

PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP
Form 10-Q
May 10, 2006

**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 **March 31, 2006**

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)

Delaware

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or
organization)

95-2492236

(IRS Employer Identification No.)

2801 Highway 280 South

Birmingham, Alabama 35223

(Address of principal executive offices and zip code)

(205) 268-1000

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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 is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, or a non-accelerated filer. 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

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

Number of shares of Common Stock, \$0.50 par value, outstanding as of May 9, 2006: 69,889,419

PROTECTIVE LIFE CORPORATION

Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q
For Quarter Ended March 31, 2006

INDEX

Part I. Financial Information:

Item 1. Financial Statements (unaudited):

Consolidated Condensed Statements of Income for the
Three Months ended March 31, 2006 and 2005

Consolidated Condensed Balance Sheets as of March 31, 2006
and December 31, 2005

Consolidated Condensed Statements of Cash Flows for the
Three Months ended March 31, 2006 and 2005

Notes to Consolidated Condensed Financial Statements

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

Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About
Market Risk

Item 4. Controls and Procedures

Part II. Other Information:

Item 1A. Risk Factors

Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of
Proceeds

Item 6.

Exhibits

Signature

PROTECTIVE LIFE CORPORATION
CONSOLIDATED CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF INCOME
(Dollars in thousands except per share amounts)
(Unaudited)

	Three Months Ended	
	March 31	
	2006	2005
Revenues		
Gross premiums and policy fees	\$ 507,694	\$ 468,514
Reinsurance ceded	(280,670)	(282,152)
Net premiums and policy fees	227,024	186,362
Net investment income	299,065	287,953
Realized investment gains (losses):		
Derivative financial instruments	13,337	(6,368)
All other investments	5,153	27,878
Other income	48,536	44,284
Total revenues	593,115	540,109
Benefits and expenses		
Benefits and settlement expenses, net of reinsurance ceded: (three months: 2006 - \$256,558; 2005 - \$265,363)	349,608	300,434
Amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs	50,031	74,251
Other operating expenses, net of reinsurance ceded: (three months: 2006 - \$46,291; 2005 - \$36,874)	82,819	73,554
Total benefits and expenses	482,458	448,239
Income before income tax	110,657	91,870
Income tax expense	38,520	31,787
Net income	\$ 72,137	\$ 60,083
Net income per share - basic	\$ 1.02	\$ 0.85
Net income per share - diluted	\$ 1.01	\$ 0.84
Cash dividends paid per share	\$ 0.195	\$ 0.175
Average shares outstanding - basic	70,752,202	70,474,337
Average shares outstanding - diluted	71,559,255	71,273,760

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

See Notes to Consolidated Condensed Financial Statements

PROTECTIVE LIFE CORPORATION
CONSOLIDATED CONDENSED BALANCE SHEETS

(Dollars in thousands)

(Unaudited)

	March 31	December 31
	2006	2005
Assets		
Investments:		
Fixed maturities, at market (amortized cost: 2006 - \$15,008,192; 2005 - \$15,172,482)	\$ 14,965,927	\$ 15,472,386
Equity securities, at market (cost: 2006 - \$117,678; 2005 - \$114,994)	123,536	121,012
Mortgage loans on real estate	3,411,337	3,287,745
Investment in real estate, net of accumulated depreciation (2006 - \$479; 2005 - \$1,009)	63,858	72,932
Policy loans	456,147	458,825
Other long-term investments	269,345	279,676
Short-term investments	833,567	776,139
Total investments	20,123,717	20,468,715
Cash	37,118	83,670
Accrued investment income	198,708	189,038
Accounts and premiums receivable, net of allowance for uncollectible amounts (2006 - \$2,125; 2005 - \$2,149)	59,236	82,080
Reinsurance receivables	3,146,444	3,020,685
Deferred policy acquisition costs	2,332,639	2,171,988
Goodwill	49,423	49,423
Property and equipment, net	45,941	47,010
Other assets	144,855	140,124
Income tax receivable	96,443	85,807
Assets related to separate accounts		
Variable annuity	2,447,968	2,377,124
Variable universal life	269,532	251,329
	\$ 28,952,024	\$ 28,966,993
Liabilities		
Policy liabilities and accruals	\$ 12,214,590	\$ 11,895,145
Stable value product account balances	5,873,092	6,057,721
Annuity account balances	3,330,897	3,388,005
Other policyholders' funds	147,470	147,921
Other liabilities	893,828	968,403
Deferred income taxes	280,219	317,317
Non-recourse funding obligations	150,000	125,000
Liabilities related to variable interest entities	442,383	448,093
Long-term debt	473,032	482,532
Subordinated debt securities	324,743	324,743
Liabilities related to separate accounts		
Variable annuity	2,447,968	2,377,124
Variable universal life	269,532	251,329
	26,847,754	26,783,333

Commitments and contingent liabilities - Note 2**Share-owners' equity**

Preferred Stock, \$1 par value, shares authorized: 4,000,000; Issued: None

Common Stock, \$.50 par value, shares authorized: 2006 and 2005 -160,000,000

shares issued: 2006 and 2005 - 73,251,960	36,626	36,626
Additional paid-in capital	441,964	440,475
Treasury stock, at cost (2006 - 3,366,616 shares; 2005 - 3,557,911 shares)	(12,079)	(12,765)
Unallocated stock in Employee Stock Ownership Plan (2006 - 377,616 shares; 2005 - 480,356 shares)	(1,231)	(1,610)
Retained earnings	1,674,232	1,615,714
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss):		
Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments, net of income tax: (2006 - \$(21,384); 2005 - \$57,649)	(40,276)	104,489
Accumulated gain - hedging, net of income tax: (2006 - \$2,673; 2005 - \$394)	5,034	731
	2,104,270	2,183,660
	\$ 28,952,024	\$ 28,966,993

See Notes to Consolidated Condensed Financial Statements

PROTECTIVE LIFE CORPORATION
CONSOLIDATED CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

(Dollars in thousands)

(Unaudited)

Three Months Ended

March 31

2006 2005

Cash flows from operating activities

Net income	\$	72,137	\$	60,083
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:				
Realized investment (gains) losses		(5,153)		(27,878)
Amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs		50,031		74,251
Capitalization of deferred policy acquisition costs		(97,740)		(98,528)
Depreciation expense		3,349		4,049
Deferred income tax		40,278		(514)
Accrued income tax		(14,353)		16,818
Interest credited to universal life and investment products		189,714		175,257
Policy fees assessed on universal life and investment products		(119,662)		(96,921)
Change in reinsurance receivables		(125,759)		(85,719)
Change in accrued investment income and other receivables		13,174		(12,123)
Change in policy liabilities and other policyholders' funds of traditional life and health products		262,294		157,719
Net change in trading securities		7,294		477
Change in other liabilities		(53,336)		344,564
Other, net		(11,616)		5,529
Net cash provided by operating activities		210,652		517,064

Cash flows from investing activities

Investments available for sale:				
Maturities and principal reductions of investments				
Fixed maturities		265,542		422,149
Equity securities		0		94
Sale of investments				
Fixed maturities		2,076,761		1,026,940
Equity securities		1,858		3,099
Cost of investments acquired				
Fixed maturities		(2,180,522)		(2,474,119)
Equity securities		(1,706)		(16,057)
Mortgage loans:				
New borrowings		(262,617)		(131,113)
Repayments		141,448		92,263
Change in investment real estate, net		15,736		1,540
Change in policy loans, net		2,678		10,316
Change in other long-term investments, net		18,420		2,854
Change in short-term investments, net		(70,500)		275,276
Purchase of property and equipment		(1,093)		(2,695)
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities		6,005		(789,453)

Cash flows from financing activities

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

Borrowings under line of credit arrangements and long-term debt	13,000	0
Principal payments on line of credit arrangement and long-term debt	(22,500)	(9)
Payments on liabilities related to variable interest entities	(5,710)	(513)
Issuance of non-recourse funding obligations	25,000	0
Dividends to share owners	(13,620)	(12,181)
Investment product deposits and change in universal life deposits	486,646	734,458
Investment product withdrawals	(748,801)	(652,232)
Excess tax benefits on stock based compensation	2,403	0
Other financing activities, net	373	125,943
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	(263,209)	195,466
Change in cash	(46,552)	(76,923)
Cash at beginning of period	83,670	130,596
Cash at end of period	\$ 37,118	\$ 53,673

See Notes to Consolidated Condensed Financial Statements

PROTECTIVE LIFE CORPORATION
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED CONDENSED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited)
(Dollar amounts in tables are in thousands, except per share amounts)

1. Basis of Presentation

The accompanying unaudited consolidated condensed financial statements of Protective Life Corporation and its 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-month period ended March 31, 2006 are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the year ending December 31, 2006. The year-end consolidated condensed balance sheet 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, 2005.

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 share-owners' equity.

2. Commitments and Contingent Liabilities

The Company is contingently liable to obtain a \$20 million letter of credit under indemnity agreements with its directors. Such agreements provide insurance protection in excess of the directors' liability insurance in force at the time up to \$20 million. Should certain events occur constituting a change in control of the Company, the Company must obtain the letter of credit upon which directors may draw for defense or settlement of any claim relating to performance of their duties as directors. The Company has similar agreements with certain of its officers providing up to \$10 million in indemnification that are not secured by the obligation to obtain a letter of credit.

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. The Company does not believe such assessments will be materially different from amounts already provided for in the financial statements. Most of these laws provide that an assessment may be excused or deferred if it would threaten an insurer's own financial strength.

A number of civil jury verdicts have been returned against insurers and other providers of financial services involving sales practices, alleged agent misconduct, failure to properly supervise representatives, relationships with agents or persons with whom the insurer does business, and other matters. Increasingly 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 and 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. The Company, like other financial services companies, in the ordinary course of business, is involved in such litigation and in arbitration. Although the outcome of any such litigation or arbitration cannot be predicted, the

Company believes that at the present time there are no pending or threatened lawsuits that are reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on the financial position, results of operations, or liquidity of the Company.

3. Operating Segments

The Company operates several business segments each having a strategic focus. An operating segment is generally distinguished by products and/or channels of distribution. A brief description of each segment follows:

- The Life Marketing segment markets level premium term and term-like insurance (collectively “traditional life”), universal life, variable universal life and bank owned life insurance (“BOLI”) products on a national basis primarily through networks of independent insurance agents and brokers, stockbrokers, and independent marketing organizations.
- The Acquisitions segment focuses on acquiring, converting, and servicing policies acquired from other companies. The segment's primary focus is on life insurance policies sold to individuals.
- The Annuities segment manufactures, sells, and supports fixed and variable annuity products. These products are primarily sold through stockbrokers, but are also sold through financial institutions and independent agents and brokers.
- The Stable Value Products segment sells guaranteed funding agreements (“GFAs”) to special purpose entities that in turn issue notes or certificates in smaller, transferable denominations. The segment also markets fixed and floating rate funding agreements directly to the trustees of municipal bond proceeds, institutional investors, bank trust departments, and money market funds. Additionally, the segment markets guaranteed investment contracts (“GICs”) to 401(k) and other qualified retirement savings plans.
- The Asset Protection segment primarily markets extended service contracts and credit life and disability insurance to protect consumers’ investments in automobiles and watercraft. In addition, the segment markets an inventory protection product and a guaranteed asset protection (“GAP”) product.

The Company has an additional segment referred to as Corporate and Other. The Corporate and Other segment primarily consists of net investment income and expenses not attributable to the segments above (including net investment income on unallocated capital and interest on debt). This segment also includes earnings from several small non-strategic lines of business (primarily cancer insurance, residual value insurance, surety insurance, and group annuities), various investment-related transactions, and the operations of several small subsidiaries.

The Company uses the same accounting policies and procedures to measure segment operating income and assets as it uses to measure its consolidated net income and assets. Segment operating income is generally income before income tax excluding net realized investment gains and losses (net of the related amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs and participating income from real estate ventures). Periodic settlements of derivatives associated with corporate debt and certain investments and annuity products are included in realized gains and losses but are considered part of operating income because the derivatives are used to mitigate risk in items affecting consolidated and segment operating income. Segment operating income 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 deferred policy acquisition costs 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, while deferred policy acquisition costs and goodwill are shown in the segments to which they are attributable.

There are no significant intersegment transactions.

The following tables summarize financial information for the Company's segments. Asset adjustments represent the inclusion of assets related to discontinued operations.

	Three Months Ended	
	March 31	
	2006	2005
	(Dollars in thousands)	
Revenues		
Life Marketing	\$ 218,925	\$ 163,732
Acquisitions	101,451	102,546
Annuities	63,796	93,178
Stable Value Products	77,379	74,494
Asset Protection	65,149	65,078
Corporate and Other	66,415	41,081
Total revenues	\$ 593,115	\$ 540,109
Segment Operating Income		
Life Marketing	\$ 40,781	\$ 39,141
Acquisitions	19,906	21,035
Annuities	4,741	4,064
Stable Value Products	12,344	14,399
Asset Protection	8,738	6,172
Corporate and Other	11,663	11,645
Total segment operating income	98,173	96,456
Realized investment gains (losses) - investments ⁽¹⁾	(173)	5,466
Realized investment gains (losses) - derivatives ⁽²⁾	12,657	(10,052)
Income tax expense	(38,520)	(31,787)
Net income	\$ 72,137	\$ 60,083
⁽¹⁾ Realized investment gains (losses) - investments	\$ 5,153	\$ 27,878
Less participating income from real estate ventures	5,326	0
Less related amortization of DAC	0	22,412
	\$ (173)	\$ 5,466
⁽²⁾ Realized investment gains (losses) - derivatives	\$ 13,337	\$ (6,368)
Less settlements on certain interest rate swaps	1,331	3,684
Less derivative losses related to certain annuities	(651)	0
	\$ 12,657	\$ (10,052)

Operating Segment Assets

March 31, 2006

(Dollars in thousands)

Life	Acquisitions	Annuities	Stable Value
-------------	---------------------	------------------	---------------------

	Marketing		Products	
Investments and other assets	\$ 7,496,142	\$ 3,855,878	\$ 6,140,820	\$ 5,767,416
Deferred policy acquisition costs	1,714,694	359,033	122,606	18,159
Goodwill	10,354	0	0	0
Total assets	\$ 9,221,190	\$ 4,214,911	\$ 6,263,426	\$ 5,785,575

	Asset Protection	Corporate and Other	Adjustments	Total Consolidated
Investments and other assets	\$ 803,949	\$ 2,464,419	\$ 41,338	\$ 26,569,962
Deferred policy acquisition costs	90,284	27,863	0	2,332,639
Goodwill	38,986	83	0	49,423
Total assets	\$ 933,219	\$ 2,492,365	\$ 41,338	\$ 28,952,024

Operating Segment Assets
December 31, 2005
(Dollars in thousands)

	Life Marketing	Acquisitions	Annuities	Stable Value Products
Investments and other assets	\$ 7,219,157	\$ 3,914,853	\$ 6,065,367	\$ 5,959,112
Deferred policy acquisition costs	1,584,325	330,278	128,930	19,102
Goodwill	10,354	0	0	0
Total assets	\$ 8,813,836	\$ 4,245,131	\$ 6,194,297	\$ 5,978,214

	Asset Protection	Corporate and Other	Adjustments	Total Consolidated
Investments and other assets	\$ 812,774	\$ 2,732,774	\$ 41,545	\$ 26,745,582
Deferred policy acquisition costs	101,972	7,381	0	2,171,988
Goodwill	38,986	83	0	49,423
Total assets	\$ 953,732	\$ 2,740,238	\$ 41,545	\$ 28,966,993

4. Statutory Reporting Practices

Financial statements prepared in conformity with GAAP differ in some respects from the statutory accounting practices prescribed or permitted by insurance regulatory authorities. In accordance with statutory reporting practices, at March 31, 2006, and for the three months then ended, the Company's insurance subsidiaries had combined capital and surplus of \$1.4 billion and net loss of \$58.3 million. At March 31, 2006, the combined asset valuation reserve held by the Company's insurance subsidiaries was \$103.1 million.

The statutory net loss for the first quarter of 2006 is the result of an increase in the level of reserves maintained for statutory reporting practices, combined with a loss from separate accounts related primarily to the Company's market value adjusted annuities. An amendment to Actuarial Guideline 38 increased the level of statutory reserves required for certain universal life with secondary guarantee insurance products issued on or after July 1, 2005. Additionally,

during 2005 statutory reserves required by Regulation XXX were reinsured with a special purpose finance captive insurance company wholly owned by Protective Life. A substantial portion of these reserves were previously reinsured with unaffiliated reinsurers.

5. Net Income Per Share

Net income per share - basic 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. Net income per share - diluted is computed by dividing net income by the weighted-average number of common shares and dilutive potential common shares outstanding during the period, 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 net income per share is presented below:

	Three Months Ended	
	March 31	
	2006	2005
	(Dollars in thousands, except per share amounts)	
Calculation of basic earnings per share:		
Net income	\$ 72,137	\$ 60,083
Average shares issued and outstanding	69,793,369	69,537,435
Issuable under various deferred compensation plans	958,833	936,902
Weighted shares outstanding - Basic	70,752,202	70,474,337
Basic earnings per share	\$ 1.02	\$ 0.85
Calculation of diluted earnings per share:		
Net income	\$ 72,137	\$ 60,083
Weighted shares outstanding - Basic	70,752,202	70,474,337
Stock appreciation rights ("SARs" ^(a))	316,254	310,912
Issuable under various other stock-back compensation plans	490,799	488,511
Weighted shares outstanding - Diluted	71,559,255	71,273,760
Diluted earnings per share	\$ 1.01	\$ 0.84

^(a) Excludes 164,898 and 119,400 SARs as of March 31, 2006 and 2005, 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.

6. Recently Issued Accounting Standards

In September 2005, the Accounting Standards Executive Committee of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (“AcSEC”) issued SOP 05-1, “Accounting by Insurance Enterprises for Deferred Acquisition Costs in Connection with Modifications or Exchanges of Insurance Contracts.” This SOP provides guidance on accounting by insurance enterprises for deferred acquisition costs on internal replacements of insurance and investment contracts other than those specifically described in FAS97. The SOP defines an internal replacement as a modification in product benefits, features, rights, or coverages that occurs by the exchange of a contract for a new contract, or by amendment, endorsement, or rider to a contract, or by the election of a feature or coverage within a contract. The Company is currently evaluating the impact of SOP 05-1, which is effective for internal replacements occurring in fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2006, but does not currently believe that its adoption will have a material impact on its financial position or results of operations.

In February 2006, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 155, “Accounting for Certain Hybrid Financial Instruments” (“FAS155”). FAS155 amends Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 133, “Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities” (“FAS133”) and Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 140, “Accounting for Transfers and Servicing of Financial Assets and Extinguishment of Liabilities” (“FAS140”) and resolves issues addressed in FAS133 DIG Issue D1, “Application of Statement 133 to Beneficial Interest in Securitized Financial Assets.” FAS155 eliminates the exemption from applying the bifurcation requirements of FAS133 to interests in securitized financial assets, in an effort to ensure that similar instruments are accounted for consistently regardless of the form of the instrument. The Company is currently evaluating the impact FAS155, which is effective January 1, 2007, but does not currently believe that its adoption will have a material impact on its financial position or results of operations.

7. Comprehensive Income

The following table sets forth the Company's comprehensive income (loss) for the periods presented below:

	Three Months Ended March 31	
	2006	2005
	(Dollars in thousands)	
Net income	\$ 72,137	\$ 60,083
Change in net unrealized gains on investments, net of income tax: (three months: 2006 - \$(78,279); 2005 - \$(44,552))	(147,425)	(82,739)
Change in accumulated gain-hedging, net of income tax: (three months: 2006 - \$2,285; 2005 - \$1,897)	4,303	3,523
Reclassification adjustment for amounts included in net income, net of income tax: (three months: 2006 - \$1,419; 2005 - \$(9,757))	2,660	(18,121)
Comprehensive income (loss)	\$ (68,325)	\$ (37,254)

8. Retirement Benefit Plans

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

	Three Months Ended March 31	
	2006	2005

(Dollars in thousands)

Service cost - Benefits earned during the period	\$	2,576	\$	2,104
Interest cost on projected benefit obligations		2,496		2,408
Expected return on plan assets		(3,096)		(2,428)
Amortization of prior service cost		64		82
Amortization of actuarial losses		1,272		789
Net periodic benefit cost	\$	3,312	\$	2,955

The Company previously disclosed in its financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2005, that it expected its defined benefit pension plan and unfunded excess benefits plan expenses for 2006 to be \$7.0 million and \$1.2 million, respectively, and these estimates have not changed. The Company's estimated expense related to the defined benefit pension plan equals its expected contributions to the plan during 2006. As of March 31, 2006, no contributions have been made to the defined benefit pension plan.

In addition to pension benefits, the Company provides limited healthcare benefits and life insurance benefits to eligible retirees. The cost of these plans for the three months ended March 31, 2006 and 2005 was immaterial.

9. Borrowings

Long Term Debt

At March 31, 2006, the Company had \$58.5 million outstanding under its \$200 million revolving line of credit due July 30, 2009. The Company was in compliance with all debt covenants at March 31, 2006.

Non-Recourse Funding Obligations

The Company issued \$25 million of non-recourse funding obligations during the first quarter of 2006, bringing the total amount outstanding to \$150 million at March 31, 2006. The weighted average interest rate as of March 31, 2006, was 6.1%.

10. Stock-Based Compensation

Since 1973, the Company has had stock-based incentive plans to motivate management to focus on the Company's long-range performance through the awarding of stock-based compensation. Under plans approved by share owners in 1997 and 2003, up to 6,500,000 shares may be issued in payment of awards.

Through December 31, 2005, the Company accounted for its stock-based compensation in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123, "Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation," ("FAS123") which was originally issued by the FASB in 1995. As originally issued, FAS123 provided companies with the option to either record expense for share-based payments under a fair value model, or to simply disclose the impact of the expense. Effective January 1, 2006, the Company adopted Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123 (Revised 2004), "Share-Based Payment" ("FAS123R"), using the modified prospective method, and accordingly prior periods have not been restated. FAS123R requires companies to measure the cost of share-based payments to employees using a fair value model and to recognize that cost over the relevant service period. Since the Company elected to recognize the cost of its share-based compensation plans in its financial statements when it originally adopted FAS123, the adoption of FAS123R in the first quarter of 2006 did not have a material impact on the Company's financial position, results of operations, or earnings per share.

In addition, FAS123R requires that an estimate of future award forfeitures be made at the grant date, while FAS123 permitted recognition of forfeitures on an as incurred basis. Prior to the adoption of FAS123R, the Company accounted for forfeitures as they occurred. This change in method related to forfeitures also did not have a material impact on the Company's financial position or results of operations.

Prior to adopting FAS123R, the Company presented all tax benefits of deductions resulting from payouts of stock based compensation as operating cash flows. FAS123R requires the cash flows resulting from excess tax benefits (tax deductions realized in excess of the compensation costs recognized for the exercise of the awards) from the date of adoption of FAS123R to be classified as a part of cash flows from financing activities. As a result of adopting FAS123R as of January 1, 2006, \$2.4 million of excess tax benefits for the first quarter of 2006 have been classified as financing cash flows.

The criteria for payment of 2006 performance awards is based primarily upon a comparison of the Company's average return on average equity over a four-year period (earlier upon the death, disability, or retirement of the executive, or in certain circumstances, upon a change in control of the Company) to that of a comparison group of publicly held life and multiline insurance companies. If the Company's results are below the median of the comparison group (40th percentile for 2006 awards), no portion of the award is earned. If the Company's results are at or above the 90th percentile, the award maximum is earned. Awards are paid in shares of Company Common Stock.

Performance shares awarded in the first quarter of 2006 and their estimated fair value at grant date are as follows:

Year Awarded	Performance Shares	Estimated Fair Value (Dollars in thousands)
2006	125,430	\$ 6,100

Performance shares are equivalent in value to one share of Company Common Stock times the award earned percentage payout. At March 31, 2006, the total outstanding performance shares related to these performance-based plans (including shares issued prior to January 1, 2006) measured at maximum payouts were 1,080,201.

During the first quarter of 2006, stock appreciation rights ("SARs") were 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 in four equal annual installments beginning one year after the date of grant or after five years depending on the terms of the 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 for the first quarter of 2006 is as follows:

	Weighted Average Base Price	No. of SARs
Balance at December 31, 2005	\$ 26.89	1,467,210
SARs granted	48.60	46,900
SARs exercised	20.30	(260,199)
Balance at March 31, 2006	\$ 29.07	1,253,911

The outstanding SARs at March 31, 2006, were at the following base prices:

Base Price	SARs	Currently
-------------------	-------------	------------------

	Outstanding	Remaining Life in Years	Exercisable
\$22.31	520,111	3	520,111
31.26	50,000	4	50,000
31.29	2,500	4	2,500
32.00	435,000	5	0
26.49	80,000	6	0
41.05	119,400	8	11,100
48.60	46,900	9	0

The SARs issued in the first quarter of 2006 had estimated fair values at grant date of \$0.7 million. The fair value of the 2006 SARs was estimated using a Black-Scholes option pricing model. The assumptions used varied depending on the vesting period of the awards. Assumptions used in the model were as follows: expected volatility ranged from 16.1% to 32.5%, the risk-free interest rate ranged from 4.9% to 5.0%, a dividend rate of 1.6%, a zero forfeiture rate, and the expected exercise date ranged from 2011 to 2014.

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.

The Company recognizes all stock based compensation expense over the related service period of the award, or earlier for retirement eligible employees. The expense recorded by the Company for its stock-based compensation plans was \$1.1 million for the first quarter of 2006. Additionally, as of March 31, 2006, \$16.3 million of unrecognized expense related to the Company's stock-based compensation plans is expected to be recognized in future periods through December 31, 2009. The Company's obligations of its stock-based compensation plans that are expected to be settled in shares of the Company's Common Stock are reported as a component of share-owners' equity, net of deferred taxes.

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

(Dollar amounts in tables are in thousands)

This Management's Discussion and Analysis should be read in its entirety, since it contains detailed information that is important to understanding the Company's results and financial condition. The Overview below is qualified in its entirety by the full Management's Discussion and Analysis.

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS - CAUTIONARY LANGUAGE

This report reviews the Company's financial condition and results of operations including its liquidity and capital resources. Historical information is presented and discussed. 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," "shall," "may," and 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 the Company 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.

For a more complete understanding of the Company's business and its current period results, please read the following Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations in conjunction with the Company's latest Annual Report on Form 10-K and other filings with the SEC.

INTRODUCTION

Protective Life Corporation (the "Company") is a holding company whose subsidiaries provide financial services through the production, distribution, and administration of insurance and investment products. Founded in 1907, Protective Life Insurance Company is the Company's largest operating subsidiary. Unless the context otherwise requires, the "Company" refers to the consolidated group of Protective Life Corporation and its subsidiaries.

The Company operates several business segments each having a strategic focus. An operating segment is generally distinguished by products and/or channels of distribution. The Company's operating segments are Life Marketing, Acquisitions, Annuities, Stable Value Products, and Asset Protection. The Company has an additional segment referred to as Corporate and Other which consists of net investment income on unallocated capital, interest on debt, earnings from various investment-related transactions, and the operations of several non-strategic lines of business. The Company periodically evaluates its operating segments in light of the segment reporting requirements prescribed by FAS131, "Disclosures about Segments of an Enterprise and Related Information," and makes adjustments to its segment reporting as needed.

KNOWN TRENDS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The factors which could affect the Company's future results include, but are not limited to, general economic conditions and the following known trends and uncertainties: we are exposed to the risks of natural disasters, pandemics, malicious and terrorist acts that could adversely affect our operations; we operate in a mature, highly competitive industry, which could limit our ability to gain or maintain our position in the industry; a ratings downgrade could adversely affect our ability to compete; our policy claims fluctuate from period to period, and actual results could differ from our expectations; our results may be negatively affected should actual experience differ from management's assumptions and estimates; the use of reinsurance introduces variability in our statements of income; we could be forced to sell investments at a loss to cover policyholder withdrawals; interest rate fluctuations could negatively affect our spread income or otherwise impact our business; equity market volatility could negatively impact our business; insurance companies are highly regulated and subject to numerous legal restrictions and regulations; changes to tax law or interpretations of existing tax law could adversely affect the Company and its ability to compete with non-insurance products or reduce the demand for certain insurance products; financial services companies are frequently the targets of litigation, including class action litigation, which could result in substantial judgments; the financial services industry is sometimes the target of law enforcement investigations and the focus of increased regulatory scrutiny; our ability to maintain low unit costs is dependent upon the level of new sales and persistency of existing business; our investments are subject to market and credit risks; we may not realize our anticipated financial results from our acquisitions strategy; we may not be able to close our pending acquisition, or may not be able to achieve the expected results once it is consummated; we are dependent on the performance of others; our reinsurers could fail to meet assumed obligations, increase rates or be subject to adverse developments that could affect us; computer viruses or network security breaches could affect our data processing systems or those of our business partners; our ability to grow depends in large part upon the continued availability of capital; and new accounting rules or changes to existing accounting rules could negatively impact us. Please refer to Exhibit 99 about these factors that could affect future results.

The Company's results may fluctuate from period to period due to fluctuations in mortality, persistency, claims, expenses, interest rates, and other factors. Therefore, it is management's opinion that quarterly operating results for an insurance company are not necessarily indicative of results to be achieved in future periods, and that a review of

operating results over a longer period is necessary to assess an insurance company's performance.

OVERVIEW

In the following discussion, segment operating income is defined as income before income tax, excluding net realized investment gains and losses (net of the related amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs (“DAC”) and participating income from real estate ventures). Periodic settlements of derivatives associated with corporate debt and certain investments and annuity products are included in realized gains and losses but are considered part of segment operating income because the derivatives are used to mitigate risk in items affecting segment operating income. Management believes that segment operating income provides relevant and useful information to investors, as it represents the basis on which the performance of the Company’s business is internally assessed. Although the items excluded from segment operating income may be significant components in understanding and assessing the Company’s overall financial performance, management believes that segment operating income enhances an investor’s understanding of the Company’s results of operations by highlighting the income (loss) attributable to the normal, recurring operations of the Company’s business. Note that the Company’s segment operating income measures may not be comparable to similarly titled measures reported by other companies.

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

	Three Months Ended		Change
	March 31		
	2006	2005	
	(Dollars in thousands)		
Segment Operating Income			
Life Marketing	\$ 40,781	\$ 39,141	4.2%
Acquisitions	19,906	21,035	(5.4)
Annuities	4,741	4,064	16.7
Stable Value Products	12,344	14,399	(14.3)
Asset Protection	8,738	6,172	41.6
Corporate and Other	11,663	11,645	0.2
Total segment operating income	98,173	96,456	1.8
Realized investment gains (losses) - investments ⁽¹⁾	(173)	5,466	
Realized investment gains (losses) - derivatives ⁽²⁾	12,657	(10,052)	
Income tax expense	(38,520)	(31,787)	
Net income	\$ 72,137	\$ 60,083	20.1
⁽¹⁾ Realized investment gains (losses) - investments	\$ 5,153	\$ 27,878	
Less participating income from real estate ventures	5,326	0	
Less related amortization of DAC	0	22,412	
	\$ (173)	\$ 5,466	
⁽²⁾ Realized investment gains (losses) - derivatives	\$ 13,337	\$ (6,368)	
Less settlements on certain interest rate swaps	1,331	3,684	
Less derivative losses related to certain annuities	(651)	0	
	\$ 12,657	\$ (10,052)	

Net income for the first three months of 2006 reflects a 1.8% growth in segment operating income. Additionally, net realized investment gains were \$12.5 million for the first three months of 2006, compared to net realized investment losses of \$4.6 million for the same period of 2005, a change of \$17.1 million. Life Marketing segment operating income was \$40.8 million in the current quarter, an increase of \$4.2% over the prior year’s quarter. The increase in the

quarter was attributable to growth in business in-force due to strong sales in prior periods, partially offset by higher mortality and expenses. The quarterly decline in the Acquisitions segment's operating income is due to the normal runoff of the segment's previously acquired blocks of business. Improvement in the equity markets and increasing account balances contributed to the quarterly increase of 16.7% in the Annuities segment's earnings, while spread compression due to increasing short term interest rates, caused operating income to decline 14.3% for the first quarter of 2006 in the Stable Value Products segment compared to the same period of 2005. The 41.6% increase over the prior year in the Asset Protection segment's operating income is primarily due to improvements in the segment's inventory protection product line.

RESULTS BY BUSINESS SEGMENT

In the following segment discussions, various statistics and other key data the Company uses to evaluate its segments are presented. Sales statistics are used by the Company to measure the relative progress in its marketing efforts, but may or may not have an immediate impact on reported segment operating income. Sales data for traditional life insurance are based on annualized premiums, while universal life sales are based on annualized planned (target) premiums plus 6% of amounts received in excess of target premiums. Sales of annuities are measured based on the amount of deposits received. Stable value contract sales are measured at the time that the funding commitment is made based on the amount of deposit to be received. Sales within the Asset Protection segment are generally based on the amount of single premium and fees received.

Sales and life insurance in-force amounts are derived from the Company's various sales tracking and administrative systems, and are not derived from the Company's financial reporting systems or financial statements. Mortality variances are derived from actual claims compared to expected claims. These variances do not represent the net impact to earnings due to the interplay of reserves and DAC amortization.

Life Marketing

The Life Marketing segment markets level premium term and term-like insurance (collectively "traditional life"), universal life ("UL"), variable universal life and bank owned life insurance ("BOLI") products on a national basis primarily through networks of independent insurance agents and brokers, stockbrokers, and independent marketing organizations. Segment results were as follows:

	Three Months Ended		Change
	March 31		
	2006	2005	
	(Dollars in thousands)		
REVENUES			
Gross premiums and policy fees	\$ 325,364	\$ 273,769	18.8%
Reinsurance ceded	(208,631)	(199,746)	4.4
Net premiums and policy fees	116,733	74,023	57.7
Net investment income	72,853	61,153	19.1
Other income	29,339	28,556	2.7
Total operating revenues	218,925	163,732	33.7
BENEFITS AND EXPENSES			
Benefits and settlement expenses	135,899	89,783	51.4
Amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs	19,466	17,827	9.2
Other operating expenses	22,779	16,981	34.1
Total benefits and expenses	178,144	124,591	43.0
OPERATING INCOME	40,781	39,141	4.2

INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAX	\$	40,781	\$	39,141	4.2
---------------------------------	----	--------	----	--------	-----

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

	Three Months Ended March 31		Change
	2006	2005	
(Dollars in thousands)			
Sales By Product			
Traditional	\$ 37,476	\$ 34,508	8.6%
Universal life	31,488	32,747	(3.8)
Variable universal life	1,285	1,138	12.9
	\$ 70,249	\$ 68,393	2.7
Sales By Distribution Channel			
Brokerage general agents	\$ 38,179	\$ 36,173	5.5
Independent agents	13,800	17,309	(20.3)
Stockbrokers/banks	13,567	12,670	7.1
BOLI/other	4,703	2,241	109.9
	\$ 70,249	\$ 68,393	2.7
Average Life Insurance In-Force⁽¹⁾			
Traditional	\$ 363,267,522	\$ 328,905,530	10.4
Universal life	49,263,933	43,105,270	14.3
	\$ 412,531,455	\$ 372,010,800	10.9
Average Account Values			
Universal life	\$ 4,619,947	\$ 3,876,441	19.2
Variable universal life	260,431	217,131	19.9
	\$ 4,880,378	\$ 4,093,572	19.2
Mortality Experience⁽²⁾	\$ (201)	\$ 1,252	

(1) Amounts are not adjusted for reinsurance ceded.

(2) Represents a favorable (unfavorable) variance as compared to pricing assumptions.

Operating income increased 4.2% from the first quarter of 2005. This increase is the result of a 33.7% increase in total revenues resulting from moderate increases in sales of new business and growth of life insurance in-force and average account values. The increase in revenues was partially offset by 43.0% higher overall benefits and expenses. Additionally, as discussed in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2005, during 2005 the Company reduced its reliance on reinsurance (see additional comments below) and entered into a capital markets solution to fund the additional statutory reserves required as a result of these changes in the Company's reinsurance arrangements. In addition to the expected fluctuations in premiums and benefits and settlement expenses discussed below, earnings emerge more slowly under a capital markets structure relative to the previous reinsurance structure utilized by the Company.

Net premiums and policy fees grew by 57.7% in the current quarter due in part to the growth in life insurance in-force achieved over the last several quarters. Net premiums and policy fees are also higher than the prior year due to an

increase in retention levels on certain newly written traditional life products. Beginning in the second quarter of 2005, the Company reduced its reliance on reinsurance by changing from coinsurance to yearly renewable term reinsurance agreements and increased the maximum amount retained on any one life from \$500,000 to \$1,000,000 on certain of its newly written traditional life products. In addition to increasing net premiums, this change will result in higher benefits and settlement expenses, and will cause greater variability in financial results due to fluctuations in mortality results.

Net investment income increased 19.1% for the quarter, reflecting the growth of the segment's assets caused by the increase in life reserves, offset by lower investment yields, while other income increased 2.7% for the quarter primarily due to additional income from the segment's broker-dealer subsidiary. Due to the nature of this business, the majority of this additional income is offset by an increase in other operating expenses.

Benefits and settlement expenses were 51.4% higher than the first quarter of 2005, due to growth in life insurance in-force, increased retention levels on certain newly written traditional life products, higher credited interest on UL products resulting from increases in account values, and unfavorable fluctuations in mortality experience. Mortality (actual results compared to pricing) for the current quarter was \$0.2 million unfavorable, compared to a favorable mortality variance of \$1.3 million for the same period of 2005, an unfavorable change of \$1.5 million. The estimated mortality negative impact on earnings for the first quarter of 2006 was \$0.8 million, which was approximately \$0.7 million less favorable than the same period of 2005. Amortization of DAC was 9.2% higher for the first quarter of 2006 compared to the same period of 2005 primarily due to growth of life insurance in-force and the change in the Company's reinsurance strategy.

Other operating expenses for the segment were as follows:

	Three Months Ended			Change
	March 31			
	2006	2005		
	(Dollars in thousands)			
Insurance Companies:				
First year commissions	\$ 94,268	\$ 80,048		17.8%
Renewal commissions	8,404	7,794		7.8
First year ceding allowances	(32,832)	(40,353)		(18.6)
Renewal ceding allowances	(46,332)	(38,126)		21.5
General & administrative	43,263	47,341		(8.6)
Taxes, licenses and fees	8,073	6,480		24.6
Other operating expenses incurred	74,844	63,184		18.5
Less commissions, allowances & expenses capitalized	(81,642)	(73,346)		11.3
Other operating expenses	(6,798)	(10,162)		(33.1)
Marketing Companies:				
Commissions	17,553	18,098		(3.0)
Other	12,024	9,045		32.9
Other operating expenses	29,577	27,143		9.0
Other operating expenses	\$ 22,779	\$ 16,981		34.1

Currently, the 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. A portion of these allowances is deferred as part of DAC while the remainder is recognized immediately as

a reduction of other operating expenses. While the recognition of reinsurance allowances is consistent with GAAP, non-deferred allowances often exceed the segment's non-deferred direct costs, causing net other operating expenses to be negative. Consideration of all components of the segment's income statement, including amortization of DAC, is required to assess the impact of reinsurance on segment operating income.

Other operating expenses for the insurance companies increased from the prior year as a result of lower DAC capitalization, primarily due to lower UL sales. Amounts capitalized as DAC generally include first year commissions and allowances and other deferrable acquisition expenses. The change in these amounts generally reflects the trend in sales for the quarter. The first quarter of 2006 included a \$2.1 million true-up of field compensation expenses related to sales in prior periods.

Other operating expenses for the segment's marketing companies increased 9.0% for the first quarter of 2006, compared to the same period of 2005, primarily as a result of higher commissions and other expenses in the segment's broker-dealer subsidiary, resulting from higher revenue.

Sales for the segment increased 2.7% versus the first quarter of 2005 primarily due to an increase in traditional life sales. Traditional life sales were negatively impacted during the first half of 2005 as a result of pricing adjustments on certain traditional life products in response to the rising cost of reinsurance. The Company was able to improve its competitive position with respect to these products in the second quarter of 2005 by reducing its reliance on reinsurance for certain newly written traditional products. As a result, traditional life sales improved during the second half of 2005, and this upward trend in traditional life sales continued in the first quarter of 2006. UL sales declined 3.8% during the current quarter, compared to the first quarter of 2005, as a result of pricing adjustments on certain UL products in response to the higher reserve levels required under Actuarial Guideline 38 ("AG38"). The Company expects UL sales to continue to decline during the second quarter of 2006 compared to the sales levels achieved in 2005. See additional discussion of AG38 and its impact on certain UL products in the "Recent Developments" section herein. Sales of BOLI business improved from 2005. BOLI sales can vary widely between periods as the segment responds to opportunities for these products only when required returns can be achieved.

Acquisitions

The Acquisitions segment focuses on acquiring, converting, and servicing policies acquired from other companies. The segment's primary focus is on life insurance policies sold to individuals. Segment results were as follows:

	Three Months Ended		
	March 31		
	2006	2005	Change
	(Dollars in thousands)		
REVENUES			
Gross premiums and policy fees	\$ 62,986	\$ 65,500	(3.8)%
Reinsurance ceded	(16,642)	(20,029)	(16.9)
Net premiums and policy fees	46,344	45,471	1.9
Net investment income	54,490	56,714	(3.9)
Other income	617	361	70.9
Total operating revenues	101,451	102,546	(1.1)
BENEFITS AND EXPENSES			
Benefits and settlement expenses	67,454	66,399	1.6
Amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs	6,335	7,071	(10.4)
Other operating expenses	7,756	8,041	(3.5)
Total benefits and expenses	81,545	81,511	0.0
OPERATING INCOME	19,906	21,035	(5.4)

INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAX	\$	19,906	\$	21,035	(5.4)
---------------------------------	----	--------	----	--------	-------

The following table summarizes key data for the Acquisitions segment:

	Three Months Ended		Change
	March 31		
	2006	2005	
	(Dollars in thousands)		
Average Life Insurance In-Force⁽¹⁾			
Traditional	\$ 10,166,239	\$ 11,190,436	(9.2)%
Universal life	16,455,957	17,633,906	(6.7)
	\$ 26,622,196	\$ 28,824,342	(7.6)
Average Account Values			
Universal life	\$ 1,688,627	\$ 1,715,584	(1.6)
Fixed annuity ⁽²⁾	209,049	215,707	(3.1)
Variable annuity	65,543	83,925	(21.9)
	\$ 1,963,219	\$ 2,015,216	(2.6)
Interest Spread - UL & Fixed Annuities			
Net investment income yield	6.87%	7.09%	
Interest credited to policyholders	5.10	5.15	
Interest spread	1.77%	1.94%	
Mortality Experience⁽³⁾	\$ 267	\$ 447	

(1) Amounts are not adjusted for reinsurance ceded.

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

(3) Represents a favorable variance as compared to pricing assumptions.

Policies acquired through this segment are typically “closed” blocks of business (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.

Net premiums and policy fees increased 1.9% during the current period compared to the first quarter of 2005. Net premiums for the first quarter of 2005 were decreased by payment of amounts due under two reinsurance treaties. While this had no net income impact, the payments decreased net premiums and policy fees by \$3.9 million, benefits and settlement expenses by \$3.5 million, and other operating expenses by \$0.3 million. Excluding the impact of this transaction, net premiums and policy fees decreased \$3.0 million (6.0%) during the first quarter of 2006, compared to the same period of 2005. This decline is the result of the runoff of the acquired blocks of business.

Net investment income was lower in the first quarter of 2006 compared to the same period in 2005 due to the runoff of business and lower overall earned rates. The segment continues to review credited rates on UL and annuity business to minimize the impact of lower earned rates on interest spreads. The interest spread declined 17 basis points from the first quarter of 2005.

Benefits and settlement expenses for the first quarter of 2006 are 1.6% higher than the comparable period of 2006 due to the impact of the reinsurance payments in the first quarter of 2005 mentioned above. Excluding the impact of this

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

transaction, benefits and settlement expenses decreased \$2.5 million (3.5%) during the first quarter of 2006 compared to the same period of 2005. This decrease is due to the decline in in-force business. Amortization of DAC decreased 10.4% during the current quarter compared to the same period of 2005 due to the overall decline in business. Other operating expenses decreased 3.5% from the first quarter of 2005 due to lower commissions resulting from lower net premiums and reductions in other general expenses.

The segment's life insurance in-force and UL and annuity account values have declined from 2005 levels as no new acquisitions have been made since 2002. In the ordinary course of business, the segment regularly considers acquisitions of blocks of policies or smaller insurance companies. However, the level of the segment's acquisition activity is predicated upon many factors, including available capital, operating capacity, and market dynamics. The Company continues to pursue suitable acquisitions as they become available.

On February 7, the Company signed a definitive agreement to acquire from JPMorgan Chase & Co. the stock of five life insurance companies that manufacture and distribute traditional life insurance and annuities (the "Chase Insurance Group") and the stock of four related non-insurance companies. The transaction is subject to certain regulatory approvals and is currently expected to close during the third quarter of 2006.

Annuities

The Annuities segment manufactures, sells, and supports fixed and variable annuity products. These products are primarily sold through stockbrokers, but are also sold through financial institutions and independent agents and brokers. Segment results were as follows:

	Three Months Ended		Change
	March 31		
	2006	2005	
	(Dollars in thousands)		
REVENUES			
Gross premiums and policy fees	\$ 8,144	\$ 7,840	3.9%
Reinsurance ceded	0	0	0.0
Net premiums and policy fees	8,144	7,840	3.9
Net investment income	53,494	56,150	(4.7)
Realized gains (losses) - derivatives	(651)	0	n/a
Other income	2,899	1,726	68.0
Total operating revenues	63,886	65,716	(2.8)
BENEFITS AND EXPENSES			
Benefits and settlement expenses	47,313	48,080	(1.6)
Amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs	5,126	7,226	(29.1)
Other operating expenses	6,706	6,346	5.7
Total benefits and expenses	59,145	61,652	(4.1)
OPERATING INCOME	4,741	4,064	16.7
Realized gains (losses) - derivatives	0	(162)	
Realized gains (losses) - investments	(90)	27,624	
Related amortization of DAC	0	(22,412)	
INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAX	\$ 4,651	\$ 9,114	(49.0)

The following table summarizes key data for the Annuities segment:

	Three Months Ended March		Change
	2006	2005	
(Dollars in thousands)			
Sales			
Fixed annuity	\$ 92,090	\$ 59,568	54.6%
Variable annuity	73,731	77,003	(4.2)
	\$ 165,821	\$ 136,571	21.4
Average Account Values			
Fixed annuity ⁽¹⁾	\$ 3,422,366	\$ 3,442,520	(0.6)
Variable annuity	2,358,898	2,194,782	7.5
	\$ 5,781,264	\$ 5,637,302	2.6
Interest Spread - Fixed Annuities⁽²⁾			
Net investment income yield	6.14%	6.60%	
Interest credited to policyholders	5.39	5.60	
Interest spread	0.75%	1.00%	

	As of March 31	
	2006	2005
GMDB - Net amount at risk⁽³⁾	\$ 120,269	\$ 198,954
GMDB - Reserves	2,561	4,382
S&P 500® Index	1,295	1,181

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

(2) Interest spread on average general account values.

(3) Guaranteed death benefit in excess of contract holder account balance.

Segment operating revenues decreased 2.8% compared to the first quarter of 2005, primarily as a result of lower net investment income. Additional income resulting from the modest 2.6% increase in average account balances was reduced by lower interest spreads. Interest spreads on fixed annuities declined 25 basis points compared to the first quarter of 2005, primarily due to the rebalancing of the investment portfolio during the first quarter of 2005 discussed below. The increase in other income is primarily due to an increase in asset-based fees.

During the first quarter of 2005, the investment portfolio was rebalanced to improve the duration match between the segment's assets and liabilities. Approximately \$300 million in securities were sold, causing the large realized investment gains for the three months ended March 31, 2005. These gains were partially offset by \$22.4 million in DAC amortization associated with those gains. The resulting funds from this transaction were reinvested in assets with lower rates than the investments that were sold, causing a decline in the investment income yield for the segment's portfolio beginning in the second quarter of 2005. The segment continually monitors and adjusts credited rates as appropriate in an effort to maintain the interest spread.

Total benefits and expenses decreased 4.1% for the quarter, compared to the same period of 2005. Benefits and settlement expenses for the first three months of 2006 are \$0.8 million lower than the same period of the prior year due to reductions in credited interest rates in its market value adjusted annuity line, partially offset by less favorable mortality. Mortality was \$1.6 million unfavorable for the first quarter of 2006, compared to a \$1.2 million unfavorable mortality variance for the same period of 2005, an unfavorable variance of \$0.4 million. These unfavorable mortality variances primarily relate to the nonrecurring sales of \$122 million of single premium immediate annuities on approximately 28 lives sold in the fourth quarter of 2004 in a structured transaction. Because this block of annuities is large relative to the total amount of annuities in-force, volatility in mortality results are expected.

The decrease in DAC amortization for the quarter is primarily the result of lower gross profits in the market value adjusted and variable deferred annuity lines resulting from fourth quarter 2005 unlocking. DAC is amortized in proportion to gross profits, so decreased gross profits results in less DAC amortization.

Total sales are 21.4% higher than the prior year. Sales of fixed annuities increased 54.6% as a result of higher interest rates compared to the first quarter of 2005 and strong sales increases in the equity indexed annuity product introduced in 2005. Sales of variable annuities decreased 4.2% from the first quarter of 2005. A general improvement in the equity markets reduced the net amount at risk with respect to guaranteed minimum death benefits by 39.5%.

Stable Value Products

The Stable Value Products segment sells guaranteed funding agreements (“GFAs”) to special purpose entities that in turn issue notes or certificates in smaller, transferable denominations. The segment also markets fixed and floating rate funding agreements directly to the trustees of municipal bond proceeds, institutional investors, bank trust departments, and money market funds. Additionally, the segment markets guaranteed investment contracts (“GICs”) to 401(k) and other qualified retirement savings plans. Segment results were as follows:

	Three Months Ended		
	March 31		
	2006	2005	Change
	(Dollars in thousands)		
REVENUES			
Net investment income	\$ 82,233	\$ 73,875	11.3%
BENEFITS AND EXPENSES			
Benefits and settlement expenses	67,463	57,169	18.0
Amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs	1,229	1,084	13.4
Other operating expenses	1,197	1,223	(2.1)
Total benefits and expenses	69,889	59,476	17.5
OPERATING INCOME	12,344	14,399	(14.3)
Realized gains (losses)	(4,854)	619	
INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAX	\$ 7,490	\$ 15,018	(50.1)

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

	Three Months Ended		
	March 31		
	2006	2005	Change
	(Dollars in thousands)		
Sales			

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

GIC	\$	46,200	\$	24,050	92.1%
GFA - Registered Notes - Institutional		0		350,000	n/a
GFA - Registered Notes - Retail		40,841		31,845	28.2
	\$	87,041	\$	405,895	(78.6)

Average Account Values	\$	5,976,606	\$	5,716,571	4.5
-------------------------------	----	-----------	----	-----------	-----

Operating Spread

Net investment income yield		5.60%		5.33%	
Interest credited		4.60		4.12	
Operating expenses		0.16		0.17	
Operating spread		0.84%		1.04%	

Operating income declined 14.3% for the first quarter of 2006 compared to the same period of 2005. This decline is primarily due to spread compression of 20 basis points, partially offset by a 4.5% growth in average account balances. The primary driver of the spread compression has been increasing short term interest rates, resulting in higher interest credited rates. The segment continues to review its investment portfolio for opportunities to increase the net investment income yield in an effort to maintain interest spreads. Operating spreads are not expected to change significantly during the remainder of 2006. The moderate growth in average account balances was primarily driven by sales of the Company's registered funding agreement-backed notes program over the past two years.

Total sales were 78.6% lower than the first quarter of 2005. The Company is not currently participating in the institutional market due to current market conditions and in order to conserve capital in anticipation of the Chase Insurance Group acquisition. This transaction is expected to close during the third quarter of 2006, at which time the segment plans to reenter the institutional market. Both GIC and retail note sales improved during the first quarter of 2006, compared to the same period of 2005.

Asset Protection

The Asset Protection segment primarily markets extended service contracts and credit life and disability insurance to protect consumers' investments in automobiles and watercraft. In addition, the segment markets an inventory protection product ("IPP") and a guaranteed asset protection ("GAP") product. Segment results were as follows:

**Three Months Ended
March 31**

2006 **2005** **Change**
(Dollars in thousands)

REVENUES

Gross premiums and policy fees	\$	100,690	\$	110,375	(8.8)%
Reinsurance ceded		(55,393)		(62,302)	(11.1)
Net premiums and policy fees		45,297		48,073	(5.8)
Net investment income		7,808		7,600	2.7
Other income		12,044		9,405	28.1
Total operating revenues		65,149		65,078	0.1

BENEFITS AND EXPENSES

Benefits and settlement expenses		22,209		26,529	(16.3)
Amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs		16,920		17,546	(3.6)
Other operating expenses		17,282		14,831	16.5
Total benefits and expenses		56,411		58,906	(4.2)

OPERATING INCOME		8,738		6,172	41.6
INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAX	\$	8,738	\$	6,172	41.6

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

	Three Months Ended			Change	
	March 31				
	2006		2005		
	(Dollars in thousands)				
Sales					
Credit insurance	\$	31,847	\$	50,106	(36.4)%
Service contracts		53,717		47,138	14.0
Other products		16,921		9,075	86.5
	\$	102,485	\$	106,319	(3.6)
Loss Ratios ⁽¹⁾					
Credit insurance		34.1%		32.1%	
Service contracts		66.1		73.4	
Other products		31.6		62.0	

⁽¹⁾ Incurred claims as a percentage of earned premiums.

Operating income increased 41.6% during the first quarter of 2006 compared to the same period of 2005. Earnings from core product lines are up \$2.3 million for the quarter, while results from lines the segment is no longer marketing improved \$0.3 million for the same period.

Within the segment's core product lines, service contract earnings improved \$0.2 million, earnings from other products improved \$2.0 million, and credit insurance earnings were unchanged for the quarter. \$1.5 million of the improvement in earnings from other products is related to the segment's IPP line. IPP earnings improved due to higher premiums and favorable claim results during the current quarter. The remaining \$0.5 million improvement in earnings from other products is primarily related to the segment's GAP product line.

Net premiums and policy fees declined primarily as a result of a decrease of \$3.2 million in the credit insurance line due to a decline in the business in-force. Additionally, as expected, net premiums in the lines the segment is no longer marketing continue to decline, resulting in net premiums for these lines that were \$1.7 million lower for the current quarter. Net premiums declined \$0.9 million in the vehicle service contract lines as a result of a 11.7% increase in ceded premiums, while net premiums increased \$3.0 million in the other lines of business, compared to the same period of 2005.

Other income increased 28.1% from the prior year primarily due to increases in administrative fees on service contracts resulting from the increased volume of contracts sold in this product line.

Benefits and settlement expenses decreased 16.3% from the first quarter of 2005, reflecting the decrease in the segment's net premiums discussed above. In addition to lower net premiums, benefits and settlement expenses have also been favorably impacted by improved loss ratios, most notably in the service contract and other product lines. Although loss ratios were slightly higher in the credit insurance lines during the first quarter of 2006 compared to the same quarter of 2005, the current quarter results still compare favorably with the 2005 year-to-date loss ratio of 36.7% in this line. Loss ratios in the service contract lines continue to benefit from the segment's initiatives to increase pricing and tighten the underwriting and claims processes. The decrease in the loss ratio for other products during the first quarter of 2006 is the result of favorable claims experience, primarily related to the inventory protection product. Amortization of DAC for the first quarter of 2006 was lower than the comparable period of 2005 due to the decline in the segment's credit business. Other operating expenses have increased in 2006 compared to the prior period primarily

due to higher commissions on service contracts due to increased volume and higher retrospective commissions resulting from improvements in loss ratios.

Total segment sales decreased 3.6% for the first quarter, compared to the same period of 2005 primarily due to a 56.1% decrease in sales of credit insurance through financial institutions. The bulk of these sales are derived from a third party administrator relationship, which is in runoff. We therefore expect these sales to continue to decline during 2006 compared to 2005 amounts. Credit insurance sold through automobile dealers increased 10.3% from the prior year, resulting in a net decline in total credit insurance sales of 36.4% for the quarter. Service contract sales continued to improve in the first quarter, exceeding the prior year amounts by 14.0%. The first quarter improvement in service contract sales is comprised of an increase of \$7.4 million and a decrease of \$0.8 million, respectively, in the vehicle and marine lines.

Corporate and Other

The Company has an additional segment referred to as Corporate and Other. The Corporate and Other segment primarily consists of net investment income and expenses not attributable to the segments above (including net investment income on unallocated capital and interest on debt). This segment also includes earnings from several small non-strategic lines of business (primarily cancer insurance, residual value insurance, surety insurance, and group annuities), various investment-related transactions, and the operations of several small subsidiaries.

The following table summarizes results for this segment:

	Three Months Ended			Change
	March 31			
	2006	2005		
	(Dollars in thousands)			
Operating income ⁽¹⁾	\$ 11,663	\$ 11,645	\$	18
Realized gains (losses) - investments	5,083	(73)		5,156
Realized gains (losses) - derivatives	12,345	(10,182)		22,527
Income before income tax	\$ 29,091	\$ 1,390	\$	27,701

⁽¹⁾ Includes settlements on interest rate swaps of \$1,331 and \$3,684 for the three months ended March 31, 2006 and 2005, respectively. Also includes participating income from real estate ventures of \$5,326 and \$0 for 2006 and 2005, respectively.

Operating income remained relatively unchanged from the first quarter of 2005. Net investment income increased \$1.1 million during the first quarter of 2006 compared to the same period of 2005. The increase in net investment income was the result of higher participating income from real estate ventures and prepayment fees on mortgage loans, partially offset by lower investment income on unallocated capital. The increase in net investment income was offset by an increase in operating expenses, primarily interest expense, due to a decrease in settlements from interest rate swaps. Results for the runoff insurance lines improved compared to the prior year, with operating losses of \$0.1 million for the first quarter of 2006, compared to losses of \$2.8 million for the same period of 2005.

Realized Gains and Losses

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

	Three Months Ended			Change
	March 31			
	2006		2005	
	(Dollars in thousands)			
Fixed maturity gains	\$ 16,281	\$	36,764	\$ (20,483)
Fixed maturity losses	(20,609)		(6,397)	(14,212)
Equity gains	235		138	97
Equity losses	0		(807)	807
Impairments on fixed maturity securities	0		(246)	246
Impairments on equity securities	0		0	0
Other	9,246		(1,574)	10,820
Total realized gains (losses) - investments	\$ 5,153	\$	27,878	\$ (22,725)
Foreign currency swaps	\$ 926	\$	(3,977)	\$ 4,903
Foreign currency adjustments on stable value contracts	(744)		4,225	(4,969)
Derivatives related to corporate debt	(5,805)		(341)	(5,464)
Derivatives related to mortgage loan commitments	19,698		4,870	14,828
Other derivatives	(738)		(11,145)	10,407
Total realized gains (losses) - derivatives	\$ 13,337	\$	(6,368)	\$ 19,705

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 for the current quarter, excluding impairments, reflects the normal operation of the Company's asset/liability program within the context of the changing interest rate environment. The absence of impairments for the first quarter of 2006 compared to impairments of \$0.2 million for the same period of 2005 reflects a general improvement in the corporate credit environment. The \$9.2 million of other realized gains recognized in the first quarter of 2006 includes gains of \$6.0 million related to real estate investments, a loss of \$0.9 million related to mortgage loans, and a \$4.3 million decrease in the Company's allowance for mortgage loan credit losses. Additional details on the Company's investment performance and evaluation are provided in the "Consolidated Investments" section below.

Realized investment gains and losses related to derivatives represent changes in the fair value of derivative financial instruments and gains (losses) on derivative contracts closed during the period. The Company has entered into foreign currency swaps to mitigate the risk of changes in the value of principal and interest payments to be made on certain of its foreign currency denominated stable value contracts. The Company recorded a net realized gain resulting from these securities of \$0.2 million in the first quarter of both 2006 and 2005. These gains were the result of differences in the related foreign currency spot and forward rates used to value the stable value contracts and foreign currency swaps. The Company also uses interest rate swaps to mitigate interest rate risk related to certain Senior Notes, Medium-Term Notes, and subordinated debt securities. A flattening yield curve during the current quarter caused the 2006 results from these swaps to compare unfavorably with the first quarter of 2005. The Company has taken short positions in U.S. Treasury futures to mitigate interest rate risk related to the Company's mortgage loan commitments. The gains from these securities in the first quarter were the result of increasing interest rates in the current quarter.

The Company also uses various swaps and options to mitigate risk related to other interest rate exposures of the Company. For the first quarter of 2006, a portion of the change, a net \$3.6 million increase in realized gains (losses) resulted from higher interest rates in 2006, which impacted the fair value of certain interest rate swaps and options. During the first quarter of 2006, a net \$0.2 million decrease in realized gains (losses) resulted from embedded derivatives within annuity contracts and reinsurance agreements.

Additionally, in the first quarter of 2005, the Company recorded a \$7.1 million realized investment loss (derivative financial instruments) related to accrued investment income which arose in periods prior to 2003. The impact had no effect on previously reported segment operating income and no material effect on previously reported net income.

CONSOLIDATED INVESTMENTS

Portfolio Description

The Company's investment portfolio consists primarily of fixed maturity securities (bonds and redeemable preferred stocks) and commercial mortgage loans. The Company generally purchases its investments with the intent to hold to maturity by purchasing investments that match future cash flow needs. However, the Company may sell any of its investments to maintain proper matching of assets and liabilities. Accordingly, the Company has classified \$14.6 billion of its fixed maturities and certain other securities as "available for sale."

Additionally, the Company consolidates a special-purpose entity, in accordance with FIN46, whose investments are managed by the Company. The Company has classified these investments with a market value of \$404.6 million at March 31, 2006, as "trading" securities.

The Company's investments in debt and equity securities are reported at market value, and investments in mortgage loans are reported at amortized cost. At March 31, 2006, the Company's fixed maturity investments (bonds and redeemable preferred stocks) had a market value of \$14.97 billion, which is less than 1% below amortized cost of \$15.01 billion. The Company had \$3.4 billion in mortgage loans at March 31, 2006. While the Company's mortgage loans do not have quoted market values, at March 31, 2006, the Company estimates the market value of its mortgage loans to be \$3.5 billion (using discounted cash flows from the next call date), which is 1.2% above amortized cost. Most of the Company's mortgage loans have significant prepayment fees. These assets are invested for terms approximately corresponding to anticipated future benefit payments. Thus, market fluctuations are not expected to adversely affect liquidity.

The following table shows the reported values of the Company's invested assets.

	March 31, 2006		December 31, 2005	
	(Dollars in thousands)			
Publicly-issued bonds	\$ 13,032,920	64.8%	\$ 13,665,615	66.8%
Privately issued bonds	1,932,923	9.6	1,804,263	8.8
Redeemable preferred stock	84	0.0	2,508	0.0
Fixed maturities	14,965,927	74.4	15,472,386	75.6
Equity securities	123,536	0.6	121,012	0.6
Mortgage loans	3,411,337	17.0	3,287,745	16.0
Investment real estate	63,858	0.3	72,932	0.4
Policy loans	456,147	2.3	458,825	2.2
Other long-term investments	269,345	1.3	279,676	1.4
Short-term investments	833,567	4.1	776,139	3.8
Total investments	\$ 20,123,717	100.0%	\$ 20,468,715	100.0%

Included in the table above are \$404.6 million and \$408.4 million of fixed maturities and \$0.0 million and \$3.5 million of short-term investments classified by the Company as trading securities at March 31, 2006 and December 31, 2005, respectively.

Market values for private, non-traded securities are determined as follows: 1) the Company obtains estimates from independent pricing services or 2) the Company estimates market value based upon a comparison to quoted issues of the same issuer or issues of other issuers with similar terms and risk characteristics. The market value of private, non-traded securities was \$1.9 billion at March 31, 2006, representing 9.6% of the Company's total invested assets.

The Company participates in securities lending, primarily as an investment yield enhancement, whereby securities that are held as investments are loaned to third parties for short periods of time. The Company requires collateral of 102% of the market value of the loaned securities to be separately maintained. The loaned securities' market value is monitored on a daily basis, with additional collateral obtained as necessary. At March 31, 2006, securities with a market value of \$329.1 million were loaned under these agreements. As collateral for the loaned securities, the Company receives short-term investments, which are recorded in "short-term investments" with a corresponding liability recorded in "other liabilities" to account for the Company's obligation to return the collateral.

Risk Management and Impairment Review

The Company monitors the overall credit quality of the Company's portfolio within general guidelines. The following table shows the Company's available for sale fixed maturities by credit rating at March 31, 2006.

S&P or Equivalent Designation	Market Value (Dollars in thousands)	Percent of Market Value
AAA	\$ 5,998,929	41.2%
AA	513,201	3.5
A	2,440,990	16.8
BBB	4,501,267	30.9
Investment grade	13,454,387	92.4
BB	685,700	4.7
B	356,968	2.5
CCC or lower	14,808	0.1
In or near default	49,398	0.3
Below investment grade	1,106,874	7.6
Redeemable preferred stock	84	0.0
Total	\$ 14,561,345	100.0%

The table above excludes \$391.2 million of investment grade and \$13.4 million of less than investment grade fixed maturities classified by the Company as trading securities.

Limiting bond exposure to any creditor group is another way the Company manages credit risk. The following table summarizes the Company's ten largest fixed maturity exposures to an individual creditor group as of March 31, 2006.

Creditor	Market Value (Dollars in millions)
Dominion Resources	\$ 81.9
Wachovia	76.1
Bank of America	75.8
Comcast	75.1
Kinder Morgan	74.7

Oracle	74.6
Bellsouth	72.3
Progress Energy	70.9
Berkshire Hathaway	70.4
Entergy	69.7

The Company's 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. Although it is possible for the impairment of one investment to affect other investments, the Company engages in ongoing risk management to safeguard against and limit any further risk to its investment portfolio. Special attention is given to correlated risks within specific industries, related parties and business markets.

The Company generally considers 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) the intent and ability of the Company to hold the investment until recovery, 5) the time period during which the decline has occurred, 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 impairment. Although no set formula is used in this process, the investment performance, collateral position and continued viability of the issuer are significant measures considered.

The Company generally considers a number of factors relating to the issuer in determining the financial strength, liquidity, and recoverability of an issuer. These include but are not limited to: available collateral, assets that might be available to repay debt, operating cash flows, financial ratios, access to capital markets, quality of management, market position, exposure to litigation or product warranties, and the effect of general economic conditions on the issuer. Once management has determined that a particular investment has suffered an other-than-temporary impairment, the asset is written down to its estimated fair value.

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. The Company continuously monitors these factors as they relate to the investment portfolio in determining the status of each investment. Provided below are additional facts concerning the potential effect upon the Company's earnings should circumstances lead management to conclude that some of the current declines in market value are other-than-temporary.

Unrealized Gains and Losses

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 March 31, 2006, the balance sheet date. Information about unrealized gains and losses is subject to rapidly changing conditions, including volatility of financial markets and changes in interest rates. As indicated above, the Company's management considers a number of factors in determining if an unrealized loss is other-than-temporary, including its ability and intent to hold the security until recovery. 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. At March 31, 2006, the Company had an overall pretax net unrealized loss of \$30.4 million.

For traded and private fixed maturity and equity securities held by the Company that are in an unrealized loss position at March 31, 2006, the estimated market 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.

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

	Estimated Market Value	% Market Value	Amortized Cost (Dollars in thousands)	% Amortized Cost	Unrealized Loss	% Unrealized Loss
<= 90 days	\$ 3,432,172	36.9%	\$ 3,503,894	36.3%	\$ (71,722)	21.8%
>90 days but <= 180 days	2,016,964	21.7	2,078,005	21.5	(61,041)	18.6
>180 days but <= 270 days	3,180,310	34.1	3,313,327	34.4	(133,017)	40.5
>270 days but <= 1 year	74,030	0.8	78,912	0.8	(4,882)	1.5
>1 year but <= 2 years	432,024	4.6	460,132	4.8	(28,108)	8.6
>2 years but <= 3 years	151,720	1.6	164,357	1.7	(12,637)	3.8
>3 years but <= 4 years	266	0.0	299	0.0	(33)	0.0
>4 years but <= 5 years	323	0.0	389	0.0	(66)	0.0
>5 years	26,230	0.3	43,474	0.5	(17,244)	5.2
Total	\$ 9,314,039	100.0%	\$ 9,642,789	100.0%	\$ (328,750)	100.0%

At March 31, 2006, securities with a market value of \$26.3 million and \$16.7 million of unrealized losses were issued in Company-sponsored commercial mortgage loan securitizations, including \$16.6 million of unrealized losses greater than five years. The Company does not consider these unrealized positions to be other-than-temporary because the underlying mortgage loans continue to perform consistently with the Company's original expectations.

The Company has no material concentrations of issuers or guarantors of fixed maturity securities. The industry segment composition of all securities in an unrealized loss position held by the Company at March 31, 2006, is presented in the following table.

	Estimated Market Value	% Market Value	Amortized Cost (Dollars in thousands)	% Amortized Cost	Unrealized Loss	% Unrealized Loss
Agency Mortgages	\$ 2,260,530	24.4%	\$ 2,336,129	24.2%	\$ (75,599)	23.0%
Banking	586,050	6.3	606,483	6.3	(20,433)	6.2
Basic Industrial	255,508	2.7	267,012	2.8	(11,504)	3.5
Brokerage	162,143	1.7	167,302	1.7	(5,159)	1.6
Canadian Govt Agencies	19,186	0.2	19,788	0.2	(602)	0.2
Capital Goods	68,320	0.7	70,141	0.7	(1,821)	0.6
Communications	241,589	2.6	258,076	2.7	(16,487)	5.0
Consumer Cyclical	219,326	2.4	231,876	2.4	(12,550)	3.8
Consumer Noncyclical	195,653	2.1	202,909	2.1	(7,256)	2.2

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

Electric	960,509	10.3	999,678	10.4	(39,169)	11.9
Energy	167,686	1.8	174,488	1.8	(6,802)	2.1
Finance Companies	192,840	2.1	201,880	2.1	(9,040)	2.7
Insurance	199,696	2.1	207,408	2.2	(7,712)	2.3
Municipal Agencies	3,221	0.0	3,268	0.0	(47)	0.0
Natural Gas	412,558	4.4	431,563	4.5	(19,005)	5.8
Non-Agency Mortgages	2,835,105	30.5	2,910,059	30.2	(74,954)	22.9
Other Finance	96,693	1.0	102,390	1.1	(5,697)	1.7
Other Industrial	77,213	0.8	80,211	0.8	(2,998)	0.9
Other Utility	21	0.0	44	0.0	(23)	0.0
Technology	77,476	0.8	80,911	0.8	(3,435)	1.0
Transportation	200,512	2.2	207,249	2.1	(6,737)	2.0
U.S. Government	75,147	0.8	76,697	0.8	(1,550)	0.5
U.S. Govt Agencies	7,057	0.1	7,227	0.1	(170)	0.1
Total	\$ 9,314,039	100.0%	\$ 9,642,789	100.0%	\$ (328,750)	100.0%

The range of maturity dates for securities in an unrealized loss position at March 31, 2006 varies, with 6.4% maturing in less than 5 years, 19.7% maturing between 5 and 10 years, and 73.9% maturing after 10 years. The following table shows the credit rating of securities in an unrealized loss position at March 31, 2006.

S&P or Equivalent Designation	Estimated Market Value	% Market Value	Amortized Cost (Dollars in thousands)	% Amortized Cost	Unrealized Loss	% Unrealized Loss
AAA/AA/A	\$ 6,594,480	70.8%	\$ 6,786,388	70.4%	\$ (191,908)	58.4%
BBB	2,355,562	25.3	2,455,524	25.4	(99,962)	30.4
Investment grade	8,950,042	96.1	9,241,912	95.8	(291,870)	88.8
BB	257,234	2.8	271,342	2.8	(14,108)	4.3
B	69,268	0.7	75,950	0.8	(6,682)	2.0
CCC or lower	37,495	0.4	53,585	0.6	(16,090)	4.9
Below investment grade	363,997	3.9	400,877	4.2	(36,880)	11.2
Total	\$ 9,314,039	100.0%	\$ 9,642,789	100.0%	\$ (328,750)	100.0%

At March 31, 2006, securities in an unrealized loss position that were rated as below investment grade represented 3.9% of the total market value and 11.2% of the total unrealized loss. Unrealized losses related to below investment grade securities that had been in an unrealized loss position for more than twelve months were \$27.2 million. Securities in an unrealized loss position rated less than investment grade were 1.8% of invested assets. The Company generally purchases its investments with the intent to hold to maturity. The Company does not expect these investments to adversely affect its liquidity or ability to maintain proper matching of assets and liabilities.

The following table shows the estimated market 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.

Estimated Market Value	% Market Value	Amortized Cost	% Amortized	Unrealized Loss	% Unrealized
------------------------	----------------	----------------	-------------	-----------------	--------------

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

	Market Value		Cost		Loss				
	(Dollars in thousands)								
<= 90 days	\$	95,175	26.2%	\$	97,795	24.4%	\$	(2,620)	7.1%
>90 days but <= 180 days		65,341	18.0		68,417	17.1		(3,076)	8.3
>180 days but <= 270 days		61,199	16.8		64,517	16.1		(3,318)	9.0
>270 days but <= 1 year		19,404	5.3		20,000	5.0		(596)	1.6
>1 year but <= 2 years		88,128	24.2		97,794	24.4		(9,666)	26.2
>2 years but <= 3 years		11,255	3.1		12,565	3.1		(1,310)	3.6
>3 years but <= 4 years		164	0.0		189	0.0		(25)	0.1
>4 years but <= 5 years		49	0.0		52	0.0		(3)	0.0
>5 years		23,282	6.4		39,548	9.9		(16,266)	44.1
Total	\$	363,997	100.0%	\$	400,877	100.0%	\$	(36,880)	100.0%

At March 31, 2006, below investment grade securities with a market value of \$23.7 million and \$15.8 million of unrealized losses were issued in Company-sponsored commercial mortgage loan securitizations, including securities in an unrealized loss position greater than 5 years with a market value of \$21.4 million and \$15.8 million of unrealized losses. The Company does not consider these unrealized positions to be other-than-temporary because the underlying mortgage loans continue to perform consistently with the Company's original expectations.

Realized Losses

Realized losses are comprised of both write-downs for other-than-temporary impairments and actual sales of investments. For the first quarter of 2006, the Company recorded pretax other-than-temporary impairments in its investments of \$0.0 million compared to \$0.2 million for the same period of 2005.

As previously discussed, the Company's management considers several factors when determining other-than-temporary impairments. Although the Company generally intends to hold securities until maturity, the Company may change its position as a result of a change in circumstances. Any such decision is consistent with the Company's classification of all but a specific portion of its investment portfolio as available for sale. During the quarter ended March 31, 2006, the Company sold securities in an unrealized loss position with a market value of \$1,721.1 million resulting in a realized loss of \$20.6 million. The securities were sold as a result of normal portfolio rebalancing activity and tax planning. 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	\$	1,022,207	59.4%	\$	(1,760)	8.5%
>90 days but <= 180 days		262,394	15.2		(6,570)	31.9
>180 days but <= 270 days		420,879	24.5		(10,962)	53.2

>270 days but <= 1 year	0	0.0	(0)	0.0
> 1 year	15,622	0.9	(1,317)	6.4
Total	\$ 1,721,102	100.0%	\$ (20,609)	100.0%

Mortgage Loans

The Company records mortgage loans net of an allowance for credit losses. This allowance is calculated through analysis of specific loans that are believed to be at a higher risk of becoming impaired in the near future. At March 31, 2006 and December 31, 2005, the Company's allowance for mortgage loan credit losses was \$2.5 million and \$6.8 million, respectively.

During the first quarter of 2005, Winn-Dixie Stores, Inc. ("Winn-Dixie"), an anchor tenant in the Company's mortgage loan portfolio, declared Chapter 11 bankruptcy. At March 31, 2006, the Company had 20 loans amounting to \$55.1 million in loan balances in which Winn-Dixie was considered to be the anchor tenant for the underlying property (including 7 loans with balances of \$13.5 million included in mortgage loan securitization trusts in which the Company holds retained beneficial interests). At March 31, 2006, the rents from Winn-Dixie represented approximately 45% of the total rents applicable to the properties underlying these loans (including approximately 69% of rents on loans in mortgage loan securitizations). On June 21, 2005, Winn-Dixie announced a reorganization plan that included selling or closing a number of stores that served as the anchor tenant for properties underlying loans in the Company's mortgage loan portfolio. At March 31, 2006, the Company's mortgage loan portfolio included 11 properties with rejected leases under this reorganization plan. Within the 11 loans on these properties, the Company has identified 2 potential impairments, and the mortgage loan allowance for credit losses at March 31, 2006 included \$0.9 million related to these loans. The Company will continue to actively monitor these loans and assess them for potential impairments as circumstances develop in the future.

For several years the Company has offered a type of commercial mortgage loan under which the Company will permit a slightly higher loan-to-value ratio in exchange for a participating interest in the cash flows from the underlying real estate. As of March 31, 2006, approximately \$437.1 million of the Company's mortgage loans have this participation feature.

At March 31, 2006, delinquent mortgage loans and foreclosed properties were less than 0.1% of invested assets. The Company does not expect these investments to adversely affect its liquidity or ability to maintain proper matching of assets and liabilities.

LIABILITIES

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

At March 31, 2006, the Company had policy liabilities and accruals of \$12.2 billion. The Company's interest-sensitive life insurance policies have a weighted average minimum credited interest rate of approximately 3.8%.

MARKET RISK EXPOSURES

The Company's financial position and earnings are subject to various market risks including changes in interest rates, changes in the yield curve, changes in spreads between risk-adjusted and risk-free interest rates, changes in foreign currency rates, changes in used vehicle prices, and equity price risks. The Company analyzes and manages the risks arising from market exposures of financial instruments, as well as other risks, through an integrated asset/liability management process. The Company's 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, risk, and cash flow characteristics. These programs also incorporate the use of derivative financial instruments primarily to reduce the Company's exposure to interest rate risk, inflation risk, currency exchange risk, and equity market risk.

The primary focus of the Company's 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 the Company as a whole. It is the Company's policy to generally maintain asset and liability durations within one-half year of one another, although, from time to time, a broader interval may be allowed.

Combinations of interest rate swap contracts, futures contracts, and option contracts are used to mitigate or eliminate certain financial and market risks, including those related to changes in interest rates for certain investments, primarily outstanding mortgage loan commitments and mortgage-backed securities, and the Company's outstanding debt. Swap contracts are also used to alter the effective durations of assets and liabilities and to mitigate the inflation risk caused by the issuance of inflation adjusted notes through the Stable Value Products segment. The Company uses foreign currency swaps to manage its exposure to currency exchange risk on certain stable value contracts denominated in foreign currencies, primarily the European Euro. The Company also uses S&P 500® options to mitigate its exposure to the value of equity indexed annuity contracts.

Derivative instruments expose the Company to credit and market risk and could result in material changes from quarter-to-quarter. The Company minimizes its credit risk by entering into transactions with highly rated counterparties. The Company manages the market risk associated with interest rate and foreign exchange contracts 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 procedures.

In the ordinary course of its commercial mortgage lending operations, the Company will 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 the Company's 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. At March 31, 2006, the Company had outstanding mortgage loan commitments of \$951.9 million at an average rate of 6.02%.

The Company believes its asset/liability management programs and procedures and certain product features provide protection for the Company against the effects of changes in interest rates under various scenarios. Additionally, the Company believes its asset/liability management programs and procedures provide sufficient liquidity to enable it to fulfill its obligation to pay benefits under its various insurance and deposit contracts. However, the Company's 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 and other factors, and the effectiveness of the Company's asset/liability management programs and procedures may be negatively affected whenever actual results differ from those assumptions.

LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

Liquidity

The Company meets its liquidity requirements primarily through positive cash flows from its 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 for the operating subsidiaries include benefit payments, withdrawals from policyholder accounts, investment purchases, policy acquisition costs, and other

operating expenses.

While the Company generally anticipates that the cash flows of its subsidiaries will be sufficient to meet their investment commitments and operating cash needs, 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. Additionally, the Company may, from time to time, sell short-duration stable value products to complement its cash management practices. The Company has also used securitization transactions involving its commercial mortgage loans to increase liquidity for the operating subsidiaries.

The Company's positive cash flows from operations are used to fund an investment portfolio that provides for future benefit payments. The Company employs a formal asset/liability program to manage the cash flows of its investment portfolio relative to its long-term benefit obligations. See additional discussion of the Company's asset/liability program in the "Market Risk Exposures" section.

The life insurance subsidiaries were committed at March 31, 2006, to fund mortgage loans in the amount of \$951.9 million. The Company's subsidiaries held \$869.8 million in cash and short-term investments at March 31, 2006. Protective Life Corporation had an additional \$0.9 million in cash and short-term investments available for general corporate purposes.

Protective Life Corporation's primary sources of cash are dividends from its operating subsidiaries; revenues from investment, data processing, legal, and management services rendered to subsidiaries; investment income; and external financing. These sources of cash support the general corporate needs of the holding company including its common stock dividends and debt service. The states in which the Company's insurance subsidiaries are domiciled impose certain restrictions on the insurance subsidiaries' ability to pay dividends to Protective Life Corporation. These restrictions are generally based in part on the prior year's statutory income and surplus. Generally, these restrictions pose no short-term liquidity concerns for Protective Life Corporation. The Company plans to retain substantial portions of the earnings of its insurance subsidiaries in those companies primarily to support their future growth.

Capital Resources

To give the Company flexibility in connection with future acquisitions and other funding needs, the Company has registered debt securities, preferred and common stock, and stock purchase contracts of Protective Life Corporation, and additional preferred securities of special purpose finance subsidiaries under the Securities Act of 1933 on a delayed (or shelf) basis.

Golden Gate Captive Insurance Company ("Golden Gate"), a special purpose financial captive insurance company wholly owned by Protective Life Insurance Company ("Protective Life"), the Company's largest operating subsidiary, has \$150 million of non-recourse funding obligations outstanding at March 31, 2006, which bear a floating rate of interest and mature in 2037. These non-recourse funding obligations were issued under a surplus notes facility established with certain purchasers through which Golden Gate may issue up to an aggregate of \$400 million of non-recourse funding obligations through June 2007. The non-recourse funding obligations are direct financial obligations of Golden Gate and are not guaranteed by Protective Life or the Company. The non-recourse obligations are represented by surplus notes that were issued to fund statutory reserves required by the Valuation of Life Insurance Policies Regulation (Regulation XXX). Under the terms of the notes, the holders of the notes cannot require repayment from the Company or any of the Company's subsidiaries, other than Golden Gate, the direct issuer of the notes, although the Company has agreed to indemnify Golden Gate for certain costs and obligations (which obligations do not include payment of principal and interest on the notes). In addition, the Company has entered into certain support agreements with Golden Gate obligating the Company to make capital contributions to Golden Gate or provide support related to certain of Golden Gate's expenses and in certain circumstances, to collateralize certain of the

Company's obligations to Golden Gate.

In May 2004, the Company's Board of Directors authorized a \$100 million share repurchase program, available through May 2, 2007. There has been no activity under this program, and future activity will be dependent upon many factors, including capital levels, rating agency expectations, and the relative attractiveness of alternative uses for capital.

A life insurance company's statutory capital is computed according to rules prescribed by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners ("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 law. Statutory accounting rules are different from GAAP and are intended to reflect a more conservative view by, 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 the Company's insurance subsidiaries. The subsidiaries may secure additional statutory capital through various sources, such as retained statutory earnings or equity contributions by the Company.

Contractual Obligations

The table below sets forth future maturities of debt, non-recourse funding obligations, subordinated debt securities, stable value products, notes payable, operating lease obligations, other property lease obligations, mortgage loan commitments, and liabilities related to variable interest entities.

	2006	2007-2008	2009-2010	After 2010
	(Dollars in thousands)			
Long-term debt ^(a)			\$ 58,500	\$ 414,532
Non-recourse funding obligations ^(b)				150,000
Subordinated debt securities ^(c)				324,743
Stable value products ^(d)	\$ 911,276	\$ 2,818,136	953,826	1,189,855
Operating leases ^(e)	4,022	8,702	6,528	4,695
Home office lease ^(f)	2,608	75,580		
Mortgage loan commitments	951,867			
Liabilities related to variable interest entities ^(g)	760	35,488	400,192	5,943
Policyholder obligations ^(h)	870,270	1,954,715	1,590,310	9,688,991
Defined benefit pension obligations ⁽ⁱ⁾	8,222			

^(a) Long-term debt includes all principal amounts owed on note agreements, and does not include interest payments due over the term of the notes.

^(b) Non-recourse funding obligations include all principal amounts owed on note agreements, and does not include interest payments due over the term of the notes.

^(c) Subordinated debt securities includes all principal amounts owed to non-consolidated special purpose finance subsidiaries of the Company, and does not include interest payments due over the term of the obligations.

^(d) Anticipated stable value products cash flows, excluding interest not yet accrued.

^(e) Includes all lease payments required under operating lease agreements.

- (f) The lease payments shown assume the Company exercises its option to purchase the building at the end of the lease term.
- (g) Liabilities related to variable interest entities are not the legal obligations of the Company, but will be repaid with cash flows generated by the variable interest entities. The amounts represent scheduled principal payments.
- (h) Estimated contractual policyholder obligations are based on mortality, morbidity, and lapse assumptions comparable to the Company's historical experience, modified for recent observed trends. These obligations are based on current balance sheet values and do not incorporate an expectation of future market growth, interest crediting, or future deposits. Due to the significance of the assumptions used, the amounts presented could materially differ from actual results. As separate account obligations are legally insulated from general account obligations, the separate account obligations will be fully funded by cash flows from separate account assets. The Company expects to fully fund the general account obligations from cash flows from general account investments.
- (i) Estimated 2006 contributions to the Company's defined benefit pension plan and unfunded excess benefit plan approximate the projected expense to be recognized in 2006. Due to the significance of the assumptions used, this amount could differ from actual results. No estimate has been made of amounts to be contributed to these plans in years subsequent to 2006.

RECENTLY ISSUED ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

See Note 6 to the Consolidated Condensed Financial Statements for information regarding recently issued accounting standards.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

A proposal to amend Actuarial Guideline 38 (promulgated by the NAIC and part of the codification of statutory accounting principles) has been approved by the NAIC, with an effective date of July 1, 2005. Actuarial Guideline 38, also known as AXXX, sets forth the reserve requirements for universal life insurance with secondary guarantees ("ULSG"). The changes to Actuarial Guideline 38 increase the reserve levels required for many ULSG products, and potentially make those products more expensive and less competitive as compared to other products including term and whole life products. The changes to Actuarial Guideline 38 affect only policies with an issue date of July 1, 2005 and later, and reduce the competitiveness and/or profitability of newly written ULSG products compared to traditional whole life or other high cash value insurance products or other products supported by relatively inexpensive capital (such as reinsurance of redundant reserves). To the extent that the additional reserves are generally considered to be economically redundant, capital market or other solutions may emerge to reduce the impact of the amendment. The ability of the Company to access such solutions may depend on factors such as the ratings of the Company, the size of the blocks of business affected, the mortality experience of the Company and other factors. The Company cannot predict when or if these solutions may become available to the Company or its competitors.

A recent ruling by the Securities Valuation Office ("SVO") of the NAIC indicates that certain securities previously classified as "preferred securities" may be classified as "equity securities" in the future. The Company's insurance subsidiaries currently invest in these securities and if the securities are reclassified, the market value of these securities may be negatively affected. Additionally, it may increase the Company's costs to complete its pending acquisition, or otherwise impact the Company's ability to execute a hybrid securities offering.

The financial services industry has recently become the focus of increased scrutiny by regulatory and law enforcement authorities relating to allegations of improper special payments, price-fixing, bid-rigging, and other alleged misconduct, including payments made by insurers and other financial service providers to brokers and the practices surrounding the placement of insurance business and sales of other financial products, as well as practices related to finite reinsurance. Such publicity may generate litigation against financial service providers, even those who do not engage in the business lines or practices currently at issue. It is impossible to predict the outcome of these

investigations or proceedings, whether they will expand into other areas not yet contemplated, whether they will result in changes in insurance regulation, whether activities currently thought to be lawful will be characterized as unlawful, or the impact, if any, of this increased regulatory and law enforcement scrutiny of the financial services industry on the Company. As these inquiries appear to encompass a large segment of our industry, it would not be unusual for large numbers of companies in the financial services industry to receive subpoenas, requests for information from regulatory authorities, or other inquiries relating to these and similar matters. From time to time, the Company receives subpoenas, requests, or other inquiries and responds to them in the ordinary course of business.

In the first quarter of 2005, the Company received a subpoena from the Attorney General of West Virginia for documents and other information relating to funding agreement-backed securities, special purpose vehicles, and related subjects. The Company understands that other U.S. based life insurers that participate in funding agreement backed note programs have received similar subpoenas. The Company has responded to the subpoena. The Company is not aware of any problems relating to its participation in funding agreement-backed note programs that would have a material adverse effect on its results of operations or financial condition.

The California Department of Insurance has promulgated proposed regulations that would characterize some life insurance agents as brokers and impose certain obligations on those agents that may conflict with the interests of insurance carriers or require the agent to, among other things, advise the client with respect to the best available insurer. The Company cannot predict the outcome of this regulatory proposal or whether any other state will propose or adopt similar actions.

In July 2005, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued an exposure draft of a proposed interpretation, "Accounting for Uncertain Tax Positions - an Interpretation of FASB Statement 109." The draft contains proposed guidance on the recognition and measurement of uncertain tax positions. It also addresses the accrual of any interest and penalties related to tax uncertainties and the classification of liabilities resulting from tax uncertainties on the balance sheet. The final interpretation is expected to be issued in the second quarter of 2006, and is expected to be effective for periods beginning after December 15, 2006. The Company is currently evaluating the provisions of this draft interpretation, but does not currently anticipate that its adoption would have a material impact on its financial position or results of operations.

In March 2006, the FASB issued an exposure draft of a proposed Statement of Financial Accounting Standards that would amend to Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 87, "Employers' Accounting for Pensions" ("FAS87"), Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 88, "Employers' Accounting for Settlements and Curtailments of Defined Benefit Pension Plans and for Termination Benefits" ("FAS88"), Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 106, "Employers' Accounting for Postretirement Benefits Other Than Pensions" ("FAS106"), and Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 132 (revised), "Employers' Disclosures About Pensions and Other Postretirement Benefits" ("FAS132(R)"). The proposed statement would require the over-funded or under-funded status of postretirement benefit plans to be recognized on the balance sheet. The proposed statement would not change how plan assets and benefit obligations are measured, and would not change the basic approach for measuring the amount of annual net benefit cost included in earnings. The Company is currently evaluating the provisions of this proposed standard, but does not currently anticipate that its adoption would have a material impact on its financial position or results of operations.

Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

There has been no material change from the disclosures in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2005.

Item 4. Controls and Procedures

(a) **Disclosure controls and procedures**

Under the direction of our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, we evaluated our disclosure controls and procedures and internal control over financial reporting and concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of March 31, 2006. 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.

(b) **Changes in internal control over financial reporting**

No significant changes in our internal control over financial reporting occurred during the quarter ended March 31, 2006 that have materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, such internal control over financial reporting. Our 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.

PART II

Item 1A. Risk Factors

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 the 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, 2005, which could materially affect the Company's business, financial condition, or future results of operations. In addition, please consider the following:

The Company may not be able to close its pending acquisition, or may not be able to achieve the expected results once it is consummated.

On February 7, the Company signed a definitive agreement to acquire from JPMorgan Chase & Co. the stock of five life insurance companies that manufacture and distribute traditional life insurance and annuities and the stock of four related non-insurance companies. This transaction is currently expected to close during the third quarter of 2006. The transaction is subject to customary regulatory approval. Completion of and/or integration of the acquisition may be more expensive, more difficult, or take longer than expected. The acquisition may have a different and more expensive financing structure than currently contemplated. In addition, the Company may not achieve the returns projected from its analysis of the acquisition opportunity, and the effects of purchase GAAP accounting on the Company's financial statements may be different than currently contemplated.

These may not be the only risks facing our Company. Additional risks and uncertainties not currently known to us, or that we currently deem to be immaterial, may adversely affect our business, financial condition and/or operating results.

Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds

During the quarter ended March 31, 2006, the Company issued no securities in transactions which were not registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Act").

Item 6.

Exhibits

- Certification Pursuant to §302 of the SarbanesOxley Act of 2002.

E x h i b i t

31(a)

- Certification Pursuant to §302 of the Sarbanes Oxley Act of 2002.

E x h i b i t

31(b)

- Certification Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. §1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes Oxley Act of 2002.

E x h i b i t

32(a)

- Certification Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. §1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes Oxley Act of 2002.

E x h i b i t

32(b)

- Safe Harbor for Forward Looking Statements.

Exhibit 99

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements 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: May 10, 2006 /s/ Steven G. Walker _____

Steven G. Walker

Senior Vice President, Controller

and Chief Accounting Officer

(Duly authorized officer)