

MFA FINANCIAL, INC.
Form 10-Q
November 04, 2013
Table of Contents

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

FORM 10-Q

QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the quarterly period ended September 30, 2013

OR

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission File Number: 1-13991

MFA FINANCIAL, INC.
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Maryland (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)	13-3974868 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)
---	---

350 Park Avenue, 20th Floor, New York, New York (Address of principal executive offices)	10022 (Zip Code)
---	---------------------

(212) 207-6400
(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 has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting

Edgar Filing: MFA FINANCIAL, INC. - Form 10-Q

company” in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer

Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer

Smaller reporting company

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

366,212,669 shares of the registrant’s common stock, \$0.01 par value, were outstanding as of October 29, 2013.

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
PART I	
FINANCIAL INFORMATION	
Item 1. Financial Statements	
<u>Consolidated Balance Sheets as of September 30, 2013 (Unaudited) and December 31, 2012</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>Consolidated Statements of Operations (Unaudited) for the Three and Nine Months Ended September 30, 2013 and September 30, 2012</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income (Unaudited) for the Three and Nine Months Ended September 30, 2013 and September 30, 2012</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>Consolidated Statement of Changes in Stockholders' Equity (Unaudited) for the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2013</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows (Unaudited) for the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2013 and September 30, 2012</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>Notes to the Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements</u>	<u>6</u>
Item 2. <u>Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u>	<u>46</u>
Item 3. <u>Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk</u>	<u>78</u>
Item 4. <u>Controls and Procedures</u>	<u>84</u>
PART II	
OTHER INFORMATION	
Item 1. <u>Legal Proceedings</u>	<u>85</u>
Item 1A. <u>Risk Factors</u>	<u>85</u>
Item 2. <u>Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds</u>	<u>85</u>
Item 6. <u>Exhibits</u>	<u>85</u>
<u>Signatures</u>	<u>86</u>

Table of Contents

MFA FINANCIAL, INC.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

(In Thousands Except Per Share Amounts)	September 30, 2013 (Unaudited)	December 31, 2012
Assets:		
Mortgage-backed securities ("MBS"):		
Agency MBS, at fair value (\$6,282,729 and \$6,747,299 pledged as collateral, respectively)	\$ 6,697,689	\$ 7,225,460
Non-Agency MBS, at fair value (\$1,837,996 and \$1,602,953 pledged as collateral, respectively)	2,632,659	2,762,006
Non-Agency MBS transferred to consolidated variable interest entities ("VIEs") (1)	2,340,719	2,620,159
Securities obtained and pledged as collateral, at fair value	252,796	408,833
Cash and cash equivalents	503,852	401,293
Restricted cash	59,275	5,016
Interest receivable	37,804	44,033
Derivative instruments:		
MBS linked transactions, net ("Linked Transactions"), at fair value	23,940	12,704
Other derivative instruments, at fair value	4,629	203
Goodwill	7,189	7,189
Prepaid and other assets	38,002	30,654
Total Assets	\$ 12,598,554	\$ 13,517,550
Liabilities:		
Repurchase agreements	\$ 8,568,171	\$ 8,752,472
Securitized debt (2)	419,693	646,816
Obligation to return securities obtained as collateral, at fair value	252,796	508,827
8% Senior Notes due 2042 ("Senior Notes")	100,000	100,000
Accrued interest payable	13,601	16,104
Other derivative instruments, at fair value	65,253	63,034
Dividends and dividend equivalents rights ("DERs") payable	81,171	72,222
Payable for unsettled purchases	—	33,479
Excise tax and interest payable	6,208	7,500
Accrued expenses and other liabilities	18,136	6,090
Total Liabilities	\$ 9,525,029	\$ 10,206,544
Commitments and contingencies (Note 10)		
Stockholders' Equity:		
Preferred stock, \$.01 par value; 8.50% Series A cumulative redeemable 5,000 shares authorized; 0 and 3,840 shares issued and outstanding, respectively (\$0 and \$96,000 aggregate liquidation preference, respectively)	\$ —	\$ 38
Preferred stock, \$.01 par value; 7.50% Series B cumulative redeemable 8,050 and 0 shares authorized; 8,000 and 0 shares issued and outstanding, respectively (\$200,000 and \$0 aggregate liquidation preference, respectively)	80	—
Common stock, \$.01 par value; 886,950 and 895,000 shares authorized; 365,833 and 357,546 shares issued and outstanding, respectively	3,658	3,575

Edgar Filing: MFA FINANCIAL, INC. - Form 10-Q

Additional paid-in capital, in excess of par	2,977,190	2,805,724
Accumulated deficit	(573,065)	(260,308)
Accumulated other comprehensive income	665,662	761,977
Total Stockholders' Equity	\$ 3,073,525	\$ 3,311,006
Total Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity	\$ 12,598,554	\$ 13,517,550

(1) Non-Agency MBS transferred to consolidated VIEs represent assets of the consolidated VIEs that can be used only to settle the obligations of each respective VIE.

(2) Securitized Debt represents third-party liabilities of consolidated VIEs and excludes liabilities of the VIEs acquired by the Company that eliminate in consolidation. The third-party beneficial interest holders in the VIEs have no recourse to the general credit of the Company. (See Notes 10 and 15 for further discussion.)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

Table of ContentsMFA FINANCIAL, INC.
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS
(UNAUDITED)

(In Thousands, Except Per Share Amounts)	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2013	2012	2013	2012
Interest Income:				
Agency MBS	\$36,158	\$47,198	\$116,982	\$150,048
Non-Agency MBS	43,131	37,087	128,175	95,555
Non-Agency MBS transferred to consolidated VIEs	39,172	40,812	116,641	128,502
Cash and cash equivalent investments	21	38	93	84
Interest Income	\$118,482	\$125,135	\$361,891	\$374,189
Interest Expense:				
Repurchase agreements	\$37,113	\$39,317	\$105,185	\$111,639
Securitized debt	2,830	4,477	9,381	13,186
Senior Notes	2,007	2,007	6,020	3,791
Total Interest Expense	\$41,950	\$45,801	\$120,586	\$128,616
Net Interest Income	\$76,532	\$79,334	\$241,305	\$245,573
Other-Than-Temporary Impairments:				
Total other-than-temporary impairment losses	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$(879)
Portion of loss reclassified from other comprehensive income	—	—	—	(321)
Net Impairment Losses Recognized in Earnings	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$(1,200)
Other Income, net:				
Unrealized net gains and net interest income from Linked Transactions	\$544	\$3,177	\$1,785	\$11,444
Unrealized losses on TBA short positions	(8,724)	—	(8,724)	—
Gain on sales of MBS and U.S. Treasury securities, net	13,680	4,279	19,678	7,232
Other, net	55	1	165	2
Other Income, net	\$5,555	\$7,457	\$12,904	\$18,678
Operating and Other Expense:				
Compensation and benefits	\$5,294	\$5,984	\$15,851	\$16,752
Other general and administrative expense	3,434	2,666	10,175	8,679
Excise tax and interest	—	—	2,000	—
Impairment of resecuritization related costs	2,031	—	2,031	—
Operating and Other Expense	\$10,759	\$8,650	\$30,057	\$25,431
Net Income	\$71,328	\$78,141	\$224,152	\$237,620
Less Preferred Stock Dividends	3,750	2,040	10,000	6,120
Less Issuance Costs of Redeemed Preferred Stock	—	—	3,947	—
Net Income Available to Common Stock and Participating Securities	\$67,578	\$76,101	\$210,205	\$231,500
Earnings per Common Share - Basic and Diluted	\$0.19	\$0.21	\$0.58	\$0.65

Edgar Filing: MFA FINANCIAL, INC. - Form 10-Q

Dividends Declared per Share of Common Stock	\$0.50	(1) \$0.21	\$1.44	(1)(2)\$0.68
--	--------	------------	--------	--------------

(1) Includes a special dividend of \$0.28 per share declared on August 1, 2013.

(2) Includes a special dividend of \$0.50 per share declared on March 4, 2013.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

2

Table of ContentsMFA FINANCIAL, INC.
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
(UNAUDITED)

(In Thousands)	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2013	2012	2013	2012
Net income	\$71,328	\$78,141	\$224,152	\$237,620
Other Comprehensive Income:				
Unrealized gain/(loss) on Agency MBS, net	15,469	61,999	(152,302)	47,169
Unrealized gain on Non-Agency MBS, net	16,381	409,742	62,455	666,287
Reclassification adjustment for MBS sales included in net income	(15,158)	(3,130)	(17,398)	(5,529)
Reclassification adjustment for other-than-temporary impairments included in net income	—	—	—	1,200
Unrealized (loss)/gain on derivative hedging instruments, net	(19,934)	11,654	10,930	36,025
Other Comprehensive (Loss)/Income	(3,242)	480,265	(96,315)	745,152
Comprehensive income before preferred stock dividends and issuance costs of redeemed preferred stock	\$68,086	\$558,406	\$127,837	\$982,772
Dividends declared on preferred stock	(3,750)	(2,040)	(10,000)	(6,120)
Issuance costs of redeemed preferred stock	—	—	(3,947)	—
Comprehensive Income Available to Common Stock and Participating Securities	\$64,336	\$556,366	\$113,890	\$976,652

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents

MFA FINANCIAL, INC.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

(UNAUDITED)

(In Thousands, Except Per Share Amounts)	Nine Months Ended September 30, 2013	
	Dollars	Shares
Preferred Stock, 8.50% Series A Cumulative Redeemable - Liquidation Preference \$25.00 per Share:		
Balance at December 31, 2012	\$38	3,840
Redemption of Series A Preferred Stock	(38	) (3,840
Balance at September 30, 2013	—	—
Preferred Stock, 7.50% Series B Cumulative Redeemable - Liquidation Preference \$25.00 per Share:		
Balance at December 31, 2012	—	—
Issuance of Series B Preferred Stock	80	8,000
Balance at September 30, 2013	80	8,000
Common Stock, Par Value \$.01:		
Balance at December 31, 2012	3,575	357,546
Issuance of common stock (1)	83	8,373
Repurchase of shares of common stock (1)	—	(86
Balance at September 30, 2013	3,658	365,833
Additional Paid-in Capital, in excess of Par:		
Balance at December 31, 2012	2,805,724	
Issuance of common stock, net of expenses (1)	67,713	
Redemption of Series A Preferred Stock	(92,015)
Issuance of Series B Preferred Stock, net of expenses	193,236	
Equity-based compensation expense	2,946	
Repurchase of shares of common stock (1)	(414)
Balance at September 30, 2013	2,977,190	
Accumulated Deficit:		
Balance at December 31, 2012	(260,308)
Net income	224,152	
Dividends declared on common stock	(521,205)
Dividends declared on preferred stock	(10,000)
Dividends attributable to DERs	(1,757)
Issuance costs of redeemed Preferred Stock	(3,947)
Balance at September 30, 2013	(573,065)
Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income:		
Balance at December 31, 2012	761,977	
Change in unrealized gains on MBS, net	(107,245)
Change in unrealized losses on derivative hedging instruments, net	10,930	
Balance at September 30, 2013	665,662	

Total Stockholders' Equity at September 30, 2013

\$3,073,525

(1) For the nine months ended September 30, 2013, includes approximately \$27,000 (3,800 shares) repurchased through the Company's publicly announced stock repurchase program and approximately \$695,000 (82,380 shares) surrendered for tax purposes related to equity-based compensation awards.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

4

Table of Contents

MFA FINANCIAL, INC.
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
(UNAUDITED)

(In Thousands)	Nine Months Ended	
	September 30, 2013	2012
Cash Flows From Operating Activities:		
Net income	\$224,152	\$237,620
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Gain on sales of MBS and U.S. Treasury securities	(19,678)	(7,232)
Other-than-temporary impairment charges	—	1,200
Accretion of purchase discounts on MBS	(48,322)	(28,173)
Amortization of purchase premiums on MBS	47,198	38,175
Depreciation and amortization on fixed assets and other assets	3,133	2,471
Equity-based compensation expense	2,946	4,374
Unrealized losses/(gains) on derivative instruments	8,318	(8,851)
Decrease/(increase) in interest receivable	6,193	(1,998)
Increase in prepaid and other assets	(5,146)	(10,342)
Increase in accrued expenses and other liabilities, and excise tax and interest	10,837	344
(Decrease)/increase in accrued interest payable on financial instruments	(2,503)	5,005
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$227,128	\$232,593
Cash Flows From Investing Activities:		
Principal payments on MBS	\$2,231,495	\$1,977,366
Proceeds from sale of MBS and U.S. Treasury securities	493,613	137,079
Purchases of MBS	(1,532,982)	(2,896,359)
Additions to leasehold improvements, furniture and fixtures	(272)	(367)
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities	\$1,191,854	\$(782,281)
Cash Flows From Financing Activities:		
Principal payments on repurchase agreements	\$(60,312,234)	\$(48,911,503)
Proceeds from borrowings under repurchase agreements	60,127,933	49,930,670
Proceeds from issuance of securitized debt	76,485	186,691
Principal payments on securitized debt	(303,608)	(312,740)
Payments made on obligation to return securities obtained as collateral	(200,050)	—
Maturity of obligation to return securities obtained as collateral	(275,402)	—
Payments made for resecuritization related costs	—	(1,814)
Proceeds from issuance of Senior Notes	—	100,000
Payments made for Senior Notes related costs	—	(3,415)
Cash disbursements on financial instruments underlying Linked Transactions	(254,155)	(513,418)
Cash received from financial instruments underlying Linked Transactions	243,325	390,363
Payments made for margin calls on repurchase agreements and interest rate swaps (“Swaps”)	(61,402)	(2,390)
Proceeds from reverse margin calls on repurchase agreements and Swaps	2,000	10,890
Proceeds from issuances of common stock	67,409	4,398
Payments made for redemption of Series A Preferred Stock	(96,000)	—
Proceeds from issuance of Series B Preferred Stock	200,000	—
Payments made for preferred stock offering costs	(6,684)	—

Edgar Filing: MFA FINANCIAL, INC. - Form 10-Q

Payments made to repurchase common stock	(27) —
Dividends paid on preferred stock	(10,000	) (6,120)
Dividends paid on common stock and DERs	(514,013	) (265,504)
Net cash (used in)/provided by financing activities	\$(1,316,423	) \$606,108
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	\$102,559	\$56,420
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	\$401,293	\$394,022
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$503,852	\$450,442

Non-cash Investing and Financing Activities:

MBS recorded upon de-linking of Linked Transactions	\$—	\$174,940
Net increase in securities obtained as collateral/obligation to return securities obtained as collateral	\$221,578	\$203,303
Dividends and DERs declared and unpaid	\$81,171	\$76,051

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents

MFA FINANCIAL, INC.
NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

1. Organization

MFA Financial, Inc. (the “Company”) was incorporated in Maryland on July 24, 1997 and began operations on April 10, 1998. The Company has elected to be treated as a real estate investment trust (“REIT”) for federal income tax purposes. In order to maintain its qualification as a REIT, the Company must comply with a number of requirements under federal tax law, including that it must distribute at least 90% of its annual REIT taxable income to its stockholders. (See Note 11)

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

(a) Basis of Presentation and Consolidation

The interim unaudited financial statements of the Company have been prepared in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”). Certain information and note disclosures normally included in financial statements prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (“GAAP”) have been condensed or omitted according to these SEC rules and regulations. Management believes that the disclosures included in these interim financial statements are adequate to make the information presented not misleading. The accompanying financial statements should be read in conjunction with the financial statements and notes thereto included in the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012. In the opinion of management, all normal and recurring adjustments necessary to present fairly the financial condition of the Company at September 30, 2013 and results of operations for all periods presented have been made. The results of operations for the nine months ended September 30, 2013 should not be construed as indicative of the results to be expected for the full year.

The accompanying consolidated financial statements of the Company have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting in accordance with GAAP. The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP 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 reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Although the Company’s estimates contemplate current conditions and how it expects them to change in the future, it is reasonably possible that actual conditions could be worse than anticipated in those estimates, which could materially impact the Company’s results of operations and its financial condition. Management has made significant estimates in several areas, including other-than-temporary impairment (“OTTI”) on Agency and Non-Agency MBS (Note 3), valuation of Agency and Non-Agency MBS (Notes 3 and 14), derivative hedging instruments (Notes 5 and 14) and income recognition on certain Non-Agency MBS purchased at a discount (Note 3). In addition, estimates are used in the determination of taxable income used in the assessment of REIT compliance and contingent liabilities for related taxes, penalties and interest (Note 2(m)). Actual results could differ from those estimates.

The consolidated financial statements of the Company include the accounts of all subsidiaries; significant intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated.

(b) Agency and Non-Agency MBS (including Non-Agency MBS transferred to a consolidated VIE)

The Company has investments in residential MBS that are issued or guaranteed as to principal and/or interest by a federally chartered corporation, such as Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac, or any agency of the U.S. Government, such as Ginnie Mae (collectively, “Agency MBS”), and residential MBS that are not guaranteed by any U.S. Government agency or any federally chartered corporation (“Non-Agency MBS”), as described in Note 3.

Designation

The Company generally intends to hold its MBS until maturity; however, from time to time, it may sell any of its securities as part of the overall management of its business. As a result, all of the Company’s MBS are designated as “available-for-sale” and, accordingly, are carried at their fair value with unrealized gains and losses excluded from earnings (except when an OTTI is recognized, as discussed below) and reported in accumulated other comprehensive income/(loss) (“AOCI”), a component of stockholders’ equity.

Upon the sale of an investment security, any unrealized gain or loss is reclassified out of AOCI to earnings as a realized gain or loss using the specific identification method.

Table of Contents

MFA FINANCIAL, INC.

NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

Revenue Recognition, Premium Amortization and Discount Accretion

Interest income on securities is accrued based on the outstanding principal balance and their contractual terms. Premiums and discounts associated with Agency MBS and Non-Agency MBS rated AA and higher at the time of purchase are amortized into interest income over the life of such securities using the effective yield method. Adjustments to premium amortization are made for actual prepayment activity.

Interest income on the Non-Agency MBS that were purchased at a discount to par value and/or are considered to be of less than high credit quality is recognized based on the security's effective interest rate. The effective interest rate is based on management's estimate of the projected cash flows for each security, which are based on the Company's observation of current information and events and include assumptions related to fluctuations in interest rates, prepayment speeds and the timing and amount of credit losses. On at least a quarterly basis, the Company reviews and, if appropriate, makes adjustments to its cash flow projections based on input and analysis received from external sources, internal models, and its judgment about interest rates, prepayment rates, the timing and amount of credit losses, and other factors. Changes in cash flows from those originally projected, or from those estimated at the last evaluation, may result in a prospective change in the yield/interest income recognized on these securities or in the recognition of OTTI. (See Note 3)

Based on the projected cash flows from the Company's Non-Agency MBS purchased at a discount to par value, a portion of the purchase discount may be designated as non-accretable purchase discount ("Credit Reserve"), which effectively mitigates the Company's risk of loss on the mortgages collateralizing such MBS and is not expected to be accreted into interest income. The amount designated as Credit Reserve may be adjusted over time, based on the actual performance of the security, its underlying collateral, actual and projected cash flow from such collateral, economic conditions and other factors. If the performance of a security with a Credit Reserve is more favorable than forecasted, a portion of the amount designated as Credit Reserve may be reallocated to accretable discount and recognized into interest income over time. Conversely, if the performance of a security with a Credit Reserve is less favorable than forecasted, the amount designated as Credit Reserve may be increased, or impairment charges and write-downs of such securities to a new cost basis could result.

Determination of MBS Fair Value

In determining the fair value of the Company's MBS, management considers a number of observable market data points, including prices obtained from pricing services, brokers and repurchase agreement counterparties, dialogue with market participants, as well as management's observations of market activity. (See Note 14)

Impairments/OTTI

When the fair value of an investment security is less than its amortized cost at the balance sheet date, the security is considered impaired. The Company assesses its impaired securities on at least a quarterly basis and designates such impairments as either "temporary" or "other-than-temporary." If the Company intends to sell an impaired security, or it is more likely than not that it will be required to sell the impaired security before its anticipated recovery, then the Company must recognize an OTTI through charges to earnings equal to the entire difference between the investment's amortized cost and its fair value at the balance sheet date. If the Company does not expect to sell an other-than-temporarily impaired security, only the portion of the OTTI related to credit losses is recognized through charges to earnings with the remainder recognized through AOCI on the consolidated balance sheets. Impairments

recognized through other comprehensive income/(loss) (“OCI”) do not impact earnings. Following the recognition of an OTTI through earnings, a new cost basis is established for the security and may not be adjusted for subsequent recoveries in fair value through earnings. However, OTTIs recognized through charges to earnings may be accreted back to the amortized cost basis of the security on a prospective basis through interest income. The determination as to whether an OTTI exists and, if so, the amount of credit impairment recognized in earnings is subjective, as such determinations are based on factual information available at the time of assessment as well as the Company’s estimates of the future performance and cash flow projections. As a result, the timing and amount of OTTIs constitute material estimates that are susceptible to significant change. (See Note 3)

Non-Agency MBS that are purchased at significant discounts to par/and are otherwise assessed to be of less than high credit quality on which impairments are recognized have experienced, or are expected to experience, credit-related adverse cash flow changes. The Company’s estimate of cash flows for its Non-Agency MBS is based on its review of the underlying mortgage loans securing the MBS. The Company considers information available about the past and expected future performance of underlying

Table of Contents

MFA FINANCIAL, INC.

NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

mortgage loans, including timing of expected future cash flows, prepayment rates, default rates, loss severities, delinquency rates, percentage of non-performing loans, Fair Isaac Corporation (“FICO”) scores at loan origination, year of origination, loan-to-value ratios (or LTV), geographic concentrations, as well as reports by credit rating agencies, such as Moody’s Investors Services, Inc. (“Moody’s”), Standard & Poor’s Corporation (“S&P”), or Fitch, Inc. (collectively, “Rating Agencies”), general market assessments, and dialogue with market participants. As a result, significant judgment is used in the Company’s analysis to determine the expected cash flows for its Non-Agency MBS. In determining the OTTI related to credit losses for securities that were purchased at significant discounts to par and/or are considered to be of less than high credit quality, the Company compares the present value of the remaining cash flows expected to be collected at the purchase date (or last date previously revised) against the present value of the cash flows expected to be collected at the current financial reporting date. The discount rate used to calculate the present value of expected future cash flows is the current yield used for income recognition purposes. Impairment assessment for Non-Agency MBS that were purchased at prices close to par and are considered to be of high credit quality involves comparing the present value of the remaining cash flows expected to be collected against the amortized cost of the security at the assessment date. The discount rate used to calculate the present value of the expected future cash flows is based on the instrument’s effective interest rate.

Balance Sheet Presentation

The Company’s MBS pledged as collateral against repurchase agreements and Swaps are included in MBS on the consolidated balance sheets with the fair value of the MBS pledged disclosed parenthetically. Purchases and sales of securities are recorded on the trade date. However, if on the purchase settlement date, a repurchase agreement is used to finance the purchase of an MBS with the same counterparty and such transactions are determined to be linked, then the MBS and linked repurchase borrowing will be reported on the same settlement date as Linked Transactions. (See Notes 2(n) and 5)

(c) Securities Obtained and Pledged as Collateral/Obligation to Return Securities Obtained as Collateral

The Company has obtained securities as collateral under collateralized financing arrangements in connection with its financing strategy for Non-Agency MBS. Securities obtained as collateral in connection with these transactions are recorded on the Company’s consolidated balance sheets as an asset along with a liability representing the obligation to return the collateral obtained, at fair value. While beneficial ownership of securities obtained remains with the counterparty, the Company has the right to sell the collateral obtained or to pledge it as part of a subsequent collateralized financing transaction. (See Note 2(i) for Repurchase Agreements and Reverse Repurchase Agreements)

(d) Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on deposit with financial institutions and investments in money market funds, all of which have original maturities of three months or less. Cash and cash equivalents may also include cash pledged as collateral to the Company by its repurchase agreement and/or Swap counterparties as a result of reverse margin calls (i.e., margin calls made by the Company). The Company did not hold any cash pledged by its counterparties at September 30, 2013 or December 31, 2012. At September 30, 2013 and December 31, 2012, all of the Company’s cash investments were comprised of overnight money market funds, which are not bank deposits and are not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency. (See Notes 7 and 14)

(e) Restricted Cash

Restricted cash represents the Company's cash held by its counterparties as collateral against the Company's Swaps and/or repurchase agreements. Restricted cash, which earns interest, is not available to the Company for general corporate purposes, but may be applied against amounts due to counterparties to the Company's repurchase agreements and/or Swaps, or returned to the Company when the collateral requirements are exceeded or at the maturity of the Swap or repurchase agreement. The Company had aggregate restricted cash held as collateral against its Swaps of \$59.3 million and \$5.0 million at September 30, 2013 and December 31, 2012, respectively. (See Notes 5, 6, 7 and 14)

(f) Goodwill

At September 30, 2013 and December 31, 2012, the Company had goodwill of \$7.2 million, which represents the unamortized portion of the excess of the fair value of its common stock issued over the fair value of net assets acquired in connection with its formation in 1998. Goodwill is tested for impairment at least annually, or more frequently under certain circumstances, at the entity level. Through September 30, 2013, the Company had not recognized any impairment against its goodwill.

Table of Contents

MFA FINANCIAL, INC.

NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

(g) Depreciation

Leasehold Improvements and Other Depreciable Assets

Depreciation is computed on the straight-line method over the estimated useful life of the related assets or, in the case of leasehold improvements, over the shorter of the useful life or the lease term. Furniture, fixtures, computers and related hardware have estimated useful lives ranging from five to eight years at the time of purchase.

(h) Resecuritization and Senior Notes Related Costs

Resecuritization related costs are costs associated with the issuance of beneficial interests by consolidated VIEs and incurred by the Company in connection with various securitization transactions completed by the Company. Senior Notes related costs are costs incurred by the Company in connection with the issuance of its Senior Notes in April, 2012. These costs may include underwriting, rating agency, legal, accounting and other fees. Such costs, which reflect deferred charges, are included on the Company's consolidated balance sheets in Prepaid and other assets. These deferred charges are amortized as an adjustment to interest expense using the effective interest method, based upon the actual repayments of the associated beneficial interests issued to third parties and over the stated legal maturity of the Senior Notes. The Company periodically reviews the recoverability of these deferred costs and in the event an impairment charge is required, such amount shall be included within Operating and other expense on the Company's consolidated statement of operations.

(i) Repurchase Agreements and Reverse Repurchase Agreements

The Company finances the acquisition of a significant portion of its MBS with repurchase agreements. Under repurchase agreements, the Company sells securities to a lender and agrees to repurchase the same securities in the future for a price that is higher than the original sale price. The difference between the sale price that the Company receives and the repurchase price that the Company pays represents interest paid to the lender. Although legally structured as sale and repurchase transactions, the Company accounts for repurchase agreements as secured borrowings, with the exception of certain repurchase agreements accounted for as components of Linked Transactions. (See Note 2(n) below.) Under its repurchase agreements, the Company pledges its securities as collateral to secure the borrowing, which is equal in value to a specified percentage of the fair value of the pledged collateral, while the Company retains beneficial ownership of the pledged collateral. At the maturity of a repurchase financing, unless the repurchase financing is renewed with the same counterparty, the Company is required to repay the loan including any accrued interest and concurrently receives back its pledged collateral from the lender. With the consent of the lender, the Company may renew a repurchase financing at the then prevailing financing terms. Margin calls, whereby a lender requires that the Company pledge additional securities or cash as collateral to secure borrowings under its repurchase financing with such lender, are routinely experienced by the Company when the value of the MBS pledged as collateral declines as a result of principal amortization and prepayments or due to changes in market interest rates, spreads or other market conditions. The Company also may make margin calls on counterparties when collateral values increase.

The Company's repurchase financings typically have terms ranging from one month to six months at inception, but may also have longer or shorter terms. Should a counterparty decide not to renew a repurchase financing at maturity, the Company must either refinance elsewhere or be in a position to satisfy the obligation. If, during the term of a repurchase financing, a lender should default on its obligation, the Company might experience difficulty recovering its

pledged assets which could result in an unsecured claim against the lender for the difference between the amount loaned to the Company plus interest due to the counterparty and the fair value of the collateral pledged by the Company to such lender, including accrued interest receivable or such collateral. (See Notes 2(n), 5, 6, 7 and 14)

In addition to the repurchase agreement financing arrangements discussed above, as part of its financing strategy for Non-Agency MBS, the Company has entered into contemporaneous repurchase and reverse repurchase agreements with a single counterparty. Under a typical reverse repurchase agreement, the Company buys securities from a borrower for cash and agrees to sell the same securities in the future for a price that is higher than the original purchase price. The difference between the purchase price the Company originally paid and the sale price represents interest received from the borrower. In contrast, the contemporaneous repurchase and reverse repurchase transactions effectively resulted in the Company pledging Non-Agency MBS as collateral to the counterparty in connection with the repurchase agreement financing and obtaining U.S. Treasury securities as collateral from the same counterparty in connection with the reverse repurchase agreement. No net cash was exchanged between the Company and counterparty at the inception of the transactions. Securities obtained and pledged as collateral are recorded as

Table of Contents

MFA FINANCIAL, INC.

NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

an asset on the Company's consolidated balance sheets. Interest income is recorded on the reverse repurchase agreement and interest expense is recorded on the repurchase agreement on an accrual basis. Both the Company and the counterparty have the right to make daily margin calls based on changes in the value of the collateral obtained and/or pledged. The Company's liability to the counterparty in connection with this financing arrangement is recorded on the Company's consolidated balance sheets and disclosed as "Obligation to return securities obtained as collateral." (See Note 2(c))

(j) Equity-Based Compensation

Compensation expense for equity based awards is recognized ratably over the vesting period of such awards, based upon the fair value of such awards at the grant date. With respect to awards granted in 2009 and prior years, the Company has applied a zero forfeiture rate for these awards, as they were granted to a limited number of employees, and historical forfeitures have been minimal. Forfeitures, or an indication that forfeitures are expected to occur, may result in a revised forfeiture rate and would be accounted for prospectively as a change in estimate.

During 2010, the Company granted certain restricted stock units ("RSUs") that vest after either two or four years of service and provided that certain criteria are met, which are based on a formula that includes changes in the Company's closing stock price over a two- or four-year period and dividends declared on the Company's common stock during those periods. During 2011, 2012 and 2013, the Company granted certain RSUs that vest annually over a one or three-year period, provided that certain criteria are met, which are based on a formula that includes changes in the Company's closing stock price over the annual vesting period and dividends declared on the Company's common stock during those periods. Such criteria constitute a "market condition" which impacts the amount of compensation expense recognized for these awards. Specifically, the uncertainty regarding whether the market condition will be achieved is reflected in the grant date fair valuation of the RSUs, which in addition to estimates regarding the amount of RSUs expected to be forfeited during the associated service period, determines the amount of compensation expense that is recognized. Compensation expense is not reversed should the market condition not be achieved, while differences in actual forfeiture experience relative to estimated forfeitures will result in adjustments to the timing and amount of compensation expense recognized.

The Company has awarded DERs that may be attached to or awarded separately from other equity based awards. Compensation expense for separately awarded DERs is based on the grant date fair value of such awards and is recognized over the vesting period. Payments pursuant to these DERs are charged to stockholders' equity. Payments pursuant to DERs that are attached to equity based awards are charged to stockholders' equity to the extent that the attached equity awards are expected to vest. Compensation expense is recognized for payments made for DERs to the extent that the attached equity awards do not or are not expected to vest and grantees are not required to return payments of dividends or DERs to the Company. (See Notes 2(k) and 13)

(k) Earnings per Common Share ("EPS")

Basic EPS is computed using the two-class method, which includes the weighted-average number of shares of common stock outstanding during the period and other securities that participate in dividends, such as the Company's unvested restricted stock and RSUs that have non-forfeitable rights to dividends and DERs attached to/associated with RSUs and vested stock options to arrive at total common equivalent shares. In applying the two-class method, earnings are allocated to both shares of common stock and securities that participate in dividends based on their respective weighted-average shares outstanding for the period. For the diluted EPS calculation, common equivalent shares are further adjusted for the effect of dilutive unexercised stock options and RSUs outstanding that are unvested

and have dividends that are subject to forfeiture using the treasury stock method. Under the treasury stock method, common equivalent shares are calculated assuming that all dilutive common stock equivalents are exercised and the proceeds, along with future compensation expenses associated with such instruments, are used to repurchase shares of the Company's outstanding common stock at the average market price during the reported period. (See Note 12)

(1) Comprehensive Income/(Loss)

The Company's comprehensive income/(loss) available to common stock and participating securities includes net income, the change in net unrealized gains/(losses) on its MBS and Swaps, (to the extent that such changes are not recorded in earnings), adjusted by realized net gains/(losses) reclassified out of AOCI for MBS and is reduced by dividends declared on the Company's preferred stock and issuance costs of redeemed preferred stock.

Table of Contents

MFA FINANCIAL, INC.

NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

(m) U.S. Federal Income Taxes

The Company has elected to be taxed as a REIT under the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, (the “Code”) and the corresponding provisions of state law. The Company expects to operate in a manner that will enable it to satisfy the various requirements to maintain its status as a REIT. In order to maintain its status as a REIT, the Company must, among other things, distribute at least 90% of its REIT taxable income to stockholders in the timeframe permitted by the Code. The Company is not subject to tax to the extent that it distributes 100% of its REIT taxable income to its stockholders within the permitted timeframe. Should this not occur, the Company would be subject to federal taxes at prevailing corporate tax rates on the difference between its REIT taxable income and the amounts deemed to be distributed for that tax year. As the Company’s objective is to distribute 100% of its REIT taxable income to its stockholders within the permitted timeframe, no provision for current or deferred income taxes has been made in the accompanying consolidated financial statements. Should the Company incur a liability for corporate income tax, such amounts would be recorded as REIT income tax expense on the Company’s consolidated statements of operations. Furthermore, if the Company fails to distribute during each calendar year, or by the end of January following the calendar year in the case of distributions with declaration and record dates falling in the last three months of the calendar year, at least the sum of (i) 85% its REIT ordinary income for such year; (ii) 95% of its REIT capital gain income for such year and; (iii) any undistributed taxable income from prior periods, the Company will be subject to a 4% nondeductible excise tax on the excess of such required distribution over the amounts actually distributed. To the extent that the Company incurs interest, penalties or related excise taxes in connection with its tax obligations, including as a result of its assessment of uncertain tax positions, such amounts shall be included within Operating and other expense on the Company’s consolidated statements of operations.

Based on its analysis of any potential uncertain tax positions, the Company concluded that it does not have any material uncertain tax positions that meet the relevant recognition or measurement criteria as of September 30, 2013, December 31, 2012, or September 30, 2012. The Company filed its 2012 tax return prior to September 15, 2013. The Company's tax returns for tax years 2009 through 2012 are open to examination.

(n) Derivative Instruments

The Company uses a variety of derivative instruments to economically hedge a portion of its exposure to market risks, including interest rate risk, prepayment risk and extension risk. The objective of the Company's risk management strategy is to reduce fluctuations in net book value over a range of interest rate scenarios. In particular, the Company attempts to mitigate the risk of the cost of its variable rate liabilities increasing during a period of rising interest rates. The Company’s derivative instruments are primarily comprised of Swaps, which are designated as cash flow hedges against the interest rate risk associated with its borrowings. The Company has also entered into forward contracts for the sale of agency MBS securities on a generic pool, or to-be-announced basis (“TBA short positions”) and Linked Transactions. TBA short positions and Linked Transactions are not designated as hedging instruments.

Linked Transactions

It is presumed that the initial transfer of a financial asset (i.e., the purchase of an MBS by the Company) and contemporaneous repurchase financing of such MBS with the same counterparty are considered part of the same arrangement, or a “linked transaction,” unless certain criteria are met. The two components of a linked transaction (MBS purchase and repurchase financing) are not reported separately but are evaluated on a combined basis and reported as a forward (derivative) contract and are presented as “Linked Transactions” on the Company’s consolidated balance sheets. Changes in the fair value of the assets and liabilities underlying Linked Transactions and associated

interest income and expense are reported as “unrealized net gains/(losses) and net interest income from Linked Transactions” on the Company’s consolidated statements of operations and are not included in OCI. However, if certain criteria are met, the initial transfer (i.e., the purchase of a security by the Company) and repurchase financing will not be treated as a Linked Transaction and will be evaluated and reported separately, as an MBS purchase and repurchase financing. When or if a transaction is no longer considered to be linked, the MBS and repurchase financing will be reported on a gross basis. In this case, the fair value of the MBS at the time the transactions are no longer considered linked will become the cost basis of the MBS, and the income recognition yield for such MBS will be calculated prospectively using this new cost basis. (See Notes 5 and 14)

Table of Contents

MFA FINANCIAL, INC.

NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

Swaps

The Company documents its risk-management policies, including objectives and strategies, as they relate to its hedging activities and the relationship between the hedging instrument and the hedged liability. The Company assesses, both at inception of a hedge and on a quarterly basis thereafter, whether or not the hedge is “highly effective.”

The Company discontinues hedge accounting on a prospective basis and recognizes changes in the fair value through earnings when: (i) it is determined that the derivative is no longer effective in offsetting cash flows of a hedged item (including forecasted transactions); (ii) it is no longer probable that the forecasted transaction will occur; or (iii) it is determined that designating the derivative as a hedge is no longer appropriate.

Although permitted under certain circumstances, the Company does not offset cash collateral receivables or payables against its net derivative positions. (See Notes 5, 7 and 14)

Swaps are carried on the Company’s balance sheets at fair value, as assets, if their fair value is positive, or as liabilities, if their fair value is negative. Changes in the fair value of the Company’s Swaps are recorded in OCI provided that the hedge remains effective. Changes in fair value for any ineffective amount of a Swap are recognized in earnings. The Company has not recognized any change in the value of its existing Swaps through earnings as a result of hedge ineffectiveness.

TBA Short Positions

In addition to Swaps, the Company has entered into TBA short positions as a means of managing interest rate risk and MBS basis risk associated with its investment and financing activities. A TBA short position is a forward contract for sale of agency MBS at a predetermined price, face amount, issuer, coupon and stated maturity on an agreed-upon future date. The specific agency MBS that could be delivered into the contract upon the settlement date, published each month by the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (“SIFMA”), are not known at the time of the transaction.

The Company accounts for TBA short positions as derivative instruments since it cannot assert that it is probable at inception and throughout the term of the TBA contract that it will physically deliver the agency security upon settlement of the contract. The Company presents TBA short positions as either assets or liabilities in Other derivative instruments, at fair value on its consolidated balance sheets. Gains and losses associated with TBA short positions are reported in Other income on the Company's consolidated statements of operations. (See Notes 5 and 14)

(o) Fair Value Measurements and the Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities

The Company’s presentation of fair value for its financial assets and liabilities is determined within a framework that stipulates that the fair value of a financial asset or liability is an exchange price in an orderly transaction between market participants to sell the asset or transfer the liability in the market in which the reporting entity would transact for the asset or liability, that is, the principal or most advantageous market for the asset or liability. The transaction to sell the asset or transfer the liability is a hypothetical transaction at the measurement date, considered from the perspective of a market participant that holds the asset or owes the liability. This definition of fair value focuses on exit price and prioritizes the use of market-based inputs over entity-specific inputs when determining fair value. In addition, the framework for measuring fair value establishes a three-level hierarchy for fair value measurements based upon the observability of inputs to the valuation of an asset or liability as of the measurement date. (See Note 14)

Although permitted under GAAP to measure many financial instruments and certain other items at fair value, the Company has not elected the fair value option for any of its assets or liabilities. If the fair value option is elected, unrealized gains and losses on such items for which fair value is elected would be recognized in earnings at each subsequent reporting date. A decision to elect the fair value option for an eligible financial instrument, which may be made on an instrument by instrument basis, is irrevocable.

(p) Variable Interest Entities

An entity is referred to as a VIE if it meets at least one of the following criteria: (i) the entity has equity that is insufficient to permit the entity to finance its activities without additional subordinated financial support of other parties; or (ii) as a group, the holders of the equity investment at risk lack (a) the power to direct the activities of an entity that most significantly impact the

Table of Contents

MFA FINANCIAL, INC.

NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

entity's economic performance; (b) the obligation to absorb the expected losses; or (c) the right to receive the expected residual returns; or (iii) have disproportional voting rights and the entity's activities are conducted on behalf of the investor that has disproportionately few voting rights.

The Company consolidates a VIE when it has both the power to direct the activities that most significantly impact the economic performance of the VIE and a right to receive benefits or absorb losses of the entity that could be potentially significant to the VIE. The Company is required to reconsider its evaluation of whether to consolidate a VIE each reporting period, based upon changes in the facts and circumstances pertaining to the VIE.

The Company has entered into securitization transactions which result in the Company consolidating the VIEs that were created to facilitate the transactions and to which the underlying assets in connection with the securitizations were transferred. In determining the accounting treatment to be applied to these securitization transactions, the Company evaluated whether the entities used to facilitate these transactions were VIEs and, if so, whether they should be consolidated. Based on its evaluation, the Company concluded that the VIEs should be consolidated. If the Company had determined that consolidation was not required, it would have then assessed whether the transfer of the underlying assets would qualify as a sale or should be accounted for as secured financings under GAAP.

Prior to the completion of its initial securitization transaction in October 2010, the Company had not transferred assets to VIEs or Qualifying Special Purpose Entities ("QSPEs") and other than acquiring MBS issued by such entities, had no other involvement with VIEs or QSPEs. (See Note 15)

(q) Offering Costs Related to Issuance and Redemption of Preferred Stock

Offering costs related to issuance of preferred stock are recorded as a reduction in Additional paid-in capital, a component of stockholders' equity, at the time such preferred stock is issued. On redemption of preferred stock, any excess of the fair value of the consideration transferred to the holders of the preferred stock over the carrying amount of the preferred stock in the Company's consolidated balance sheets is included in the determination of Net Income Available to Common Stock and Participating Securities in the calculation of EPS. (See Notes 11 and 12)

(r) New and Proposed Accounting Standards and Interpretations

Accounting Standards Adopted in 2013

Balance Sheet

In December 2011, the FASB issued ASU 2011-11, Disclosures about Offsetting Assets and Liabilities, ("ASU 2011-11") regarding disclosures concerning the offsetting of assets and liabilities. Under ASU 2011-11, an entity is required to disclose both gross information and net information about both instruments and transactions eligible for offset in the statement of financial position and instruments and transactions subject to an agreement similar to a master netting arrangement. The scope includes derivatives, sale and repurchase agreements and reverse sale and repurchase agreements, and securities borrowing and securities lending arrangements. This disclosure is intended to support further the convergence of U.S. GAAP and International Financial Reporting Standards requirements. ASU 2011-11 was effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after January 1, 2013, and interim periods within those annual periods.

In January 2013, the FASB issued ASU 2013-01, Clarifying the Scope of Disclosures about Offsetting Assets and Liabilities (“ASU 2013-01”). The main objective of this ASU is to limit the scope of the new balance sheet and offsetting disclosure requirements of ASU 2011-11 to certain derivatives (including bifurcated embedded derivatives,) repurchase agreements and reverse repurchase agreements, and securities borrowing and securities lending transactions. The amendments of ASU 2013-01 should be applied for fiscal years beginning on or after January 1, 2013, and interim periods within those annual periods. An entity should provide the required disclosures retrospectively for all comparative periods presented.

The Company’s adoption of ASU 2011-11 and ASU 2013-01 beginning on January 1, 2013 did not have a material impact on the Company’s consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents

MFA FINANCIAL, INC.

NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

Comprehensive Income

In February 2013, the FASB issued ASU 2013-02, Reporting of Amounts Reclassified Out of Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (“ASU 2013-02”). The amendments of this ASU do not change the current requirements for reporting net income or OCI in financial statements. However, the amendments require an entity to provide information about the amounts reclassified out of AOCI by component. In addition, an entity is required to present, either on the face of the statement where net income is presented or in the notes, significant amounts reclassified out of AOCI by the respective line items of net income but only if the amount reclassified is required under U.S. GAAP to be reclassified to net income in its entirety in the same reporting period. For other amounts that are not required under U.S. GAAP to be reclassified in their entirety to net income, an entity is required to cross-reference to other disclosures required under U.S. GAAP that provide additional detail about those amounts. ASU 2013-02 was effective prospectively for the Company for reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2012. The Company’s adoption of ASU 2013-02 beginning on January 1, 2013 did not have a material impact on the Company’s consolidated financial statements.

Derivatives and Hedging

In July 2013, the FASB issued ASU 2013-10, Inclusion of the Fed Funds Effective Swap Rate (or Overnight Index Swap Rate) as a Benchmark Interest Rate for Hedge Accounting Purposes (a consensus of the FASB Emerging Issues Task Force) (“ASU 2013-10”). The amendments of this ASU apply to all entities that elect to apply hedge accounting of the benchmark interest rate under Derivatives and Hedging (FASB Accounting Standards Codification Topic 815). ASU 2013-10 permits the Federal Funds Effective Rate (also referred to as the Overnight Index Swap Rate, or OIS) to be used as a U.S. benchmark interest rate for hedge accounting purposes in addition to the interest rates on direct Treasury obligations of the U.S. government and London Interbank Offered Rate. ASU 2013-10 was effective prospectively for qualifying new or redesignated hedging relationships entered into on or after July 17, 2013. The Company’s adoption of ASU 2013-10 is not expected to have a material impact on the Company’s consolidated financial statements.

Recent Accounting Standards to be Adopted in Future Periods

Financial Services - Investment Companies

In June 2013, the FASB issued ASU 2013-08, Financial Services - Investment Companies: Amendments to the Scope, Measurement, and Disclosure Requirements (“ASU 2013-08”). In general, the amendments of this ASU: (i) revise the definition of an investment company; (ii) require an investment company to measure non-controlling ownership interests in other investment companies at fair value rather than using the equity method of accounting; and (iii) require information to be disclosed concerning the status of the entity and any financial support provided, or contractually required to be provided, by the investment company to its investees. ASU 2013-08 is effective for interim and annual periods that begin after December 15, 2013 and early application is prohibited. As the FASB has decided to retain the current U.S. GAAP scope exception from investment company accounting and financial reporting for real estate investment trusts, the adoption of this ASU will not have a material impact on the Company’s consolidated financial statements.

Proposed Accounting Standards

The FASB has recently issued or discussed a number of proposed standards on such topics as repurchase agreements and similar transactions, measurement of credit impairment, financial instrument measurement and classification, revenue recognition, leases, hedging, disclosures about liquidity risk and interest rate risk, and disclosures of uncertainties about an Entity's going concern presumption. Some of the proposed changes are potentially significant and could have a material impact on the Company's reporting. The Company has not yet fully evaluated the potential impact of these proposals but will make such an evaluation as the standards are finalized.

Table of Contents

MFA FINANCIAL, INC.

NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

3. MBS

The Company's MBS are comprised of Agency MBS and Non-Agency MBS. These MBS are secured by: (i) hybrid mortgages ("Hybrids"), which have interest rates that are fixed for a specified period of time and, thereafter, generally adjust annually to an increment over a specified interest rate index; (ii) adjustable-rate mortgages ("ARMs"); (iii) mortgages that have interest rates that reset more frequently (collectively, "ARM-MBS"); and (iv) 15 year and longer-term fixed rate mortgages. MBS do not have a single maturity date, and further, the mortgage loans underlying ARM-MBS do not all reset at the same time.

The Company pledges a significant portion of its MBS as collateral against its borrowings under repurchase agreements and Swaps. Non-Agency MBS that are accounted for as components of Linked Transactions are not reflected in the tables set forth in this note, as they are accounted for as derivatives. (See Notes 5 and 7)

Agency MBS: Agency MBS are guaranteed as to principal and/or interest by a federally chartered corporation, such as Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac, or an agency of the U.S. Government, such as Ginnie Mae. The payment of principal and/or interest on Ginnie Mae MBS is explicitly backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government. Since the third quarter of 2008, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac have been under the conservatorship of the Federal Housing Finance Agency, which significantly strengthened the backing for these government-sponsored entities.

Non-Agency MBS (including Non-Agency MBS transferred to consolidated VIEs): The Company's Non-Agency MBS are secured by pools of residential mortgages, which are not guaranteed by an agency of the U.S. Government or any federally chartered corporation. Non-Agency MBS may be rated by one or more Rating Agencies or may be unrated (i.e., not assigned a rating by any Rating Agency). The rating indicates the opinion of the Rating Agency as to the creditworthiness of the investment, indicating the obligor's ability to meet its full financial commitment on the obligation. A rating of "D" is assigned when a security has defaulted on any of its contractual terms.

Table of Contents

MFA FINANCIAL, INC.

NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

The following tables present certain information about the Company's MBS at September 30, 2013 and December 31, 2012:

September 30, 2013

(In Thousands)	Principal/ Current Face	Purchase Premiums	Accretable Purchase Discounts	Discount Designated as Credit Reserve and OTTI (1)	Amortized Cost (2)	Fair Value	Gross Unrealized Gains	Gross Unrealized Losses	Net Unrealized Gain/(Loss)
Agency MBS:									
Fannie Mae	\$5,197,165	\$180,854	\$(95)	) \$—	\$5,377,924	\$5,440,656	\$104,702	\$(41,970)	\$62,732
Freddie Mac	1,208,358	46,134	—	—	1,257,912	1,243,489	11,258	(25,681)	(14,423)
Ginnie Mae	12,988	224	—	—	13,212	13,544	332	—	332
Total Agency MBS	6,418,511	227,212	(95)	) —	6,649,048	6,697,689	116,292	(67,651)	48,641
Non-Agency MBS (3)									
Rated AAA	16,889	85	(177)	) —	16,797	17,180	383	—	383
Rated A	698	15	—	—	713	681	—	(32)	(32)
Rated BBB	46,717	536	(1,182)	) —	46,071	46,645	1,434	(860)	574
Rated BB	104,253	45	(7,734)	) (861)	95,703	100,228	4,746	(221)	4,525
Rated B	273,241	—	(33,804)	) (7,003)	232,434	257,247	24,859	(46)	24,813
Rated CCC	1,244,536	12	(135,061)	) (190,357)	919,130	1,084,830	168,233	(2,533)	165,700
Rated CC	384,617	—	(36,426)	) (87,400)	260,791	309,776	49,017	(32)	48,985
Rated C	340,721	—	(40,131)	) (49,164)	251,426	297,497	46,252	(181)	46,071
Unrated and D-rated (4)	3,453,991	—	(188,393)	) (784,207)	2,481,391	2,859,294	382,767	(4,864)	377,903
Total Non-Agency MBS	5,865,663	693	(442,908)	) (1,118,992)	4,304,456	4,973,378	677,691	(8,769)	668,922
Total MBS	\$12,284,174	\$227,905	\$(443,003)	\$(1,118,992)	\$10,953,504	\$11,671,067	\$793,983	\$(76,420)	\$717,563

December 31, 2012

(In Thousands)	Principal/ Current Face	Purchase Premiums	Accretable Purchase Discounts	Discount Designated as Credit Reserve and OTTI (1)	Amortized Cost (2)	Fair Value	Gross Unrealized Gains	Gross Unrealized Losses	Net Unrealized Gain/(Loss)
Agency MBS:									
Fannie Mae	\$5,977,388	\$196,686	\$(58)	) \$—	\$6,174,016	\$6,351,621	\$178,970	\$(1,365)	\$177,605
Freddie Mac	800,854	30,447	—	—	835,724	858,560	22,925	(89)	22,836
Ginnie Mae	14,526	251	—	—	14,777	15,279	502	—	502
Total Agency MBS	6,792,768	227,384	(58)	) —	7,024,517	7,225,460	202,397	(1,454)	200,943
Non-Agency MBS (3)									

Edgar Filing: MFA FINANCIAL, INC. - Form 10-Q

Rated AAA	25,209	158	(219)	—	25,148	25,905	757	—	757
Rated A	1,147	24	—	—	1,171	1,086	—	(85)	(85)
Rated BBB	49,301	637	(1,741)	(378)	47,819	48,563	1,806	(1,062)	744
Rated BB	118,031	39	(8,892)	(853)	108,325	112,905	4,937	(357)	4,580
Rated B	247,532	—	(31,133)	(12,462)	203,937	225,281	21,452	(108)	21,344
Rated CCC	1,235,638	14	(107,618)	(201,126)	926,908	1,055,757	131,826	(2,977)	128,849
Rated CC	579,632	—	(41,191)	(132,061)	406,380	468,017	61,739	(102)	61,637
Rated C	952,984	—	(55,294)	(166,529)	731,161	812,523	81,850	(488)	81,362
Unrated and D-rated (4)	3,300,086	—	(125,538)	(867,097)	2,307,451	2,632,128	325,796	(1,119)	324,677
Total									
Non-Agency MBS	6,509,560	872	(371,626)	(1,380,506)	4,758,300	5,382,165	630,163	(6,298)	623,865
Total MBS	\$13,302,328	\$228,256	\$(371,684)	\$(1,380,506)	\$11,782,817	\$12,607,625	\$832,560	\$(7,752)	\$824,808

(1) Discount designated as Credit Reserve and amounts related to OTTI are generally not expected to be accreted into interest income. Amounts disclosed at September 30, 2013 reflect Credit Reserve of \$1.074 billion and OTTI of \$45.0 million. Amounts disclosed at December 31, 2012 reflect Credit Reserve of \$1.332 billion and OTTI of \$48.7 million.

(2) Includes principal payments receivable of \$3.4 million and \$4.4 million at September 30, 2013 and December 31, 2012, respectively, which are not included in the Principal/Current Face.

(3) Non-Agency MBS, including Non-Agency MBS transferred to consolidated VIEs, are reported based on the lowest rating issued by a Rating Agency, if more than one rating is issued on the security, at the date presented.

(4) Includes Non-Agency MBS that were D-rated and had an aggregate amortized cost and fair value of \$2.436 billion and \$2.805 billion, respectively, at September 30, 2013 and Non-Agency MBS that were D-rated and had an aggregate amortized cost and fair value of \$2.252 billion and \$2.573 billion, respectively, at December 31, 2012.

Table of Contents

MFA FINANCIAL, INC.

NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

Unrealized Losses on MBS and Impairments

The following table presents information about the Company's MBS that were in an unrealized loss position at September 30, 2013:

Unrealized Loss Position For:

(In Thousands)	Less than 12 Months			12 Months or more			Total	
	Fair Value	Unrealized Losses	Number of Securities	Fair Value	Unrealized Losses	Number of Securities	Fair Value	Unrealized Losses
Agency MBS:								
Fannie Mae	\$1,796,814	\$38,545	154	\$119,958	\$3,425	29	\$1,916,772	\$41,970
Freddie Mac	775,718	23,955	100	42,551	1,726	6	818,269	25,681
Total Agency MBS	2,572,532	62,500	254	162,509	5,151	35	2,735,041	67,651
Non-Agency MBS:								
Rated A	—	—	—	681	32	1	681	32
Rated BBB	6,880	74	1	18,421	786	3	25,301	860
Rated BB	—	—	—	2,022	221	3	2,022	221
Rated B	6,690	46	1	—	—	—	6,690	46
Rated CCC	55,983	1,060	7	21,998	1,473	4	77,981	2,533
Rated CC	1,594	32	2	—	—	—	1,594	32
Rated C	8,951	181	1	—	—	—	8,951	181
Unrated and D-rated	252,240	4,832	25	1	32	1	252,241	4,864
Total Non-Agency MBS	332,338	6,225	37	43,123	2,544	12	375,461	8,769
Total MBS	\$2,904,870	\$68,725	291	\$205,632	\$7,695	47	\$3,110,502	\$76,420

At September 30, 2013, the Company did not intend to sell any of its MBS that were in an unrealized loss position, and it is "more likely than not" that the Company will not be required to sell these MBS before recovery of their amortized cost basis, which may be at their maturity. With respect to Non-Agency MBS held by consolidated VIEs, the ability of any entity to cause the sale by the VIE prior to the maturity of these Non-Agency MBS is either specifically precluded, or is limited to specified events of default, none of which have occurred to date.

Gross unrealized losses on the Company's Agency MBS were \$67.7 million at September 30, 2013. Agency MBS are issued by Government Sponsored Entities ("GSEs") that enjoy either the implicit or explicit backing of the full faith and credit of the United States Government. While the Company's Agency MBS are not rated by any rating agency, they are currently perceived by market participants to be of high credit quality, with risk of default limited to the unlikely event that the United States Government would not continue to support the GSEs. In addition the GSEs are currently profitable on a stand-alone basis with such profits being remitted to the U.S. Treasury. Given the credit quality inherent in Agency MBS, the Company does not consider any of the current impairments on its Agency MBS to be credit related. In assessing whether it is more likely than not that it will be required to sell any impaired security before its anticipated recovery, which may be at their maturity, the Company considers for each impaired security, the

significance of each investment, the amount of impairment, the projected future performance of such impaired securities, as well as the Company's current and anticipated leverage capacity and liquidity position. Based on these analyses, the Company determined that at September 30, 2013 any unrealized losses on its Agency MBS were temporary.

Unrealized losses on the Company's Non-Agency MBS (including Non-Agency MBS transferred to consolidated VIEs) were \$8.8 million at September 30, 2013. Based upon the most recent evaluation, the Company does not consider these unrealized losses to be indicative of OTTI and does not believe that these unrealized losses are credit related, but are rather due to non-credit related factors. The Company has reviewed its Non-Agency MBS that are in an unrealized loss position to identify those securities with losses that are other-than-temporary based on an assessment of changes in expected cash flows for such MBS, which considers recent bond performance and expected future performance of the underlying collateral.

Non-Agency MBS on which OTTI is recognized have experienced, or are expected to experience, credit-related adverse cash flow changes. The Company's estimate of cash flows for its Non-Agency MBS is based on its review of the underlying mortgage

Table of Contents

MFA FINANCIAL, INC.

NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

loans securing these MBS. The Company considers information available about the structure of the securitization, including structural credit enhancement, if any, and the past and expected future performance of underlying mortgage loans, including timing of expected future cash flows, prepayment rates, default rates, loss severities, delinquency rates, percentage of non-performing loans, FICO scores at loan origination, year of origination, loan-to-value ratios, geographic concentrations, as well as Rating Agency reports, general market assessments, and dialogue with market participants. Changes in the Company's evaluation of each of these factors impacts the cash flows expected to be collected at the OTTI assessment date. For Non-Agency MBS purchased at a discount to par that were assessed for OTTI during the quarter, such cash flow estimates indicated that the amount of expected losses decreased compared to the previous OTTI assessment date. These positive cash flow changes are primarily driven by recent improvements in loan-to-value ratios due to loan amortization and home price appreciation, which, in turn, positively impacts the Company's estimates of default rates and loss severities for the underlying collateral. In addition, voluntary prepayments (i.e. loans that prepay in full with no loss) have generally trended higher for these MBS which also positively impacts the Company's estimate of expected loss. Overall, the combination of higher voluntary prepayments and lower loan-to-value ratios supports the Company's assessment that such MBS are not other-than-temporarily impaired. Significant judgment is used in both the Company's analysis of the expected cash flows for its Non-Agency MBS and any determination of the credit component of OTTI.

The following table presents the composition of OTTI charges recorded by the Company for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2013 and 2012:

(In Thousands)	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 30,		September 30,	
	2013	2012	2013	2012
Total OTTI losses	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$(879)
OTTI reclassified from OCI	—	—	—	(321)
OTTI recognized in earnings	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$(1,200)

The following table presents a roll-forward of the credit loss component of OTTI on the Company's Non-Agency MBS for which a non-credit component of OTTI was previously recognized in OCI. Changes in the credit loss component of OTTI are presented based upon whether the current period is the first time OTTI was recorded on a security or a subsequent OTTI charge was recorded.

(In Thousands)	Three Months	Nine Months
	Ended	Ended
	September 30,	September 30,
	2013	2013
Credit loss component of OTTI at beginning of period	\$36,115	\$36,115
Additions for credit related OTTI not previously recognized	—	—
Subsequent additional credit related OTTI recorded	—	—
Credit loss component of OTTI at end of period	\$36,115	\$36,115

Table of Contents

MFA FINANCIAL, INC.

NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

The significant inputs considered and assumptions made at time of impairment in determining the measurement of the component of OTTI recorded in earnings for the Company's Non-Agency MBS for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2013 and 2012 are summarized as follows:

	Three Months Ended September		Nine Months Ended September	
	30,	2012	30,	2012
	2013		2013	
Credit enhancement (1)(2)				
Weighted average (3)	—	—	—	3.26%
Range (4)	—	—	—	0.00-16.50%
Projected CPR (2)(5)				
Weighted average (3)	—	—	—	9.90%
Range (4)	—	—	—	9.10-13.30%
Projected Loss Severity (2)(6)				
Weighted average (3)	—	—	—	55.50%
Range (4)	—	—	—	45.90-60.00%
60+ days delinquent (2)(7)				
Weighted average (3)	—	—	—	24.40%
Range (4)	—	—	—	18.20-32.40%

(1) Represents a level of protection for these securities, expressed as a percentage of total current underlying loan balance.

(2) Information provided is based on loans for all groups that provide credit enhancement for MBS with credit enhancement. If an MBS no longer has credit enhancement, information provided is based on loans for the individual group owned by the Company.

(3) Calculated by weighting the relevant input/assumptions for each individual security by current outstanding face of the security.

(4) Represents the range of inputs/assumptions based on individual securities.

(5) CPR - conditional prepayment rate.

(6) Projected loss severity represents the projected amount of loss realized on liquidated properties as a percentage of the principal balance.

(7) Includes, for each security, underlying loans 60 or more days delinquent, foreclosed loans and other real estate owned.

Table of Contents

MFA FINANCIAL, INC.

NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

Purchase Discounts on Non-Agency MBS

The following tables present the changes in the components of the Company's purchase discount on its Non-Agency MBS between purchase discount designated as Credit Reserve and OTTI and accretable purchase discount for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2013 and 2012:

(In Thousands)	Three Months Ended September 30, 2013		Three Months Ended September 30, 2012	
	Discount Designated as Credit Reserve and OTTI (1)	Accretable Discount (1)(2)	Discount Designated as Credit Reserve and OTTI (1)	Accretable Discount (1)(2)
Balance at beginning of period	\$(1,264,971)	\$(396,581)	\$(1,440,752)	\$(265,137)
Accretion of discount	—	19,556	—	8,816
Realized credit losses	48,642	—	49,314	—
Purchases	(851)	879	(122,266)	4,554
Sales	27,178	4,248	—	—
Unlinking of Linked Transactions	—	—	—	(2,256)
Transfers/release of credit reserve	71,010	(71,010)	54,053	(54,053)
Balance at end of period	\$(1,118,992)	\$(442,908)	\$(1,459,651)	\$(308,076)

(In Thousands)	Nine Months Ended September 30, 2013		Nine Months Ended September 30, 2012	
	Discount Designated as Credit Reserve and OTTI (3)	Accretable Discount (2)(3)	Discount Designated as Credit Reserve and OTTI (3)	Accretable Discount (2)(3)
Balance at beginning of period	\$(1,380,506)	\$(371,626)	\$(1,228,766)	\$(250,479)
Accretion of discount	—	48,305	—	28,107
Realized credit losses	137,324	—	107,229	—
Purchases	(74,238)	30,533	(370,649)	(3,883)
Sales	38,150	10,158	—	—
Reclass discount for OTTI	—	—	866	(866)
Net impairment losses recognized in earnings	—	—	(1,200)	—
Unlinking of Linked Transactions	—	—	(38,662)	(9,424)
Transfers/release of credit reserve	160,278	(160,278)	71,531	(71,531)
Balance at end of period	\$(1,118,992)	\$(442,908)	\$(1,459,651)	\$(308,076)

(1) During the three months ended September 30, 2013, the Company did not reallocate any purchase discount designated as Credit Reserve to accretable purchase discount on Non-Agency MBS underlying Linked Transactions. The Company reallocated \$54,000 of purchase discount designated as Credit Reserve to accretable purchase discount on Non-Agency MBS underlying Linked Transactions during the three months ended September 30, 2012.

(2) Together with coupon interest, accretable purchase discount is recognized as interest income over the life of the security.

(3) During the nine months ended September 30, 2013, the Company reallocated \$129,000 of purchase discount designated as Credit Reserve to accretable purchase discount on Non-Agency MBS underlying Linked Transactions. In addition, the Company reallocated \$575,000 of purchase discount designated as accretable purchase discount to Credit Reserve on Non-Agency MBS underlying Linked Transactions during the nine months ended September 30, 2012.

Table of Contents

MFA FINANCIAL, INC.

NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

Impact of MBS on AOCI

The following table presents the impact of the Company's MBS on its AOCI for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2013 and 2012:

(In Thousands)	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 30,		September 30,	
	2013	2012	2013	2012
AOCI from MBS:				
Unrealized gain on MBS at beginning of period	\$700,871	\$296,007	\$824,808	\$55,491
Unrealized gain/(loss) on Agency MBS, net	15,469	61,999	(152,302)	47,169
Unrealized gain on Non-Agency MBS, net	16,381	409,742	62,455	666,287
Reclassification adjustment for MBS sales included in net income	(15,158)	(3,130)	(17,398)	(5,529)
Reclassification adjustment for OTTI included in net income	—	—	—	1,200
Change in AOCI from MBS	\$16,692	\$468,611	\$(107,245)	\$709,127
Balance at end of period	\$717,563	\$764,618	\$717,563	\$764,618

Sales of MBS

During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2013, the Company sold certain Non-Agency MBS for \$102.2 million and \$118.2 million, realizing gross gains of \$13.7 million and \$19.7 million, respectively. During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2012, the Company sold certain Agency MBS for \$66.0 million and \$137.1 million, realizing gross gains of \$4.3 million and \$7.2 million, respectively. The Company has no continuing involvement with any of the sold MBS.

MBS Interest Income

The following table presents the components of interest income on the Company's Agency MBS for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2013 and 2012:

(In Thousands)	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 30,		September 30,	
	2013	2012	2013	2012
Coupon interest	\$51,997	\$61,978	\$163,986	\$187,963
Effective yield adjustment (1)	(15,839)	(14,780)	(47,004)	(37,915)
Agency MBS interest income	\$36,158	\$47,198	\$116,982	\$150,048

(1) Includes amortization of premium paid net of accretion of purchase discount. For Agency MBS, interest income is recorded at an effective yield, which reflects net premium amortization based on actual prepayment activity.

The following table presents components of interest income for the Company's Non-Agency MBS (including MBS transferred to consolidated VIEs) for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2013 and 2012:

Edgar Filing: MFA FINANCIAL, INC. - Form 10-Q

(In Thousands)	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 30,		September 30,	
	2013	2012	2013	2012
Coupon interest	\$62,802	\$69,139	\$196,688	\$196,144
Effective yield adjustment (1)	19,501	8,760	48,128	27,913
Non-Agency MBS interest income	\$82,303	\$77,899	\$244,816	\$224,057

(1) The effective yield adjustment is the difference between the net income calculated using the net yield, which is based on management's estimates of future cash flows for Non-Agency MBS, less the current coupon yield.

Table of Contents

MFA FINANCIAL, INC.

NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

4. Interest Receivable

The following table presents the Company's interest receivable by investment category at September 30, 2013 and December 31, 2012:

(In Thousands)	September 30, 2013	December 31, 2012
MBS interest receivable:		
Fannie Mae	\$ 14,252	\$ 17,597
Freddie Mac	3,257	2,696
Ginnie Mae	21	24
Non-Agency MBS	20,253	23,707
Total MBS interest receivable	37,783	44,024
Money market and other investments	21	9
Total interest receivable	\$ 37,804	\$ 44,033

5. Derivative Instruments

The Company's derivative instruments are primarily comprised of Swaps, which are designated as cash flow hedges against the interest rate risk associated with its borrowings. The Company has also entered into TBA short positions and Linked Transactions, both of which are not designated as hedging instruments. The following table presents the fair value of the Company's derivative instruments and their balance sheet location at September 30, 2013 and December 31, 2012:

Derivative Instrument	Designation	Balance Sheet Location	September 30, 2013 Notional Amount	September 30, 2013 Fair Value	December 31, 2012
(In Thousands)					
Linked Transactions	Non-Hedging	Assets	N/A	\$ 23,940	\$ 12,704
Non-cleared legacy Swaps (1)	Hedging	Assets	\$ 450,000	\$ 4,629	\$ 203
Non-cleared legacy Swaps (1)	Hedging	Liabilities	\$ 1,479,263	\$ (31,154)	\$ (63,034)
Cleared Swaps (2)	Hedging	Liabilities	\$ 2,150,000	\$ (25,375)	\$ —
TBA short positions	Non-Hedging	Liabilities	N/A	\$ (8,724)	\$ —

(1) Non-cleared legacy Swaps include Swaps executed and settled bilaterally with counterparties without the use of an organized exchange or central clearing house.

(2) Cleared Swaps include Swaps executed bilaterally with a counterparty in the over-the-counter market but then novated to a central clearing house, whereby the central clearing house becomes the counterparty to both of the original counterparties.

Linked Transactions

The Company's Linked Transactions are evaluated on a combined basis, reported as forward (derivative) instruments and presented as assets on the Company's consolidated balance sheets at fair value. The fair value of Linked Transactions reflect the value of the underlying Non-Agency MBS, linked repurchase agreement borrowings and

accrued interest receivable/payable on such instruments. The Company's Linked Transactions are not designated as hedging instruments and, as a result, the change in the fair value and net interest income from Linked Transactions is reported in other income on the Company's consolidated statements of operations.

Table of Contents

MFA FINANCIAL, INC.

NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

The following tables present certain information about the Non-Agency MBS and repurchase agreements underlying the Company's Linked Transactions at September 30, 2013 and December 31, 2012:

Linked Transactions at September 30, 2013

Linked Repurchase Agreements			Linked MBS					
Maturity or Repricing	Balance	Weighted Average Interest Rate	Non-Agency MBS	Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Par/Current Face	Weighted Average Coupon Rate	
(Dollars in Thousands)			(Dollars in Thousands)					
Within 30 days	\$61,642	1.72 %	Rated AA	\$9,724	\$9,162	\$9,487	5.00 %	
>30 days to 90 days	20,775	1.61	Rated A	2,654	2,138	2,793	1.28	
Total	\$82,417	1.69 %	Rated BBB	7,672	6,730	8,149	2.31	
			Rated BB	6,637	6,177	6,773	2.56	
			Rated D	13,921	12,450	16,939	5.80	
			Rated NR	65,623	65,655	66,523	3.85 %	
			Total	\$106,231	\$102,312	\$110,664	3.99 %	

Linked Transactions at December 31, 2012

Linked Repurchase Agreements			Linked MBS					
Maturity or Repricing	Balance	Weighted Average Interest Rate	Non-Agency MBS	Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Par/Current Face	Weighted Average Coupon Rate	
(Dollars in Thousands)			(Dollars in Thousands)					
Within 30 days	\$13,672	1.57 %	Rated AA	\$13,588	\$12,817	\$13,192	5.00 %	
>30 days to 90 days	21,599	1.66	Rated A	3,075	2,548	3,342	0.76	
Total	\$35,271	1.63 %	Rated BBB	8,299	7,226	8,847	2.55	
			Rated BB	7,365	6,854	7,593	2.75	
			Rated D	15,501	14,372	19,303	5.80	
			Total	\$47,828	\$43,817	\$52,277	4.28 %	

At September 30, 2013, Linked Transactions also included approximately \$186,000 of associated accrued interest receivable and \$60,000 of accrued interest payable. At December 31, 2012, Linked Transactions also included approximately \$185,000 of associated accrued interest receivable and \$38,000 of accrued interest payable.

The following table presents certain information about the components of the unrealized net gains and net interest income from Linked Transactions included in the Company's consolidated statements of operations for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2013 and 2012:

Components of Unrealized Net Gains and Net Interest Income from Linked Transactions (In Thousands)	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2013	2012	2013	2012
	\$1,109	\$812	\$2,431	\$4,386

Edgar Filing: MFA FINANCIAL, INC. - Form 10-Q

Interest income attributable to MBS underlying Linked Transactions				
Interest expense attributable to linked repurchase agreement borrowings underlying Linked Transactions	(275	) (168	) (552	) (965
Change in fair value of Linked Transactions included in earnings	(290	) 2,533	(94	) 8,023
Unrealized net gains and net interest income from Linked Transactions	\$544	\$3,177	\$1,785	\$11,444

23

Table of Contents

MFA FINANCIAL, INC.

NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

Swaps

Consistent with market practice, the Company has agreements with its Swap counterparties that provide for the posting of collateral based on the fair values of its derivative contracts. Through this margining process, either the Company or its derivative counterparty may be required to pledge cash or securities as collateral. In addition, Swaps novated to and cleared by a central clearing house are subject to initial margin requirements. Certain derivative contracts provide for cross collateralization with repurchase agreements with the same counterparty.

A number of the Company's Swap contracts include financial covenants, which, if breached, could cause an event of default or early termination event to occur under such agreements. Such financial covenants include minimum net worth requirements and maximum debt-to-equity ratios. If the Company were to cause an event of default or trigger an early termination event pursuant to one of its Swap contracts, the counterparty to such agreement may have the option to terminate all of its outstanding Swap contracts with the Company and, if applicable, any close-out amount due to the counterparty upon termination of the Swap contracts would be immediately payable by the Company. The Company was in compliance with all of its financial covenants through September 30, 2013. At September 30, 2013, the aggregate fair value of assets needed to immediately settle Swap contracts that were in a liability position to the Company, if so required, was approximately \$59.2 million, including accrued interest payable of approximately \$2.6 million.

The following table presents the assets pledged as collateral against the Company's Swap contracts at September 30, 2013 and December 31, 2012:

(In Thousands)	September 30, 2013	December 31, 2012
Agency MBS, at fair value	\$67,255	\$68,915
Restricted cash	59,275	5,016
Total assets pledged against Swaps	\$126,530	\$73,931

The use of derivative hedging instruments exposes the Company to counterparty credit risk. In the event of a default by a derivative counterparty, the Company may not receive payments to which it is entitled under its derivative agreements, and may have difficulty recovering its assets pledged as collateral against such agreements. If, during the term of a derivative contract, a counterparty should file for bankruptcy, the Company may experience difficulty recovering its assets pledged as collateral which could result in the Company having an unsecured claim against such counterparty's assets for the difference between the fair value of the derivative and the fair value of the collateral pledged to such counterparty. At September 30, 2013, all of the Company's derivative counterparties were rated A or better by a Rating Agency.

The Company's derivative hedging instruments, or a portion thereof, could become ineffective in the future if the associated repurchase agreements or securitized debt that such derivatives hedge fail to exist or fail to have terms that match those of the derivatives that hedge such borrowings. At September 30, 2013, all of the Company's derivatives were deemed effective for hedging purposes and no derivatives were terminated during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2013 and 2012.

The Company's Swaps have the effect of modifying the repricing characteristics of the Company's repurchase agreements and securitized debt and cash flows for such liabilities. To date, no cost has been incurred at the inception of a Swap (except for certain transaction fees related to entering in to Swaps cleared through a central clearing house),

pursuant to which the Company agrees to pay a fixed rate of interest and receive a variable interest rate, generally based on one-month or three-month London Interbank Offered Rate (“LIBOR”), on the notional amount of the Swap. The Company has not recognized any change in the value of its derivative hedging instruments in earnings as a result of the hedge or a portion thereof being ineffective during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2013 and 2012.

At September 30, 2013, the Company had Swaps with an aggregate notional amount of \$4.079 billion, which had net unrealized losses of \$51.9 million, and extended 51 months on average with a maximum term of approximately 9.94 years.

Table of Contents

MFA FINANCIAL, INC.

NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

The following table presents certain information with respect to the Company's Swap activity during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2013:

(Dollars in Thousands)	Three Months Ended September 30, 2013		Nine Months Ended September 30, 2013	
New Swaps:				
Aggregate notional amount	\$ 1,750,000		\$ 2,501,000	
Weighted average fixed-pay rate	2.13	%	1.85	%
Initial maturity date	Five years to ten years		Two months to ten years	
Number of new Swaps	14		23	
Swaps amortized/expired:				
Aggregate notional amount	\$ 358,012		\$ 941,300	
Weighted average fixed-pay rate	4.16	%	2.73	%

The following table presents information about the Company's Swaps at September 30, 2013 and December 31, 2012:

Maturity (1)	September 30, 2013			December 31, 2012			
	Notional Amount	Weighted Average Fixed-Pay Interest Rate	Weighted Average Variable Interest Rate (2)	Notional Amount	Weighted Average Fixed-Pay Interest Rate	Weighted Average Variable Interest Rate (2)	
(Dollars in Thousands)							
Within 30 days	\$ 14,509	4.02	% 0.23	% \$ 25,828	3.88	% 0.28	%
Over 30 days to 3 months	19,542	4.16	0.21	30,185	3.96	0.26	
Over 3 months to 6 months	41,851	3.92	0.23	527,275	1.63	0.21	
Over 6 months to 12 months	522,469	1.90	0.18	391,063	4.17	0.22	
Over 12 months to 24 months	830,892	2.17	0.19	685,042	2.28	0.22	
Over 24 months to 36 months	50,000	2.13	0.18	710,171	1.97	0.21	
Over 36 months to 48 months	450,000	0.56	0.18	150,000	1.03	0.21	
Over 48 months to 60 months	550,000	1.49	0.18	—	—	—	
Over 60 months to 72 months	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Over 72 months to 84 months	1,500,000	2.22	0.18	—	—	—	
Over 84 months (3)	100,000	2.75	0.18	—	—	—	
Total Swaps	\$ 4,079,263	1.93	% 0.18	% \$ 2,519,564	2.31	% 0.22	%

(1) Each maturity category reflects contractual amortization and/or maturity of notional amounts.

(2) Reflects the benchmark variable rate due from the counterparty at the date presented, which rate adjusts monthly or quarterly based on one-month or three-month LIBOR, respectively.

(3) Reflects one Swap with a maturity date of July 2023.

Table of Contents

MFA FINANCIAL, INC.

NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

The following table presents the net impact of the Company's derivative hedging instruments on its interest expense and the weighted average interest rate paid and received for such Swaps for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2013 and 2012:

(Dollars in Thousands)	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended		
	September 30,		September 30,		
	2013	2012	2013	2012	
Interest expense attributable to Swaps	\$15,888	\$18,138	\$40,884	\$58,275	
Weighted average Swap rate paid	2.07	% 2.72	% 2.15	% 2.74	%
Weighted average Swap rate received	0.20	% 0.27	% 0.20	% 0.29	%

Impact of Derivative Hedging Instruments on AOCI

The following table presents the impact of the Company's derivative hedging instruments on its AOCI for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2013 and 2012:

(In Thousands)	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 30,		September 30,	
	2013	2012	2013	2012
AOCI from derivative hedging instruments:				
Balance at beginning of period	\$(31,967)	\$(89,823)	\$(62,831)	\$(114,194)
Unrealized (loss)/gain on Swaps, net	(19,934)	11,654	10,930	36,025
Balance at end of period	\$(51,901)	\$(78,169)	\$(51,901)	\$(78,169)

Counterparty Credit Risk

By using derivative hedging instruments, the Company is exposed to counterparty credit risk if counterparties to the derivative contracts do not perform as expected. If a counterparty fails to perform, the Company's counterparty credit risk is equal to the amount reported as a derivative asset on its consolidated balance sheets to the extent that amount exceeds collateral obtained from the counterparty or, if in a net liability position, the extent to which collateral posted exceeds the liability to the counterparty. The amounts reported as a derivative asset/(liability) are derivative contracts in a gain/(loss) position, and to the extent subject to master netting arrangements, net of derivatives in a loss/(gain) position with the same counterparty and collateral received/(pledged). The Company attempts to minimize counterparty credit risk through credit approvals, limits, monitoring procedures, executing master netting arrangements and obtaining collateral, where appropriate. Counterparty credit risk related to the Company's derivative hedging instruments is considered in determining fair value of such derivatives and its assessment of hedge effectiveness.

TBA Short Positions

The Company may also enter into TBA short positions as a means of managing interest rate risk and MBS basis risk associated with its investment and financing activities. A TBA short position is a forward contract for the sale of agency MBS at a predetermined price, face amount, issuer, coupon and stated maturity on an agreed-upon future date. The specific agency MBS that could be delivered into the contract upon the settlement date, published each month by SIFMA, are not known at the time of the transaction.

The Company accounts for TBA short positions as derivative instruments since it cannot assert that it is probable at inception and throughout the term of the TBA contract that it will physically deliver the agency security upon settlement of the contract. The Company presents TBA short positions as either assets or liabilities in Other derivative instruments, at fair value on its consolidated balance sheets. Gains and losses associated with TBA Securities are reported in Other income on the Company's consolidated statements of operations.

Table of Contents

MFA FINANCIAL, INC.

NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

The following table presents the Company's TBA short positions as of September 30, 2013 and December 31, 2012:

(In Thousands)	September 30, 2013				December 31, 2012			
	Principal	Cost Basis (1)	Fair Value (2)	Net Carrying Value (3)	Principal	Cost Basis (1)	Fair Value (2)	Net Carrying Value (3)
TBA short positions	\$350,000	\$343,436	\$352,160	\$(8,724)	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$—

(1) Cost basis represents the forward price to be received for the underlying agency security.

(2) Fair value represents the current fair value of the underlying agency security as of period-end.

(3) Net carrying value represents the difference between the fair value of the underlying agency security as of period-end and the cost basis and is reported in Other derivative instruments, at fair value in the Company's consolidated balance sheets. Gains and losses associated with TBA short positions are reported in Other income on the Company's consolidated statement of operations.

6. Repurchase Agreements

The Company's repurchase agreements are collateralized by the Company's MBS and U.S. Treasury securities (obtained as part of a reverse repurchase agreement) and cash and bear interest that is generally LIBOR-based. (See Note 7) At September 30, 2013, the Company's borrowings under repurchase agreements had a weighted average remaining term-to-interest rate reset of 28 days and an effective repricing period of twenty-four months, including the impact of related Swaps. At December 31, 2012, the Company's borrowings under repurchase agreements had a weighted average remaining term-to-interest rate reset of 28 days and an effective repricing period of five months, including the impact of related Swaps.

The following table presents information with respect to the Company's borrowings under repurchase agreements and associated assets pledged as collateral at September 30, 2013 and December 31, 2012:

(Dollars in Thousands)	September 30, 2013	December 31, 2012
Repurchase agreement borrowings secured by Agency MBS	\$5,895,943	\$6,353,489
Fair Value of Agency MBS pledged as collateral under repurchase agreements	\$6,215,474	\$6,678,384
Weighted average haircut on Agency MBS (1)	4.62	% 4.80 %
Repurchase agreement borrowings secured by Non-Agency MBS (2)	\$2,425,350	\$1,988,172
Fair Value of Non-Agency MBS pledged as collateral under repurchase agreements (2)(3)	\$3,721,195	\$3,463,128
Weighted average haircut on Non-Agency MBS (1)	31.91	% 30.49 %
Repurchase agreements secured by U.S. Treasuries	\$246,878	\$410,811
Fair value of U.S. Treasuries pledged as collateral under repurchase agreements	\$252,796	\$408,833
Weighted average haircut on U.S. Treasuries (1)	2.00	% 1.74 %

(1) Haircut represents the percentage amount by which the collateral value is contractually required to exceed the loan amount on the Company's repurchase agreements borrowings.

(2) Does not reflect Non-Agency MBS and repurchase agreement borrowings that are components of Linked Transactions.

(3) Includes \$1.883 billion and \$1.860 billion of Non-Agency MBS acquired from consolidated VIEs at September 30, 2013, and December 31, 2012, respectively, that are eliminated from the Company's consolidated balance sheets.

Table of Contents

MFA FINANCIAL, INC.

NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

The following table presents repricing information about the Company's borrowings under repurchase agreements, which does not reflect the impact of associated derivative hedging instruments, at September 30, 2013 and December 31, 2012:

Time Until Interest Rate Reset	September 30, 2013		December 31, 2012		
	Balance (1)	Weighted Average Interest Rate	Balance (1)	Weighted Average Interest Rate	
(Dollars in Thousands)					
Within 30 days	\$5,841,947	0.59	% \$6,293,802	0.71	%
Over 30 days to 3 months	1,245,570	1.21	2,458,670	1.21	
Over 6 months to 12 months	1,064,122	0.69	—	—	
Over 12 months	416,532	2.10	—	—	
Total	\$8,568,171	0.76	% \$8,752,472	0.85	%

(1) At September 30, 2013 and December 31, 2012, the Company had repurchase agreements of \$82.4 million and \$35.3 million, respectively, that were linked to Non-Agency MBS purchases and accounted for as Linked Transactions, and as such, the linked repurchase agreements are not included in the above table. (See Note 5)

The following table at September 30, 2013 presents contractual maturity information about the Company's borrowings under repurchase agreements and does not reflect the impact of derivative contracts that hedge such repurchase agreements:

Contractual Maturity	September 30, 2013		
	Balance (1)	Weighted Average Interest Rate	
(Dollars in Thousands)			
Overnight	\$—	—	%
Within 30 days	6,964,976	0.64	
Over 30 days to 90 days	1,368,088	1.19	
Over 90 days to 12 months	235,107	1.93	
Total	\$8,568,171	0.76	%

(1) At September 30, 2013, the Company had repurchase agreements of \$82.4 million that were linked to Non-Agency MBS purchases and were accounted for as Linked Transactions, and as such, the linked repurchase agreements are not included in the above table. (See Note 5)

Table of Contents

MFA FINANCIAL, INC.

NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

The Company had repurchase agreements with 27 counterparties at September 30, 2013 and 26 counterparties at December 31, 2012. The following table presents information with respect to any counterparty for repurchase agreements and/or Linked Transactions for which the Company had greater than 5% of stockholders' equity at risk in the aggregate at September 30, 2013:

Counterparty	Counterparty Rating (1)	Amount at Risk (2)	Weighted Average Months to Maturity for Repurchase Agreements	Percent of Stockholders' Equity	
(Dollars in Thousands)					
Alpine Securitization Corporation/Credit Suisse (3)	A-1/P-1/F1	\$727,812	2	23.7	%
Wells Fargo (4)	AA-/Aa3/AA-	365,222	8	11.9	
RBS	A-/Baa1/A	246,671	2	8.0	
UBS (5)(6)	A/A2/A	244,076	21	7.9	

(1) As rated at September 30, 2013 by S&P, Moody's and Fitch, Inc., respectively. The counterparty rating presented is the lowest published for these entities.

(2) The amount at risk reflects the difference between (a) the amount loaned to the Company through repurchase agreements and repurchase agreements underlying Linked Transactions, including interest payable, and (b) the cash and the fair value of the securities pledged by the Company as collateral and MBS underlying Linked Transaction, including accrued interest receivable on such securities.

(3) Includes \$710.2 million at risk with Alpine Securitization Corporation and \$17.6 million at risk with Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC. Alpine Securitization Corporation is a special purpose funding vehicle that is a consolidated affiliate of Credit Suisse Group. Counterparty rating shown is the asset backed short term rating for Alpine Securitization Corporation.

(4) Includes \$246.7 million at risk with Wells Fargo Bank, NA and \$118.5 million at risk with Wells Fargo Securities LLC.

(5) Includes \$242.7 million at risk with UBS AG and \$1.3 million at risk with UBS Securities LLC.

(6) Includes Non-Agency MBS pledged as collateral with contemporaneous repurchase and reverse repurchase agreements.

7. Collateral Positions

The Company pledges securities or cash as collateral to its counterparties pursuant to its borrowings under repurchase agreements and its derivative contracts that are in an unrealized loss position, and it receives securities or cash as collateral pursuant to financing provided under reverse repurchase agreements and certain of its derivative contracts in an unrealized gain position. The Company exchanges collateral with its counterparties based on changes in the fair value, notional amount and term of the associated repurchase and reverse repurchase agreements and derivative contracts, as applicable. Through this margining process, either the Company or its counterparty may be required to pledge cash or securities as collateral. In addition, Swaps novated to and cleared by a central clearing house are subject to initial margin requirements. When the Company's pledged collateral exceeds the required margin, the Company may initiate a reverse margin call, at which time the counterparty may either return the excess collateral, or provide collateral to the Company in the form of cash or high-quality securities.

Table of Contents

MFA FINANCIAL, INC.

NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

The following table summarizes the fair value of the Company's collateral positions, which includes collateral pledged and collateral held, with respect to its borrowings under repurchase agreements, reverse repurchase agreements and derivative hedging instruments at September 30, 2013 and December 31, 2012:

(In Thousands)	September 30, 2013		December 31, 2012	
	Assets Pledged	Collateral Held	Assets Pledged	Collateral Held
Derivative Hedging Instruments:				
Agency MBS	\$67,255	\$—	\$68,915	\$—
Cash (1)	59,275	—	5,016	—
	126,530	—	73,931	—
Repurchase Agreement Borrowings:				
Agency MBS	\$6,215,474	\$—	\$6,678,384	\$—
Non-Agency MBS (2)(3)	3,721,195	—	3,463,128	—
U.S. Treasury securities	252,796	—	408,833	—
	10,189,465	—	10,550,345	—
Reverse Repurchase Agreements:				
U.S. Treasury securities	\$—	\$252,796	\$—	\$408,833
	—	252,796	—	408,833
Total	\$10,315,995	\$252,796	\$10,624,276	\$408,833

(1) Cash pledged as collateral is reported as "restricted cash" on the Company's consolidated balance sheets.

(2) Includes \$1.883 billion and \$1.860 billion of Non-Agency MBS acquired in connection with securitization transactions from consolidated VIEs at September 30, 2013 and December 31, 2012, respectively, that are eliminated from the Company's consolidated balance sheets.

(3) In addition, \$742.9 million and \$759.2 million of Non-Agency MBS are pledged as collateral in connection with contemporaneous repurchase and reverse repurchase agreements entered into with a single counterparty at September 30, 2013 and December 31, 2012, respectively.

Table of Contents

MFA FINANCIAL, INC.

NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

The following table presents detailed information about the Company's assets pledged as collateral pursuant to its borrowings under repurchase agreements and derivative hedging instruments at September 30, 2013:

(In Thousands)	Assets Pledged Under Repurchase Agreements			Assets Pledged Against Derivative Hedging Instruments			Total Fair Value of Assets Pledged and Accrued Interest
	Fair Value/ Carrying Value	Amortized Cost	Accrued Interest on Pledged MBS	Fair Value/ Carrying Value	Amortized Cost	Accrued Interest on Pledged MBS	
U.S. Treasuries	\$252,796	\$252,796	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$252,796
Fannie Mae	\$5,045,758	\$4,986,669	\$13,209	\$47,530	\$47,091	\$121	\$5,106,618
Freddie Mac	1,167,765	1,182,485	3,013	12,284	12,061	45	1,183,107
Ginnie Mae	1,951	1,921	3	7,441	7,236	12	9,407
Agency MBS	\$6,215,474	\$6,171,075	\$16,225	\$67,255	\$66,388	\$178	\$6,299,132
Rated AAA	\$15,940	\$15,557	\$55	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$15,995
Rated AA	52,894	48,270	173	—	—	—	53,067
Rated A	55,805	49,465	182	—	—	—	55,987
Rated BBB	82,555	74,071	272	—	—	—	82,827
Rated BB	75,162	64,193	227	—	—	—	75,389
Rated B	150,637	133,201	406	—	—	—	151,043
Rated CCC	398,408	342,294	1,457	—	—	—	399,865
Rated CC	94,122	80,288	352	—	—	—	94,474
Rated C	85,490	75,362	266	—	—	—	85,756
Rated D	1,081,697	978,365	5,354	—	—	—	1,087,051
Not Rated	1,628,485	1,131,043	6,657	—	—	—	1,635,142
Non-Agency MBS (1)(2)(3)	\$3,721,195	\$2,992,109	\$15,401	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$3,736,596
Total	\$10,189,465	\$9,415,980	\$31,626	\$67,255	\$66,388	\$178	\$10,288,524

(1) Includes \$1.883 billion of Non-Agency MBS acquired in connection with resecuritization transactions from consolidated VIEs at September 30, 2013, that are eliminated from the Company's consolidated balance sheets.

(2) Reported based on the lowest rating issued by a Rating Agency, if more than one rating is issued on the security, at the date presented.

(3) In addition, \$742.9 million of Non-Agency MBS are pledged as collateral in connection with contemporaneous repurchase and reverse repurchase agreements entered into with a single counterparty at September 30, 2013.

Table of Contents

MFA FINANCIAL, INC.

NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

8. Offsetting Assets and Liabilities

The following tables present information about certain assets and liabilities that are subject to master netting arrangements (or similar agreements) and can potentially be offset on the Company's consolidated balance sheets at September 30, 2013 and December 31, 2012:

Offsetting of Financial Assets and Derivative Assets

(In Thousands)	Gross Amounts of Recognized Assets	Gross Amounts Offset in the Consolidated Balance Sheets	Net Amounts of Gross Amounts Not Offset in the Consolidated Balance Sheets				Net Amount
			Assets Presented in the Consolidated Balance Sheets	Financial Instruments	Cash Collateral Received		
September 30, 2013							
Derivative hedging instruments, at fair value	\$4,629	\$—	\$ 4,629	\$ (4,629)	\$—		\$—
Total	\$4,629	\$—	\$ 4,629	\$ (4,629)	\$—		\$—
December 31, 2012							
Derivative hedging instruments, at fair value	\$203	\$—	\$ 203	\$ (203)	\$—		\$—
Total	\$203	\$—	\$ 203	\$ (203)	\$—		\$—

Offsetting of Financial Liabilities and Derivative Liabilities

(In Thousands)	Gross Amounts of Recognized Liabilities	Gross Amounts Offset in the Consolidated Balance Sheets	Net Amounts of Gross Amounts Not Offset in the Consolidated Balance Sheets				Net Amount
			Liabilities Presented in the Consolidated Balance Sheets	Financial Instruments (1)	Cash Collateral Pledged (1)		
September 30, 2013							
Derivative hedging instruments, at fair value (2)	\$56,529	\$—	\$ 56,529	\$ 2,746	\$ (59,275)		\$—
Repurchase agreements (3)	8,568,171	—	8,568,171	(8,568,171)	—		—
Total	\$8,624,700	\$—	\$ 8,624,700	\$ (8,565,425)	\$ (59,275)		\$—
December 31, 2012							
Derivative hedging instruments, at fair value (2)	\$63,034	\$—	\$ 63,034	\$ (58,018)	\$ (5,016)		\$—
Repurchase agreements (3)	8,752,472	—	8,752,472	(8,752,472)	—		—

Edgar Filing: MFA FINANCIAL, INC. - Form 10-Q

Total	\$8,815,506	\$—	\$ 8,815,506	\$ (8,810,490)	\$ (5,016)	\$—
-------	-------------	-----	--------------	-----------------	-------------	-----

(1) Amounts disclosed in the Financial Instruments column of the table above represents collateral pledged that is available to be offset against liability balances associated with repurchase agreement and derivative transactions. Amounts disclosed in the Cash Collateral Pledged column of the table above represents amounts pledged as collateral against derivative transactions.

(2) The fair value of securities pledged against the Company's Swaps was \$67.3 million and \$68.9 million at September 30, 2013 and December 31, 2012, respectively.

(3) The fair value of securities pledged against the Company's repurchase agreements was \$10.189 billion and \$10.550 billion at September 30, 2013 and December 31, 2012, respectively.

Nature of Setoff Rights

In the Company's consolidated balance sheets, all balances associated with the repurchase agreement and derivatives transactions are presented on a gross basis.

32

Table of Contents

MFA FINANCIAL, INC.

NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

Certain of the Company's repurchase agreement and derivative transactions are governed by underlying agreements that generally provide for a right of setoff in the event of default or in the event of a bankruptcy of either party to the transaction. For one repurchase agreement counterparty, the underlying agreements provide for an unconditional right of setoff.

9. Senior Notes

On April 11, 2012 the Company issued \$100.0 million in aggregate principal amount of its Senior Notes in an underwritten public offering. The total net proceeds to the Company from the offering of the Senior Notes were approximately \$96.6 million, after deducting offering expenses and the underwriting discount. The Senior Notes bear interest at a fixed rate of 8.00% per year, paid quarterly in arrears on January 15, April 15, July 15 and October 15 of each year and will mature on April 15, 2042. The Company may redeem the Senior Notes, in whole or in part, at any time on or after April 15, 2017 at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount redeemed plus accrued and unpaid interest to, but not excluding, the redemption date.

The Senior Notes are the Company's senior unsecured obligations and are subordinate to all of the Company's secured indebtedness, which includes the Company's repurchase agreements, securitized debt, obligation to return securities obtained as collateral, and other financing arrangements, to the extent of the value of the collateral securing such indebtedness.

10. Commitments and Contingencies

(a) Lease Commitments

The Company pays monthly rent pursuant to two operating leases. The lease term for the Company's headquarters in New York, New York extends through May 31, 2020. The lease provides for aggregate cash payments ranging over time from approximately \$2.4 million to \$2.5 million per year, paid on a monthly basis, exclusive of escalation charges. In addition, as part of this lease agreement, the Company has provided the landlord a \$785,000 irrevocable standby letter of credit fully collateralized by cash. The letter of credit may be drawn upon by the landlord in the event that the Company defaults under certain terms of the lease. In addition, the Company has a lease through December 31, 2016 for its off-site back-up facility located in Rockville Centre, New York, which provides for, among other things, cash payments ranging over time from \$28,000 to \$30,000 per year, paid on a monthly basis.

(b) Representations and Warranties in Connection with Resecuritization Transactions

In connection with the resecuritization transactions engaged in by the Company (See Note 15 for further discussion), the Company has the obligation under certain circumstances to repurchase assets from its VIEs upon breach of certain representations and warranties.

11. Stockholders' Equity

(a) Preferred Stock

Redemption of 8.50% Series A Cumulative Redeemable Preferred Stock ("Series A Preferred Stock")

On May 16, 2013 (the "Redemption Date"), the Company redeemed all 3,840,000 outstanding shares of its Series A Preferred Stock at an aggregate redemption price of approximately \$97.0 million, or \$25.27153 per share, including all accrued and unpaid dividends to the Redemption Date. The redemption value of the Series A Preferred Stock exceeded its carrying value by \$3.9 million, which represents the original offering costs for the Series A Preferred Stock. This amount is included in the determination of net income available to common stock and participating securities for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2013.

From the time of original issuance of the Series A Preferred Stock through the Redemption Date, the Company had declared and paid all required quarterly dividends of \$0.53125 per share on such stock. In addition, as part of the redemption price on its Series A Preferred Stock (discussed above), the Company paid a dividend of \$0.27153 per share, which reflected accrued and unpaid dividends for the period from April 1, 2013, through and including the Redemption Date.

Issuance of 7.50% Series B Cumulative Redeemable Preferred Stock ("Series B Preferred Stock")

On April 15, 2013, the Company amended its charter through filing of articles supplementary to its charter to reclassify 8,050,000 shares of the Company's authorized but unissued common stock as shares of the Company's Series B Preferred Stock.

Table of Contents

MFA FINANCIAL, INC.

NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

On April 15, 2013, the Company completed the issuance of 8.0 million shares of its Series B Preferred Stock, with a par value of \$0.01 per share and a liquidation preference \$25.00 per share, plus accrued and unpaid dividends, in an underwritten public offering. The aggregate net proceeds to the Company from the offering of the Series B Preferred Stock were approximately \$193.3 million, after deducting the underwriting discount and related offering expenses. The Company used a portion of such net proceeds to redeem all of its outstanding Series A Preferred Stock (as discussed above), and intends to use the remaining net proceeds of the offering for general corporate purposes, including, without limitation, to acquire additional MBS consistent with its investment policy, and for working capital, which may include, among other things, the repayment of its repurchase agreements.

The Company's Series B Preferred Stock, which is redeemable at \$25.00 per share plus accrued and unpaid dividends (whether or not authorized or declared) exclusively at the Company's option commencing on April 15, 2018 (subject to the Company's right under limited circumstances to redeem the Series B Preferred Stock prior to that date in order to preserve its qualification as a REIT and upon certain specified change in control transactions in which the Company's common stock and the acquiring or surviving entity common securities would not be listed on the New York Stock Exchange (the "NYSE"), the NYSE MKT or NASDAQ, or any successor exchanges), is entitled to receive a dividend at a rate of 7.50% per year on the \$25.00 liquidation preference before the Company's common stock is paid any dividends and is senior to the Company's common stock with respect to distributions upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up.

Dividends on the Series B Preferred Stock are payable quarterly in arrears on or about March 31, June 30, September 30 and December 31 of each year. On May 20, 2013, the Company declared the first dividend payable on the Series B Preferred Stock, which was paid on July 1, 2013 to preferred stockholders of record as of June 3, 2013. The amount of such dividend payable was \$0.39583 per share, and was paid in respect of the partial period commencing on April 15, 2013, the date of original issue of the Series B Preferred Stock, and ending on, and including, June 30, 2013. On August 22, 2013, the Company declared a quarterly dividend on its Series B Preferred Stock of \$0.46875 per share which was paid on September 30, 2013 to preferred stockholders of record as of September 5, 2013.

The Series B Preferred Stock generally does not have any voting rights, subject to an exception in the event the Company fails to pay dividends on such stock for six or more quarterly periods (whether or not consecutive). Under such circumstances, the Series B Preferred Stock will be entitled to vote to elect two additional directors to the Company's Board of Directors (the "Board"), until all unpaid dividends have been paid or declared and set apart for payment. In addition, certain material and adverse changes to the terms of the Series B Preferred Stock cannot be made without the affirmative vote of holders of at least 66 2/3% of the outstanding shares of Series B Preferred Stock.

(b) Dividends on Common Stock

The following table presents cash dividends declared by the Company on its common stock from January 1, 2012 through September 30, 2013:

Declaration Date (1)	Record Date	Payment Date	Dividend Per Share
September 26, 2013	October 11, 2013	October 31, 2013	\$ 0.22 (1)
August 1, 2013	August 12, 2013	August 30, 2013	0.28 (2)
June 28, 2013	July 12, 2013	July 31, 2013	0.22
March 28, 2013	April 12, 2013	April 30, 2013	0.22
March 4, 2013	March 18, 2013	April 10, 2013	0.50 (3)
December 12, 2012	December 28, 2012	January 31, 2013	0.20
September 28, 2012	October 12, 2012	October 31, 2012	0.21
June 27, 2012	July 13, 2012	July 31, 2012	0.23
March 23, 2012	April 4, 2012	April 30, 2012	0.24

- (1) At September 30, 2013, the Company had accrued dividends and DERs payable of \$81.2 million related to the common stock dividend declared on September 26, 2013.
- (2) Reflects the special cash dividend on common stock declared on August 1, 2013.
- (3) Reflects the special cash dividend on common stock declared on March 4, 2013.

Table of Contents

MFA FINANCIAL, INC.

NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

(c) Discount Waiver, Direct Stock Purchase and Dividend Reinvestment Plan (“DRSPP”)

On August 8, 2013, the Company filed a shelf registration statement on Form S-3 with the SEC under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the “1933 Act”), for the purpose of registering additional common stock for sale through its DRSPP. Pursuant to Rule 462(e) of the 1933 Act, this shelf registration statement became effective automatically upon filing with the SEC and, when combined with the unused portion of the Company’s previous DRSPP shelf registration statements, registered an aggregate of 15 million shares of common stock. The Company’s DRSPP is designed to provide existing stockholders and new investors with a convenient and economical way to purchase shares of common stock through the automatic reinvestment of dividends and/or optional cash investments. At September 30, 2013, 12.9 million shares of common stock remained available for issuance pursuant to the DRSPP shelf registration statement.

During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2013, the Company issued 3,669,147 shares and 8,168,287 shares of common stock through the DRSPP, raising net proceeds of \$27,209,940 and \$67,821,145, respectively. From the inception of the DRSPP in September 2003 through September 30, 2013, the Company issued 24,696,312 shares pursuant to the DRSPP, raising net proceeds of \$211.6 million.

(d) Controlled Equity Offering Program

On August 20, 2004, the Company initiated a controlled equity offering program (the “CEO Program”) through which it may, from time to time, publicly offer and sell shares of common stock through Cantor Fitzgerald & Co. (“Cantor”) in privately negotiated and/or at-the-market transactions. During the nine months ended September 30, 2013, the Company did not issue any shares through the CEO Program. From inception of the CEO Program through September 30, 2013, the Company issued 30,144,815 shares of common stock in at-the-market transactions through the CEO Program, raising net proceeds of \$194,908,570. In connection with such transactions, the Company paid Cantor aggregate fees and commissions of \$4,189,247. Shares for the CEO Program are issued through the automatic shelf registration statement on Form S-3 that was filed on October 22, 2010, as amended by Post-Effective Amendment No. 1 thereto, which was filed on April 2, 2012.

On December 12, 2008, the Company entered into its most recent Sales Agreement (the “Agreement”) with Cantor, as sales agent. In accordance with the terms of the Agreement, the Company may offer and sell up to 40 million shares of common stock (the “CEO Shares”) from time to time through Cantor. Sales of the CEO Shares, if any, may be made in privately negotiated transactions and/or by any other method permitted by law, including, but not limited to, sales at other than a fixed price made on or through the facilities of the NYSE, or sales made to or through a market maker or through an electronic communications network, or in any other manner that may be deemed to be an “at-the-market offering” as defined in Rule 415 of the 1933 Act. Cantor will make all sales on a best efforts basis using commercially reasonable efforts consistent with its normal trading and sales practices on mutually agreed terms between the Company and Cantor.

(e) Stock Repurchase Program

As previously disclosed, in August 2005, the Company’s Board authorized a stock repurchase program (the “Repurchase Program”), to repurchase up to 4.0 million shares of its outstanding common stock under the Repurchase Program. The Board reaffirmed such authorization in May 2010. Such authorization does not have an expiration date and, at present, there is no intention to modify or otherwise rescind such authorization. Subject to applicable securities laws, repurchases of common stock under the Repurchase Program are made at times and in amounts as the

Company deems appropriate, using available cash resources. Shares of common stock repurchased by the Company under the Repurchase Program are cancelled and, until reissued by the Company, are deemed to be authorized but unissued shares of the Company's common stock. The Repurchase Program may be suspended or discontinued by the Company at any time and without prior notice. During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2013, the Company repurchased 3,800 shares of its common stock at a total cost of \$27,041 and an average cost of \$7.12 per share. At September 30, 2013, 2,755,909 shares remained authorized for repurchase under the Repurchase Program.

Table of Contents

MFA FINANCIAL, INC.

NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

(f) Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income/(Loss)

The following table presents changes in the balances of each component of the Company's AOCI for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2013:

(In Thousands)	Three Months Ended September 30, 2013			Nine Months Ended September 30, 2013		
	Net Unrealized Gain/(Loss) on Available-for- Sale MBS	Net Unrealized Gain/(Loss) on Swaps	Total AOCI	Net Unrealized Gain/(Loss) on Available-for- Sale MBS	Net Unrealized Gain/(Loss) on Swaps	Total AOCI
Balance at the beginning of the period	\$ 700,871	\$(31,967)	\$ 668,904	\$ 824,808	\$(62,831)	\$ 761,977
OCI before reclassifications	31,850	(19,934)	11,916	(89,847)	10,930	(78,917)
Amounts reclassified from AOCI (1)	(15,158)	—	(15,158)	(17,398)	—	(17,398)
Net OCI during the period (2)	16,692	(19,934)	(3,242)	(107,245)	10,930	(96,315)
Balance at end of period	\$ 717,563	\$(51,901)	\$ 665,662	\$ 717,563	\$(51,901)	\$ 665,662

The following table presents changes in the balances of each component of the Company's AOCI for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2012:

(In Thousands)	Three Months Ended September 30, 2012			Nine Months Ended September 30, 2012		
	Net Unrealized Gain/(Loss) on Available-for- Sale MBS	Net Unrealized Gain/(Loss) on Swaps	Total AOCI	Net Unrealized Gain/(Loss) on Available-for- Sale MBS	Net Unrealized Gain/(Loss) on Swaps	Total AOCI
Balance at the beginning of the period	\$ 296,007	\$(89,823)	\$ 206,184	\$ 55,491	\$(114,194)	\$(58,703)
OCI before reclassifications	471,741	11,654	483,395	713,456	36,025	749,481
Amounts reclassified from AOCI (1)	(3,130)	—	(3,130)	(4,329)	—	(4,329)
Net OCI during the period (2)	468,611	11,654	480,265	709,127	36,025	745,152
Balance at end of period	\$ 764,618	\$(78,169)	\$ 686,449	\$ 764,618	\$(78,169)	\$ 686,449

(1) See separate table below for details about these reclassifications.

(2) For further information regarding changes in OCI, see the Company's consolidated statement of comprehensive income/(loss).

The following table presents information about the significant amounts reclassified out of the Company's AOCI for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2013:

Edgar Filing: MFA FINANCIAL, INC. - Form 10-Q

Details about AOCI Components	Three Months Ended September 30, 2013 Amounts Reclassified from AOCI	Nine Months Ended September 30, 2013 Amounts Reclassified from AOCI	Affected Line Item in the Statement Where Net Income is Presented
(In Thousands)			
Available-for-sale MBS:			
Realized gain on sale of securities	\$(15,158	)	\$(17,398
		)	Gain on sales of MBS and U.S. Treasury securities, net
Total reclassifications for period	\$(15,158	)	\$(17,398
)	

Table of Contents

MFA FINANCIAL, INC.

NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

The following table presents information about the significant amounts reclassified out of the Company's AOCI for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2012:

Details about AOCI Components	Three Months Ended September 30, 2012	Amounts Reclassified from AOCI	Nine Months Ended September 30, 2012	Amounts Reclassified from AOCI	Affected Line Item in the Statement Where Net Income is Presented
(In Thousands)					
Available-for-sale MBS:					
Realized gain on sale of securities	\$ (3,130	)	\$ (5,529	)	Gain on sales of MBS and U.S. Treasury securities, net
OTTI recognized in earnings	—		1,200		Net impairment losses recognized in earnings
Total reclassifications for period	\$ (3,130	)	\$ (4,329)	

At September 30, 2013 and December 31, 2012, the Company had OTTI recognized in AOCI of \$856,000 and \$2.6 million, respectively.

12. EPS Calculation

The following table presents a reconciliation of the earnings and shares used in calculating basic and diluted EPS for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2013 and 2012:

(In Thousands, Except Per Share Amounts)	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2013	2012	2013	2012
Numerator:				
Net income	\$71,328	\$78,141	\$224,152	\$237,620
Dividends declared on preferred stock	(3,750)	(2,040)	(10,000)	(6,120)
Dividends, DERs and undistributed earnings allocated to participating securities	(230)	(360)	(880)	(1,168)
Issuance costs of redeemed preferred stock (1)	—	—	(3,947)	—
Net income to common stockholders - basic and diluted	\$67,348	\$75,741	\$209,325	\$230,332
Denominator:				
Weighted average common shares for basic and diluted earnings per share (2)	363,918	356,921	361,181	356,563
Basic and diluted earnings per share	\$0.19	\$0.21	\$0.58	\$0.65

(1) Issuance costs of redeemed preferred stock represent the original offering costs related to the Series A Preferred Stock, which was redeemed on May 16, 2013. (See Note 11)

(2) At September 30, 2013, the Company had an aggregate of 1.6 million equity instruments outstanding that were not included in the calculation of diluted EPS for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2013, as their inclusion would have been anti-dilutive. These equity instruments were comprised of 407,000 stock options with a weighted average exercise price of \$10.23 and a weighted average remaining contractual life of 0.01 years, approximately 379,000 shares of restricted common stock with a weighted average grant date fair value of \$7.73 and approximately 787,000 RSUs with a weighted average grant date fair value of \$6.50. These equity instruments may have a dilutive impact on future EPS.

Table of Contents

MFA FINANCIAL, INC.

NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

13. Equity Compensation, Employment Agreements and Other Benefit Plans

(a) 2010 Equity Compensation Plan

In accordance with the terms of the Company's Amended and Restated 2010 Equity Compensation Plan (the "2010 Plan"), directors, officers and employees of the Company and any of its subsidiaries and other persons expected to provide significant services for the Company and any of its subsidiaries are eligible to receive grants of stock options ("Options"), restricted stock, RSUs, DERs and other stock-based awards under the 2010 Plan.

Subject to certain exceptions, stock-based awards relating to a maximum of 13.5 million shares of common stock may be granted under the 2010 Plan; forfeitures and/or awards that expire unexercised do not count towards such limit. At September 30, 2013, approximately 9.4 million shares of common stock remained available for grant in connection with stock-based awards under the 2010 Plan. A participant may generally not receive stock-based awards in excess of 1,500,000 shares of common stock in any one year and no award may be granted to any person who, assuming exercise of all Options and payment of all awards held by such person, would own or be deemed to own more than 9.8% of the outstanding shares of the Company's common stock. Unless previously terminated by the Board, awards may be granted under the 2010 Plan until May 20, 2020.

DERs

A DER is a right to receive a distribution equal to the dividend distributions that would be paid on a share of the Company's common stock. DERs may be granted separately or together with other awards and are paid in cash or other consideration at such times and in accordance with such rules, as the Compensation Committee of the Board (the "Compensation Committee") shall determine at its discretion. Payments made on the Company's existing DERs are charged to stockholders' equity when the common stock dividends are declared to the extent that such DERs are expected to vest. The Company made DER payments of approximately \$645,000 and \$357,000 during the three months ended September 30, 2013 and 2012, and approximately \$1.9 million and \$1.2 million during the nine months ended September 30, 2013 and 2012, respectively. DER payments for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2013 reflect special cash dividends paid of \$0.28 and \$0.78 per share, respectively. At September 30, 2013, the Company had 1,262,891 DERs outstanding, of which 403,250 were attached to common stock options and 859,641 were awarded in connection with, or attached to, RSUs. At September 30, 2013, the average forfeiture rate on DERs outstanding attached to RSUs was 17.1%. On the remaining DERs outstanding that are not attached to RSUs, a 0% forfeiture rate was assumed at September 30, 2013. At September 30, 2013, all outstanding DERs were entitled to receive non-forfeitable distributions and are scheduled to elapse over a weighted average period of 1.4 years.

Options

Pursuant to Section 422(b) of the Code, in order for Options granted under the 2010 Plan and vesting in any one calendar year to qualify as an incentive stock option ("ISO") for tax purposes, the market value of the common stock to be received upon exercise of such Options as determined on the date of grant shall not exceed \$100,000 during such calendar year. The exercise price of an ISO may not be lower than 100% (110% in the case of an ISO granted to a 10% stockholder) of the fair market value of the Company's common stock on the date of grant. The exercise price for any other type of Option issued under the 2010 Plan may not be less than the fair market value on the date of grant. Each Option is exercisable after the period or periods specified in the award agreement, which will generally not exceed ten years from the date of grant.

The Company did not grant any stock options during the nine months ended September 30, 2013 and 2012. There were 20,000 stock options exercised and no stock options cancelled during the nine months ended September 30, 2013, and no stock options exercised and 50,000 stock options cancelled during the nine months ended September 30, 2012. At September 30, 2013, 407,000 stock options were outstanding, all of which were vested and exercisable, with a weighted average exercise price of \$10.23. As of September 30, 2013, the aggregate intrinsic value of total Options outstanding was approximately zero.

Restricted Stock

The Company awarded zero and 28,743 shares of restricted common stock during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2013 and awarded zero and 81,439 shares of restricted common stock during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2012. At September 30, 2013 and December 31, 2012, the Company had unrecognized compensation expense of \$2.4 million and \$3.7 million, respectively, related to the unvested shares of restricted common stock. The Company had accrued dividends payable of \$458,000 and \$428,000 on unvested shares of restricted stock at September 30, 2013 and December 31, 2012,

Table of Contents

MFA FINANCIAL, INC.

NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

respectively. The unrecognized compensation expense at September 30, 2013 is expected to be recognized over a weighted average period of 1.3 years.

Restricted Stock Units and Associated DERs

Under the terms of the 2010 Plan, RSUs are instruments that provide the holder with the right to receive, subject to the satisfaction of conditions set by the Compensation Committee at the time of grant, a payment of a specified value, which may be a share of the Company's common stock, the fair market value of a share of the Company's common stock, or such fair market value to the extent in excess of an established base value, on the applicable settlement date. Although the 2010 Plan permits the Company to issue RSUs settleable in cash, all of the Company's outstanding RSUs as of September 30, 2013 are designated to be settled in shares of the Company's common stock. The Company granted 72,500 and 112,824 RSUs during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2013, respectively and 72,500 RSUs during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2012. All RSUs outstanding at September 30, 2013 had DERs attached or issued as separate associated instruments in connection with RSUs. At September 30, 2013 and December 31, 2012, the Company had unrecognized compensation expense of \$1.9 million and \$2.6 million, respectively, related to RSUs and DERs. The unrecognized compensation expense at September 30, 2013 is expected to be recognized over a weighted average period of 1.9 years. As of September 30, 2013, the Company had an expected average forfeiture rate of 15.5% with respect to unvested RSUs.

Expense Recognized for Equity-Based Compensation Instruments

The following table presents the Company's expenses related to its equity-based compensation instruments for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2013 and 2012:

(In Thousands)	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 30,		September 30,	
	2013	2012	2013	2012
Restricted shares of common stock	\$404	\$1,445	\$1,539	\$3,362
RSUs	314	289	1,263	835
DERs	42	59	144	177
Total	\$760	\$1,793	\$2,946	\$4,374

(b) Employment Agreements

At September 30, 2013, the Company had employment agreements with six of its officers, with varying terms that provide for, among other things, base salary, bonus and change-in-control payments upon the occurrence of certain triggering events.

(c) Deferred Compensation Plans

The Company administers deferred compensation plans for its senior officers and non-employee directors (collectively, the "Deferred Plans"), pursuant to which participants may elect to defer up to 100% of certain cash compensation. The Deferred Plans are designed to align participants' interests with those of the Company's stockholders.

Amounts deferred under the Deferred Plans are considered to be converted into “stock units” of the Company. Stock units do not represent stock of the Company, but rather are a liability of the Company that changes in value as would equivalent shares of the Company’s common stock. Deferred compensation liabilities are settled in cash at the termination of the deferral period, based on the value of the stock units at that time. The Deferred Plans are non-qualified plans under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and, as such, are not funded. Prior to the time that the deferred accounts are settled, participants are unsecured creditors of the Company.

Table of Contents

MFA FINANCIAL, INC.

NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

The Company's liability for stock units in the Deferred Plans is based on the market price of the Company's common stock at the measurement date. The following table presents the Company's expenses related to its Deferred Plans for its non-employee directors and senior officers for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2013 and 2012:

(In Thousands)	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 30,		September 30,	
	2013	2012	2013	2012
Non-employee directors	\$(30	) \$33	\$22	\$76
Total	\$(30	) \$33	\$22	\$76

The following table presents the aggregate amount of income deferred by participants of the Deferred Plans through September 30, 2013 and December 31, 2012 that had not been distributed and the Company's associated liability for such deferrals at September 30, 2013 and December 31, 2012:

(In Thousands)	September 30, 2013		December 31, 2012	
	Undistributed Income Deferred (1)	Liability Under Deferred Plans	Undistributed Income Deferred (1)	Liability Under Deferred Plans
Non-employee directors	\$214	\$331	\$199	\$302
Total	\$214	\$331	\$199	\$302

(1) Represents the cumulative amounts that were deferred by participants through September 30, 2013 and December 31, 2012, which had not been distributed through such date.

(d) Savings Plan

The Company sponsors a tax-qualified employee savings plan (the "Savings Plan"), in accordance with Section 401(k) of the Code. Subject to certain restrictions, all of the Company's employees are eligible to make tax deferred contributions to the Savings Plan subject to limitations under applicable law. Participant's accounts are self-directed and the Company bears the costs of administering the Savings Plan. The Company matches 100% of the first 3% of eligible compensation deferred by employees and 50% of the next 2%, subject to a maximum as provided by the Code. The Company has elected to operate the Savings Plan under the applicable safe harbor provisions of the Code, whereby among other things, the Company must make contributions for all participating employees and all matches contributed by the Company immediately vest 100%. For the three months ended September 30, 2013 and 2012, the Company recognized expenses for matching contributions of \$62,000 and \$60,000, respectively, and \$187,000 and \$179,000 for the nine months ended September 30, 2013 and 2012, respectively.

14. Fair Value of Financial Instruments

A financial instrument's categorization within the valuation hierarchy is based upon the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurement. The three levels of valuation hierarchy are defined as follows:

Level 1 — inputs to the valuation methodology are quoted prices (unadjusted) for identical assets or liabilities in active markets.

Level 2 — inputs to the valuation methodology include quoted prices for similar assets and liabilities in active markets, and inputs that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly, for substantially the full term of the financial instrument.

Level 3 — inputs to the valuation methodology are unobservable and significant to the fair value measurement.

The following describes the valuation methodologies used for the Company's financial instruments measured at fair value, as well as the general classification of such instruments pursuant to the valuation hierarchy.

Table of Contents

MFA FINANCIAL, INC.

NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

Securities Obtained and Pledged as Collateral/Obligation to Return Securities Obtained as Collateral

The fair value of U.S. Treasury securities obtained as collateral and the associated obligation to return securities obtained as collateral are based upon prices obtained from a third-party pricing service, which are indicative of market activity. Securities obtained as collateral are classified as Level 1 in the fair value hierarchy.

Agency MBS, Non-Agency MBS and Securitized Debt

The Company determines the fair value of its Agency MBS, based upon prices obtained from third party pricing services, which are indicative of market activity and repurchase agreement counterparties.

For Agency MBS, the valuation methodology of the Company's third-party pricing services incorporate commonly used market pricing methods, trading activity observed in the marketplace and other data inputs. The methodology also considers the underlying characteristics of each security, which are also observable inputs, including: collateral vintage; coupon; maturity date; loan age; reset date; collateral type; periodic and life cap; geography; and prepayment speeds. Management analyzes pricing data received from third-party pricing services and compares it to other indications of fair value including data received from repurchase agreement counterparties and its own observations of trading activity observed in the marketplace.

In determining the fair value of its Non-Agency MBS and securitized debt, management considers a number of observable market data points, including prices obtained from pricing services and brokers as well as dialogue with market participants. In valuing Non-Agency MBS, the Company understands that pricing services use observable inputs that include, in addition to trading activity observed in the marketplace, loan delinquency data, credit enhancement levels and vintage, which are taken into account to assign pricing factors such as spread and prepayment assumptions. For tranches that are cross-collateralized, performance of all collateral groups involved in the tranche are considered. The Company collects and considers current market intelligence on all major markets, including benchmark security evaluations and bid-lists throughout the day from various sources, when available.

The Company's MBS and securitized debt are valued using various market data points as described above, which management considers directly or indirectly observable parameters. Accordingly, the Company's MBS and securitized debt are classified as Level 2 in the fair value hierarchy.

Linked Transactions

The Non-Agency MBS underlying the Company's Linked Transactions are valued using similar techniques to those used for the Company's other Non-Agency MBS. The value of the underlying MBS is then netted against the carrying amount (which approximates fair value) of the repurchase agreement borrowing at the valuation date. The fair value of Linked Transactions also includes accrued interest receivable on the MBS and accrued interest payable on the underlying repurchase agreement borrowings. The Company's Linked Transactions are classified as Level 2 in the fair value hierarchy.

Other Derivative Instruments

Swaps

For non-centrally cleared swaps, the Company determines the fair value of its derivative hedging instruments considering valuations obtained from a third party pricing service. For swaps that are cleared by a central clearing house valuations provided by the clearing house are used. All valuations obtained are tested with internally developed models that apply readily observable market parameters. In valuing its derivative hedging instruments, the Company considers the creditworthiness of both the Company and its counterparties, along with collateral provisions contained in each derivative agreement, from the perspective of both the Company and its counterparties. All of the Company's derivative hedging instruments are subject either to bilateral collateral arrangements, or for cleared swaps, to the clearing house's margin requirements. Consequently, no credit valuation adjustment was made in determining the fair value of such instruments. The Company's derivative hedging instruments are classified as Level 2 in the fair value hierarchy.

Table of Contents

MFA FINANCIAL, INC.

NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

TBA Short Positions

The Company determines the fair value of its TBA short positions, based upon prices obtained from third party pricing services, which are indicative of market activity. Accordingly, the Company's TBA short positions are classified as Level 2 in the fair value hierarchy.

The following table presents the Company's financial instruments carried at fair value as of September 30, 2013, on the consolidated balance sheet by the valuation hierarchy, as previously described:

Fair Value at September 30, 2013

(In Thousands)	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Assets:				
Agency MBS	\$—	\$6,697,689	\$—	\$6,697,689
Non-Agency MBS, including MBS transferred to consolidated VIEs	—	4,973,378	—	4,973,378
Securities obtained and pledged as collateral	252,796	—	—	252,796
Linked Transactions	—	23,940	—	23,940
Other derivative instruments	—	4,629	—	4,629
Total assets carried at fair value	\$252,796	\$11,699,636	\$—	\$11,952,432
Liabilities:				
Other derivative instruments	\$—	\$65,253	\$—	\$65,253
Obligation to return securities obtained as collateral	252,796	—	—	252,796
Total liabilities carried at fair value	\$252,796	\$65,253	\$—	\$318,049

Changes to the valuation methodologies used with respect to the Company's financial instruments are reviewed by management to ensure any such changes result in appropriate exit price valuations. As markets and products develop and the pricing for certain products becomes more transparent, the Company continues to refine its valuation methodologies. The methods described above may produce fair value estimates that may not be indicative of net realizable value or reflective of future fair values. Furthermore, while the Company believes its valuation methods are appropriate and consistent with those used by market participants, the use of different methodologies, or assumptions, to determine the fair value of certain financial instruments could result in a different estimate of fair value at the reporting date. The Company uses inputs that are current as of the measurement date, which may include periods of market dislocation, during which price transparency may be reduced. The Company reviews the classification of its financial instruments within the fair value hierarchy on a quarterly basis, which could cause its financial instruments to be reclassified to a different level.

Table of Contents

MFA FINANCIAL, INC.

NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

The following table presents the carrying value and estimated fair value of the Company's financial instruments, at September 30, 2013 and December 31, 2012:

(In Thousands)	September 30, 2013		December 31, 2012	
	Carrying Value	Estimated Fair Value	Carrying Value	Estimated Fair Value
Financial Assets:				
Agency MBS	\$6,697,689	\$6,697,689	\$7,225,460	\$7,225,460
Non-Agency MBS, including MBS transferred to consolidated VIEs	4,973,378	4,973,378	5,382,165	5,382,165
Securities obtained and pledged as collateral	252,796	252,796	408,833	408,833
Cash and cash equivalents	503,852	503,852	401,293	401,293
Restricted cash	59,275	59,275	5,016	5,016
Linked Transactions	23,940	23,940	12,704	12,704
Other derivative instruments	4,629	4,629	203	203
Financial Liabilities:				
Repurchase agreements	8,568,171	8,568,038	8,752,472	8,754,521
Securitized debt	419,693	418,700	646,816	647,070
Obligation to return securities obtained as collateral	252,796	252,796	508,827	508,827
Senior Notes	100,000	101,560	100,000	103,040
Other derivative instruments	65,253	65,253	63,034	63,034

In addition to the methodologies used to determine the fair value of the Company's financial assets and liabilities reported at fair value, as previously described, the following methods and assumptions were used by the Company in arriving at the fair value of the Company's other financial instruments presented in the above table:

Cash and Cash Equivalents and Restricted Cash: Cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash are comprised of cash held in overnight money market investments and demand deposit accounts. At September 30, 2013 and December 31, 2012, the Company's money market funds were invested in securities issued by the U.S. Government, or its agencies, instrumentalities, and sponsored entities, and repurchase agreements involving the securities described above. Given the overnight term and assessed credit risk, the Company's investments in money market funds are determined to have a fair value equal to their carrying value.

Repurchase Agreements: The fair value of repurchase agreements reflects the present value of the contractual cash flows discounted at market interest rates at the valuation date for repurchase agreements with a term equivalent to the remaining term to interest rate repricing, which may be at maturity. Such interest rates are estimated based on LIBOR rates observed in the market. The Company's repurchase agreements are classified as Level 2 in the fair value hierarchy.

Senior Notes: The fair value of Senior Notes is determined using the end of day market price quoted on the NYSE at the reporting date. The Company's Senior Notes are classified as Level 1 in the fair value hierarchy.

15. Use of Special Purpose Entities and Variable Interest Entities

A Special Purpose Entity ("SPE") is an entity designed to fulfill a specific limited need of the company that organized it. SPEs are often used to facilitate transactions that involve securitizing financial assets or resecuritizing previously

securitized financial assets. The objective of such transactions may include obtaining non-recourse financing, obtaining liquidity or refinancing the underlying securitized financial assets on improved terms. Securitization involves transferring assets to a SPE to convert all or a portion of those assets into cash before they would have been realized in the normal course of business, through the SPE's issuance of debt or equity instruments. Investors in an SPE usually have recourse only to the assets in the SPE and depending on the overall structure of the transaction, may benefit from various forms of credit enhancement, such as over-collateralization in the form of excess assets in the SPE, priority with respect to receipt of cash flows relative to holders of other debt or equity instruments issued by the SPE, or a line of credit or other form of liquidity agreement that is designed with the objective of ensuring that investors receive principal and/or interest cash flow on the investment in accordance with the terms of their investment agreement.

Table of Contents

MFA FINANCIAL, INC.

NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

Resecuritization transactions

Since October 2010, the Company has entered into several resecuritization transactions that resulted in the Company consolidating as VIEs the SPEs that were created to facilitate the transactions and to which the underlying assets in connection with the resecuritizations were transferred. See Note 2(p) for a discussion of the accounting policies applied to the consolidation of VIEs and transfers of financial assets in connection with resecuritization transactions.

The following table summarizes the key details of the resecuritization transactions the Company has been involved in to date:

(Dollars in Thousands)	February 2012 WFMLT Series 2012-RR1	June 2011 CSMC Series 2011-7R	February 2011 CSMC Series 2011-1R	October 2010 DMSI 2010-RS2
Name of Trust (Consolidated as a VIE)				
Principal value of Non-Agency MBS sold	\$433,347	\$1,283,422	\$1,319,969	\$985,228
Face amount of Bonds issued by the VIE and purchased by 3rd party investors (1)	\$186,691	\$474,866	\$488,389	\$321,847
Outstanding amount of Senior Bonds at September 30, 2013	\$105,567	\$104,633	\$133,008	\$76,485
Pass-through rate for Senior Bonds issued	2.85	% One-month LIBOR plus 125 basis points	One-month LIBOR plus 100 basis points	Weighted Average Coupon Rate
Face amount of Senior Support Certificates received by the Company (2)	\$222,921	\$774,618	\$790,563	\$550,531
Cash received	\$186,691	\$474,866	\$488,389	\$322,792
Notional amount acquired of non-rated, interest only senior certificates (1)	\$186,691	\$474,866	\$488,389	\$—
Unamortized deferred costs (3)	\$908	\$726	\$1,243	\$475

(1) Amount disclosed reflects principal balance on the DMSI 2010-RS A1 and A2 bonds. The DMSI 2010-RS2 A2 bond was sold to third party investors during the three months ended September 30, 2013. The principal balance for the DMSI 2010-RS2 A1 Bond and associated interest only Senior certificate was paid off during the three months ended June 30, 2013.

(2) Provides credit support for the sequential Senior Non-Agency MBS sold to third-party investors in resecuritization transactions ("Senior Bonds").

(3) Amortized to interest expense based upon the actual repayments of the associated beneficial interests. During the three months ended September 30, 2013, the Company realized a \$2.0 million charge related to the impairment of resecuritization related deferred costs.

The Company engaged in these transactions primarily for the purpose of obtaining non-recourse financing on a portion of its Non-Agency MBS portfolio, as well as refinancing a portion of its Non-Agency MBS portfolio on improved terms. As a result of engaging in these transactions, the risks facing the Company are largely unchanged as the Company remains economically exposed to the first loss position on the underlying MBS transferred to the VIEs.

The activities that can be performed by an entity created to facilitate a resecuritization transaction are predominantly specified in the entity's formation documents. Those documents do not permit the entity, any beneficial interest holder in the entity, or any other party associated with the entity to cause the entity to sell or replace the assets held by the entity, or to limit such ability to specific events of default.

Table of Contents

MFA FINANCIAL, INC.

NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

The Company concluded that the entities created to facilitate these transactions are VIEs. The Company then completed an analysis of whether each VIE created to facilitate the resecuritization transaction should be consolidated by the Company, based on consideration of its involvement in each VIE, including the design and purpose of the SPE, and whether its involvement reflected a controlling financial interest that resulted in the Company being deemed the primary beneficiary of each VIE. In determining whether the Company would be considered the primary beneficiary, the following factors were assessed:

- Whether the Company has both the power to direct the activities that most significantly impact the economic performance of the VIE; and
- Whether the Company has a right to receive benefits or absorb losses of the entity that could be potentially significant to the VIE.

Based on its evaluation of the factors discussed above, including its involvement in the purpose and design of the entity, the Company determined that it was required to consolidate each VIE created to facilitate these resecuritization transactions.

As of September 30, 2013 and December 31, 2012, the aggregate fair value of the Non-Agency MBS that were resecuritized as described above was \$2.341 billion and \$2.620 billion, respectively. These assets are included in the Company's consolidated balance sheets and disclosed as "Non-Agency MBS transferred to consolidated VIEs". As of September 30, 2013 and December 31, 2012, the aggregate outstanding balance of Senior Bonds issued by consolidated VIEs was \$419.7 million and \$646.8 million, respectively. These Senior Bonds are included in the Company's consolidated balance sheets and disclosed as "Securitized debt". The holders of the Senior Bonds have no recourse to the general credit of the Company, but the Company does have the obligation, under certain circumstances to repurchase assets from the VIE upon the breach of certain representations and warranties in relation to the Non-Agency MBS sold to the VIE. In the absence of such a breach, the Company has no obligation to provide any other explicit or implicit support to any VIE.

Prior to the completion of the Company's first resecuritization transaction in October 2010, the Company had not transferred assets to VIEs or QSPEs and other than acquiring MBS issued by such entities, had no other involvement with VIEs or QSPEs.

Table of Contents

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

In this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, we refer to MFA Financial, Inc. and its subsidiaries as "we," "us," or "our," unless we specifically state otherwise or the context otherwise indicates.

The following discussion should be read in conjunction with our financial statements and accompanying notes included in Item 1 of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q as well as our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012.

Forward Looking Statements

When used in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, in future filings with the SEC or in press releases or other written or oral communications, statements which are not historical in nature, including those containing words such as "will," "believe," "expect," "anticipate," "estimate," "plan," "continue," "intend," "should," "could," "would," "may" or similar expressions, are intended to identify "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of Section 27A of the 1933 Act and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (or the 1934 Act), and, as such, may involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and assumptions.

These forward-looking statements include information about possible or assumed future results with respect to our business, financial condition, liquidity, results of operations, plans and objectives. Statements regarding the following subjects, among others, may be forward-looking: changes in interest rates and the market value of our MBS; changes in the prepayment rates on the mortgage loans securing our MBS, an increase of which could result in a reduction of the yield on MBS in our portfolio and an increase of which could require us to reinvest the proceeds received by us as a result of such prepayments in MBS with lower coupons; changes in the default rates and management's assumptions regarding default rates on the mortgage loans securing our Non-Agency MBS; our ability to borrow to finance our assets and the terms, including the cost, maturity and other terms, of any such borrowings; implementation of or changes in government regulations or programs affecting our business; our estimates regarding taxable income the actual amount of which is dependent on a number of factors, including, but not limited to, changes in the amount of interest income and financing costs, the method elected by us to accrete the market discount on Non-Agency MBS and the extent of prepayments, realized losses and changes in the composition of our Agency MBS and Non-Agency MBS portfolios that may occur during the applicable tax period, including gain or loss on any MBS disposals; the timing and amount of distributions to stockholders, which are declared and paid at the discretion of our Board of Directors and will depend on, among other things, our taxable income, our financial results and overall financial condition and liquidity, maintenance of our REIT qualification and such other factors as the Board deems relevant; our ability to maintain our qualification as a REIT for federal income tax purposes; our ability to maintain our exemption from registration under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (or the Investment Company Act), including statements regarding the concept release issued by the SEC relating to interpretive issues under the Investment Company Act with respect to the status under the Investment Company Act of certain companies that are engaged in the business of acquiring mortgages and mortgage-related interests; and risks associated with investing in real estate assets, including changes in business conditions and the general economy. These and other risks, uncertainties and factors, including those described in the annual, quarterly and current reports that we file with the SEC, could cause our actual results to differ materially from those projected in any forward-looking statements we make. All forward-looking statements are based on beliefs, assumptions and expectations of our future performance, taking into account all information currently available. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date they are made. New risks and uncertainties arise over time and it is not possible to predict those events or how they may affect us. Except as required by law, we are not obligated to, and do not intend to, update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

Business/General

We are a REIT primarily engaged in the business of investing, on a leveraged basis, in residential Agency MBS and Non-Agency MBS. Our principal business objective is to generate net income for distribution to our stockholders resulting from the difference between the interest and other income we earn on our investments and the interest expense we pay on the borrowings that we use to finance our leveraged investments and our operating costs.

At September 30, 2013, we had total assets of approximately \$12.599 billion, of which \$11.671 billion, or 92.6%, represented our MBS portfolio. At such date, our MBS portfolio was comprised of \$6.698 billion of Agency MBS and \$4.973 billion of Non-Agency MBS. Our remaining investment-related assets were primarily comprised of cash and cash equivalents, restricted cash, collateral obtained in connection with reverse repurchase agreements, Linked Transactions and MBS-related receivables.

Table of Contents

The results of our business operations are affected by a number of factors, many of which are beyond our control, and primarily depend on, among other things, the level of our net interest income, the market value of our assets, the supply and demand for MBS in the marketplace, the terms and availability of adequate financing, general economic and real estate conditions (both on national and local level), the impact of government actions in the real estate and mortgage sector, and the credit performance of our Non-Agency MBS. Our net interest income varies primarily as a result of changes in interest rates, the slope of the yield curve (i.e., the differential between long-term and short-term interest rates), borrowing costs (i.e., our interest expense) and prepayment speeds on our MBS, the behavior of which involves various risks and uncertainties. Interest rates and CPRs (which measure the amount of unscheduled principal prepayment on a bond as a percentage of the bond balance), vary according to the type of investment, conditions in the financial markets, competition and other factors, none of which can be predicted with any certainty.

With respect to our business operations, increases in interest rates, in general, may over time cause: (i) the interest expense associated with our borrowings to increase; (ii) the value of our MBS portfolio and, correspondingly, our stockholders' equity to decline; (iii) coupons on our ARM-MBS to reset, on a delayed basis, to higher interest rates; (iv) prepayments on our MBS to decline, thereby slowing the amortization of our MBS purchase premiums and the accretion of our purchase discounts; and (v) the value of our derivative instruments and, correspondingly, our stockholders' equity to increase. Conversely, decreases in interest rates, in general, may over time cause: (i) the interest expense associated with our borrowings to decrease; (ii) the value of our MBS portfolio and, correspondingly, our stockholders' equity to increase; (iii) coupons on our ARM-MBS to reset, on a delayed basis, to lower interest rates; (iv) prepayments on our MBS to increase, thereby accelerating the amortization of our MBS purchase premiums and the accretion of our purchase discounts; and (v) the value of our derivative instruments and, correspondingly, our stockholders' equity to decrease. In addition, our borrowing costs and credit lines are further affected by the type of collateral we pledge and general conditions in the credit market.

We are exposed to credit risk in our Non-Agency MBS portfolio, generally meaning that we are subject to credit losses in our Non-Agency MBS portfolio that correspond to the risk of delinquency, default and foreclosure on the real estate collateralizing our Non-Agency MBS. In particular we have significantly higher exposure in our Non-Agency MBS portfolio in California, Florida, New York, Virginia and New Jersey. However, the remaining credit support built into Non-Agency MBS transaction structures is designed to mitigate the extent of expected credit losses. In addition, we believe the discounted purchase prices paid on certain of our Non-Agency MBS effectively mitigates our risk of loss in the event, as we expect on most, that we receive less than 100% of the par value of these securities. Our Non-Agency MBS investment process involves analysis focused primarily on quantifying and pricing credit risk. Interest income on Non-Agency MBS purchased at a significant discount is recorded at an effective yield, based on management's estimate of expected cash flows from each security, which estimate is based on our observation of current information and events and include assumptions related to fluctuations in interest rates, prepayment speeds and the timing and amount of credit losses.

As of September 30, 2013, approximately \$8.165 billion, or 70.0%, of our MBS portfolio was in its contractual fixed-rate period or were fixed-rate MBS and approximately \$3.503 billion, or 30.0%, was in its contractual adjustable-rate period, or were floating rate MBS. Our ARM-MBS in their contractual adjustable-rate period primarily include MBS collateralized by Hybrids for which the initial fixed-rate period has elapsed, such that the interest rate will typically adjust on an annual or semiannual basis. In addition, at September 30, 2013, we had \$187.9 million, or 1.6%, of MBS with interest rates that reset monthly.

Premiums arise when we acquire MBS at a price in excess of the principal balance of the mortgages securing such MBS (i.e., par value). Conversely, discounts arise when we acquire MBS at a price below the principal balance of the mortgages securing such MBS. Premiums paid on our MBS are amortized against interest income and accretable purchase discounts on our MBS are accreted to interest income. Purchase premiums on our MBS, which are primarily carried on our Agency MBS, are amortized against interest income over the life of each security using the effective

yield method, adjusted for actual prepayment activity. An increase in the prepayment rate, as measured by the conditional prepayment rate (or CPR), will typically accelerate the amortization of purchase premiums, thereby reducing the yield/interest income earned on such assets. Generally, if prepayments on our Non-Agency MBS are less than anticipated, we expect that the income recognized on such assets would be reduced and impairments could result.

CPR levels are impacted by, among other things, conditions in the housing market, new regulations, government and private sector initiatives, interest rates, availability of credit to home borrowers, underwriting standards and the economy in general. In particular, CPR reflects the conditional repayment rate (or CRR), which measures voluntary prepayments of mortgages collateralizing a particular MBS, and the conditional default rate (or CDR), which measures involuntary prepayments resulting from defaults. CPRs on Agency MBS and Non-Agency MBS may differ significantly. For the three months ended September 30, 2013, our Agency MBS portfolio experienced a weighted average CPR of 19.3%, and our Non-Agency MBS portfolio (including

Table of Contents

Non-Agency MBS underlying our Linked Transactions) experienced a weighted average CPR of 18.0%. For the three months ended June 30, 2013, our Agency MBS portfolio experienced a weighted average CPR of 20.2%, and our Non-Agency MBS portfolio (including Non-Agency MBS underlying our Linked Transactions) experienced a weighted average CPR of 16.4%. Over the last consecutive eight quarters, ending with September 30, 2013, the monthly fair value weighted average CPR on our MBS portfolio ranged from a high of 19.7% experienced during the quarter ended September 30, 2013 to a low of 15.9%, experienced during the quarter ended March 31, 2012, with an average CPR over such quarters of 17.8%.

When we purchase Non-Agency MBS at significant discounts to par value, we make certain assumptions with respect to each security. These assumptions include, but are not limited to, future interest rates, voluntary prepayment rates, default rates, mortgage modifications and loss severities. As part of our Non-Agency MBS surveillance process, we track and compare each security's actual performance over time to the performance expected at the time of purchase or, if we have modified our original purchase assumptions, to our revised performance expectations. To the extent that actual performance of our Non-Agency MBS deviates materially from our expected performance parameters, we may revise our performance expectations, such that the amount of purchase discount designated as credit discount may be increased or decreased over time. Nevertheless, credit losses greater than those anticipated or in excess of the recorded purchase discount could occur, which could materially adversely impact our operating results.

It is our business strategy to hold our MBS as long-term investments. On at least a quarterly basis, we assess our ability and intent to continue to hold each security and, as part of this process, we monitor our securities for other-than-temporary impairment. A change in our ability and/or intent to continue to hold any of our securities that are in an unrealized loss position, or a deterioration in the underlying characteristics of these securities, could result in our recognizing future impairment charges or a loss upon the sale of any such security. At September 30, 2013, we had net unrealized gains of \$48.6 million on our Agency MBS, comprised of gross unrealized gains of \$116.3 million and gross unrealized losses of \$67.7 million, and had net unrealized gains on our Non-Agency MBS of \$668.9 million, comprised of gross unrealized gains of \$677.7 million and gross unrealized losses of \$8.8 million. At September 30, 2013, we did not intend to sell any of our MBS that were in an unrealized loss position, and we believe it is more likely than not that we will not be required to sell those MBS before recovery of their amortized cost basis, which may be at their maturity. (See following discussion on "Recent Market Conditions and Our Strategy".)

We rely primarily on borrowings under repurchase agreements to finance our Agency MBS and Non-Agency MBS. Our MBS have longer-term contractual maturities than our borrowings under repurchase agreements. We have also engaged in resecuritization transactions with respect to our Non-Agency MBS, which provide access to non-recourse financing. Even though the majority of our MBS have interest rates that adjust over time based on short-term changes in corresponding interest rate indices (typically following an initial fixed-rate period for our Hybrids), the interest rates we pay on our borrowings and securitized debt will typically change at a faster pace than the interest rates we earn on our MBS. In order to reduce this interest rate risk exposure, we may enter into derivative instruments, which are primarily comprised of Swaps and as of September 30, 2013 also includes TBA short positions.

Our Swap derivative hedging instruments are designated as cash-flow hedges against a portion of our current and forecasted LIBOR-based repurchase agreements and securitized debt. Our Swaps do not extend the maturities of our repurchase agreements and/or securitized debt; they do, however, lock in a fixed rate of interest over their term for the notional amount of the Swap corresponding to the hedged item. During the nine months ended September 30, 2013, we entered into 23 new Swaps with an aggregate notional amount of \$2.501 billion, a weighted average fixed-pay rate of 1.85% and initial maturities ranging from two months to ten years, and had Swaps with an aggregate notional amount of \$941.3 million and a weighted average fixed-pay rate of 2.73% amortize and/or expire. At September 30, 2013, we had Swaps with an aggregate notional amount of \$4.079 billion with a weighted average fixed-pay rate of 1.93% and a weighted average variable interest rate received of 0.18%.

During the third quarter of 2013, we sold \$350.0 million notional of 15-year Agency MBS 2.5% TBA Securities to be settled on October 16, 2013. At September 30, 2013, the fair value of our TBA short position was \$352.2 million with an unrealized loss of \$8.7 million.

Recent Market Conditions and Our Strategy

During the third quarter of 2013, we continued to invest in both Agency and Non-Agency MBS. During the three months ended September 30, 2013, we acquired approximately (i) \$253.9 million of Agency MBS at a weighted average purchase price of 104.3% of par value and (ii) \$67.1 million of Non-Agency MBS, all of which are reported as a component of Linked Transactions, at a weighted average purchase price of 98.7% of par value. During the nine months ended September 30, 2013, we acquired

Table of Contents

approximately (i) \$1.189 billion of Agency MBS at a weighted average purchase price of 104.1% of par value and (ii) \$377.5 million of Non-Agency MBS (including \$67.1 million of MBS, which are reported as a component of Linked Transactions) at a weighted average purchase price of 89.5% of par value. At September 30, 2013, our combined MBS portfolio was approximately \$11.671 billion compared to \$12.608 billion at December 31, 2012. During the three months ended September 30, 2013, we experienced a decrease in our MBS portfolio primarily due to principal repayments exceeding the addition of newly acquired assets.

At September 30, 2013, \$6.698 billion, or 57.4% of our MBS portfolio, was invested in Agency MBS. During the three months ended September 30, 2013, we experienced a decrease of \$240.2 million in the fair value of our Agency MBS. We experienced \$493.7 million of principal repayments and \$15.8 million of premium amortization which was partially offset by the addition of \$253.9 million of newly acquired assets and a \$15.5 million increase in net unrealized gains.

At September 30, 2013, \$4.973 billion, or 42.6% of our MBS portfolio, was invested in Non-Agency MBS. In addition, we had \$106.2 million of Non-Agency MBS that were reported as a component of our Linked Transactions. During the three months ended September 30, 2013, we experienced a decrease of \$322.3 million in the fair value of our Non-Agency MBS portfolio. We experienced \$254.3 million of principal repayments and the sale of Non-Agency MBS with an amortized cost of \$88.5 million, which was partially offset by \$19.5 million of discount accretion and a \$1.2 million increase in net unrealized gains. In addition, we purchased \$67.1 million of Non-Agency MBS, all of which are reported as a component of Linked Transactions.

Our book value per common share was \$7.85 as of September 30, 2013. Due primarily to the special dividend of \$0.28 per common share, book value declined from \$8.19 as of June 30, 2013. In addition, the regular third quarter 2013 dividend per share exceeded net income per share by \$0.03 so as to more closely track REIT taxable income.

Due to the interest rate environment in 2012 and the first nine months of 2013, yields on acquired assets were lower than in prior periods. At the end of the third quarter of 2013, the average coupon on mortgages underlying our Agency MBS was lower compared to the end of the third quarter of 2012, due to acquisition of assets in the marketplace at generally lower coupons reflecting current market conditions and as a result of prepayments on higher yielding assets and downward resets on Hybrid and ARM-MBS within the portfolio. As a result, the coupon yield on our Agency MBS portfolio declined 42 basis points to 3.07% for three months ended September 30, 2013 from 3.49% for the three months ended September 30, 2012. In addition, the net Agency MBS yield decreased to 2.13% for the three months ended September 30, 2013, from 2.66% for the three months ended September 30, 2012. Our Non-Agency MBS portfolio yielded 7.33% for the three months ended September 30, 2013 compared to 6.65% for the three months ended September 30, 2012. The increase in the yield on our Non-Agency MBS portfolio is primarily due to increases in accretable discount and changes in the forward yield curve.

We continue to believe that loss-adjusted returns on Non-Agency MBS represent attractive investment opportunities. The yields on our Non-Agency MBS that were purchased at a discount are generally positively impacted if prepayment rates on these securities exceed our prepayment assumptions. Home price appreciation is generally due to a combination of limited housing supply, low mortgage rates, capital flows into own-to-rent foreclosure purchases and demographic-driven U.S. household formation. We believe that our \$1.119 billion Credit Reserve appropriately factors in remaining uncertainties regarding underlying mortgage performance and the potential impact on future cash flows. Home price appreciation continues to decrease the loan-to-value ratio (or LTV) for many of the mortgages underlying our Non-Agency portfolio. We estimate that the LTV of mortgage loans underlying our Non-Agency MBS has declined from approximately 105% as of January 2012 to less than 85% as of September 30, 2013, as a result of home price appreciation and underlying mortgage loan amortization. Lower LTVs lessen the likelihood of defaults and simultaneously decrease loss severities. Additionally, current to 60-days delinquent transition rates continue to decline from their 2009 peak. We have also observed faster voluntary prepayment (i.e. prepayment of loans in full

with no loss) speeds than originally projected. Based on these current conditions, we have reduced estimated future losses within our Non-Agency portfolio. As a result, during the three months ended September 30, 2013 we transferred \$71.0 million from Credit Reserve to accretable discount bringing the total transferred over the last twelve months to \$241.3 million. This increase in accretable discount is expected to increase the interest income realized over the remaining life of our Non-Agency MBS. The remaining average contractual life of such assets is approximately 25 years, but based on scheduled loan amortization and prepayments (both voluntary and involuntary), loan balances will decline substantially over time. Consequently, we believe that the majority of the impact on interest income from the reduction in Credit Reserve will occur over the next ten years.

With \$503.9 million of cash and cash equivalents and \$415.0 million of unpledged Agency MBS at September 30, 2013, we believe that we are positioned to continue to take advantage of investment opportunities within the residential MBS marketplace. During the remainder of 2013 we intend to continue to selectively acquire Agency MBS and Non-Agency MBS. We believe that

Table of Contents

our Non-Agency assets will benefit going forward as the existing private label MBS universe continues to decline in size due to prepayments, defaults and limited issuance. In addition, while most Non-Agency MBS in our portfolio will not return their full face value due to loan defaults, we believe that they will deliver attractive loss adjusted yields due to our discounted average amortized cost of 73% of face value at September 30, 2013. We expect that the majority of our assets will remain in Agency MBS.

We believe the financial environment continues to be favorably impacted by accommodative U.S. monetary policy. Repurchase agreement funding for both Agency MBS and Non-Agency MBS continues to be available to us from multiple counterparties. Typically, repurchase agreement funding involving Non-Agency MBS is available from fewer counterparties, at terms requiring higher collateralization and higher interest rates, than for repurchase agreement funding involving Agency MBS. At September 30, 2013, our debt consisted of borrowings under repurchase agreements with 27 counterparties, securitized debt, payable for unsettled purchases and Senior Notes outstanding, and obligation to return securities obtained as collateral, resulting in a debt-to-equity multiple of 3.0 times. (See table on page 66 under Results of Operations that presents our quarterly leverage multiples since September 30, 2012.)

Table of Contents

Information About Our Assets

The tables below present certain information about our asset allocation at September 30, 2013:

ASSET ALLOCATION

GAAP Basis	Agency MBS	Non-Agency MBS	MBS Portfolio	Cash (1)	Other, net (2)	Total
(Dollars in Thousands)						
Amortized Cost	\$6,649,048	\$4,304,456	\$10,953,504	\$563,127	\$(20,904)	\$11,495,727
Market Value	\$6,697,689	\$4,973,378	\$11,671,067	\$563,127	\$(20,904)	\$12,213,290
Less Payable for Unsettled Purchases	—	—	—	—	—	—
Less Repurchase Agreements	(5,895,942)	(2,672,229)	(8,568,171)	—	—	(8,568,171)
Less Securitized Debt	—	(419,693)	(419,693)	—	—	(419,693)
Less Senior Notes	—	—	—	—	(100,000)	(100,000)
Equity Allocated	\$801,747	\$1,881,456	\$2,683,203	\$563,127	\$(120,904)	\$3,125,426
Less Swaps at Market Value	—	—	—	—	(51,901)	(51,901)
Net Equity Allocated	\$801,747	\$1,881,456	\$2,683,203	\$563,127	\$(172,805)	\$3,073,525
Debt/Net Equity Ratio (3)	7.35	x 1.64	x			3.04 x
Non-GAAP Adjustments	Agency MBS	Non-Agency MBS (4)	MBS Portfolio	Cash (1)	Other, net (4)	Total
(Dollars in Thousands)						
Amortized Cost	\$—	\$102,312	\$102,312	\$—	\$(17,897)	\$84,415
Market Value	\$—	\$106,231	\$106,231	\$—	\$(17,897)	\$88,334
Repurchase Agreements	—	164,462	164,462	—	—	164,462
Multi-year Collateralized Financing Arrangements	—	(252,796)	(252,796)	—	—	(252,796)
Equity Allocated	\$—	\$17,897	\$17,897	\$—	\$(17,897)	\$—
Less Swaps at Market Value	—	—	—	—	—	—
Net Equity Allocated	\$—	\$17,897	\$17,897	\$—	\$(17,897)	\$—
Non-GAAP Basis	Agency MBS	Non-Agency MBS (4)	MBS Portfolio	Cash (1)	Other, net (5)	Total
(Dollars in Thousands)						
Amortized Cost	\$6,649,048	\$4,406,768	\$11,055,816	\$563,127	\$(38,801)	\$11,580,142
Market Value	\$6,697,689	\$5,079,609	\$11,777,298	\$563,127	\$(38,801)	\$12,301,624
Less Payable for Unsettled Purchases	—	—	—	—	—	—
Less Repurchase Agreements	(5,895,942)	(2,507,767)	(8,403,709)	—	—	(8,403,709)
Less Multi-year Collateralized Financing Arrangements	—	(252,796)	(252,796)	—	—	(252,796)
Less Securitized Debt	—	(419,693)	(419,693)	—	—	(419,693)
Less Senior Notes	—	—	—	—	(100,000)	(100,000)
Equity Allocated	\$801,747	\$1,899,353	\$2,701,100	\$563,127	\$(138,801)	\$3,125,426
Less Swaps at Market Value	—	—	—	—	(51,901)	(51,901)
Net Equity Allocated	\$801,747	\$1,899,353	\$2,701,100	\$563,127	\$(190,702)	\$3,073,525
Debt/Net Equity Ratio (6)	7.35	x 1.67	x			3.07 x

(1) Includes cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash.

(2) Includes securities obtained and pledged as collateral, Linked Transactions, interest receivable, goodwill, prepaid and other assets, obligation to return securities obtained as collateral, interest payable, dividends payable, excise tax and interest payable, TBA short positions, and accrued expenses and other liabilities.

(3) For the Agency and Non-Agency MBS portfolio, represents the sum of borrowings under repurchase agreements, payable for unsettled purchases and securitized debt as a multiple of net equity allocated. The numerator of our Total Debt/Net Equity ratio also includes the obligation to return securities obtained as collateral of \$252.8 million and Senior Notes.

51

Table of Contents

(4) Includes Non-Agency MBS and repurchase agreements underlying Linked Transactions. The purchase of a Non-Agency MBS and contemporaneous repurchase borrowing of this MBS with the same counterparty are accounted for under GAAP as a “linked transaction.” The two components of a linked transaction (MBS and associated borrowings under a repurchase agreement) are evaluated on a combined basis and are presented net as “Linked Transactions” on our consolidated balance sheet. Also includes the adjustment to reflect Non-Agency financing under multi-year collateralized financing arrangements of \$252.8 million, while borrowings under repurchase agreements of \$246.9 million for which U.S. Treasury securities are pledged as collateral is reclassified to other, net.

(5) Includes securities obtained and pledged as collateral, interest receivable, goodwill, prepaid and other assets, borrowings under repurchase agreements of \$246.9 million for which U.S. Treasury securities are pledged as collateral, interest payable, dividends payable, excise tax and interest payable, TBA short positions, and accrued expenses and other liabilities.

(6) For the Agency and Non-Agency MBS portfolio, represents the sum of borrowings under repurchase agreements, payable for unsettled purchases, multi-year collateralized financing arrangements of \$252.8 million and securitized debt as a multiple of net equity allocated. The numerator of our Total Debt/Net Equity ratio also includes borrowings under repurchase agreements of \$246.9 million for which U.S. Treasury securities are pledged as collateral and Senior Notes.

Agency MBS

The following table presents certain information regarding the composition of our Agency MBS portfolio as of September 30, 2013:

(Dollars in Thousands)	Current Face	Weighted Average Purchase Price	Weighted Average Market Price	Fair Value (1)	Weighted Average Loan Age (Months) (2)	Weighted Average Coupon (2)	Weighted Average 3 Month CPR
15-Year Fixed Rate:							
Low Loan Balance (3)	\$2,048,238	104.3	% 103.0	% \$2,109,040	18	3.05	% 10.0
HARP (4)	214,193	104.7	103.1	220,912	16	3.02	9.2
Other (Post June 2009) (5)	216,044	103.4	106.2	229,348	39	4.18	24.3
Other (Pre June 2009) (6)	1,282	104.9	106.4	1,363	52	4.50	30.4
Total 15-Year Fixed Rate	\$2,479,757	104.2	% 103.3	% \$2,560,663	19	3.14	% 11.3
Hybrid:							
Other (Post June 2009) (5)	\$2,493,302	104.0	% 104.4	% \$2,602,538	29	3.21	% 27.2
Other (Pre June 2009) (6)	1,273,731	101.4	106.2	1,352,533	81	3.48	21.1
Total Hybrid	\$3,767,033	103.1	105.0	% \$3,955,071	46	3.30	25.0
CMO/Other	\$171,721	102.5	104.0	% \$178,535	152	2.46	8.8
Total Portfolio	\$6,418,511	103.5	% 104.3	% \$6,694,269	39	3.22	% 19.2

(1) Does not include principal payments receivable of \$3.4 million at September 30, 2013.

(2) Weighted average is based on MBS current face at September 30, 2013.

(3) Low loan balance represents MBS collateralized by mortgages with original loan balance of less than or equal to \$175,000.

(4) Home Affordable Refinance Program (or HARP) MBS are backed by refinanced loans with LTVs greater than or equal to 80% at origination.

- (5) MBS issued in June 2009 or later. Majority of underlying loans are ineligible to refinance through the HARP program.
- (6) MBS issued before June 2009.

Table of Contents

The following table presents certain information regarding our 15-year fixed-rate Agency MBS as of September 30, 2013:

Coupon	Current Face	Weighted Average Purchase Price	Weighted Average Market Price	Fair Value (1)	Weighted Average Loan Age (Months) (2)	Weighted Average Loan Rate	Low Loan Balance and/or HARP (3)	Weighted Average 3 Month CPR
(Dollars in Thousands)								
15-Year Fixed Rate:								
2.5%	\$1,124,352	104.0 %	100.7 %	\$1,132,144	9	3.04 %	100 %	4.4 %
3.0%	496,084	105.9	103.6	513,967	15	3.49	100	7.9
3.5%	16,861	103.5	105.7	17,814	35	4.16	100	27.6
4.0%	707,225	103.3	106.4	752,793	35	4.40	83	21.0
4.5%	135,235	105.2	106.4	143,945	38	4.87	32	22.1
Total 15-Year Fixed Rate	\$2,479,757	104.2 %	103.3 %	\$2,560,663	19	3.62 %	91 %	11.3 %

(1) Does not include principal payments receivable of \$3.4 million at September 30, 2013.

(2) Weighted average is based on MBS current face at September 30, 2013.

(3) Low Loan Balance represents MBS collateralized by mortgages with original loan balance less than or equal to \$175,000. HARP MBS are backed by refinanced loans with LTVs greater than or equal to 80% at origination.

The following table presents certain information regarding our Hybrid Agency MBS as of September 30, 2013:

(Dollars in Thousands)	Current Face	Weighted Average Purchase Price	Weighted Average Market Price	Fair Value (1)	Weighted Average Coupon (2)	Weighted Average Loan Age (Months) (2)	Weighted Average Months to Reset (3)	Weighted Interest Only (4)	Weighted Average Month CPR
Hybrid Post June 2009:									
Agency 5/1	\$908,801	103.3 %	105.6 %	\$960,085	3.40 %	37	22	25 %	34.2 %
Agency 7/1	1,262,896	104.3	104.0	1,313,844	3.08	25	59	19	24.7
Agency 10/1	321,605	104.6	102.2	328,609	3.20	20	99	63	13.0
Total Hybrids Post June 2009	\$2,493,302	104.0 %	104.4 %	\$2,602,538	3.21 %	29	50	27 %	27.2 %
Hybrid Pre June 2009:									
Coupon < 4.5% (5)	\$847,018	101.6 %	106.0 %	\$897,711	2.51 %	85	6	53 %	14.7 %
Coupon >= 4.5% (6)	426,713	101.2	106.6	454,822	5.41	72	21	79	32.9
Total Hybrids Pre June 2009	\$1,273,731	101.4 %	106.2 %	\$1,352,533	3.48 %	81	11	62 %	21.1 %
Total Hybrids	\$3,767,033	103.1 %	105.0 %	\$3,955,071	3.30 %	46	37	39 %	25.0 %

(1) Does not include principal payments receivable of \$3.4 million at September 30, 2013.

(2) Weighted average is based on MBS current face at September 30, 2013.

(3) Weighted average months to reset is the number of months remaining before the coupon interest rate resets. At reset, the MBS coupon will adjust based upon the underlying benchmark interest rate index, margin and periodic or lifetime caps. The months to reset do not reflect scheduled amortization or prepayments.

- (4) Interest only represents MBS backed by mortgages currently in their interest only period. Percentage is based on MBS current face at September 30, 2013.
- (5) Agency 3/1, 5/1, 7/1 and 10/1 Hybrid ARM-MBS with coupon less than 4.5%.
- (6) Agency 3/1, 5/1, 7/1 and 10/1 Hybrid ARM-MBS with coupon greater than or equal to 4.5%.

Table of Contents

Non-Agency MBS

The following table presents information with respect to our Non-Agency MBS: (i) excluding Linked Transactions and reported in accordance with GAAP; (ii) underlying our Linked Transactions and reflected consistent with GAAP reporting requirements; and (iii) on a combined basis as of September 30, 2013 and December 31, 2012:

(In Thousands)	September 30, 2013	December 31, 2012
(i) Non-Agency MBS (GAAP - excluding Linked Transactions)		
Face/Par	\$5,865,663	\$6,509,560
Fair Value	4,973,378	5,382,165
Amortized Cost	4,304,456	4,758,300
Purchase Discount Designated as Credit Reserve and OTTI	(1,118,992	)(1) (1,380,506
Purchase Discount Designated as Accretable	(442,908	)(371,626
Purchase Premiums	693	872
(ii) Non-Agency MBS Underlying Linked Transactions		
Face/Par	\$110,664	\$52,277
Fair Value	106,231	47,828
Amortized Cost	102,312	43,817
Purchase Discount Designated as Credit Reserve	(5,377	)(6,051
Purchase Discount Designated as Accretable	(2,975	)(2,409
(iii) Combined Non-Agency MBS and MBS Underlying Linked Transactions (Non-GAAP)		
Face/Par	\$5,976,327	\$6,561,837
Fair Value	5,079,609	5,429,993
Amortized Cost	4,406,768	4,802,117
Purchase Discount Designated as Credit Reserve and OTTI	(1,124,369	)(3) (1,386,557
Purchase Discount Designated as Accretable	(445,883	)(374,035
Purchase Premiums	693	872

(1) Includes discount designated as Credit Reserve of \$1.074 billion and OTTI of \$45.0 million.

(2) Includes discount designated as Credit Reserve of \$1.332 billion and OTTI of \$48.7 million.

(3) Includes discount designated as Credit Reserve of \$1.079 billion and OTTI of \$45.0 million.

(4) Includes discount designated as Credit Reserve of \$1.338 billion and OTTI of \$48.7 million.

Table of Contents

Purchase Discounts on Non-Agency MBS and Securities Underlying Linked Transactions

The following table presents the changes in the components of purchase discount on Non-Agency MBS with respect to purchase discount designated as Credit Reserve and OTTI, and accretable purchase discount, including securities underlying Linked Transactions, for the three months ended September 30, 2013 and September 30, 2012 on both a GAAP and Non-GAAP basis:

	Three Months Ended September 30, 2013		Three Months Ended September 30, 2012	
	Discount Designated as Credit Reserve and OTTI	Accretable Discount (1)	Discount Designated as Credit Reserve and OTTI	Accretable Discount (1)
GAAP Basis				
(In Thousands)				
Balance at beginning of period	\$ (1,264,971)	\$ (396,581)	\$ (1,440,752)	\$ (265,137)
Accretion of discount	—	19,556	—	8,816
Realized credit losses	48,642	—	49,314	—
Purchases	(851)	879	(122,266)	4,554
Sales	27,178	4,248	—	—
Unlinking of Linked Transactions	—	—	—	(2,256)
Transfers/release of credit reserve	71,010	(71,010)	54,053	(54,053)
Balance at the end of period	\$ (1,118,992)	\$ (442,908)	\$ (1,459,651)	\$ (308,076)
Non-GAAP Adjustments				
(In Thousands)				
Balance at beginning of period	\$ (5,523)	\$ (2,266)	\$ (7,152)	\$ (5,541)
Accretion of discount	—	230	—	173
Realized credit losses	146	—	452	—
New Purchases	—	(939)	—	—
Unlinking of Linked Transactions	—	—	—	3,036
Transfers/release of credit reserve	—	—	54	(54)
Balance at the end of period	\$ (5,377)	\$ (2,975)	\$ (6,646)	\$ (2,386)
Non-GAAP Basis				
(In Thousands)				
Balance at beginning of period	\$ (1,270,494)	\$ (398,847)	\$ (1,447,904)	\$ (270,678)
Accretion of discount	—	19,786	—	8,989
Realized credit losses	48,788	—	49,766	—
Purchases	(851)	(60)	(122,266)	4,554
Sales	27,178	4,248	—	—
Unlinking of Linked Transactions	—	—	—	780
Transfers/release of credit reserve	71,010	(71,010)	54,107	(54,107)
Balance at the end of period	\$ (1,124,369)	\$ (445,883)	\$ (1,466,297)	\$ (310,462)

(1) Together with coupon interest, accretable purchase discount is recognized as interest income over the life of the security.

Table of Contents

The following table presents the changes in the components of purchase discount on Non-Agency MBS with respect to purchase discount designated as Credit Reserve and OTTI, and accretable purchase discount, including securities underlying Linked Transactions, for the nine months ended September 30, 2013 and September 30, 2012 on both a GAAP and Non-GAAP basis:

GAAP Basis	Nine Months Ended September 30, 2013		Nine Months Ended September 30, 2012	
	Discount Designated as Credit Reserve and OTTI	Accretable Discount (1)	Discount Designated as Credit Reserve and OTTI	Accretable Discount (1)
(In Thousands)				
Balance at beginning of period	\$(1,380,506	) \$(371,626	) \$(1,228,766	) \$(250,479
Accretion of discount	—	48,305	—	28,107
Realized credit losses	137,324	—	107,229	—
Purchases	(74,238	) 30,533	(370,649	) (3,883
Sales	38,150	10,158	—	—
Reclass discount for OTTI	—	—	866	(866
Net impairment losses recognized in earnings	—	—	(1,200) —
Unlinking of Linked Transactions	—	—	(38,662	) (9,424
Transfers/release of credit reserve	160,278	(160,278	) 71,531	(71,531
Balance at the end of period	\$(1,118,992	) \$(442,908	) \$(1,459,651	) \$(308,076
Non-GAAP Adjustments	Discount Designated as Credit Reserve and OTTI	Accretable Discount (1)	Discount Designated as Credit Reserve and OTTI	Accretable Discount (1)
(In Thousands)				
Balance at beginning of period	\$(6,051	) \$(2,409	) \$(45,735	) \$(6,206
Accretion of discount	—	502	—	826
Realized credit losses	545	—	1,002	—
New Purchases	—	(939) —	—
Unlinking of Linked Transactions	—	—	38,662	2,419
Transfers/release of credit reserve	129	(129	) (575	) 575
Balance at the end of period	\$(5,377	) \$(2,975	) \$(6,646	) \$(2,386
Non-GAAP Basis	Discount Designated as Credit Reserve and OTTI	Accretable Discount (1)	Discount Designated as Credit Reserve and OTTI	Accretable Discount (1)
(In Thousands)				
Balance at beginning of period	\$(1,386,557	) \$(374,035	) \$(1,274,501	) \$(256,685
Accretion of discount	—	48,807	—	28,933
Realized credit losses	137,869	—	108,231	—
Purchases	(74,238	) 29,594	(370,649	) (3,883
Sales	38,150	10,158	—	—
Reclass discount for OTTI	—	—	866	(866
Net impairment losses recognized in earnings	—	—	(1,200) —
Unlinking of Linked Transactions	—	—	—	(7,005
Transfers/release of credit reserve	160,407	(160,407	) 70,956	(70,956
Balance at the end of period	\$(1,124,369	) \$(445,883	) \$(1,466,297	) \$(310,462

(1) Together with coupon interest, accretable purchase discount is recognized as interest income over the life of the security.

56

Table of Contents

The following table presents information with respect to the yield components of our Non-Agency MBS: (i) excluding Linked Transactions and reported in accordance with GAAP; (ii) underlying our Linked Transactions and (iii) combined with the securities underlying Linked Transactions (Non-GAAP) for the three months ended September 30, 2013 and September 30, 2012:

	Three Months Ended			
	September 30, 2013	September 30, 2012		
Non-Agency MBS (GAAP - excluding Linked Transactions)				
Coupon Yield (1)	5.59	% 5.90		%
Effective Yield Adjustment (2)	1.74	0.75		
Net Yield	7.33	% 6.65		%
Non-Agency MBS Underlying Linked Transactions				
Coupon Yield (1)	4.41	% 5.00		%
Effective Yield Adjustment (2)	1.16	1.34		
Net Yield	5.57	% 6.34		%
Combined Non-Agency MBS and MBS Underlying Linked Transactions (Non-GAAP)				
Coupon Yield (1)	5.57	% 5.89		%
Effective Yield Adjustment (2)	1.73	0.76		
Net Yield	7.30	% 6.65		%

(1) Reflects the annualized coupon interest income divided by the average amortized cost. The discounted purchase price on Non-Agency MBS causes the coupon yield to be higher than the pass-through coupon interest rate.

(2) The effective yield adjustment is the difference between the net yield, calculated utilizing management's estimates of future cash flows for Non-Agency MBS, less the current coupon yield.

The information in the above tables, on pages 54-57, includes certain underlying Non-Agency MBS and the associated repurchase agreement borrowings that are disclosed both separately and/or on a combined basis with our Non-Agency MBS portfolio. However, for GAAP financial reporting purposes, these items are required to be accounted for by us as Linked Transactions. Consequently, the presentation of this information in the above tables constitutes Non-GAAP financial measures within the meaning of Regulation G, as promulgated by the SEC.

In assessing the performance of the Non-Agency MBS portfolio, we do not view these transactions as linked, but rather view the performance of the linked Non-Agency MBS and the related repurchase agreement borrowings as we would any other Non-Agency MBS that is not part of a linked transaction. Accordingly, we consider that the Non-GAAP information disclosed in the above tables enhances the ability of investors to analyze the performance of our Non-Agency MBS in the same way that we assess such assets.

In addition, in connection with our financing strategy for Non-Agency MBS, we have entered into contemporaneous repurchase agreement and reverse repurchase agreement transactions with a single counterparty. The transactions effectively result in us pledging Non-Agency MBS as collateral to the counterparty in connection with the repurchase agreement financing and obtaining U.S. Treasury securities as collateral in connection with the reverse repurchase agreement. Both the repurchase agreement and the reverse repurchase agreement have a contractual maturity of January 2016 with no net exchange of cash at inception. The U.S. Treasury collateral obtained is pledged as collateral in a subsequent repurchase agreement transaction with a different counterparty for cash. This subsequent repurchase transaction has a term of 90 days at inception. For purposes of presentation of its repurchase agreement financing

liabilities in the Non-GAAP Asset Allocation table on page 51, the obligation to return the \$253 million of U.S. Treasury collateral, is separately presented as “Multi-year collateralized financing arrangements” and is included in the numerator of the Debt/Net Equity Ratio for the Non-Agency MBS portfolio. In addition, the asset balance for U.S. Treasury securities obtained as collateral and the repurchase agreement liability to the second counterparty to which we pledged those U.S Treasury securities as collateral are included in the “Other, net” column as we believe net presentation is consistent with the economic substance of the transactions. However, GAAP prohibits offsetting of this asset and liability for a number of reasons,

57

Table of Contents

including the fact that the counterparties to these transactions are different, and there is no legal right of offset. For GAAP presentation purposes, the repurchase agreement liability against which we have pledged U.S. Treasuries is disclosed as “Repurchase Agreements” and is included in the numerator of the Debt/Net Equity Ratio for the Non-Agency MBS portfolio. In addition, the asset balance for the U.S. Treasury securities obtained as collateral and the liability balance for the obligation to return this collateral are included in the “Other, net” column. However, management considers that the Non-GAAP Asset Allocation table presented on page 51 more appropriately reflects the economic substance of the transactions. Consequently, this presentation constitutes a Non-GAAP financial measure within the meaning of Regulation G, as promulgated by the SEC. The Non-GAAP presentation of liabilities associated with the Company’s collateralized financing arrangements does not impact the overall calculation of Debt/Net Equity for the Company as a whole.

Actual maturities of MBS are generally shorter than stated contractual maturities because actual maturities of MBS are affected by the contractual lives of the underlying mortgages, periodic payments of principal, and prepayments of principal. The following table presents certain information regarding the amortized costs, weighted average yields and contractual maturities of our MBS at September 30, 2013 and does not reflect the effect of prepayments or scheduled principal amortization on our MBS:

(Dollars in Thousands)	One to Five Years		Five to Ten Years		Over Ten Years		Total MBS (1)			
	Amortized Cost	Weighted Average Yield	Amortized Cost	Weighted Average Yield	Amortized Cost	Weighted Average Yield	Total Amortized Cost	Total Fair Value	Weighted Average Yield	
Agency MBS:										
Fannie Mae	\$584	4.09 %	\$1,270	1.99 %	\$5,376,070	2.25 %	\$5,377,924	\$5,440,656	2.25 %	
Freddie Mac	—	—	—	—	1,257,912	2.25 %	1,257,912	1,243,489	2.25 %	
Ginnie Mae	—	—	—	—	13,212	1.62 %	13,212	13,544	1.62 %	
Total Agency MBS	\$584	4.09 %	\$1,270	1.99 %	\$6,647,194	2.25 %	\$6,649,048	\$6,697,689	2.25 %	
Non-Agency MBS	\$—	—	\$12,553	6.56 %	\$4,291,903	7.03 %	\$4,304,456	\$4,973,378	7.03 %	
Total MBS	\$584	4.09 %	\$13,823	6.14 %	\$10,939,097	4.13 %	\$10,953,504	\$11,671,067	4.14 %	

(1) We did not have any MBS with contractual maturities of less than one year at September 30, 2013.

Exposure to Financial Counterparties

We finance the acquisition of a significant portion of our MBS with repurchase agreements. In connection with these financing arrangements, we pledge our securities as collateral to secure the borrowing. The amount of collateral pledged will typically exceed the amount of the financing with the extent of over-collateralization ranging from 2% - 6% of the amount borrowed (U.S. Treasury and Agency MBS collateral) to up to 63% (Non-Agency MBS collateral). Consequently, while repurchase agreement financing results in us recording a liability to the counterparty in our consolidated balance sheet, we are exposed to the counterparty, if during the term of the repurchase agreement financing, a lender should default on its obligation and we are not able to recover our pledged assets. The amount of this exposure is the difference between the amount loaned to us plus interest due to the counterparty and the fair value of the collateral pledged by us to the lender including accrued interest receivable on such collateral.

In addition, we use interest rate swaps to manage interest rate risk exposure in connection with our repurchase agreement financings. We will make cash payments or pledge securities as collateral as part of a margin arrangement in connection with interest rate swaps that are in an unrealized loss position. In the event that a counterparty for a swap that is not subject to central clearing were to default on its obligation, we would be exposed to a loss to a swap counterparty to the extent that the amount of cash or securities pledged exceeded the unrealized loss on the associated swaps and we were not able to recover the excess collateral.

During the past several years, certain of our repurchase agreement counterparties in the United States and Europe have experienced financial difficulty and have been either rescued by government assistance or otherwise benefited from accommodative monetary policy of central banks.

58

Table of Contents

The table below summarizes our exposure to our counterparties at September 30, 2013, by country of domicile:

Country	Number of Counterparties	Repurchase Agreement Financing	Swaps at Fair Value	Exposure (1)	Exposure as a Percentage of MFA Total Assets
(Dollars in Thousands)					
European Countries: (2)					
Switzerland	4	\$1,551,084	\$—	\$971,889	7.71 %
United Kingdom	2	1,193,659	(13,351	) 277,464	2.20
France	1	463,398	—	25,468	0.20
Holland	1	289,338	1,799	15,425	0.12
Germany	1	66,658	(3,984	) 7,702	0.06
Total European	9	3,564,137	(15,536	) 1,297,948	10.29 %
Other Countries:					
United States (3)	12	\$4,261,252	\$(36,365	) \$744,665	5.91 %
Japan	4	667,628	—	44,076	0.35
Other	3	657,570	—	149,805	1.19
Total Other	19	5,586,450	(36,365	) 938,546	7.45 %
Total	28	\$9,150,587	(4)(5) \$(51,901	) \$2,236,494	17.74 %

(1) Represents for each counterparty the amount of cash and/or securities pledged as collateral less the aggregate of repurchase agreement financing, Swaps at fair value, and net interest receivable/payable on all such instruments.

(2) Includes European-based counterparties as well as U.S.-domiciled subsidiaries of the European parent entity.

(3) Includes one counterparty that is a central clearing house for our Swaps.

(4) Includes \$500.0 million of repurchase agreements entered into in connection with contemporaneous repurchase and reverse repurchase agreements with a single counterparty.

(5) Includes \$82.4 million of repurchase agreements which are a component of our Linked Transactions.

At September 30, 2013, we did not use credit default swaps or other forms of credit protection to hedge the exposures summarized in the table above.

If the European credit crisis continues to impact our major European financial counterparties, there is the possibility that it will also impact the operations of their U.S. domiciled subsidiaries. This could adversely affect our financing and operations as well as those of the entire mortgage sector in general. Management monitors our exposure to our repurchase agreement and swap counterparties on a regular basis, using various methods, including review of recent rating agency actions or other developments and by monitoring the amount of cash and securities collateral pledged and the associated loan amount under repurchase agreements and/or the fair value of swaps with our counterparties. We intend to make reverse margin calls on our counterparties to recover excess collateral as permitted by the agreements governing our financing arrangements, or take other necessary actions to reduce the amount of our exposure to a counterparty when such actions are considered necessary.

Tax Considerations

Key differences between GAAP net income and REIT Taxable Income for Non-Agency MBS

Our total Non-Agency MBS portfolio for tax differs from our portfolio reported for GAAP primarily due to the fact that for tax purposes; (i) certain of the MBS contributed to the VIEs used to facilitate resecuritization transactions were deemed to be sold; (ii) the tax portfolio includes certain securities issued by these VIEs; and (iii) Non-Agency

MBS underlying linked transactions are included in our tax portfolio. In addition, for our Non-Agency MBS tax portfolio, potential timing differences arise with respect to the accretion of market discount into income and recognition of realized losses for tax purposes as compared to GAAP. Consequently, our REIT taxable income calculated in a given period may differ significantly from our GAAP net income.

The determination of taxable income attributable to Non-Agency MBS is dependent on a number of factors, including principal payments, defaults and loss severities. In projecting taxable income for Non-Agency MBS during the year, management considers estimates of the amount of discount expected to be accreted. Such estimates require significant judgment and actual results may

Table of Contents

differ from these estimates. Moreover, the deductibility of realized losses from Non-Agency MBS and their effect on market discount accretion is analyzed on an asset-by-asset basis and while they will result in a reduction of taxable income, this reduction tends to occur gradually and primarily in periods after the realized losses are reported.

Resecuritization transactions result in differences between GAAP net income and REIT Taxable Income

For tax purposes, depending on the transaction structure, a resecuritization transaction may be treated either as a sale or a financing of the underlying MBS. Income recognized from resecuritization transactions will differ for tax and GAAP. For tax purposes, we own and may in the future acquire interests in resecuritization trusts, in which several of the classes of securities are or will be issued with Original Issue Discount (or OID). As the holder of the retained interests in the trust, we generally will be required to include OID in our current gross interest income over the term of the applicable securities as the OID accrues. The rate at which the OID is recognized into taxable income is calculated using a constant rate of yield to maturity, with realized losses impacting the amount of OID recognized in REIT taxable income once they are actually incurred. For tax purposes, REIT taxable income may be recognized in excess of economic income (i.e., OID) or in advance of the corresponding cash flow from these assets, thereby effecting our dividend distribution requirement to stockholders.

Status of 2012 tax return and impact on distribution of taxable income for 2012 and 2013

As previously disclosed, following a detailed review of tax calculations, we determined that our originally calculated taxable income for certain years did not fully include the impact of discount accretion and premium amortization for certain MBS within our portfolio. In addition, in prior periods the Company utilized a reconciliation process to compare its calculation of GAAP income to taxable income, which did not identify the underreporting of taxable income. Consequently, our Board declared two special cash dividends during the nine months ended September 30, 2013 as follows (i) \$0.50 per share of common stock during the first quarter of 2013 payable on April 10, 2013, to stockholders of record on March 18, 2013 and (ii) \$0.28 per share of common stock during the third quarter of 2013 payable on August 30, 2013 to stockholders of record on August 12, 2013. Approximately \$120.0 million of these distributions were allocated to the previously undistributed REIT taxable income for tax years prior to 2012, with the remainder satisfying a portion of our undistributed 2012 taxable income.

We timely filed our 2012 tax return in September 2013, and reported fully distributed REIT taxable income of approximately \$476 million for the year ended December 31, 2012.

We estimate that for the nine months ended September 30, 2013, our taxable income was approximately \$297 million. Based on dividends paid or declared during the nine months ended September 30, 2013, we have distributed approximately \$236 million in dividends not allocated to prior years. We have until the filing of our 2013 tax return (due not later than September 15, 2014) to declare the distribution of any 2013 REIT taxable income not previously distributed.

Regulatory Developments

The U.S. Congress, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, U.S. Treasury, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, SEC and other governmental and regulatory bodies have taken and continue to consider additional actions in response to the financial crisis. In particular, the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (or the Dodd-Frank Act) created a new regulator housed within the Federal Reserve System, an independent bureau known as the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (or the CFPB), which has broad authority over a wide range of consumer financial products and services, including mortgage lending. Another section of the Dodd-Frank Act, the Mortgage Reform and Anti-Predatory Lending Act (or the Mortgage Reform Act), contains new underwriting and servicing standards for the mortgage industry, as well as restrictions on compensation for mortgage originators.

In addition, the Mortgage Reform Act grants broad discretionary regulatory authority to the CFPB to prohibit or condition terms, acts or practices relating to residential mortgage loans that the CFPB finds abusive, unfair, deceptive or predatory, as well as to take other actions that the CFPB finds are necessary or proper to ensure responsible affordable mortgage credit remains available to consumers. The Dodd-Frank Act also affects the securitization of mortgages (and other assets) with requirements for risk retention by securitizers and requirements for regulating credit rating agencies.

The implementation of the Dodd-Frank Act requires numerous regulations, many of which (including those mentioned above regarding underwriting and mortgage originator compensation) have only recently been finalized and are not effective. Several significant Dodd-Frank Act rulemakings (including the risk retention requirements) have yet to be finalized. Thus, we are unable to fully predict at this time how the Dodd-Frank Act, as well as other laws that may be adopted in the future, will impact our business, results of operations and financial condition, or the environment for repurchase financing and other forms of borrowing,

Table of Contents

the investing environment for Agency MBS, Non-Agency MBS and/or residential mortgage loans, the securitization industry, Swaps and other derivatives. However, at a minimum, we believe that the Dodd-Frank Act and the regulations to be promulgated and made effective thereunder are likely to increase the economic and compliance costs for participants in the mortgage and securitization industries, including us.

In addition to the regulatory actions being implemented under the Dodd-Frank Act, on August 31, 2011, the SEC issued a concept release under which it is reviewing interpretive issues related to Section 3(c)(5)(C) of the Investment Company Act. Section 3(c)(5)(C) excludes from the definition of “investment company” entities that are primarily engaged in, among other things, “purchasing or otherwise acquiring mortgages and other liens on and interests in real estate.” Many companies that engage in the business of acquiring mortgages and mortgage-related instruments, including us, seek to rely on an existing interpretation of the SEC Staff with respect to Section 3(c)(5)(C) so as not to become an investment company for the purpose of regulation under the Investment Company Act. The SEC has requested comments on, among other things, whether it should reconsider its existing interpretation of Section 3(c)(5)(C) on which we rely.

Results of Operations

Quarter Ended September 30, 2013 Compared to the Quarter Ended September 30, 2012

General

For the third quarter of 2013, we had net income available to common stock and participating securities of \$67.6 million, or \$0.19 per basic and diluted common share, compared to net income available to common stock and participating securities of \$76.1 million, or \$0.21 per basic and diluted common share, for the third quarter of 2012. Net interest income decreased due to a decline in the interest rate spread of our Agency MBS portfolio partially offset by an increase in the interest rate spread of our Non-Agency MBS portfolio. In addition, for the third quarter of 2013, we recognized an unrealized loss on TBA short positions, lower unrealized net gains and net interest income from Linked Transactions, an impairment of resecuritization related costs, as well as an increase in preferred stock dividends resulting from the issuance of the Series B Preferred Stock in April 2013. These decreases were partially offset by an increase in the gains on sale of MBS and U.S. Treasury securities during the third quarter of 2013.

Net Interest Income

Net interest income represents the difference between income on interest-earning assets and expense on interest-bearing liabilities. Net interest income depends primarily upon the volume of interest-earning assets and interest-bearing liabilities and the corresponding interest rates earned or paid. Our net interest income varies primarily as a result of changes in interest rates, the slope of the yield curve (i.e., the differential between long-term and short-term interest rates), borrowing costs (i.e., our interest expense) and prepayment speeds on our MBS, the behavior of which involves various risks and uncertainties. Interest rates and CPRs (which measure the amount of unscheduled principal prepayment on a bond as a percentage of the bond balance), vary according to the type of investment, conditions in the financial markets, competition and other factors, none of which can be predicted with any certainty.

The changes in average interest-earning assets and average interest-bearing liabilities and their related yields and costs are discussed in greater detail below under “Interest Income” and “Interest Expense.”

For the third quarter of 2013, our net interest income decreased by \$2.8 million to \$76.5 million from \$79.3 million for the third quarter of 2012. This decrease primarily reflects the impact of lower yielding Agency MBS, the lower average balance of our Non-Agency MBS as measured by amortized cost, partially offset by higher yielding

Non-Agency MBS due to strong credit performance, and lower Agency MBS borrowing costs. The net interest spread on our Agency MBS portfolio declined to 1.01% for the third quarter of 2013 compared to 1.13% for the third quarter of 2012. The net interest spread on our Non-Agency MBS portfolio increased to 4.42% for the third quarter of 2013 compared to 4.24% for the third quarter of 2012. Our net interest spread and margin for the third quarter of 2013 were 2.24% and 2.63%, respectively, compared to a net interest spread and margin of 2.22% and 2.61%, respectively, for the third quarter of 2012.

Table of Contents

Analysis of Net Interest Income

The following table sets forth certain information about the average balances of our assets and liabilities and their related yields and costs for the three months ended September 30, 2013 and 2012. Average yields are derived by dividing annualized interest income by the average amortized cost of the related assets and average costs are derived by dividing annualized interest expense by the daily average balance of the related liabilities, for the periods shown. The yields and costs include premium amortization and purchase discount accretion which are considered adjustments to interest rates.

(Dollars in Thousands)	Three Months Ended September 30, 2013			2012			
	Average Balance	Interest	Average Yield/Cost	Average Balance	Interest	Average Yield/Cost	
Assets:							
Interest-earning assets:							
Agency MBS (1)	\$6,778,969	\$36,158	2.13	% \$7,093,871	\$47,198	2.66	%
Non-Agency MBS (1)	4,492,861	82,303	7.33	4,685,068	77,899	6.65	
Total MBS	11,271,830	118,461	4.20	11,778,939	125,097	4.25	
Cash and cash equivalents (2)	436,816	21	0.02	406,488	38	0.04	
Total interest-earning assets	11,708,646	118,482	4.05	12,185,427	125,135	4.11	
Total non-interest-earning assets	1,157,365			1,265,482			
Total assets	\$12,866,011			\$13,450,909			
Liabilities and stockholders' equity:							
Interest-bearing liabilities:							
Agency repurchase agreements (3)	\$5,966,140	\$16,848	1.12	\$6,398,410	\$24,651	1.53	
Non-Agency repurchase agreements (3)	2,713,270	20,265	2.96	2,342,610	14,666	2.49	
Total repurchase agreements	8,679,410	37,113	1.70	8,741,020	39,317	1.78	
Securitized debt	440,665	2,830	2.55	819,361	4,477	2.17	
Senior Notes	100,000	2,007	8.03	100,000	2,007	8.03	
Total interest-bearing liabilities	9,220,075	41,950	1.81	9,660,381	45,801	1.89	
Total non-interest-bearing liabilities	542,139			788,075			
Total liabilities	9,762,214			10,448,456			
Stockholders' equity	3,103,797			3,002,453			
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$12,866,011			\$13,450,909			
Net interest income/ net interest rate spread (4)		\$76,532	2.24	%	\$79,334	2.22	%
Net interest-earning assets/ net interest margin (5)	\$2,488,571		2.63	%	\$2,525,046	2.61	%
Ratio of interest-earning assets to interest-bearing liabilities	1.27	x			1.26	x	

(1) Yields presented throughout this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q are calculated using average amortized cost data which excludes unrealized gains and losses and includes principal payments receivable on such MBS. For GAAP reporting purposes, MBS purchases and sales are reported on the trade date. Average amortized cost data used to

determine yields is calculated based on the settlement date of the associated purchase or sale as interest income is not earned on purchased bonds and continues to be earned on sold bonds until settlement date. Includes Non-Agency MBS transferred to consolidated VIEs.

(2) Includes average interest-earning cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash.

(3) Average cost of repurchase agreements includes the cost of Swaps designated as hedges against such repurchase agreements.

(4) Net interest rate spread reflects the difference between the yield on average interest-earning assets and average cost of funds.

(5) Net interest margin reflects annualized net interest income divided by average interest-earning assets.

Table of Contents

Rate/Volume Analysis

The following table presents the extent to which changes in interest rates (yield/cost) and changes in the volume (average balance) of interest-earning assets and interest-bearing liabilities have affected our interest income and interest expense during the periods indicated. Information is provided in each category with respect to: (i) the changes attributable to changes in volume (changes in average balance multiplied by prior rate); (ii) the changes attributable to changes in rate (changes in rate multiplied by prior average balance); and (iii) the net change. The changes attributable to the combined impact of volume and rate have been allocated proportionately, based on absolute values, to the changes due to rate and volume.

(In Thousands)	Three Months Ended September 30, 2013 Compared to Three Months Ended September 30, 2012		
	Increase/(Decrease) due to Volume	Rate	Total Net Change in Interest Income/Expense
Interest-earning assets:			
Agency MBS	\$ (2,019)	\$ (9,021)	\$ (11,040)
Non-Agency MBS	(3,289)	7,693	4,404
Cash and cash equivalents	3	(20)	(17)
Total net change in income from interest-earning assets	\$ (5,305)	\$ (1,348)	\$ (6,653)
Interest-bearing liabilities:			
Agency repurchase agreements	\$ (1,566)	\$ (6,237)	\$ (7,803)
Non-Agency repurchase agreements	2,545	3,054	5,599
Securitized debt	(2,325)	678	(1,647)
Senior Notes	—	—	—
Total net change in expense of interest-bearing liabilities	\$ (1,346)	\$ (2,505)	\$ (3,851)
Net change in net interest income	\$ (3,959)	\$ 1,157	\$ (2,802)

The following table presents certain quarterly information regarding our net interest spread and net interest margin for the quarterly periods presented:

Quarter Ended	Total Interest-Earning Assets and Interest-Bearing Liabilities	
	Net Interest Spread (1)	Net Interest Margin (2)
September 30, 2013	2.24	% 2.63
June 30, 2013	2.38	2.73
March 31, 2013	2.32	2.69
December 31, 2012	2.32	2.69
September 30, 2012	2.22	2.61

(1) Reflects the difference between the yield on average interest-earning assets and average cost of funds.

(2) Annualized net interest income divided by average interest-earning assets.

Table of Contents

The following table presents the components of the net interest spread earned on our Agency and Non-Agency MBS for the quarterly periods presented:

Quarter Ended	Agency MBS			Non-Agency MBS			Total MBS		
	Net Yield (1)	Cost of Funding (2)	Net Interest Spread (3)	Net Yield (1)	Cost of Funding (2)	Net Interest Spread (3)	Net Yield (1)	Cost of Funding (2)	Net Interest Spread (3)
September 30, 2013	2.13 %	1.12 %	1.01 %	7.33 %	2.91 %	4.42 %	4.20 %	1.74 %	2.46 %
June 30, 2013	2.19	1.15	1.04	7.15	2.41	4.74	4.18	1.56	2.62
March 31, 2013	2.42	1.24	1.18	6.80	2.45	4.35	4.17	1.63	2.54
December 31, 2012	2.59	1.36	1.23	6.70	2.42	4.28	4.23	1.71	2.52
September 30, 2012	2.66	1.53	1.13	6.65	2.41	4.24	4.25	1.82	2.43

(1) Annualized interest income on MBS divided by average amortized cost of MBS.

(2) Annualized interest expense divided by average balance of repurchase agreements, including the cost of swaps, and securitized debt. Non-Agency cost of funding for the quarter ended September 30, 2013 includes 57 basis points associated with Swaps to hedge additional interest rate sensitivity on these assets.

(3) Reflects the difference between the net yield on average MBS and average cost of funds on MBS.

Interest Income

Interest income on our Agency MBS for the third quarter of 2013 decreased by \$11.0 million, or 23.4% to \$36.2 million from \$47.2 million for the third quarter of 2012. This change primarily reflects a decrease in the net yield on our Agency MBS to 2.13% for the third quarter of 2013 from 2.66% for the third quarter of 2012 and a \$314.9 million decrease in the average amortized cost of our Agency MBS portfolio to \$6.779 billion for the third quarter of 2013 from \$7.094 billion for the third quarter of 2012. During the third quarter of 2013, our Agency MBS portfolio experienced a 19.3% CPR and we recognized \$15.8 million of net premium amortization compared to a CPR of 21.6% and \$14.8 million of net premium amortization for the third quarter of 2012. At the end of the third quarter of 2013, the average coupon on mortgages underlying our Agency MBS was lower compared to the end of the third quarter of 2012, due to acquisition of assets in the marketplace at generally lower coupons reflecting current market conditions and as a result of prepayments on higher yielding assets and downward resets on Hybrid and ARM-MBS within the portfolio. As a result, the coupon yield on our Agency MBS portfolio declined 42 basis points to 3.07% for the third quarter of 2013 from 3.49% for the third quarter of 2012. At September 30, 2013, we had net purchase premiums on our Agency MBS of \$227.1 million, or 3.5% of current par value, compared to net purchase premiums of \$227.3 million and 3.3% of par value at December 31, 2012.

Interest income on our Non-Agency MBS (which includes Non-Agency MBS transferred to consolidated VIEs) increased \$4.4 million, or 5.7%, for the third quarter of 2013 to \$82.3 million compared to \$77.9 million for the third quarter of 2012, principally due to the increase in the net yield on our Non-Agency MBS portfolio, partially offset by the decrease in the amortized cost of our Non-Agency MBS portfolio. Our Non-Agency MBS portfolio yielded 7.33% for the third quarter of 2013 compared to 6.65% for the third quarter of 2012. For the third quarter of 2013, the average amortized cost of our Non-Agency MBS decreased by \$192.2 million or 4.1%, to \$4.493 billion, from \$4.685 billion for the third quarter of 2012. The increase in the yield on our Non-Agency MBS is primarily due to increases in accretable discount and changes in the forward yield curve, partially offset by the addition of newly acquired assets at yields less than our overall portfolio yield. During the third quarter of 2013, we recognized net purchase discount accretion of \$19.5 million on our Non-Agency MBS, compared to \$8.8 million for the third quarter of 2012. At

September 30, 2013, we had net purchase discounts of \$1.561 billion, including Credit Reserve and previously recognized OTTI of \$1.119 billion, on our Non-Agency MBS, or 26.6% of par value. During the third quarter of 2013 we reallocated \$71.0 million of purchased discount designated as Credit Reserve to accretable purchase discount.

Table of Contents

The following table presents the components of the coupon yield and net yields earned on our Agency MBS and Non-Agency MBS and weighted average CPRs experienced for such MBS for the quarterly periods presented:

Quarter Ended	Agency MBS			Non-Agency MBS			Total MBS		
	Coupon Yield (1)	Net Yield (2)	Weighted Average CPR	Coupon Yield (1)	Net Yield (2)	Weighted Average CPR	Coupon Yield (1)	Net Yield (2)	Weighted Average CPR
September 30, 2013	3.07	% 2.13	% 19.25	5.59	% 7.33	% 18.15	% 4.07	% 4.20	% 18.77
June 30, 2013	3.14	2.19	20.19	5.71	7.15	16.37	4.17	4.18	18.53
March 31, 2013	3.25	2.42	19.08	5.78	6.80	15.06	4.26	4.17	17.34
December 31, 2012	3.38	2.59	19.23	5.85	6.70	15.53	4.37	4.23	17.67
September 30, 2012	3.49	2.66	21.62	5.90	6.65	15.42	4.45	4.25	19.08

(1) Reflects the annualized coupon interest income divided by the average amortized cost. The discounted purchase price on Non-Agency MBS causes the coupon yield to be higher than the pass-through coupon interest rate. (Does not include MBS underlying our Linked Transactions. See Note 5 to the accompanying consolidated financial statements, included under Item 1 of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q.)

(2) Reflects annualized interest income on MBS divided by average amortized cost of MBS.

Interest income from our cash investments, which are comprised of money market investments and are not a material source of income as the yields on such funds remain at historically low levels, decreased by \$17,000, or 44.7% to \$21,000 for the third quarter of 2013 from \$38,000 for the 2012 period. Our average cash investments were \$436.8 million and yielded 0.02% for the third quarter of 2013 compared to average cash investments of \$406.5 million that yielded 0.04% for the third quarter of 2012. In general, we manage our cash investments relative to our investing, financing and operating requirements, investment opportunities and current and anticipated market conditions.

Interest Expense

Our interest expense for the third quarter of 2013 decreased by \$3.9 million, or 8.4% to \$42.0 million, from \$45.8 million for the third quarter of 2012. This decrease primarily reflects the lower effective interest rate paid on borrowings to finance Agency MBS and a decrease in the average balance of securitized debt which was partially offset by an increase in our average borrowings to finance Non-Agency MBS.

At September 30, 2013, we had repurchase agreement borrowings of \$8.568 billion and securitized debt of \$419.7 million, of which \$4.079 billion was hedged with Swaps. At September 30, 2013, our Swaps had a weighted average fixed-pay rate of 1.93% and extended 51 months on average with a maximum remaining term of approximately 9.94 years.

The following table presents information about our securitized debt at September 30, 2013:

Benchmark Interest Rate (Dollars in Thousands)	At September 30, 2013 Securitized Debt Interest Rate	
30 Day LIBOR + 100 basis points	\$133,008	1.18 %
30 Day LIBOR + 125 basis points	104,633	1.43
Fixed Rate	105,567	2.85
Weighted Average Coupon Rate	76,485	4.02
Total	\$419,693	2.18 %

The effective interest rate paid on our borrowings decreased to 1.81% for the quarter ended September 30, 2013 from 1.89% for the quarter ended September 30, 2012. This decrease reflects the maturity of Swaps with higher fixed-pay rates partially offset by additional higher cost financing associated with our Non-Agency MBS portfolio. Payments made and/or received on our Swaps are a component of our borrowing costs and accounted for interest expense of \$15.9 million or 68 basis points, for the quarter ended September 30, 2013, compared to interest expense of \$18.1 million, or 75 basis points, for the third quarter of 2012. Certain of our Swaps have fixed interest rates that are significantly higher than current market interest rates. The weighted average fixed-pay rate on our Swaps decreased to 2.07% for the quarter ended September 30, 2013 from 2.72% for the quarter ended September 30,

Table of Contents

2012. The weighted average variable interest rate received on our Swaps decreased to 0.20% for the quarter ended September 30, 2013 from 0.27% for the quarter ended September 30, 2012. During the quarter ended September 30, 2013, we entered into 14 new Swaps with an aggregate notional amount of \$1.750 billion, a weighted average fixed-pay rate of 2.13% with initial maturities ranging from five to ten years, and had Swaps with an aggregate notional amount of \$358.0 million and a weighted average fixed-pay rate of 4.16% amortize and/or expire.

We expect that our interest expense and funding costs for the remainder of 2013 will be impacted by market interest rates, the amount of our borrowings and incremental hedging activity, our existing and future interest rates on our hedging instruments and the extent to which we execute additional financing transactions, such as resecuritizations. As a result of these variables, our borrowing costs cannot be predicted with any certainty. (See Notes 5, 6 and 14 to the accompanying consolidated financial statements, included under Item 1 of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q.)

The following table presents our leverage multiples, as measured by debt-to-equity, at the dates presented:

At the Period Ended	GAAP Leverage Multiple (1)	Non-GAAP Leverage Multiple (2)
September 30, 2013	3.0	3.1
June 30, 2013	3.1	3.1
March 31, 2013	3.1	3.1
December 31, 2012	3.0	3.0
September 30, 2012	3.2	3.2

(1) Represents the sum of borrowings under repurchase agreements, securitized debt, payable for unsettled MBS purchases, and obligations to return securities obtained as collateral and Senior Notes divided by stockholders' equity. (2) The Non-GAAP Leverage Multiple reflects the sum of our borrowings under repurchase agreements, securitized debt, payable for unsettled MBS purchases, obligations to return securities obtained as collateral, Senior Notes and borrowings that are reported on our consolidated balance sheets as a component of Linked Transactions of \$82.4 million, \$33.2 million, \$34.1 million, \$35.3 million and \$36.4 million at September 30, 2013, June 30, 2013, March 31, 2013, December 31, 2012 and September 30, 2012, respectively. We present a Non-GAAP leverage multiple since repurchase agreement borrowings that are a component of Linked Transactions may not be linked in the future and, if no longer linked, will be reported as repurchase agreement borrowings, which will increase our leverage multiple. (See Note 5 to the accompanying consolidated financial statements, included under Item 1 of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q.)

OTTI

During the third quarters of 2013 and 2012, we did not recognize any OTTI charges through earnings against our Non-Agency MBS. At September 30, 2013, we had 289 Agency MBS with a gross unrealized loss of \$67.7 million and 49 Non-Agency MBS with a gross unrealized loss of \$8.8 million. Impairments on Agency MBS in an unrealized loss position at September 30, 2013 are considered temporary and not credit related. Unrealized losses on Non-Agency MBS for which no OTTI was recorded during the quarter are considered temporary based on an assessment of changes in the expected cash flows for such MBS, which considers recent bond performance and expected future performance of the underlying collateral. Significant judgment is used both in the Company's analysis of expected cash flows for its Non-Agency MBS and any determination of the credit component of OTTI.

Table of Contents

Other Income, net

For the third quarter of 2013, other income, net decreased by \$1.9 million to \$5.6 million, from \$7.5 million for the third quarter of 2012. The 2013 income primarily reflects \$13.7 million of net gains realized on the sale of certain Non-Agency MBS and U.S. Treasury securities and unrealized net gains and net interest income of \$544,000 on our Linked Transactions, which was partially offset by \$8.7 million of unrealized losses on TBA short positions. During the three months ended September 30, 2013, we sold Non-Agency MBS for \$102.2 million, realizing gross gains of \$13.7 million. The \$8.7 million of unrealized losses on TBA short positions for the third quarter of 2013 reflects unrealized losses on the sale \$350.0 million notional of 15-year Agency MBS 2.5% TBA Securities to be settled on October 16, 2013. The unrealized net gains and net interest income from Linked Transactions of \$544,000 for the three months ended September 30, 2013 included interest income of \$1.1 million on the underlying Non-Agency MBS, interest expense of \$275,000 on the borrowings under repurchase agreements and a decline of \$290,000 in the fair value of the underlying securities. The unrealized net gains and net interest income on Linked Transactions of \$3.2 million for the three months ended September 30, 2012 included interest income of \$812,000 on the underlying Non-Agency MBS, interest expense of \$168,000 on borrowings under repurchase agreements and an increase of \$2.5 million in the fair value of the underlying securities. Changes in the market value of the securities underlying our Linked Transactions, the amount of bond purchases recorded as Linked Transactions in the future and the amount of Linked Transactions that become unlinked in the future, none of which can be predicted with any certainty, will impact future gains/(losses) on our Linked Transactions.

Operating and Other Expense

For the third quarter of 2013, we had compensation and benefits and other general and administrative expense of \$8.7 million, or 1.13% of average equity, compared to \$8.7 million, or 1.15% of average equity, for the third quarter of 2012. The decrease in our compensation and benefits expense to \$5.3 million for the third quarter of 2013, compared to \$6.0 million for the third quarter of 2012, primarily reflects lower equity-based compensation expense as certain awards became fully vested during 2012. Our other general and administrative expenses increased by \$768,000 to \$3.4 million for the quarter ended September 30, 2013 compared to \$2.7 million for the quarter ended September 30, 2012. The increase was primarily comprised of increases in lease expense, professional services, including auditing and legal fees, recruitment costs and the cost of data and analytical systems.

In addition, for the third quarter of 2013, we realized a \$2.0 million charge related to the impairment of securitization related costs.

Selected Financial Ratios

The following table presents information regarding certain of our financial ratios at or for the dates presented:

At or for the Quarter Ended	Return on Average Total Assets (1)	Return on Average Total Stockholders' Equity (2)	Total Average Stockholders' Equity to Total Average Assets (3)	Dividend Payout Ratio (4)	Book Value per Share of Common Stock (5)
September 30, 2013	2.10 %	8.71 %	24.12 %	1.18	%(6) \$7.85
June 30, 2013	2.10	8.29	25.35	1.16	8.19
March 31, 2013	2.20	8.92	24.63	1.05	(7) 8.84
December 31, 2012	1.96	8.12	24.16	1.06	8.99
September 30, 2012	2.26	10.14	22.32	0.99	8.80

(1) Reflects annualized net income divided by average total assets.

- (2) Reflects annualized net income divided by average total stockholders' equity.
- (3) Reflects total average stockholders' equity divided by total average assets.
- (4) Reflects dividends declared per share of common stock divided by earnings per share.
- (5) Reflects total stockholders' equity less the preferred stock liquidation preference divided by total shares of common stock outstanding.
- (6) Excludes the special common stock dividend declared on August 1, 2013.
- (7) Excludes the special common stock dividend declared on March 4, 2013.

Table of Contents

Nine Month Period Ended September 30, 2013 Compared to the Nine Month Period Ended September 30, 2012

General

For the nine months ended September 30, 2013, we had net income available to common stock and participating securities of \$210.2 million, or \$0.58 per basic and diluted common share, compared to net income available to common stock and participating securities of \$231.5 million, or \$0.65 per basic and diluted common share, for the nine months ended September 30, 2012. Net interest income decreased due to a decline in the interest rate spread of our Agency MBS portfolio partially offset by an increase in the interest rate spread of our Non-Agency MBS portfolio. In addition, for the nine months ended September 30, 2013, we recognized lower unrealized net gains and net interest income from Linked Transactions, unrealized losses on TBA short positions, a \$3.9 million write-off of issuance costs on the redemption of Series A Preferred Stock (see Note 11 to the accompanying consolidated financial statements, included under Item 1 of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q), an increase in preferred stock dividends resulting from the issuance of the Series B Preferred Stock in April 2013, an impairment of resecuritization related costs, as well as an excise tax and interest accrual. These decreases were partially offset by an increase in the gains on sale of MBS and U.S. Treasury securities during the nine months ended September 30, 2013.

Net Interest Income

For the nine months ended September 30, 2013, our net interest income decreased by \$4.3 million to \$241.3 million from \$245.6 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2012. This decrease primarily reflects the impact of lower yielding Agency MBS and higher Non-Agency MBS borrowing costs partially offset by lower Agency MBS borrowing costs, higher yielding Non-Agency MBS due to strong credit performance, and the increase in average balance of our Non-Agency MBS portfolio as measured by amortized cost. The net interest spread on our Agency MBS portfolio declined to 1.08% for the first nine months of 2013 compared to 1.29% for the first nine months of 2012. The net interest spread on our Non-Agency MBS portfolio increased to 4.50% for the first nine months of 2013 compared to 4.47% for the first nine months of 2012. Our net interest spread and margin for the first nine months of 2013 were 2.32% and 2.68%, respectively, compared to a net interest spread and margin of 2.40% and 2.81%, respectively, for the first nine months of 2012.

Table of Contents

Analysis of Net Interest Income

The following table sets forth certain information about the average balances of our assets and liabilities and their related yields and costs for the nine months ended September 30, 2013 and 2012. Average yields are derived by dividing annualized interest income by the average amortized cost of the related assets and average costs are derived by dividing annualized interest expense by the daily average balance of the related liabilities, for the periods shown. The yields and costs include premium amortization and purchase discount accretion which are considered adjustments to interest rates.

(Dollars in Thousands)	Nine Months Ended September 30,			2012		
	2013 Average Balance	Interest	Average Yield/Cost	Average Balance	Interest	Average Yield/Cost
Assets:						
Interest-earning assets:						
Agency MBS (1)	\$6,926,018	\$116,982	2.25 %	\$6,867,940	\$150,048	2.91 %
Non-Agency MBS (1)	4,605,323	244,816	7.09	4,406,416	224,057	6.78
Total MBS	11,531,341	361,798	4.18	11,274,356	374,105	4.42
Cash and cash equivalents (2)	448,280	93	0.03	374,611	84	0.03
Total interest-earning assets	11,979,621	361,891	4.03	11,648,967	374,189	4.28
Total non-interest-earning assets	1,443,042			1,041,430		
Total assets	\$13,422,663			\$12,690,397		
Liabilities and stockholders' equity:						
Interest-bearing liabilities:						
Agency repurchase agreements (3)	\$6,209,460	\$54,365	1.17	\$6,175,813	\$75,011	1.62
Non-Agency repurchase agreements (3)	2,588,254	50,820	2.63	1,984,486	36,628	2.47
Total repurchase agreements	8,797,714	105,185	1.60	8,160,299	111,639	1.83
Securitized debt	517,035	9,381	2.43	899,797	13,186	1.96
Senior Notes (4)	100,000	6,020	8.05	63,139	3,791	8.00
Total interest-bearing liabilities	9,414,749	120,586	1.71	9,123,235	128,616	1.88
Total non-interest-bearing liabilities	702,271			742,919		
Total liabilities	10,117,020			9,866,154		
Stockholders' equity	3,305,643			2,824,243		
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$13,422,663			\$12,690,397		
Net interest income/ net interest rate spread (5)		\$241,305	2.32 %		\$245,573	2.40 %
Net interest-earning assets/ net interest margin (6)	\$2,564,872		2.68 %	\$2,525,732		2.81 %
Ratio of interest-earning assets to interest-bearing liabilities	1.27	x		1.28	x	