

GLADSTONE CAPITAL CORP
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PROSPECTUS

75,000,000

**COMMON STOCK
PREFERRED STOCK
DEBT SECURITIES**

We may offer, from time to time, up to \$75 million aggregate initial offering price of our common stock, \$0.001 par value per share, preferred stock or debt securities, which we refer to in this prospectus collectively as our Securities, in one or more offerings. The Securities may be offered at prices and on terms to be set forth in one or more supplements to this prospectus. In the case of our common stock, the offering price per share, less any underwriting commissions or discounts, will not be less than the net asset value per share of our common stock at the time we make the offering. You should read this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement carefully before you invest in our Securities.

Our Securities may be offered directly to one or more purchasers, including existing stockholders in a rights offering, through agents designated from time to time by us, or to or through underwriters or dealers. The prospectus supplement relating to the offering will identify any agents or underwriters involved in the sale of our Securities, and will disclose any applicable purchase price, fee, commission or discount arrangement between us and our agents or underwriters or among our underwriters or the basis upon which such amount may be calculated. See Plan of Distribution. We may not sell any of our Securities through agents, underwriters or dealers without delivery of a prospectus supplement describing the method and terms of the offering of such Securities. Our common stock is traded on The Nasdaq Global Select Market under the symbol GLAD. As of April 16, 2007, the last reported sales price for our common stock was \$24.41.

This prospectus contains information you should know before investing, including information about risks. Please read it before you invest and keep it for future reference. This prospectus may not be used to consummate sales of securities unless accompanied by a prospectus supplement.

An investment in our Securities involves certain risks, including, among other things, risks relating to investments in securities of small, private and developing businesses. We describe some of these risks in the section entitled Risk Factors, which begins on page 9. Shares of closed-end investment companies frequently trade at a discount to their net asset value and this may increase the risk of loss of purchasers of our Securities. You should carefully consider these risks together with all of the other information contained in this prospectus and any prospectus supplement before making a decision to purchase our Securities.

The Securities being offered have not been approved or disapproved by the Securities and Exchange Commission or any state securities commission nor has the Securities and Exchange Commission or any state securities commission passed upon the accuracy or adequacy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

April 16, 2007

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We have not authorized any dealer, salesman or other person to give any information or to make any representation other than those contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus or any accompanying supplement to this prospectus. You must not rely upon any information or representation not contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus or the accompanying prospectus supplement as if we had authorized it. This prospectus and any prospectus supplement do not constitute an offer to sell or a solicitation of any offer to buy any security other than the registered securities to which they relate, nor do they constitute an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy any securities in any jurisdiction to any person to whom it is unlawful to make such an offer or solicitation in such jurisdiction. The information contained in this prospectus and any prospectus supplement is accurate as of the dates on their respective covers only. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since such dates.

PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

The following summary contains basic information about this offering. It likely does not contain all the information that is important to an investor. For a more complete understanding of this offering, we encourage you to read this entire document and the documents to which we have referred. Except where the context suggests otherwise, the terms we, us, our, the Company and Gladstone Capital refer to Gladstone Capital Corporation; Adviser refers to Gladstone Management Corporation; Administrator refers to Gladstone Administration, LLC; and Gladstone Companies refers to the Adviser and its affiliated companies.

GLADSTONE CAPITAL CORPORATION

General

We were incorporated under the General Corporation Laws of the State of Maryland on May 30, 2001. Our investment objectives are to achieve a high level of current income by investing in debt securities, consisting primarily of senior notes, second lien notes, and senior subordinated notes of established private businesses that are backed by leveraged buyout funds, venture capital funds or others, with a particular emphasis on second lien and senior subordinated notes. In addition, we may acquire existing loans, which meet this profile, from leveraged buyout funds, venture capital funds and others. We also seek to provide our stockholders with long-term capital growth through the appreciation in the value of warrants, or other equity instruments that we may receive when we extend loans. We operate as a closed-end, non-diversified management investment company, and have elected to be treated as a business development company under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, which we refer to in this prospectus as the 1940 Act.

We seek to invest in small and medium-sized businesses that meet certain criteria, including some or all of the following: (1) the potential for growth in cash flow, (2) adequate assets for loan collateral, (3) experienced management teams with a significant ownership interest in the borrower, (4) profitable operations based on the borrower's cash flow, (5) reasonable capitalization of the borrower (usually by buyout funds or venture capital funds) and (6) the potential to realize appreciation and gain liquidity in our equity position, if any. We anticipate that liquidity in our equity position will be achieved through a merger or acquisition of the borrower, a public offering by the borrower or by exercise of our right to require the borrower to buy back its warrants. We lend to borrowers that need funds to, among other things, effect a change of control, restructure their balance sheets, or finance growth, including acquisitions. Our loans typically range from \$5 million to \$15 million, although this investment size may vary proportionately as the size of our capital base changes, generally mature in no more than seven years and accrue interest at fixed or variable rates.

Our Investment Adviser and Administrator

Our affiliate, the Adviser, is our investment adviser and is led by a management team which has extensive experience in our lines of business. All of our directors and executive officers serve as either directors or executive officers, or both, of Gladstone Commercial Corporation, a publicly traded real estate investment trust; Gladstone Investment Corporation, a publicly traded business development company; our Adviser; and our Administrator. The Adviser also has a wholly-owned subsidiary, the Administrator, which employs our chief financial officer, chief compliance officer, controller, treasurer and their respective staffs.

Our Adviser and Administrator also provide investment advisory and administrative services to our affiliates Gladstone Commercial, Gladstone Investment and Gladstone Land Corporation, an agricultural real estate company owned by Mr. Gladstone. In the future, the Adviser may provide investment advisory and administrative services to other funds, both public and private, of which it is the sponsor.

We have been externally managed by the Adviser pursuant to an investment advisory and management agreement since October 1, 2004. The Adviser was organized as a corporation under the laws of the State of Delaware on July 2, 2002, and is a registered investment adviser under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended. The Adviser is headquartered in McLean, Virginia, a suburb of Washington D.C., and also has offices in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Texas and Kentucky.

Our Investment Objectives and Our Strategy

We seek to achieve a high level of current income by investing in debt securities, consisting primarily of senior notes, senior subordinated notes and junior subordinated notes, of established private businesses that are backed by leveraged buyout funds, venture capital funds or others. We also seek to provide our stockholders with long-term capital growth through the appreciation in the value of warrants or other equity instruments that we may receive when we make loans. There can be no assurance that we will realize our investment objectives. We seek to invest primarily in three categories of debt of private companies:

- *Senior Subordinated Notes.* We seek to invest a portion of our assets in senior subordinated notes. Holders of senior subordinated notes are subordinated to the rights of holders of senior debt in their right to receive principal and interest payments or, in the case of last out tranches of senior debt, liquidation proceeds from the borrower. As a result, senior subordinated notes are riskier than senior notes. Although such loans are sometimes secured by significant collateral, the lender is largely dependent on the borrower's cash flow for repayment. Additionally, lenders may receive warrants to acquire shares of stock in borrowers or other yield enhancements in connection with these loans. Senior subordinated notes include second lien loans and syndicated second lien loans.
- *Senior Notes.* We seek to invest a portion of our assets in senior notes of borrowers. Using its assets and cash flow as collateral, the borrower typically uses senior notes to cover a substantial portion of the funding needed to operate. Senior lenders are exposed to the least risk of all providers of debt because they command a senior position with respect to scheduled interest and principal payments. However, unlike senior subordinated and junior subordinated lenders, these senior lenders typically do not receive any stock, warrants to purchase stock of the borrowers or other yield enhancements. As such, they generally do not participate in the equity appreciation of the value of the business. Senior notes may include revolving lines of credit, senior term loans, senior syndicated loans and senior last-out tranche loans.
- *Junior Subordinated Notes.* We also seek to invest a small portion of our assets in junior subordinated notes. Holders of junior subordinated notes are subordinated to the rights of the holders of senior debt and senior subordinated debt in their rights to receive principal and interest payments from the borrower. The risk profile of junior subordinated notes is high, which permits the junior subordinated lender to obtain higher interest rates and more equity and equity-like compensation.

THE OFFERING

We may offer, from time to time, up to \$75,000,000 of our Securities, on terms to be determined at the time of the offering. Our Securities may be offered at prices and on terms to be disclosed in one or more prospectus supplements. In the case of the offering of our common stock, the offering price per share less any underwriting commissions or discounts will not be less than the net asset value per share of our common stock at the time of the offering.

Our Securities may be offered directly to one or more purchasers, including existing stockholders in a rights offering, by us or through agents designated from time to time by us, or to or through underwriters or dealers. The prospectus supplement relating to the offering will disclose the terms of the offering, including the name or names of any agents or underwriters involved in the sale of our Securities by us, the purchase price, and any fee, commission or discount arrangement between us and our agents or underwriters or among our underwriters or the basis upon which such amount may be calculated. See Plan of Distribution. We may not sell any of our Securities through agents, underwriters or dealers without delivery of a prospectus supplement describing the method and terms of the offering of our Securities.

Set forth below is additional information regarding the offering of our Securities:

The Nasdaq Global Select Market
Symbol

GLAD

Use of Proceeds

Unless otherwise specified in a prospectus supplement, we intend to use the net proceeds from the sale of our Securities for general corporate purposes. We expect the proceeds to be used first to pay down existing short-term debt, then to make investments in small and medium sized businesses in accordance with our investment objectives, and any remaining proceeds to be used for other general corporate purposes. See Use of Proceeds.

Dividends and Distributions

We have paid monthly dividends to the holders of our common stock and generally intend to continue to do so. The amount of the monthly dividends is determined by our board of directors on a quarterly basis and is based on our estimate of our annual investment company taxable income and net short-term taxable capital gains. See Price Range of Common Stock and Distributions. Certain additional amounts may be deemed as distributed to stockholders for income tax purposes. Other types of securities will likely pay distributions in accordance with their terms.

Taxation

We intend to continue to elect to be treated for federal income tax purposes as a regulated investment company, which we refer to as a RIC. Accordingly, we generally will pay no corporate-level federal income taxes on any ordinary income or capital gains that we distribute to our stockholders. To maintain our RIC status, we must meet specified source-of-income and asset diversification requirements and distribute annually at least 90% of our taxable ordinary income and realized net short-term capital gains in excess of realized net long-term capital losses, if any, out of assets legally available for distribution. See Price Range of Common Stock and Distributions.

Trading at a Discount

Shares of closed-end investment companies frequently trade at a discount to their net asset value. The possibility that our shares may trade at a discount to our net asset value is separate and distinct from the risk that our net asset value per share may decline. We cannot predict whether our shares will trade above, at or below net asset value.

Certain Anti-Takeover Provisions

Our board of directors is divided into three classes of directors serving staggered three-year terms. This structure is intended to provide us with a greater likelihood of continuity of management, which may be necessary for us to realize the full value of our investments. A staggered board of directors also may serve to deter hostile takeovers or proxy contests, as may certain provisions of Maryland law and other measures we have adopted. See Certain Provisions of Maryland Law and of Our Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws.

Dividend Reinvestment Plan

We have a dividend reinvestment plan for our stockholders. This is an opt in dividend reinvestment plan, meaning that stockholders may elect to have their cash dividends automatically reinvested in additional shares of our common stock. Stockholders who do not so elect will receive their dividends in cash. Stockholders who receive distributions in the form of stock will be subject to the same federal, state and local tax consequences as stockholders who elect to receive their distributions in cash. See Dividend Reinvestment Plan.

Management Arrangements

Gladstone Management Corporation serves as our investment adviser, and Gladstone Administration serves as our administrator. We have entered into a license agreement with our Adviser, pursuant to which our Adviser has agreed to grant us a non-exclusive license to use the name Gladstone and the Diamond G logo. For a description of our Adviser, the Administrator, the Gladstone Companies and our contractual arrangements with these companies, see Management Certain Transactions Advisory and Administration Agreements, and Management Certain Transactions License Agreement.

Fees and Expenses

The following table is intended to assist you in understanding the costs and expenses that an investor in this offering will bear directly or indirectly. We caution you that some of the percentages indicated in the table below are estimates and may vary. Except where the context suggests otherwise, whenever this prospectus contains a reference to fees or expenses paid by us or Gladstone Capital, or that we will pay fees or expenses, stockholders will indirectly bear such fees or expenses as investors in Gladstone Capital. The following percentages were calculated based on net assets as of December 31, 2006.

	Current
Stockholder Transaction Expenses	
Sales load (as a percentage of offering price)	%
Dividend reinvestment plan expenses (1)	None
Estimated annual expenses (as a percentage of net assets attributable to common stock)	
Management fees (2)	2.99 %
Incentive fees payable under investment advisory and management agreement (20% of realized capital gains and 20% of pre-incentive fee net investment income) (3)	2.70 %
Interest Payments on Borrowed Funds (4)	2.77 %
Other expenses	1.19 %
Total annual expenses (estimated)(2)(5)	9.65 %

(1) The expenses of the reinvestment plan are included in stock record expenses, a component of Other expenses. We do not have a cash purchase plan. The participants in the dividend reinvestment plan will bear a pro rata share of brokerage commissions incurred with respect to open market purchases, if any. See Dividend Reinvestment Plan for information on the dividend reinvestment plan.

(2) Our annual base management fee is 2.0% (0.5% quarterly) of our average gross assets, which is defined as total assets of Gladstone Capital, including investments made with proceeds of borrowings, less any uninvested cash or cash equivalents pledged to creditors. See Management Advisory and Administration Agreements and footnote 3 below.

(3) The incentive fee consists of two parts: an income-based fee and a capital gains-based fee. The income-based fee will be payable quarterly in arrears, and will equal 20% of the excess, if any, of our pre-incentive fee net investment income that exceeds a 1.75% quarterly (7.0% annualized) hurdle rate, subject to a catch-up provision measured as of the end of each calendar quarter. The catch-up provision requires us to pay 100% of our pre-incentive fee net

investment income with respect to that portion of such income, if any, that exceeds the hurdle rate but is less than 125% of the quarterly hurdle rate (or 2.1875%) in any calendar quarter (8.75% annualized). The catch-up provision is meant to provide our Adviser with 20% of our pre-incentive fee net investment income as if a hurdle rate did not apply when our pre-incentive fee net investment income exceeds 125% of the quarterly hurdle rate in any calendar quarter (8.75% annualized). The income-based incentive fee will be computed and paid on income that may include interest that is accrued but not yet received in cash. Our pre-incentive fee net investment income used to calculate this part of the income incentive fee is also included in the amount of our gross assets used to calculate the 2% base management fee (see footnote 2 above). The quarter ended December 31, 2006 was the first quarter under our new advisory agreement and, as a result, was the first quarter in which the incentive fee was earned. For purposes of this computation, the gross amount of the December 31, 2006 fee, exclusive of any credits, was annualized to determine the percentage the fee represents of net assets. After giving effect to credits against the incentive fee, the annualized incentive fee was 1.36% of net assets as of December 31, 2006. There can be no assurance that our Adviser will give any credits against the incentive fee in the future. The capital gains-based portion of the fee did not have an effect on the incentive fee for purposes of this calculation since we have not realized overall net capital gains to date.

Examples of how the incentive fee would be calculated (exclusive of any credits) are as follows:

- Assuming pre-incentive fee net investment income of 0.55%, there would be no income-based incentive fee because such income would not exceed the hurdle rate of 1.75%.

- Assuming pre-incentive fee net investment income of 2.00%, the income-based incentive fee would be as follows:

$$= 100\% \times (2.00\% - 1.75\%)$$

$$= 0.25\%$$

- Assuming pre-incentive fee net investment income of 2.30%, the income-based incentive fee would be as follows:

$$= (100\% \times (\text{catch-up} : 2.1875\% - 1.75\%)) + (20\% \times (2.30\% - 2.1875\%))$$

$$= (100\% \times 0.4375\%) + (20\% \times 0.1125\%)$$

$$= 0.4375\% + 0.0225\%$$

$$= 0.46\%$$

- Assuming net realized capital gains of 6% and realized capital losses and unrealized capital depreciation of 1%, the capital gains-based incentive fee would be as follows:

$$= 20\% \times (6\% - 1\%)$$

$$= 20\% \times 5\%$$

$$= 1\%$$

For a more detailed discussion of the calculation of the two-part incentive fee, see Management Advisory and Administration Agreements.

(4) We have entered into a revolving credit facility, under which our borrowing capacity is \$170 million, effective February 9, 2007. We have drawn down on this credit facility and we expect to borrow additional funds in the future up to an amount so that our asset coverage, as defined in the 1940 Act, is at least 200% after each issuance of our senior securities. Assuming that we borrowed \$170 million at an interest rate of 6%,

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interest payments on borrowed funds would have been 6% of our net assets as of December 31, 2006.

(5) Includes our overhead expenses, including payments under the administration agreement based on our projected allocable portion of overhead and other expenses incurred by the Administrator in performing its obligations under the administration agreement. See Management Certain Transactions Advisory and Administration Agreements.

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Example

The following example demonstrates the projected dollar amount of total cumulative expenses that would be incurred over various periods with respect to a hypothetical investment in our Securities. In calculating the following expense amounts, we have assumed we would have no leverage and that our annual operating expenses would remain at the levels set forth in the table above. In the event that Securities to which this prospectus relates are sold to or through underwriters, a corresponding prospectus supplement will restate this example to reflect the applicable sales load.

	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years
You would pay the following expenses on a \$1,000 investment, assuming a 5% annual return	\$69	\$203	\$331	\$631

While the example assumes, as required by the Securities and Exchange Commission, which we refer to as the SEC, a 5% annual return, our performance will vary and may result in a return greater or less than 5%. Additionally, we have assumed that the entire amount of such 5% annual return would constitute ordinary income as we have not historically realized positive capital gains (computed net of all realized capital losses and unrealized capital depreciation) on our investments, nor do we expect to realize positive capital gains in the foreseeable future. Because the assumed 5% annual return is significantly below the hurdle rate of 7% (annualized) that we must achieve under the investment advisory and management agreement to trigger the payment of an income-based incentive fee, we have assumed, for purposes of the above example, that no income-based incentive fee would be payable if we realized a 5% annual return on our investments. Additionally, because we have not historically realized positive capital gains (computed net of all realized capital losses and unrealized capital depreciation) on our investments, we have assumed that we will not trigger the payment of any capital gains-based incentive fee in any of the indicated time periods. If we achieve sufficient returns on our investments, including through the realization of capital gains, to trigger an incentive fee of a material amount, our expenses, and returns to our investors after such expenses, would be higher than reflected in the example. In addition, while the example assumes reinvestment of all dividends and distributions at net asset value, participants in our dividend reinvestment plan will receive a number of shares of our common stock, determined by dividing the total dollar amount of the dividend payable to a participant by the market price per share of our common stock at the close of trading on the valuation date for the dividend. See [Dividend Reinvestment Plan](#) for additional information regarding our dividend reinvestment plan.

This example and the expenses in the table above should not be considered a representation of our future expenses, and actual expenses (including the cost of debt and incentive fees, if any, and other expenses) may be greater or less than those shown. As noted in the Fees and Expenses table above, we estimate that annual incentive fees payable under the investment advisory and management agreement will be 2.70% of net assets attributable to common stock.

CONSOLIDATED SUMMARY FINANCIAL DATA
(in thousands, except per share data)

The following table summarizes our consolidated financial data. The summary financial data as of and for the years ended September 30, 2006, 2005 and 2004 is derived from our audited consolidated financial statements included in this prospectus. The summary financial data as of and for the years ended September 30, 2003 and 2002 is derived from our audited consolidated financial statements that are not included in this prospectus. The summary financial data as of and for the three months ended December 31, 2006 and 2005 is derived from our unaudited consolidated financial statements included in this prospectus. You should read this data together with our consolidated financial statements and notes thereto presented elsewhere in this prospectus and the information under Consolidated Selected Financial Data and Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations for more information.

	Year Ended September 30, 2006	Year Ended September 30, 2005	Year Ended September 30, 2004	Year Ended September 30, 2003	Year Ended September 30, 2002	Three Months Ended December 31, 2006 (unaudited)	Three Months Ended December 31, 2005 (unaudited)
Total Investment Income	\$ 26,899,846	\$ 23,949,759	\$ 20,395,968	\$ 15,154,874	\$ 10,455,703	\$ 8,233,718	\$ 6,030,319
Total Net Expenses	\$ 7,549,266	\$ 6,663,614	\$ 7,103,193	\$ 3,858,953	\$ 2,839,102	\$ 3,070,792	\$ 1,587,905
Net Investment Income	\$ 19,350,580	\$ 17,286,145	\$ 13,292,775	\$ 11,295,921	\$ 7,616,601	\$ 5,162,926	\$ 4,442,414
Net Increase in Net Assets Resulting from Operations	\$ 24,430,235	\$ 15,490,682	\$ 10,570,290	\$ 11,073,581	\$ 7,616,601	\$	\$