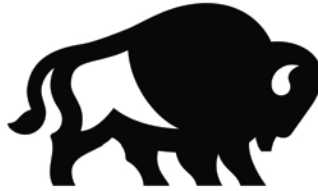


HilltopSecurities



A Hilltop Holdings CompanySM

Hilltop Securities Inc.

Statement of Financial Condition

For the Year Ended December 31, 2017

With Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

Filed pursuant to Rule 17a(3)(3) under the
Securities Exchange Act of 1934
as a PUBLIC DOCUMENT

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

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**ANNUAL AUDITED REPORT
FORM X-17A-5
PART III**

SEC FILE NUMBER
8-

FACING PAGE

**Information Required of Brokers and Dealers Pursuant to Section 17 of the
Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Rule 17a-5 Thereunder**

REPORT FOR THE PERIOD BEGINNING January 1, 2017 AND ENDING December 31, 2017
MM/DD/YY MM/DD/YY

A. REGISTRANT IDENTIFICATION

NAME OF BROKER-DEALER: Hilltop Securities Inc.

OFFICIAL USE ONLY
FIRM I.D. NO.

ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS: (Do not use P.O. Box No.)

1201 Elm Street, Suite 3500

(No. and Street)

Dallas

TX

75270

(City)

(State)

(Zip Code)

NAME AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF PERSON TO CONTACT IN REGARD TO THIS REPORT

Laura Leventhal

214-859-1026

(Area Code - Telephone Number)

B. ACCOUNTANT IDENTIFICATION

INDEPENDENT PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT whose opinion is contained in this Report*

PricewaterhouseCoopers

(Name - if individual, state last, first, middle name)

2001 Ross Ave, Suite 1800

Dallas

TX

75201

(Address)

(City)

(State)

(Zip Code)

CHECK ONE:



Certified Public Accountant



Public Accountant



Accountant not resident in United States or any of its possessions.

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

*Claims for exemption from the requirement that the annual report be covered by the opinion of an independent public accountant must be supported by a statement of facts and circumstances relied on as the basis for the exemption. See Section 240.17a-5(e)(2)

OATH OR AFFIRMATION

I, Hill A. Feinberg, swear (or affirm) that, to the best of my knowledge and belief the accompanying financial statement and supporting schedules pertaining to the firm of Hilltop Securities Inc. of December 31, 2017, are true and correct. I further swear (or affirm) that neither the company nor any partner, proprietor, principal officer or director has any proprietary interest in any account classified solely as that of a customer, except as follows:



Hill A Feinberg
Signature

Chief Executive Officer
Title

Renee P Varela
Notary Public

This report ** contains (check all applicable boxes):

- (a) Facing Page.
(b) Statement of Financial Condition.
(c) Statement of Income (Loss).
(d) Statement of Changes in Financial Condition.
(e) Statement of Changes in Stockholders' Equity or Partners' or Sole Proprietors' Capital.
(f) Statement of Changes in Liabilities Subordinated to Claims of Creditors.
(g) Computation of Net Capital.
(h) Computation for Determination of Reserve Requirements Pursuant to Rule 15c3-3.
(i) Information Relating to the Possession or Control Requirements Under Rule 15c3-3.
(j) A Reconciliation, including appropriate explanation of the Computation of Net Capital Under Rule 15c3-1 and the Computation for Determination of the Reserve Requirements Under Exhibit A of Rule 15c3-3.
(k) A Reconciliation between the audited and unaudited Statements of Financial Condition with respect to methods of consolidation.
(l) An Oath or Affirmation.
(m) A copy of the SIPC Supplemental Report.
(n) A report describing any material inadequacies found to exist or found to have existed since the date of the previous audit.

**For conditions of confidential treatment of certain portions of this filing, see section 240.17a-5(e)(3).



Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Board of Directors and Stockholder of Hilltop Securities Inc.

Opinion on the Financial Statement – Statement of Financial Condition

We have audited the accompanying statement of financial condition of Hilltop Securities Inc. as of December 31, 2017, including the related notes (collectively referred to as the “financial statement”). In our opinion, the financial statement presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company as of December 31, 2017 in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

The financial statement is the responsibility of the Company’s management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company’s financial statement based on our audit. We are a public accounting firm registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (“PCAOB”) and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audit of this financial statement in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statement is free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud.

Our audit included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statement, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statement. Our audit also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statement. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

February 22, 2018

We have served as the Company’s or its predecessor auditor since 2013.

Hilltop Securities Inc.
Statement of Financial Condition
December 31, 2017

(dollars in thousands, except par and redemption values)

Assets

Cash	\$	12,655
Assets segregated for regulatory purposes		186,578
Receivable from brokers, dealers and clearing organizations (including \$75 due from affiliates)		1,776,768
Receivable from clients, net of allowance of \$353		379,101
Securities owned, at fair value		720,864
Securities purchased under agreements to resell		186,537
Goodwill		7,008
Customer intangible, net of accumulated amortization of \$9,399		7,401
Fixed assets, at cost, less accumulated depreciation of \$12,732		16,330
Net deferred tax asset		10,741
Other assets (including \$1,974 due from affiliates)		64,484
Total assets	\$	<u><u>3,368,467</u></u>

Liabilities and Stockholder's Equity

Short-term borrowings	\$	315,500
Payable to brokers, dealers, and clearing organizations (including \$457 due to affiliates)		1,288,020
Payable to clients (including \$300 clearing deposit due to affiliate)		531,021
Drafts payable		25,152
Securities sold, not yet purchased, at fair value		232,821
Securities sold under agreements to repurchase		409,058
Notes payable due to affiliate		74,652
Subordinated debt due to affiliate		42,000
Accrued expenses and other liabilities (including \$10,799 due to affiliates)		134,768
Total liabilities		<u>3,052,992</u>

Stockholder's equity:

Series A preferred stock, \$20 par value, \$1,000 redemption value; authorized 100,000 shares; no shares issued and outstanding	-
Class A voting common stock of \$1 par value; authorized 10,000 shares; issued and outstanding 2,820 shares	3
Class B nonvoting common stock of \$1 par value; authorized 10,000 shares; none issued	-
Additional paid-in capital	287,678
Retained earnings	27,794
Total stockholder's equity	<u>315,475</u>
Total liabilities and stockholder's equity	<u><u>\$ 3,368,467</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement.

Hilltop Securities Inc.

Notes to the Statement of Financial Condition

December 31, 2017

(dollars in thousands, except par and redemption values)

1. Organization

Hilltop Securities Inc. (the "Company"), a Delaware Company and a wholly owned subsidiary of Hilltop Securities Holdings LLC ("Securities Holdings"), a wholly owned subsidiary of Hilltop Holdings Inc. ("Parent"), is a New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE") member broker/dealer, a registered investment advisor and a member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA"). The Company is registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") as a broker/dealer under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Exchange Act") and as a registered investment advisor under the Investment Advisors Act of 1940. The Company is also registered with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC") as a non-guaranteed introducing broker and is a member of the National Futures Association ("NFA").

Pursuant to the SEC Rule 11(a) of the Exchange Act, over 50% of the Company's revenues are comprised of Section 11(a) items, indicating the Company is primarily engaged in trading on behalf of customers.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Securities Transactions

Proprietary securities transactions are recorded on trade date, as if they had settled. Clients' securities and commodities transactions are reported on a settlement date basis with related commission income and expenses reported on a trade date basis.

Marketable securities are valued at fair value, based on quoted market prices, and securities not readily marketable are valued at fair value as determined by management. The Company evaluates fair value measurements by considering observable data that may include prices from independent pricing services, dealer quotes, market spreads, cash flows, the U.S. Treasury yield curve, live trading levels, trade execution data, and the financial instruments' terms and conditions, among other factors. The increase or decrease in net unrealized appreciation or depreciation of securities owned is credited or charged to operations and is included in net gains on principal transactions in the Statement of Operations. Interest income is recorded on these securities when earned.

Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Fixed assets are comprised of furniture and equipment (\$20,775) and leasehold improvements (\$8,287) which are stated at cost. Depreciation of furniture and equipment is provided over the estimated useful lives of the assets (from three to seven years), and depreciation on leasehold improvements is provided over the shorter of the useful life or the lease term (up to fifteen years) using the straight-line method. Additions, improvements and expenditures for repairs and maintenance that significantly extend the useful life of an asset are capitalized. Other expenditures for repairs and maintenance are charged to expense in the period incurred.

Goodwill and Customer Intangible

The Parent performs required annual impairment tests of its goodwill as of October 1st for each of its reporting units. Goodwill is assigned to reporting units at the date the goodwill is initially recorded. Once goodwill has been assigned to reporting units, it no longer retains its association with a particular acquisition, and all of the activities within a reporting unit, whether acquired or internally generated, are available to support the value of the goodwill. As of January 1, 2017, the Parent adopted the provisions of Accounting Standard Update ("ASU") 2017-04 which removes Step 2 from the goodwill impairment test

Hilltop Securities Inc.
Notes to the Statement of Financial Condition
December 31, 2017

(dollars in thousands, except par and redemption values)

and eliminates the determination of goodwill impairment through calculation of the implied fair value when the carrying amount of a reporting unit exceeds its fair value. The goodwill impairment test requires the Parent to make judgments in determining what assumptions to use in the calculation. The process consists of estimating the fair value of each reporting unit based on valuation techniques, including a discounted cash flow model using revenue and profit forecasts and recent industry transaction and trading multiples of the Parent's peers, and comparing those estimated fair values with the carrying values of the assets and liabilities of the reporting unit, which includes the allocated goodwill. If the estimated fair value is less than the carrying value, the Parent will recognize an impairment charge, pushed down to the reporting unit, for the amount by which the carrying amount exceeds the reporting unit's fair value; however, the loss recognized will not exceed the total amount of goodwill allocated to that reporting unit.

At October 1, 2017, the Parent determined that the estimated fair value of each of its reporting units, including the Company, exceeded its carrying value. As a result, the Parent concluded that the Company's goodwill was fully realizable, indicating no impairment of the Company's goodwill.

The Company recorded two separate customer relationship intangibles as part of the acquisition of the Company by the Parent in November 2012 and the merger with the Parent in January 2015, which are being amortized over a 12 and 14 year period, respectively, at a rate based on the sum of the years digits.

Intangible assets with indefinite useful lives are tested for impairment annually as of October 1st, or more often if events or circumstances indicate there may be impairment, and not amortized until their lives are determined to be definite by the Parent. If impaired, the intangible assets are recorded at fair value.

The Company did not determine that an impairment for the Company's intangible assets was deemed necessary upon their evaluation on October 1, 2017.

Resale and Repurchase Agreements

Transactions involving purchases of securities under agreements to resell (reverse repurchase agreements or reverse repos) or sales of securities under agreements to repurchase (repurchase agreements or repos) are accounted for as collateralized financings. It is the policy of the Company to obtain possession of collateral with a fair value equal to or in excess of the principal amount loaned under resale agreements. Collateral is valued daily, and the Company may require counterparties to deposit additional collateral or return collateral pledged when appropriate. Interest payable and interest receivable on these amounts are included in the Statement of Financial Condition in other liabilities and other assets, respectively.

Securities Borrowing and Lending Activities

Securities borrowed and securities loaned transactions are generally reported as collateralized financings. Securities borrowed transactions require the Company to deposit cash, letters of credit, or other collateral with the lender. With respect to securities loaned, the Company receives collateral in the form of cash in an amount generally in excess of the fair value of securities loaned. The Company monitors the fair value of securities borrowed and loaned on a daily basis, with additional collateral obtained or refunded as necessary. Securities borrowed and securities loaned transactions are recorded at the amount of cash collateral advanced or received adjusted for additional collateral obtained or received. Securities borrowed and securities loaned, as well as the interest accrued on such transactions are included in the Statement of Financial Condition in receivables from and payables to brokers, dealers and clearing organizations. Interest revenue and interest expense on securities borrowed and securities loaned transactions are included in the Statement of Operations in interest revenue and interest expense, respectively.

Hilltop Securities Inc.
Notes to the Statement of Financial Condition
December 31, 2017

(dollars in thousands, except par and redemption values)

Drafts Payable

In the normal course of business, the Company uses drafts to make payments relating to its brokerage transactions. These drafts are presented for payment through an unaffiliated bank and are sent to the Company daily for review and acceptance. Upon acceptance, the drafts are paid and charged against cash.

Cash Flow Reporting

For purposes of the statement of cash flows, the Company considers cash to include cash on hand and in bank accounts. In addition, highly liquid debt instruments purchased with maturities of three months or less, when acquired, are considered to be cash equivalents. The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation ("FDIC") insures deposit accounts up to \$250. At December 31, 2017, the cash balances included \$11,363 that was not federally insured because they exceeded federal insurance limits. This at-risk amount is subject to fluctuation on a daily basis, but management does not believe there is significant risk on these deposits.

Derivative Financial Instruments

Derivative financial instruments arise from the execution of forward purchase commitments of mortgage-backed securities with certain clients that allow those clients to make mortgage loans at agreed-upon rates. The Company hedges the interest rate risk generated by the forward purchase commitments by executing forward sales of to-be-announced mortgage-backed securities (TBA). The amount hedged is influenced by the Company's estimated ratio of the forward purchase commitments that will not be securitized into mortgage-backed securities as part of the program (fallout rate). The Company uses historical experience, changes in interest rates, and other factors to determine the fallout rate.

Additionally, the Company enters into TBA agreements to assist clients (generally small to mid-size mortgage loan originators) in hedging the interest rate risk associated with the mortgages owned by the clients. In general, the Company will enter into a TBA purchase agreement with the client and then immediately enter into a TBA sale agreement with identical terms and the same settlement date with a separate counter-party.

While both the forward purchase commitments and TBAs meet the definition of a derivative under the provisions of the Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") 815 "Derivatives and Hedging," they do not qualify for hedge accounting. However, the Company mitigates interest rate risk and volatility in reported earnings by selling TBAs with characteristics similar to the forward purchase commitments of mortgage-backed securities. The securities are carried at fair value and recorded in other assets and other liabilities in the Statement of Financial Condition with unrealized and realized gains recorded in net gains/losses on principal transactions in the Statement of Operations.

Income Taxes

The Company files a consolidated federal income tax return with its Parent. For purposes of these financial statements, income taxes are computed on the benefits-for-loss method.

Income taxes are accounted for under the asset and liability method. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are recognized for the estimated future tax consequences attributable to differences between the financial statement carrying amounts of existing assets and liabilities and their respective tax bases and operating loss and tax credit carryforwards. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured using enacted tax rates in effect for the year in which those temporary differences are expected to be recovered or settled. The

Hilltop Securities Inc.
Notes to the Statement of Financial Condition
December 31, 2017

(dollars in thousands, except par and redemption values)

effect on deferred tax assets and liabilities of a change in tax rates is recognized in income in the period that includes the enactment date.

Fair Value of Financial Instruments

Fair value accounting establishes a framework for measuring fair value. Under fair value accounting, fair value refers to the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants on the measurement date in the principal market in which the reporting entity transacts. Further, fair value should be based on the assumptions market participants would use when pricing the asset or liability. In support of this principle, fair value accounting establishes a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the information used to develop those assumptions. The fair value hierarchy gives the highest priority to quoted prices in active markets and the lowest priority to unobservable data. Under the standard, fair value measurements are separately disclosed by level within the fair value hierarchy.

The standard describes three levels of inputs that may be used to measure fair value:

- Level 1 — Quoted prices in an active market for identical assets or liabilities. Assets and liabilities utilizing Level 1 inputs include certain inventories held in the Company's securities owned and securities sold, not yet purchased portfolio. Valuation of these instruments does not require a high degree of judgment as the valuations are based on quoted prices in active markets that are readily available.
- Level 2 — Observable inputs other than Level 1 prices, such as quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets; quoted prices in markets that are not active; or other inputs that are observable or can be corroborated by observable market data for substantially the full term of the assets or liabilities. Assets and liabilities utilizing Level 2 inputs include certain inventories held in the Company's securities owned and securities sold, not yet purchased portfolio and the Company's commitments to purchase and sell TBA derivative securities. These financial instruments are valued by quoted prices that are less frequent than those in active markets or by models that use various assumptions that are derived from or supported by data that is generally observable in the marketplace. Valuations in this category are inherently less reliable than quoted market prices due to the degree of subjectivity involved in determining appropriate methodologies and the applicable underlying observable market assumptions.
- Level 3 — Unobservable inputs that are supported by little or no market activity and that are significant to the fair value of the assets and liabilities. These assets and liabilities would have significant inputs that could not be validated by readily determinable market data and generally would involve considerable judgment by management. The Company does not have any financial instrument assets or liabilities utilizing Level 3 inputs.

Hilltop Securities Inc.
Notes to the Statement of Financial Condition
December 31, 2017

(dollars in thousands, except par and redemption values)

The following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for instruments measured at fair value on a recurring basis and recognized in the accompanying Statement of Financial Condition, as well as the general classification of such instruments pursuant to the valuation hierarchy.

Securities Owned and Securities Sold, Not Yet Purchased Portfolio (including the Company's derivative TBA securities).

Securities classified as Level 1 securities primarily consist of financial instruments whose values are based on quoted market prices in active markets such as corporate equity securities and U.S. government and government agency obligations primarily in U.S. treasury securities.

Securities classified as Level 2 securities include financial instruments that are valued using models or other valuation methodologies. These models are primarily industry standard models that consider various assumptions, including time value, yield curve, volatility factors, current market and contractual prices for the underlying financial instruments, as well as other relevant economic measures. Substantially all of these assumptions are observable in the marketplace, can be derived from observable data or are supported by observable levels at which transactions are executed in the marketplace. Securities in this category include corporate obligations, U.S. government and government agency obligations, municipal obligations, unit investment trusts (UIT) and the Company's commitments to purchase and sell TBA derivative securities.

Substantially all of the Company's financial assets and liabilities are carried at fair value or at amounts which, because of their short-term nature, approximate current fair value.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the recorded amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Subsequent Events

The Company has performed an evaluation of subsequent events from January 1, 2018 through February 22, 2018, the date of issuance of the financial statements. There have been no subsequent events that would require recognition or disclosure in the financial statements as of December 31, 2017.

3. Assets Segregated For Regulatory Purposes

At December 31, 2017, the Company held cash of \$186,578 segregated in special reserve bank accounts for the exclusive benefit of customers under Rule 15c3-3 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Exchange Act Rule 15c3-3").

Hilltop Securities Inc.
Notes to the Statement of Financial Condition
December 31, 2017

(dollars in thousands, except par and redemption values)

4. Receivable From and Payable to Brokers, Dealers and Clearing Organizations

At December 31, 2017, the Company had receivable from and payable to brokers, dealers and clearing organizations related to the following:

Receivable:

Securities borrowed	\$	1,386,821
Correspondent broker/dealers		226,701
Clearing organizations		85,614
Securities failed to deliver		25,491
Trades in process of settlement, net		29,412
Other		22,729
	\$	<u>1,776,768</u>

Payable:

Securities loaned	\$	1,215,093
Securities failed to receive		37,864
Correspondent broker/dealers		30,160
Other		4,903
	\$	<u>1,288,020</u>

The Company participates in the securities borrowing and lending business by borrowing and lending securities other than those of its clients. Securities borrowed and loaned represent deposits made to or received from other broker/dealers relating to these transactions. These deposits approximate the market value of the underlying securities. All open positions are adjusted to market values daily. The Company obtains or releases collateral as prices of the underlying securities fluctuate.

The Company clears securities transactions for correspondent broker/dealers. Proprietary settled securities and related transactions for these correspondents are included in the receivable from and payable to brokers, dealers and clearing organizations. At December 31, 2017, the Company held collateral for the receivables from correspondents in the amount of \$317,388.

Securities failed to deliver and receive represent the contractual value of securities that have not been delivered or received subsequent to settlement date.

Certain securities lending arrangements may be eligible for offset in the statement of financial condition and /or subject to master netting arrangements or similar agreements.

Hilltop Securities Inc.
Notes to the Statement of Financial Condition
December 31, 2017

(dollars in thousands, except par and redemption values)

The following table provides information about these receivables and payables subject to an enforceable master netting arrangement or similar agreements with offsetting rights and related collateral amounts at December 31, 2017:

Description	Gross amounts of recognized assets/liabilities ⁽²⁾	Gross amounts offset in the statement of financial condition	Net amounts of assets/liabilities presented in the statement of financial condition	Gross amounts not offset in the statement of financial condition		
				Financial instruments ⁽³⁾	Cash Collateral	Net Amount
Securities borrowed	\$ 1,386,821	\$ -	\$ 1,386,821	\$ (1,327,536)	\$ -	\$ 59,285
Securities loaned ⁽¹⁾	1,215,093	-	1,215,093	(1,157,198)	-	57,895

⁽¹⁾Under securities lending agreements, the Company repledged \$1,173,705.

⁽²⁾Securities borrowed and loaned are not presented net on the Statement of Financial Condition.

⁽³⁾Amounts reflect fair value of underlying collateral.

Securities Lending Activities. The Company's securities lending activities includes lending securities for other broker/dealers, lending institutions and its own clearing and retail operations. These activities involve lending securities to other broker/dealers to cover short sales, to complete transactions in which there has been a failure to deliver securities by the required settlement date and as a conduit for financing activities.

When lending securities, the Company receives cash or similar collateral and generally pays interest (based on the amount of cash deposited) to the other party to the transaction. Securities lending transactions are executed pursuant to written agreements with counterparties that generally require securities loaned to be marked-to-market on a daily basis. The Company receives collateral in the form of cash in an amount generally in excess of the fair value of securities loaned. The Company monitors the fair value of securities loaned on a daily basis, with additional collateral obtained or refunded, as necessary. Collateral adjustments are made on a daily basis through the facilities of various clearinghouses. The Company is a principal in these securities lending transactions and is liable for losses in the event of a failure of any other party to honor its contractual obligation. The Company's management sets credit limits with each counterparty and reviews these limits regularly to monitor the risk level with each counterparty. The Company is subject to credit risk through its securities lending activities if securities prices decline rapidly because the value of the Company's collateral could fall below the amount of the indebtedness it secures. In rapidly appreciating markets, credit risk increases due to short positions. The Company's securities lending business subjects the Company to credit risk if a counterparty fails to perform or if collateral securing its obligations is insufficient. In securities transactions, the Company is subject to credit risk during the period between the execution of a trade and the settlement by the customer.

Hilltop Securities Inc.
Notes to the Statement of Financial Condition
December 31, 2017

(dollars in thousands, except par and redemption values)

The following table presents the remaining contractual maturities of securities lending transactions accounted for as secured borrowings at December 31, 2017:

	December 31, 2017				
	Remaining Contractual Maturity of the Agreements				
	Overnight and Continuous	Up to 30 days	30-90 days	Greater than 90 days	Total
Securities lending transactions					
Corporate securities	\$ 11,499	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 11,499
Equity securities	1,203,594	-	-	-	1,203,594
Total borrowings	\$ 1,215,093	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,215,093
Gross amount of recognized liabilities for securities lending					\$ 1,215,093
Amount related to agreements not included in offsetting disclosure					\$ -

5. Receivable From and Payable to Clients

Receivable from and payable to clients include amounts due on cash and margin transactions. Included in these amounts are receivable from and payable to noncustomers (as defined by Exchange Act Rule 15c3-3, principally officers, directors and related accounts), which aggregated approximately \$1,385 and \$101, respectively, at December 31, 2017. Securities accounts of noncustomers are subject to the same terms and regulations as those of customers. Securities owned by customers and noncustomers that collateralize the receivables are not reflected in the accompanying financial statements.

The Company pledges client securities as collateral in conjunction with the Company's securities lending activities. At December 31, 2017, the Company has approximately \$489,725 of client securities under customer margin loans that are available to be pledged, of which the Company has repledged approximately \$41,388 under securities loan agreements.

The Company pays interest on certain customer "free credit" balances available for reinvestment. The aggregate balance of such funds was approximately \$411,771 at December 31, 2017. At December 31, 2017 and during the year ended December 31, 2017, the weighted average interest rate was 0.09% and the interest rate paid on these balances ranged from 0.05% to 0.20%.

The Company maintains an allowance for doubtful accounts of \$353 which represents amounts that, in the judgment of management, are necessary to adequately absorb losses from known and inherent risks in receivables from customers. Provisions made to this allowance are charged to operations. At December 31, 2017, all unsecured customer receivables had been provided for in this allowance.

Hilltop Securities Inc.
Notes to the Statement of Financial Condition
December 31, 2017

(dollars in thousands, except par and redemption values)

6. Securities Owned and Securities Sold, not yet Purchased

At December 31, 2017, securities owned and securities sold, not yet purchased, both of which are carried at fair value, included the following:

ASSETS

Securities owned:

U. S. government agencies:

Bonds	\$	52,078
Residential mortgage-backed securities		372,388
Collateralized mortgage obligations		5,122
Commercial mortgage-backed securities		60
Corporate debt securities		96,182
States and political subdivisions		170,413
Unit investment trusts:		
Corporate securities		14,586
Municipal securities		8,026
Private-label issuers:		
Mortgage-backed securities		403
Asset-backed securities		1,228
Certificates of deposit		367
Options		9
Equity securities		2
	\$	<u>720,864</u>

LIABILITIES

Securities sold, not yet purchased:

U. S. treasury securities	\$	147,639
U. S. government agencies:		
Bonds		11,201
Corporate debt securities		65,034
Equity securities		8,947
	\$	<u>232,821</u>

At December 31, 2017, none of the above securities were pledged as security deposits at clearing organizations for the Company's clearing business. Additional securities have been pledged to secure short-term borrowings, see **Note 10**.

Hilltop Securities Inc.
Notes to the Statement of Financial Condition
December 31, 2017

(dollars in thousands, except par and redemption values)

7. Derivative Financial Instruments

The Company participates in programs in which it issues forward purchase commitments of mortgage-backed securities to certain clients and sells TBAs as described in **Note 2**. At December 31, 2017, the Company's derivative positions associated with its TBA program are presented below:

	<u>Notional Amount</u>	<u>Estimated Fair Value</u>
Commitments to purchase TBAs	\$ 2,831,635	\$ (921)
Commitments to sell TBAs	2,965,986	3,202

Certain derivative arrangements may be eligible for offset in the statement of financial condition and /or subject to master netting arrangements or similar agreements.

The following table provides information about these derivative arrangements subject to an enforceable master netting arrangement or similar agreements with offsetting rights and related collateral amounts at December 31, 2017:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Gross amounts of recognized assets/liabilities</u>	<u>Gross amounts offset in the statement of financial condition</u>	<u>Net amounts of assets/liabilities presented in the statement of financial condition</u>	<u>Gross amounts not offset in the statement of financial condition</u>		
				<u>Financial instruments</u>	<u>Cash Collateral</u>	<u>Net Amount</u>
Derivative asset--TBA	\$ 3,576	\$ -	\$ 3,576	\$ (3,576)	\$ -	\$ -
Derivative liability--TBA	1,295	-	1,295	(1,295)	-	-

8. Fair Value of Financial Instruments

The following table summarizes by level within the fair value hierarchy securities owned, at fair value, securities sold, not yet purchased, at fair value and derivative securities as of December 31, 2017:

Hilltop Securities Inc.
Notes to the Statement of Financial Condition
December 31, 2017
(dollars in thousands, except par and redemption values)

	<u>Level 1</u>	<u>Level 2</u>	<u>Level 3</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>ASSETS</u>				
Securities owned, at fair value				
U. S. government agencies:				
Bonds	\$ -	\$ 52,078	\$ -	\$ 52,078
Residential mortgage-backed securities	-	372,388	-	372,388
Collateralized mortgage obligations	-	5,122	-	5,122
Commercial mortgage-backed securities	-	60	-	60
Corporate debt securities	-	96,182	-	96,182
States and political subdivisions	-	170,413	-	170,413
Unit investment trusts:				
Corporate securities	-	14,586	-	14,586
Municipal securities	-	8,026	-	8,026
Private-label issuers:				
Mortgage-backed securities	-	403	-	403
Asset-backed securities	-	1,228	-	1,228
Certificates of deposit	-	367	-	367
Options	-	9	-	9
Equity securities	2	-	-	2
	<u>\$ 2</u>	<u>\$ 720,862</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 720,864</u>
Derivative financial instruments				
Commitments to purchase TBAs	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 3,576</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 3,576</u>
	<u>Level 1</u>	<u>Level 2</u>	<u>Level 3</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>LIABILITIES</u>				
Securities sold, not yet purchased, at fair value				
U. S. treasury securities	\$ 147,639	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 147,639
U. S. government agencies:				
Bonds	-	11,201	-	11,201
Corporate debt securities	-	65,034	-	65,034
Equity securities	8,947	-	-	8,947
	<u>\$ 156,586</u>	<u>\$ 76,235</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 232,821</u>
Derivative financial instruments				
Commitments to sell TBAs	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 1,295</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 1,295</u>
Net assets (liabilities)	<u>\$ (156,584)</u>	<u>\$ 646,908</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 490,324</u>

Hilltop Securities Inc.
Notes to the Statement of Financial Condition
December 31, 2017

(dollars in thousands, except par and redemption values)

At the end of each respective quarterly reporting period, the Company recognizes transfers of financial instruments between levels. During the year ended December 31, 2017, the Company did not have any transfers of financial instruments between levels.

9. Securities Purchased/Sold Under Agreements to Resell/Purchase

At December 31, 2017, the Company held reverse repurchase agreements, collateralized by U.S. government and government agency obligations and securities sold under repurchase agreements. These securities are reported on a gross basis in the Statement of Financial Condition.

Securities sold under repurchase agreements, which are secured borrowings, generally mature overnight with some maturing up to 30 days from the transaction date. Securities sold under repurchase agreements are reflected at the amount of cash received in connection with the transactions. The Company may be required to provide additional collateral based on the fair value of the underlying securities. The Company monitors the fair value of the underlying securities on a daily basis.

Certain reverse repurchase and repurchase agreements may be eligible for offset in the statement of financial condition and /or subject to master netting arrangements or similar agreements.

The following table provides information about these instruments subject to an enforceable master netting arrangement, repurchase agreements or similar agreements with offsetting rights and any related collateral amounts at December 31, 2017:

Description	Gross amounts of recognized assets/liabilities	Gross amounts offset in the statement of financial condition	Net amounts of assets/liabilities presented in the statement of financial condition	Gross amounts not offset in the statement of financial condition		
				Financial instruments ⁽¹⁾	Cash Collateral	Net Amount
Reverse repurchase agreements	\$ 186,537	\$ -	\$ 186,537	\$ (186,026)	\$ -	\$ 511
Repurchase agreements	409,058	-	409,058	(409,058)	-	-

⁽¹⁾Amounts reflect fair value of underlying collateral.

Hilltop Securities Inc.
Notes to the Statement of Financial Condition
December 31, 2017

(dollars in thousands, except par and redemption values)

The following table presents the remaining contractual maturities of repurchase agreements accounted for as secured borrowings at December 31, 2017:

	December 31, 2017				
	Remaining Contractual Maturity of the Agreements				
	Overnight and <u>Continuous</u>	Up to 30 <u>days</u>	30-90 days <u>30-90 days</u>	Greater than 90 <u>days</u>	<u>Total</u>
Repurchase agreements					
U.S. treasury and agency securities	\$ 51,824	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 51,824
Asset backed securities	357,234	-	-	-	357,234
Total borrowings	\$ 409,058	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 409,058
Gross amount of recognized liabilities for repurchase agreements					\$ 409,058
Amount related to agreements not included in offsetting disclosure					\$ -

10. Short-Term Borrowings

Uncommitted lines of credit

The Company has credit arrangements with commercial banks, which include broker loan lines up to \$725,000. These lines of credit are used primarily to finance securities owned, securities held for correspondent broker/dealer accounts, receivables in customers' margin accounts and underwriting activities. These lines may also be used to release pledged collateral against day loans. These credit arrangements are provided on an "as offered" basis and are not committed lines of credit. These arrangements can be terminated at any time by the lender. Any outstanding balances under these credit arrangements are due on demand and bear interest at rates indexed to the federal funds rate (1.33% at December 31, 2017). At December 31, 2017, the amount outstanding under these secured arrangements was \$315,500, which was collateralized by securities held for firm and correspondent broker/dealer accounts valued at \$546,798.

Committed lines of credit

At December 31, 2017, the Company had a \$50,000 committed revolving credit facility with an unaffiliated bank. The commitment fee is 25 basis points per annum, and when drawn, the interest rate is equal to the federal funds rate plus 100 basis points. The agreement requires the Company to maintain a tangible net worth of at least \$170,000. At December 31, 2017, there were no outstanding amounts under the committed revolving credit facility.

The Company pledges customer securities to the Option Clearing Corporation to support open customer positions. At December 31, 2017, the Company had pledged \$88,185 to support these open customer positions.

11. Note Payable Due to Affiliate & Subordinated Debt Due to Affiliate

In January 2016, the Company entered into an agreement with First Southwest Holdings LLC for a non collateralized, 10 year, \$88,127 promissory note paying interest semi-annually at a rate of 5% per annum and a \$42,000 subordinated loan agreement with Securities Holdings paying interest semi-annually at a

Hilltop Securities Inc.
Notes to the Statement of Financial Condition
December 31, 2017

(dollars in thousands, except par and redemption values)

rate of 4.35% per annum. Both the agreements were entered into as part of the merger of First Southwest Company, LLC (“FSC”) with the Company. At December 31, 2017, there was \$116,652 outstanding under these agreements.

12. Income Taxes

On December 22, 2017, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (“Tax Legislation”) was enacted. The Tax Legislation significantly revises the U.S. corporate income tax by lowering corporate income tax rates. Based on current available information, the Company estimates that the enactment of the Tax Legislation will result in an earnings charge to current tax expense of approximately \$5,634 for the year ending December 31, 2017. This charge is primarily due to the write down of its deferred tax assets as a result of the reduction in the corporate tax rate from 35% to 21% and other anticipated impacts associated with the Tax Act. The change resulting from the tax legislation is expected to be recovered through lower projected effective tax rates from a reduction of the corporate tax rate to 21%, offset by additional non-deductible expenses. The impact of the Tax Legislation may differ from this estimate, possibly significantly, due to, among other things, changes in interpretations and assumptions the Company has made, guidance that may be issued and actions the Company may take as a result of the Tax Legislation.

The tax effects of temporary differences that give rise to significant portions of the deferred tax assets and deferred tax liabilities at December 31, 2017 are presented below:

Deferred tax assets:

Compensation and benefits	\$	5,839
Deferred income		3,057
Realized built-in loss carryforward		2,564
Legal and other reserves		1,054
Other		860
Total gross deferred tax asset		<u>13,374</u>

Deferred tax liabilities:

Intangible assets		(1,734)
Other		(899)
Total gross deferred tax liability		<u>(2,633)</u>
Net deferred tax asset	\$	<u>10,741</u>

The Company assesses the ability to realize its deferred tax assets based upon the weight of available evidence, both positive and negative. To the extent the Company believes that it is more likely than not that some portion or all of the deferred tax assets will not be realized, the Company will establish a valuation allowance. The Company evaluated the realizability of its deferred tax assets and concluded, based on the Company’s past history of profitability and future earnings projections, that a valuation allowance was not required.

At December 31, 2017, the Company had recognized built-in losses (“RBIL”) of \$2,564 from the 2015 merger with the Parent. At December 31, 2017, the Company had net operating loss (“NOL”) carryforwards for state income tax purposes of \$816. These net operating loss carryforwards expire in 2030 and later years. The RBILs and NOLs are expected to be fully realized prior to any expiration.

Hilltop Securities Inc.
Notes to the Statement of Financial Condition
December 31, 2017

(dollars in thousands, except par and redemption values)

At December 31, 2017, the total amount of gross unrecognized tax benefits was \$162, if recognized, and the total amount that would favorably impact the Company's effective tax rate and reduce income tax expense was \$128.

The aggregate changes in gross unrecognized tax benefits, which exclude interest and penalties, are as follows:

Balance at December 31, 2016	\$	281
Increases related to tax positions taken during a prior year		49
Decreases related to tax positions taken during a prior year		(236)
Increases related to tax positions taken during the current year		68
Balance at December 31, 2017	\$	<u>162</u>

With limited exception, the Company is no longer subject to U.S. federal, state or local tax audits by taxing authorities for years preceding 2014.

The amount of current federal and state taxes receivable from the Parent included in other assets on the Statement of Financial Condition was \$12,887 and \$2,099, respectively, at December 31, 2017.

13. Net Capital Requirements

The Company is subject to the Securities and Exchange Commission's Uniform Net Capital Rule (the "Rule"), which requires the maintenance of minimum net capital. The Company has elected to use the alternative method, permitted by the Rule, which requires that it maintain minimum net capital, as defined in Rule 15c3-1 under the Exchange Act, equal to the greater of \$1,000 or 2% of aggregate debit balances, as defined in Exchange Act Rule 15c3-3. At December 31, 2017, the Company had net capital of approximately \$186,770 which is approximately \$176,257 in excess of its minimum net capital requirement of approximately \$10,513 at that date. Additionally, the Rule provides that equity capital may not be withdrawn or cash dividends paid if resulting net capital would be less than 5% of aggregate debit items. At December 31, 2017, the Company had net capital of approximately \$160,487 in excess of 5% of aggregate debit items.

14. Affiliate Transactions

The Company clears all customer transactions for HTIN, an affiliate. The Company also provides all accounting, administrative services, management services and office facilities to HTIN in accordance with an expense sharing agreement in the amount of \$50 per year.

The Company, as clearing broker for its affiliate, has the right to charge customer losses back to the affiliate.

Clients and correspondents of the Company have the option to invest in a savings account called Bank Insured Deposits at the Company's banking affiliate, PlainsCapital Bank ("Bank"). These funds are FDIC insured up to \$250.

Hilltop Securities Inc.
Notes to the Statement of Financial Condition
December 31, 2017

(dollars in thousands, except par and redemption values)

The Company makes loans to employees, primarily financial advisors, mainly for recruiting and retention purposes. The amount of loans to employees is included in other assets in the Statement of Financial Condition in the amount of \$18,821 for which the Company has recorded an allowance, included in other liabilities in the Statement of Financial Condition, of \$2,344 for terminated relationships.

The Company is named as the lessee for two leases which are subleased to the Bank. Additionally, the Company subleases office space and utilizes space in a property owned by the Bank for its business recovery centers.

The Company has various expense sharing arrangements with the Parent, Securities Holdings and other subsidiaries of the Parent. These expense sharing agreements outline the types of expenses that will be passed through to the Company, including but not limited to compensation expense, use of Parent assets, and administrative services performed by the Parent or subsidiaries of the Parent. On the Statement of Financial Condition, the total receivable includes \$911 from the Bank, \$911 from First Southwest Holdings LLC and its subsidiaries, \$111 from Southwest Insurance Agency, \$75 from HTIN, which is reported in receivable from brokers, dealers, and clearing organizations and \$41 from the National Lloyds Corporation, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Parent. The total payable includes \$8,420 to Securities Holdings, \$1,223 to Southwest Insurance Agency, \$846 to First Southwest Holdings LLC and its subsidiaries, including \$457, which is reported in payable to brokers, dealers, and clearing organizations on the Statement of Financial Condition, \$767 to the Parent and a \$300 clearing deposit to HTIN, which is reported in payable to clients on the Statement of Financial Condition.

15. Commitments and Contingencies

Leases. The Company leases its offices and certain equipment under noncancelable operating lease agreements. The Company recognizes escalating lease payments on a straight line basis over the term of each respective lease with the difference between cash payment and rent expense recorded as deferred rent and included in other liabilities in the Statement of Financial Condition. Rental expense relating to the facilities and equipment leases for the year ended December 31, 2017 aggregated to \$11,868.

At December 31, 2017, the future rental payments for the noncancelable operating leases for each of the following five years and thereafter follows:

2018	\$	10,967
2019		10,321
2020		9,644
2021		6,234
2022		4,777
Thereafter		12,983
	\$	<u>54,926</u>

Underwriting. Through its participation in underwriting corporate and municipal securities, the Company could expose itself to material risk that securities the Company has committed to purchase cannot be sold at the initial offering price. Federal and state securities laws and regulations also affect the activities of underwriters and impose substantial potential liabilities for violations in connection with

Hilltop Securities Inc.
Notes to the Statement of Financial Condition
December 31, 2017

(dollars in thousands, except par and redemption values)

sales of securities by underwriters to the public. At December 31, 2017, the Company had no liabilities due under outstanding underwriting arrangements.

Litigation. In the general course of its brokerage business and the business of clearing for other brokerage firms, the Company has been named as a defendant in various lawsuits and arbitration proceedings. These claims allege violation of federal and state securities laws among other matters. Management believes that resolution of these claims will not result in any material adverse effect on the Company's financial position or results of operations.

Guarantees. The Company provides representations and warranties to counterparties in connection with a variety of commercial transactions and occasionally indemnifies them against potential losses caused by the breach of those representations and warranties. These indemnifications generally are standard contractual indemnifications and are entered into in the normal course of business. The maximum potential amount of future payments that the Company could be required to make under these indemnifications cannot be estimated. However, the Company believes that it is unlikely it will have to make material payments under these arrangements and has not recorded any contingent liability in the financial statements for these indemnifications.

The Company is a member of multiple exchanges and clearinghouses. Under the membership agreements, members are generally required to guarantee the performance of other members. Additionally, if a member becomes unable to satisfy its obligations to the clearinghouse, other members would be required to meet shortfalls. To mitigate these performance risks, the exchanges and clearinghouses often require members to post collateral. The Company's maximum potential liability under these arrangements cannot be quantified. However, the potential for the Company to be required to make payments under these arrangements is unlikely. Accordingly, no contingent liability is recorded in the financial statements for these arrangements.

16. Financial Instruments with Off-Balance-Sheet Risk

In the normal course of business, the Company engages in activities involving the execution, settlement and financing of various securities transactions. These activities may expose the Company to off-balance-sheet credit and market risks in the event the customer or counterparty is unable to fulfill its contractual obligation. Such risks may be increased by volatile trading markets.

As part of its normal brokerage activities, the Company sells securities not yet purchased (short sales) for its own account. The establishment of short positions exposes the Company to market risk if prices increase, as the Company may be obligated to acquire the securities at prevailing market prices.

The Company seeks to control the risks associated with its customers' activities, including those of customer accounts of its correspondents for which it provides clearing services, by requiring customers to maintain margin collateral in compliance with various regulatory and internal guidelines. The required margin levels are monitored daily and, pursuant to such guidelines, customers are required to deposit additional collateral or to reduce positions when necessary.

A portion of the Company's customer activity involves short sales and the writing of option contracts. Such transactions may require the Company to purchase or sell financial instruments at prevailing market prices in order to fulfill the customers' obligations.

Hilltop Securities Inc.
Notes to the Statement of Financial Condition
December 31, 2017

(dollars in thousands, except par and redemption values)

At times, the Company lends money using reverse repurchase agreements. These positions are collateralized by U.S. government and government agency securities. Such transactions may expose the Company to off-balance-sheet risk in the event such borrowers do not repay the loans and the value of collateral held is less than that of the underlying receivable. These agreements provide the Company with the right to maintain the relationship between market value of the collateral and the receivable.

The Company arranges secured financing by pledging securities owned and unpaid customer securities for short-term borrowings to satisfy margin deposits of clearing organizations. The Company also actively participates in the borrowing and lending of securities. In the event the counterparty in these and other securities loaned transactions is unable to return such securities pledged or borrowed or to repay the deposit placed with them, the Company may be exposed to the risks of acquiring the securities at prevailing market prices or holding collateral possessing a market value less than that of the related pledged securities. The Company seeks to control the risks by monitoring the market value of securities pledged and requiring adjustments of collateral levels where necessary.

17. Preferred Stock

On October 17, 1997, the Company's Board of Directors ("Board") authorized 100,000 shares of preferred stock. Simultaneously, the Board designated 5,000 shares of the authorized preferred stock as Series A Preferred Stock. Up to 50 shares of the Series A Preferred Stock, which has a par value of \$20, can be issued to each of up to 100 qualified participants. Qualified participants are broker/dealers registered under the Exchange Act who clear their proprietary transactions through the Company and who represent that they are subject to net capital rules of the SEC and other self-regulatory organizations to which such broker/dealers report. The Series A Preferred Stock is nonvoting and nonconvertible to common stock, and it is entitled to noncumulative cash dividends when, as and if declared by the Board. The Series A Preferred Stock is redeemable at any time by the Company at a redemption price of \$1,000 per share.

18. Proprietary Accounts of Broker/Dealers ("PAB") Reserve Requirements

The Company performs calculations of PAB reserve requirements. At December 31, 2017, the Company did not have a PAB reserve requirement and has no amount on deposit.