

National Interstate CORP
Form 10-Q
May 08, 2007

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

Form 10-Q

**Quarterly Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934
For the quarterly period ended March 31, 2007**

OR

**Transition Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934
For the transition period from _____ to _____.
Commission File Number 000-51130**

National Interstate Corporation

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Ohio

*(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)*

34-1607394

*(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)*

**3250 Interstate Drive
Richfield, Ohio 44286-9000
(330) 659-8900**

(Address and telephone number of principal executive offices)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes No
Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer or a non-accelerated filer. See definition of "accelerated filer and large accelerated filer" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check One):

Large Accelerated Filer

Accelerated Filer

Non-Accelerated Filer

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

The number of shares outstanding of the registrant's sole class of common shares as of May 1, 2007 was 19,211,106.

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Table of Contents**PART I FINANCIAL INFORMATION****ITEM 1. Financial Statements**

National Interstate Corporation and Subsidiaries
Consolidated Balance Sheets
(In thousands, except per share data)

| | March 31, 2007 (Unaudited) | December 31, 2006 |
|---|---|----------------------------------|
| ASSETS | | |
| Investments: | | |
| Fixed maturities available-for-sale, at fair value (amortized cost \$350,054 and \$332,552, respectively) | \$ 346,211 | \$ 327,449 |
| Equity securities available-for-sale, at fair value (cost \$43,718 and \$33,476, respectively) | 44,375 | 34,095 |
| Short-term investments, at cost which approximates fair value | 26,130 | 22,744 |
| | | |
| Total investments | 416,716 | 384,288 |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 18,990 | 22,166 |
| Securities lending collateral | 175,641 | 158,928 |
| Accrued investment income | 4,437 | 4,321 |
| Premiums receivable, net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$570 and \$522, respectively | 119,063 | 77,076 |
| Reinsurance recoverables on paid and unpaid losses | 98,247 | 90,070 |
| Prepaid reinsurance premiums | 38,645 | 21,272 |
| Deferred policy acquisition costs | 18,624 | 15,035 |
| Deferred federal income taxes | 9,835 | 10,731 |
| Property and equipment, net | 18,806 | 18,586 |
| Funds held by reinsurer | 2,129 | 2,340 |
| Other assets | 1,996 | 1,435 |
| | | |
| Total assets | \$ 923,129 | \$ 806,248 |
| LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY | | |
| Liabilities: | | |
| Unpaid losses and loss adjustment expenses | \$ 284,344 | \$ 265,966 |
| Unearned premiums and service fees | 172,154 | 127,723 |
| Long-term debt | 15,464 | 15,464 |
| Amounts withheld or retained for account of others | 30,582 | 27,885 |
| Reinsurance balances payable | 25,137 | 7,156 |
| Securities lending obligation | 175,641 | 158,928 |
| Accounts payable and other liabilities | 22,412 | 19,676 |
| Commissions payable | 8,741 | 6,347 |
| Assessments and fees payable | 3,902 | 3,340 |
| | | |
| Total liabilities | 738,377 | 632,485 |
| | | |
| Shareholders equity: | | |

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| | | |
|--|------------|------------|
| Preferred shares no par value | | |
| Authorized 10,000 shares | | |
| Issued 0 shares | | |
| Common shares \$0.01 par value | | |
| Authorized 50,000 shares | | |
| Issued 23,350 shares including 4,163 and 4,191 shares, respectively, in treasury | 234 | 234 |
| Additional paid-in capital | 44,528 | 43,921 |
| Retained earnings | 147,949 | 138,450 |
| Accumulated other comprehensive loss | (2,071) | (2,915) |
| Treasury shares | (5,888) | (5,927) |
| Total shareholders equity | 184,752 | 173,763 |
| Total liabilities and shareholders equity | \$ 923,129 | \$ 806,248 |

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

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National Interstate Corporation and Subsidiaries
Consolidated Statements of Income
(Unaudited)
(In thousands, except per share data)

| | Three Months Ended March | |
|---|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| | 2007 | 31, 2006 |
| Revenue: | | |
| Premiums earned | \$ 60,290 | \$ 50,315 |
| Net investment income | 5,145 | 3,899 |
| Realized gains on investments | 65 | 370 |
| Other | 865 | 477 |
| Total revenues | 66,365 | 55,061 |
| Expenses: | | |
| Losses and loss adjustment expenses | 35,533 | 29,896 |
| Commissions and other underwriting expense | 11,401 | 8,765 |
| Other operating and general expenses | 3,791 | 2,793 |
| Interest expense | 382 | 364 |
| Total expenses | 51,107 | 41,818 |
| Income before federal income taxes | 15,258 | 13,243 |
| Provision for federal income taxes | 4,791 | 4,517 |
| Net income | \$ 10,467 | \$ 8,726 |
| | | |
| Net income per common share basic | \$ 0.55 | \$ 0.46 |
| Net income per common share diluted | \$ 0.54 | \$ 0.45 |
| | | |
| Weighted average of common shares outstanding basic | 19,174 | 19,101 |
| Weighted average of common shares outstanding diluted | 19,341 | 19,253 |
| | | |
| Cash dividends per common share | \$ 0.05 | \$ 0.04 |

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

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National Interstate Corporation and Subsidiaries
Consolidated Statements of Shareholders Equity
(Unaudited)
(Dollars in thousands)

| | Common Stock | Additional Paid-In Capital | Retained Earnings | Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss) | Treasury Stock | Total |
|--|-----------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|---|-------------------|------------|
| Balance at January 1, 2007 | \$ 234 | \$ 43,921 | \$ 138,450 | \$ (2,915) | \$ (5,927) | \$ 173,763 |
| Net income | | | 10,467 | | | 10,467 |
| Unrealized appreciation of investment securities, net of tax expense of \$454 | | | | 844 | | 844 |
| Comprehensive income | | | | | | 11,311 |
| Dividends on common stock | | | (968) | | | (968) |
| Issuance of 28,212 treasury shares upon exercise of stock options and stock award grants | | 171 | | | 39 | 210 |
| Tax benefit realized from exercise of stock options | | 166 | | | | 166 |
| Stock compensation expense | | 270 | | | | 270 |
| Balance at March 31, 2007 | \$ 234 | \$ 44,528 | \$ 147,949 | \$ (2,071) | \$ (5,888) | \$ 184,752 |
| Balance at January 1, 2006 | \$ 234 | \$ 42,257 | \$ 105,826 | \$ (2,712) | \$ (6,072) | \$ 139,533 |
| Net income | | | 8,726 | | | 8,726 |
| Unrealized depreciation of investment securities, net of tax benefit of \$1,084 | | | | (2,013) | | (2,013) |
| Comprehensive income | | | | | | 6,713 |
| Dividends on common stock | | | (770) | | | (770) |
| Issuance of 59,000 treasury shares upon exercise of stock options | | 100 | | | 82 | 182 |
| Tax benefit realized from exercise of stock options | | 346 | | | | 346 |
| Stock compensation expense | | 213 | | | | 213 |

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| | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|--------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Balance at March 31, 2006 | \$ 234 | \$ 42,916 | \$ 113,782 | \$ (4,725) | \$ (5,990) | \$ 146,217 |
|---------------------------|--------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

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National Interstate Corporation and Subsidiaries
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows
(Unaudited)
(Dollars in thousands)

| | Three Months Ended March | |
|--|---------------------------------|-------------|
| | 31, | |
| | 2007 | 2006 |
| Operating activities | | |
| Net income | \$ 10,467 | \$ 8,726 |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities: | | |
| Net amortization of bond premiums and discounts | 65 | 38 |
| Provision for depreciation and amortization | 305 | 292 |
| Net realized gains on investment securities | (65) | (370) |
| Deferred federal income taxes | 442 | |
| Stock compensation expense | 270 | 213 |
| Increase in deferred policy acquisition costs, net | (3,589) | (2,689) |
| Increase in reserves for losses and loss adjustment expenses | 18,378 | 11,548 |
| Increase in premiums receivable | (41,987) | (40,923) |
| Increase in unearned premiums and service fees | 44,431 | 44,303 |
| (Increase) decrease in interest receivable and other assets | (488) | 1,104 |
| Increase in prepaid reinsurance premiums | (17,373) | (15,224) |
| Increase in accounts payable, commissions and other liabilities and assessments and fees payable | 5,692 | 3,119 |
| Increase in amounts withheld or retained for account of others | 2,697 | 1,742 |
| Increase in reinsurance recoverable | (8,177) | (4,932) |
| Increase in reinsurance balances payable | 17,981 | 18,186 |
| Other | 50 | (1) |
| Net cash provided by operating activities | 29,099 | 25,132 |
| Investing activities | | |
| Purchases of fixed maturities | (54,280) | (39,662) |
| Purchases of equity securities | (14,808) | (17,785) |
| Proceeds from sale of fixed maturities | | 997 |
| Proceeds from sale of equity securities | 1,210 | 11,985 |
| Proceeds from maturity of investments | 36,748 | 16,088 |
| Additional cash paid for purchase of subsidiary | | (1,246) |
| Cash and cash equivalents of business acquired | | 5,585 |
| Capital expenditures | (553) | (364) |
| Net cash used in investing activities | (31,683) | (24,402) |
| Financing activities | | |
| Repayment of long-term debt | | (312) |
| Increase in securities lending collateral | (16,713) | |

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| | | |
|--|-----------|----------|
| Increase in securities lending obligation | 16,713 | |
| Tax benefit realized from exercise of stock options | 166 | 346 |
| Issuance of common shares from treasury upon exercise of stock options | 210 | 182 |
| Cash dividends paid on common shares | (968) | (770) |
| Net cash used in financing activities | (592) | (554) |
| Net (decrease) increase in cash and cash equivalents | (3,176) | 176 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period | 22,166 | 7,461 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of period | \$ 18,990 | \$ 7,637 |

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

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**NATIONAL INTERSTATE CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(Unaudited)**

1. Basis of Presentation

The accompanying unaudited consolidated financial statements of National Interstate Corporation (the Company) and its subsidiaries have been prepared in accordance with the instructions to Form 10-Q, which differ in some respects from statutory accounting principles permitted by state regulatory agencies.

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company and its subsidiaries, National Interstate Insurance Company (NIIC), Hudson Indemnity, Ltd. (HIL), National Interstate Insurance Company of Hawaii, Inc. (NIIC-HI), Triumpher Casualty Company (TCC), National Interstate Insurance Agency, Inc. (NIIA), Hudson Management Group, Ltd. (HMG), American Highways Insurance Agency, Inc., Safety, Claims, and Litigation Services, Inc., Explorer RV Insurance Agency, Inc. and Safety, Claims and Litigation Services, LLC. Significant intercompany transactions have been eliminated.

These interim consolidated financial statements should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and notes thereto included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2006. The interim financial statements reflect all adjustments which are, in the opinion of management, necessary for the fair presentation of the results for the periods presented. Such adjustments are of a normal recurring nature.

Operating results for the three-month period ended March 31, 2007 are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the year ending December 31, 2007.

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Changes in circumstances could cause actual results to differ materially from those estimates. Certain reclassifications have been made to financial information presented for prior years to conform to the current year's presentation.

2. Recent Accounting Pronouncements

The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities Including an amendment of FASB Statement No. 115

In February 2007, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 159, *The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities*, which permits entities to elect to measure many financial instruments and certain other items at fair value. Upon adoption of SFAS No. 159, an entity may elect the fair value option for eligible items that exist at the adoption date. Subsequent to the initial adoption, the election of the fair value option should only be made at the initial recognition of the asset or liability or upon a re-measurement event that gives rise to the new-basis of accounting. All subsequent changes in fair value for that instrument are reported in earnings. SFAS No. 159 does not affect any existing accounting literature that requires certain assets and liabilities to be recorded at fair value nor does it eliminate disclosure requirements included in other accounting standards. SFAS No. 159 is effective as of January 1, 2008. The Company is currently evaluating the impact, if any, that the adoption of SFAS No. 159 will have on its result of operations, financial condition and liquidity.

Fair Value Measurements

In September 2006, the FASB issued SFAS No. 157, *Fair Value Measurements*. SFAS No. 157 defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value and expands disclosures about fair value measurements. SFAS No. 157 is effective for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007 and interim periods within those fiscal years. The Company has not yet determined the impact SFAS No. 157 will have on its financial statements, but expects the impact, if any, to be immaterial.

Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes

In June 2006, the FASB issued Interpretation No. 48 (FIN 48), *Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes* an interpretation of SFAS No. 109. FIN 48 clarifies the recognition threshold and measurement attribute for the financial statement recognition and measurement of a tax position taken or expected to be taken in a tax return. FIN 48 also provides guidance on derecognition, classification, interest and penalties, accounting in interim periods, disclosure and transition. FIN 48 is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2006. The Company adopted FIN 48 on

January 1, 2007. There is no impact of this interpretation on the Company's results of operations, financial condition and liquidity for the three months ended March 31, 2007.

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The Company has recognized no liability for unrecognized tax benefits at January 1, 2007. In addition, the Company has not accrued for interest and penalties related to unrecognized tax benefits. However, if interest and penalties would need to be accrued related to unrecognized tax benefits, such amounts would be recognized as a component of the provision for federal income taxes.

The Company files income tax returns in the U.S. federal jurisdiction and various state jurisdictions. The Company is no longer subject to U.S. federal income tax examination by tax authorities for years before 2003. The Company is no longer subject to state income tax examination for years before 2003. There are no ongoing examinations of income tax returns by federal or state tax authorities.

3. Shareholders Equity

The Company grants options and other awards to officers of the Company under the Long Term Incentive Plan (LTIP). At March 31, 2007, there were 1,008,488 of the Company's common shares reserved for issuance upon exercise of stock options or other awards under the LTIP and options for 642,300 shares were outstanding. In March 2007, the Company granted a restricted stock award and stock bonus award under the LTIP. Treasury shares are used to fulfill the options exercised and other awards granted. Options and restricted shares vest pursuant to the terms of a written grant agreement. Options must be exercised no later than the tenth anniversary of the date of grant. As set forth in the LTIP, the Company may accelerate vesting and exercisability of options. The Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors must approve all grants.

On January 1, 2006, the Company adopted SFAS No. 123(R) (revised version of SFAS No. 123), *Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation*, which requires measurement of compensation cost for all stock-based awards based on the grant-date fair value and recognition of compensation cost over the requisite service period of stock-based awards. The fair value of stock options is determined using the Black-Scholes valuation model, which is consistent with the Company's valuation methodology used for all options granted since the Company's initial public offering in 2005 for purposes of its footnote disclosures required under SFAS No. 123. The Company has adopted SFAS No. 123(R) using the modified prospective method for awards issued subsequent to the Company's initial public offering, which provides for no retroactive application to prior periods and no cumulative adjustment to equity accounts. It also provides for expense recognition, for both new and existing stock-based awards, as the required services are rendered. The Company has adopted SFAS No. 123(R) using the prospective method for awards issued prior to the Company's initial public offering. Awards issued prior to the initial public offering were valued for disclosure purposes using the minimum value method. No compensation cost will be recognized for future vesting of these awards.

For the three months ended March 31, 2007 and 2006, the Company recognized a stock compensation expense related to SFAS 123(R) of \$0.2 million and a related income tax benefit of approximately \$30,000. The Company also recognized a compensation expense of \$0.2 million related to the stock bonus award and restricted stock award in the first quarter of 2007. All stock compensation expenses are included in the "Other operating and general expenses" line item of the Company's Consolidated Statements of Income.

The Company paid a dividend of \$0.05 and \$0.04 per common share for the three months ended March 31, 2007 and 2006, respectively.

4. Transactions with Related Parties

The Company's principal insurance subsidiary, NIIC, is involved in both the cession and assumption of reinsurance. NIIC is a party to a reinsurance agreement, and NIIA, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, is a party to an underwriting management agreement with Great American Insurance Company ("Great American"). As of March 31, 2007, Great American owned 53.1% of the outstanding shares of the Company. Great American is a wholly-owned subsidiary of American Financial Group, Inc. The reinsurance agreement calls for the assumption by NIIC of all of the risk on Great American's net premiums written for public transportation and recreational vehicle risks. NIIA provides administrative services to Great American in connection with Great American's underwriting of public transportation risks. The Company cedes premiums through reinsurance agreements with Great American to reduce exposure in certain of its property-casualty insurance programs.

The table below summarizes the reinsurance balance and activity with Great American:

| | Three Months Ended March 31, | |
|---|---|-------------|
| | 2007 | 2006 |
| | (Dollars in thousands) | |
| Written premiums assumed | \$ 1,672 | \$ 1,111 |
| Assumed premiums earned | 1,203 | 973 |
| Assumed losses and loss adjustment expense incurred | 1,006 | 1,137 |
| Ceded losses and loss adjustment expense recoveries | 930 | 963 |
| Payable to Great American as of quarter end | 294 | 551 |

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Great American, or its parent American Financial Group, Inc., performs certain services for the Company without charge including, without limitation, actuarial services and on a consultative basis, as needed, internal audit, legal, accounting and other support services. If Great American no longer controlled a majority of the Company's common shares, it is possible that many of these services would cease or, alternatively, be provided at an increased cost to us. This could impact our personnel resources, require us to hire additional professional staff and generally increase our operating expenses. Management believes, based on discussions with Great American, that these services will continue to be provided by the affiliated entity in future periods and the relative impact on operating results is not material.

5. Reinsurance

Premiums and reinsurance activity consisted of the following:

| | Three Months Ended March 31, | | | |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| | 2007 | | 2006 | |
| | Written | Earned | Written | Earned |
| | (Dollars in thousands) | | | |
| Direct | \$ 118,212 | \$ 73,871 | \$ 106,131 | \$ 61,504 |
| Assumed | 2,718 | 2,749 | 3,407 | 3,171 |
| Ceded | (33,702) | (16,330) | (30,131) | (14,360) |
| Net Premium | \$ 87,228 | \$ 60,290 | \$ 79,407 | \$ 50,315 |

The Company cedes premiums through reinsurance agreements with non-affiliated reinsurers to reduce exposure in certain of its property-casualty insurance programs. Ceded losses and loss adjustment expense recoveries recorded for the three months ended March 31, 2007 and 2006 were \$6.0 million and \$7.4 million, respectively. The Company remains primarily liable as the direct insurer on all risks reinsured and a contingent liability exists to the extent that the reinsurance companies are unable to meet their obligations for losses assumed. To minimize its exposure to significant losses from reinsurer insolvencies, the Company seeks to do business with only reinsurers rated **Excellent** or better by A.M. Best Company and regularly evaluates the financial condition of its reinsurers.

6. Commitments and Contingencies

The Company and its subsidiaries are subject at times to various claims, lawsuits and legal proceedings arising in the ordinary course of business. All legal actions relating to claims made under insurance policies are considered in the establishment of our loss and loss adjustment expense reserves. In addition, regulatory bodies, such as state insurance departments, the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Department of Labor and other regulatory bodies may make inquiries and conduct examinations or investigations concerning our compliance with insurance laws, securities laws, labor laws and the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended.

The Company's insurance companies also have lawsuits pending in which the plaintiff seeks extra-contractual damages from us in addition to damages claimed, or in excess of the available limits under an insurance policy. These lawsuits, which are in various stages of development, generally mirror similar lawsuits filed against other carriers in the industry. Although the Company is vigorously defending these lawsuits, the outcomes of these cases cannot be determined at this time. The Company has established loss and loss adjustment expense reserves for lawsuits as to which it has been determined that a loss is both probable and estimable. In addition to these case reserves, we also establish reserves for claims incurred but not reported to cover unknown exposures and adverse development on known exposures. Based on currently available information, the Company believes that the reserves for these lawsuits are reasonable and that the amounts reserved did not have a material effect on its financial condition or results of operations. However, if any one or more of these cases results in a judgment against or settlement by the Company for an amount that is significantly greater than the amount so reserved, the resulting liability could have a material effect on its financial condition, cash flows and results of operations.

As a direct writer of insurance, the Company receives assessments by state funds to cover losses to policyholders of insolvent or rehabilitated companies and other authorized fees. These mandatory assessments may be partially

recovered through a reduction in future premium taxes in some states. At March 31, 2007 and December 31, 2006, the liability for such assessments was \$3.9 million and \$3.3 million, respectively, and will be paid over several years as assessed by the various state funds.

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The following table sets forth the computation of basic and diluted income per share:

| | Three Months Ended March 31, | |
|---|---|-------------|
| | 2007 | 2006 |
| | (Dollars in thousands, except per share) | |
| Net income | \$ 10,467 | \$ 8,726 |
| Weighted average shares outstanding during period | 19,174 | 19,101 |
| Additional shares issuable under employee common stock option plans using treasury stock method | 167 | 152 |
| Weighted average shares outstanding assuming exercise of stock options | 19,341 | 19,253 |
| Net income per share: | | |
| Basic | \$ 0.55 | \$ 0.46 |
| Diluted | \$ 0.54 | \$ 0.45 |

For the quarter ended March 31, 2007 and 2006 there were 165,265 and 279,000, respectively, outstanding options excluded from dilutive earnings per share because they were anti-dilutive.

8. Segment Information

The Company operates its business as one segment, property and casualty insurance. The Company manages this segment through a product management structure. The following table shows revenues summarized by the broader business component description. These business components were determined based primarily on similar economic characteristics, products and services:

| | Three Months Ended March | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------|
| | 2007 | 2006 |
| | (Dollars in thousands) | |
| Revenue: | | |
| Premiums earned: | | |
| Alternate Risk Transfer | \$ 23,845 | \$ 15,928 |
| Transportation | 18,064 | 17,860 |
| Specialty Personal Lines | 12,103 | 10,828 |
| Hawaii and Alaska | 4,048 | 3,220 |
| Other | 2,230 | 2,479 |
| Total Premiums Earned | 60,290 | 50,315 |
| Net investment income | 5,145 | 3,899 |
| Realized gains on investments | 65 | 370 |
| Other | 865 | 477 |
| Total revenues | \$ 66,365 | \$ 55,061 |

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

Forward-Looking Statements

This document, including information incorporated by reference, contains forward-looking statements (within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995). All statements, trend analyses and other information contained in this Form 10-Q relative to markets for our products and trends in our operations or financial results, as well as other statements including words such as may, target, anticipate, believe, plan, estimate, intend, project, and other similar expressions, constitute forward-looking statements. We made these statements based on our plans and current analyses of our business and the insurance industry as a whole. We caution that these statements may and often do vary from actual results and the differences between these statements and actual results can be material. Factors that could contribute to these differences include, among other things:

- general economic conditions and other factors, including prevailing interest rate levels and stock and credit market performance which may affect (among other things) our ability to sell our products, our ability to access capital resources and the costs associated with such access to capital and the market value of our investments;

- customer response to new products and marketing initiatives;

- tax law changes;

- increasing competition in the sale of our insurance products and services and the retention of existing customers;

- changes in legal environment;

- regulatory changes or actions, including those relating to regulation of the sale, underwriting and pricing of insurance products and services and capital requirements;

- levels of natural catastrophes, terrorist events, incidents of war and other major losses;

- adequacy of insurance reserves; and

- availability of reinsurance and ability of reinsurers to pay their obligations.

The forward-looking statements herein are made only as of the date of this report. We assume no obligation to publicly update any forward-looking statements.

General

We underwrite and sell traditional and alternative risk transfer property and casualty insurance products to the passenger transportation industry and the trucking industry, general commercial insurance to small businesses in Hawaii and Alaska and personal insurance to owners of recreational vehicles, commercial vehicles and watercraft throughout the United States.

As of March 31, 2007, Great American Insurance Company (Great American) owned 53.1% of our outstanding common shares. Great American is a wholly-owned subsidiary of American Financial Group, Inc. We have four property and casualty insurance subsidiaries, National Interstate Insurance Company (NIIC), Hudson Indemnity, Ltd. (HIL), National Interstate Insurance Company of Hawaii, Inc. (NIIC-HI) and Triumphe Casualty Company (TCC) and six other agency and service subsidiaries. NIIC is licensed in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. HIL is domiciled in the Cayman Islands and conducts insurance business outside the United States. We write our insurance policies on a direct basis through NIIC, NIIC-HI and TCC. Effective January 1, 2006, NIIC purchased TCC, a Pennsylvania domiciled company, which holds licenses for multiple lines of authority, including auto-related lines, in 24 states and the District of Columbia. We also assume a portion of premiums written by other affiliated companies whose passenger transportation insurance business we manage. Insurance products are marketed through multiple

distribution channels, including independent agents and brokers, affiliated agencies and agent internet initiatives. We use our six other agency and service subsidiaries to sell and service our insurance business.

Table of Contents**Results of Operations****Overview**

Through the operations of our subsidiaries, we are engaged in property and casualty insurance operations. We generate underwriting profits by providing specialized insurance products, services and programs not generally available in the marketplace. We focus on niche insurance markets where we offer insurance products designed to meet the unique needs of targeted insurance buyers that we believe are underserved by the insurance industry. We derive our revenues primarily from premiums generated by our insurance policies and income from our investment portfolio. Our expenses consist primarily of losses and loss adjustment expenses (LAE), commissions and other underwriting expenses, and other operating and general expenses.

Our net earnings for the first quarter of 2007 increased approximately 20.0% to \$10.5 million or \$0.54 per share (diluted), compared to \$8.7 million or \$0.45 per share (diluted) for the first quarter of 2006. Several factors contributed to the increase in net earnings, including a continued growth in earned premium of \$10.0 million and an increase in net investment income of \$1.2 million. A reduction in our effective tax rate of 2.7 percentage points during the first quarter of 2007 compared to the same period in 2006 also contributed to the increase in net earnings. Partially offsetting the increase to earnings was an increase in our combined ratio of 1.3 percentage points, due to a slightly higher expense ratio (see *Underwriting and Loss Ratio Analysis* section for further discussion).

Gross Premiums Written

We operate our business as one segment, property and casualty insurance. We manage this segment through a product management structure. The following table sets forth an analysis of gross premiums written by business component during the periods indicated:

| | Three Months Ended March 31, | | 2006 | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|---------|------------|---------|
| | 2007 | | 2006 | |
| | Amount | Percent | Amount | Percent |
| | (Dollars in thousands) | | | |
| Alternative Risk Transfer | \$ 76,710 | 63.4% | \$ 70,064 | 64.0% |
| Transportation | 21,875 | 18.1% | 18,519 | 16.9% |
| Specialty Personal Lines | 14,936 | 12.4% | 13,773 | 12.6% |
| Hawaii and Alaska | 6,154 | 5.1% | 5,743 | 5.2% |
| Other | 1,255 | 1.0% | 1,439 | 1.3% |
| Gross premiums written | \$ 120,930 | 100.0% | \$ 109,538 | 100.0% |

Gross premiums written includes both direct premium and assumed premium. During the first quarter of 2007, as a percent of total gross premiums written, the alternative risk transfer component of the business had the largest dollar increase of \$6.6 million, or 9.5%, compared to the same period in 2006. The growth in this business component is primarily attributable to the addition of a new large passenger transportation group captive program.

The group captive programs, which focus on specialty or niche insurance businesses, provide various services and coverages tailored to meet specific requirements of defined client groups and their members. These services include risk management consulting, claims administration and handling, loss control and prevention, and reinsurance placement, along with providing various types of property and casualty insurance coverage. Insurance coverage is provided primarily to associations or similar groups of members and to specified classes of business of our agent partners.

As part of our captive programs, we have analyzed, on a quarterly basis, captive members' loss performance on a policy year basis to determine if there would be a premium assessment to participants, or if there would be a return of premium to participants as a result of less than expected losses. Assessment premium and return of premium are recorded as adjustments to written premium (assessments increase written premium; returns of premium reduce written premium). For the three months ended March 31, 2007 and 2006, we recorded return of premium of \$1.3 million and \$1.0 million, respectively.

In addition to the alternative risk transfer component, the transportation and specialty personal lines business components also contributed to the increase in gross premiums written in the first quarter of 2007. The transportation component had a \$3.4 million, or

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an 18.1% increase for the three months ended March 31, 2007 over the same period in 2006. The increase in the transportation component relates to new insureds in our existing products. The specialty personal lines component had an increase of \$1.2 million, or 8.4%, for the first quarter 2007 compared to first quarter 2006. The increase in the specialty personal lines component is primarily related to additional policies in force for the recreational vehicle product generated through new distribution channels.

Premiums Earned

2007 compared to 2006. The following table shows premiums earned summarized by the broader business component description, which were determined based primarily on similar economic characteristics, products and services:

| | Three Months Ended | | Change | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|----------|---------|
| | 2007 | 2006 | Amount | Percent |
| | March 31, (Dollars in thousands) | | | |
| Premiums earned: | | | | |
| Alternative Risk Transfer | \$ 23,845 | \$ 15,928 | \$ 7,917 | 49.7% |
| Transportation | 18,064 | 17,860 | 204 | 1.1% |
| Specialty Personal Lines | 12,103 | 10,828 | 1,275 | 11.8% |
| Hawaii and Alaska | 4,048 | 3,220 | 828 | 25.7% |
| Other | 2,230 | 2,479 | (249) | (10.0%) |
| Total premiums earned | \$ 60,290 | \$ 50,315 | \$ 9,975 | 19.8% |

Our net premiums earned increased \$10.0 million, or 19.8%, to \$60.3 million during the three months ended March 31, 2007 compared to \$50.3 million for the same period in 2006, primarily attributable to the alternative risk transfer, specialty personal lines and Hawaii and Alaska components. Our alternative risk transfer component increased \$7.9 million, or 49.7%, during the first quarter of 2007 compared to the same period in 2006, primarily due to new captive programs that were introduced in the last half of 2006, new participants in existing group captive programs and the addition of a large captive in January of 2007. Due to an increase in the number of policies in force primarily from expanded distribution in 2006 and the first quarter of 2007, our specialty personal lines component increased \$1.3 million, or 11.8%, in the first quarter of 2007 compared to the same period in 2006. The Hawaii and Alaska component increased \$0.8 million, or 25.7%, due to an increase in the number of policies in force during the first quarter of 2007.

Underwriting and Loss Ratio Analysis

Underwriting profitability, as opposed to overall profitability or net earnings, is measured by the combined ratio. The combined ratio is the sum of the losses and LAE ratio and the underwriting expense ratio. A combined ratio under 100% is indicative of an underwriting profit. Our underwriting approach is to price our products to achieve an underwriting profit even if we forgo volume as a result. For the three months ended March 31, 2007, we maintained relatively flat rate levels on renewal business.

The table below presents our net earned premiums and combined ratios for the periods indicated:

| | Three Months Ended March | |
|---|-------------------------------|------------|
| | 2007 | 2006 |
| | 31, (Dollars in thousands) | |
| Gross premiums written | \$ 120,930 | \$ 109,538 |
| Ceded reinsurance | (33,702) | (30,131) |
| Net premiums written | 87,228 | 79,407 |
| Change in unearned premiums, net of ceded | (26,938) | (29,092) |

| | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|
| Net premiums earned | \$ 60,290 | \$ 50,315 |
| Combined Ratios: | | |
| Loss and LAE ratio ⁽¹⁾ | 58.9% | 59.4% |
| Underwriting expense ratio ⁽²⁾ | 23.8% | 22.0% |
| Combined ratio | 82.7% | 81.4% |

(1) The ratio of losses and LAE to premiums earned.

(2) The ratio of the sum of commissions and other underwriting expenses and other operating expenses less other income to premiums earned.

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2007 compared to 2006. Losses and LAE are a function of the amount and type of insurance contracts we write and of the loss experience of the underlying risks. We seek to establish case reserves at the maximum probable exposure based on our historical claims experience. Our ability to accurately estimate losses and LAE at the time of pricing our contracts is a critical factor in determining our profitability. The amount reported under losses and LAE in any period includes payments in the period net of the change in reserves for unpaid losses and LAE between the beginning and the end of the period. The loss and LAE ratio for the first quarter of 2007 remained relatively constant at 58.9% compared to 59.4% for the first quarter of 2006. These ratios include a reduction for favorable development of losses from prior years of \$1.6 million (2.7%) in the first quarter of 2007 and an increase for unfavorable development in 2006 of \$1.5 million (-3.0%) in the first quarter of 2006.

Commissions and other underwriting expenses consist principally of brokerage and agent commissions that represent a percentage of the premiums on insurance policies and reinsurance contracts written, and vary depending upon the amount and types of contracts written, and ceding commissions paid to ceding insurers and excise taxes. The underwriting expense ratio for the first quarter of 2007 increased 1.8 points to 23.8% compared to 22.0% for the same period in 2006. The commissions and other underwriting expenses increased \$2.6 million for the three months ended March 31, 2007 compared to 2006. The increase in commissions and other underwriting expenses is primarily due to an increase in our net commission expense associated with one of our programs in the first quarter of 2007, compared to the same period in 2006. Also contributing to the increase in the expense ratio, was an increase to other operating and general expenses of \$1.0 million (0.7 percentage points of expense ratio increase) for the three months ended March 31, 2007, compared to the same period in 2006. This increase was due to several employee related expenses, including an increase of \$0.6 million to our annual bonuses paid in March 2007, and a one-time stock bonus award of \$0.2 million. A portion of the increase in the other operating expenses was offset by an increase in our other income, primarily related to rental income.

Investment Income

2007 compared to 2006. Net investment income increased \$1.2 million, or 32.0%, to \$5.1 million for the three months ended March 31, 2007 compared to \$3.9 million in the same period in 2006. The increase is primarily related to a growth in average cash and invested assets over the prior year and a higher yield on the fixed income and short term investment portfolio. The growth in cash and invested assets is due to positive cash flow from operations and the reinvestment of earnings.

Realized Gains on Investments

2007 compared to 2006. Net realized gains were \$65,000 for first quarter of 2007 compared to net realized gains of \$0.4 million for the first quarter of 2006. Realized gains are taken when opportunities arise. The realized gains in 2007 and 2006 were primarily generated from sales of equity holdings. While designated as available for sale, we generally intend to hold our fixed maturities to maturity unless we identify an opportunity for economic gain. When evaluating sales opportunities, we do not have any specific thresholds that would cause us to sell these securities prior to maturity. We consider multiple factors, such as reinvestment alternatives and specific circumstances of the investment currently held. Credit quality, portfolio allocation and other-than-temporary impairment are other factors that may encourage us to sell a security prior to maturity at a gain or loss. Historically, we have not had the need to sell our investments to generate liquidity.

Income Taxes

2007 compared to 2006. Our effective tax rate was 31.4% for the three months ended March 31, 2007 compared to 34.1% for the same period in 2006. The 2.7% decrease in the effective tax rate is primarily the result of the low tax rate on profits generated by Hudson Management Group, Ltd, our United States Virgin Island subsidiary.

Financial Condition***Investments***

At March 31, 2007, our investment portfolio contained \$346.2 million in fixed maturity securities and \$44.4 million in equity securities, all carried at fair value with unrealized gains and losses reported as a separate component of shareholders' equity on an after-tax basis. At that date, we had pretax unrealized losses of \$3.8 million on fixed maturities and pretax unrealized gains of \$0.7 million on equity securities.

At March 31, 2007, 98.9% of the fixed maturities in our portfolio were rated investment grade (credit rating of AAA to BBB) by Standard & Poor's Corporation. Investment grade securities generally bear lower yields and lower degrees of risk than those that are unrated or non-investment grade.

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Summary information for securities with unrealized gains or losses at March 31, 2007 follows:

| | Securities with Unrealized Gains (Dollars in thousands) | Securities with Unrealized Losses |
|---|--|--|
| Fixed Maturities: | | |
| Fair value of securities | \$97,002 | \$249,209 |
| Amortized cost of securities | \$96,142 | \$253,912 |
| Gross unrealized gain or loss | \$ 860 | \$ (4,703) |
| Fair value as a percent of amortized cost | 100.9% | 98.1% |
| Number of security positions held | 158 | 230 |
| Number individually exceeding \$50,000 gain or loss | 2 | 20 |
| Concentration of gains or losses by type or industry: | | |
| US Government and government agencies | \$ 363 | \$ (2,784) |
| State, municipalities, and political subdivisions | 162 | (274) |
| Banks, insurance, and brokers | 280 | (1,454) |
| Industrial and other | 55 | (191) |
| Percentage rated investment grade ⁽¹⁾ | 98.9% | 98.9% |
| Equity Securities: | | |
| Fair value of securities | \$30,300 | \$ 14,075 |
| Cost of securities | \$29,430 | \$ 14,288 |
| Gross unrealized gain or loss | \$ 870 | \$ (213) |
| Fair value as percent of cost | 103.0% | 98.5% |
| Number individually exceeding \$50,000 gain or loss | 3 | |

(1) Investment grade of AAA to BBB by Standard & Poor's Corporation.

The table below sets forth the scheduled maturities of fixed maturity securities at March 31, 2007 based on their fair values:

| | Securities with Unrealized Gains | Securities with Unrealized Losses |
|------------------------------------|---|--|
| Maturity: | | |
| One year or less | 5.6% | 8.0% |
| After one year through five years | 51.3% | 46.5% |
| After five years through ten years | 34.6% | 40.0% |
| After ten years | 8.5% | 5.5% |
| | 100.0% | 100.0% |

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The table below summarizes the unrealized gains and losses on fixed maturities and equity securities by dollar amount:

| | | March 31, 2007 | |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| | Aggregate Fair Value | Aggregate Unrealized Gain (Loss) (Dollars in thousands) | Fair Value as % of Cost Basis |
| Fixed Maturities: | | | |
| Securities with unrealized gains: | | | |
| Exceeding \$50,000 and for: | | | |
| Less than one year (2 issues) | \$ 1,521 | \$ 202 | 115.3% |
| More than one year (0 issues) | | | |
| Less than \$50,000 (156 issues) | 95,481 | 658 | 100.7% |
| | \$ 97,002 | \$ 860 | |
| Securities with unrealized losses: | | | |
| Exceeding \$50,000 and for: | | | |
| Less than one year (2 issues) | \$ 1,873 | \$ (128) | 93.6% |
| More than one year (18 issues) | 32,621 | (2,619) | 92.6% |
| Less than \$50,000 (210 issues) | 214,715 | (1,956) | 99.1% |
| | \$ 249,209 | \$ (4,703) | |
| Equity Securities: | | | |
| Securities with unrealized gains: | | | |
| Exceeding \$50,000 and for: | | | |
| Less than one year (3 issues) | \$ 2,551 | \$ 177 | 107.5% |
| More than one year (0 issues) | | | |
| Less than \$50,000 (69 issues) | 27,749 | 693 | 102.6% |
| | \$ 30,300 | \$ 870 | |
| Securities with unrealized losses: | | | |
| Exceeding \$50,000 and for: | | | |
| Less than one year (0 issues) | \$ | \$ | |
| More than one year (0 issues) | | | |
| Less than \$50,000 (29 issues) | 14,075 | (213) | 98.5% |
| | \$ 14,075 | \$ (213) | |

When a decline in the value of a specific investment is considered to be other than temporary, a provision for impairment is charged to earnings (accounted for as a realized loss) and the cost basis of that investment is reduced. The determination of whether unrealized losses are other than temporary requires judgment based on subjective as well as objective factors. Factors considered and resources used by management include those discussed in

Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Critical Accounting Policies
Other-Than-Temporary Impairment.

Premiums and Reinsurance

In the alternative risk transfer component, under most captive programs, all members of the group share a common renewal date. These common renewal dates are scheduled throughout the year. However, we have several large captives that renew during the first quarter of a given fiscal year, including the new passenger transportation group captive that was added in the first quarter of 2007. The captive renewals in the first quarter result in a large increase in premiums receivable, unearned premiums, prepaid reinsurance premiums and reinsurance balances payable during the first quarter of a given fiscal year.

Premiums receivable increased \$42.0 million, or 54.5%, from December 31, 2006 to March 31, 2007 and unearned premiums increased \$44.4 million, or 34.8%, from December 31, 2006 to March 31, 2007. The increase in premiums receivable and unearned premiums is primarily due to an increase in direct written premiums in our alternative risk transfer component; these increases gradually decrease throughout the year.

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Prepaid reinsurance premiums increased \$17.4 million, or 81.7%, from December 31, 2006 to March 31, 2007 and reinsurance balances payable increased \$18.0 million, or 251.3%, from December 31, 2006 to March 31, 2007. The increase in prepaid reinsurance premiums and reinsurance balances payable is primarily due to an increase in ceded written premiums in the alternative risk transfer component.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

The liquidity requirements of our insurance subsidiaries relate primarily to the liabilities associated with their products as well as operating costs and payments of dividends and taxes to us from insurance subsidiaries. Historically and during the first three months of 2007, cash flows from underwriting, investments and maturing investments have provided more than sufficient funds to meet these requirements without requiring the sale of investments. If our cash flows change dramatically from historical patterns, for example as a result of a decrease in premiums or an increase in claims paid or operating expenses, we may be required to sell securities before their maturity and possibly at a loss. Our insurance subsidiaries generally hold a significant amount of highly liquid, short-term investments to meet their liquidity needs. Funds received in excess of cash requirements are generally invested in additional marketable securities. Our historic pattern of using receipts from current premium writings for the payment of liabilities incurred in prior periods has enabled us to extend slightly the maturities of our investment portfolio beyond the estimated settlement date of our loss reserves.

We believe that our insurance subsidiaries maintain sufficient liquidity to pay claims and operating expenses, as well as meet commitments in the event of unforeseen events such as reserve deficiencies, inadequate premium rates or reinsurer insolvencies.

Our principal sources of liquidity are our existing cash, cash equivalents and short-term investments. Cash, cash equivalents and short-term investments were consistent as of March 31, 2007 and December 31, 2006 at \$45.1 million and \$44.9 million, respectively.

Net cash provided by operating activities was \$29.1 million during the three months ended March 31, 2007, compared to \$25.1 million during the three months ended March 31, 2006. This increase of \$4.0 million is attributable to various fluctuations within our operating activities, the largest of which relates to an increase in premiums.

Net cash used in investing activities was \$31.7 million and \$24.4 million for the three months ended March 31, 2007 and 2006, respectively. The \$7.3 million increase in cash used in investing activities was primarily related to an \$11.6 million increase in the purchase of investments in the first quarter of 2007, offset by an \$8.9 million increase in the proceeds from sales and maturities of investments as compared to the same period in 2007. Also impacting investing activities in the first quarter of 2006 was an additional payment of \$1.2 million made on January 3, 2006 for the remaining balance of the purchase price associated with the acquisition of TCC. As part of this acquisition in 2006, we acquired \$5.6 million in cash and cash equivalents.

We utilized net cash from financing activities of \$0.6 million for the three months ended March 31, 2007 and 2006.

Our financing activities include those related to stock option activity and dividends paid on our common shares. There have been no material changes to the cash used in financing activities during the three months ended March 31, 2007 compared to the same period in 2006.

We will have continuing cash needs for administrative expenses, the payment of principal and interest on borrowings, shareholder dividends and taxes. Funds to meet these obligations will come primarily from parent company cash, dividend and other payments from our insurance company subsidiaries and from our line of credit.

In 2003, we purchased the outstanding common equity of a business trust that issued mandatorily redeemable preferred capital securities. The trust used the proceeds from the issuance of its capital securities and common equity to buy \$15.5 million of debentures issued by us. These debentures are the trust's only assets and mature in 2033. The interest rate is equal to the three-month LIBOR, which is determined during the respective quarter, plus 420 basis points with interest payments due quarterly. The selected three-month LIBOR rate at March 31, 2007 and December 31, 2006 was 5.36% and 5.37%, respectively. Payments from the debentures finance the distributions paid on the capital securities. We have the right to redeem the debentures, in whole or in part, on or after May 23, 2008.

We also have a \$2.0 million line of credit (unused at March 31, 2007) that bears interest at the lending institution's prime rate (8.25% at March 31, 2007 and December 31, 2006) less 50 basis points. In accordance with the terms of the line of credit agreement, interest payments are due monthly and the principal balance is due upon demand. The line of

credit renews annually on September 1st of a given year. The line of credit is available currently, and has been used in the past, for general corporate purposes, including the capitalization of our insurance company subsidiaries in order to support the growth of their written premiums.

We believe that funds generated from operations, including dividends from insurance subsidiaries, parent company cash and funds available under our line of credit will provide sufficient resources to meet our liquidity requirements for at least the next 12 months. However, if these funds are insufficient to meet fixed charges in any period, we would be required to generate cash through additional borrowings, sale of assets, sale of portfolio securities or similar transactions. If we were required to sell portfolio securities early for

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liquidity purposes rather than holding them to maturity, we would recognize gains or losses on those securities earlier than anticipated. If we were forced to borrow additional funds in order to meet liquidity needs, we would incur additional interest expense, which could have a negative impact on our earnings. Since our ability to meet our obligations in the long term (beyond a 12-month period) is dependent upon factors such as market changes, insurance regulatory changes and economic conditions, no assurance can be given that the available net cash flow will be sufficient to meet our operating needs.

Critical Accounting Policies

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect amounts reported in the financial statements. As more information becomes known, these estimates and assumptions could change and thus impact amounts reported in the future. Management believes that the establishment of losses and loss adjustment expense reserves and the determination of other-than-temporary impairment on investments are the two areas where the degree of judgment required to determine amounts recorded in the financial statements make the accounting policies critical. For a more detailed discussion of these policies, see Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Critical Accounting Policies in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2006.

Losses and Loss Adjustment Expense Reserves

Significant periods of time can elapse between the occurrence of an insured loss, the reporting of that loss to us and our final payment of that loss and its related LAE. To recognize liabilities for unpaid losses, we establish reserves as balance sheet liabilities. At March 31, 2007 and December 31, 2006, we had \$284.3 million and \$266.0 million, respectively, of gross losses and LAE reserves, representing management's best estimate of the ultimate loss. The increase in loss reserves of 6.9% from December 31, 2006 to March 31, 2007 is consistent with the growth of policies in force and management's expectation of loss payout patterns. Management records on a monthly and quarterly basis its best estimate of loss reserves. For purposes of computing the recorded reserves, management utilizes various data inputs, including analysis that is derived from a review of prior quarter results performed by actuaries employed by Great American. In addition, on an annual basis, actuaries from Great American review the recorded reserves utilizing current period data and provide a Statement of Actuarial Opinion, required annually in accordance with state insurance regulations, on the reserves recorded by our insurance company subsidiaries, NIIC, NIIC-HI and TCC. Since 1990, our first full year of operations, the actuaries have opined each year that the reserves recorded at December 31 are reasonable. The actuarial analysis of NIIC's, NIIC-HI's and TCC's net reserves for the year ending December 31, 2006 reflected point estimates that were within 1% of management's recorded net reserves as of such date. Using this actuarial data along with its other data inputs, management concluded that the recorded reserves appropriately reflect management's best estimates of the liability as of March 31, 2007 and December 31, 2006. The quarterly reviews of unpaid losses and LAE reserves by Great American actuaries are prepared using standard actuarial techniques. These may include (but may not be limited to):

the Case Incurred Development Method;

the Paid Development Method;

the Bornhuetter-Ferguson Method; and

the Incremental Paid LAE to Paid Loss Methods.

Supplementary statistical information is reviewed to determine which methods are most appropriate and whether adjustments are needed to particular methods. This information includes:

open and closed claim counts;

average case reserves and average incurred on open claims;

closure rates and statistics related to closed and open claim percentages;

average closed claim severity;

ultimate claim severity;

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reported loss ratios;

projected ultimate loss ratios; and

loss payment patterns.

Other-Than-Temporary Impairment

Our principal investments are in fixed maturities, all of which are exposed to at least one of three primary sources of investment risk: credit, interest rate and market valuation risks. The financial statement risks are those associated with the recognition of impairments and income, as well as the determination of fair values. Recognition of income ceases when a bond goes into default. We evaluate whether other-than-temporary impairments have occurred on a case-by-case basis. Management considers a wide range of factors about the security issuer and uses its best judgment in evaluating the cause and amount of decline in the estimated fair value of the security and in assessing the prospects for near-term recovery. Inherent in management's evaluation of the security are assumptions and estimates about the operations of the issuer and its future earnings potential. Considerations we use in the impairment evaluation process include, but are not limited to:

the length of time and the extent to which the market value has been below amortized cost;

whether the issuer is experiencing significant financial difficulties;

economic stability of an entire industry sector or subsection;

whether the issuer, series of issuers or industry has a catastrophic type of loss;

the extent to which the unrealized loss is credit-driven or a result of changes in market interest rates;

historical operating, balance sheet and cash flow data;

internally generated financial models and forecasts;

our ability and intent to hold the investment for a period of time sufficient to allow for any anticipated recovery in market value; and

other subjective factors, including concentrations and information obtained from regulators and rating agencies.

When an investment is determined to have other-than-temporary impairment, in most cases we will dispose of the investment. This approach allows us to realize the loss for tax purposes and to reinvest the proceeds in what we view as more productive investments. For those investments we choose to retain, we record an adjustment for impairment. We recorded no impairment adjustments for the three months ended March 31, 2007 and 2006, respectively. Because total unrealized losses are a component of shareholders' equity, any recognition of other-than-temporary impairment losses has no effect on our comprehensive income or consolidated financial position. See Management's Discussions and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations - Investments.

Contractual Obligations/Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

During the first quarter of 2007, our contractual obligations did not change materially from those discussed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2006.

We do not currently have any relationships with unconsolidated entities of financial partnerships, such as entities often referred to as structured finance or special purpose entities, which would have been established for the purpose of facilitating off-balance sheet arrangements or other contractually narrow or limited purposes.

ITEM 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

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As of March 31, 2007, there were no material changes to the information provided in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2006 under Item 7A Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk.

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ITEM 4. Controls and Procedures

Our management is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective disclosure controls and procedures, as defined under Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Our management, with participation of our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, has evaluated the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rule 13a-15) as of March 31, 2007. Based on that evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of March 31, 2007 in alerting them on a timely basis to material information relating to the Company (including our consolidated subsidiaries) required to be included in our periodic filings under the Exchange Act.

There have been no significant changes in our internal controls over financial reporting or in other factors that have occurred during the fiscal quarter ended March 31, 2007 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

PART II OTHER INFORMATION

ITEM 1. Legal Proceedings

There are no material changes from the legal proceedings previously reported in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2006. For more information regarding such legal matters please refer to Item 3 of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2006, Note 15 to the Consolidated Financial Statements included therein and Note 6 to the Consolidated Financial Statements contained in this quarterly report.

ITEM 1A. Risk Factors

There are no material changes to the risk factors previously reported in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2006. For more information regarding such risk factors, please refer to Item 1A of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2006.

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

None.

ITEM 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities

None.

ITEM 4. Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders

None.

ITEM 5. Other Information

None.

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ITEM 6. Exhibits

| Exhibit No. | Exhibit Description |
|--------------------|--|
| 3.1 | Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation (1) |
| 3.2 | Amended and Restated Code of Regulations (1) |
| 31.1 | Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 |
| 31.2 | Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 |
| 32.1 | Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 |
| 32.2 | Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 |

(1) These exhibits are incorporated by reference to our Registration Statement on Form S-1, as amended (Registration No. 333-119270) filed on November 12, 2004.

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SIGNATURES

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

NATIONAL INTERSTATE CORPORATION

Date: May 8, 2007

/s/ Alan R. Spachman
Alan R. Spachman
Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer
(Duly Authorized Officer and Principal Executive Officer)

Date: May 8, 2007

/s/ Julie A. McGraw
Julie A. McGraw
Vice President and Chief Financial Officer
(Duly Authorized Officer and Principal Financial Officer)