applicable to the Company even if it is not designated as a SIFI. The uncertainty about regulatory requirements could influence the Company's product line or other business decisions with respect to some product lines. There is a similarly uncertain international designation process. The Financial Stability Board, appointed by the G-20 Summit, recently designated nine insurers as G-SIIs, or global systemically-important insurers. As with the designation of SIFIs, it is unclear at this time how additional capital and other requirements affect the insurance and financial industries. The insurers designated as G-SIIs to date represent organizations larger than the Company, but the possibility remains that the Company could be so designated.

Additionally, Dodd-Frank created the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB), an independent division of the Department of Treasury with jurisdiction over credit, savings, payment, and other consumer financial products and services, other than investment products already regulated by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC) or the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission. CFPB has issued a rule to bring under its supervisory authority certain non-banks whose activities or products it determines pose risks to consumers. It is unclear at this time which activities or products will be covered by this rule. Certain of the Company's subsidiaries sell products that may be regulated by the CFPB. CFPB continues to bring enforcement actions involving a growing number of issues, including actions using state Attorney's General, which could directly or indirectly affect the Company or use any of its subsidiaries. Additionally, the CFPB is exploring the possibility of helping Americans manage their retirement savings and is considering the extent of its authority in that area. The Company is unable at this time to predict the impact of these activities on the Company.

Table of Contents

Dodd-Frank includes a new framework of regulation of over-the-counter (OTC) derivatives markets which requires clearing of certain types of transactions which have been or are currently traded OTC by the Company. The types of transactions to be cleared are expected to increase in the future. The new framework could potentially impose additional costs, including increased margin requirements and additional regulation on the Company. Increased margin requirements on the Company's part, combined with restrictions on securities that will qualify as eligible collateral, could continue to reduce its liquidity and require an increase in its holdings of cash and government securities with lower yields causing a reduction in income. The Company uses derivative financial instruments to mitigate a wide range of risks in connection with its businesses, including those arising from its variable annuity products with guaranteed benefit features. The derivative clearing requirements of Dodd-Frank could continue to increase the cost of the Company's risk mitigation and expose it to the risk of a default by a clearinghouse with respect to the Company's cleared derivative transactions.

Numerous provisions of Dodd-Frank require the adoption of implementing rules and/or regulations. The process of adopting such implementing rules and/or regulations have in some instances been delayed beyond the timeframes imposed by Dodd-Frank. Until the various final regulations are promulgated pursuant to Dodd-Frank, the full impact of the regulations on the Company will remain unclear. In addition, Dodd-Frank mandates multiple studies, which could result in additional legislation or regulation applicable to the insurance industry, the Company, its competitors or the entities with which the Company does business. Legislative or regulatory requirements imposed by or promulgated in connection with Dodd-Frank may impact the Company in many ways, including but not limited to the following: placing the Company at a competitive disadvantage relative to its competition or other financial services entities, changing the competitive landscape of the financial services sector and/or the insurance industry, making it more expensive for the Company to conduct its business, requiring the reallocation of significant company resources to government affairs, legal and compliance-related activities, causing historical market behavior or statistics utilized by the Company in connection with its efforts to manage risk and exposure to no longer be predictive of future risk and exposure or otherwise have a material adverse effect on the overall business climate as well as the Company's financial condition and results of operations.

The Company may be subject to regulation by the United States Department of Labor when providing a variety of products and services to employee benefit plans and individual investors that are governed by the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA). The Department of Labor is currently in the process of re-proposing a rule that would change the circumstances under which one who works with employee benefit plans and Individual Retirement Accounts would be considered a fiduciary under ERISA. Severe penalties are imposed for breach of duties under ERISA and the Company cannot predict the impact that the Department of Labor's re-proposed rule may have on its operations.

Certain life insurance policies, contracts, and annuities offered by the Company's subsidiaries are subject to regulation under the federal securities laws administered by the SEC. The federal securities laws contain regulatory restrictions and criminal, administrative, and private remedial provisions. From time to time, the SEC and the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) examine or investigate the activities of broker-dealers and investment advisors, including the Company's affiliated broker-dealers and investment advisors. These examinations or investigations often focus on the activities of the registered representatives and registered investment advisors doing business through such entities and the entities' supervision of those persons. It is possible that any examination or investigation could lead to enforcement action by the regulator and/or may result in payments of fines and penalties, payments to customers, or both, as well as changes in systems or procedures of such entities, any of which could have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial condition or results of operations.

In addition, the SEC is reviewing the standard of conduct applicable to brokers, dealers, and investment advisers when those entities provide personalized investment advice about securities to retail customers. FINRA has also issued a report addressing how its member firms might identify and address conflicts of interest including conflicts related to the introduction of new products and services and the compensation of the member firms' associated persons. These regulatory initiatives could have an impact on Company operations and the manner in which broker-dealers and investment advisers distribute the Company's products.

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

The Company may also be subject to regulation by governments of the countries in which it currently does, or may in the future, do, business, as well as regulation by the U.S. Government with respect to its operations in foreign countries, such as the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act. Penalties for violating the various laws governing the Company's

Table of Contents

business in other countries may include restrictions upon business operations, fines and imprisonment, both within the U.S. and abroad. U.S. enforcement of anti-corruption laws continues to increase in magnitude, and penalties may be substantial.

Other types of regulation that could affect the Company and its subsidiaries include insurance company investment laws and regulations, state statutory accounting and reserving practices, anti-trust laws, minimum solvency requirements, enterprise risk requirements, state securities laws, federal privacy laws, insurable interest laws, federal anti-money laundering and anti-terrorism laws, employment and immigration laws (including laws in Alabama where over half of the Company's employees are located), and because the Company owns and operates real property, state, federal, and local environmental laws. Under some circumstances, severe penalties may be imposed for breach of these laws.

The Company cannot predict what form any future changes to laws and/or regulations affecting participants in the financial services sector and/or insurance industry, including the Company and its competitors or those entities with which it does business, may take, or what effect, if any, such changes may have.

Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds

During the quarter ended September 30, 2014, the Company issued no securities in transactions which were not registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Act").

Purchases of Equity Securities by the Issuer

During the nine months ended September 30, 2014, the Company did not repurchase any of its common stock.

Table of Contents

Item 6. Exhibits

Item Number	Document
31(a)	Certification Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 filed herewith.
31(b)	Certification Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 filed herewith.
32(a)	Certification Pursuant to 18 U.S.C Section 1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 filed herewith.
32(b)	Certification Pursuant to 18 U.S.C Section 1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 filed herewith.
101	Financial statements from the quarterly report on Form 10-Q of Protective Life Corporation for the quarter ended September 30, 2014, filed on November 7, 2014, formatted in XBRL: (i) the Consolidated Condensed Statements of Income, (ii) the Consolidated Condensed Statements of Comprehensive Income (Loss), (iii) the Consolidated Condensed Balance Sheets, (iv) the Consolidated Condensed Statement of Shareowners Equity, (v) the Consolidated Condensed Statements of Cash Flows, and (iv) the Notes to Consolidated Condensed Financial Statements.

Table of Contents

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

PROTECTIVE LIFE CORPORATION

Date: November 7, 2014

By:

/s/ Steven G. Walker

Steven G. Walker
Senior Vice President, Controller
and Chief Accounting Officer