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# Washington DC

# ANNUAL AUDITED REPORT FORM X-1-7A-5 -PART III

409 **FACING PAGE** 

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

REPORT FOR THE PERIOD BEGI		_1, 2015 AND E	NDING_Dec	mM/DD/YY
	A. REGISTRANT	IDENTIFICATION		
NAME OF BROKER-DEALER:	Northland S	ecurities, Inc.		OFFICIAL USE ONLY
ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL PLACE	E OF BUSINESS: (Do	not use P.O. Box No.)		FIRM I.D. NO.
45 South 7th Street,	Suite 2000			
	(No	and Street)		
Minneapolis		MN	5	5402
(City)		(State)	(Zi <sub>l</sub>	Code)
NAME AND TELEPHONE NUMB Randy Nitzsche	ER OF PERSON TO C	ONTACT IN REGARD T	O THIS REPO	PRT 2-851-5900
			(/	Area Code – Telephone Number
	B. ACCOUNTANT	DENTIFICATION		
INDEPENDENT PUBLIC ACCOU	NTANT whose opinion	is contained in this Repo	rt*	
Mayer Hoffman McCann	P.C.			
	(Name – if indiv	idual, state last, first, middle no	ame)	
	g 1000	N# 1 1 3 -1	N/NT	55402
222 South 9th Street,	Suite 1000	Minneapolis	MN	33402
(Address)	(City)	Minneapolis	(State)	(Zip Code)
		Minneapolis		
(Address)	(City)	Minneapolis		
(Address)  CHECK ONE:	(City)	Minneapolis		
(Address)  CHECK ONE:  Certified Public Acco	(City) ountant	*		
(Address)  CHECK ONE:  ☑ Certified Public Accountant	(City)  ountant  ent in United States or a	*		

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



## OATH OR AFFIRMATION

I,	Randy Nitzsche			, swear (or affirm) that, to the best of
my l	knowledge and belief the accompanying financial Northland Securities, Inc.	stateme	nt ar	ad supporting schedules pertaining to the firm of
of	December 31	, 20	15	, are true and correct. I further swear (or affirm) that
		cipal of		or director has any proprietary interest in any account
	KRISTINE MARIE GATES Notary Public State of Minnesota My Commission Expires			
l	January 31, 2017		_	Signature
	$\wedge$		(	Chief Executive Officer
*	Notary Public View			Title
	report ** contains (check all applicable boxes):			
	(a) Facing Page.			
	<ul><li>(b) Statement of Financial Condition.</li><li>(c) Statement of Income (Loss).</li></ul>			
	(d) Statement of Changes in Financial Condition.			
	(e) Statement of Changes in Stockholders' Equity		tners	' or Sole Proprietors' Capital.
	(f) Statement of Changes in Liabilities Subordina			
	(g) Computation of Net Capital.			
	(h) Computation for Determination of Reserve Re			
	(i) Information Relating to the Possession or Con			
				Computation of Net Capital Under Rule 15c3-1 and the
	Computation for Determination of the Reserv			ements of Financial Condition with respect to methods of
_	consolidation.	audited	State	ments of I manetal Condition with respect to memous of
X	(1) An Oath or Affirmation.			
	(m) A copy of the SIPC Supplemental Report.			
	(n) A report describing any material inadequacies	found to	exis	t or found to have existed since the date of the previous audit.

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

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO RULE 17a-5 OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT

Years Ended December 31, 2015 and 2014



222 South 9th Street, Suite 1000 Minneapolis, MN 55402 • www.cbiz.com Ph: 612.339.7811 • F: 612.339.9845

#### REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Board of Directors

#### NORTHLAND SECURITIES, INC.

We have audited the accompanying statements of financial condition of Northland Securities, Inc. (the Company) as of December 31, 2015 and 2014. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statement is free of material misstatement. The Company is not required to have, nor were we engaged to perform, an audit of its internal control over financial reporting. Our audit included consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that is appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statement. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Northland Securities, Inc. as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States.

My M. C. P. C. Minneapolis, Minnesota February 25, 2016

# ${\bf NORTHLAND\ SECURITIES,\ INC.}$

# STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION

December 31, 2015 and 2014

		2015	2014		
ASSETS					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	1,669,386	\$	1,174,585	
Clearing deposit		250,000		250,000	
Receivable from clearing organization		3,906,119		8,335,116	
Securities inventory		6,682,714		8,459,404	
Investment securities		507,230		557,535	
Receivables, net of allowance		1,849,140		2,354,232	
Property and equipment, at cost, less		565,021		973,471	
accumulated depreciation  Receivable from affiliates		814,045		861,605	
Income taxes receivable		713,370		10,970	
Deferred income taxes		7 13,370		134,800	
Other assets		1,133,482		754,981	
TOTAL ASSETS	\$	18,090,507	\$	23,866,699	
LIABILITIE	<u>s</u>				
Accounts payable, trade	\$	628,958	\$	263,829	
Capital lease liability		10,903		141,733	
Accrued expenses		3,093,801		7,072,655	
Deferred income taxes		163,000		495,100	
Securities sold, not yet purchased		263,181		2,396	
TOTAL LIABILITIES		4,159,843		7,975,713	
STOCKHOLDER'S	EC	UITY			
CAPITAL CONTRIBUTED					
Common stock, par value \$.01, authorized 1,000,000					
shares, issued and outstanding 102,000 shares		1,020		1,020	
Additional paid-in capital		14,668,008		14,668,008	
TOTAL CAPITAL CONTRIBUTED		14,669,028		14,669,028	
RETAINED EARNINGS (DEFICIT)		(738,364)		1,221,958	
TOTAL STOCKHOLDER'S EQUITY		13,930,664		15,890,986	
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDER'S					
EQUITY		18,090,507	\$	23,866,699	

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

# (1) Nature of business, financial instruments with off-balance sheet risk, and significant accounting policies

Nature of business – Northland Securities, Inc. (the Company) is principally engaged in providing securities brokerage, investment banking, and related financial services to individuals, institutions, corporations and municipalities. The Company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Northland Capital Holdings, Inc. (Holdings). The Company shares its facilities and certain other operating expenses and personnel with other wholly owned subsidiaries of Holdings including Northland Trust Services, Inc. (Trust), Northland Networks, Inc. and subsidiary (Networks) and Northland Directions, Inc. (Directions). These affiliated companies provide various financial services including consulting, commercial lending, placement agent, and paying agent services to institutional investors, businesses and government agencies.

The Company primarily acts as an introducing broker and dealer of securities with customers in various parts of the United States; however, most customers are located in the upper Midwest area. It clears all transactions for its customers on a fully disclosed basis with a clearing broker or dealer, who carries all the customers' accounts and maintains the related records.

#### Financial instruments with off-balance sheet risk:

Off-balance-sheet credit and market risk – In the normal course of business, the Company's customer activities involve the execution, settlement and financing of various customer securities, options and bond transactions. These activities may expose the Company to off-balance-sheet risk in the event the customer is unable to fulfill its contracted obligations. The Company clears all transactions for its customers on a fully disclosed basis with a clearing broker or dealer (clearing firm), who carries all the customer accounts and maintains the related records. Nonetheless, the Company is liable to the clearing firm for the transactions of its customers.

The Company's customer securities activities are transacted on either a cash or margin basis. The Company seeks to control the risks associated with its customer activities by requiring customers to maintain margin collateral in compliance with various regulatory and internal guidelines, requiring the customers to deposit additional collateral, or reduce positions, when necessary.

Concentrations of credit risk — As an introducing broker and dealer, the Company is engaged in various securities trading and brokerage activities servicing a diverse group of corporations, governments, institutional and individual investors. The Company's exposure to credit risk associated with the nonperformance of these customers in fulfilling their contractual obligations pursuant to securities and options transactions can be directly impacted by volatile trading markets which may impair the customer's ability to satisfy their obligations to the Company.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

# (1) <u>Nature of business, financial instruments with off-balance sheet risk, and significant accounting policies</u> (continued)

Cash and cash equivalents – The Company considers cash in demand deposit accounts and temporary investments purchased with an original maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents. The Company maintains its cash and cash equivalents with high credit quality financial institutions. From time to time, the Company's balances in its bank accounts exceed Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation limits. The Company periodically evaluates the risk of exceeding insurance levels and may transfer funds as it deems appropriate. The Company has not experienced any losses with regards to balances in excess of insured limits or as a result of other concentrations of credit risk.

**Receivable from clearing organization** – Clearing firm receivable includes commissions on trades processed by the clearing firm, which are recorded on a trade date basis. These commissions receivable are paid to the Company as requested.

**Receivables** - Accounts receivable for fees, reimbursable expenses, and other services are uncollateralized customer obligations due under normal trade terms which require payment within 30 to 90 days from the invoice date depending on the service provided. Past due accounts receivable with invoice dates over the days allowed for collection are not charged interest.

Payments of accounts receivable from customers are allocated to the specific invoices identified on the customer's remittance advice or, if unspecified, are applied to the earliest unpaid invoices.

The carrying amount of accounts receivable may be reduced by a valuation allowance that reflects management's best estimate of the balances that will not be collected. Management's estimate of valuation allowance, if any, are based on accounts receivable balances that exceed 60 days past due and an assessment of the current creditworthiness for these accounts. Management's allowance for doubtful accounts was zero for both the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014.

Securities inventory – Securities consist of bonds, stock and other investments. The Company classifies its investments as trading securities. Firm trading securities are bought and held principally as inventory for the purpose of resale in the near term. Securities inventory and securities sold not yet purchased are measured at fair value with realized and unrealized gains and losses included in revenues from principal transactions.

Commission income and related expenses for security transactions are recognized on a trade date basis.

**Investment securities** – Investments consist principally of equity securities (or equity equivalents in the case of warrants) in both private and publicly held companies. Equity securities are primarily obtained in addition to a cash fee from investment banking transactions. Equity positions in publicly held companies which are unrestricted (free to exercise in the case of warrants) are accounted for at fair value. Equity positions in publicly held companies which are restricted and not available to be exercised as of the financial statement date are accounted for at fair value and classified as restricted. Equity securities in privately held companies are classified as restricted investments and generally accounted for at cost or the most recent round of financing if less than cost, which management believes represents fair value. Changes in fair value, including realized and unrealized gains and losses are included in other income (expense).

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

# (1) <u>Nature of business, financial instruments with off-balance sheet risk, and significant accounting policies</u> (continued)

**Investment banking** – Underwriting revenues and fees from advisory assignments are recorded when the services have been performed and fees have been earned in accordance with the terms of the engagement.

In the normal course of investment banking activities, the Company may receive securities, stock or warrants of the company, for which services have been performed. The Company recognizes revenue based on the estimated fair value of the securities received. In addition, certain employees are entitled to receive a portion of the securities received as compensation. The subsequent value of both the securities held and accrued compensation are adjusted to fair value and the changes in value are included in the Statement of Operations in the respective captions of other income (expense) and compensation expense. During 2015 and 2014, the Company recognized \$267,000 and \$685,000, respectively, of noncash investment banking fees and \$109,000 and \$338,000, respectively, of noncash compensation where securities were received.

**Property and equipment** – Property and equipment are recorded at cost. Expenditures for renewals and betterments are capitalized. Repairs and maintenance are charged to expense. When items are disposed of, the cost and accumulated depreciation are eliminated from the accounts and any gain or loss is reflected in the results of operations.

**Depreciation and amortization** – Depreciation and amortization are computed on the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives:

_Assets	<u>Useful Lives</u>
Computer software and equipment	3 to 5 years
Furniture and fixtures	3 to 7 years
Leasehold improvements	the lesser of the lease term or 7 years

**Impairment of long-lived assets** – The Company reviews its long-lived assets for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of an asset may not be recoverable. Recoverability of assets to be held and used is measured by a comparison of the carrying amount of an asset to undiscounted future net cash flows expected to be generated by the assets. If these assets are considered to be impaired, the impairment to be recognized is measured by the amount by which the carrying amount of the assets exceeds the fair value of the assets.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

# (1) <u>Nature of business, financial instruments with off-balance sheet risk, and significant accounting policies</u> (continued)

Revenue Recognition – Revenues from customer transactions are reported on a trade date basis.

Securities inventories are classified as trading securities. Securities inventory and securities sold not yet purchased are measured at fair value with realized and unrealized gains and losses included in revenues from principal transactions.

Investment banking revenues include management fees earned from securities offerings in which the company acts as an underwriter or agent and fees earned from providing financial advisory services. Underwriting revenues, fees from advisory services and related expenses are recorded when the services have been provided. The Company classifies securities, stock or warrants received for services as investment securities. Revenues and related expenses are recognized based on the estimated fair value of the securities, stock or warrants when received and subsequently adjusted to fair value with the changes in value included in other income (expense).

Other advisory and administrative fees are recorded as earned, with billed but not paid amounts included in receivables.

**Income taxes** – Deferred taxes are provided on a liability method whereby deferred tax assets are recognized for deductible temporary differences and operating loss carry forwards and deferred tax liabilities are recognized for taxable temporary differences. Temporary differences are the differences between the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and their tax bases. Deferred tax assets are reduced by a valuation allowance when, in the opinion of management, it is more likely than not that some portion or all of the deferred tax assets will not be realized. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are adjusted for the effects of changes in tax laws and rates on the date of enactment. Deferred taxes result principally from the difference in recognition of investment income and depreciation and amortization for financial statement and tax reporting purposes.

The Company recognizes a liability for uncertain tax matters using a "more likely than not" threshold. Uncertain tax positions are identified and evaluated based on the likelihood that the position will be sustained after scrutiny by the applicable taxing authority.

When tax positions that do not meet the "more likely than not" threshold, a cumulative probability assessment is performed in the aggregate to determine the estimated tax liability for all uncertain tax positions. The Company's policy is to recognize interest and penalties related to uncertain tax positions in the income tax provision. It is reasonably possible that the amount of unrecognized tax benefits will increase during the next 12 months; however any potential change is not expected to have a material effect on the results of operations or financial position of the Company. The Company does not believe it has any tax positions at December 31, 2015 that would not meet the "more likely than not" threshold for uncertain tax purposes.

**Use of estimates** – The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

# (1) <u>Nature of business, financial instruments with off-balance sheet risk, and significant accounting policies</u> (continued)

Recently issued pronouncements – In May 2014, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") 2014-9, "Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606)" ("ASU 2014-9"). ASU 2014-9 requires that an entity recognizes revenue to depict the transfer of promised goods or services to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration to which the company expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. ASU 2014-09 is effective January 1, 2018, with early adoption prohibited. The Company is in the process of assessing the impact of the adoption of ASU 2014-09 on its financial statements but it is not expected to have a significant impact.

Other pronouncements issued by the FASB or other authoritative accounting standards groups with future effective dates are either not applicable or are not expected to be significant to the Company.

**Commitments and contingencies** – In the normal course of business, the Company is involved in various legal proceedings. In the opinion of management, any liability resulting from such proceedings would not have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial position, results of operations, or cash flows.

The Company also enters into underwriting commitments in the normal course of business. Transactions relating to any such underwriting commitments, that were open at December 31, 2015 and have subsequently settled, had no material effect on the statement of financial condition.

**Subsequent events policy** – Subsequent events have been evaluated through February 25, 2016, which is the date the financial statements were issued.

#### (2) Receivable from clearing organization

Amounts receivable from the Company's clearing firm consist of the following:

	 December 31,					
	2015		2014			
Clearing deposits	\$ 250,000	\$	250,000			
Commissions receivable	3,906,000_		8,335,000_			
	\$ 4,156,000	\$	8,585,000			

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## (3) Securities inventory and securities sold, not yet purchased

The following is a summary of the fair value of major categories of securities owned and securities sold, not yet purchased as of December 31, 2015 and 2014.

December 31, 2015		Securities Inventory	Securities Sold, Not Yet Purchased		
Corporate equity securities Municipal bonds Corporate debt securities Certificates of deposit Government securities Total	\$ \$	165,000 5,623,000 311,000 25,000 559,000 6,683,000	\$	14,000 - 249,000 263,000	
December 31, 2014	Securities Inventory		Securities Sold, Not Yet Purchased		

# (4) <u>Investment securities</u>

Municipal bonds

Total

Corporate equity securities

Corporate debt securities

Cost, fair value and aggregate unrealized gains and losses for investment securities at December 31, 2015 and 2014 are summarized below:

\$

871,000

222,000

8,459,000

2,000

2,000

7,366,000

					Unre	alize	ed
F	air Value		Cost		Gains		Losses
\$	434,000	\$	805,000	\$	-	\$	371,000
	17,000		41,000		-		24,000
	56,000		56,000_				-
\$	507,000	\$	902,000	\$	-	\$	395,000
\$	178,000	\$	1,352,000	\$	-	\$	1,174,000
	308,000		363,000		-		55,000
	72,000		66,000		6,000		
\$	558,000	\$	1,781,000	\$	6,000	\$	1,229,000
	\$ \$	17,000 56,000 \$ 507,000 \$ 178,000 308,000 72,000	\$ 434,000 \$ 17,000 \$ 56,000 \$ \$ 507,000 \$ \$ \$ 308,000 72,000	\$ 434,000 \$ 805,000 17,000 41,000 56,000 56,000 \$ 507,000 \$ 902,000 \$ 178,000 \$ 1,352,000 308,000 363,000 72,000 66,000	\$ 434,000 \$ 805,000 \$ 17,000 41,000 56,000 \$ 902,000 \$ \$ 1,352,000 \$ 308,000 72,000 66,000	Fair Value       Cost       Gains         \$ 434,000       \$ 805,000       \$ -         17,000       41,000       -         56,000       56,000       -         \$ 507,000       \$ 902,000       \$ -         \$ 178,000       \$ 1,352,000       \$ -         308,000       363,000       -         72,000       66,000       6,000	\$ 434,000 \$ 805,000 \$ - \$ 17,000 41,000 - 56,000 \$ - \$ \$ 507,000 \$ 902,000 \$ - \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ 308,000 363,000 - 72,000 66,000 6,000

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## (5) Property and equipment

The following is a summary of property and equipment:

	December 31,				
		2015		2014	
Cost of owned property and equipment:					
Computer software and equipment	\$	1,280,000	\$	1,203,000	
Furniture and fixtures		770,000		760,000	
Leasehold improvements		277,000		267,000	
		2,327,000		2,230,000	
Less accumulated depreciation		1,780,000		1,435,000	
Net owned property and equipment		547,000		795,000	
Cost of property and equipment under capital lease:					
Computer software and equipment		202,000		202,000	
Leasehold improvements		894,000		894,000	
		1,096,000		1,096,000	
Less accumulated depreciation		1,078,000		918,000	
Net property and equipment under capital lease		18,000		178,000	
Total property and equipment	\$	565,000	\$	973,000	

The aggregate depreciation and amortization expense was \$505,000 and \$573,000 for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. Depreciation of assets under capital lease arrangements is included with depreciation on owned assets.

#### (6) Capital lease

The Company had capital lease obligations as of December 31, 2015 and 2014 for the purchase of property and equipment.

·	December 31,				
		2015		2014	
Capital lease (secured by related assets) expiring on January 31, 2016, payable in aggregate monthly installments of \$10,900, including interest of 0%.	\$	11,000	\$	142,000	
Total capital leases	\$	11,000	\$	142,000	

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

# (6) <u>Capital lease</u> (continued)

Future minimum lease payments under the capital leases are as follows:

Years ending December 31,		Amounts		
2016	\$	11,000		
Total minimum lease payments		11,000		
Less amount representing interest				
Present value of net minimum lease payments	\$	11,000		

## (7) Fair value measurements

Fair value measurement definition and hierarchy – ASC Topic 820 establishes a hierarchal disclosure framework, which prioritizes and ranks the level of market price observability used in measuring assets and liabilities at fair value. Market price observability is affected by a number of factors, including the type of investment, the characteristics specific to the investment and the state of the marketplace, including the existence and transparency of transactions between market participants. Assets and liabilities with readily available quoted prices from an orderly market generally will have a higher degree of market price observability and require a lesser degree of judgment used in measuring fair value.

ASC Topic 820 establishes a three-level valuation hierarchy for inputs used in measuring fair value. The guidance requires the most observable inputs be used when available. Observable inputs are inputs that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability developed based on market data obtained from sources independent of the Company. Unobservable inputs reflect the Company's perspective on the assumptions market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability developed based on the best information available in the circumstances.

Fair value is defined as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability (i.e., the "exit price") in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The hierarchy consists of three levels as follows:

<u>Level 1</u> – quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities the Company has the ability to access at the measurement date (most observable). Valuation adjustments and block discounts are not applied to Level 1 measurements.

<u>Level 2</u> – observable inputs other than quoted prices for identical assets included within Level 1 (i.e. price quotes for similar assets).

<u>Level 3</u> – unobservable inputs for the asset or liability to be used in pricing models (i.e. Black-Scholes) or matrix pricing.

The availability of observable inputs can vary by types of assets and liabilities and is affected by a wide variety of factors, including, for example, whether the investment is established in the marketplace, the liquidity of markets and other characteristics particular to the transaction. To the extent that valuation is based on models or inputs that are less observable or unobservable in the market, the determination of fair value requires more judgment. Accordingly, the degree of judgment exercised by management in determining fair value is greatest for assets and liabilities categorized in Level 3.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## (7) <u>Fair value measurements</u> (continued)

A financial instrument's categorization within the valuation hierarchy is based on the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurement.

Fair values of assets and liabilities measured on a recurring basis at December 31, 2015 and 2014 are as follows:

December 31, 2015		Fair Value	(	Level 1)		(Level 2)	(I	Level 3)
Securities owned:								
Corporate equity securities	\$	165,000	\$	165,000	\$	_	\$	-
Municipal bonds		5,623,000		<b>-</b> .		5,623,000		-
Corporate debt securities		311,000		-		311,000		-
Certificates of deposit		25,000		-		25,000		-
Government securities		559,000		-		559,000	•	-
Investment securities		507,000		76,000				431,000
Total assets	\$	7,190,000	\$	241,000	\$	6,518,000	\$	431,000
Securities sold, not yet purchased	:							
Corporate debt securities	\$	14,000	\$	-	\$	14,000	\$	-
Government securities		249,000		-		249,000		-
Total liabilities	\$	263,000	\$	-	\$	263,000	\$	-
December 31, 2014				=				
Securities owned:								
Corporate equity securities	\$	871,000	\$	871,000	\$	-	\$	-
Municipal bonds		7,366,000		-		7,366,000		-
Corporate debt securities		222,000		-		222,000		-
Investment securities		558,000		38,000				520,000
Total assets	\$	9,017,000	\$	909,000	\$	7,588,000	\$	520,000
Securities sold, not yet purchased	:							
Corporate equity securities	\$	2,000	\$	<u>-</u>	\$	2,000	\$	-
Total liabilities	\$	2,000	\$	_	<u>\$</u>	2,000	\$	-

Following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for assets measured at fair value. There have been no changes in the methodologies used at December 31, 2015 from those used in 2014.

<u>Corporate equity securities</u> – valued at the closing price reported in the active market the individual security is traded.

<u>Government securities</u> – valued at the closing price reported in the market the individual security is traded.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

# (7) <u>Fair value measurements</u> (continued)

<u>Municipal bonds, corporate debt securities and certificates of deposit</u> – valued at the closing price reported in the market the individual or similar bond/security is traded. When quoted prices are not available for identical or similar bonds/securities, it is valued using a discounted cash flows approach that maximizes observable inputs, such as current yields of similar investments, but includes adjustments for certain risks that may not be observable, such as credit or liquidity risks.

<u>Investment Securities</u> – valued at either the closing price reported in the active market the individual security is traded or using Black-Scholes pricing model, which includes unobservable inputs as discussed below.

The carrying value of the Company's cash, cash equivalents, accounts receivable, account payable and accrued expenses approximate fair value because of the short-term maturity of these instruments.

The following table presents a reconciliation of assets and liabilities measured on a recurring basis, using significant unobservable inputs. There were realized gains of \$10,000 and \$36,000 for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

# Fair Value Measurements Using Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)

	December 31,				
		2015		2014	
Beginning Balance	\$	520,000	\$	471,000	
Total gains or losses (unrealized/realized)					
Included in earnings		154,000	(517,000		
Acquired		501,000		813,000	
Settlements		(609,000)		(190,000)	
Transfers in and/or out of Level 3		(135,000)		(57,000)	
Ending balance	\$	431,000	\$	520,000	
Change in unrealized gains or losses for the period included in earnings for assets held					
at the end of reporting date	<u>\$</u>	144,000	<u>\$</u>	(553,000)	

For the year ended December 31, 2015, transfers from level 3 into level 1 included \$135,000 of publicly traded stock and warrants based on expiration of lock-up restrictions. All transfers are assumed to occur at the beginning of the reporting period.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## (7) <u>Fair value measurements</u> (continued)

The assets and liabilities measured using unobservable inputs are predominantly warrants of public companies not traded on the open market received as additional revenue for investment banking services performed. The Company uses the Black-Scholes Option Pricing Model for valuation purposes, which uses a risk-free rate of return, volatility of the underlying security and the expected terms of the warrants as significant inputs, among other factors. An additional discount is taken on restricted investment securities until the restriction period expires. At December 31, 2015 the range of estimated warrant terms ranged from 0.59 to 4.70 years, risk free rates ranged from 0.65% to 1.76% and the volatility rate ranged from 50% to 275%. At December 31, 2014 the estimated ranges for warrant terms, risk free rate and volatility was 0.50 to 8.75 years, .25% to 2.12% and 1% to 203%, respectively. Weighted averages are shown below.

_	December 31,		
_	2015	2014	
Estimated term	3.5	4.3	
Risk-free interest rate	1.6	1.4	
Volatility rate	120.9	107.1	

#### (8) Income tax expense

The components of the provision for federal and state income taxes are as follows:

	Years Ended December 31,			ember 31,
		2015		2014
Current income taxes				
Federal income taxes	\$	(542,000)	\$	903,000
State and local income taxes		(157,000)		375,000
Total current income tax expense		(699,000)		1,278,000
Deferred income taxes				
Deferred tax asset		135,000		(6,000)
Deferred tax liability		(332,000)		(70,000)
Total deferred income tax (benefit) expense		(197,000)		(76,000)
Total income tax (benefit) expense	\$	(896,000)	\$	1,202,000
Deferred tax asset	\$	-	\$	135,000
Deferred tax liability		(163,000)		(495,000)
Net deferred taxes	\$	(163,000)	\$	(360,000)

The Company files a consolidated tax return with Holdings, Networks, Directions and Trust. The tax expense or benefit is allocated to each of the companies based on each company's proportionate share of the total income of the group. Any taxes currently payable would be due to Holdings. The Company reimbursed Holdings zero and \$1,420,000 during the years ending December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively, for its share of taxes payable.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## (8) <u>Income tax expense</u> (continued)

Unrecognized tax benefits are the differences between a tax position taken, or expected to be taken in a tax return, and the benefit recognized for accounting purposes pursuant to accounting quidance.

Holdings files tax returns, including returns for its subsidiaries, in the United States federal jurisdiction and in various state jurisdictions. In addition, the Company files separate state tax returns in those jurisdictions where it is required to do so. Uncertain tax positions are related to tax years that remain subject to examination. The Company's federal and state tax returns are generally open for examination for three years after the date of filing, including extensions.

The Company has recognized a \$542,000 federal tax refund receivable resulting from the current year operating loss which will be carried back to recover taxes paid in prior years.

#### (9) Commitments

The Company conducts its operations in leased facilities. The leases have varying terms expiring through May 2021. The lease agreements provide for monthly rental payments ranging between \$500 and \$44,000, plus a proportionate share of operating expenses. Rent expensed under these arrangements was \$1,544,000 and \$1,352,000 for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

The Company is obligated under operating leases for office and computer equipment. The leases have varying terms expiring through April 2017. Aggregate payments under these leases amount to \$8,000 per month. Rent expensed under these arrangements was \$96,000 and \$95,000 for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

Future minimum lease payments which must be made under non-cancellable lease agreements are:

Years Ending December 31,	_	Amounts
2016	\$	1,316,000
2017		958,000
2018		247,000
2019		149,000
2020 and thereafter		211,000
Total minimum lease payments	\$	2,881,000

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### (10) Customer transactions

The Company does not hold customer funds or securities. Accordingly, the Company is exempt from the requirement to maintain a "Special Reserve Account for the Exclusive Benefit of Customers" under provisions of SEC Rule 15c3-3 based on Paragraph K(2)(ii) of that rule.

#### (11) Related party transaction

Networks, Trust and Directions are affiliates of the Company through common ownership by Holdings. The Company received management fees totaling \$36,000 and \$60,000 from Networks for the years ending December 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. In addition, the Company handles the payment of all salaries for the related companies. The affiliates reimburse the Company for the direct compensation and other direct costs as incurred.

The Company has the following receivables from its affiliates at year end:

	December 31,			
·		2015		2014
Networks	\$	54,000	\$	346,000
Trust		10,000		6,000
Holdings		750,000		510,000
·	\$	814,000	\$	862,000

The Company makes advances and loans to various employees during the year. The total amount due from employees at December 31, 2015 and 2014 was \$1,234,000 and \$1,061,000 respectively and is included in the statement of financial position under the caption "Receivables". Employee advances are reported net of management allowance for amounts estimated as either not collectible or forgivable based on the terms of the advance.

The Company's transactions with related parties are conducted on terms equivalent to those prevailing in an arm's-length transaction.

#### (12) Net capital requirements

The Company is subject to the Securities and Exchange Commission's uniform net capital rule (Rule 15c 3-1), which requires the maintenance of a minimum amount of net capital and requires that the ratio of aggregate indebtedness to net capital, both as defined, shall not exceed 15-to-1. The rule also provides that equity capital may not be withdrawn or cash dividends paid if the resulting net capital ratio would exceed 10 to 1. At December 31, 2015, the Company had net capital and net capital requirements of \$7,965,000 and \$462,000, respectively. The Company's net capital ratio was 0.49 to 1.

#### (13) Employee benefit plan

The Company has a contributory 401(k) plan (the Plan) that covers substantially all employees. Employees are eligible to participate in the Plan the first of the month following thirty days of employment. The Company has not provided a matching contribution through 2015.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

# (14) Cash flow disclosures

The following is a summary of supplemental cash flow information:

	Years Ended December 31			ember 31,	
		2015		2014	
Cash received: interest	\$	216,000	<u>\$</u>	298,000	
Cash received: taxes	<u>\$</u>	8,000	\$	3,000	
Cash paid: interest	\$	31,000	\$	26,000	
Cash paid: taxes	\$	10,000	\$	10,000	
Cash paid: related party for taxes	\$	_	\$	1,420,000	

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

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

OMB APPROVAL
OMB Number: 3235-0123
Expires: March 31, 2016
Estimated average burden

SEC FILE NUMBER

**8**- 48994

hours per response.....12.00

#### **FACING PAGE**

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

REPORT FOR THE PERIOD BEGINNING			NDING_De	cember 31, 2015
	. N	IM/DD/YY		MM/DD/YY
A. REGI	STRANT	DENTIFICATION		
NAME OF BROKER-DEALER: Northla	nd Secu	urities, Inc.		OFFICIAL USE ONLY
ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSI	NESS: (Do	not use P.O. Box No.)		FIRM I.D. NO.
45 South 7th Street, Suite 2	000			00-
	(N	o. and Street)		SECURITIES AND TO
Minneapolis		MN	5	SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMIS
(City)		(State)	(Z	ip Code)
NAME AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF PER Randy Nitzsche	RSON TO C	CONTACT IN REGARD T	61	2-851-5900° <sup>(/</sup> / <b>)</b>
			D <sub>(</sub>	NSTONE TRADING & MARKETS
B. ACCO	UNTAN	T IDENTIFICATION		MARKETO
INDEPENDENT PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT wh Mayer Hoffman McCann P.C.	iose opinio	n is contained in this Repo		
	Name – if indi	vidual, state last, first, middle n	ame)	<del></del>
222 South 9th Street, Suite	1000	Minneapolis	MN	55402
(Address)	(City)		(State)	(Zip Code)
CHECK ONE:				
Certified Public Accountant				
☐ Public Accountant				
☐ Accountant not resident in Unite	d States or	any of its possessions.		
	OR OFFI	CIAL USE ONLY		

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

## OATH OR AFFIRMATION

I, Randy Nitzsche	, swear (or affirm) that, to the best of
my knowledge and belief the accompanying fin Northland Securities, Inc	ancial statement and supporting schedules pertaining to the firm of , as
of December 31	, 20 15 , are true and correct. I further swear (or affirm) that
neither the company nor any partner, proprieto	r, principal officer or director has any proprietary interest in any account
classified solely as that of a customer, except as	s follows:
	·
KRISTINE MARIE GATES Notary Public State of Minnesota	mody fitzek
My Commission Expires January 31, 2017	Signatur <b>€</b>
	Chief Executive Officer
Notary Public	Title
This report ** contains (check all applicable bo	oxes):
(a) Facing Page.	
(b) Statement of Financial Condition.	
<ul><li>□ (c) Statement of Income (Loss).</li><li>□ (d) Statement of Changes in Financial Cor</li></ul>	adition
	' Equity or Partners' or Sole Proprietors' Capital.
(f) Statement of Changes in Liabilities Su	
(r) Statement of Shanges in Educations of Quantum (g) Computation of Net Capital.	out an account of order to the contract of the
	erve Requirements Pursuant to Rule 15c3-3.
	or Control Requirements Under Rule 15c3-3.
	e explanation of the Computation of Net Capital Under Rule 15c3-1 and the
	Reserve Requirements Under Exhibit A of Rule 15c3-3.
	and unaudited Statements of Financial Condition with respect to methods of
consolidation.	
☑ (1) An Oath or Affirmation.	
(m) A copy of the SIPC Supplemental Rep	
(n) A report describing any material inadea	uacies found to exist or found to have existed since the date of the previous audit

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





222 South Ninth Street, Suite 1000 E Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402 Main: 612.339.7811 E Fax: 612.339.9845 E www.mhmcpa.com

# INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES RELATED TO AN ENTITY'S SIPC ASSESSMENT RECONCILIATION

To the Board of Directors of Northland Securities, Inc. 45 South 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 200 Minneapolis, MN 55402

In accordance with Rule 17a-5(e)(4) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, we have performed the procedures enumerated below with respect to the accompanying Schedule of Assessment and Payments Reconciliation (Form SIPC-7) to the Securities Investor Protection Corporation (SIPC) for the year ended December 31, 2015, which were agreed to by Northland Securities, Inc. and the Securities and Exchange Commission, Financial Industry Regulatory Authority Inc., and SIPC solely to assist you and the other specified parties in evaluating Northland Securities, Inc.'s compliance with the applicable instructions of the General Assessment Reconciliation (Form SIPC-7). Northland Securities Inc.'s management is responsible for the Northland Securities Inc. compliance with those requirements. This agreed-upon procedures engagement was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. The sufficiency of these procedures is solely the responsibility of those parties specified in this report. Consequently, we make no representation regarding the sufficiency of the procedures described below either for the purpose for which this report has been requested or for any purpose. The procedures we performed and our findings are as follows:

- 1. Compared the listed assessment payments in Form SIPC-7 with respective cash disbursement records entries noting no differences;
- 2. Compared the amounts reported on the audited Form X-17A-5 for the year ended December 31, 2015, with the amounts reported in Form SIPC-7 for the year ended December 31, 2015 noting no differences;
- 3. Compared any adjustments reported in Form SIPC-7 and in the related schedules and working papers supporting the adjustments noting no differences; and
- Proved the arithmetical accuracy of the calculations reflected in Form SIPC-7 and in the related schedules and working papers supporting the adjustments noting no differences.

We were not engaged to, and did not conduct an examination, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion on compliance. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the specified parties listed above and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Minneapolis, MN

February 25, 2016

Mayor Hoffen M. Cam P.C.

## SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS TO THE SECURITIES INVESTOR PROTECTION CORPORATION

The Period January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015

## **Schedule of Assessment Payments**

General assessment			\$	89,577
Less payments made:				
	Date Paid	Amount		
	8/4/2015	\$ 49,695		(49,695)
	2/25/2016	\$ 39,882		(39,882)
Interest on late payment(s)	1			_
Total assessment balance a	nd interest due		\$	-

## SCHEDULE OF SECURITIES INVESTOR PROTECTION CORPORATION ASSESSMENTS

The Period January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015

# **Schedule of SIPC Assessment Revenues**

Revenues	\$	39,034,322
Additions		116,467
Deductions		(3,320,138)
SIPC net operating revenues	\$	35,830,651
General assessment @ .0025	<u>\$</u>	89,577

(33-REV 7/10)

# SECURITIES INVESTOR PROTECTION CORPORATION P.O. Box 92185 Washington, D.C. 20090-2185 202-371-8300

# General Assessment Reconciliation

For the l'scal year ended 12/31/2015 (Read carefully the instructions in your Working Copy before completing this Form)

#### TO BE FILED BY ALL SIPC MEMBERS WITH FISCAL YEAR ENDINGS

	lame of Member, address, Designated Examining Aboses of the audit requirement of SEC Rule 17a-5:		ration no. and month in which	fiscal year ends for
F 0. F	18*18******2404*****************************		Note: If any of the info mailing label-requires ( any corrections to form indicate on the form fil	correction, please e-mail i@sipc.org and so
	45 S 7TH ST 20TH FL MINNEAPOLIS MN 55402-1614		Name and telephone n contact respecting this	
		_	Tim Duffy	612851491
2. A	A. General Assessment (item 2e from page 2)		\$	89,577
Ε	B. Less payment made with SIPC-6 filed (exclude in 8 – 4 - 2015	nterest)	(	49,695
,	Date Paid		t .	<del></del> -
	C. Less prior overpayment applied  D. Assessment balance due or (overpayment)		acontecnmental and the second activities activities and the second activities and the second activities activities and the second activities activities and the second activities activities activities activities and the second activities and the second activities activi	39 887
	E. Interest computed on late payment (see instruc	ction E) for days at	20% per annum	-
	F. Total assessment balance and interest due (or			39,882
	G. PAID WITH THIS FORM: Check enclosed, payable to SIPC Total (must be same as F above)	\$	39,882	<b>,</b>
ŀ	H. Overpayment carried forward	\$(	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
The pers	subsidiaries (S) and predecessors (P) included in the SIPC member submitting this form and the son by whom it is executed represent thereby tall information contained herein is true, correct complete.	Nor th/q.	Nd Securities, In	
Date	ed the 25 <sup>th</sup> day of Fe Grugry . 20 16 .	Chies	FINANCIAL OFFICE	er .
	s form and the assessment payment is due 60 c a period of not less than 6 years, the latest 2 y			king Copy of this form
SIPC REVIEWER	Dates:	Reviewed		
Ž	Calculations	Documentation		Forward Copy
ٽ ۾	Exceptions:	•		
S	Disposition of exceptions:			

# DETERMINATION OF "SIPC NET OPERATING REVENUES" AND GENERAL ASSESSMENT

Amounts for the fiscal period beginning 1/1/2015 and ending 12/31/2015

Item No.		Eliminate cents \$ 39,034,322
2a. Total revenue (FOCUS Line 12/Part IIA Line 9. Cede 4030)		31,037,366
2b. Additions: (1) Total revenues from the securities business of subsidiaries (excepted predecessors not included above.	ept foreign subsidiaries) and	
(2) Net loss from principal transactions in securities in trading acco	unts.	
(3) Net loss from principal transactions in commodities in trading ac	counts.	
(4) Interest and dividend expense deducted in determining item 2a.		management with the second
(5) Net loss from management of or participation in the underwriting	or distribution of securities.	
(6) Expenses other than advertising, printing, registration fees and profit from management of or participation in underwriting or dis	legal leas deducted in determining net Unibution of securities.	
(7) Net loss from securities in investment accounts.		116, 467
Total additions		116,467
Deductions:     (1) Revenues from the distribution of shares of a registered open en investment trust, from the sale of variable annuities, from the badvisory services rendered to registered investment companies accounts, and from transactions in security futures products.	usiness of insurance, from investment	2,154,348
(2) Revenues from commodity transactions.		
(3) Commissions, floor brokerage and clearance paid to other SIPC securities transactions.	members in connection with	880,887
(4) Reimbursements for postage in connection with proxy solicitation	n,	
(5) Net gain from securities in Investment accounts.		217,777
(6) 100% of commissions and markups earned from transactions in (ii) Treasury bills, bankers acceptances or commercial paper th from issuance date.	(i) certificates of deposit and at mature nine months or less	
(7) Direct expenses of printing advertising and legal fees incurred in related to the securities business (revenue defined by Section)	n connection with other revenue 18(9)(L) of the Act).	
(8) Other revenue not related either directly or indirectly to the sec (See Instruction C):	urities business.	
ASSILIATE MINGGEMENT	1 sees	36,000
(Deductions in excess of \$100,000 require documentation)		
(9) (i) Total interest and dividend expense (FOCUS Line 22/PART I Code 4075 plus line 2b(4) above) but not in excess of total interest and dividend income.	IA Line 13	
(ii) 40% of margin interest earned on customers securities accounts (40% of FOCUS line 5, Code 3960).	\$6681	
Enter the greater of line (i) or (ii)		31,126
Total deductions		3,320  38
2d. SIPC Net Operating Revenues		§ 35,830,65 <u> </u>
2e. General Assessment @ .0025		\$ 89,577
		(to page 1, line 2.Å')



February 25, 2016

Securities and Exchange Commission Registrations Branch Mail Stop 8031 100 F Street, NE Washington, DC 20549 SEC
Mail Processing
Section
FEB 262016
Washington DC
409

RE: Annual Audit Report for Northland Securities, Inc. (CRD # 40258)

To Whom it May Concern:

Pursuant to Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) Rule 17a-5 for broker dealers registered under Section 15 of the Act of 1934, please find enclosed two copies of a long and short version of the 2015 audited financial statements for Northland Securities, Inc. The two long versions are separately bound and marked for confidential purposes.

In addition, enclosed is a copy of the SIPC Supplemental Report including the form SIPC-7T for 2015.

If you have any questions or require further information please contact the undersigned at (612) 851-4915.

Sincerely,

Timothy S. Duffy Chief Financial Officer

Timody & Ouff

Enclosures.