

PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP
Form 10-Q
May 10, 2007

**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, 2007**

or

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

For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission File Number **001-11339**

Protective Life Corporation

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

95-2492236

(IRS Employer Identification No.)

2801 Highway 280 South
Birmingham, Alabama 35223

(Address of principal executive offices and zip code)

(205) 268-1000

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.

Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, or a non-accelerated filer. See definition of "accelerated filer and large accelerated filer" in Rule 12b-2 of the

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer Accelerated Filer Non-accelerated filer

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

Number of shares of Common Stock, \$0.50 par value, outstanding as of May 9, 2007: 70,072,942

PROTECTIVE LIFE CORPORATION

Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q
For Quarter Ended March 31, 2007

INDEX

Part I. Financial Information:

Item 1. Financial Statements (unaudited):

Consolidated Condensed Statements of Income for the
Three Months ended March 31, 2007 and 2006

Consolidated Condensed Balance Sheets as of March 31, 2007
and December 31, 2006

Consolidated Condensed Statements of Cash Flows for the
Three Months ended March 31, 2007 and 2006

Notes to Consolidated Condensed Financial Statements

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

Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market
Risk

Item 4. Controls and Procedures

Part II. Other Information:

Item 1A. Risk Factors and Cautionary Factors that may Affect
Future Results

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

Item 6. Exhibits

Signature

PROTECTIVE LIFE CORPORATION
CONSOLIDATED CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF INCOME

(Dollars in thousands except per share amounts)
(Unaudited)

| | Three Months Ended | |
|---|---------------------------|-------------|
| | March 31 | |
| | 2007 | 2006 |
| Revenues | | |
| Premiums and policy fees | \$ 660,824 | \$ 507,694 |
| Reinsurance ceded | (370,997) | (280,670) |
| Net of reinsurance ceded | 289,827 | 227,024 |
| Net investment income | 415,682 | 299,065 |
| Realized investment gains (losses): | | |
| Derivative financial instruments | (2,291) | 13,337 |
| All other investments | 13,294 | 5,153 |
| Other income | 76,263 | 48,536 |
| Total revenues | 792,775 | 593,115 |
| Benefits and expenses | | |
| Benefits and settlement expenses, net of reinsurance ceded: (three months: 2007 - \$292,899; 2006 - \$256,558) | 472,770 | 349,608 |
| Amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs and value of businesses acquired | 75,202 | 50,031 |
| Other operating expenses, net of reinsurance ceded: (three months: 2007 - \$65,303; 2006 - \$46,291) | 111,475 | 82,819 |
| Total benefits and expenses | 659,447 | 482,458 |
| Income before income tax | 133,328 | 110,657 |
| Income tax expense | 42,745 | 38,520 |
| Net income | \$ 90,583 | \$ 72,137 |
| Net income per share - basic | \$ 1.28 | \$ 1.02 |
| Net income per share - diluted | \$ 1.27 | \$ 1.01 |
| Cash dividends paid per share | \$ 0.215 | \$ 0.195 |
| Average shares outstanding - basic | 70,017,662 | 70,752,202 |
| Average shares outstanding - diluted | 71,487,063 | 71,559,255 |

See Notes to Consolidated Condensed Financial Statements

PROTECTIVE LIFE CORPORATION**CONSOLIDATED CONDENSED BALANCE SHEETS**

(Dollars in thousands)

(Unaudited)

| | March 31 2007 | December 31 2006 |
|---|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Assets | | |
| Investments: | | |
| Fixed maturities, at fair market value (amortized cost: 2007 - \$21,393,317; 2006 - \$21,194,871) | \$ 21,570,487 | \$ 21,367,263 |
| Equity securities, at fair market value (cost: 2007 - \$65,626; 2006 - \$121,823) | 69,211 | 128,695 |
| Mortgage loans | 4,025,025 | 3,880,028 |
| Investment real estate, net of accumulated depreciation (2007 - \$5,606; 2006 - \$5,483) | 38,828 | 38,918 |
| Policy loans | 822,930 | 839,502 |
| Other long-term investments | 167,571 | 310,225 |
| Short-term investments | 1,064,768 | 1,381,073 |
| Total investments | 27,758,820 | 27,945,704 |
| Cash | 120,190 | 69,516 |
| Accrued investment income | 265,772 | 284,529 |
| Accounts and premiums receivable, net of allowance for uncollectible amounts (2007 - \$4,268; 2006 - \$4,140) | 121,051 | 194,447 |
| Reinsurance receivables | 4,780,956 | 4,618,122 |
| Deferred policy acquisition costs and value of businesses acquired | 3,212,048 | 3,198,735 |
| Goodwill | 100,318 | 100,479 |
| Property and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation (2007 - \$106,116; 2006 - \$109,718) | 42,245 | 43,796 |
| Other assets | 163,543 | 165,656 |
| Income tax receivable | 116,684 | 116,318 |
| Assets related to separate accounts | | |
| Variable annuity | 2,790,233 | 2,750,129 |
| Variable universal life | 319,972 | 307,863 |
| Total assets | \$ 39,791,832 | \$ 39,795,294 |
| Liabilities | | |
| Policy liabilities and accruals | \$ 16,305,821 | \$ 16,059,930 |
| Stable value product account balances | 5,055,382 | 5,513,464 |
| Annuity account balances | 8,966,309 | 8,958,089 |
| Other policyholders' funds | 323,898 | 328,664 |
| Securities sold under repurchase agreements | 2,844 | 16,949 |
| Other liabilities | 1,240,616 | 1,323,375 |
| Deferred income taxes | 429,481 | 374,486 |
| Non-recourse funding obligations | 525,000 | 425,000 |
| Liabilities related to variable interest entities | 421,684 | 420,395 |
| Long-term debt | 466,532 | 479,132 |
| Subordinated debt securities | 524,743 | 524,743 |
| Liabilities related to separate accounts | | |
| Variable annuity | 2,790,233 | 2,750,129 |
| Variable universal life | 319,972 | 307,863 |
| Total liabilities | 37,372,515 | 37,482,219 |

Commitments and contingent liabilities - Note 3**Share-owners' equity**

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

Common Stock, \$.50 par value, shares authorized: 2007 and 2006

-160,000,000

shares issued: 2007 and 2006 - 73,251,960

36,626

36,626

Additional paid-in capital

440,813

438,485

Treasury stock, at cost (2007 - 3,195,069 shares; 2006 - 3,287,312 shares)

(11,468)

(11,796)

Unallocated stock in Employee Stock Ownership Plan

(2007 - 262,682 shares; 2006 - 366,243 shares)

(853)

(1,231)

Retained earnings

1,916,245

1,838,560

Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss):

Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments, net of income tax:

(2007 - \$35,463; 2006 - \$22,109)

64,674

41,405

Accumulated gain (loss) - hedging, net of income tax: (2007 - \$(2,046);

2006 - \$(3,179))

(3,700)

(5,954)

Postretirement benefits liability adjustment, net of income tax: (2007 -

\$(12,292); 2006 - \$(12,292))

(23,020)

(23,020)

Total share-owners' equity

2,419,317

2,313,075

\$ 39,791,832

\$ 39,795,294

See Notes to Consolidated Condensed Financial Statements

PROTECTIVE LIFE CORPORATION
CONSOLIDATED CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

(Dollars in thousands)

(Unaudited)

| | Three Months Ended | |
|---|--------------------|---------------|
| | March | |
| | 2007 | 2006 |
| Cash flows from operating activities | | |
| Net income | \$ 90,583 | \$ 72,137 |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities: | | |
| Realized investment (gains) losses | (11,003) | (5,153) |
| Amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs and value of businesses acquired | 75,202 | 50,031 |
| Capitalization of deferred policy acquisition costs | (120,762) | (97,740) |
| Depreciation expense | 3,023 | 3,349 |
| Deferred income tax | 43,166 | 40,278 |
| Accrued income tax | (179) | (14,353) |
| Interest credited to universal life and investment products | 254,930 | 189,714 |
| Policy fees assessed on universal life and investment products | (139,408) | (119,662) |
| Change in reinsurance receivables | (162,834) | (125,759) |
| Change in accrued investment income and other receivables | 92,153 | 13,174 |
| Change in policy liabilities and other policyholders' funds of traditional life and health products | 73,525 | 142,632 |
| Trading securities: | | |
| Maturities and principal reductions of investments | 104,301 | 0 |
| Sale of investments | 406,347 | 0 |
| Cost of investments acquired | (647,243) | 0 |
| Other net change in trading securities | 85,820 | 7,294 |
| Change in other liabilities | 78,413 | (53,336) |
| Other, net | 5,451 | (11,616) |
| Net cash provided by operating activities | 231,485 | 90,990 |
| Cash flows from investing activities | | |
| Investments available for sale: | | |
| Maturities and principal reductions of investments | | |
| Fixed maturities | 393,595 | 265,542 |
| Equity securities | 2,000 | 0 |
| Sale of investments | | |
| Fixed maturities | 990,203 | 2,076,761 |
| Equity securities | 60,117 | 1,858 |
| Cost of investments acquired | | |
| Fixed maturities | (1,379,879) | (2,180,522) |
| Equity securities | (537) | (1,706) |
| Mortgage loans: | | |
| New borrowings | (239,785) | (262,617) |
| Repayments | 94,635 | 141,448 |
| Change in investment real estate, net | 3,298 | 15,736 |
| Change in policy loans, net | 16,572 | 2,678 |
| Change in other long-term investments, net | (1,144) | 18,420 |
| Change in short-term investments, net | 164,799 | (70,500) |
| Purchase of property and equipment | (2,145) | (1,093) |

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

| | | |
|---|------------|-----------|
| Sales of property and equipment | 640 | 0 |
| Other investing activities, net | 161 | 0 |
| Net cash provided by investing activities | 102,530 | 6,005 |
| Cash flows from financing activities | | |
| Borrowings under line of credit arrangements and long-term debt | 31,000 | 13,000 |
| Principal payments on line of credit arrangement and long-term debt | (43,600) | (22,500) |
| Net proceeds from securities sold under repurchase agreements | (14,105) | 0 |
| Payments on liabilities related to variable interest entities | 1,289 | (5,710) |
| Issuance of non-recourse funding obligations | 100,000 | 25,000 |
| Dividends to share owners | (15,044) | (13,620) |
| Investment product deposits and change in universal life deposits | 543,512 | 486,646 |
| Investment product withdrawals | (837,199) | (629,139) |
| Excess tax benefits on stock based compensation | 762 | 2,403 |
| Other financing activities, net | (49,956) | 373 |
| Net cash used in financing activities | (283,341) | (143,547) |
| Change in cash | 50,674 | (46,552) |
| Cash at beginning of period | 69,516 | 83,670 |
| Cash at end of period | \$ 120,190 | \$ 37,118 |

See Notes to Consolidated Condensed Financial Statements

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

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Presentation

The accompanying unaudited consolidated condensed financial statements of Protective Life Corporation and subsidiaries (the "Company") have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("U.S. GAAP") for interim financial information and with the instructions to Form 10-Q and Rule 10-01 of Regulation S-X. Accordingly, they do not include all of the disclosures required by U.S. GAAP for complete financial statements. In the opinion of management, the accompanying financial statements reflect all adjustments (consisting only of normal recurring items) necessary for a fair statement of the results for the interim periods presented. Operating results for the three-month periods ended March 31, 2007 are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the year ending December 31, 2007. The year-end consolidated condensed balance sheet data was derived from audited financial statements, but does not include all disclosures required by U.S. GAAP. For further information, refer to the consolidated financial statements and notes thereto included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2006.

New Accounting Pronouncements

Statement of Position 05-1. Effective January 1, 2007, the Company adopted Statement of Position ("SOP") 05-1, "Accounting by Insurance Enterprises for Deferred Acquisition Costs in Connection with Modifications or Exchanges of Insurance Contracts" ("SOP 05-1"). SOP 05-1 provides guidance on accounting by insurance enterprises for deferred acquisition costs on internal replacements of insurance and investment contracts other than those specifically described in Statement of Financial Accounting Standards ("SFAS") No. 97 ("SFAS 97"), "Accounting and Reporting by Insurance Enterprises for Certain Long-Duration Contracts and for Realized Gains and Losses from the Sale of Investments." SOP 05-1 defines an internal replacement as a modification in product benefits, features, rights, or coverages that occurs by the exchange of a contract for a new contract, or by amendment, endorsement, or rider to a contract, or by the election of a feature or coverage within a contract. Contract modifications that result in a substantially unchanged contract will be accounted for as a continuation of the replaced contract. Contract modifications that result in a substantially changed contract should be accounted for as an extinguishment of the replaced contract, and any unamortized DAC, unearned revenue and deferred sales charges must be written off. The Company recorded no cumulative effect adjustment related to this adoption and does not expect it to have a material impact on its ongoing financial position or results of operations.

SFAS No. 155 - Accounting for Certain Hybrid Financial Instruments - an amendment of FASB Statements No. 133 and 140. Effective January 1, 2007, the Company adopted SFAS No. 155, "Accounting for Certain Hybrid Financial Instruments - an amendment of Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") Statements No. 133 and 140" ("SFAS 155"). SFAS 155 (1) permits fair value remeasurement for any hybrid financial instrument that contains an embedded derivative that otherwise would require bifurcation, (2) clarifies which interest-only (IO) strips and principal-only (PO) strips are not subject to the requirements of FAS 133, (3) establishes a requirement to evaluate interests in securitized financial assets to identify interests that are freestanding derivatives or that are hybrid financial instruments that contain an embedded derivative requiring bifurcation, (4) clarifies that concentrations of credit risk in the form of subordination are not embedded derivatives, and (5) amends Statement 140 to eliminate the prohibition on a qualifying special purpose entity from holding a derivative financial instrument that pertains to a beneficial interest other than another derivative financial instrument. The adoption of SFAS 155 resulted in a positive cumulative effect

adjustment to opening retained earnings of approximately \$2.0 million (\$1.3 million net of taxes), related to the Company's equity indexed annuity product line.

FASB Interpretation No. 48. Effective January 1, 2007, the Company adopted the provisions of FASB Interpretation No. 48, "Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes - an Interpretation of FASB Statement 109" ("FIN 48"). FIN 48 prescribes a recognition threshold and measurement attribute for the financial statement recognition, measurement and disclosure of an income tax position taken or expected to be taken in an income tax return. Additionally, this interpretation requires, in order for the Company to recognize a benefit in its financial statements from a given tax return position, that there must be a greater than 50 percent chance of success with the relevant taxing authority with regard to that tax return position. In making this analysis, the Company must assume that the taxing authority is fully informed of all of the facts regarding this issue. Furthermore, new disclosures regarding the effect of the accounting for uncertain tax positions on the financial statements will be required.

As a result of the implementation of FIN 48, the Company recognized a \$0.9 million decrease in the liability for unrecognized income tax benefits, which was accounted for as an increase to the January 1, 2007 retained earnings balance. The Company's liability for all unrecognized income tax benefits as of January 1, 2007 was \$23.9 million. If recognized, approximately \$3.2 million would be recorded as a component of income tax expense.

Any accrued interest and penalties related to unrecognized tax benefits have been included in income tax expense. The Company had approximately \$5.9 million of accrued interest associated with unrecognized tax benefits as of January 1, 2007.

There were no significant changes to any of these amounts during the quarter ending March 31, 2007. The Company's 2003 through 2005 income tax returns remain open to examination by the Internal Revenue Service and major state income taxing jurisdictions.

Accounting Pronouncements Not Yet Adopted

SFAS No. 157 - Fair Value Measurements. In September 2006, FASB issued SFAS No. 157, "Fair Value Measurements" ("SFAS 157"). This statement defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value and expands disclosures about fair value measurements. SFAS 157 is effective prospectively with a limited form of retrospective application for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007 (January 1, 2008 for the Company). The Company is currently evaluating the impact that SFAS 157 will have on its consolidated results of operations and financial position.

SFAS No. 159 - The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities. In February 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 159, "The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities - Including an amendment of FASB Statement No. 115" ("SFAS 159"). This standard permits entities to choose to measure eligible financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value. SFAS 159 is effective for the Company beginning January 1, 2008. The Company has not yet made a decision as to whether or not it will elect the fair value option for any financial assets or financial liabilities. As a result, the Company does not know what impact, if any, that SFAS 159 will have on its consolidated results of operations and financial position.

Reclassifications

Certain reclassifications have been made in the previously reported financial statements and accompanying notes to make the prior period amounts comparable to those of the current period. Such reclassifications had no effect on previously reported net income or share-owners' equity. Included in these reclassifications is a change in the Consolidated Condensed Statement of Cash Flows to remove the effects of policy fees assessed on universal life and investment products from financing activities. While this had no effect on total cash flow, for the three months ended

March 31, 2006, net cash provided by operating activities was decreased and net cash provided by financing activities was increased by \$119.7 million.

2. NON-RECOURSE FUNDING OBLIGATIONS

Non-Recourse Funding Obligations

The Company issued \$100.0 million of non-recourse funding obligations during the first three months of 2007, bringing the total amount outstanding to \$525.0 million at March 31, 2007. The weighted average interest rate as of March 31, 2007, was 6.8%.

3. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

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

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

A number of civil jury verdicts have been returned against insurers and other providers of financial services involving sales practices, alleged agent misconduct, failure to properly supervise representatives, relationships with agents or persons with whom the insurer does business, and other matters. Increasingly these lawsuits have resulted in the award of substantial judgments that are disproportionate to the actual damages, including material amounts of punitive and non-economic compensatory damages. In some states, juries, judges, and arbitrators have substantial discretion in awarding punitive and non-economic compensatory damages which creates the potential for unpredictable material adverse judgments or awards in any given lawsuit or arbitration. Arbitration awards are subject to very limited appellate review. In addition, in some class action and other lawsuits, companies have made material settlement payments. The Company, like other financial services companies, in the ordinary course of business, is involved in such litigation and in arbitration. Although the outcome of any such litigation or arbitration cannot be predicted, the Company believes that at the present time there are no pending or threatened lawsuits that are reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on the financial position, results of operations, or liquidity of the Company.

4. STOCK-BASED COMPENSATION

Performance shares awarded in 2007 and their estimated fair value at grant date are as follows:

| | | Estimated |
|---------|-------------|-----------|
| Year | Performance | Fair |
| Awarded | Shares | Value |
| 2007 | 64,700 | \$2,800 |

The criteria for payment of 2007 performance awards is based primarily upon a comparison of the Company's average return on average equity over a four-year period (earlier upon the death, disability, or retirement of the executive, or in certain circumstances, upon a change in control of the Company) to that of a comparison group of publicly held life and multi-line insurance companies. If the Company's results are below the median of the comparison group (40th percentile for 2007 awards), no portion of the award is earned. If the Company's results are at or above the 90th percentile, the award maximum is earned. Awards are paid in shares of Company Common Stock.

During the first quarter of 2007, stock appreciation rights ("SARs") were granted to certain officers of the Company to provide long-term incentive compensation based solely on the performance of the Company's Common Stock. The SARs are exercisable either in four equal annual installments beginning one year after the date of grant or after five years depending on the terms of the grant (earlier upon the death, disability, or retirement of the officer, or in certain circumstances, upon a change in control of the Company) and expire after ten years or upon termination of employment. The SARs activity as well as weighted average base price for the first three months of 2007 is as follows:

| | Weighted Average Base Price | No. of SARs |
|------------------------------------|--|--------------------|
| Balance at December 31, 2006 | \$ 29.33 | 1,155,946 |
| SARs granted | 43.46 | 218,900 |
| SARs exercised | 23.98 | (2,500) |
| Balance at March 31, 2007 | \$ 31.59 | 1,372,346 |

The SARs issued in 2007 had estimated fair values at grant date of \$2.4 million. The fair value of the 2007 SARs was estimated using a Black-Scholes option pricing model. The assumptions used in the pricing model varied depending on the vesting period of the awards. Assumptions used in the model for the 2007 SARs were as follows: expected volatility ranged from 16.2% to 31.0%, the risk-free interest rate ranged from 4.5% to 4.6%, a dividend rate of 1.9%, a zero forfeiture rate, and the expected exercise date ranged from 2012 to 2015. The Company will pay an amount in stock equal to the difference between the specified base price of the Company's Common Stock and the market value at the exercise date for each SAR.

Additionally during 2007, the Company issued 30,250 restricted stock units at a fair value of \$43.46 per unit. These awards, with a total fair value of \$1.3 million, vest over a four year period.

5. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN AND UNFUNDED EXCESS BENEFITS PLAN

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

**Three Months Ended
March 31**

| | 2007 | | 2006 |
|--|-------------|----|-------------|
| Service cost - Benefits earned during the period | \$ 2,625 | \$ | 2,576 |
| Interest cost on projected benefit obligations | 2,540 | | 2,496 |
| Expected return on plan assets | (2,893) | | (3,096) |
| Amortization of prior service cost | 53 | | 64 |
| Amortization of actuarial losses | 849 | | 1,272 |
| Net periodic benefit cost | \$ 3,174 | \$ | 3,312 |

The Company previously disclosed in its financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2006, that it expected that no funding would be required in 2007. The Company has not yet determined the amount, if any, that it will contribute to its defined benefit pension plan during 2007. As of March 31, 2007, no contributions have been made to the defined benefit pension plan.

In addition to pension benefits, the Company provides limited healthcare benefits and life insurance benefits to eligible retirees. The cost of these plans for the three months ended March 31, 2007 and 2006 was immaterial.

6. EARNINGS PER SHARE

Basic earnings per share is computed by dividing net income by the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding during the period, including shares issuable under various deferred compensation plans. Diluted earnings per share is computed by dividing net income by the weighted-average number of common shares and dilutive potential common shares outstanding during the period, including shares issuable under various stock-based compensation plans and stock purchase contracts.

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

| | Three Months Ended March 31 | |
|--|--|-------------|
| | 2007 | 2006 |
| Calculation of basic earnings per share: | | |
| Net income | \$ 90,583 | \$ 72,137 |
| Average shares issued and outstanding | 69,996,445 | 69,793,369 |
| Issuable under various deferred compensation plans | 1,021,217 | 958,833 |
| Weighted shares outstanding - Basic | 71,017,662 | 70,752,202 |
| Basic earnings per share | \$ 1.28 | \$ 1.02 |
| Calculation of diluted earnings per share: | | |
| Net income | \$ 90,583 | \$ 72,137 |
| Weighted shares outstanding - Basic | 71,017,662 | 70,752,202 |
| Stock appreciation rights ("SARs" ^(a)) | 264,585 | 316,254 |
| Issuable under various other stock-back compensation plans | 204,816 | 490,799 |
| Weighted shares outstanding - Diluted | 71,487,063 | 71,559,255 |

Diluted earnings per share \$ 1.27 \$ 1.01

(a) Excludes 166,820 and 155,200 SARs as of March 31, 2007 and 2006, respectively, that are antidilutive. In the event the average market price exceeds the issue price of the SARs, such rights would be dilutive to the Company's earnings per share and will be included in the Company's calculation of the diluted average shares outstanding.

7. COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

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

| | Three Months Ended March 31 | |
|---|--|-------------|
| | 2007 | 2006 |
| Net income | \$ 90,583 | \$ 72,137 |
| Change in net unrealized gains on investments, net of income tax: (three months: 2007 - \$16,330; 2006 - \$(78,279)) | 29,782 | (147,425) |
| Change in accumulated gain-hedging, net of income tax: (three months: 2007 - \$1,247; 2006 - \$2,285) | 2,254 | 4,303 |
| Reclassification adjustment for amounts included in net income, net of income tax: (three months: 2007 - \$(3,571); 2006 - \$1,419) | (6,513) | 2,660 |
| Comprehensive income (loss) | \$ 116,106 | \$ (68,325) |

8. OPERATING SEGMENTS

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

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

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

segment markets an inventory protection product (“IPP”) and a guaranteed asset protection (“GAP”) product.

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

The Company uses the same accounting policies and procedures to measure segment operating income and assets as it uses to measure its consolidated net income and assets. Segment operating income is generally income before income tax excluding net realized investment gains and losses (net of the related amortization of DAC/VOBA and participating income from real estate ventures), and the cumulative effect of change in accounting principle. Periodic settlements of derivatives associated with corporate debt and certain investments and annuity products are included in realized gains and losses but are considered part of operating income because the derivatives are used to mitigate risk in items affecting consolidated and segment operating income. Segment operating income represents the basis on which the performance of the Company’s business is internally assessed by management. Premiums and policy fees, other income, benefits and settlement expenses, and amortization of DAC/VOBA are attributed directly to each operating segment. Net investment income is allocated based on directly related assets required for transacting the business of that segment. Realized investment gains (losses) and other operating expenses are allocated to the segments in a manner that most appropriately reflects the operations of that segment. Investments and other assets are allocated based on statutory policy liabilities, while DAC/VOBA and goodwill are shown in the segments to which they are attributable.

There are no significant intersegment transactions.

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

| | Three Months Ended | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------|
| | March 31 | |
| | 2007 | 2006 |
| Revenues | | |
| Life Marketing | \$ 270,539 | \$ 218,925 |
| Acquisitions | 237,982 | 101,451 |
| Annuities | 73,754 | 63,796 |
| Stable Value Products | 80,526 | 77,379 |
| Asset Protection | 80,023 | 65,149 |
| Corporate and Other | 49,951 | 66,415 |
| Total revenues | \$ 792,775 | \$ 593,115 |
| Segment Operating Income | | |
| Life Marketing | \$ 65,280 | \$ 40,781 |
| Acquisitions | 32,249 | 19,906 |
| Annuities | 5,606 | 4,741 |
| Stable Value Products | 12,186 | 12,344 |
| Asset Protection | 10,084 | 8,738 |
| Corporate and Other | 1,777 | 11,663 |
| Total segment operating income | 127,182 | 98,173 |

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

| | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|
| Realized investment gains (losses) - investments ⁽¹⁾ | 8,948 | (173) |
| Realized investment gains (losses) - derivatives ⁽²⁾ | (2,802) | 12,657 |
| Income tax expense | (42,745) | (38,520) |
| Net income | \$ 90,583 | \$ 72,137 |

| | | |
|--|-----------|----------|
| (1) Realized investment gains (losses) - investments | \$ 13,294 | \$ 5,153 |
| Less participating income from real estate ventures | 3,150 | 5,326 |
| Less related amortization of DAC | 1,196 | 0 |
| | \$ 8,948 | \$ (173) |

| | | |
|--|------------|-----------|
| (2) Realized investment gains (losses) - derivatives | \$ (2,291) | \$ 13,337 |
| Less settlements on certain interest rate swaps | 257 | 1,331 |
| Less derivative losses related to certain annuities | 254 | (651) |
| | \$ (2,802) | \$ 12,657 |

Life Marketing operating income for the first quarter of 2007 includes a \$15.7 million gain on the sale of a subsidiary which is included in other income.

**Operating Segment Assets
March 31, 2007**

| | Life Marketing | Acquisitions | Annuities | Stable Value Products |
|--|---------------------------|---------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|
| Investments and other assets | \$ 8,409,881 | \$ 12,016,365 | \$ 8,245,004 | \$ 5,047,472 |
| Deferred policy acquisition costs and value of businesses acquired | 1,883,037 | 912,622 | 252,481 | 16,529 |
| Goodwill | 10,193 | 32,007 | 0 | 0 |
| Total assets | \$ 10,303,111 | \$ 12,960,994 | \$ 8,497,485 | \$ 5,064,001 |

| | Asset Protection | Corporate and Other | Adjustments | Total Consolidated |
|--|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| Investments and other assets | \$ 1,297,227 | \$ 1,437,645 | \$ 25,872 | \$ 36,479,466 |
| Deferred policy acquisition costs and value of businesses acquired | 119,682 | 27,697 | 0 | 3,212,048 |
| Goodwill | 58,035 | 83 | 0 | 100,318 |
| Total assets | \$ 1,474,944 | \$ 1,465,425 | \$ 25,872 | \$ 39,791,832 |

**Operating Segment Assets
December 31, 2006**

| | Life Marketing | Acquisitions | Annuities | Stable Value Products |
|--|---------------------------|---------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|
|--|---------------------------|---------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

| | | | | | | | | |
|--|----|-----------|----|------------|----|-----------|----|-----------|
| Investments and other assets | \$ | 8,041,854 | \$ | 10,650,928 | \$ | 8,142,681 | \$ | 5,369,107 |
| Deferred policy acquisition costs and value of businesses acquired | | 1,846,219 | | 925,218 | | 261,826 | | 16,603 |
| Goodwill | | 10,354 | | 32,007 | | 0 | | 0 |
| Total assets | \$ | 9,898,427 | \$ | 11,608,153 | \$ | 8,404,507 | \$ | 5,385,710 |

| | | Asset Protection | | Corporate and Other | | Adjustments | | Total Consolidated |
|--|----|-------------------------|----|----------------------------|----|--------------------|----|---------------------------|
| Investments and other assets | \$ | 992,932 | \$ | 3,261,874 | \$ | 36,704 | \$ | 36,496,080 |
| Deferred policy acquisition costs and value of businesses acquired | | 125,745 | | 23,124 | | 0 | | 3,198,735 |
| Goodwill | | 58,035 | | 83 | | 0 | | 100,479 |
| Total assets | \$ | 1,176,712 | \$ | 3,285,081 | \$ | 36,704 | \$ | 39,795,294 |

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

(Dollar amounts in tables are in thousands)

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

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS - CAUTIONARY LANGUAGE

This report reviews the Company's financial condition and results of operations including its liquidity and capital resources. Historical information is presented and discussed. Where appropriate, factors that may affect future financial performance are also identified and discussed. Certain statements made in this report include "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements include any statement that may predict, forecast, indicate or imply future results, performance or achievements instead of historical facts and may contain words like "believe," "expect," "estimate," "project," "budget," "forecast," "anticipate," "plan," "will," "shall," "may," and other words, phrases, or expressions with similar meaning. Forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties, which may cause actual results to differ materially from the results contained in the forward-looking statements, and the Company cannot give assurances that such statements will prove to be correct. Given these risks and uncertainties, investors should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements as a prediction of actual results.

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

OVERVIEW

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

The Company operates several business segments each having a strategic focus. An operating segment is generally distinguished by products and/or channels of distribution. The Company's operating segments are Life Marketing, Acquisitions, Annuities, Stable Value Products, and Asset Protection. The Company has an additional segment referred to as Corporate and Other which consists of net investment income on unallocated capital, interest on debt, earnings from various investment-related transactions, and the operations of several non-strategic lines of business. The Company periodically evaluates its operating segments in light of the segment reporting requirements prescribed by SFAS 131, "Disclosures about Segments of an Enterprise and Related Information," and makes adjustments to its segment reporting as needed.

KNOWN TRENDS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The factors which could affect the Company's future results include, but are not limited to, general economic conditions and the following known trends and uncertainties: we are exposed to the risks of natural disasters, pandemics, malicious and terrorist acts that could adversely affect our operations; we operate in a mature, highly competitive industry, which could limit our ability to gain or maintain our position in the industry and negatively affect profitability; a ratings downgrade could adversely affect our ability to compete; our policy claims fluctuate from

period to period resulting in earnings volatility; our results may be negatively affected should actual experience differ from management's assumptions and estimates; the use of reinsurance introduces variability in our statements of income; we could be forced to sell investments at a loss to cover policyholder withdrawals; interest rate fluctuations could negatively affect our spread income or otherwise impact our business; equity market volatility could negatively impact our business; insurance companies are highly regulated and subject to numerous legal restrictions and regulations; changes to tax law or interpretations of existing tax law could adversely affect the Company and its ability to compete with non-insurance products or reduce the demand for certain insurance products; financial services companies are frequently the targets of litigation, including class action litigation, which could result in substantial judgments; publicly held companies in general and the financial services industry in particular are sometimes the target of law enforcement investigations and the focus of increased regulatory scrutiny; our ability to maintain competitive unit costs is dependent upon the level of new sales and persistency of existing business; our investments are subject to market and credit risks; we may not realize our anticipated financial results from our acquisitions strategy; we may not be able to achieve the expected results from our recent acquisition; we are dependent on the performance of others; our reinsurers could fail to meet assumed obligations, increase rates or be subject to adverse developments that could affect us; computer viruses or network security breaches could affect our data processing systems or those of our business partners and could damage our business and adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations; our ability to grow depends in large part upon the continued availability of capital; new accounting rules or changes to existing accounting rules could negatively impact us; and our risk management policies and procedures may leave us exposed to unidentified or unanticipated risk, which could negatively affect our business or result in losses. Please refer to Exhibit 99 about these factors that could affect future results.

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

RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

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

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

| Three Months Ended | | | |
|---------------------------|-------------|--|---------------|
| March 31 | | | |
| 2007 | 2006 | | Change |
| (Dollars in thousands) | | | |

Segment Operating Income

| | | | | | |
|---|----|----------|----|----------|--------|
| Life Marketing | \$ | 65,280 | \$ | 40,781 | 60.1% |
| Acquisitions | | 32,249 | | 19,906 | 62.0 |
| Annuities | | 5,606 | | 4,741 | 18.2 |
| Stable Value Products | | 12,186 | | 12,344 | (1.3) |
| Asset Protection | | 10,084 | | 8,738 | 15.4 |
| Corporate and Other | | 1,777 | | 11,663 | (84.8) |
| Total segment operating income | | 127,182 | | 98,173 | 29.5 |
| Realized investment gains (losses) - investments ⁽¹⁾ | | 8,948 | | (173) | |
| Realized investment gains (losses) - derivatives ⁽²⁾ | | (2,802) | | 12,657 | |
| Income tax expense | | (42,745) | | (38,520) | |
| Net income | \$ | 90,583 | \$ | 72,137 | 25.6 |
| (1) Realized investment gains (losses) - investments | \$ | 13,294 | \$ | 5,153 | |
| Less participating income from real estate ventures | | 3,150 | | 5,326 | |
| Less related amortization of DAC | | 1,196 | | 0 | |
| | \$ | 8,948 | \$ | (173) | |
| (2) Realized investment gains (losses) - derivatives | \$ | (2,291) | \$ | 13,337 | |
| Less settlements on certain interest rate swaps | | 257 | | 1,331 | |
| Less derivative losses related to certain annuities | | 254 | | (651) | |
| | \$ | (2,802) | \$ | 12,657 | |

Net income for the first quarter of 2007 reflects a 29.5% increase in segment operating income compared to the same period of 2006. The two largest items contributing to this increase include a \$15.7 million gain on the sale of the Life Marketing segment's direct marketing subsidiary and a \$12.3 million increase in operating earnings in the Acquisitions segment resulting from the prior year acquisition of the Chase Insurance Group. Net realized investment gains were \$6.1 million for the first quarter of 2007 compared \$12.5 million for the same period of 2006, a decrease of \$6.3 million.

Life Marketing segment operating income was \$65.3 million for the current quarter representing an increase of 60.1% over the same period of the prior year. This increase was primarily due to a \$15.7 million gain before taxes on the sale of the segment's direct marketing subsidiary combined with favorable mortality variances. The increase in the Acquisitions segment's operating income for the current quarter is due to the acquisition of the Chase Insurance Group completed in the third quarter of 2006. This acquisition contributed \$14.5 million to the Acquisition segment's operating income for the first quarter of 2007.

Favorable DAC unlocking of \$1.2 million during the first quarter of 2007 was partially offset by unfavorable mortality results, resulting in an 18.2% increase in operating income for the Annuities segment. A general improvement in the equity markets and increasing account balances contributed to the increase in operating earnings during the first quarter of 2007 for the segment. A decline in average account values offset by an increase in operating spread resulted in operating income that was relatively unchanged for the first quarter of 2007 in the Stable Value Products segment compared to the same period of 2006.

The Asset Protection segment's 15.4% increase in operating income for the first quarter of 2007 is primarily the result of improvements in the segment's service contract line, which were up \$2.3 million for the quarter. Favorable results from the service contract line were partially offset by unfavorable results from other product lines and lines the segment is no longer marketing.

The decline in operating income for the Corporate and Other segment is primarily the result of an \$11.1 million increase in interest expense resulting from increased borrowings, partially offset by higher net investment income on unallocated capital.

RESULTS BY BUSINESS SEGMENT

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

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

Life Marketing

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

| | Three Months Ended | | |
|---|---------------------------|-------------|---------------|
| | March 31 | | |
| | 2007 | 2006 | Change |
| | (Dollars in thousands) | | |
| REVENUES | | | |
| Gross premiums and policy fees | \$ 345,685 | \$ 325,364 | 6.2% |
| Reinsurance ceded | (207,614) | (208,631) | (0.5) |
| Net premiums and policy fees | 138,071 | 116,733 | 18.3 |
| Net investment income | 81,103 | 72,853 | 11.3 |
| Other income | 51,365 | 29,339 | 75.1 |
| Total operating revenues | 270,539 | 218,925 | 23.6 |
| BENEFITS AND EXPENSES | | | |
| Benefits and settlement expenses | 149,329 | 135,899 | 9.9 |
| Amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs | 28,698 | 19,466 | 47.4 |
| Other operating expenses | 27,232 | 22,779 | 19.5 |
| Total benefits and expenses | 205,259 | 178,144 | 15.2 |
| OPERATING INCOME | 65,280 | 40,781 | 60.1 |
| INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAX | \$ 65,280 | \$ 40,781 | 60.1 |

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

| | Three Months Ended | | Change |
|--|---------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| | March 31 | | |
| | 2007 | 2006 | |
| | (Dollars in thousands) | | |
| Sales By Product | | | |
| Traditional | \$ 33,492 | \$ 37,476 | (10.6)% |
| Universal life | 14,197 | 31,488 | (54.9) |
| Variable universal life | 1,828 | 1,285 | 42.3 |
| | \$ 49,517 | \$ 70,249 | (29.5) |
| Sales By Distribution Channel | | | |
| Brokerage general agents | \$ 29,879 | \$ 38,179 | (21.7) |
| Independent agents | 8,328 | 13,800 | (39.7) |
| Stockbrokers/banks | 8,493 | 13,567 | (37.4) |
| BOLI / other | 2,817 | 4,703 | (40.1) |
| | \$ 49,517 | \$ 70,249 | (29.5) |
| Average Life Insurance In-Force⁽¹⁾ | | | |
| Traditional | \$ 409,159,975 | \$ 363,267,522 | 12.6 |
| Universal life | 51,478,248 | 49,263,933 | 4.5 |
| | \$ 460,638,223 | \$ 412,531,455 | 11.7 |
| Average Account Values | | | |
| Universal life | \$ 4,860,730 | \$ 4,619,947 | 5.2 |
| Variable universal life | 313,917 | 260,431 | 20.5 |
| | \$ 5,174,647 | \$ 4,880,378 | 6.0 |
| Mortality Experience⁽²⁾ | \$ 7,763 | \$ 352 | |

(1) Amounts are not adjusted for reinsurance ceded.

(2) Represents a favorable (unfavorable) variance as compared to pricing assumptions. Excludes results related to Chase Acquisition Group which was acquired in the third quarter of 2006.

During 2005, the Company reduced its reliance on reinsurance (see additional comments below) and entered into a securitization structure to fund the additional statutory reserves required as a result of these changes in the Company's reinsurance arrangements. The securitization structure results in a reduction of current taxes and a corresponding increase in deferred taxes as compared to the previous result obtained in using traditional reinsurance. The benefit of reduced current taxes is attributed to the applicable life products and is an important component of the profitability of these products. In addition to the fluctuations in premiums and benefits and settlement expenses discussed below, earnings emerge more slowly under a securitization structure relative to the previous reinsurance structure utilized by the Company.

Operating income increased 60.1% from the first quarter of 2006 primarily due to a gain recognized on the sale of the segment's direct marketing subsidiary combined with favorable mortality results. Excluding the \$15.7 million gain on the sale of a subsidiary which is included in other income, total revenues increased 16.4%. This increase in total revenues is the result of growth of life insurance in-force and average account values, and was partially offset by higher overall benefits and expenses (15.2% higher for the first quarter of 2007, as compared to the same period of 2006).

Net premiums and policy fees grew by 18.3% in the current quarter due in part to the growth in life insurance in-force achieved over the last several quarters combined with an increase in retention levels on certain traditional life products. Beginning in the second quarter of 2005, the Company reduced its reliance on reinsurance by changing from coinsurance to yearly renewable term reinsurance agreements and increased the maximum amount retained on any one life from \$500,000 to \$1,000,000 on certain of its newly written traditional life products (products written during the second quarter of 2005 and later.) In addition to increasing net premiums, this change results in higher benefits and settlement expenses, and causes greater variability in financial results due to fluctuations in mortality results. The Company's maximum retention level for newly issued universal life products is \$1,000,000.

Net investment income in the segment increased 11.3% for the quarter, reflecting the growth of the segment's assets caused by the increase in life reserves. Other income increased 75.1% for the first quarter of 2007, primarily due to a \$15.7 million gain recognized on the sale of the segment's direct marketing subsidiary. The remainder of the increase in other income is the result of additional income from the segment's broker-dealer subsidiary. The increase in income from the broker-dealer subsidiary is the result of increased fees related to variable annuity managed accounts and higher investment advisory fees. This increase in income was primarily offset by an increase in other operating expenses.

Benefits and settlement expenses were 9.9% higher than the first quarter of 2006, due to growth in life insurance in-force, increased retention levels on certain newly written traditional life products and higher credited interest on UL products resulting from increases in account values, partially offset for the current quarter by favorable fluctuations in mortality experience. The majority of the current quarter mortality variance (66%) is associated with traditional life products. The gross mortality variance (actual results compared to pricing) for the first quarter of 2007 was \$7.4 million more favorable than the same period of 2006. The estimated mortality impact on earnings for the first quarter of 2007 was a favorable \$7.5 million, which was approximately \$8.0 million more favorable than estimated mortality impact on earnings for the same period of 2006. The increase in DAC amortization for the first quarter of 2007 compared to the same period of 2006 was primarily due to the increase in the Company's block of term business not subject to reinsurance, combined with overall growth in average life insurance in-force.

Other operating expenses for the segment were as follows:

| | Three Months Ended | | | Change |
|---|---------------------------|-------------|--|---------------|
| | March 31 | | | |
| | 2007 | 2006 | | |
| | (Dollars in thousands) | | | |
| Insurance Companies: | | | | |
| First year commissions | \$ 70,406 | \$ 94,268 | | (25.3)% |
| Renewal commissions | 9,561 | 8,404 | | 13.8 |
| First year ceding allowances | (15,915) | (32,832) | | (51.5) |
| Renewal ceding allowances | (54,591) | (46,332) | | 17.8 |
| General & administrative | 44,194 | 43,263 | | 2.2 |
| Taxes, licenses and fees | 8,860 | 8,073 | | 9.7 |
| Other operating expenses incurred | 62,515 | 74,844 | | (16.5) |
| Less commissions, allowances & expenses capitalized | (70,131) | (81,642) | | (14.1) |
| Other operating expenses | (7,616) | (6,798) | | 12.0 |
| Marketing Companies: | | | | |
| Commissions | 22,881 | 17,553 | | 30.4 |

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------|
| Other | 11,967 | 12,024 | (0.5) |
| Other operating expenses | 34,848 | 29,577 | 17.8 |
| Other operating expenses | \$ 27,232 | \$ 22,779 | 19.5% |

The Company utilizes reinsurance for most of its products, with the terms of the reinsurance agreed upon before products are made available for sale. The Company determines its pricing, and analyzes its financial performance, on a net of reinsurance basis with the objective of achieving an attractive return on investment for its shareholders. Generally, the Company's profits emerge as a level percentage of premium for Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 60 ("SFAS 60") products and as a level percentage of estimated gross profits for Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 97 ("SFAS 97") products. Under both SFAS 60 and 97, the amount of earnings and investment will vary with the utilization of reinsurance. In addition, the utilization of reinsurance can cause fluctuations in individual income and expense line items from year to year. Consideration of all components of the segment's income statement, including amortization of deferred acquisition costs ("DAC"), is required to assess the impact of reinsurance on segment operating income.

Reinsurance allowances represent the amount the reinsurer is willing to pay for reimbursement of acquisition and other costs incurred by the direct writer of the business. The amount and timing of these allowances are negotiated by the Company and each reinsurer. The Company receives allowances according to the prescribed schedules in the reinsurance contracts, which may or may not bear a relationship to actual operating expenses incurred by the Company. First year commissions paid by the Company may be higher than first year allowances paid by the reinsurer, and reinsurance allowances may be higher in later years than renewal commissions paid by the Company. However the pattern of reinsurance allowances does not impact the pattern of earnings from year to year. While the recognition of reinsurance allowances is consistent with U.S. GAAP, non-deferred allowances often exceed the segment's non-deferred direct costs, causing net other operating expenses to be negative. However, consistent with SFAS 60 and SFAS 97, fluctuations in non-deferred allowances tend to be offset by changes in DAC amortization with the resulting profits emerging as a level percentage of premiums for SFAS 60 products and as a level percentage of estimated gross profits for SFAS 97 products.

Reinsurance allowances tend to be highest in the first year of a policy and subsequently decline. Ultimate reinsurance allowances are defined as the level of allowances at the end of a policy's term. The Company's practice is to defer as a component of DAC, reinsurance allowances in excess of the ultimate allowance. This practice is consistent with the Company's practice of deferring direct commissions.

The following table summarizes reinsurance allowances for each period presented, including the portion deferred as a part of DAC and the portion recognized immediately as a reduction of other operating expenses. As the non-deferred portion of reinsurance allowances reduce operating expenses in the period received, these amounts represent a net increase to operating income during that period. The amounts capitalized and earned are quantified below:

| | Three Months Ended | | | Change |
|---|---------------------------|-------------|--|---------------|
| | March 31 | | | |
| | 2007 | 2006 | | |
| | (Dollars in thousands) | | | |
| Allowances received | \$ 70,506 | \$ 79,164 | | (10.9)% |
| Less amount deferred | (38,580) | (48,076) | | (19.8) |
| Allowances recognized (reduction in other operating expenses) | \$ 31,926 | \$ 31,088 | | 2.7 |

Non-deferred reinsurance allowances of \$31.9 million and \$31.1 million were recognized in the first quarters of 2007 and 2006, respectively, resulting in reductions in operating expenses by these amounts in the same periods. Non-deferred reinsurance allowances increased 2.7% in the first quarter of 2007 compared to the same quarter of 2006, primarily as the result of the increase in the Company's life insurance in-force.

Reinsurance allowances do not affect the methodology used to amortize DAC or the period over which such DAC is amortized. However, they do affect the amounts recognized as DAC amortization. DAC on SFAS 97 products is amortized based on the estimated gross profits of the policies in force. Reinsurance allowances are considered in the determination of estimated gross profits, and therefore impact SFAS 97 DAC amortization. Deferred reinsurance allowances on SFAS 60 policies are recorded as ceded DAC, which is amortized over estimated ceded premiums of the policies in force. Thus, deferred reinsurance allowances on SFAS 60 policies impact SFAS 60 DAC amortization.

The amounts of ceded premium paid by the Company and allowances reimbursed by the reinsurer are reflected in the table below:

| | Three Months Ended | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------------|-------------|--|---------------|
| | March 31 | | | |
| | 2007 | 2006 | | Change |
| | (Dollars in thousands) | | | |
| Ceded premiums | \$ 207,614 | \$ 208,631 | | (0.5)% |
| Allowances received | 70,506 | 79,164 | | (10.9) |
| Net ceded premiums | \$ 137,108 | \$ 129,467 | | 5.9% |

The net ceded premium increased 5.9% in the first quarter of 2007 compared to the same period of the prior year, primarily due to the decrease in allowances received. The Company's move during 2005 to reduce its reliance on reinsurance by entering into a securitization structure to fund certain statutory reserves will ultimately result in a reduction in both ceded premiums and reinsurance allowances received. As reinsurance allowances tend to be highest in the first year of a policy and subsequently decline, for a period of time, the decrease in allowances received will outpace the decrease in ceded premiums, resulting in an increase in net ceded premiums.

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

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

Other operating expenses for the insurance companies decreased in the first quarter of 2007 from the prior year as a result of a \$2.1 million true-up during the first quarter of 2006 of field compensation expenses related to sales in prior periods that increased expense in the prior year period. Excluding the prior year true-up, other operating expenses

increased 14.4% for the insurance companies in the first quarter of 2007 compared to the same period of the prior year, as a result of higher incurred non-deferrable expenses. Amounts capitalized as DAC generally include first year commissions, reinsurance allowances, and other deferrable acquisition expenses. The changes in these amounts generally reflect the trends in sales.

Other operating expenses for the segment's marketing companies increased 17.8% for the first quarter of 2007 compared to the prior year primarily as a result of higher commissions and other expenses in the segment's broker-dealer subsidiary associated with the higher revenue.

Sales for the segment declined 29.5% in the first quarter of 2007 versus 2006, primarily due to a 54.9% decline in UL sales. The decline in UL sales in the first quarter of 2007 is the expected result of pricing adjustments on certain UL products in response to the higher reserve levels required under Actuarial Guideline 38 ("AG38"). See additional discussion of AG38 and its impact on certain UL products in the "Recent Developments" section herein. Traditional life sales declined 10.6% in the first quarter of 2007 compared to the same period of the prior year. The decrease in traditional life sales is the result of intense competition in the market for these products. The Company continually reviews its product features and pricing in an effort to maintain or improve its competitive position. Sales of BOLI business declined in the first quarter of 2007 compared to the prior year. BOLI sales can vary widely between periods as the segment responds to opportunities for these products only when required returns can be achieved.

The Company has reduced its reliance on reinsurance for newly written traditional life products by moving towards a securitization structure under which profitability is not expected to emerge immediately after the business is written. In addition, older, more profitable traditional life policies continue to run off in the ordinary course. These two factors combined with financing costs in connection with the securitization structure and the Company's pricing actions to remain competitive in the market are expected to put pressure on the profitability of this segment.

Acquisitions

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

| | Three Months Ended | | |
|--|---------------------------|-------------|---------------|
| | March 31 | | |
| | 2007 | 2006 | Change |
| | (Dollars in thousands) | | |
| REVENUES | | | |
| Gross premiums and policy fees | \$ 198,288 | \$ 62,986 | 214.8% |
| Reinsurance ceded | (118,241) | (16,642) | 610.5 |
| Net premiums and policy fees | 80,047 | 46,344 | 72.7 |
| Net investment income | 148,986 | 54,490 | 173.4 |
| Other income | 4,719 | 617 | 664.8 |
| Total operating revenues | 233,752 | 101,451 | 130.4 |
| Realized gains (losses) - investments | 7,933 | 0 | |
| Realized gains (losses) - derivatives | (3,703) | 0 | |
| Total revenues | 237,982 | 101,451 | |
| BENEFITS AND EXPENSES | | | |
| Benefits and settlement expenses | 166,889 | 67,454 | 147.4 |
| Amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs and value of businesses acquired | 18,770 | 6,335 | 196.3 |
| Other operating expenses | 15,844 | 7,756 | 104.3 |

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

| | | | |
|--|------------------|------------------|-------------|
| Operating benefits and expenses | 201,503 | 81,545 | 147.1 |
| Amortization of DAC/VOBA related to realized gains (losses) - investments | 606 | 0 | |
| Total benefits and expenses | 202,109 | 81,545 | |
| INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAX | 35,873 | 19,906 | 80.2 |
| Less realized gains (losses) | 4,230 | 0 | |
| Less related amortization of DAC | (606) | 0 | |
| OPERATING INCOME | \$ 32,249 | \$ 19,906 | 62.0 |

The following table summarizes key data for the Acquisitions segment:

| | Three Months Ended March 31 | | Change |
|--|--------------------------------|---------------|---------|
| | 2007 | 2006 | |
| | (Dollars in thousands) | | |
| Average Life Insurance In-Force⁽¹⁾ | | | |
| Traditional | \$ 229,810,031 | \$ 10,166,239 | 2160.5% |
| Universal life | 31,262,387 | 16,455,957 | 90.0 |
| | \$ 261,072,418 | \$ 26,622,196 | 880.7 |
| Average Account Values | | | |
| Universal life | \$ 3,076,331 | \$ 1,688,627 | 82.2 |
| Fixed annuity ⁽²⁾ | 5,650,139 | 209,049 | 2602.8 |
| Variable annuity | 195,840 | 65,543 | 198.8 |
| | \$ 8,922,310 | \$ 1,963,219 | 354.5 |
| Interest Spread - UL & Fixed Annuities | | | |
| Net investment income yield | 6.35% | 6.87% | |
| Interest credited to policyholders | 4.13 | 5.10 | |
| Interest spread | 2.22% | 1.77% | |
| Mortality Experience⁽³⁾ | \$ 774 | \$ 267 | |

(1) Amounts are not adjusted for reinsurance ceded.

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

(3) Represents a favorable variance as compared to pricing assumptions. Excludes results related to Chase Acquisition Group which was acquired in the third quarter of 2006.

In the ordinary course of business, the Acquisitions segment regularly considers acquisitions of blocks of policies or smaller insurance companies. The level of the segment's acquisition activity is predicated upon many factors, including available capital, operating capacity, and market dynamics. Policies acquired through the Acquisition segment are typically "closed" blocks of business (no new policies are being marketed). Therefore, earnings and account values are expected to decline as the result of lapses, deaths, and other terminations of coverage unless new acquisitions are made. The Company completed its acquisition of the Chase Insurance Group during the third quarter of 2006. This acquisition drove the increases in revenues, expenses, and earnings of the segment for the first quarter of 2007, as compared to the prior year period. This acquisition also drove the large increases in the segment's life insurance in-force and UL and annuity account values compared to the prior year period.

Net premiums and policy fees increased 72.7% from the first quarter of 2006 as a result of the Chase Insurance Group acquisition which contributed \$34.7 million to net premiums and policy fees during the first quarter of 2007. The 173.4% increase in net investment income in the first quarter of 2007 compared to the same period of 2006 is due to the increase in liabilities resulting from the 2006 acquisition. The interest spread increased 45 basis points from the first quarter of 2006 as a result of the higher spreads associated with the Chase Insurance Group block of business. The segment continues to review credited rates on UL and annuity business for all blocks of business to minimize the impact of lower earned rates on interest spreads.

Benefits and settlement expenses for the first quarter of 2007 are 147.4% higher than the comparable period of 2006 due to the 2006 acquisition, which contributed \$101.6 million to expenses in the first quarter of 2007. The Chase acquisition resulted in an additional \$12.8 million of VOBA amortization for the first quarter of 2007, driving the quarterly increase of 196.3%. Other operating expenses increased 104.3% from the first quarter of 2006 primarily due to higher commissions resulting from higher net premiums.

Annuities

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

| | Three Months Ended | | Change |
|---|---------------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| | March 31 | | |
| | 2007 | 2006 | |
| | (Dollars in thousands) | | |
| REVENUES | | | |
| Gross premiums and policy fees | \$ 8,262 | \$ 8,144 | 1.4% |
| Reinsurance ceded | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Net premiums and policy fees | 8,262 | 8,144 | 1.4 |
| Net investment income | 60,861 | 53,494 | 13.8 |
| Realized gains (losses) - derivatives | 254 | (651) | |
| Other income | 2,713 | 2,899 | (6.4) |
| Operating revenues | 72,090 | 63,886 | 12.8 |
| Realized gains (losses) - Investments | 1,664 | (90) | |
| Total revenues | 73,754 | 63,796 | |
| BENEFITS AND EXPENSES | | | |
| Benefits and settlement expenses | 55,949 | 47,313 | 18.3 |
| Amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs | 4,538 | 5,126 | (11.5) |
| Other operating expenses | 5,997 | 6,706 | (10.6) |
| Operating benefits and expenses | 66,484 | 59,145 | 12.4 |
| Amortization of DAC related to realized gains (losses) - investment | 590 | 0 | |
| Total benefits and expenses | 67,074 | 59,145 | |
| INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAX | 6,680 | 4,651 | 43.6 |
| Less realized gains (losses) - investments | 1,664 | (90) | |
| Less related amortization of DAC | (590) | 0 | |
| OPERATING INCOME | \$ 5,606 | \$ 4,741 | 18.2 |

The following table summarizes key data for the Annuities segment:

| | Three Months Ended | | Change |
|--|---------------------------|--------------|---------------|
| | March 31 | | |
| | 2007 | 2006 | |
| | (Dollars in thousands) | | |
| Sales | | | |
| Fixed annuity | \$ 243,862 | \$ 92,090 | 164.8% |
| Variable annuity | 79,671 | 73,731 | 8.1 |
| | \$ 323,533 | \$ 165,821 | 95.1 |
| Average Account Values | | | |
| Fixed annuity ⁽¹⁾ | \$ 4,045,331 | \$ 3,422,366 | 18.2 |
| Variable annuity | 2,580,211 | 2,358,898 | 9.4 |
| | \$ 6,625,542 | \$ 5,781,264 | 14.6 |
| Interest Spread - Fixed Annuities⁽²⁾ | | | |
| Net investment income yield | 5.92% | 6.14% | |
| Interest credited to policyholders | 5.24 | 5.39 | |
| Interest spread | 0.68% | 0.75% | |

| | As of | | Change |
|--|-----------------|-------------|---------------|
| | March 31 | | |
| | 2007 | 2006 | |
| GMDB - Net amount at risk⁽³⁾ | \$ 90,614 | \$ 120,269 | (24.7) |
| GMDB - Reserves | 2,615 | 2,561 | 2.1 |
| S&P 500® Index | 1,421 | 1,295 | 9.7 |

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

(2) Interest spread on average general account values.

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

Segment operating income increased 18.2% during the first quarter of 2007 compared to the same period of 2006. This improvement is primarily due to favorable results in the market value adjusted annuity line following a favorable DAC unlocking adjustment, and is partially offset by a decrease in operating income in the single premium immediate annuity line, resulting from unfavorable mortality results. Operating income was also favorably impacted for the first quarter of 2007 compared to the same period of the prior year by improvement in the equity markets and increasing account values, offset by a tightening of spreads.

Segment operating revenues increased 12.8% in the first quarter of 2007 compared to the same period of 2006. Minor fluctuations in net premiums and policy fees and other income were offset by increases in net investment income. Average account balances grew 14.6% in the first quarter of 2007 resulting in higher investment income. The additional income resulting from the larger account balances was partially reduced in 2007 by a 7 basis point decline in interest spreads, resulting from a rebalancing of the investment portfolio during the fourth quarter of 2006. The segment continually monitors and adjusts credited rates as appropriate in an effort to maintain or improve its interest spread.

Operating benefits and expenses increased 12.4% for the first quarter of 2007 compared to the same period of the prior year. This increase is primarily the result of higher credited interest and unfavorable mortality fluctuations, partially offset by reductions in DAC amortization resulting from favorable unlocking. Benefits and settlement expenses

increased 18.3% for the quarter compared to the same period of 2006 due primarily to higher credited interest and changes in mortality. The increase in credited interest is the result of the 14.6% increase in average account values. Mortality was unfavorable by \$2.3 million for the first quarter of 2007, compared to unfavorable mortality of \$1.6 million for the same period of 2006, an unfavorable change of \$0.7 million. This unfavorable mortality variance primarily relates to the nonrecurring sales of \$122 million of single premium immediate annuities on 28 lives sold in the fourth quarter of 2004 in a structured transaction. Because this block of annuities is large relative to the total amount of annuities in-force, volatility in mortality results are expected.

The decrease in DAC amortization in the first quarter of 2007 compared to 2006 is primarily the result of DAC unlocking. The Company periodically reviews and updates as appropriate its key assumptions including future mortality, expenses, lapses, premium persistency, investment yields and interest spreads. Changes to these assumptions result in adjustments which increase or decrease DAC amortization. The periodic review and updating of assumptions is referred to as “unlocking.” During the first quarter of 2007, DAC amortization for the Annuities segment was reduced \$1.2 million due to favorable DAC unlocking in the market value adjusted annuity line. Favorable DAC unlocking of \$0.1 million was recorded by the segment during the first quarter of 2006.

Total sales were 95.1% higher for the first quarter of 2007 than the same period of the prior year. The Chase Insurance Group acquisition, and the continuation of new annuity sales through the former Chase distribution system, contributed \$75.8 million in fixed annuity sales in the first quarter of 2007. Excluding the impact of the acquisition, total sales increased 49.4% for the first quarter of 2007 compared to the same period of the prior year. Sales of fixed annuities (excluding the impact of the acquisition) increased 82.5% for the first quarter of 2007 compared to 2006. A general improvement in the equity markets reduced the net amount at risk with respect to guaranteed minimum death benefits by 24.7%.

Stable Value Products

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

| | Three Months Ended | | | |
|---|---------------------------|--|--------------|---------------|
| | March 31 | | | |
| | 2007 | | 2006 | Change |
| | (Dollars in thousands) | | | |
| REVENUES | | | | |
| Net investment income | \$ 79,101 | | \$ 82,233 | (3.8)% |
| Realized gains (losses) | 1,425 | | (4,854) | |
| Total revenues | 80,526 | | 77,379 | |
| BENEFITS AND EXPENSES | | | | |
| Benefits and settlement expenses | 64,719 | | 67,463 | (4.1) |
| Amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs | 1,168 | | 1,229 | (5.0) |
| Other operating expenses | 1,028 | | 1,197 | (14.1) |
| Total benefits and expenses | 66,915 | | 69,889 | (4.3) |
| INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAX | 13,611 | | 7,490 | 81.7 |
| Less realized gains (losses) | 1,425 | | (4,854) | |

| | | | | | |
|-------------------------|----|--------|----|--------|-------|
| OPERATING INCOME | \$ | 12,186 | \$ | 12,344 | (1.3) |
|-------------------------|----|--------|----|--------|-------|

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

| | Three Months Ended | | Change |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|---------------|
| | March 31 | | |
| | 2007 | 2006 | |
| | (Dollars in thousands) | | |
| Sales | | | |
| GIC | \$ 2,500 | \$ 46,200 | (94.6)% |
| GFA - Registered Notes - Retail | 13,120 | 40,841 | (67.9) |
| | \$ 15,620 | \$ 87,041 | (82.1) |
| Average Account Values | \$ 5,461,832 | \$ 5,976,606 | (8.6) |
| Operating Spread | | | |
| Net investment income yield | 5.94% | 5.60% | |
| Interest credited | 4.86 | 4.60 | |
| Operating expenses | 0.16 | 0.16 | |
| Operating spread | 0.92% | 0.84% | |

Operating income was relatively unchanged for the first quarter of 2007 compared to the same period of 2006. A decline in average account values was offset by an 8 basis point increase in operating spreads. Increasing short term interest rates, resulting in higher interest credited rates, were mitigated by an increase in the net investment income yield of the segment's investment portfolio. The segment continually reviews its investment portfolio for opportunities to increase the net investment income yield in an effort to maintain or increase interest spreads.

Total sales declined 82.1% for the first quarter of 2007 compared to the same period of 2006, as a result of the timing of GIC and retail sales. Fluctuations in sales in these product lines are expected from quarter to quarter as a result of changing market conditions. The Company chose not to participate in the institutional funding agreement-backed note market during 2006 and the first quarter of 2007. Operating Earnings are expected to decline until the Company reenters this market, as average account values are expected to continue to decline without additional institutional sales.

Asset Protection

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

Segment results were as follows:

| | Three Months Ended | | Change |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------|---------------|
| | March 31 | | |
| | 2007 | 2006 | |
| | (Dollars in thousands) | | |
| REVENUES | | | |
| Gross premiums and policy fees | \$ 99,420 | \$ 100,690 | (1.3)% |
| Reinsurance ceded | (45,138) | (55,393) | (18.5) |

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

| | | | |
|---|-----------|----------|------|
| Net premiums and policy fees | 54,282 | 45,297 | 19.8 |
| Net investment income | 9,212 | 7,808 | 18.0 |
| Other income | 16,529 | 12,044 | 37.2 |
| Total operating revenues | 80,023 | 65,149 | 22.8 |
| BENEFITS AND EXPENSES | | | |
| Benefits and settlement expenses | 25,815 | 22,209 | 16.2 |
| Amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs | 20,703 | 16,920 | 22.4 |
| Other operating expenses | 23,421 | 17,282 | 35.5 |
| Total benefits and expenses | 69,939 | 56,411 | 24.0 |
| OPERATING INCOME | 10,084 | 8,738 | 15.4 |
| INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAX | \$ 10,084 | \$ 8,738 | 15.4 |

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

| | Three Months Ended | | Change |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|------------|---------|
| | March 31 | | |
| | 2007 | 2006 | |
| | (Dollars in thousands) | | |
| Sales | | | |
| Credit insurance | \$ 28,082 | \$ 31,847 | (11.8)% |
| Service contracts | 72,937 | 53,717 | 35.8 |
| Other products | 38,030 | 16,921 | 124.8 |
| | \$ 139,049 | \$ 102,485 | 35.7 |
| Loss Ratios ⁽¹⁾ | | | |
| Credit insurance | 34.5% | 34.1% | |
| Service contracts | 62.4 | 66.1 | |
| Other products | 30.0 | 31.6 | |

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

Operating income increased 15.4% during the first quarter of 2007 compared to the same period of 2006. Earnings from core product lines are up \$1.7 million for the first quarter of 2007 compared to the prior year, while earnings from lines the segment is no longer marketing declined \$0.3 million for the same period. Within the segment's core product lines, service contract earnings improved \$2.3 million for the quarter. The Western General acquisition completed during the third quarter of 2006, contributed \$0.9 million to the quarterly increase. Credit insurance earnings increased \$0.3 million while earnings from other products declined \$0.9 million for the quarter.

Net premiums and policy fees increased 19.8% for the first quarter of 2007, as compared to 2006, primarily due to increases of \$5.9 million in the service contract line (\$3.9 million of which was due to the Western General acquisition) and \$4.1 million in other products (primarily the GAP product line.) These increases were partially offset by declines of \$0.5 million and \$0.6 million, respectively, in the credit insurance line and lines the segment is no longer marketing. The declines in both the credit insurance lines and the lines the segment is no longer marketing are expected to continue as the business-in-force continues to decline.

Other income increased 37.2% for the first quarter from the same period of the prior year primarily due to increases in administrative fees on service contracts and GAP products resulting from the increased volume of contracts sold in these product lines. The Western General acquisition contributed to the increase, adding \$2.6 million to other income

for the quarter.

Benefits and settlement expenses increased \$3.6 million from the first quarter of 2006, as a result of higher expenses in the service contract line primarily due to the Western General acquisition. Western General accounted for \$1.8 million of the total \$2.9 million increase in the service contract line for the first quarter of 2007 compared to the same period of 2006. Benefits and settlement expense also increased \$1.7 million in the other product lines, reflecting the growth in business in these lines over the past several quarters. The increases were partially offset by declines in credit insurance and lines the segment is no longer marketing of \$0.9 million for the current quarter, reflecting the decrease in net premiums in these lines as discussed above. Benefits and settlement expenses have also been favorably impacted by the continuing improvement in loss ratios, most notably in the service contract product lines. Loss ratios in the service contract lines continue to benefit from the segment's initiatives to increase pricing and tighten the underwriting and claims processes.

Amortization of DAC is \$3.8 million higher for the current quarter compared to the same period of 2006, reflecting the increase in earned premiums in the GAP line. The 35.5% increase for the quarter in other operating expenses is primarily due to higher commissions on service contracts and GAP due to increased volume and higher retrospective commissions resulting from improvements in loss ratios, and the Western General acquisition, which contributed \$4.1 million of operating expense to the current period.

Total segment sales increased 35.7% for the first quarter of 2007 compared to the same period of 2006. Service contract sales continued to improve in the first quarter, exceeding the prior year by 35.8%. The decline in credit insurance sales is due to a significant decrease in sales through financial institutions. The bulk of these sales are derived from a third party administrator relationship which is in runoff. We therefore expect these sales to continue to decline during 2007 compared to 2006 amounts. Other product sales are up in the GAP line and were relatively unchanged in the IPP line.

Corporate and Other

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

The following table summarizes results for this segment:

| | Three Months Ended | | | Change |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------|--|---------------|
| | March 31 | | | |
| | 2007 | 2006 | | |
| | (Dollars in thousands) | | | |
| REVENUES | | | | |
| Gross premiums and policy fees | \$ 9,169 | \$ 10,510 | | (12.8)% |
| Reinsurance ceded | (4) | (4) | | 0.0 |
| Net premiums and policy fees | 9,165 | 10,506 | | (12.8) |
| Net investment income | 36,419 | 28,187 | | 29.2 |
| Realized gains (losses) - investments | 3,150 | 5,326 | | |
| Realized gains (losses) - derivatives | 257 | 1,331 | | |
| Other income | 937 | 3,637 | | (74.2) |
| Total operating revenues | 49,928 | 48,987 | | 1.9 |
| Realized gains (losses) - investments | 3,392 | 5,083 | | |
| Realized gains (losses) - derivatives | (3,369) | 12,345 | | |
| Total revenues | 49,951 | 66,415 | | (24.8) |

BENEFITS AND EXPENSES

| | | | |
|---|----------|-----------|--------|
| Benefits and settlement expenses | 10,069 | 9,270 | 8.6 |
| Amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs | 129 | 955 | (86.5) |
| Other operating expenses | 37,953 | 27,099 | 40.1 |
| Total benefits and expenses | 48,151 | 37,324 | 29.0 |
| INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAX | 1,800 | 29,091 | (93.8) |
| Less realized gains (losses) - investments | 3,392 | 5,083 | |
| Less realized gains (losses) - derivatives | (3,369) | 12,345 | |
| OPERATING INCOME | \$ 1,777 | \$ 11,663 | (84.8) |

Operating income decreased \$9.9 million from the first quarter of 2006, primarily due to higher interest expenses and lower net premiums and policy fees and other income, partially offset by higher net investment income. Operating revenues for the Corporate and Other segment are primarily comprised of net investment income on unallocated capital and net premiums and policy fees related to several non-strategic lines of business. Net investment income for the Corporate and Other segment increased \$8.2 million for the first quarter of 2007 compared to the prior year period, while net premiums and policy fees declined \$1.3 million for the same period. The decline in net premiums and policy fees is the expected result of the runoff of business in the non-strategic lines of business which are no longer being marketed by the Company. The increase in net investment income is primarily the result of an increase in unallocated capital and investment income from proceeds of non-recourse funding obligations compared to the prior year.

Benefits and settlement expenses increased 8.6% during the first quarter of 2007 compared to the same period of 2006 due to a change in reserves in the cancer insurance line. These reserves increased \$0.4 million during the first quarter of 2007, while they decreased \$0.7 million during the same period of 2006, an unfavorable change of \$1.1 million. The net operating loss from all the non-strategic lines of business included in this segment was \$2.0 million for the first quarter of 2007, compared to a net operating loss from these lines of \$1.4 million for the same period of the prior year, an unfavorable change of \$0.6 million.

Other operating expenses increased 40.1% for the first quarter of 2007 compared to the same period of 2006. This increase is primarily due to an \$11.1 million increase in interest expense resulting from increased borrowings, including \$200.0 million of 7.25% Capital Securities issued during 2006 and additional issuances of non-recourse funding obligations.

Realized Gains and Losses

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

| | Three Months Ended | | | Change |
|---|-------------------------------|-------------|----|---------------|
| | March 31 | | | |
| | 2007 | 2006 | | |
| | (Dollars in thousands) | | | |
| Fixed maturity gains - sales | \$ 2,202 | \$ 16,281 | \$ | (14,079) |
| Fixed maturity losses - sales | (3,017) | (20,609) | | 17,592 |
| Equity gains - sales | 5,451 | 235 | | 5,216 |
| Equity losses - sales | 0 | 0 | | 0 |
| Impairments on fixed maturity securities | 0 | 0 | | 0 |
| Impairments on equity securities | (48) | 0 | | (48) |
| Mark to market - Modco trading portfolios | 5,496 | 0 | | 5,496 |

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

| | | | | | | |
|--|----|---------|----|---------|----|----------|
| Other | | 3,210 | | 9,246 | | (6,036) |
| Total realized gains (losses) - investments | \$ | 13,294 | \$ | 5,153 | \$ | 8,141 |
| Foreign currency swaps | \$ | 4,577 | \$ | 926 | \$ | 3,651 |
| Foreign currency adjustments on stable value contracts | | (443) | | (744) | | 301 |
| Derivatives related to corporate debt | | 1,321 | | (5,805) | | 7,126 |
| Derivatives related to mortgage loan commitments | | 0 | | 19,698 | | (19,698) |
| Embedded derivatives related to reinsurance | | (2,837) | | 67 | | (2,904) |
| Other derivatives | | (4,909) | | (805) | | (4,104) |
| Total realized gains (losses) - derivatives | \$ | (2,291) | \$ | 13,337 | \$ | (15,628) |

Realized gains and losses on investments reflect portfolio management activities designed to maintain proper matching of assets and liabilities and to enhance long-term investment portfolio performance. The change in net realized investment gains for the current quarter, excluding impairments, reflects the normal operation of the Company's asset/liability program within the context of the changing interest rate environment. Impairments for the first quarter months of 2007 were less than \$0.1 million, while there were no impairments for the same period of 2006. At March 31, 2007, mark to market adjustments of \$5.5 million to the Company's trading portfolios associated with the Chase Insurance acquisition are also included in realized gains and losses. Additional details on the Company's investment performance and evaluation are provided in the "Consolidated Investments" section below.

Realized investment gains and losses related to derivatives represent changes in the fair value of derivative financial instruments and gains (losses) on derivative contracts closed during the period. The Company has entered into foreign currency swaps to mitigate the risk of changes in the value of principal and interest payments to be made on certain of its foreign currency denominated stable value contracts. The Company recorded net realized gains of \$4.1 million from these securities in the first quarter of 2007. These gains were the result of swap and contract maturities and differences in the related foreign currency spot and forward rates used to value the stable value contracts and foreign currency swaps. The Company also uses interest rate swaps to mitigate interest rate risk related to certain Senior Notes, Medium-Term Notes, and subordinated debt securities. Decreasing interest rates during the current quarter caused the 2007 results from these swaps to compare favorably with the first quarter of 2006. The Company has taken short positions in U.S. Treasury futures to mitigate interest rate risk related to the Company's mortgage loan commitments. There was no activity in futures in the first quarter of 2007.

The Company is also involved in various modified coinsurance and funds withheld arrangements that, in accordance with DIG B36 ("Embedded Derivatives: Modified Coinsurance Arrangements and Debt Instruments That Incorporate Credit Risk Exposures That Are Unrelated or Only Partially Related to the Creditworthiness of the Obligor under Those Instruments"), contain embedded derivatives. The losses on these embedded derivatives were due to decreasing interest rates during the quarter. The investment portfolios that support the related modified coinsurance reserves and funds withheld had mark-to-market gains that substantially offset the losses on these embedded derivatives.

The Company also uses various swaps, options, and swaptions to mitigate risk related to other interest rate exposures of the Company. For the first quarter of 2007, the Company incurred a \$5.3 million loss on swaptions. This loss was due to decreasing interest rates in the current quarter. Equity call options generated a net \$0.3 million gain for the first quarter of 2007.

CONSOLIDATED INVESTMENTS

Portfolio Description

The Company's investment portfolio consists primarily of fixed maturity securities (bonds and redeemable preferred stocks) and commercial mortgage loans. Within its fixed maturity securities, the Company maintains portfolios classified as "available for sale" and "trading". The Company generally purchases its investments with the intent to hold to maturity by purchasing investments that match future cash flow needs. However, the Company may sell any of its investments to maintain proper matching of assets and liabilities. Accordingly, the Company has classified \$17.5 billion or 81.1% of its fixed maturities as "available for sale". These securities are carried at fair value on our Consolidated Balance Sheets. Changes in fair value, net of related DAC and VOBA, are charged or credited directly to share-owners' equity. Changes in fair value that are other than temporary are recorded as realized losses in the Consolidated Statements of Income.

The Company's trading portfolio, which accounts for \$4.1 billion or 18.9% of the Company's fixed maturities, consists of two major categories. First, the Company consolidates a special-purpose entity, in accordance with FASB Interpretation No. 46, "Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities," ("FIN 46"), whose investments are managed by the Company. At March 31, 2007, fixed maturities with a market value of \$405.0 million and short-term investments with a market value of \$6.5 million were classified as "trading" securities related to this special-purpose entity. Additionally, at March 31, 2007 the Company holds fixed maturities with a market value of \$3.7 billion and short-term investments with a market value of \$214.9 million, which were added as part of the Chase Insurance Acquisition. Investment results for these portfolios, including gains and losses from sales, are passed to the reinsurers through the contractual terms of the reinsurance arrangements. Trading securities are carried at fair value and changes in fair value are recorded in net income as they occur. Offsetting these amounts are corresponding changes in the fair value of the embedded derivative liability associated with the underlying reinsurance arrangement.

The Company's investments in debt and equity securities are reported at market value, and investments in mortgage loans are reported at amortized cost. At March 31, 2007, the Company's fixed maturity investments (bonds and redeemable preferred stocks) had a market value of \$21.64 billion, which is 0.8% above amortized cost of \$21.46 billion. The Company had \$4.0 billion in mortgage loans at March 31, 2007. While the Company's mortgage loans do not have quoted market values, at March 31, 2007, the Company estimates the market value of its mortgage loans to be \$4.1 billion (using discounted cash flows from the next call date), which is 2.7% above amortized cost. Most of the Company's mortgage loans have significant prepayment fees. These assets are invested for terms approximately corresponding to anticipated future benefit payments. Thus, market fluctuations are not expected to adversely affect liquidity.

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

| | March 31, 2007 | | December 31, 2006 | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|--------|--------------------------|--------|
| | (Dollars in thousands) | | | |
| Publicly-issued bonds | \$ 19,214,618 | 69.2% | \$ 19,226,461 | 68.8% |
| Privately issued bonds | 2,355,783 | 8.5 | 2,140,718 | 7.7 |
| Redeemable preferred stock | 86 | 0.0 | 84 | 0.0 |
| Fixed maturities | 21,570,487 | 77.7 | 21,367,263 | 76.5 |
| Equity securities | 69,211 | 0.3 | 128,695 | 0.5 |
| Mortgage loans | 4,025,025 | 14.5 | 3,880,028 | 13.9 |
| Investment real estate | 38,828 | 0.1 | 38,918 | 0.1 |
| Policy loans | 822,930 | 3.0 | 839,502 | 3.0 |
| Other long-term investments | 167,571 | 0.6 | 310,225 | 1.1 |
| Short-term investments | 1,064,768 | 3.8 | 1,381,073 | 4.9 |
| Total investments | \$ 27,758,820 | 100.0% | \$ 27,945,704 | 100.0% |

Included in the preceding table are \$4.1 billion and \$3.9 billion of fixed maturities and \$221.4 million and \$311.1 million of short-term investments classified by the Company as trading securities at March 31, 2007 and

December 31, 2006, respectively.

Market values for private, non-traded securities are determined as follows: 1) the Company obtains estimates from independent pricing services or 2) the Company estimates market value based upon a comparison to quoted issues of the same issuer or issues of other issuers with similar terms and risk characteristics. The market value of private, non-traded securities was \$2.4 billion at March 31, 2007, representing 8.5% of the Company's total invested assets.

The Company participates in securities lending, primarily as an investment yield enhancement, whereby securities that are held as investments are loaned to third parties for short periods of time. The Company requires collateral of 102% of the market value of the loaned securities to be separately maintained. The loaned securities' market value is monitored on a daily basis, with additional collateral obtained as necessary. At March 31, 2007, securities with a market value of \$385.6 million were loaned under these agreements. As collateral for the loaned securities, the Company receives short-term investments, which are recorded in "short-term investments" with a corresponding liability recorded in "other liabilities" to account for the Company's obligation to return the collateral.

Risk Management and Impairment Review

The Company monitors the overall credit quality of the Company's portfolio within general guidelines. The following table shows the Company's available for sale fixed maturities by credit rating at March 31, 2007.

| S&P or Equivalent Designation | Market Value (Dollars in thousands) | Percent of Market Value |
|--|--|------------------------------------|
| AAA | \$ 7,600,236 | 43.5% |
| AA | 1,350,905 | 7.7 |
| A | 3,223,957 | 18.4 |
| BBB | 4,967,288 | 28.4 |
| Investment grade | 17,142,386 | 98.0 |
| BB | 244,337 | 1.4 |
| B | 85,952 | 0.5 |
| CCC or lower | 10,180 | 0.1 |
| In or near default | 98 | 0.0 |
| Below investment grade | 340,567 | 2.0 |
| Redeemable preferred stock | 86 | 0.0 |
| Total | \$ 17,483,039 | 100.0% |

Not included in the table above are \$4.1 billion of investment grade and \$30.9 million of less than investment grade fixed maturities classified by the Company as trading securities.

Limiting bond exposure to any creditor group is another way the Company manages credit risk. The following table summarizes the Company's ten largest fixed maturity exposures to an individual creditor group as of March 31, 2007.

| Creditor | Market Value (Dollars in millions) |
|--|--|
| AT&T | \$ 182.7 |
| Citigroup | 129.1 |
| Conoco Phillips | 127.0 |
| Goldman Sachs American International Group | 125.4 |
| General Electric | 121.7 |
| Comcast | 119.7 |
| Bank of America | 119.3 |
| Wachovia | 118.2 |
| PNC Financial Services | 117.4 |
| | 113.5 |

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

The Company generally considers a number of factors in determining whether the impairment is other than temporary. These include, but are not limited to: 1) actions taken by rating agencies, 2) default by the issuer, 3) the significance of the decline, 4) the intent and ability of the Company to hold the investment until recovery, 5) the time period during which the decline has occurred, 6) an economic analysis of the issuer's industry, and 7) the financial strength, liquidity, and recoverability of the issuer. Management performs a security-by-security review each quarter in evaluating the need for any other than temporary impairment. Although no set formula is used in this process, the investment performance, collateral position, and continued viability of the issuer are significant measures considered.

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

There are certain risks and uncertainties associated with determining whether declines in market values are other than temporary. These include significant changes in general economic conditions and business markets, trends in certain industry segments, interest rate fluctuations, rating agency actions, changes in significant accounting estimates and assumptions, commission of fraud, and legislative actions. The Company continuously monitors these factors as they relate to the investment portfolio in determining the status of each investment. Provided below are additional facts concerning the potential effect upon the Company's earnings should circumstances lead management to conclude that some of the current declines in market value are other than temporary.

Unrealized Gains and Losses - Available for Sale Securities

The information presented below relates to investments at a certain point in time and is not necessarily indicative of the status of the portfolio at any time after March 31, 2007, the balance sheet date. Information about unrealized gains and losses is subject to rapidly changing conditions, including volatility of financial markets and changes in interest rates. As indicated above, the Company's management considers a number of factors in determining if an unrealized loss is other than temporary, including its ability and intent to hold the security until recovery. Furthermore, since the timing of recognizing realized gains and losses is largely based on management's decisions as to the timing and selection of investments to be sold, the tables and information provided below should be considered within the context of the overall unrealized gain (loss) position of the portfolio. At March 31, 2007, the Company had an overall pretax net unrealized gain of \$180.9 million.

For traded and private fixed maturity and equity securities held by the Company that are in an unrealized loss position at March 31, 2007, the estimated market value, amortized cost, unrealized loss and total time period that the security has been in an unrealized loss position are presented in the table below.

| | Estimated Market Value | % Market Value | Amortized Cost | % Amortized Cost | Unrealized Loss | % Unrealized Loss |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| (Dollars in thousands) | | | | | | |
| <= 90 days | \$ 1,815,043 | 25.4% | \$ 1,833,684 | 25.1% | \$ (18,641) | 12.2% |
| >90 days but <= 180 days | 200,225 | 2.8 | 204,401 | 2.8 | (4,176) | 2.7 |
| >180 days but <= 270 days | 31,213 | 0.4 | 32,189 | 0.4 | (976) | 0.6 |
| >270 days but <= 1 year | 26,291 | 0.4 | 27,061 | 0.4 | (770) | 0.5 |
| >1 year but <= 2 years | 4,557,064 | 63.7 | 4,658,697 | 63.8 | (101,633) | 66.0 |
| >2 years but <= 3 years | 354,679 | 5.0 | 369,783 | 5.1 | (15,104) | 9.8 |
| >3 years but <= 4 years | 144,490 | 2.0 | 152,954 | 2.1 | (8,464) | 5.5 |
| >4 years but <= 5 years | 109 | 0.0 | 132 | 0.0 | (23) | 0.0 |
| >5 years | 20,441 | 0.3 | 24,635 | 0.3 | (4,194) | 2.7 |
| Total | \$ 7,149,555 | 100.0% | \$ 7,303,536 | 100.0% | \$ (153,981) | 100.0% |

The unrealized losses as of March 31, 2007, primarily relate to the rising interest rate environment experienced over the past several quarters. At March 31, 2007, securities with a market value of \$20.6 million and \$3.8 million of unrealized losses were issued in Company-sponsored commercial mortgage loan securitizations, including \$3.7 million of unrealized losses greater than five years. The Company does not consider these unrealized positions to be other than temporary because the underlying mortgage loans continue to perform consistently with the Company's original expectations.

The Company has no material concentrations of issuers or guarantors of fixed maturity securities. The industry segment composition of all securities in an unrealized loss position held by the Company at March 31, 2007, is presented in the following table.

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

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

| | Market Value | Value | | Cost | | Loss |
|------------------------|--------------|--------|------------------------|--------|--------------|--------|
| | | | (Dollars in thousands) | | | |
| Agency Mortgages | \$ 1,291,654 | 18.0% | \$ 1,315,558 | 18.0% | \$ (23,904) | 15.5% |
| Banking | 591,072 | 8.3 | 601,962 | 8.2 | (10,890) | 7.1 |
| Basic Industrial | 225,179 | 3.1 | 233,983 | 3.2 | (8,804) | 5.7 |
| Brokerage | 222,689 | 3.1 | 225,301 | 3.1 | (2,612) | 1.7 |
| Canadian Govt Agencies | 10,923 | 0.2 | 11,044 | 0.2 | (121) | 0.1 |
| Capital Goods | 68,078 | 1.0 | 69,196 | 1.0 | (1,118) | 0.7 |
| Communications | 205,093 | 2.9 | 214,309 | 2.9 | (9,216) | 6.0 |
| Consumer Cyclical | 174,344 | 2.4 | 185,100 | 2.5 | (10,756) | 7.0 |
| Consumer Noncyclical | 171,571 | 2.4 | 176,306 | 2.4 | (4,735) | 3.1 |
| Electric | 722,011 | 10.1 | 745,284 | 10.2 | (23,273) | 15.1 |
| Energy | 129,388 | 1.8 | 134,142 | 1.8 | (4,754) | 3.1 |
| Finance Companies | 168,463 | 2.3 | 169,745 | 2.4 | (1,282) | 0.8 |
| Insurance | 307,112 | 4.3 | 311,630 | 4.3 | (4,518) | 2.9 |
| Municipal Agencies | 3,015 | 0.0 | 3,027 | 0.0 | (12) | 0.0 |
| Natural Gas | 345,239 | 4.8 | 360,457 | 4.9 | (15,218) | 9.9 |
| Non-Agency Mortgages | 1,917,179 | 26.8 | 1,933,990 | 26.5 | (16,811) | 10.9 |
| Other Finance | 204,636 | 2.9 | 211,370 | 2.9 | (6,734) | 4.4 |
| Other Industrial | 46,873 | 0.7 | 48,774 | 0.7 | (1,901) | 1.2 |
| Other Utility | 14,793 | 0.2 | 15,044 | 0.2 | (251) | 0.2 |
| Technology | 82,960 | 1.2 | 84,398 | 1.2 | (1,438) | 1.0 |
| Transportation | 193,112 | 2.7 | 197,932 | 2.7 | (4,820) | 3.1 |
| U.S. Government | 46,258 | 0.6 | 47,006 | 0.6 | (748) | 0.5 |
| U.S. Govt Agencies | 7,913 | 0.1 | 7,978 | 0.1 | (65) | 0.0 |
| Total | \$ 7,149,555 | 100.0% | \$ 7,303,536 | 100.0% | \$ (153,981) | 100.0% |

The range of maturity dates for securities in an unrealized loss position at March 31, 2007 varies, with 10.6% maturing in less than 5 years, 23.8% maturing between 5 and 10 years, and 65.6% maturing after 10 years. The following table shows the credit rating of securities in an unrealized loss position at March 31, 2007.

| S&P or Equivalent Designation | Estimated Market Value | % Market Value | Amortized Cost | % Amortized Cost | Unrealized Loss | % Unrealized Loss |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|----------------|------------------------|------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| | | | (Dollars in thousands) | | | |
| AAA/AA/A | \$ 4,930,119 | 68.9% | \$ 4,999,353 | 68.5% | \$ (69,234) | 45.0% |
| BBB | 2,043,615 | 28.6 | 2,112,620 | 28.9 | (69,005) | 44.8 |
| Investment grade | 6,973,734 | 97.5 | 7,111,973 | 97.4 | (138,239) | 89.8 |
| BB | 87,725 | 1.2 | 95,458 | 1.3 | (7,733) | 5.0 |
| B | 77,919 | 1.2 | 83,517 | 1.1 | (5,598) | 3.6 |
| CCC or lower | 10,177 | 0.1 | 12,588 | 0.2 | (2,411) | 1.6 |
| Below investment grade | 175,821 | 2.5 | 191,563 | 2.6 | (15,742) | 10.2 |
| Total | \$ 7,149,555 | 100.0% | \$ 7,303,536 | 100.0% | \$ (153,981) | 100.0% |

At March 31, 2007, securities in an unrealized loss position that were rated as below investment grade represented 2.4% of the total market value and 10.2% of the total unrealized loss. Unrealized losses related to below investment grade securities that had been in an unrealized loss position for more than twelve months were \$14.6 million.

Edgar Filing: PROTECTIVE LIFE CORP - Form 10-Q

Securities in an unrealized loss position rated less than investment grade were 0.6% of invested assets. The Company generally purchases its investments with the intent to hold to maturity. The Company does not expect these investments to adversely affect its liquidity or ability to maintain proper matching of assets and liabilities.

The following table shows the estimated market value, amortized cost, unrealized loss and total time period that the security has been in an unrealized loss position for all below investment grade securities.

| | Estimated Market Value | % Market Value | Amortized Cost | % Amortized Cost | Unrealized Loss | % Unrealized Loss |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| | | | (Dollars in thousands) | | | |
| <= 90 days | \$ 23,091 | 13.2% | \$ 23,629 | 12.3% | \$ (538) | 3.4% |
| >90 days but <= 180 days | 9,696 | 5.5 | 9,985 | 5.2 | (289) | 1.8 |
| >180 days but <= 270 days | - | 0.0 | - | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| >270 days but <= 1 year | 4,617 | 2.6 | 4,896 | 2.6 | (279) | 1.8 |
| >1 year but <= 2 years | 63,978 | 36.4 | 69,707 | 36.4 | (5,729) | 36.4 |
| >2 years but <= 3 years | 45,555 | 25.9 | 49,578 | 25.9 | (4,023) | 25.6 |
| >3 years but <= 4 years | 10,434 | 5.9 | 11,664 | 6.1 | (1,230) | 7.8 |
| >4 years but <= 5 years | 20 | 0.0 | 21 | 0.0 | (1) | 0.0 |
| >5 years | 18,430 | 10.5 | 22,083 | 11.5 | (3,653) | 23.2 |
| Total | \$ 175,821 | 100.0% | \$ 191,563 | 100.0% | \$ (15,742) | 100.0% |

At March 31, 2007, below investment grade securities with a market value of \$18.7 million and \$3.3 million of unrealized losses were issued in Company-sponsored commercial mortgage loan securitizations, including securities in an unrealized loss position greater than 5 years with a market value of \$16.5 million and \$3.2 million of unrealized losses. The Company does not consider these unrealized positions to be other than temporary because the underlying mortgage loans continue to perform consistently with the Company's original expectations.

Realized Losses

Realized losses are comprised of both write-downs for other than temporary impairments and actual sales of investments. For the first three months of 2007, the Company recorded pretax other than temporary impairments in its investments of \$0.1 million, while no such impairments for the same period of 2006.

As previously discussed, the Company's management considers several factors when determining other than temporary impairments. Although the Company generally intends to hold securities until maturity, the Company may change its position as a result of a change in circumstances. Any such decision is consistent with the Company's classification of all but a specific portion of its investment portfolio as available for sale. During the three months ended March 31, 2007, the Company sold securities in an unrealized loss position with a market value of \$881.8 million resulting in a realized loss of \$3.6 million. The securities were sold as a result of normal portfolio rebalancing activity and tax planning. For such securities, the proceeds, realized loss, and total time period that the security had been in an unrealized loss position are presented in the table below.

| | Proceeds | % Proceeds | Realized Loss | % Realized Loss |
|---------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| | | | (Dollars in thousands) | |
| <= 90 days | \$ 876,930 | 99.4% | \$ (3,497) | 98.2% |
| >90 days but <= 180 days | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| >180 days but <= 270 days | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| >270 days but <= 1 year | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| > 1 year | 4,865 | 0.6 | (64) | 1.8 |
| Total | \$ 881,795 | 100.0% | \$ (3,561) | 100.0% |

Mortgage Loans

The Company records mortgage loans net of an allowance for credit losses. This allowance is calculated through analysis of specific loans that are believed to be at a higher risk of becoming impaired in the near future. At March 31, 2007 and December 31, 2006, the Company's allowance for mortgage loan credit losses was \$0.5 million and \$0.5 million, respectively.

For several years the Company has offered a type of commercial mortgage loan under which the Company will permit a slightly higher loan-to-value ratio in exchange for a participating interest in the cash flows from the underlying real estate. As of March 31, 2007, approximately \$551.6 million of the Company's mortgage loans have this participation feature.

At March 31, 2007, delinquent mortgage loans and foreclosed properties were less than 0.1% of invested assets. The Company does not expect these investments to adversely affect its liquidity or ability to maintain proper matching of assets and liabilities.

LIABILITIES

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

At March 31, 2007, the Company had policy liabilities and accruals of \$16.3 billion. The Company's interest-sensitive life insurance policies have a weighted average minimum credited interest rate of approximately 3.75%.

LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

Liquidity

The Company meets its liquidity requirements primarily through positive cash flows from its operating subsidiaries. Primary sources of cash from the operating subsidiaries are premiums, deposits for policyholder accounts, investment sales and maturities, and investment income. Primary uses of cash for the operating subsidiaries include benefit payments, withdrawals from policyholder accounts, investment purchases, policy acquisition costs, and other operating expenses.

While the Company generally anticipates that the cash flows of its subsidiaries will be sufficient to meet their investment commitments and operating cash needs, the Company recognizes that investment commitments scheduled to be funded may, from time to time, exceed the funds then available. Therefore, the Company has established

repurchase agreement programs for certain of its insurance subsidiaries to provide liquidity when needed. The Company expects that the rate received on its investments will equal or exceed its borrowing rate. Additionally, the Company may, from time to time, sell short-duration stable value products to complement its cash management practices. The Company has also used securitization transactions involving its commercial mortgage loans to increase liquidity for the operating subsidiaries.

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

The life insurance subsidiaries were committed at March 31, 2007, to fund mortgage loans in the amount of \$1.1 billion. The Company's subsidiaries held \$1.2 billion in cash and short-term investments at March 31, 2007. Protective Life Corporation had an additional \$2.7 million in cash and short-term investments available for general corporate purposes.

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

Capital Resources

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

Golden Gate Captive Insurance Company ("Golden Gate"), a special purpose financial captive insurance company wholly owned by Protective Life Insurance Company ("Protective Life"), the Company's largest operating subsidiary, has \$525 million of non-recourse funding obligations outstanding at March 31, 2007, which bear a floating rate of interest and mature in 2037. These non-recourse funding obligations were issued under a surplus notes facility established with certain purchasers through which Golden Gate may issue up to an aggregate of \$600 million of non-recourse funding obligations through June 2007.

In May 2004, the Company's Board of Directors authorized a \$100 million share repurchase program, available through May 2, 2007. On May 7, 2007, the Board re-authorized this program through May 6, 2010. There has been no activity under this program, and future activity will be dependent upon many factors, including capital levels, rating agency expectations, and the relative attractiveness of alternative uses for capital.

A life insurance company's statutory capital is computed according to rules prescribed by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners ("NAIC"), as modified by state law. Generally speaking, other states in which a company does business defer to the interpretation of the domiciliary state with respect to NAIC rules, unless inconsistent with the other state's law. Statutory accounting rules are different from U.S. GAAP and are intended to reflect a more conservative view by, for example, requiring immediate expensing of policy acquisition costs. The NAIC's risk-based capital requirements require insurance companies to calculate and report information under a risk-based capital formula. The achievement of long-term growth will require growth in the statutory capital of the Company's insurance subsidiaries. The subsidiaries may secure additional statutory capital through various sources,

such as retained statutory earnings or equity contributions by the Company.

Contractual Obligations

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

As a result of the adoption of FIN 48, the Company recorded a \$29.8 million liability for uncertain tax positions, including interest on unrecognized tax benefits. These amounts are not included in the long-term contractual obligations table because of the difficulty in making reasonably reliable estimates of the occurrence or timing of cash settlements with the respective taxing authorities (see Note 1 to the Consolidated Condensed Financial Statements for additional discussion).

| | Total | Payments due by period | | | More than 5 years |
|--|------------|------------------------|------------------------|-----------|----------------------|
| | | Less than 1 year | 1-3 years | 3-5 years | |
| | | | (Dollars in thousands) | | |
| Long-term debt ^(a) | \$ 606,847 | \$ 73,950 | \$ 41,953 | \$ 52,022 | \$ 438,922 |
| Non-recourse funding obligations ^(b) | 1,626,004 | 35,805 | 71,610 | 71,610 | 1,446,979 |
| Subordinated debt securities ^(c) | 1,979,184 | 37,147 | 74,294 | 74,294 | 1,793,449 |
| Stable value products ^(d) | 5,984,529 | 1,622,432 | 1,984,895 | 1,172,055 | 1,205,147 |
| Operating leases ^(e) | 38,293 | 6,972 | 12,563 | 9,433 | 9,325 |
| Home office lease ^(f) | 105,668 | 4,525 | 9,050 | 9,050 | 83,043 |
| Mortgage loan commitments | 1,007,274 | 1,007,274 | | | |
| Liabilities related to variable interest entities ^(g) | 509,830 | 22,985 | 46,186 | 413,929 | 26,730 |
| Policyholder obligations ^(h) | 18,939,263 | 1,285,163 | 2,253,842 | 2,402,230 | 12,998,028 |
| Defined benefit pension obligations ⁽ⁱ⁾ | 1,232 | 1,232 | | | |

(a) Long-term debt includes all principal amounts owed on note agreements, and includes expected interest payments due over the term of the notes.

(b) Non-recourse funding obligations include all principal amounts owed on note agreements, and include expected interest payments due over the term of the notes.

(c) Subordinated debt securities includes all principal amounts owed to non-consolidated special purpose finance subsidiaries of the Company, and includes interest payments due over the term of the obligations.

(d) Anticipated stable value products cash flows, including interest.

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

(f) The lease payments shown assume the Company exercises its option to purchase the building at the end of the lease term.

(g) Liabilities related to variable interest entities are not the legal obligations of the Company, but will be repaid with cash flows generated by the variable interest entities. The amounts represent scheduled principal and expected interest payments.

(h) Estimated contractual policyholder obligations are based on mortality, morbidity, and lapse assumptions comparable to the Company's historical experience, modified for recent observed trends. These obligations are based

on current balance sheet values and include expected interest crediting, but do not incorporate an expectation of future market growth, or future deposits. Due to the significance of the assumptions used, the amounts presented could materially differ from actual results. As separate account obligations are legally insulated from general account obligations, the separate account obligations will be fully funded by cash flows from separate account assets. The Company expects to fully fund the general account obligations from cash flows from general account investments. (i) Estimated 2007 contributions to the Company's defined benefit pension plan and unfunded excess benefit plan approximate the projected expense to be recognized in 2007. Due to the significance of the assumptions used, this amount could differ from actual results. No estimate has been made of amounts to be contributed to these plans in years subsequent to 2007.

MARKET RISK EXPOSURES AND OFF-BALANCE SHEET ARRANGEMENTS

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

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

Derivative instruments that are currently used as part of the Company's interest rate risk management strategy include interest rate swaps, interest rate futures, interest rate options and interest rate swaptions. The Company's inflation risk management strategy involves the use of swaps that require the Company to pay a fixed rate and receive a floating rate that is based on changes in the Consumer Price Index ("CPI"). The Company uses foreign currency swaps to manage its exposure to changes in the value of foreign currency denominated stable value contracts. The Company also uses S&P 500[®] options to mitigate its exposure to the value of equity indexed annuity contracts.

Derivative instruments expose the Company to credit and market risk and could result in material changes from quarter-to-quarter. The Company minimizes its credit risk by entering into transactions with highly rated counterparties. The Company manages the market risk associated with interest rate and foreign exchange contracts by establishing and monitoring limits as to the types and degrees of risk that may be undertaken. The Company monitors its use of derivatives in connection with its overall asset/liability management programs and procedures.

In the ordinary course of its commercial mortgage lending operations, the Company will commit to provide a mortgage loan before the property to be mortgaged has been built or acquired. The mortgage loan commitment is a contractual obligation to fund a mortgage loan when called upon by the borrower. The commitment is not recognized in the Company's financial statements until the commitment is actually funded. The mortgage loan commitment contains terms, including the rate of interest, which may be different than prevailing interest rates. At March 31, 2007, the Company had outstanding mortgage loan commitments of \$1.1 billion at an average rate of 6.28%.

The Company believes its asset/liability management programs and procedures and certain product features provide protection for the Company against the effects of changes in interest rates under various scenarios.

Additionally, the Company believes its asset/liability management programs and procedures provide sufficient liquidity to enable it to fulfill its obligation to pay benefits under its various insurance and deposit contracts. However, the Company's asset/liability management programs and procedures incorporate assumptions about the relationship between short-term and long-term interest rates (i.e., the slope of the yield curve), relationships between risk-adjusted and risk-free interest rates, market liquidity and other factors, and the effectiveness of the Company's asset/liability management programs and procedures may be negatively affected whenever actual results differ from those assumptions.

RECENTLY ISSUED ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

See Note 1 to the Consolidated Condensed Financial Statements for information regarding recently issued accounting standards.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

A proposal to amend Actuarial Guideline 38 (promulgated by the NAIC and part of the codification of statutory accounting principles) was approved by the NAIC, with an effective date of July 1, 2005. Actuarial Guideline 38, also known as AXXX, sets forth the reserve requirements for universal life insurance with secondary guarantees ("ULSG"). The changes to Actuarial Guideline 38 increase the reserve levels required for many ULSG products, and potentially make those products more expensive and less competitive as compared to other products including term and whole life products. The changes to Actuarial Guideline 38 affect only policies with an issue date of July 1, 2005 and later, and reduce the competitiveness and/or profitability of newly written ULSG products compared to traditional whole life or other high cash value insurance products or other products supported by relatively inexpensive capital (such as reinsurance of redundant reserves). To the extent that the additional reserves are generally considered to be economically redundant, capital market or other solutions may emerge to reduce the impact of the amendment. The ability of the Company to implement such solutions is at least partially dependent on factors such as the ratings of the Company, the size of the blocks of business affected, the mortality experience of the Company and other factors. The Company cannot predict the continued availability of such solutions to the Company or the form that the market may dictate. The NAIC is continuing to study this issue and has issued additional changes to AG38 and Regulation XXX, which will have the effect of modestly decreasing the reserves required for term and universal life policies that are issued on January 1, 2007, and later. In addition, accounting and actuarial groups within the NAIC have studied whether to change the accounting standards that relate to certain reinsurance credits, and whether, if changes are made, they are to be applied retrospectively, prospectively only, or in a phased-in manner; a requirement to reduce the reserve credit on ceded business, if applied retroactively, would have a negative impact on the statutory capital of the Company. The NAIC is also currently working to reform state regulation in various areas, including comprehensive reforms relating to life insurance reserves.

During 2006, the NAIC made the determination that certain securities previously classified as "preferred securities" had both debt and equity characteristics and because of this, required unique reporting treatment. Under a short-term solution, NAIC guidance mandates that certain of these securities (meeting established criteria) may have to carry a lower rating for asset valuation reserve and risk based capital calculations. As a result, certain securities will receive a lower rating classification for asset valuation reserve and risk based capital calculations. The Company's insurance subsidiaries currently invest in these securities. As of March 31, 2007, the Company (including both insurance and non-insurance subsidiaries) holds approximately \$200 million (statutory carrying value) in securities that meet the aforementioned "notch-down" criteria, depending on evaluation of the underlying characteristics of the securities. This reporting change is expected to have an immaterial effect on the insurance subsidiaries' capital and surplus position, but will increase the capital required to hold these assets. A working group of the NAIC made up of accounting, actuarial and investment parties continue to investigate so as to determine what the appropriate long-term capital treatment should be for these securities. The Company cannot predict what impact a change in this guidance may have.

During 2006, the NAIC's Reinsurance Task Force adopted a proposal suggesting broad changes to the United States reinsurance market, with the stated intent to establish a regulatory system that distinguishes financially strong reinsurers from weak reinsurers, without relying exclusively on their state or country of domicile, with collateral to be determined as appropriate. The task force recommended that regulation of reinsurance procedures be amended to focus on broad based risk and credit criteria and not solely on U.S. licensure status. Evaluation of this proposal will be taken under consideration by the NAIC's Financial Condition (E) Committee, the Reinsurance Task Force's parent committee, as one of its charges during 2007. The Company cannot provide any assurance as to what impact such changes to the United States reinsurance industry will have on the availability, cost, or collateral restrictions associated with ongoing or future reinsurance transactions.

The NAIC is currently in the process of reviewing amendment(s) to the Unfair Trade Practices Act regarding the use of travel in insurance underwriting. The most recent amendment states that the denial of life insurance based upon an individual's past lawful travel experiences or future lawful travel plans, is prohibited unless such action is the result of the application of sound underwriting and actuarial principles related to actual or reasonably anticipated loss experience. The Company cannot predict what form the final proposal may take and therefore cannot predict what impact, if any, such changes would have to the Company.

The financial services industry has become the focus of increased scrutiny by regulatory and law enforcement authorities relating to allegations of improper special payments, price-fixing, bid-rigging, and other alleged misconduct, including payments made by insurers and other financial service providers to brokers and the practices surrounding the placement of insurance business and sales of other financial products, as well as practices related to finite reinsurance. Some publicly held companies have been the subject of enforcement or other actions relating to corporate governance and the integrity of financial statements, most recently relating to the issuance of stock options. Such publicity may generate inquiries to or litigation against publicly held companies and/or financial service providers, even those who do not engage in the business lines or practices currently at issue. It is impossible to predict the outcome of these investigations or proceedings, whether they will expand into other areas not yet contemplated, whether they will result in changes in insurance regulation, whether activities currently thought to be lawful will be characterized as unlawful, or the impact, if any, of this increased regulatory and law enforcement scrutiny of the financial services industry on the Company. As some inquiries appear to encompass a large segment of the financial services industry, it would not be unusual for large numbers of companies in the financial services industry to receive subpoenas, requests for information from regulatory authorities, or other inquiries relating to these and similar matters. From time to time, the Company receives subpoenas, requests, or other inquiries and responds to them in the ordinary course of business.

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

In connection with the Company's discontinued Lender's Indemnity product, the Company has discovered facts and circumstances that support allegations by the Company against third parties (including policyholders), and the Company has instituted litigation to establish the rights and liabilities of the various parties; the Company has received at least one claim seeking to assert liability against the Company for policies for which premiums were not received by the Company, and the litigation encompasses such claims. In addition, the Company is defending a class action lawsuit relating to the calculation of certain benefits under the policies. Although the Company cannot predict the outcome of any litigation, the Company does not believe that the outcome of these matters will have a material impact on the financial condition or results of operations of the Company.

Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

There has been no material change from the disclosures in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2006.

Item 4. Controls and Procedures

(a) Disclosure controls and procedures

Under the direction of our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, we evaluated our disclosure controls and procedures (as such term is defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“the Exchange Act”) as of the end of the period covered by this report and concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of such date. It should be noted that any system of controls, no matter how well designed and operated, can provide only reasonable, not absolute, assurance that the control system’s objectives will be met. Further, the design of any control system is based in part upon certain judgments, including the costs and benefits of controls and the likelihood of future events. Because of these and other inherent limitations of control systems, no evaluation of controls can provide absolute assurance that all control issues, if any, within the Company have been detected.

(b) Changes in internal control over financial reporting

As a result of the 2006 acquisitions of the Chase Insurance Group and Western General, the Company is in the process of making a number of significant changes in its internal controls over financial reporting beginning in the third quarter of 2006. The changes involve combining and centralizing the financial reporting process and the attendant personnel, and system changes. The Company expects this process to continue as we continue to integrate the new businesses into our existing corporate structure. Except as described above, no changes in our internal control over financial reporting occurred during the quarter ended March 31, 2007 that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, such internal control over financial reporting. Our internal controls exist within a dynamic environment and the Company continually strives to improve its internal controls and procedures to enhance the quality of its financial reporting.

PART II

Item 1A. Risk Factors and Cautionary Factors that may Affect Future Results

The operating results of companies in the insurance industry have historically been subject to significant fluctuations. The factors which could affect the Company’s future results include, but are not limited to, general economic conditions and the known trends and uncertainties. In addition to other information set forth in this report, you should carefully consider the factors discussed in Part I, Item 1A, “Risk Factors and Cautionary Factors that may Affect Future Results” in the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2006, which could materially affect the Company’s business, financial condition, or future results of operations.

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

During the quarter ended March 31, 2007, the Company issued no securities in transactions which were not registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the “Act”).

Item 6. Exhibits

Exhibit 10(a) Amendment to the Company's Long-Term Incentive Plan as amended and restated as of May 5, 2003.

Exhibit 10(b) Amended and Restated Lease Agreement dated as of January 11, 2007, between Wachovia Development Company (an assignee of Wachovia Capital Investments, Inc.) and Protective Life Insurance Company.

Exhibit 10(c) Amended and Restated Investment and Participation Agreement dated as of January 11, 2007, between Protective Life Insurance Company and Wachovia Development Corporation (an assignee of Wachovia Capital Investments, Inc.).

Exhibit 10(d) Amended and Restated Guaranty between the Company and Wachovia Development Corporation dated as of January 11, 2007.

Exhibit 31(a) - Certification Pursuant to §302 of the Sarbanes Oxley Act of 2002.

Exhibit 31(b) - Certification Pursuant to §302 of the Sarbanes Oxley Act of 2002.

Exhibit 32(a) - Certification Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. §1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes Oxley Act of 2002.

Exhibit 32(b) - Certification Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. §1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes Oxley Act of 2002.

Exhibit 99 - Safe Harbor for Forward Looking Statements.

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

PROTECTIVE LIFE CORPORATION

Date: May 10, 2007 /s/ Steven G. Walker

Steven G. Walker

Senior Vice President, Controller

and Chief Accounting Officer

(Duly authorized officer)