

SERVICE CORPORATION INTERNATIONAL

Form 10-Q

April 28, 2016

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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, 2016

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 1-6402-1

SERVICE CORPORATION INTERNATIONAL

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Texas

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

74-1488375

(I. R. S. employer identification number)

1929 Allen Parkway, Houston, Texas

(Address of principal executive offices)

77019

(Zip code)

713-522-5141

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

None

(Former name, former address, or former fiscal year, if changed since last report)

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

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

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

Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer Non-accelerated filer

Smaller reporting company

(Do not check if smaller reporting company)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined by Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).

YES NO

The number of shares outstanding of the registrant's common stock as of April 26, 2016 was 193,728,521 (net of treasury shares).

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GLOSSARY

The following terms are common to the deathcare industry, are used throughout this report, and have the following meanings:

Atneed — Funeral, including cremation, and cemetery arrangements sold once death has occurred.

Burial Vault — A reinforced container intended to inhibit the subsidence of the earth and house the casket after it is placed in the ground, also known as outer burial containers.

Cancellation — Termination of a preneed contract, which relieves us of the obligation to provide the goods and services included in the contract. Cancellations may be requested by the customer or be initiated by us for failure to comply with the contractual terms of payment. State or provincial laws govern the amount of refund, if any, owed to the customer.

Care Trust Corpus — The deposits and net realized capital gains and losses included in a perpetual care trust that cannot be withdrawn. In certain states, some or all of the net realized capital gains can be distributed, so they are not included in the corpus.

Cemetery Perpetual Care or Endowment Care Fund (ECF) — A trust fund established for the purpose of maintaining cemetery grounds and property into perpetuity, also referred to as a cemetery perpetual care trust. For these trusts, the corpus remains in the trust in perpetuity and the net ordinary investment earnings are distributed to us regularly and are intended to defray our expenses incurred to maintain the cemetery. In certain states, some or all of the net realized capital gains can also be distributed.

Cemetery Property — Developed lots, lawn crypts, mausoleum spaces, niches and cremation memorialization property items (constructed and ready to accept interments) and undeveloped land we intend to develop for the sale of interment rights. Includes the construction-in-progress balance during the pre-construction and construction phases of projects creating new property inventory.

Cemetery Property Amortization — The non-cash recognized expenses of cemetery property interment rights, which are recorded by specific identification with the cemetery property revenue for each contract.

Cemetery Property Revenue — Recognized sales of interment rights in cemetery property when a minimum of 10% of the sales price has been collected and the property has been constructed and is available for interment.

Cemetery Merchandise and Services — Stone and bronze memorials, markers, burial vaults, floral placement, graveside services, merchandise installations, urns, outer burial containers, and burial openings and closings.

Cremation — The reduction of human remains to bone fragments by intense heat.

Cremation Memorialization — Products specifically designed to commemorate and honor the life of an individual that has been cremated. These products include cemetery property inventory types that provide for the disposition of cremated remains within our cemeteries such as benches, boulders, statues, etc. They also include memorial walls and books where the name of the individual is inscribed but the remains have been scattered or kept by the family.

Funeral Merchandise and Services — Merchandise such as burial caskets and related accessories, burial vaults, urns and other cremation receptacles, casket and cremation memorialization products, and flowers and professional services relating to funerals including arranging and directing services, use of funeral facilities and motor vehicles, removal, preparation, embalming, cremations, memorialization, visitations, and catering.

Funeral Recognized Preneed Revenue — Funeral merchandise and travel protection sold on a preneed contract and delivered before a death has occurred.

Funeral Services Performed — The number of funeral services, including cremations, provided after the date of death, sometimes referred to as funeral volume.

General agency (GA) revenue — Commissions we receive from third-party life insurance companies for life insurance policies sold to preneed customers for the purpose of funding preneed funeral arrangements. The commission rate paid is determined based on the product type sold, the length of payment terms, and the age of the insured/annuitant.

Interment — The burial or final placement of human remains in the ground, in mausoleums, in niches, or in cremation memorialization property.

Lawn Crypt — An underground outer burial receptacle constructed of concrete and reinforced steel, which is usually pre-installed in predetermined designated areas.

Marker — A method of identifying a deceased person in a particular burial space, crypt, niche, or cremation memorialization property. Permanent burial and cremation memorialization markers are usually made of bronze or stone.

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Maturity — When the underlying contracted merchandise is delivered or service is performed, typically at death. This is the point at which preneed contracts are converted to atneed contracts (note — delivery of certain merchandise and services can occur prior to death).

Mausoleum — An above ground structure that is designed to house caskets and cremation urns.

Merchandise and Service Trust — A trust account established in accordance with state or provincial law into which we deposit the required percentage of customers' payments for preneed funeral, cremation, or cemetery merchandise and services to be delivered or performed by us in the future. The amounts deposited can be withdrawn only after we have completed our obligations under the preneed contract or the cancellation of the contract.

Preneed — Purchase of cemetery property interment rights and merchandise and services prior to death occurring.

Preneed Backlog — Future revenue from unfulfilled preneed funeral, cremation, and cemetery contractual arrangements.

Preneed Cemetery Production — Sales of preneed or atneed cemetery contracts. These sales are recorded in Deferred preneed cemetery revenue until the merchandise is delivered, the service is performed, or when a minimum of 10% of the sales price has been collected and the property has been constructed and is available for interment.

Preneed Funeral Production — Sales of preneed funeral trust-funded and insurance-funded contracts. Preneed funeral trust-funded contracts are recorded in Deferred preneed funeral revenue until the merchandise is delivered or the service is performed. We do not reflect the unfulfilled insurance-funded preneed funeral contract amounts in our Consolidated Balance Sheet. The proceeds of the life insurance policies will be reflected in revenue as these funerals are performed by us in the future.

Sales Average — Average revenue per funeral service performed, excluding the impact of funeral recognized preneed revenue, GA revenue, and certain other revenue.

Trust Fund Income — Recognized investment earnings from our merchandise and service and perpetual care trust investments.

As used herein, "SCI", "Company", "we", "our", and "us" refer to Service Corporation International and companies owned directly or indirectly by Service Corporation International, unless the context requires otherwise.

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PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Item 1. Financial Statements

SERVICE CORPORATION INTERNATIONAL
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS
(UNAUDITED)

| | Three Months Ended March 31, | |
|---|---|------------|
| | 2016 | 2015 |
| | (In thousands, except per share amounts) | |
| Revenue | \$749,271 | \$748,117 |
| Costs and expenses | (587,775) | (570,673) |
| Gross profit | 161,496 | 177,444 |
| General and administrative expenses | (37,508) | (34,550) |
| Losses on divestitures and impairment charges, net | (347) | (1,779) |
| Operating income | 123,641 | 141,115 |
| Interest expense | (43,082) | (42,939) |
| Loss on early extinguishment of debt | (581) | — |
| Other expense, net | (211) | (58) |
| Income before income taxes | 79,767 | 98,118 |
| Provision for income taxes | (32,313) | (36,653) |
| Net income | 47,454 | 61,465 |
| Net income attributable to noncontrolling interests | (9) | (90) |
| Net income attributable to common stockholders | \$47,445 | \$61,375 |
| Basic earnings per share: | | |
| Net income attributable to common stockholders | \$0.24 | \$0.30 |
| Basic weighted average number of shares | 194,924 | 203,510 |
| Diluted earnings per share: | | |
| Net income attributable to common stockholders | \$0.24 | \$0.30 |
| Diluted weighted average number of shares | 198,030 | 207,752 |
| Dividends declared per share | \$0.12 | \$0.10 |

(See notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements)

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SERVICE CORPORATION INTERNATIONAL
 CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
 (UNAUDITED)

| | Three Months Ended March 31, | |
|---|------------------------------------|-----------|
| | 2016 | 2015 |
| | (In thousands) | |
| Net income | \$47,454 | \$61,465 |
| Other comprehensive income: | | |
| Foreign currency translation adjustments | 22,716 | (22,633) |
| Total comprehensive income | 70,170 | 38,832 |
| Total comprehensive income attributable to noncontrolling interests | (18) | (74) |
| Total comprehensive income attributable to common stockholders | \$70,152 | \$38,758 |

(See notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements)

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CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET
(UNAUDITED)

| | March 31, 2016 | December 31, 2015 |
|---|--------------------------------------|----------------------|
| | (In thousands, except share amounts) | |
| ASSETS | | |
| Current assets: | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$213,505 | \$ 134,599 |
| Receivables, net | 83,241 | 90,462 |
| Inventories | 28,612 | 27,835 |
| Other | 27,523 | 47,155 |
| Total current assets | 352,881 | 300,051 |
| Preneed funeral receivables, net and trust investments | 1,763,274 | 1,760,297 |
| Preneed cemetery receivables, net and trust investments | 2,323,679 | 2,318,167 |
| Cemetery property | 1,754,024 | 1,753,015 |
| Property and equipment, net | 1,841,013 | 1,846,722 |
| Goodwill | 1,800,522 | 1,796,340 |
| Deferred charges and other assets | 586,573 | 582,378 |
| Cemetery perpetual care trust investments | 1,334,165 | 1,319,427 |
| Total assets | \$ 11,756,131 | \$ 11,676,397 |
| LIABILITIES & EQUITY | | |
| Current liabilities: | | |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities | \$446,824 | \$422,842 |
| Current maturities of long-term debt | 57,413 | 86,823 |
| Income taxes payable | 13,574 | 1,373 |
| Total current liabilities | 517,811 | 511,038 |
| Long-term debt | 3,076,342 | 3,037,605 |
| Deferred preneed funeral revenue | 560,300 | 557,897 |
| Deferred preneed cemetery revenue | 1,144,292 | 1,120,001 |
| Deferred tax liability | 470,715 | 470,584 |
| Other liabilities | 493,434 | 496,921 |
| Deferred preneed receipts held in trust | 2,968,592 | 2,973,386 |
| Care trusts' corpus | 1,334,552 | 1,319,564 |
| Commitments and contingencies (Note 14) | | |
| Equity: | | |
| Common stock, \$1 per share par value, 500,000,000 shares authorized, 201,520,963 and 200,859,676 shares issued, respectively, and 194,147,675 and 195,772,876 shares outstanding, respectively | 194,148 | 195,773 |
| Capital in excess of par value | 1,063,892 | 1,092,106 |
| Accumulated deficit | (101,545) | (109,351) |
| Accumulated other comprehensive income | 28,871 | 6,164 |
| Total common stockholders' equity | 1,185,366 | 1,184,692 |
| Noncontrolling interests | 4,727 | 4,709 |
| Total equity | 1,190,093 | 1,189,401 |
| Total liabilities and equity | \$ 11,756,131 | \$ 11,676,397 |

(See notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements)

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SERVICE CORPORATION INTERNATIONAL
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
(UNAUDITED)

| | Three Months Ended March 31, | |
|--|---------------------------------|----------|
| | 2016 | 2015 |
| | (In thousands) | |
| Cash flows from operating activities: | | |
| Net income | \$47,454 | \$61,465 |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities: | | |
| Loss on early extinguishment of debt | 581 | — |
| Depreciation and amortization | 35,834 | 34,041 |
| Amortization of intangible assets | 7,667 | 8,150 |
| Amortization of cemetery property | 13,599 | 11,632 |
| Amortization of loan costs | 1,615 | 2,422 |
| Provision for doubtful accounts | 538 | 2,690 |
| Benefit for deferred income taxes | (1,291) | (6,624) |
| Losses on divestitures and impairment charges, net | 347 | 1,779 |
| Share-based compensation | 3,067 | 4,023 |
| Excess tax benefits from share-based awards | (2,258) | (5,511) |
| Change in assets and liabilities, net of effects from acquisitions and divestitures: | | |
| Decrease (increase) in receivables | 9,340 | (2,894) |
| Decrease in other assets | 1,598 | 5,894 |
| Increase in payables and other liabilities | 56,062 | 54,847 |
| Effect of preneed funeral production and maturities: | | |
| Decrease in preneed funeral receivables, net and trust investments | 3,146 | 13,760 |
| (Decrease) increase deferred preneed funeral revenue | (599) | 6,729 |
| Decrease in deferred preneed funeral receipts held in trust | (10,273) | (21,748) |
| Effect of cemetery production and deliveries: | | |
| Increase in preneed cemetery receivables, net and trust investments | (7,869) | (7,252) |
| Increase in deferred preneed cemetery revenue | 22,286 | 22,375 |
| Increase in deferred preneed cemetery receipts held in trust | 3,918 | 2,994 |
| Net cash provided by operating activities | 184,762 | 188,772 |
| Cash flows from investing activities: | | |
| Capital expenditures | (41,708) | (28,298) |
| Acquisitions | (56) | (30,616) |
| Proceeds from divestitures and sales of property and equipment | 10,164 | 3,901 |
| Net withdrawals of restricted funds | 5,120 | 2,841 |
| Net cash used in investing activities | (26,480) | (52,172) |
| Cash flows from financing activities: | | |
| Proceeds from issuance of long-term debt | 590,000 | 15,000 |
| Debt issuance costs | (5,035) | — |
| Payments of debt | (10,054) | (15,071) |
| Early extinguishment of debt | (580,483) | — |
| Principal payments on capital leases | (8,156) | (7,380) |
| Proceeds from exercise of stock options | 3,133 | 9,445 |
| Excess tax benefits from share-based awards | 2,258 | 5,511 |
| Purchase of Company common stock | (54,632) | (73,180) |

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| | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|
| Payments of dividends | (23,324) | (20,461) |
| Bank overdrafts and other | 1,369 | (6,819) |
| Net cash used in financing activities | (84,924) | (92,955) |
| Effect of foreign currency on cash and cash equivalents | 5,548 | (3,851) |
| Net increase in cash and cash equivalents | 78,906 | 39,794 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period | 134,599 | 177,335 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of period | \$213,505 | \$217,129 |

(See notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements)

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SERVICE CORPORATION INTERNATIONAL
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF EQUITY
(UNAUDITED)
(In thousands)

| | Common Stock | Treasury Stock | Capital in Excess of Par Value | Accumulated Deficit | Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income | Noncontrolling Interests | Total |
|---|-----------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------|---|-----------------------------|-------------|
| Balance at December 31, 2014 | \$205,458 | \$(591) | \$1,186,304 | \$(81,859) | \$ 59,414 | \$ 8,652 | \$1,377,378 |
| Comprehensive income | — | — | — | 61,375 | (22,617) | 74 | 38,832 |
| Dividends declared on common stock (\$0.10 per share) | — | — | (20,461) | — | — | — | (20,461) |
| Employee share-based compensation earned | — | — | 4,023 | — | — | — | 4,023 |
| Stock option exercises | 873 | — | 8,572 | — | — | — | 9,445 |
| Restricted stock awards, net of forfeitures | 254 | — | (254) | — | — | — | — |
| Purchase of Company common stock | — | (3,085) | (17,808) | (52,287) | — | — | (73,180) |
| Tax benefits related to share-based awards | — | — | 5,511 | — | — | — | 5,511 |
| Other | 1 | — | 7 | — | — | — | 8 |
| Balance at March 31, 2015 | \$206,586 | \$(3,676) | \$1,165,894 | \$(72,771) | \$ 36,797 | \$ 8,726 | \$1,341,556 |
| Balance at December 31, 2015 | \$200,859 | \$(5,086) | \$1,092,106 | \$(109,351) | \$ 6,164 | \$ 4,709 | \$1,189,401 |
| Comprehensive income | — | — | — | 47,445 | 22,707 | 18 | 70,170 |
| Dividends declared on common stock (\$0.12 per share) | — | — | (23,324) | — | — | — | (23,324) |
| Employee share-based compensation earned | — | — | 3,067 | — | — | — | 3,067 |
| Stock option exercises | 417 | — | 2,716 | — | — | — | 3,133 |
| Restricted stock awards, net of forfeitures | 242 | (1) | (241) | — | — | — | — |
| Purchase of Company common stock | — | (2,285) | (12,708) | (39,639) | — | — | (54,632) |
| Tax benefits related to share-based awards | — | — | 2,258 | — | — | — | 2,258 |
| Other | 2 | — | 18 | — | — | — | 20 |
| Balance at March 31, 2016 | \$201,520 | \$(7,372) | \$1,063,892 | \$(101,545) | \$ 28,871 | \$ 4,727 | \$1,190,093 |

(See notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements)

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SERVICE CORPORATION INTERNATIONAL

NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Dollars in thousands, except per share amounts)

1. Nature of Operations

We are North America's largest provider of deathcare products and services, with a network of funeral service locations and cemeteries operating in the United States and Canada. Our funeral and cemetery operations consist of funeral service locations, cemeteries, funeral service/cemetery combination locations, crematoria, and related businesses, which enable us to serve a wide array of customer needs. We sell cemetery property and funeral and cemetery merchandise and services at the time of need and on a preneed basis.

Funeral service locations provide all professional services relating to funerals and cremations, including the use of funeral facilities and motor vehicles, arranging and directing services, removal, preparation, embalming, cremations, memorialization, and catering. Funeral merchandise, including burial caskets and related accessories, urns and other cremation receptacles, outer burial containers, flowers, online and video tributes, stationery products, casket and cremation memorialization products, and other ancillary merchandise, is sold at funeral service locations.

Our cemeteries provide cemetery property interment rights, including developed lots, lawn crypts, mausoleum spaces, niches, and other cremation memorialization and interment options. Cemetery merchandise and services, including memorial markers and bases, outer burial containers, flowers and floral placement, other ancillary merchandise, graveside services, merchandise installation, and burial openings and closings, are sold at our cemeteries.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Principles of Consolidation and Basis of Presentation

Our unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Service Corporation International (SCI) and all subsidiaries in which we hold a controlling financial interest. Our financial statements also include the accounts of the merchandise and service trusts and cemetery perpetual care trusts in which we have a variable interest and are the primary beneficiary. Our interim condensed consolidated financial statements are unaudited but include all adjustments, consisting of normal recurring accruals and any other adjustments, which management considers necessary for a fair statement of our results for these periods. Our unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared in a manner consistent with the accounting policies described in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015, unless otherwise disclosed herein, and should be read in conjunction therewith. The accompanying year-end condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet data was derived from audited financial statements, but does not include all disclosures required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Operating results for interim periods are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the full year period.

Reclassifications Prior Period Financial Statements

Certain reclassifications have been made to prior period amounts to conform to the current period financial statement presentation with no effect on our previously reported results of operations, consolidated financial position, or cash flows. For the first quarter of 2016, we recorded in General and administrative expenses an out-of-period expense of \$5.5 million for previously improperly capitalized acquisition costs. Such amounts are immaterial to both current and prior period financial statements.

Use of Estimates in the Preparation of Financial Statements

The preparation of the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions as described in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015. These estimates and assumptions may affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting periods. As a result, actual results could differ from these estimates.

Accounting Standards Adopted in 2016

Consolidation

In February 2015, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) amended "Consolidation" to revise the consolidation model for limited partnerships, variable interest entities, and certain investment funds. Further, the amendment provides guidance on how fee arrangements and related parties should be considered when determining whether to consolidate variable interest entities. As a result of this amendment, all legal entities were reevaluated to determine if they should be consolidated.

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We adopted the amendment effective January 1, 2016, with no impact our consolidated results of operations, consolidated financial position, and cash flows.

Debt Issuance Costs

In April 2015, the FASB amended "Interest—Imputation of Interest" to simplify the presentation of debt issuance costs on the balance sheet. Prior to adoption of this amendment, debt issuance costs were included in Other current assets and Deferred charges and other assets on our unaudited condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet. The amendment requires that these costs instead be presented as a direct deduction from the carrying amount of Current maturities of long-term debt and Long-term debt, consistent with the presentation of debt discounts.

In August 2015, the FASB issued an additional amendment that provides additional guidance to "Interest—Imputation of Interest" since it did not address presentation or subsequent measurement of debt issuance costs related to line-of-credit arrangements. The amendment noted that the SEC staff would not object to an entity deferring and presenting debt issuance costs as an asset and subsequently amortizing the deferred debt issuance costs ratably over the term of the line-of-credit arrangement, regardless of whether there are any outstanding borrowings on the line-of-credit arrangement.

This change does not impact the manner in which the debt issuance costs are expensed over the term of the debt. We have retrospectively adopted the change in presentation effective January 1, 2016. As a result, we recast our Consolidated Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2015 to reduce Other current assets and Current maturities of long-term debt by \$8.4 million and to reduce Deferred charges and other assets and Long-term debt by \$34.1 million.

Cloud Computing Arrangements

In April 2015, the FASB amended "Intangibles—Goodwill and Other—Internal-Use Software" to provide guidance on whether a cloud computing arrangement contains a software license. If a cloud computing arrangement includes a software license, then we should account for the software license element of the arrangement consistent with the acquisition of other software licenses. If a cloud computing arrangement does not include a software license, we should account for the arrangement as a service contract. We adopted the amendment effective January 1, 2016, with no impact on our consolidated results of operations, consolidated financial position, and cash flows.

Fair Value Measurements

In May 2015, the FASB amended "Fair Value Measurements" to remove the requirement to disclose the fair value measurement hierarchy level associated with investments measured at net asset value as a practical expedient. Other disclosures required by the standard for these assets remain the same. This amendment does not change the underlying accounting for these investments. We retrospectively adopted the amendment effective January 1, 2016, and have made the appropriate disclosures in Notes 3, 4, and 5.

Business Combinations

In September 2015, the FASB amended "Business Combinations" to eliminate the requirement for an acquirer in a business combination to account for measurement-period adjustments retrospectively. Under the new guidance, acquirers must recognize measurement-period adjustments in the period in which they determine the amount of the adjustment. We adopted the amendment on January 1, 2016 and it will be applied prospectively to measurement-period adjustments occurring after that date, if any.

Recently Issued Accounting Standards

Revenue Recognition

In May 2014, the FASB issued "Revenue from Contracts with Customers" which supersedes the revenue recognition requirements in "Revenue Recognition" and most industry-specific guidance. This new standard is based on the principle that revenue is recognized to depict the transfer of goods or services to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration to which the entity expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. It also requires additional disclosure about the nature, amount, and timing of revenue and cash flows arising from customer contracts, including significant judgments and changes in judgments and assets recognized from costs incurred to obtain or fulfill a contract. Additionally, the new standard requires the deferral of direct incremental selling costs to the period in which the underlying revenue is recognized. In August 2015, the FASB issued an amendment that defers implementation of "Revenue from Contracts with Customers" for all entities by one year. The new standard will be effective for us beginning January 1, 2018 and we intend to implement the standard with the modified retrospective

approach, which recognizes the cumulative effect of application recognized on that date. We are evaluating the impact of adoption on our consolidated results of operations, consolidated financial position, and cash flows.

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Inventory

In July 2015, the FASB amended "Inventory" to state that an entity using an inventory method other than last-in, first out ("LIFO") or the retail inventory method should measure inventory at the lower of cost and net realizable value.

The new guidance clarifies that net realizable value is the estimated selling prices in the ordinary course of business, less reasonably predictable costs of completion, disposal, and transportation. The new guidance is effective for us on January 1, 2017, and we are still evaluating the impact of adoption on our consolidated results of operations, consolidated financial position, and cash flows.

Financial Instruments

In January 2016, the FASB amended "Financial Instruments" to provide additional guidance on the recognition and measurement of financial assets and liabilities. The amendment requires investments in equity instruments to be measured at fair value with changes in fair value reflected in net income. The amendment also changes the guidance for debt securities held at amortized cost and liabilities under the fair value option. The new guidance is effective for us on January 1, 2018, and we are still evaluating the impact of adoption on our consolidated results of operations, consolidated financial position, and cash flows.

Leases

In February 2016, the FASB amended "Leases" to increase transparency and comparability among organizations. Under the new standard, an entity will be required to recognize lease assets and liabilities on its balance sheet and disclose key information about leasing arrangements. In addition, the new standard offers specific accounting guidance for a lessee, a lessor, and sale and leaseback transactions. Lessees and lessors are required to disclose qualitative and quantitative information about leasing arrangements to enable a user of the financial statements to assess the amount, timing, and uncertainty of cash flows arising from leases. This new standard will be effective for us on January 1, 2019. We are evaluating the impact of adoption on our consolidated results of operations, consolidated financial position, and cash flows.

Stock Compensation

In March 2016, the FASB amended "Stock Compensation" to simplify certain aspects of the accounting for share-based payment transactions, including the income tax consequences, classification of awards as either equity or liabilities, and classification on the statement of cash flows. The new guidance is effective for us on January 1, 2017, and we are still evaluating the impact of adoption on our consolidated results of operations, consolidated financial position, and cash flows.

3. Preneed Funeral Activities

Preneed funeral receivables, net and trust investments represent trust investments, including investment earnings, and customer receivables, net of unearned finance charges, related to unperformed price-guaranteed preneed funeral contracts. Our merchandise and service trusts are variable interest entities. We have determined that we are the primary beneficiary of these trusts, as we absorb a majority of the losses and returns associated with these trusts. Our trust investments detailed in Notes 4 and 5 are also accounted for as variable interest entities. When we receive payments from the customer, we deposit the amount required by law into the trust and reclassify the corresponding amount from Deferred preneed funeral revenue into Deferred preneed receipts held in trust. Amounts are withdrawn from the trusts after the contract obligations are performed. Cash flows from preneed contracts are presented as operating cash flows in our unaudited condensed Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows.

Preneed funeral receivables, net and trust investments are reduced by the trust investment earnings (realized and unrealized) that we have been allowed to withdraw in certain states prior to maturity. These earnings are recorded in Deferred preneed funeral revenue until the merchandise is delivered or the service is performed.

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The table below sets forth certain investment-related activities associated with these preneed merchandise and service trusts:

| | Three Months Ended | |
|---|--------------------|-----------|
| | March 31, | |
| | 2016 | 2015 |
| | (In thousands) | |
| Deposits | \$27,708 | \$29,995 |
| Withdrawals | \$35,170 | \$45,444 |
| Purchases of available-for-sale securities | \$109,522 | \$104,231 |
| Sales of available-for-sale securities | \$99,493 | \$82,320 |
| Realized gains from sales of available-for-sale securities | \$6,824 | \$4,349 |
| Realized losses from sales of available-for-sale securities | \$(19,651) | \$(4,735) |

The components of Preneed funeral receivables, net and trust investments in our unaudited condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet at March 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015 are as follows:

| | March 31, | December 31, |
|--|----------------|--------------|
| | 2016 | 2015 |
| | (In thousands) | |
| Trust investments, at market | \$1,112,379 | \$1,109,394 |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 128,315 | 134,603 |
| Insurance-backed fixed income securities | 270,473 | 271,116 |
| Trust investments | 1,511,167 | 1,515,113 |
| Receivables from customers | 298,852 | 290,689 |
| Unearned finance charge | (11,906) | (11,235) |
| | 1,798,113 | 1,794,567 |
| Allowance for cancellation | (34,839) | (34,270) |
| Preneed funeral receivables, net and trust investments | \$1,763,274 | \$1,760,297 |

The costs and values associated with trust investments measured at market at March 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015 are detailed below. Cost reflects the investment (net of redemptions) of control holders in the trusts. Value represents the value of the underlying securities held by the trusts.

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| | March 31, 2016 | | Unrealized | | Unrealized | Value |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|----------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| | Value Hierarchy Level | Cost | Gains | Losses | | |
| | | | (In thousands) | | | |
| Fixed income securities: | | | | | | |
| U.S. Treasury | 2 | \$78,022 | \$834 | \$(254) |) | \$78,602 |
| Canadian government | 2 | 77,781 | 410 | (881) |) | 77,310 |
| Corporate | 2 | 14,974 | 173 | (262) |) | 14,885 |
| Residential mortgage-backed | 2 | 80 | 2 | — |) | 82 |
| Asset-backed | 2 | 58 | — | (1) |) | 57 |
| Equity securities: | | | | | | |
| Preferred stock | 2 | 1,950 | 64 | (116) |) | 1,898 |
| Common stock: | | | | | | |
| United States | 1 | 351,310 | 30,275 | (23,247) |) | 358,338 |
| Canada | 1 | 13,014 | 2,338 | (1,146) |) | 14,206 |
| Other international | 1 | 29,746 | 2,171 | (3,909) |) | 28,008 |
| Mutual funds: | | | | | | |
| Equity | 1 | 328,286 | 2,780 | (40,449) |) | 290,617 |
| Fixed income | 1 | 150,974 | 594 | (9,179) |) | 142,389 |
| Other | 3 | 3,997 | 910 | (96) |) | 4,811 |
| Trust investments, at fair value | | 1,050,192 | 40,551 | (79,540) |) | 1,011,203 |
| Fixed income commingled funds | | 64,988 | 1,328 | — |) | 66,316 |
| Private equity | | 37,761 | 3,701 | (6,602) |) | 34,860 |
| Trust investments, at net asset value | | 102,749 | 5,029 | (6,602) |) | 101,176 |
| Trust investments, at market | | \$1,152,941 | \$45,580 | \$(86,142) |) | \$1,112,379 |

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| | December 31, 2015 | | Unrealized | | Unrealized | Value |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|----------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| | Value Hierarchy Level | Cost | Gains | Losses | | |
| | | | (In thousands) | | | |
| Fixed income securities: | | | | | | |
| U.S. Treasury | 2 | \$82,417 | \$107 | \$(1,331) |) | \$81,193 |
| Canadian government | 2 | 72,488 | 532 | (655) |) | 72,365 |
| Corporate | 2 | 19,036 | 235 | (284) |) | 18,987 |
| Residential mortgage-backed | 2 | 1,297 | 29 | (22) |) | 1,304 |
| Asset-backed | 2 | 5 | — | — |) | 5 |
| Equity securities: | | | | | | |
| Preferred stock | 2 | 1,949 | 41 | (158) |) | 1,832 |
| Common stock: | | | | | | |
| United States | 1 | 344,116 | 30,885 | (19,149) |) | 355,852 |
| Canada | 1 | 11,930 | 2,652 | (1,077) |) | 13,505 |
| Other international | 1 | 32,156 | 2,636 | (3,907) |) | 30,885 |
| Mutual funds: | | | | | | |
| Equity | 1 | 323,884 | 1,263 | (43,975) |) | 281,172 |
| Fixed income | 1 | 155,717 | 154 | (13,092) |) | 142,779 |
| Other | 3 | 3,703 | 1,069 | — |) | 4,772 |
| Trust investments, at fair value | | 1,048,698 | 39,603 | (83,650) |) | 1,004,651 |
| Fixed income commingled funds | | 69,148 | — | (442) |) | 68,706 |
| Private equity | | 38,724 | 3,780 | (6,467) |) | 36,037 |
| Trust investments, at net asset value | | 107,872 | 3,780 | (6,909) |) | 104,743 |
| Trust investments, at market | | \$1,156,570 | \$43,383 | \$(90,559) |) | \$1,109,394 |

Valuation policies and procedures are determined by our Trust Services department, which reports to our Chief Financial Officer. Additionally, valuations are reviewed by the Investment Committee of the Board of Directors quarterly.

Where quoted prices are available in an active market, securities are classified as Level 1 investments pursuant to the fair value measurements hierarchy.

Where quoted market prices are not available for the specific security, fair values are estimated by using either quoted prices of securities with similar characteristics or an income approach fair value model with observable inputs that include a combination of interest rates, yield curves, credit risks, prepayment speeds, ratings, and tax-exempt status. These funds are classified as Level 2 investments pursuant to the fair value measurements hierarchy.

The valuation of other investments requires management judgment due to the absence of quoted market prices, inherent lack of liquidity, and the long-term nature of such assets. These funds are classified as Level 3 investments pursuant to the fair value measurements hierarchy.

Fixed income commingled funds and private equity investments are measured at net asset value. Fixed income commingled funds are redeemable for net asset value with two weeks notice. Our private equity investments include several funds that invest in limited partnerships, distressed debt, real estate, and mezzanine financing. These investments can never be redeemed by the funds. Instead, due to the nature of the investments in this category, distributions are received through the liquidation of the underlying assets of the funds. We estimate that the underlying assets will be liquidated over the next 2 to 10 years. As of March 31, 2016, our unfunded commitment for our private equity investments was \$41.1 million which, if called, would be funded by the assets of the trusts.

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The change in our trust investments measured at fair value with significant unobservable inputs (Level 3) is as follows:

| | Three Months Ended March 31, 2016 2015 Other Other (In thousands) | |
|---|--|---------|
| Fair value, beginning balance | \$4,772 | \$4,891 |
| Net unrealized gains (losses) included in Accumulated other comprehensive income ⁽¹⁾ | 39 | (74) |
| Fair value, ending balance | \$4,811 | \$4,817 |

⁽¹⁾ All unrealized gains (losses) recognized in Accumulated other comprehensive income for our merchandise and service trust investments are attributable to our preneed customers and are offset by a corresponding reclassification in Accumulated other comprehensive income to Deferred preneed receipts held in trust. See Note 6 for further information related to our Deferred preneed receipts held in trust.

Maturity dates of our fixed income securities range from 2016 to 2041. Maturities of fixed income securities, excluding mutual funds, at March 31, 2016 are estimated as follows:

| | Fair Value (In thousands) |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Due in one year or less | \$ 106,941 |
| Due in one to five years | 26,528 |
| Due in five to ten years | 31,082 |
| Thereafter | 6,385 |
| | \$ 170,936 |

Earnings from all our merchandise and service trust investments are recognized in revenue when merchandise is delivered or a service is performed. Fees charged by our wholly-owned registered investment advisor are also included in current revenue. In addition, we are entitled to retain, in certain jurisdictions, a portion of collected customer payments when a customer cancels a preneed contract; these amounts are also recognized in current revenue in the period in which they are earned. Recognized trust fund income (realized and unrealized) related to these trust investments was \$12.0 million and \$14.4 million for the three months ended March 31, 2016 and 2015, respectively. We assess our trust investments for other-than-temporary declines in fair value on a quarterly basis. Impairment charges resulting from this assessment are recognized as investment losses in Other expense, net and a decrease to Preneed funeral receivables, net and trust investments. These investment losses, if any, are offset by the corresponding reclassification in Other expense, net, which reduces Deferred preneed receipts held in trust. See Note 6 for further information related to our Deferred preneed receipts held in trust. For the three months ended March 31, 2016 and 2015, we recorded an \$1.1 million and a \$0.5 million impairment charge, respectively, for other-than-temporary declines in fair value related to unrealized losses on certain investments.

We have determined that the remaining unrealized losses in our merchandise and service trust investments are considered temporary in nature, as the unrealized losses were due to temporary fluctuations in interest rates and equity prices. The investments are diversified across multiple industry segments using a balanced allocation strategy to minimize long-term risk. We believe that none of the remaining securities are other-than-temporarily impaired based on our analysis of the investments. Our analysis included a review of the portfolio holdings and discussions with the individual money managers as to the sector exposures, credit ratings, and the severity and duration of the unrealized losses. Our merchandise and service trust investment unrealized losses, their associated values, and the duration of unrealized losses as of March 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015, respectively, are shown in the following tables:

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| | March 31, 2016 | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|----------------------|---|----------------------|-----------|----------------------|
| | In Loss Position Less Than 12 Months | | In Loss Position Greater Than 12 Months | | Total | |
| | Value | Unrealized Losses | Value | Unrealized Losses | Value | Unrealized Losses |
| | (In thousands) | | | | | |
| Fixed income securities: | | | | | | |
| U.S. Treasury | \$4,421 | \$(169) | \$4,550 | \$(85) | \$8,971 | \$(254) |
| Canadian government | 5,233 | (77) | 12,167 | (804) | 17,400 | (881) |
| Corporate | 2,714 | (108) | 3,369 | (154) | 6,083 | (262) |
| Asset-backed | 57 | (1) | — | — | 57 | (1) |
| Equity securities: | | | | | | |
| Preferred stock | 94 | (25) | 48 | (91) | 142 | (116) |
| Common stock: | | | | | | |
| United States | 124,502 | (19,418) | 14,346 | (3,829) | 138,848 | (23,247) |
| Canada | 4,918 | (866) | 670 | (280) | 5,588 | (1,146) |
| Other international | 11,101 | (2,189) | 4,841 | (1,720) | 15,942 | (3,909) |
| Mutual funds: | | | | | | |
| Equity | 182,603 | (23,695) | 71,967 | (16,754) | 254,570 | (40,449) |
| Fixed income | 77,990 | (2,994) | 21,240 | (6,185) | 99,230 | (9,179) |
| Other | 1,084 | (96) | — | — | 1,084 | (96) |
| Trust investments, at fair value | 414,717 | (49,638) | 133,198 | (29,902) | 547,915 | (79,540) |
| Private equity | 788 | (612) | 17,165 | (5,990) | 17,953 | (6,602) |
| Trust investments, at net asset value | 788 | (612) | 17,165 | (5,990) | 17,953 | (6,602) |
| Total temporarily impaired securities | \$415,505 | \$(50,250) | \$150,363 | \$(35,892) | \$565,868 | \$(86,142) |

| | December 31, 2015 | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|---|----------------------|---|----------------------|----------|----------------------|
| | In Loss Position Less Than 12 Months | | In Loss Position Greater Than 12 Months | | Total | |
| | Value | Unrealized Losses | Value | Unrealized Losses | Value | Unrealized Losses |
| | (In thousands) | | | | | |
| Fixed income securities: | | | | | | |
| U.S. Treasury | \$37,008 | \$(1,273) | \$4,687 | \$(58) | \$41,695 | \$(1,331) |
| Canadian government | 2,336 | (17) | 11,535 | (638) | 13,871 | (655) |
| Corporate | 4,644 | (156) | 4,025 | (128) | 8,669 | (284) |
| Residential mortgage-backed | 377 | (6) | 133 | (16) | 510 | (22) |
| Equity securities: | | | | | | |
| Preferred stock | 448 | (60) | 42 | (98) | 490 | (158) |
| Common stock: | | | | | | |
| United States | 128,725 | (16,448) | 14,531 | (2,701) | 143,256 | (19,149) |
| Canada | 1,956 | (355) | 1,097 | (722) | 3,053 | (1,077) |
| Other international | 9,458 | (1,638) | 6,151 | (2,269) | 15,609 | (3,907) |
| Mutual funds: | | | | | | |
| Equity | 185,726 | (23,385) | 79,855 | (20,590) | 265,581 | (43,975) |
| Fixed income | 108,984 | (5,052) | 27,048 | (8,040) | 136,032 | (13,092) |
| Trust investments, at fair value | 479,662 | (48,390) | 149,104 | (35,260) | 628,766 | (83,650) |

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| | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|---|-----------|-----------|--------|-----------|-----------|---|
| Fixed income commingled funds | 68,578 | (442 |) | — | — | 68,578 | (442 |) | |
| Private equity | — | — | | 18,713 | (6,467 |) | 18,713 | (6,467 |) |
| Trust investments, at net asset value | 68,578 | (442 |) | 18,713 | (6,467 |) | 87,291 | (6,909 |) |
| Total temporarily impaired securities | \$548,240 | \$(48,832 |) | \$167,817 | \$(41,727 |) | \$716,057 | \$(90,559 |) |

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4. Preneed Cemetery Activities

Preneed cemetery receivables, net and trust investments represent trust investments, including investment earnings, and customer receivables, net of unearned finance charges, for contracts sold in advance of when the property interment rights, merchandise, or services are needed. Our merchandise and service trusts are variable interest entities. We have determined that we are the primary beneficiary of these trusts, as we absorb a majority of the losses and returns associated with these trusts. The trust investments detailed in Notes 3 and 5 are also accounted for as variable interest entities. When we receive payments from the customer, we deposit the amount required by law into the trust and reclassify the corresponding amount from Deferred preneed cemetery revenue into Deferred preneed receipts held in trust. Amounts are withdrawn from the trusts when the contract obligations are performed. Cash flows from preneed cemetery contracts are presented as operating cash flows in our unaudited condensed Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows.

Preneed cemetery receivables, net and trust investments are reduced by the trust investment earnings (realized and unrealized) that we have been allowed to withdraw in certain states prior to maturity. These earnings are recorded in Deferred preneed cemetery revenue until the merchandise is delivered or the service is performed.

The table below sets forth certain investment-related activities associated with these preneed merchandise and service trusts:

| | Three Months Ended | |
|---|--------------------|-----------|
| | March 31, | |
| | 2016 | 2015 |
| | (In thousands) | |
| Deposits | \$36,998 | \$35,161 |
| Withdrawals | \$32,411 | \$31,226 |
| Purchases of available-for-sale securities | \$131,851 | \$106,937 |
| Sales of available-for-sale securities | \$118,581 | \$99,262 |
| Realized gains from sales of available-for-sale securities | \$6,246 | \$7,135 |
| Realized losses from sales of available-for-sale securities | \$(22,853) | \$(7,028) |

The components of Preneed cemetery receivables, net and trust investments in our unaudited condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet at March 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015 are as follows:

| | March 31, | December 31, |
|---|----------------|--------------|
| | 2016 | 2015 |
| | (In thousands) | |
| Trust investments, at market | \$1,333,276 | \$1,343,916 |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 128,497 | 118,583 |
| Trust investments | 1,461,773 | 1,462,499 |
| Receivables from customers | 965,495 | 958,503 |
| Unearned finance charges | (32,144) | (31,332) |
| | 2,395,124 | 2,389,670 |
| Allowance for cancellation | (71,445) | (71,503) |
| Preneed cemetery receivables, net and trust investments | \$2,323,679 | \$2,318,167 |

The costs and values associated with the trust investments measured at market at March 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015 are detailed below. Cost reflects the investment (net of redemptions) of control holders in the trusts. Value represents the market value of the underlying securities held by the trusts.

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| | March 31, 2016 | | Unrealized | | Value |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|-------------|
| | Value Hierarchy Level | Cost | Gains | Losses | |
| | | | (In thousands) | | |
| Fixed income securities: | | | | | |
| U.S. Treasury | 2 | \$62,763 | \$1,584 | \$— | \$64,347 |
| Canadian government | 2 | 29,144 | 229 | (49) |) 29,324 |
| Corporate | 2 | 5,036 | 21 | (168) |) 4,889 |
| Asset-backed | 2 | 169 | 21 | — | 190 |
| Equity securities: | | | | | |
| Common stock: | | | | | |
| United States | 1 | 544,212 | 45,619 | (37,705) |) 552,126 |
| Canada | 1 | 8,487 | 3,958 | (295) |) 12,150 |
| Other international | 1 | 45,771 | 3,516 | (5,834) |) 43,453 |
| Mutual funds: | | | | | |
| Equity | 1 | 353,128 | 3,010 | (44,406) |) 311,732 |
| Fixed income | 1 | 188,990 | 407 | (14,775) |) 174,622 |
| Other | 3 | 1,476 | — | (179) |) 1,297 |
| Trust investments, at fair value | | 1,239,176 | 58,365 | (103,411) |) 1,194,130 |
| Fixed income commingled funds | | 101,182 | 2,274 | — | 103,456 |
| Private equity | | 34,460 | 5,829 | (4,599) |) 35,690 |
| Trust investments, at net asset value | | 135,642 | 8,103 | (4,599) |) 139,146 |
| Trust investments, at market | | \$1,374,818 | \$66,468 | \$(108,010) | \$1,333,276 |

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| | December 31, 2015 | | Unrealized | | Unrealized | Value |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| | Value Hierarchy Level | Cost | Gains | Losses | | |
| | | | (In thousands) | | | |
| Fixed income securities: | | | | | | |
| U.S. Treasury | 2 | \$69,746 | \$25 | \$(1,437) |) | \$68,334 |
| Canadian government | 2 | 24,648 | 183 | (169) |) | 24,662 |
| Corporate | 2 | 5,112 | 26 | (118) |) | 5,020 |
| Residential mortgage-backed | 2 | 129 | 3 | (3) |) | 129 |
| Asset-backed | 2 | 170 | 15 | — |) | 185 |
| Equity securities: | | | | | | |
| Common stock: | | | | | | |
| United States | 1 | 532,026 | 44,181 | (32,037) |) | 544,170 |
| Canada | 1 | 8,984 | 3,858 | (891) |) | 11,951 |
| Other international | 1 | 50,053 | 4,207 | (5,799) |) | 48,461 |
| Mutual funds: | | | | | | |
| Equity | 1 | 356,798 | 1,620 | (49,642) |) | 308,776 |
| Fixed income | 1 | 203,983 | 92 | (18,526) |) | 185,549 |
| Other | 3 | 1,381 | 122 | — |) | 1,503 |
| Trust investments, at fair value | | 1,253,030 | 54,332 | (108,622) |) | 1,198,740 |
| Fixed income commingled funds | | 108,883 | — | (570) |) | 108,313 |
| Private equity | | 35,411 | 5,954 | (4,502) |) | 36,863 |
| Trust investments, at net asset value | | 144,294 | 5,954 | (5,072) |) | 145,176 |
| Trust investments, at market | | \$1,397,324 | \$60,286 | \$(113,694) |) | \$1,343,916 |

Valuation policies and procedures are determined by our Trust Services department, which reports to our Chief Financial Officer. Additionally, valuations are reviewed by the Investment Committee of the Board of Directors quarterly.

Where quoted prices are available in an active market, securities held by the trusts are classified as Level 1 investments pursuant to the fair value measurements hierarchy.

Where quoted market prices are not available for the specific security, fair values are estimated by using either quoted prices of securities with similar characteristics or an income approach fair value model with observable inputs that include a combination of interest rates, yield curves, credit risks, prepayment speeds, ratings, and tax-exempt status. These funds are classified as Level 2 investments pursuant to the fair value measurements hierarchy.

The valuation of other investments requires management judgment due to the absence of quoted market prices, inherent lack of liquidity, and the long-term nature of such assets. These funds are classified as Level 3 investments pursuant to the fair value measurements hierarchy.

Fixed income commingled funds and private equity investments are measured at net asset value. Fixed income commingled funds are redeemable for net asset value with two weeks notice. Our private equity investments include several funds that invest in limited partnerships, distressed debt, real estate, and mezzanine financing. These investments can never be redeemed by the funds. Instead, due to the nature of the investments in this category, distributions are received through the liquidation of the underlying assets of the funds. We estimate that the underlying assets will be liquidated over the next 2 to 10 years. As of March 31, 2016, our unfunded commitment for our private equity investments was \$42.7 million which, if called, would be funded by the assets of the trusts.

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The change in our trust investments measured at fair value with significant unobservable inputs (Level 3) is as follows:

| | Three Months Ended March 31, 2016 2015 Other Other (In thousands) | |
|---|--|-------|
| Fair value, beginning balance | \$1,503 | \$203 |
| Net unrealized losses included in Accumulated other comprehensive income ⁽¹⁾ | (206) | (4) |
| Fair value, ending balance | \$1,297 | \$199 |

All unrealized losses recognized in Accumulated other comprehensive income for our merchandise and service trust investments are attributable to our preneed customers and are offset by a corresponding reclassification in (1) Accumulated other comprehensive income to Deferred preneed receipts held in trust. See Note 6 for further information related to our Deferred preneed receipts held in trust.

Maturity dates of our fixed income securities range from 2016 to 2041. Maturities of fixed income securities, excluding mutual funds, at March 31, 2016 are estimated as follows:

| | Fair Value (In thousands) |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Due in one year or less | \$ 26,335 |
| Due in one to five years | 32,443 |
| Due in five to ten years | 29,785 |
| Thereafter | 10,187 |
| | \$ 98,750 |

Earnings from all our merchandise and service trust investments are recognized in current revenue when merchandise is delivered or a service is performed. Fees charged by our wholly-owned registered investment advisor are also included in current revenue. In addition, we are entitled to retain, in certain jurisdictions, a portion of collected customer payments when a customer cancels a preneed contract; these amounts are also recognized in current revenue in the period in which they are earned. Recognized trust fund income (realized and unrealized) related to these trust investments was \$9.7 million and \$12.1 million for the three months ended March 31, 2016 and 2015, respectively. We assess our trust investments for other-than-temporary declines in fair value on a quarterly basis. Impairment charges resulting from this assessment are recognized as investment losses in Other expense, net and a decrease to Preneed cemetery receivables, net and trust investments. These investment losses, if any, are offset by the corresponding reclassification in Other expense, net, which reduces Deferred preneed receipts held in trust. See Note 6 for further information related to our Deferred preneed receipts held in trust. For the three months ended March 31, 2016 and 2015, we recorded a \$2.0 million and a \$0.5 million impairment charge, respectively, for other-than-temporary declines in fair value related to unrealized losses on certain investments.

We have determined that the remaining unrealized losses in our merchandise and service trust investments are considered temporary in nature, as the unrealized losses were due to temporary fluctuations in interest rates and equity prices. The investments are diversified across multiple industry segments using a balanced allocation strategy to minimize long-term risk. We believe that none of the remaining securities are other-than-temporarily impaired based on our analysis of the investments. Our analysis included a review of the portfolio holdings and discussions with the individual money managers as to the sector exposures, credit ratings, and the severity and duration of the unrealized losses. Our merchandise and service trust investment unrealized losses, their associated values and the duration of unrealized losses as of March 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015, respectively, are shown in the following tables:

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| | March 31, 2016 | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|----------------------|---|----------------------|-----------|----------------------|
| | In Loss Position Less Than 12 Months | | In Loss Position Greater Than 12 Months | | Total | |
| | Value | Unrealized Losses | Value | Unrealized Losses | Value | Unrealized Losses |
| | (In thousands) | | | | | |
| Fixed income securities: | | | | | | |
| Canadian government | \$19,788 | \$(12) | \$1,197 | \$(37) | \$20,985 | \$(49) |
| Corporate | 1,632 | (36) | 2,383 | (132) | 4,015 | (168) |
| Equity securities: | | | | | | |
| Common stock: | | | | | | |
| United States | 197,289 | (31,577) | 21,487 | (6,128) | 218,776 | (37,705) |
| Canada | 653 | (199) | 692 | (96) | 1,345 | (295) |
| Other international | 17,150 | (3,452) | 7,230 | (2,382) | 24,380 | (5,834) |
| Mutual funds: | | | | | | |
| Equity | 198,230 | (25,801) | 82,557 | (18,605) | 280,787 | (44,406) |
| Fixed income | 113,796 | (3,463) | 36,630 | (11,312) | 150,426 | (14,775) |
| Other | 1,297 | (179) | — | — | 1,297 | (179) |
| Trust investments, at fair value | 549,835 | (64,719) | 152,176 | (38,692) | 702,011 | (103,411) |
| Private equity | — | — | 8,661 | (4,599) | 8,661 | (4,599) |
| Trust investments, at net asset value | — | — | 8,661 | (4,599) | 8,661 | (4,599) |
| Total temporarily impaired securities | \$549,835 | \$(64,719) | \$160,837 | \$(43,291) | \$710,672 | \$(108,010) |

| | December 31, 2015 | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|----------------------|---|----------------------|----------|----------------------|
| | In Loss Position Less Than 12 Months | | In Loss Position Greater Than 12 Months | | Total | |
| | Value | Unrealized Losses | Value | Unrealized Losses | Value | Unrealized Losses |
| | (In thousands) | | | | | |
| Fixed income securities: | | | | | | |
| U.S. Treasury | \$52,533 | \$(1,435) | \$21 | \$(2) | \$52,554 | \$(1,437) |
| Canadian government | 16,039 | (105) | 841 | (64) | 16,880 | (169) |
| Corporate | 1,754 | (22) | 2,347 | (96) | 4,101 | (118) |
| Residential mortgage-backed | 42 | (1) | 18 | (2) | 60 | (3) |
| Equity securities: | | | | | | |
| Common stock: | | | | | | |
| United States | 198,843 | (26,038) | 21,355 | (5,999) | 220,198 | (32,037) |
| Canada | 470 | (6) | 1,430 | (885) | 1,900 | (891) |
| Other international | 15,567 | (2,507) | 9,412 | (3,292) | 24,979 | (5,799) |
| Mutual funds: | | | | | | |
| Equity | 207,349 | (25,991) | 86,720 | (23,651) | 294,069 | (49,642) |
| Fixed income | 139,749 | (6,322) | 44,550 | (12,204) | 184,299 | (18,526) |
| Trust investments, at fair value | 632,346 | (62,427) | 166,694 | (46,195) | 799,040 | (108,622) |
| Fixed income commingled funds | 108,347 | (570) | — | — | 108,347 | (570) |
| Private equity | — | — | 9,526 | (4,502) | 9,526 | (4,502) |
| Trust investments, at net asset value | 108,347 | (570) | 9,526 | (4,502) | 117,873 | (5,072) |

Total temporarily impaired securities \$740,693 \$(62,997) \$176,220 \$(50,697) \$916,913 \$(113,694)

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5. Cemetery Perpetual Care Trusts

We are required by state and provincial law to pay into cemetery perpetual care trusts a portion of the proceeds from the sale of cemetery property interment rights. Our cemetery perpetual care trusts are variable interest entities. We have determined that we are the primary beneficiary of these trusts, as we absorb a majority of the losses and returns associated with these trusts. The trust investments detailed in Notes 3 and 4 are also accounted for as variable interest entities. We consolidate our cemetery perpetual care trust investments with a corresponding amount recorded as Care trusts' corpus. Cash flows from cemetery perpetual care trusts are presented as operating cash flows in our unaudited condensed Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows.

The table below sets forth certain investment-related activities associated with our cemetery perpetual care trusts:

| | Three Months Ended | |
|---|--------------------|-----------|
| | March 31, | |
| | 2016 | 2015 |
| | (In thousands) | |
| Deposits | \$9,813 | \$9,253 |
| Withdrawals | \$16,294 | \$13,158 |
| Purchases of available-for-sale securities | \$48,476 | \$101,660 |
| Sales of available-for-sale securities | \$33,522 | \$53,765 |
| Realized gains from sales of available-for-sale securities | \$1,494 | \$398 |
| Realized losses from sales of available-for-sale securities | \$(1,616) | \$(129) |

The components of Cemetery perpetual care trust investments in our unaudited condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet at March 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015 are as follows:

| | March 31, December 31, | |
|---|------------------------|-------------|
| | 2016 | 2015 |
| | (In thousands) | |
| Trust investments, at market | \$1,261,088 | \$1,232,592 |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 73,077 | 86,835 |
| Cemetery perpetual care trust investments | \$1,334,165 | \$1,319,427 |

The cost and values associated with trust investments, at market at March 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015 are detailed below. Cost reflects the investment (net of redemptions) of control holders in the trusts. Value represents the value of the underlying securities or cash held by the trusts.

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| | March 31, 2016 | | Unrealized | | Unrealized | Value |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|----------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| | Value Hierarchy Level | Cost | Gains | Losses | | |
| | | | (In thousands) | | | |
| Fixed income securities: | | | | | | |
| U.S. Treasury | 2 | \$2,986 | \$— | \$(108) |) | \$2,878 |
| Canadian government | 2 | 36,402 | 400 | (106) |) | 36,696 |
| Corporate | 2 | 11,324 | 113 | (362) |) | 11,075 |
| Residential mortgage-backed | 2 | 383 | 1 | — |) | 384 |
| Asset-backed | 2 | 644 | 6 | (34) |) | 616 |
| Equity securities: | | | | | | |
| Preferred stock | 2 | 5,034 | 67 | (134) |) | 4,967 |
| Common stock: | | | | | | |
| United States | 1 | 228,357 | 16,138 | (12,184) |) | 232,311 |
| Canada | 1 | 4,978 | 2,166 | (252) |) | 6,892 |
| Other international | 1 | 14,677 | 119 | (2,925) |) | 11,871 |
| Mutual funds: | | | | | | |
| Equity | 1 | 19,842 | 3,531 | (2,037) |) | 21,336 |
| Fixed income | 1 | 904,294 | 1,413 | (54,175) |) | 851,532 |
| Other | 3 | 629 | 1,254 | — |) | 1,883 |
| Trust investments, at fair value | | 1,229,550 | 25,208 | (72,317) |) | 1,182,441 |
| Private equity | | 84,479 | 2,362 | (8,194) |) | 78,647 |
| Trust investments, at net asset value | | 84,479 | 2,362 | (8,194) |) | 78,647 |
| Trust investments, at market | | \$1,314,029 | \$27,570 | \$(80,511) |) | \$1,261,088 |

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| | December 31, 2015 | | Unrealized | | Unrealized | Value |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|----------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| | Value Hierarchy Level | Cost | Gains | Losses | | |
| | | | (In thousands) | | | |
| Fixed income securities: | | | | | | |
| U.S. Treasury | 2 | \$3,636 | \$20 | \$(81) |) | \$3,575 |
| Canadian government | 2 | 32,477 | 321 | (266) |) | 32,532 |
| Corporate | 2 | 12,694 | 149 | (284) |) | 12,559 |
| Residential mortgage-backed | 2 | 934 | 13 | (9) |) | 938 |
| Asset-backed | 2 | 660 | 5 | (31) |) | 634 |
| Equity securities: | | | | | | |
| Preferred stock | 2 | 5,850 | 55 | (159) |) | 5,746 |
| Common stock: | | | | | | |
| United States | 1 | 231,012 | 15,224 | (10,898) |) | 235,338 |
| Canada | 1 | 5,648 | 2,112 | (606) |) | 7,154 |
| Other international | 1 | 14,820 | 160 | (2,390) |) | 12,590 |
| Mutual funds: | | | | | | |
| Equity | 1 | 21,783 | 3,138 | (1,850) |) | 23,071 |
| Fixed income | 1 | 890,013 | 530 | (63,913) |) | 826,630 |
| Other | 3 | 645 | 1,257 | — |) | 1,902 |
| Trust investments, at fair value | | 1,220,172 | 22,984 | (80,487) |) | 1,162,669 |
| Private equity | | 75,613 | 2,406 | (8,096) |) | 69,923 |
| Trust investments, at net asset value | | 75,613 | 2,406 | (8,096) |) | 69,923 |
| Trust investments, at market | | \$1,295,785 | \$25,390 | \$(88,583) |) | \$1,232,592 |

Valuation policies and procedures are determined by our Trust Services department, which reports to our Chief Financial Officer. Additionally, valuations are reviewed by the Investment Committee of the Board of Directors quarterly.

Where quoted prices are available in an active market, securities held by the trusts are classified as Level 1 investments pursuant to the fair value measurements hierarchy.

Where quoted market prices are not available for the specific security, fair values are estimated by using either quoted prices of securities with similar characteristics or an income approach fair value model with observable inputs that include a combination of interest rates, yield curves, credit risks, prepayment speeds, ratings, and tax-exempt status. These funds are classified as Level 2 investments pursuant to the fair value measurements hierarchy.

The valuation of other investments requires management judgment due to the absence of quoted market prices, inherent lack of liquidity, and the long-term nature of such assets. These funds are classified as Level 3 investments pursuant to the fair value measurements hierarchy.

Private equity investments are measured at net asset value. Our private equity investments include several funds that invest in limited partnerships, distressed debt, real estate, and mezzanine financing. These investments can never be redeemed by the funds. Instead, due to the nature of the investments in this category, distributions are received through the liquidation of the underlying assets of the funds. We estimate that the underlying assets will be liquidated over the next 2 to 10 years. As of March 31, 2016, our unfunded commitment for our private equity investments was \$44.9 million which, if called, would be funded by the assets of the trusts.

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The change in our trust investments measured at fair value with significant unobservable inputs (Level 3) is as follows:

| | Three Months Ended March 31, 2016 2015 Other Other (In thousands) | |
|---|--|---------|
| Fair market value, beginning balance | \$1,902 | \$1,556 |
| Net unrealized (losses) gains included in Accumulated other comprehensive income ⁽¹⁾ | (19 |) 4 |
| Fair market value, ending balance | \$1,883 | \$1,560 |

All unrealized gains (losses) recognized in Accumulated other comprehensive income for our cemetery perpetual (1) care trust investments are offset by a corresponding reclassification in Accumulated other comprehensive income to Care trusts' corpus. See Note 6 for further information related to our Care trusts' corpus.

Maturity dates of our fixed income securities range from 2016 to 2040. Maturities of fixed income securities at March 31, 2016 are estimated as follows:

| | Fair Value (In thousands) |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Due in one year or less | \$ 30,364 |
| Due in one to five years | 20,955 |
| Due in five to ten years | 119 |
| Thereafter | 211 |
| | \$ 51,649 |

Distributable earnings from these cemetery perpetual care trust investments are recognized in current cemetery revenue to the extent we incur qualifying cemetery maintenance costs. Fees charged by our wholly-owned registered investment advisor are also included in current revenue. Recognized trust fund income related to these trust investments was \$18.5 million and \$13.4 million for the three months ended March 31, 2016 and 2015, respectively. We assess our trust investments for other-than-temporary declines in fair value on a quarterly basis. Impairment charges resulting from this assessment are recognized as investment losses in Other expense, net and a decrease to Cemetery perpetual care trust investments. These investment losses, if any, are offset by the corresponding reclassification in Other expense, net, which reduces Care trusts' corpus. See Note 6 for further information related to our Care trusts' corpus. For the three months ended March 31, 2016 and 2015, we recorded a \$0.1 million and a \$0.5 million impairment charge, respectively, for other-than-temporary declines in fair value related to unrealized losses on certain investments.

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We have determined that the remaining unrealized losses in our cemetery perpetual care trust investments are considered temporary in nature, as the unrealized losses were due to temporary fluctuations in interest rates and equity prices. The investments are diversified across multiple industry segments using a balanced allocation strategy to minimize long-term risk. We believe that none of the remaining securities are other-than-temporarily impaired based on our analysis of the investments. Our analysis included a review of the portfolio holdings and discussions with the individual money managers as to the sector exposures, credit ratings, and the severity and duration of the unrealized losses. Our cemetery perpetual care trust investment unrealized losses, their associated values and the duration of unrealized losses as of March 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015, respectively, are shown in the following tables:

March 31, 2016

| | In Loss Position Less Than 12 Months | | In Loss Position Greater Than 12 Months | | Total | |
|---------------------------------------|---|----------------------|---|----------------------|-----------|----------------------|
| | Value | Unrealized Losses | Value | Unrealized Losses | Value | Unrealized Losses |
| | (In thousands) | | | | | |
| Fixed income securities: | | | | | | |
| U.S. Treasury | \$— | \$— | \$2,878 | \$(108) | \$2,878 | \$(108) |
| Canadian government | 21,022 | (38) | 2,069 | (68) | 23,091 | (106) |
| Corporate | 3,574 | (102) | 4,423 | (260) | 7,997 | (362) |
| Asset-backed | 115 | (12) | 356 | (22) | 471 | (34) |
| Equity securities: | | | | | | |
| Preferred stock | 3,240 | (134) | — | — | 3,240 | (134) |
| Common stock: | | | | | | |
| United States | 94,696 | (8,843) | 16,916 | (3,341) | 111,612 | (12,184) |
| Canada | 372 | (84) | 532 | (168) | 904 | (252) |
| Other international | 7,964 | (1,450) | 2,793 | (1,475) | 10,757 | (2,925) |
| Mutual funds: | | | | | | |
| Equity | 3,778 | (660) | 1,217 | (1,377) | 4,995 | (2,037) |
| Fixed income | 299,920 | (9,270) | 294,024 | (44,905) | 593,944 | (54,175) |
| Trust investments, at fair value | 434,681 | (20,593) | 325,208 | (51,724) | 759,889 | (72,317) |
| Private equity | 20,203 | (410) | 32,142 | (7,784) | 52,345 | (8,194) |
| Trust investments, at net asset value | 20,203 | (410) | 32,142 | (7,784) | 52,345 | (8,194) |
| Total temporarily impaired securities | \$454,884 | \$(21,003) | \$357,350 | \$(59,508) | \$812,234 | \$(80,511) |

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| | December 31, 2015 | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|----------------------|---|----------------------|-------------|----------------------|
| | In Loss Position Less Than 12 Months | | In Loss Position Greater Than 12 Months | | Total | |
| | Value | Unrealized Losses | Value | Unrealized Losses | Value | Unrealized Losses |
| (In thousands) | | | | | | |
| Fixed income securities: | | | | | | |
| U.S. Treasury | \$3,275 | \$(80) | \$35 | \$(1) | \$3,310 | \$(81) |
| Canadian government | 18,499 | (164) | 1,371 | (102) | 19,870 | (266) |
| Corporate | 5,163 | (134) | 4,147 | (150) | 9,310 | (284) |
| Residential mortgage-backed | 303 | (3) | 117 | (6) | 420 | (9) |
| Asset-backed | 145 | (12) | 360 | (19) | 505 | (31) |
| Equity securities: | | | | | | |
| Preferred stock | 4,029 | (159) | — | — | 4,029 | (159) |
| Common stock: | | | | | | |
| United States | 81,624 | (7,793) | 14,900 | (3,105) | 96,524 | (10,898) |
| Canada | 702 | (31) | 1,026 | (575) | 1,728 | (606) |
| Other international | 8,734 | (940) | 2,347 | (1,450) | 11,081 | (2,390) |
| Mutual funds: | | | | | | |
| Equity | 4,580 | (606) | 1,258 | (1,244) | 5,838 | (1,850) |
| Fixed income | 519,981 | (18,205) | 294,309 | (45,708) | 814,290 | (63,913) |
| Trust investments, at fair value | 647,035 | (28,127) | 319,870 | (52,360) | 966,905 | (80,487) |
| Private equity | 10,592 | (61) | 24,556 | (8,035) | 35,148 | (8,096) |
| Trust investments, at net asset value | 10,592 | (61) | 24,556 | (8,035) | 35,148 | (8,096) |
| Total temporarily impaired securities | \$657,627 | \$(28,188) | \$344,426 | \$(60,395) | \$1,002,053 | \$(88,583) |

6. Deferred Preneed Receipts Held in Trust and Care Trusts' Corpus

Deferred Preneed Receipts Held in Trust

We consolidate the merchandise and service trusts associated with our preneed activities. Although the consolidation of the merchandise and service trusts is required by accounting standards, it does not change the legal relationships among the trusts, us, or our customers. The customers are the legal beneficiaries of these merchandise and service trusts, and therefore their interests in these trusts represent a liability to us.

The components of Deferred preneed receipts held in trust in our unaudited condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet at March 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015 are detailed below.

| | March 31, 2016 | | | December 31, 2015 | | |
|--|--------------------|---------------------|-------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------|
| | Preneed Funeral | Preneed Cemetery | Total | Preneed Funeral | Preneed Cemetery | Total |
| | (In thousands) | | | | | |
| Trust investments | \$1,511,167 | \$1,461,773 | \$2,972,940 | \$1,515,113 | \$1,462,499 | \$2,977,612 |
| Accrued trust operating payables and other | (1,480) | (2,868) | (4,348) | (1,381) | (2,845) | (4,226) |
| Deferred preneed receipts held in trust | \$1,509,687 | \$1,458,905 | \$2,968,592 | \$1,513,732 | \$1,459,654 | \$2,973,386 |

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Care Trusts' Corpus

The Care trusts' corpus reflected in our unaudited condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet represents the cemetery perpetual care trusts, including the related accrued expenses.

The components of Care trusts' corpus in our unaudited condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet at March 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015 are detailed below.

| | March 31, 2016 | December 31, 2015 |
|--|-------------------|----------------------|
| | (In thousands) | |
| Cemetery perpetual care trust investments | \$1,334,165 | \$1,319,427 |
| Accrued trust operating payables and other | 387 | 137 |
| Care trusts' corpus | \$1,334,552 | \$1,319,564 |

Other Expense, Net

The components of Other expense, net in our unaudited condensed Consolidated Statement of Operations for the three months ended March 31, 2016 and 2015 are detailed below. See Notes 3, 4, and 5 for further discussion of the amounts related to the funeral, cemetery, and cemetery perpetual care trusts.

| | Three Months Ended March 31, 2016 | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|----------|
| | Cemetery | | | | |
| | Funeral Trusts | Cemetery Trusts | Perpetual Care Trusts | Other, Net | Total |
| | (In thousands) | | | | |
| Realized gains | \$6,824 | \$6,246 | \$1,494 | \$— | \$14,564 |
| Realized losses | (19,651) | (22,853) | (1,616) | — | (44,120) |
| Impairment charges | (1,118) | (2,049) | (115) | — | (3,282) |
| Interest, dividend, and other ordinary income | 2,773 | 2,360 | 12,990 | — | 18,123 |
| Trust expenses and income taxes | (4,442) | (4,853) | (5,757) | — | (15,052) |
| Net trust investment (loss) income | (15,614) | (21,149) | 6,996 | — | (29,767) |
| Reclassification to deferred preneed receipts held in trust and care trusts' corpus | 15,614 | 21,149 | (6,996) | — | 29,767 |
| Other expense, net | — | — | — | (211) | (211) |
| Total other expense, net | \$— | \$— | \$— | \$(211) | \$(211) |

| | Three Months Ended March 31, 2015 | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|----------|
| | Cemetery | | | | |
| | Funeral Trusts | Cemetery Trusts | Perpetual Care Trusts | Other, Net | Total |
| | (In thousands) | | | | |
| Realized gains | \$4,349 | \$7,135 | \$398 | \$— | \$11,882 |
| Realized losses | (4,735) | (7,028) | (129) | — | (11,892) |
| Impairment charges | (471) | (520) | (512) | — | (1,503) |
| Interest, dividend, and other ordinary income | 4,062 | 3,516 | 10,545 | — | 18,123 |
| Trust expenses and income taxes | (5,827) | (8,515) | (6,273) | — | (20,615) |
| Net trust investment (loss) income | (2,622) | (5,412) | 4,029 | — | (4,005) |
| Reclassification to deferred preneed receipts held in trust and care trusts' corpus | 2,622 | 5,412 | (4,029) | — | 4,005 |
| Other expense, net | — | — | — | (58) | (58) |
| Total other expense, net | \$— | \$— | \$— | \$(58) | \$(58) |

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7. Income Taxes

Income tax expense during interim periods is based on our estimated annual effective income tax rate plus any discrete items, which are recorded in the period in which they occur. Discrete items include, among others, such events as changes in estimates due to the finalization of tax returns, tax audit settlements, expiration of statutes of limitation, and increases or decreases in valuation allowances on deferred tax assets. Our effective tax rate was 40.5% and 37.4% for the three months ended March 31, 2016 and 2015, respectively. The effective tax rate for the first quarter of 2016 is higher than the 35% federal statutory tax rate primarily due to state tax expense partially offset by lower rates on foreign earnings.

Unrecognized Tax Benefits

As of March 31, 2016, the total amount of our unrecognized tax benefits was \$179.8 million and the total amount of our accrued interest was \$52.7 million. Additional interest expense of \$1.1 million was accrued during the three months ended March 31, 2016.

A number of years may elapse before particular tax matters, for which we have unrecognized tax benefits, are settled. While we have effectively concluded our 2003 through 2005 tax years with respect to our affiliate, SCI Funeral & Cemetery Purchasing Cooperative, Inc., SCI and subsidiaries' tax years 1999 through 2005 remain under review at the IRS Appeals level. SCI and subsidiaries are under audit for 2006-2007 as a result of carry back claims. Furthermore, SCI and its affiliates are under audit by various state and foreign jurisdictions for years 2010 through 2014. The outcome of each of these audits cannot be predicted at this time. It is reasonably possible that the amount of our unrecognized tax benefits could significantly increase or decrease over the next twelve months either because we prevail on positions or because the tax authorities prevail. Due to the uncertainty regarding the timing of completion of audits and possible outcomes, a current estimate of the range of increases or decreases that may occur within the next twelve months cannot be made.

8. Debt

Debt as of March 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015 was as follows:

| | March 31, 2016 | December 31, 2015 |
|--|-------------------|----------------------|
| | (In thousands) | |
| 7.0% Senior Notes due June 2017 | \$295,000 | \$295,000 |
| 7.625% Senior Notes due October 2018 | 250,000 | 250,000 |
| 4.5% Senior Notes due November 2020 | 200,000 | 200,000 |
| 8.0% Senior Notes due November 2021 | 150,000 | 150,000 |
| 5.375% Senior Notes due January 2022 | 425,000 | 425,000 |
| 5.375% Senior Notes due May 2024 | 850,000 | 850,000 |
| 7.5% Senior Notes due April 2027 | 200,000 | 200,000 |
| Term Loan due July 2018 | — | 310,000 |
| Bank Credit Facility due July 2018 | — | 270,000 |
| Term Loan due March 2021 | 550,000 | — |
| Bank Credit Facility due March 2021 | 30,000 | — |
| Obligations under capital leases | 209,027 | 204,246 |
| Mortgage notes and other debt, maturities through 2050 | 3,983 | 4,037 |
| Unamortized premiums, net | 8,512 | 8,636 |
| Unamortized debt issuance costs | (37,767) | (42,491) |
| Total debt | 3,133,755 | 3,124,428 |
| Less: Current maturities of long-term debt | (57,413) | (86,823) |
| Total long-term debt | \$3,076,342 | \$3,037,605 |

Current maturities of debt at March 31, 2016 include amounts due under our Term Loan, mortgage notes and other debt, and capital leases within the next year. Our consolidated debt had a weighted average interest rate of 5.1% and

5.2% at March 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015, respectively. Approximately 75% and 76% of our total debt had a fixed interest rate at March 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015, respectively.

Bank Credit Agreement

In March 2016, we entered into a new \$1.4 billion bank credit agreement due March 2021 with a syndicate of banks.

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As of March 31, 2016, we have \$30.0 million of outstanding borrowings under our Bank Credit Facility due March 2021, \$550.0 million of outstanding borrowings under our Term Loan due March 2021, and have issued \$30.8 million of letters of credit. The bank credit agreement due March 2021 provides us with flexibility for working capital, if needed, and is guaranteed by a majority of our domestic subsidiaries. The subsidiary guaranty is a guaranty of payment of the outstanding amount of the total lending commitment, including letters of credit. The bank credit agreement contains certain financial covenants, including a minimum interest coverage ratio, a maximum leverage ratio, and certain dividend and share repurchase restrictions. We pay a quarterly fee on the unused commitment, which was 0.30% at March 31, 2016. As of March 31, 2016, we have \$639.2 million in borrowing capacity under the Bank Credit Facility.

As of December 31, 2015, we had a \$500.0 million Bank Credit Facility due July 2018 with a syndicate of financial institutions, including a sublimit of \$175.0 million for letters of credit. In March 2016, the new \$1.4 billion credit agreement replaced the existing \$500.0 million Bank Credit Facility due July 2018 and \$600.0 million Term Loan due July 2018 providing for a new \$700.0 million Bank Credit Facility and a \$700.0 million Term Loan, both maturing in March 2021, including a sublimit of \$100.0 million for letters of credit.

Debt Issuances and Additions

In January 2016, we drew \$10.0 million on our Bank Credit Facility due July 2018 for general corporate purposes. In March 2016, we drew \$30.0 million on our Bank Credit Facility due March 2021 and \$550.0 million on our Term Loan due March 2021 to repay outstanding borrowings under our Bank Credit Facility due July 2018 and our Term Loan due July 2018. These transactions resulted in the addition of \$5.2 million in debt issuance costs.

In March 2015, we drew \$15.0 million on our Bank Credit Facility due July 2018, which was used to make required payments on our Term Loan due July 2018.

Debt Extinguishments and Reductions

During the three months ended March 31, 2016, we made debt payments of \$590.1 million for scheduled and early extinguishment payments including:

- \$310.0 million in aggregate principal of our Term Loan due July 2018;
- \$280.0 million in aggregate principal of our Bank Credit Facility due July 2018; and
- \$0.1 million in other debt.

Certain of the above transactions resulted in the recognition of a loss of \$0.6 million recorded in Loss on early extinguishment of debt in our unaudited condensed Consolidated Statement of Operations.

During the three months ended March 31, 2015, we made debt payments of \$15.0 million for a scheduled payment on our Term Loan due July 2018.

Capital Leases

During the three months ended March 31, 2016 and 2015, we acquired \$13.1 million and \$7.3 million, respectively, of capital leases, primarily related to transportation equipment. We made aggregate principal payments of \$8.2 million and \$7.4 million on our capital lease obligations for the three months ended March 31, 2016 and 2015, respectively.

Subsequent Events

In April 2016, we drew \$170.0 million on our Bank Credit Facility due March 2021, and \$150.0 million on our Term Loan due March 2021, to repay our \$295.0 million 7.0% Senior Notes due June 2017 and associated transaction costs, which resulted in the recognition of \$21.7 million loss on early extinguishment of debt.

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9. Credit Risk and Fair Value of Financial Instruments

Fair Value Estimates

The fair value estimates of the following financial instruments have been determined using available market information and appropriate valuation methodologies. The carrying values of cash and cash equivalents, trade receivables, and trade payables approximate the fair values of those instruments due to the short-term nature of the instruments. The fair values of receivables on preneed contracts are impracticable to estimate because of the lack of a trading market and the diverse number of individual contracts with varying terms.

The fair value of our debt instruments at March 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015 was as follows:

| | March 31, 2016 | December 31, 2015 |
|--|-------------------|----------------------|
| | (In thousands) | |
| 7.0% Senior Notes due June 2017 | \$314,001 | \$ 314,618 |
| 7.625% Senior Notes due October 2018 | 282,813 | 279,375 |
| 4.5% Senior Notes due November 2020 | 207,040 | 201,500 |
| 8.0% Senior Notes due November 2021 | 178,125 | 176,438 |
| 5.375% Senior Notes due January 2022 | 446,378 | 445,188 |
| 5.375% Senior Notes due May 2024 | 897,813 | 884,094 |
| 7.5% Senior Notes due April 2027 | 230,660 | 216,500 |
| Term Loan due March 2021 | 550,000 | — |
| Bank Credit Facility due March 2021 | 30,000 | — |
| Term Loan due July 2018 | — | 310,000 |
| Bank Credit Facility due July 2018 | — | 270,000 |
| Mortgage notes and other debt, maturities through 2050 | 3,989 | 4,047 |
| Total fair value of debt instruments | \$3,140,819 | \$ 3,101,760 |

The fair values of our long-term, fixed-rate loans were estimated using market prices for those loans, and therefore they are classified within Level 2 of the fair value measurements hierarchy. The Term Loan, Bank Credit Facility agreement and the mortgage and other debt are classified within Level 3 of the fair value measurements hierarchy. The fair values of these instruments have been estimated using a discounted cash flow analysis based on our incremental borrowing rate for similar borrowing arrangements. An increase (decrease) in the inputs results in a directionally opposite change in the fair value of the instruments.

10. Share-Based Compensation

Stock Benefit Plans

We utilize the Black-Scholes option valuation model for estimating the fair value of our stock options. This model uses a range of assumptions related to volatility, the risk-free interest rate, the expected life, and the dividend yield. The fair values of our stock options are calculated using the following weighted average assumptions for the three months ended March 31, 2016:

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------|
| Dividend yield | 1.9 % |
| Expected volatility | 19.5 % |
| Risk-free interest rate | 1.0 % |
| Expected holding period (in years) | 4.0 |

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Stock Options

The following table sets forth stock option activity for the three months ended March 31, 2016:

| | Options | Weighted-Average Exercise Price |
|----------------------------------|------------|------------------------------------|
| Outstanding at December 31, 2015 | 11,047,920 | \$ 13.98 |
| Granted | 1,036,522 | \$ 22.28 |
| Exercised | (417,383) | \$ 7.51 |
| Canceled | (7,064) | \$ 20.97 |
| Outstanding at March 31, 2016 | 11,659,995 | \$ 14.94 |
| Exercisable at March 31, 2016 | 8,559,885 | \$ 12.62 |

As of March 31, 2016, the unrecognized compensation expense related to stock options of \$9.6 million is expected to be recognized over a weighted average period of 1.4 years.

Restricted Shares

Restricted share activity for the three months ended March 31, 2016 was as follows:

| | Restricted Shares | Weighted-Average Grant-Date Fair Value |
|--|----------------------|--|
| Nonvested restricted shares at December 31, 2015 | 573,739 | \$ 19.32 |
| Granted | 241,510 | \$ 22.28 |
| Vested | (306,000) | \$ 18.06 |
| Forfeited | (1,258) | \$ 20.85 |
| Nonvested restricted shares at March 31, 2016 | 507,991 | \$ 21.48 |

As of March 31, 2016, the unrecognized compensation expense related to restricted shares of \$10.0 million is expected to be recognized over a weighted average period of 2.2 years.

11. Equity

(All shares reported in whole numbers)

Our components of Accumulated other comprehensive income are as follows:

| | Foreign Currency Translation Adjustment | Unrealized Gains and Losses (In thousands) | Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income |
|---|--|---|---|
| Balance at December 31, 2015 | \$ 6,164 | \$ — | \$ 6,164 |
| Activity in 2016 | 22,707 | — | 22,707 |
| Increase in net unrealized gains associated with available-for-sale securities of the trusts, net of taxes | — | 17,985 | 17,985 |
| Reclassification of net unrealized gains activity attributable to the Deferred preneed receipts held in trust and Care trusts' corpus, net of taxes | — | (17,985) | (17,985) |
| Balance at March 31, 2016 | \$ 28,871 | \$ — | \$ 28,871 |
| Balance at December 31, 2014 | \$ 59,414 | \$ — | \$ 59,414 |
| Activity in 2015 | (22,617) | — | (22,617) |
| Increase in net unrealized gains associated with available-for-sale securities of the trusts, net of taxes | — | 50,667 | 50,667 |
| Reclassification of net unrealized gains activity attributable to the Deferred preneed receipts held in trust and Care trusts' corpus, net of taxes | — | (50,667) | (50,667) |
| Balance at March 31, 2015 | \$ 36,797 | \$ — | \$ 36,797 |

The assets and liabilities of foreign operations are translated into U.S. dollars using the current exchange rate. The U.S. dollar amount that arises from such translation, as well as exchange gains and losses on intercompany balances of a long-term investment nature, are included in the foreign currency translation adjustment in Accumulated other comprehensive income.

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Cash Dividends

On February 10, 2016, our Board of Directors approved a cash dividend of \$0.12 per common share. This dividend, totaling \$23.3 million, was paid on March 31, 2016.

Share Repurchases

Subject to market conditions, normal trading restrictions, and limitations in our debt covenants, we may make purchases in the open market or through privately negotiated transactions under our stock repurchase program. During the three months ended March 31, 2016, we repurchased 2,285,230 shares of common stock at an aggregate cost of \$54.6 million, which is an average cost per share of \$23.91. After these repurchases the remaining dollar value of shares authorized to be purchased under our share repurchase program was approximately \$226.3 million at March 31, 2016.

Subsequent to March 31, 2016, we repurchased 419,147 shares of common stock at an aggregate cost of \$10.5 million, which is an average cost per share of \$24.96. After these second quarter repurchases, the remaining dollar value of shares authorized to be repurchased under our repurchase program is \$215.8 million.

12. Segment Reporting

Our operations are both product-based and geographically-based, and the reportable operating segments presented below include our funeral and cemetery operations. Our geographic areas include the United States and Canada, in both of which we conduct both funeral and cemetery operations.

Our reportable segment information is as follows:

| | Funeral | Cemetery | Reportable Segments |
|----------------------------------|----------------|-----------|------------------------|
| | (In thousands) | | |
| Three months ended March 31, | | | |
| Revenue from external customers: | | | |
| 2016 | \$492,109 | \$257,162 | \$749,271 |
| 2015 | \$507,687 | \$240,430 | \$748,117 |
| Gross profit: | | | |
| 2016 | \$106,981 | \$54,515 | \$161,496 |
| 2015 | \$126,937 | \$50,507 | \$177,444 |

The following table reconciles gross profit from reportable segments to our consolidated income before income taxes:

| | Three Months Ended | |
|--|--------------------|-----------|
| | March 31, | |
| | 2016 | 2015 |
| | (In thousands) | |
| Gross profit from reportable segments | \$161,496 | \$177,444 |
| General and administrative expenses | (37,508) | (34,550) |
| Losses on divestitures and impairment charges, net | (347) | (1,779) |
| Operating income | 123,641 | 141,115 |
| Interest expense | (43,082) | (42,939) |
| Loss on early extinguishment of debt | (581) | — |
| Other expense, net | (211) | (58) |
| Income before income taxes | \$79,767 | \$98,118 |

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Our geographic area information is as follows:

| | United States | Canada | Total |
|----------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|-----------|
| | | (In thousands) | |
| Three months ended March 31, | | | |
| Revenue from external customers: | | | |
| 2016 | \$708,938 | \$ 40,333 | \$749,271 |
| 2015 | \$700,452 | \$ 47,665 | \$748,117 |

13. Supplementary Information

Revenue and Costs and Expenses

The detail of certain income statement accounts as presented in the unaudited condensed consolidated Statement of Operations is as follows:

| | Three Months Ended March 31, | |
|--|------------------------------------|-----------|
| | 2016 | 2015 |
| | (In thousands) | |
| Property and merchandise revenue: | | |
| Funeral | \$160,006 | \$162,201 |
| Cemetery | 193,874 | 174,696 |
| Total property and merchandise revenue | 353,880 | 336,897 |
| Services revenue: | | |
| Funeral | 297,113 | 316,867 |
| Cemetery | 55,624 | 58,094 |
| Total services revenue | 352,737 | 374,961 |
| Other revenue | 42,654 | 36,259 |
| Total revenue | \$749,271 | \$748,117 |
| Property and merchandise costs and expenses: | | |
| Funeral | \$78,129 | \$78,662 |
| Cemetery | 119,154 | 106,859 |
| Total cost of property and merchandise | 197,283 | 185,521 |
| Services costs and expenses: | | |
| Funeral | 157,088 | 153,424 |
| Cemetery | 19,019 | 19,123 |
| Total cost of services | 176,107 | 172,547 |
| Overhead and other expenses | 214,385 | 212,605 |
| Total costs and expenses | \$587,775 | \$570,673 |

Non-Cash Investing and Financing Transactions

| | Three Months Ended March 31, | |
|---|------------------------------------|-----------|
| | 2016 | 2015 |
| | (In thousands) | |
| Net change in capital expenditure accrual | \$(6,794) | \$(3,547) |

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14. Commitments and Contingencies

Insurance Loss Reserves

We purchase comprehensive general liability, morticians' and cemetery professional liability, automobile liability, and workers' compensation insurance coverage structured with high deductibles. The high-deductible insurance program means we are primarily self-insured for claims and associated costs and losses covered by these policies. As of March 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015, we have self-insurance reserves of \$77.1 million and \$76.6 million, respectively.

Litigation

We are a party to various litigation matters, investigations, and proceedings. Some of the more frequent ordinary routine litigations incidental to our business are based on burial practices claims and employment related matters, including discrimination, harassment, and wage and hour laws and regulations. For each of our outstanding legal matters, we evaluate the merits of the case, our exposure to the matter, possible legal or settlement strategies, and the likelihood of an unfavorable outcome. We intend to vigorously defend ourselves in the lawsuits described herein; however, if we determine that an unfavorable outcome is probable and can be reasonably estimated, we establish the necessary accruals. We hold certain insurance policies that may reduce cash outflows with respect to an adverse outcome of certain of these litigation matters. We accrue such insurance recoveries when they become probable of being paid and can be reasonably estimated.

Wage and Hour Claims. We are named a defendant in various lawsuits alleging violations of federal and state laws regulating wage and hour pay, including but not limited to the Samborsky lawsuit described below.

Charles Samborsky, et al, individually and on behalf of those persons similarly situated, v. SCI California Funeral Services, Inc., et al ; Case No. BC544180; in the Superior Court of the State of California for the County of Los Angeles, Central District-Central Civil West Courthouse. This lawsuit was filed in April 2014 against an SCI subsidiary and purports to have been brought on behalf of employees who worked as family service counselors in California since April 2010. The plaintiffs allege causes of action for various violations of state laws regulating wage and hour pay. The plaintiffs seek unpaid wages, compensatory and punitive damages, attorneys' fees and costs, interest, and injunctive relief. The claims have been sent to arbitration. We cannot quantify our ultimate liability, if any, in this lawsuit.

Claims Regarding Acquisition of Stewart Enterprises. We are involved in the following lawsuits.

Karen Moulton, Individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated v. Stewart Enterprises, Inc., Service Corporation International and others ; Case No. 2013-5636; in the Civil District Court Parish of New Orleans. This case was filed as a class action in June 2013 against SCI and our subsidiary in connection with SCI's proposed acquisition of Stewart Enterprises, Inc. The plaintiffs allege that SCI aided and abetted breaches of fiduciary duties by Stewart Enterprises and its board of directors in negotiating the combination of Stewart Enterprises with a subsidiary of SCI. The plaintiffs seek damages concerning the combination. We filed exceptions to the plaintiffs' complaint that were granted in June 2014. Thus, subject to appeals, SCI will no longer be party to the suit. The case will continue against our subsidiary Stewart Enterprises and its former individual directors. We cannot quantify our ultimate liability, if any, for the payment of damages.

S.E. Funeral Homes of California, Inc. v. The Roman Catholic Archbishop of Los Angeles, et al.; Case No. BC559142; in the Superior Court of the State of California for the County of Los Angeles. The plaintiff is a company indirectly owned by Stewart Enterprises, Inc. The plaintiff filed this action in September 2014 to prevent The Roman Catholic Archbishop of Los Angeles (the "Archdiocese") from terminating six ground leases. In reliance on the leases having 40 year terms beginning at the earliest in 1997, the plaintiff had previously made material investments since 1997 in constructing and operating funeral homes, chapels, mausoleums, and other improvements on the leased premises. In addition, the plaintiff has created a material backlog of deferred preneed revenue that plaintiff expects to receive in the coming years. In September 2014, the Archdiocese delivered notices purporting to terminate the leases and alleging that the leases were breached because the plaintiff did not obtain the Archdiocese's consent before Stewart Enterprises, Inc. entered into a reverse merger with an affiliate of SCI. The plaintiff disputes this contention and seeks, among other things, a declaratory judgment declaring that the Archdiocese's purported termination notices are invalid, requiring specific performance of the leases, or, in the alternative, awarding plaintiff compensatory damages. The

Archdiocese filed a counterclaim and a separate action for unlawful detainer in October 2014, and all claims and actions of the respective parties have been consolidated into one case for all purposes. In February 2016, the Court entered a ruling on the parties' cross motions for summary adjudication based on the parties' opposing interpretations of the relevant lease provisions and adopted the Archdiocese's interpretation of its right to terminate the leases. Summary judgment motions on other claims are scheduled to be heard in late April and the Court has scheduled trial on the remaining claims and defenses in July 2016. As all the claims and defenses are part of one consolidated case, no determination can be made as to the ultimate outcome of the various claims and defenses of the parties at this time. However, the plaintiff intends to vigorously appeal the summary adjudication and to the extent any other Court decisions are made against the plaintiff, the plaintiff intends to vigorously appeal any such decisions. We cannot quantify the ultimate outcome in this lawsuit.

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The ultimate outcome of the matters described above cannot be determined at this time. We intend to vigorously defend all of the above lawsuits; however, an adverse decision in one or more of such matters could have a material effect on us, our financial condition, results of operations, and cash flows.

15. Earnings Per Share

Basic earnings per common share (EPS) excludes dilution and is computed by dividing Net income attributable to common stockholders by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding for the period. Diluted EPS reflects the potential dilution that could occur if securities or other obligations to issue common stock were exercised or converted into common stock or resulted in the issuance of common shares that then shared in our earnings.

A reconciliation of the numerators and denominators of the basic and diluted EPS computations is presented below:

| | Three Months Ended March 31, 2016 2015 (In thousands, except per share amounts) | |
|--|---|----------|
| Amounts attributable to common stockholders: | | |
| Net income: | | |
| Net income — basic | \$47,445 | \$61,375 |
| After tax interest on convertible debt | 12 | 12 |
| Net income — diluted | \$47,457 | \$61,387 |
| Weighted average shares (denominator): | | |
| Weighted average shares — basic | 194,924 | 203,510 |
| Stock options | 2,985 | 4,121 |
| Convertible debt | 121 | 121 |
| Weighted average shares — diluted | 198,030 | 207,752 |
| Net income per share: | | |
| Basic | \$0.24 | \$0.30 |
| Diluted | \$0.24 | \$0.30 |

The computation of diluted EPS excludes outstanding stock options and convertible debt in certain periods in which the inclusion of such options and debt would be anti-dilutive in the periods presented. Total options not included in the computation of dilutive EPS are 1.9 million shares and 1.1 million shares for the three months ended March 31, 2016 and 2015, respectively.

16. Divestiture-Related Activities

As divestitures occur in the normal course of business, gains or losses on the sale of such locations are recognized in the income statement line item Losses on divestitures and impairment charges, net, which consist of the following for the three months ended March 31,:

| | 2016 | 2015 |
|----------------------------|----------------|-----------|
| | (In thousands) | |
| Gains on divestitures, net | \$1,426 | \$1,913 |
| Impairment losses | (1,773) | (3,692) |
| | \$(347) | \$(1,779) |

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

The Company

We are North America's largest provider of deathcare products and services, with a network of funeral service locations and cemeteries unequaled in geographic scale and reach. At March 31, 2016, we operated 1,522 funeral service locations and 468 cemeteries (including 262 funeral service/cemetery combination locations), which are geographically diversified across 45 states, eight Canadian provinces, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

We are best known for our Dignity Memorial® brand, North America's first transcontinental brand of deathcare products and services. Our other brands are Dignity Planning™, National Cremation Society®, Advantage® Funeral and Cremation Services, Funeraria del Angel™, Making Everlasting Memories®, Neptune Society™, and Trident Society™. Our funeral and cemetery operations consist of funeral service locations, cemeteries, funeral service/cemetery combination locations, crematoria, and related businesses, which enables us to serve a wide array of customer needs. We sell cemetery property and funeral and cemetery merchandise and services at the time of need and on a preneed basis. Our financial position is enhanced by our \$9.6 billion backlog of future revenue from both trust and insurance-funded sales at March 31, 2016, which is the result of preneed sales. Preneed selling provides us with a current opportunity to lock-in future market share while deterring the customer from going to a competitor in the future. We believe it adds to the stability and predictability of our revenue and cash flows. While revenue on the majority of preneed merchandise and service sales is deferred until the time of need, sales of preneed cemetery property provide opportunities for full current revenue recognition (to the extent we collect 10% from the customer and the property is developed).

We believe we have the financial strength and flexibility to reward shareholders through dividends while maintaining a prudent capital structure and pursuing new opportunities for profitable growth.

Factors affecting our operating results include: demographic trends in terms of population growth and average age, which impact death rates and number of deaths; establishing and maintaining leading market share positions supported by strong local heritage and relationships; effectively responding to increasing cremation trends by selling complementary services and merchandise; controlling salary and merchandise costs; and exercising pricing leverage related to our at-need revenue. The average revenue per funeral contract is influenced by the mix of traditional and cremation services because our average cremation service revenue is approximately half of the average revenue earned from a traditional burial service. To further enhance revenue opportunities, we are developing memorialization merchandise and services that specifically appeal to cremation customers. We believe that these additional merchandise and services will help drive increases in the average revenue for a cremation in future periods. For further discussion of our key operating metrics, see our Results of Operations and Cash Flow sections below.

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Financial Condition, Liquidity and Capital Resources

Capital Allocation Considerations

We rely on cash flow from operations as a significant source of liquidity. Our cash flow from operating activities provided \$184.8 million in the three months ended March 31, 2016. We have \$639.2 million in excess borrowing capacity under our bank credit agreement.

Our bank credit agreement requires us to maintain certain leverage and interest coverage ratios. As of March 31, 2016, we were in compliance with all of our debt covenants. Our financial covenant requirements and actual ratios as of March 31, 2016 are as follows:

| | Per Credit Agreement | Actual |
|-------------------------|----------------------|--------|
| Leverage ratio | 4.25 (Max) | 3.75 |
| Interest coverage ratio | 3.00 (Min) | 4.80 |

We believe the sources of liquidity can be supplemented by our ability to access the capital markets for additional debt or equity securities. In March 2016, we entered into a new \$1.4 billion bank credit agreement due March 2021 with a syndicate of banks. The credit agreement consists of a \$700.0 million Bank Credit Facility and a \$700.0 million Term Loan. We used \$550.0 million of the Term Loan due March 2021 and \$30.0 million of the Bank Credit Facility due March 2021 to repay \$270.0 million outstanding borrowings on the Bank Credit Facility due July 2018 and \$310.0 million outstanding borrowings on the Term Loan due July 2018. In April 2016, we drew \$170.0 million on our Bank Credit Facility due March 2021, and \$150.0 million on our Term Loan due March 2021, to repay our \$295.0 million 7.0% Senior Notes due June 2017 and associated transaction costs, which resulted in the recognition of \$21.7 million loss on early extinguishment of debt.

We believe that our approximately \$160.0 million of unencumbered cash on hand, future operating cash flows, and the available capacity under our bank credit agreement will give us adequate liquidity to meet our short-term needs as well as our long-term financial obligations. Due to cash balances residing in Canada and expected minimum operating cash in transit, we believe approximately \$160.0 million of our \$213.5 million in cash on hand is unencumbered.

We intend to evaluate the best uses of our cash flow that will yield the highest value and return on capital. Our capital deployment strategy is prioritized as follows:

Invest in acquisitions and new builds. We intend to make acquisitions of funeral service locations and cemeteries when pricing and terms are favorable. We expect an acquisition investment to earn an after-tax cash return that is in excess of our weighted average cost of capital with room for execution risk. We will also invest in the construction of funeral service locations. We target businesses with favorable customer segments and/or where we can achieve additional economies of scale.

Pay a dividend. Our quarterly dividend rate has steadily grown from \$0.025 per common share in 2005 to \$0.12 per common share in 2016. We target a payout ratio of 30% to 40% of recurring net income. We intend to grow our cash dividend commensurate with the growth in our free cash flow. While we intend to pay regular quarterly cash dividends for the foreseeable future, all future dividends are subject to limitations in our debt covenants and final determination by our Board of Directors each quarter upon review of our financial performance.

Repurchase shares. Absent a strategic acquisition opportunity, we believe share repurchases are attractive at the appropriate price. During the three months ended March 31, 2016, we repurchased 2,285,230 shares of common stock at an aggregate cost of \$54.6 million, which is an average cost per share of \$23.91. After these repurchases, the remaining dollar value of shares authorized to be purchased under our share repurchase program was approximately \$226.3 million at March 31, 2016. We intend to make purchases from time to time in the open market or through privately negotiated transactions, subject to market conditions, debt covenants, and normal trading restrictions. Our bank credit agreement contains covenants that limit our ability to repurchase our common stock. There can be no assurance that we will buy our common stock under our share repurchase program in the future.

Repurchase debt. We will seek to make open market debt repurchases when it is opportunistic to do so relative to other capital development opportunities to manage our near-term debt maturity profile. We have a relatively consistent annual cash flow stream that is generally resistant to down economic cycles. This cash flow stream and our significant liquidity is available to substantially reduce our long-term debt maturities should we choose to do so.

Furthermore, our capital expenditures are generally discretionary in nature and can be managed based on the availability of operating cash flow.

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Cash Flow

We believe our ability to generate strong operating cash flow is one of our fundamental financial strengths and provides us with substantial flexibility in meeting our operating and investing needs.

Operating Activities

Net cash provided by operating activities was \$184.8 million in the first three months of 2016, compared to \$188.8 million in the first three months of 2015.

Included in operating cash flows are the following:

| | Three Months Ended March 31 2016 | 2015 |
|---|--|-------|
| | (In millions) | |
| Excess tax benefits from share-based awards | \$2.3 | \$5.5 |
| Acquisition, integration, and system transition costs | \$2.9 | \$3.5 |

Excluding the above items, cash flow from operations decreased \$7.8 million for the first quarter of 2016 versus the same period in 2015. The 2016 decrease is primarily due to lower earnings, as discussed in Results of Operations, and higher cash tax payments, partially offset by higher preneed cemetery installment collections. The first quarter of 2016 had a \$23.7 million decrease in cash receipts from atneed customers, a \$5.4 million decrease in net trust fund withdrawals, and a \$4.1 million increase in cash tax payments partially offset by a \$20.4 million increase in cash receipts from preneed customers and a \$5.0 million increase in general agency revenue and other receipts compared to the first quarter of 2015.

Investing Activities

Cash flows from investing activities used \$26.5 million in the first three months of 2016 compared to using \$52.2 million in the same period of 2015. This was primarily attributable to a decrease of \$30.6 million in cash spent on acquisitions, a \$6.3 million increase in cash receipts from divestitures and asset sales, and a \$2.3 million increase in net withdrawals of restricted funds, partially offset by a \$13.4 million increase in capital expenditures. The increase in capital expenditures primarily relates to the development of contemporary cemetery property, which enables our sales force to drive sustainable growth in our preneed cemetery property sales. Additionally, we invested in the construction of 2 new funeral homes during the first quarter of 2016.

Financing Activities

Financing activities used \$84.9 million in the first three months of 2015 compared to using \$93.0 million in the same period of 2015. This decrease was primarily driven by a decrease in purchases of Company common stock of \$18.5 million, partially offset by, decreased proceeds from exercise of stock options of \$6.3 million, a decrease of \$3.3 million in excess tax benefits from share based awards, an increase in debt payments net of issuance proceeds of \$6.3 million, and a \$2.9 million increase in payments of dividends.

We repurchased 2.3 million shares in the first three months of 2016 for \$54.6 million and 3.1 million shares in the same period of 2015 for \$73.2 million. We paid cash dividends of \$23.3 million in the first three months of 2016 and \$20.5 million in the same period of 2015.

Financial Assurances

In support of our operations, we have entered into arrangements with certain surety companies whereby such companies agree to issue surety bonds on our behalf as financial assurance and/or as required by existing state and local regulations. The surety bonds are used for various business purposes; however, the majority of the surety bonds issued and outstanding have been used to support our preneed funeral and cemetery sales activities. The obligations underlying these surety bonds are recorded on the unaudited condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet as Deferred preneed funeral revenue and Deferred preneed cemetery revenue. The breakdown of surety bonds between funeral and cemetery preneed arrangements, as well as surety bonds for other activities, is described below.

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| | March 31, | December 31, |
|---|---------------|--------------|
| | 2016 | 2015 |
| | (In millions) | |
| Preneed funeral | \$117.3 | \$ 112.9 |
| Preneed cemetery: | | |
| Merchandise and services | 138.3 | 136.0 |
| Pre-construction | 6.1 | 4.8 |
| Bonds supporting preneed obligations | 261.7 | 253.7 |
| Bonds supporting preneed business permits | 4.5 | 4.4 |
| Other bonds | 19.0 | 17.8 |
| Total surety bonds outstanding | \$285.2 | \$ 275.9 |

When selling preneed contracts, we may post surety bonds where allowed by state law. We post the surety bonds in lieu of trusting a certain amount of funds received from the customer. The amount of the bond posted is generally determined by the total amount of the preneed contract that would otherwise be required to be trusted, in accordance with applicable state law. For the three months ended March 31, 2016 and 2015, we had \$5.1 million and \$4.6 million, respectively, of cash receipts attributable to bonded sales. These amounts do not consider reductions associated with taxes, obtaining costs, or other costs.

Surety bond premiums are paid annually and are automatically renewable until maturity of the underlying preneed contracts, unless we are given prior notice of cancellation. Except for cemetery pre-construction bonds (which are irrevocable), the surety companies generally have the right to cancel the surety bonds at any time with appropriate notice. In the event a surety company were to cancel the surety bond, we are required to obtain replacement surety assurance from another surety company or fund a trust for an amount generally less than the posted bond amount. Management does not expect that we will be required to fund material future amounts related to these surety bonds because of lack of surety capacity or surety company non-performance.

Preneed Funeral and Cemetery Activities and Backlog of Contracts

In addition to selling our products and services to client families at the time of need, we sell price-guaranteed preneed contracts, which provide for future funeral or cemetery services and merchandise. Since preneed merchandise or services will not be provided until sometime in the future, most states and provinces require that all or a portion of the funds collected from customers on preneed contracts be paid into merchandise and service trusts until the merchandise is delivered or the service is performed. These trust funds own investments in equity and debt securities and mutual funds, which are sensitive to current market prices. In certain situations, as described above, where permitted by state or provincial laws, we post a surety bond as financial assurance for a certain amount of the preneed contract in lieu of placing funds into trust accounts.

Trust-Funded Preneed Contracts: The funds are deposited into trust and invested by independent trustees in accordance with state and provincial laws. We retain any funds above the amounts required to be deposited into trust accounts and use them for working capital purposes, generally to offset the selling and administrative costs of our preneed programs.

The tables below detail our results of preneed production and maturities, excluding insurance contracts, for the three months ended March 31, 2016 and 2015.

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| | Three Months Ended March 31, 2016 2015 (In millions) | |
|--|--|---------|
| Funeral: | | |
| Preneed trust-funded (including bonded): | | |
| Sales production | \$71.9 | \$65.1 |
| Sales production (number of contracts) | 23,275 | 21,135 |
| Maturities | \$57.8 | \$60.3 |
| Maturities (number of contracts) | 17,299 | 17,364 |
| Cemetery: | | |
| Sales production: | | |
| Preneed | \$183.4 | \$166.9 |
| Atneed | 79.0 | 72.8 |
| Total sales production | \$262.4 | \$239.7 |
| Sales production deferred to backlog: | | |
| Preneed | \$82.1 | \$76.0 |
| Atneed | 59.0 | 59.0 |
| Total sales production deferred to backlog | \$141.1 | \$135.0 |
| Revenue recognized from backlog: | | |
| Preneed | \$51.8 | \$44.7 |
| Atneed | 57.0 | 56.1 |
| Total revenue recognized from backlog | \$108.8 | \$100.8 |

Insurance-Funded Preneed Contracts: Where permitted by state or provincial law, customers may arrange their preneed contract by purchasing a life insurance policy from third-party insurance companies, for which we earn a commission as general sales agent for the insurance company. The policy amount of the insurance contract between the customer and the third-party insurance company generally equals the amount of the preneed contract. As the insurance contract is between the insurance company and the customer, we do not reflect the unfulfilled insurance-funded preneed contract amounts in our unaudited condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet.

The table below details the results of insurance-funded preneed production and maturities for the three months ended March 31, 2016 and 2015, and the number of contracts associated with those transactions.

| | Three Months Ended March 31, 2016 2015 (In millions) | |
|---|--|---------|
| Preneed insurance-funded: | | |
| Sales production ⁽¹⁾ | \$139.3 | \$128.8 |
| Sales production (number of contracts) ⁽¹⁾ | 23,065 | 21,646 |
| General agency revenue | \$36.2 | \$29.6 |
| Maturities | \$83.9 | \$91.1 |
| Maturities (number of contracts) | 14,424 | 15,969 |

(1) Amounts are not included in our unaudited condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet.

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Backlog of Preneed Contracts: The following table reflects our backlog of trust-funded deferred preneed contract revenue, including amounts related to Deferred preneed receipts held in trust at March 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015. Additionally, the table reflects our backlog of unfulfilled insurance-funded contracts (which are not included in our unaudited condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet) at March 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015. The backlog amounts presented are reduced by an amount that we believe will cancel before maturity based on historical experience.

The table also reflects our preneed receivables and trust investments (fair value and cost bases) associated with the backlog of deferred preneed contract revenue, net of the estimated cancellation allowance. We believe that the table below is meaningful because it sets forth the aggregate amount of future revenue we expect to recognize as a result of preneed sales, as well as the amount of assets associated with those revenue. Because the future revenue exceed the asset amounts, future revenue will exceed the cash distributions actually received from the associated trusts. The following table does not include backlog associated with businesses held for sale.

| | March 31, 2016 | | December 31, 2015 | |
|--|-------------------|---------|----------------------|---------|
| | Fair Value | Cost | Fair Value | Cost |
| | (In billions) | | | |
| Deferred preneed funeral revenue | \$0.56 | \$0.56 | \$0.56 | \$0.56 |
| Deferred preneed funeral receipts held in trust | 1.51 | 1.55 | 1.51 | 1.56 |
| | \$2.07 | \$2.11 | \$2.07 | \$2.12 |
| Allowance for cancellation on trust investments | (0.11) | (0.11) | (0.16) | (0.16) |
| Backlog of trust-funded preneed funeral revenue | \$1.96 | \$2.00 | \$1.91 | \$1.96 |
| Backlog of insurance-funded preneed revenue ⁽¹⁾ | 5.18 | 5.18 | 5.10 | 5.10 |
| Total backlog of preneed funeral revenue | \$7.14 | \$7.18 | \$7.01 | \$7.06 |
| Preneed funeral receivables, net and trust investments | \$1.76 | \$1.80 | \$1.76 | \$1.81 |
| Allowance for cancellation on trust investments | (0.11) | (0.11) | (0.15) | (0.15) |
| Assets associated with backlog of trust-funded deferred preneed funeral revenue, net of estimated allowance for cancellation | \$1.65 | \$1.69 | \$1.61 | \$1.66 |
| Insurance policies associated with insurance-funded deferred revenue, net of estimated allowance for cancellation ⁽¹⁾ | 5.18 | 5.18 | 5.10 | 5.10 |
| Total assets associated with backlog of preneed funeral revenue, net of estimated allowance for cancellation | \$6.83 | \$6.87 | \$6.71 | \$6.76 |
| Deferred preneed cemetery revenue | \$1.14 | \$1.14 | \$1.12 | \$1.12 |
| Deferred preneed cemetery receipts held in trust | 1.46 | 1.50 | 1.46 | 1.51 |
| | \$2.60 | \$2.64 | \$2.58 | \$2.63 |
| Allowance for cancellation on trust investments | (0.14) | (0.14) | (0.11) | (0.11) |
| Total backlog of deferred cemetery revenue | \$2.46 | \$2.50 | \$2.47 | \$2.52 |
| Preneed cemetery receivables, net and trust investments | \$2.32 | \$2.36 | \$2.32 | \$2.37 |
| Allowance for cancellation on trust investments | (0.14) | (0.14) | (0.12) | (0.12) |
| Total assets associated with backlog of deferred cemetery revenue, net of estimated allowance for cancellation | \$2.18 | \$2.22 | \$2.20 | \$2.25 |

(1) Amounts are not included in our unaudited condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet.

The fair value of our trust investments was based on a combination of quoted market prices, observable inputs such as interest rates or yield curves, and appraisals. As of March 31, 2016, the difference between the backlog and asset fair value amounts represents \$0.25 billion related to contracts for which we have posted surety bonds as financial assurance in lieu of trusting, \$0.14 billion collected from customers that were not required to be deposited into trust,

and \$0.20 billion in allowable cash distributions from trust assets.

The table also reflects the amounts expected to be received from insurance companies through the assignment of policy proceeds related to insurance-funded contracts. We do not reflect the unfulfilled insurance-funded preneed amounts in our unaudited condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet because they are not assets or liabilities as defined in Statement of Accounting Concepts No. 6 as we have no claim to the insurance proceeds until the contract is fulfilled and no obligation under the contract until the benefits are assigned to us after the time of need.

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Trust Investments

In addition to selling our products and services to client families at the time of need, we enter into price-guaranteed preneed funeral and cemetery contracts, which provide for future funeral or cemetery merchandise and services. Since preneed funeral and cemetery merchandise or services will generally not be provided until sometime in the future, most states and provinces require that all or a portion of the funds collected from customers on preneed funeral and cemetery contracts be paid into trusts and/or escrow accounts until the merchandise is delivered or the service is performed. Investment earnings associated with the trust investments are expected to mitigate the inflationary costs of providing the preneed funeral and cemetery merchandise and services in the future for the prices that were guaranteed at the time of sale.

Also, we are required by state and provincial law to pay a portion of the proceeds from the preneed or atneed sale of cemetery property interment rights into perpetual care trusts. For these investments, the original corpus remains in the trust in perpetuity and the net ordinary earnings are distributed and are intended to offset the expense to maintain the cemetery property. While many states require that net capital gains or losses be retained and added to the corpus, certain states allow the net realized capital gains and losses to be included in the net ordinary earnings that are distributed.

Independent trustees manage and invest the majority of the funds deposited into the funeral and cemetery merchandise and services trusts as well as the cemetery perpetual care trusts. The majority of trustees are selected based on their respective geographic footprint and qualifications per state and provincial regulations. Most of the trustees engage the same independent investment managers. These trustees, with input from SCI's wholly owned registered investment advisor, establish an investment policy that serves as an operating document to guide the investment activities of the trusts including asset allocation and manager selection. The investments are also governed by state and provincial guidelines. Asset allocation is based on the liability structure of each funeral, cemetery, and perpetual care trust. The investment advisor recommends investment managers to the trustees that are selected on the basis of various criteria set forth in the investment policy. The primary investment objectives for the funeral and cemetery merchandise and service trusts include 1) preserving capital within acceptable levels of volatility and risk and 2) achieving growth of principal over time sufficient to preserve and increase the purchasing power of the assets. Preneed funeral and cemetery contracts generally take years to mature; therefore, the funds associated with these contracts are often invested through several market cycles. The cemetery perpetual care trusts' investment objectives emphasize providing a steady stream of current investment income with some capital appreciation. All of the trusts seek to control risk and volatility through a combination of asset classes, investment styles, and a diverse mix of investment managers.

As of March 31, 2016, 86% of our trusts were under the control and custody of three large financial institutions. The U.S. trustees primarily use three managed limited liability (LLCs), one for each trust type, and each with a different independent trustee as custodian. Each financial institution acting as trustee manages its allocation of trust in accordance with the investment policy through the purchase of the LLCs' units. For those accounts not eligible for participation in the LLCs or in the event a particular state's regulations contain investment restrictions, the trustee utilizes institutional mutual funds that comply with our investment policy or with such state restrictions. The U.S. trusts include a modest allocation to alternative investments, which comprise private equity and real estate investments. These investments are structured as LLCs and are managed by certain trustees. The trusts that are eligible to allocate a portion of their investments to alternative investments purchase units of the respective LLCs.

Investment Structures

Each financial institution, acting as trustee, manages its allocation of trust assets in compliance with the investment policy primarily through the purchase of three managed limited liability companies (LLCs), one for each trust type and each with a different, independent trustee acting as custodian. The managed LLCs use the following structures for investments:

Commingled Funds. These funds allow the trusts to access, at a reduced cost, the same investment managers and strategies used elsewhere in the portfolios.

Mutual Funds. The trust funds employ institutional share class mutual funds where operationally or economically efficient. These mutual funds are utilized to invest in various asset classes including US equities, non-US equities,

corporate bonds, government bonds, Treasury inflation protected securities (TIPS), high yield bonds, and commodities and are governed by guidelines outlined in their individual prospectuses.

Separately Managed Accounts. In order to reduce costs to the investment portfolios, the trusts utilize separately managed accounts where appropriate.

For those accounts not eligible for participation in the managed LLCs, the trustee utilizes institutional share class mutual funds that comply with our investment policy statement or with applicable state or provincial regulation. The U.S. trusts also include a modest allocation to alternative investments, which comprise primarily private equity investments. These investments are also held in LLCs and are managed by certain trustees.

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Asset Classes

Fixed income investments are intended to preserve principal, provide a source of current income, and reduce overall portfolio volatility. The majority of the fixed income allocation for the trusts is in institutional share class mutual funds. Where the trusts have direct investments in individual fixed income securities, these are primarily in government and corporate instruments.

Canadian government fixed income securities are investments in Canadian federal and provincial government instruments. In many cases, regulatory restrictions mandate that the funds from the sales of preneed funeral and cemetery products sold in certain Canadian jurisdictions must be invested in these instruments.

Equity investments have historically provided long-term capital appreciation in excess of inflation. The trusts have direct investments in individual equity securities primarily in domestic equity portfolios that include large, mid, and small capitalization companies of different investment styles (i.e., growth and value). The majority of the equity allocation is managed by institutional investment managers that specialize in an objective-specific area of expertise. Our equity securities are exposed to market risk; however, we believe these securities are well-diversified. As of March 31, 2016, the largest single equity position represented less than 1% of the total securities portfolio. The objective of Private Equity investments is to provide high rates of return with reduced volatility. These investments are typically long-term in duration. These investments are diversified by strategy, sector, manager, and vintage year. The investments consist of numerous limited partnerships, including private equity, real estate, fund of funds, distressed debt, and mezzanine financing. The trustees that have oversight of their respective alternative LLCs work closely with the investment advisor in making all investment decisions.

Trust Performance

The trust fund income recognized from these investment assets is volatile. During the three months ended March 31, 2016, the Standard and Poor's 500 Index decreased 1.4% and the Barclay's Aggregate Index increased 3.0%, while the combined SCI trusts increased 1.0%.

SCI, the trustees, and the investment advisor monitor the capital markets and the trusts on an ongoing basis. The trustees, with input from the investment advisor, take prudent action as needed to achieve the investment goals and objectives of the trusts.

Results of Operations — Three Months Ended March 31, 2016 and 2015

Management Summary

Key highlights in the first quarter of 2016 were as follows:

Diluted earnings per share was \$0.24 in the first quarter of 2016 compared to \$0.30 in the prior year quarter. The impact of lower funeral services performed due to a milder flu season in the current year quarter was partially offset by an increase in preneed cemetery property revenue.

Results of Operations

In the first quarter of 2016, we reported net income attributable to common stockholders of \$47.4 million (\$0.24 per diluted share) compared to net income attributable to common stockholders in the first quarter of 2015 of \$61.4 million (\$0.30 per diluted share). These results were affected by the following items:

| | 2016 | 2015 |
|---|----------------|-----------|
| | (In thousands) | |
| Net after-tax gains (losses) from the sale of assets | \$101 | \$(1,043) |
| After-tax losses from the early extinguishment of debt | \$(352) | \$— |
| Net after-tax expenses related to system transition costs | \$(2,465) | \$(454) |
| After-tax expenses related to acquisition and integration costs | \$(3,969) | \$(1,773) |
| Change in certain tax reserves | \$(1,159) | \$(990) |

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Funeral Results

| | Three Months Ended March 31, 2016 2015 (Dollars in millions, except average revenue per service) | |
|--|--|---------|
| Consolidated funeral revenue | \$492.1 | \$507.7 |
| Less: revenue associated with acquisitions/new construction | 2.5 | 0.2 |
| Less: revenue associated with divestitures | 0.1 | 3.3 |
| Comparable ¹ funeral revenue | 489.5 | 504.2 |
| Less: Comparable recognized preneed revenue | 28.8 | 23.1 |
| Less: Comparable general agency and other revenue | 34.9 | 29.0 |
| Adjusted comparable funeral revenue | \$425.8 | \$452.1 |
| Comparable services performed | 81,580 | 86,605 |
| Comparable average revenue per service ² | \$5,219 | \$5,220 |
| | | |
| Consolidated funeral gross profit | \$107.0 | \$126.9 |
| Less: gross loss associated with acquisitions/new construction | (0.1) | — |
| Less: gross loss associated with divestitures | (0.4) | (1.0) |
| Comparable funeral gross profit | \$107.5 | \$127.9 |

(1) We define comparable (or same store) operations as those funeral locations owned by us for the entire period beginning January 1, 2015 and ending March 31, 2016.

We calculate comparable average revenue per service by dividing comparable funeral revenue, excluding general agency revenue, recognized preneed revenue, and other revenue to avoid distorting our average of normal funeral services revenue, by the comparable number of services performed during the period. Recognized preneed (2) revenues are preneed sales of merchandise that are delivered at the time of sale, including memorial merchandise and travel protection, and are excluded from our calculation of comparable average revenue per service because the associated service has not yet been performed.

Funeral Revenue

Consolidated revenues from funeral operations were \$492.1 million for the first quarter of 2016 compared to \$507.7 million for the same period in 2015. This decrease is primarily attributable to a \$14.7 million decrease in comparable revenue as described below and the loss of \$3.2 million in revenue contributed by properties that have been subsequently divested partially offset by \$2.3 million in revenue contributed by acquired properties.

Comparable revenue from funeral operations were \$489.5 million for the first quarter of 2016 compared to \$504.2 million for the same period in 2015. This \$14.7 million decrease was primarily due to a 5.8% decrease in comparable services performed. The first quarter of 2015 had a strong flu season while the first quarter of 2016 had a mild flu season. This decrease comprises a 6.5% decrease in atneed services and preneed services sold through our funeral homes offset by a 2.7% increase in preneed services sold through our non-funeral home channel. Our total comparable cremation rate increased to 52.1% in the first quarter of 2016 from 51.1% in 2015 as a result of an increase in both direct cremations and cremations with service. While the average revenue for direct cremations and cremations with service is lower than that for traditional burials, we continue to expand our cremation memorialization product and service offerings.

Average revenue per funeral services was essentially unchanged in the first quarter of 2016 compared to the first quarter of 2015. Organic growth at the customer level of 2.4% in average revenue for atneed services and preneed services sold through our funeral homes was largely offset by an unfavorable Canadian currency impact, the increase in our cremation mix, lower trust fund income, and a decrease in the average revenue for preneed services sold through our non-funeral home channel.

The decrease in funeral services performed was partially offset by a \$5.9 million increase in general agency revenue from higher preneed insurance sales production and a \$5.7 million increase in recognized preneed revenue due to increased sales production by our non-funeral home channel.

Funeral Gross Profit

Consolidated funeral gross profit decreased \$19.9 million in the first quarter of 2016 compared to the same period in 2015. This decrease is primarily attributable to a decrease in comparable funeral gross profit of \$20.4 million, or 15.9%. The decline in higher margin revenue from funeral services performed was partially offset by increased gross profit from recognized

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preneed revenue. While general agency revenue grew \$5.9 million during the quarter, it was offset by similar increases in selling costs associated with our preneed selling efforts.

Cemetery Results

| | Three Months Ended March 31, 2016 2015 (In millions) | |
|--|--|---------|
| Consolidated cemetery revenue | \$257.2 | \$240.4 |
| Less: revenue associated with acquisitions/new construction | 1.7 | — |
| Less: revenue associated with divestitures | 0.2 | 0.2 |
| Comparable ¹ cemetery revenue | \$255.3 | \$240.2 |
| | | |
| Consolidated cemetery gross profit | \$54.5 | \$50.5 |
| Less: gross profit associated with acquisitions/new construction | 0.3 | — |
| Less: gross loss associated with divestitures | — | (0.2) |
| Comparable cemetery gross profit | \$54.2 | \$50.7 |

(1) We define comparable (or same store) operations as those cemetery locations owned by us for the entire period beginning January 1, 2015 and ending March 31, 2016.

Cemetery Revenue

Consolidated revenue from our cemetery operations increased \$16.8 million, or 7.0%, in the first quarter of 2016 compared to the same period in 2015 primarily attributable to the increase in comparable revenue described below and \$1.7 million in revenue contributed by acquired properties. Comparable cemetery revenue increased \$15.1 million, or 6.3%, in the first quarter of 2016 compared to the same period in 2015 primarily as a result of a \$10.7 million increase in preneed property revenue and an increase in cash distributions of capital gains received from perpetual care trusts in the first quarter of 2016 compared to the same period in the prior year.

Cemetery Gross Profit

Consolidated cemetery gross profit increased \$4.0 million, or 7.9%, in the first quarter of 2016 compared to the same period in 2015. This increase is primarily the result of a \$3.5 million, or 6.9% increase in comparable gross profit. The increase in comparable cemetery gross profit is primarily the result of the higher revenue described above. The gross profit increase was partially offset by higher selling cost rates and higher property and merchandise unit costs.

Other Financial Statement Items

General and Administrative Expenses

General and administrative expenses increased \$3.0 million to \$37.5 million in the first quarter of 2016 compared to the same period in 2015. The current quarter includes \$4.1 million in system transition costs primarily related to our 2016 implementation of a new general ledger system and \$5.5 million related to the write off of debt costs associated with previous acquisitions. The prior year quarter includes \$2.9 million of acquisition and integration costs and \$0.8 million of system transition costs. Excluding these costs, general and administrative expenses decreased \$2.9 million in the first quarter of 2016 compared to the same period in 2015 primarily from decreases in liabilities associated with long-term incentive compensation plans.

Provision for Income Taxes

Income tax expense during interim periods is based on our estimated annual effective income tax rate plus any discrete items, which are recorded in the period in which they occur. Discrete items include, among others, such events as changes in estimates due to the finalization of tax returns, tax audit settlements, expiration of statute of limitations, and increases or decreases in valuation allowances. Our effective tax rate was 40.5% and 37.4% for the three months ended March 31, 2016 and 2015, respectively. The higher effective tax rate for the three months ended March 31, 2016 is primarily due to state tax expense partially offset by lower rates on foreign earnings.

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Weighted Average Shares

The diluted weighted average number of shares outstanding was 198.0 million in the first quarter of 2016, compared to 207.8 million in the same period in 2015. The decrease in the number of shares reflects the impact of shares repurchased under our share repurchase program.

Critical Accounting Policies

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results could differ from those estimates. Our critical accounting policies are disclosed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015.

There were no significant changes to our accounting policies that have occurred subsequent to December 31, 2015, except as described below within Recent Accounting Pronouncements and Accounting Changes.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements and Accounting Changes

For discussion of recent accounting pronouncements and accounting changes, see Part I, Item 1. Financial Statements, Note 2.

Cautionary Statement on Forward-Looking Statements

The statements in this Form 10-Q that are not historical facts are forward-looking statements made in reliance on the “safe harbor” protections provided under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements may be accompanied by words such as “believe,” “estimate,” “project,” “expect,” “anticipate,” or “predict,” that convey the uncertainty of future events or outcomes. These statements are based on assumptions that we believe are reasonable; however, many important factors could cause our actual results in the future to differ materially from the forward-looking statements made herein and in any other documents or oral presentations made by us, or on our behalf. Important factors, which could cause actual results to differ materially from those in forward-looking statements include, among others, the following:

- Our affiliated funeral and cemetery trust funds own investments in equity securities, fixed income securities, and mutual funds, which are affected by market conditions that are beyond our control.
- We may be required to replenish our affiliated funeral and cemetery trust funds in order to meet minimum funding requirements, which would have a negative effect on our earnings and cash flow.
- Our ability to execute our strategic plan depends on many factors, some of which are beyond our control.
- Our credit agreements contain covenants that may prevent us from engaging in certain transactions.
- If we lost the ability to use surety bonding to support our preneed funeral and preneed cemetery activities, we may be required to make material cash payments to fund certain trust funds.
- The funeral and cemetery industry is competitive.
- Increasing death benefits related to preneed contracts funded through life insurance contracts may not cover future increases in the cost of providing a price-guaranteed service.
- The financial condition of third-party insurance companies that fund our preneed funeral contracts may impact our future revenue.
- Unfavorable results of litigation could have a material adverse impact on our financial statements.
- Unfavorable publicity could affect our reputation and business.
- If the number of deaths in our markets declines, our cash flows and revenue may decrease.
- If we are not able to respond effectively to changing consumer preferences, our market share, revenue, and profitability could decrease.
- The continuing upward trend in the number of cremations performed in North America could result in lower revenue and gross profit.
- Our funeral home and cemetery businesses are high fixed-cost businesses.
- Regulation and compliance could have a material adverse impact on our financial results.

Cemetery burial practice legal claims could have a material adverse impact on our financial results.

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We use a combination of insurance, self-insurance and large deductibles in managing our exposure to certain inherent risks, as such, we could be exposed to unexpected costs that could negatively affect our financial performance.

A number of years elapse before particular tax matters, for which we have established accruals, are audited and finally resolved.

Declines in overall economic conditions beyond our control could reduce future potential earnings and cash flows and could result in future impairments to goodwill and/or other intangible assets.

Any failure to maintain the security of the information relating to our customers, their loved ones, our associates, and our vendors could damage our reputation, could cause us to incur substantial additional costs and to become subject to litigation, and could adversely affect our operating results.

Our Canadian business exposes us to operational, economic, and currency risks.

Our level of indebtedness could adversely affect our ability to raise additional capital to fund our operations, limit our ability to react to changes in the economy or our industry, and may prevent us from fulfilling our obligations under our indebtedness.

Failure to maintain effective internal control over financial reporting could adversely affect our results of operations, investor confidence, and our stock price.

For further information on these and other risks and uncertainties, see our Securities and Exchange Commission filings, including our 2015 Annual Report on Form 10-K. Copies of this document as well as other SEC filings can be obtained from our website at www.sci-corp.com. We assume no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements made herein or any other forward-looking statements made by us, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

Marketable Equity and Debt Securities — Price Risk

In connection with our preneed operations and sales, the related trust funds own investments in equity and debt securities and mutual funds, which are sensitive to current market prices.

Cost and market values as of March 31, 2016 are presented in Part I, Item 1. Financial Statements and Notes 3, 4, and 5 of this Form 10-Q. Also, see Item 2, Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, Financial Conditions, Liquidity and Capital Resources, for discussion of trust investments.

Item 4. Controls and Procedures

Disclosure Controls and Procedures

As of March 31, 2016, we carried out an evaluation, under the supervision and with the participation of our Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Chief Financial Officer (CFO), of the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act)). Our disclosure controls and procedures are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed in the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) reports we file or submit under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized, and reported within the time period specified by the SEC's rules and forms and that such information is accumulated and communicated to management, including our CEO and CFO, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure. Based on our evaluation, our CEO and CFO have concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures are effective as of March 31, 2016 and that the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements included in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q fairly present, in all material respects, our financial condition, results of operations, and cash flows for the periods presented in conformity with US GAAP.

Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

No changes in our internal control over financial reporting occurred during the quarter ended March 31, 2016 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

PART II. OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1. Legal Proceedings

Information regarding legal proceedings is set forth in Note 14 in Item 1 of Part I of this Form 10-Q, which information is hereby incorporated by reference herein.

Item 1A. Risk Factors

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There have been no material changes in our Risk Factors as set forth in Item 1A of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015.

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

On March 31, 2016, we issued 1,663 deferred common stock equivalents, or units, pursuant to provisions regarding dividends under the Amended and Restated Director Fee Plan to four non-employee directors and one estate of a former director. We did not receive any monetary consideration for the issuances. These issuances were unregistered because they did not constitute a “sale” within the meaning of Section 2(3) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. The following table summarizes our share repurchases during the three months ended March 31, 2016:

| Period | Total number of shares purchased | Average price paid per share | Total number of shares purchased as part of publicly announced programs | Dollar value of shares that may yet be purchased under the program |
|---|----------------------------------|------------------------------|---|--|
| January 1, 2016 - January 31, 2016 ⁽¹⁾ | 977,396 | \$ 24.54 | 927,400 | \$256,047,974 |
| February 1, 2016 - February 29, 2016 | 651,000 | \$ 22.96 | 651,000 | \$241,102,702 |
| March 1, 2016 - March 31, 2016 ⁽¹⁾ | 656,834 | \$ 23.95 | 618,200 | \$226,294,120 |
| | 2,285,230 | | 2,196,600 | |

⁽¹⁾ Includes 49,996 and 38,634 shares purchased in January and March 2016, respectively, in connection with the surrender of shares by employees to satisfy certain tax withholding obligations under compensation plans. These repurchases were not part of our publicly announced program and do not affect our share repurchase program.

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Item 6. Exhibits

- 10.1 SCI 401(k) Retirement Savings Plan, including Adopting Employer Agreement and Directed Employee Benefit Agreement.
- 10.2 SCI Union 401(k) Retirement Savings Plan, including Adopting Employer Agreement and Directed Employee Benefit Trust Agreement.
- 12.1 Ratio of earnings to fixed charges for the three months ended March 31, 2016 and 2015.
- 31.1 Certification of Thomas L. Ryan as Principal Executive Officer in satisfaction of Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 31.2 Certification of Eric D. Tanzberger as Principal Financial Officer in satisfaction of Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 32.1 Certification of Periodic Financial Reports by Thomas L. Ryan as Principal Executive Officer in satisfaction of Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 32.2 Certification of Periodic Financial Reports by Eric D. Tanzberger as Principal Financial Officer in satisfaction of Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 101 Interactive data file.

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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.

April 28, 2016 SERVICE CORPORATION INTERNATIONAL

By: /s/ Tammy Moore

Tammy Moore

Vice President and Corporate Controller

(Principal Accounting Officer)