

American Capital Agency Corp
Form 10-Q
November 08, 2010
[Table of Contents](#)

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

FORM 10-Q

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

For the quarterly period ended September 30, 2010

OR

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

Commission file number 001-34057

AMERICAN CAPITAL AGENCY CORP.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Edgar Filing: American Capital Agency Corp - Form 10-Q

Delaware
(State or Other Jurisdiction of
Incorporation or Organization)

26-1701984
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

2 Bethesda Metro Center, 14th Floor

Bethesda, Maryland 20814

(Address of principal executive offices)

(301) 968-9300

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports 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 earlier period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes ☒ No ☐

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes ☐ No ☐

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer or a smaller reporting company. See definition of large accelerated filer, accelerated filer and smaller reporting company in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer ☐
Non-accelerated filer ☐ (Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

Accelerated filer ☒
Smaller Reporting Company ☐

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

The number of shares of the issuer's common stock, \$0.01 par value, outstanding as of October 31, 2010 was 52,191,805.

Table of Contents

AMERICAN CAPITAL AGENCY CORP.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Item 1.	<u>Financial Statements</u>	2
Item 2.	<u>Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u>	27
Item 3.	<u>Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk</u>	44
Item 4.	<u>Controls and Procedures</u>	46

PART II. OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1.	<u>Legal Proceedings</u>	47
Item 1A.	<u>Risk Factors</u>	47
Item 2.	<u>Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds</u>	51
Item 3.	<u>Defaults Upon Senior Securities</u>	51
Item 4.	<u>Removed and Reserved</u>	51
Item 5.	<u>Other Information</u>	51
Item 6.	<u>Exhibits</u>	52
	<u>Signatures</u>	53

Table of Contents**ITEM 1. Financial Statements****AMERICAN CAPITAL AGENCY CORP.****CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS****(in thousands, except per share data)**

	September 30, 2010 (Unaudited)	December 31, 2009
Assets:		
Agency securities, at fair value (including pledged assets of \$8,321,498 and \$4,136,596, respectively)	\$ 9,736,463	\$ 4,300,115
Cash and cash equivalents	115,266	202,803
Restricted cash	62,462	19,628
Interest receivable	42,034	22,872
Derivative assets, at fair value	11,344	11,960
Receivable for agency securities sold	350,056	47,076
Principal payments receivable	40,129	20,473
Other assets	1,052	757
 Total assets	 \$ 10,358,806	 \$ 4,625,684
Liabilities:		
Repurchase agreements	\$ 7,969,399	\$ 3,841,834
Other debt	80,822	
Payable for agency securities purchased	1,223,064	180,345
Derivative liabilities, at fair value	113,900	17,798
Dividend payable	54,554	34,050
Accounts payable and other accrued liabilities	4,022	4,835
 Total liabilities	 9,445,761	 4,078,862
Stockholders' equity:		
Preferred stock, \$0.01 par value; 10,000 shares authorized, 0 shares issued and outstanding, respectively		
Common stock, \$0.01 par value; 150,000 shares authorized, 38,967 and 24,322 shares issued and outstanding, respectively	390	243
Additional paid-in capital	880,571	507,465
Retained earnings	30,835	19,940
Accumulated other comprehensive income	1,249	19,174
 Total stockholders' equity	 913,045	 546,822
 Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	 \$ 10,358,806	 \$ 4,625,684

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents

AMERICAN CAPITAL AGENCY CORP.
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS
AND COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

(unaudited)

(in thousands, except per share data)

	For the three months ended September 30,		For the nine months ended September 30,	
	2010	2009	2010	2009
Interest income:				
Interest income	\$ 62,600	\$ 32,793	\$ 151,986	\$ 86,834
Interest expense	18,531	11,551	51,389	29,265
Net interest income	44,069	21,242	100,597	57,569
Other income, net:				
Gain from sale of agency securities, net	24,565	16,070	81,558	30,418
Loss on derivative instruments and trading securities, net	(3,733)	(3,435)	(19,680)	(2,567)
Total other income, net	20,832	12,635	61,878	27,851
Expenses:				
Management fees	2,697	1,166	6,795	3,008
General and administrative expenses	1,926	1,474	5,394	4,498
Total expenses	4,623	2,640	12,189	7,506
Income before tax	60,278	31,237	150,286	77,914
Excise tax	250		250	
Net income	\$ 60,028	\$ 31,237	\$ 150,036	\$ 77,914
Net income per common share basic and diluted	\$ 1.69	\$ 1.82	\$ 4.97	\$ 4.95
Weighted average number of common shares outstanding basic and diluted	35,495	17,191	30,161	15,741
Dividends declared per common share	\$ 1.40	\$ 1.40	\$ 4.20	\$ 3.75
Comprehensive income:				
Net income	\$ 60,028	\$ 31,237	\$ 150,036	\$ 77,914

Edgar Filing: American Capital Agency Corp - Form 10-Q

Other comprehensive (loss) income:				
Unrealized gain on available-for-sale securities, net	11,660	25,802	73,077	58,633
Unrealized (loss) gain on derivative instruments, net	(38,620)	(6,960)	(91,002)	2,070
Other comprehensive (loss) income	(26,960)	18,842	(17,925)	60,703
Comprehensive income	\$ 33,068	\$ 50,079	\$ 132,111	\$ 138,617

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents**AMERICAN CAPITAL AGENCY CORP.****CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY**

(in thousands)

	Preferred Stock		Common Stock		Additional	Retained	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)	Total
	Shares	Amount	Shares	Amount	Paid-in Capital	Earnings		
Balance, December 31, 2009		\$	24,322	\$ 243	\$ 507,465	\$ 19,940	\$ 19,174	\$ 546,822
Net income						53,150		53,150
Other comprehensive income (loss):								
Unrealized gain on available-for-sale securities, net							1,933	1,933
Unrealized loss on derivative instruments, net							(13,476)	(13,476)
Issuance of common stock			2,434	24	62,114			62,138
Issuance of restricted common stock			4	1				1
Stock-based compensation					16			16
Common dividends declared						(37,465)		(37,465)
Balance, March 31, 2010 (Unaudited)			26,760	268	569,595	35,625	7,631	613,119
Net income						36,858		36,858
Other comprehensive income (loss):								
Unrealized gain on available-for-sale securities, net							59,484	59,484
Unrealized loss on derivative instruments, net							(38,906)	(38,906)
Issuance of common stock			6,900	69	168,904			168,973
Stock-based compensation					26			26
Common dividends declared						(47,124)		(47,124)
Balance, June 30, 2010 (Unaudited)			33,660	337	738,525	25,359	28,209	792,430
Net income						60,028		60,028
Other comprehensive income (loss):								
Unrealized gain on available-for-sale securities, net							11,660	11,660
Unrealized loss on derivative instruments, net							(38,620)	(38,620)
Issuance of common stock			5,307	53	142,020			142,073
Stock-based compensation					26			26
Common dividends declared						(54,552)		(54,552)
Balance, September 30, 2010 (Unaudited)		\$	38,967	\$ 390	\$ 880,571	\$ 30,835	\$ 1,249	\$ 913,045

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents

AMERICAN CAPITAL AGENCY CORP.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

(unaudited)

(in thousands)

	For the nine months ended September 30,	
	2010	2009
Operating activities:		
Net income	\$ 150,036	\$ 77,914
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Amortization of agency securities premiums and discounts, net	65,953	15,898
Amortization of interest rate swap termination fee	6,278	6,671
Hedge ineffectiveness of derivative instruments	340	(496)
Stock-based compensation	68	29
Gain on sale of agency securities, net	(81,558)	(30,418)
Loss on derivative instruments, net	19,340	2,290
Purchases of trading securities	(465,149)	
Proceeds from sale of trading securities	466,775	
Increase in interest receivable	(19,162)	(10,142)
Increase in other assets	(295)	(418)
Decrease in accounts payable and other accrued liabilities	(812)	(1,905)
Net cash provided by operating activities	141,814	59,423
Investing activities:		
Purchases of agency securities	(12,301,251)	(6,124,679)
Proceeds from sale of agency securities	6,693,342	4,097,357
Net payments on derivative instruments not designated as qualifying hedges	(14,092)	(1,592)
Principal collections on agency securities	972,551	380,136
Net cash used in investing activities	(4,649,450)	(1,648,778)
Financing activities:		
Cash dividends paid	(118,638)	(53,267)
(Increase) decrease in restricted cash	(42,834)	9,036
Payments made on interest rate swap terminations		(16,586)
Proceeds from repurchase arrangements, net	4,127,565	1,602,745
Proceeds from other debt	80,822	
Net proceeds from common stock issuances	373,184	95,041
Net cash provided by financing activities	4,420,099	1,636,969
Net change in cash and cash equivalents	(87,537)	47,614
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	202,803	56,012
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$ 115,266	\$ 103,626

Edgar Filing: American Capital Agency Corp - Form 10-Q

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents

AMERICAN CAPITAL AGENCY CORP.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(unaudited)

Note 1. Unaudited Interim Consolidated Financial Statements

The interim consolidated financial statements of American Capital Agency Corp. (together with its consolidated subsidiary, is referred throughout this report as the Company, we, us and our) are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States (GAAP) for interim financial information and pursuant to the requirements for reporting on Form 10-Q and Article 10 of Regulation S-X. The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of income and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Our unaudited consolidated financial statements include the accounts of our wholly-owned subsidiary, American Capital Agency TRS, LLC. Significant intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated. In the opinion of management, all adjustments, consisting solely of normal recurring accruals, necessary for the fair presentation of financial statements for the interim period have been included. The current period's results of operations are not necessarily indicative of results that ultimately may be achieved for the year. There has been no activity in American Capital Agency TRS, LLC during the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009.

Note 2. Organization

We were organized in Delaware on January 7, 2008, and commenced operations on May 20, 2008 following the completion of our initial public offering (IPO). Our common stock is traded on The NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol AGNC.

We have elected to be taxed as a real estate investment trust (REIT) under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code). As such, we are required to distribute annually 90% of our taxable net income. As long as we qualify as a REIT, we will generally not be subject to U.S. federal or state corporate taxes on our taxable net income to the extent that we distribute all of our annual taxable net income to our stockholders. We are managed by American Capital Agency Management, LLC (our Manager), a subsidiary of a wholly-owned portfolio company of American Capital, Ltd. (American Capital).

We earn income primarily from investing in residential mortgage pass-through securities and collateralized mortgage obligations (CMOs) on a leveraged basis. These investments consist of securities for which the principal and interest payments are guaranteed by U.S. Government-sponsored entities (GSEs) such as the Federal National Mortgage Association, or Fannie Mae, and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, or Freddie Mac, or by a U.S. Government agency such as the Government National Mortgage Association, or Ginnie Mae. We refer to these types of securities as agency securities and the specific agency securities in which we invest as our investment portfolio.

Edgar Filing: American Capital Agency Corp - Form 10-Q

Our principal goal is to generate net income for distribution to our stockholders through regular quarterly dividends from our net interest income, which is the spread between the interest income earned on our interest earning assets and the interest costs of our borrowings and hedging activities, and realized gains on our investments. We fund our investments primarily through short-term borrowings structured as repurchase agreements.

Table of Contents

AMERICAN CAPITAL AGENCY CORP.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

(unaudited)

Note 3. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Investments in Agency Securities

Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) Topic 320, *Investments Debt and Equity Securities* (ASC 320), requires that at the time of purchase, we designate a security as held-to-maturity, available-for-sale or trading, depending on our ability and intent to hold such security to maturity. Securities classified as trading and available-for-sale are reported at fair value, while securities classified as held-to-maturity are reported at amortized cost. We may, from time to time, sell any of our agency securities as part of our overall management of our investment portfolio. Accordingly, we typically designate our agency securities as available-for-sale. All securities classified as available-for-sale are reported at fair value, with unrealized gains and losses excluded from earnings and reported in other comprehensive income (loss) (OCI), a component of stockholders' equity. Upon the sale of a security, we determine the cost of the security and the amount to reclassify out of accumulated OCI into earnings based on the specific identification method.

Interest-only strips represent our right to receive a specified proportion of the contractual interest flows of specific agency and CMO securities. Interest-only strips are measured at fair value through earnings in gain (loss) on derivative instruments and trading securities, net in our consolidated statements of operations and comprehensive income. Our investments in interest-only strips are included in agency securities, at fair value on the accompanying consolidated balance sheets.

We evaluate securities for other-than-temporary impairment (OTTI) on at least a quarterly basis, and more frequently when economic or market conditions warrant such evaluation. Based on the criteria in ASC 320, the determination of whether a security is other-than-temporarily impaired involves judgments and assumptions based on subjective and objective factors. When an agency security is impaired, an OTTI is considered to have occurred if (i) we intend to sell the agency security or (ii) it is more likely than not that we will be required to sell the agency security before recovery of its amortized cost basis. If we intend to sell the security or if it is more likely than not that we will be required to sell the agency security before recovery of its amortized cost basis, the entire amount of the impairment loss, if any, is recognized in earnings as an unrealized loss and the cost basis of the security is adjusted to its fair value.

We did not recognize any OTTI charges on any of our agency securities for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009.

Derivative Instruments

Edgar Filing: American Capital Agency Corp - Form 10-Q

We maintain an interest rate risk management strategy under which we use derivative financial instruments to manage the adverse impact of interest rate changes on the value of our investment portfolio as well as our cash flows. In particular we attempt to mitigate the risk of the cost of our short-term variable rate liabilities increasing at a faster rate than the earnings of our long-term assets during a period of rising interest rates. The principal derivative instruments that we use are interest rate swaps, options to enter into interest rate swap agreements (interest rate swaptions), to-be-announced agency securities (TBAs), options and futures. We account for derivatives in accordance with ASC Topic 815, *Derivatives and Hedging* (ASC 815). ASC 815 requires an entity to recognize all derivatives as either assets or liabilities in the balance sheet and to measure those instruments at fair value.

The accounting for changes in the fair value of derivatives depends on the intended use of the derivative and the resulting designation. Derivatives that are intended to hedge exposure to variability in expected future cash flows are considered cash flow hedges. For derivatives designated in qualifying cash flow hedging relationships,

Table of Contents

AMERICAN CAPITAL AGENCY CORP.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

(unaudited)

the effective portion of the fair value adjustments is initially recorded in OCI (a component of stockholders' equity) and reclassified to income at the time that the hedged transactions affect earnings. The ineffective portion of the fair value adjustments is recognized in gain (loss) on derivative instruments and trading securities, net immediately. When the underlying hedged transaction ceases to exist any amounts that have been previously recorded in accumulated OCI would be reclassified to net income and all subsequent changes in the fair value of the instrument are included in gain (loss) on derivative instruments and trading securities, net for each period until the derivative instrument matures or is settled. For derivatives not designated in hedging relationships under ASC 815, the fair value adjustments are recorded in gain (loss) on derivative instruments and trading securities, net. Derivatives in a gain position are reported as derivative assets at fair value, and derivatives in a loss position are reported as derivative liabilities at fair value in our consolidated balance sheet. Cash receipts and payments related to derivative instruments are classified according to the underlying nature or purpose of the derivative transaction, generally in the operating section for derivatives designated in hedging relationships and the investing section for derivatives not designated in hedging relationships of our consolidated statement of cash flows.

We use interest rate swaps to hedge the variable cash flows associated with short-term borrowings made under our repurchase agreement facilities. We generally enter into such derivatives with the intention of qualifying for hedge accounting.

We may purchase interest rate swaptions to help mitigate the potential impact of large increases or decreases in interest rates on the performance of our investment portfolio (referred to as "convexity risk"). The interest rate swaptions provide us the option to enter into an interest rate swap agreement for a predetermined notional amount, stated term and pay and receive interest rates in the future. The premium paid for interest rate swaptions is reported as an asset in our consolidated balance sheets. The premium is valued at an amount equal to the fair value of the swaption that would have the effect of closing the position adjusted for nonperformance risk, if any. The difference between the premium and the fair value of the swaption is reported in gain (loss) on derivative instruments and trading securities, net in our consolidated statement of operations and comprehensive income. If a swaption expires unexercised, the loss on the swaption would be equal to the premium paid. If we exercise a swaption, the realized gain or loss on the swaption would be equal to the difference between the fair value of the underlying interest rate swap and the premium paid.

A TBA security is a futures contract for the purchase or sale of agency securities at a predetermined price, face amount, issuer, coupon and stated maturity on an agreed-upon future date. The specific agency securities delivered into the contract upon the settlement date, published each month by the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association, are not known at the time of the transaction. TBA securities are exempt from ASC 815 if there is no other way to purchase or sell that security, if delivery of that security and settlement will occur within the shortest period possible for that type of security and if it is probable at inception and throughout the term of the individual contract that physical delivery of the security will occur (referred to as the "regular-way" exception). Alternatively, we may designate the TBA security as a qualifying cash flow hedge under ASC 815 if the regular-way exception is not met and at the time of the purchase or sale of the security, and throughout the term of the individual contract, it is probable that the forecasted transaction will occur and the hedging relationship is expected to be highly effective. For TBA security contracts that we have entered into, we have generally not asserted that physical settlement is probable or that the forecasted transaction is probable of occurring and, therefore, did not designate these forward commitments as hedging instruments. Realized and unrealized gains and losses associated with TBA contracts not subject to the regular-way exception or not designated as hedging instruments are recognized in our consolidated statement of operations and comprehensive income in the line item gain (loss) on derivative instruments and trading securities, net.

Edgar Filing: American Capital Agency Corp - Form 10-Q

We may purchase put and call options on TBA securities to hedge against short-term changes in interest rates. Under a purchased put option, we have the right to sell the counterparty a specified TBA security at a

Table of Contents

AMERICAN CAPITAL AGENCY CORP.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

(unaudited)

predetermined price on the option exercise date in exchange for a premium at execution. Under a purchased call option, we have the right to purchase from the counterparty a specified TBA security at a predetermined price on the option exercise date in exchange for a premium at execution. The premium paid for a put or call option is reported as an asset in our consolidated balance sheets. The premium is valued at an amount equal to the fair value of the option that would have the effect of closing the position adjusted for nonperformance risk, if any. The difference between the premium and the fair value of the option is reported in gain (loss) on derivative instruments and trading securities, net in our consolidated statement of operations and comprehensive income. When a purchased put or call option expires unexercised, a realized loss is reported in our consolidated statement of operations equal to the premium paid. When a purchased put or call option is exercised, a realized gain or loss is reported in our consolidated statement of operations equal to the difference between the premium paid and the fair value of the exercised put or call option. In addition, a derivative asset is recorded in our consolidated balance sheet for the TBA security resulting from the put or call option exercise.

We may also write put and call options on TBA securities. Under a written put option, the counterparty has the right to sell us a specified TBA security at a predetermined price on the option exercise date in exchange for a premium at execution. Under a written call option, the counterparty has the right to purchase from us a specified TBA security at a predetermined price on the option exercise date in exchange for a premium at execution. The premium received from writing a put or call option is reported as a liability in our consolidated balance sheets. The premium is valued at an amount equal to the fair value of the option that would have the effect of closing the position adjusted for nonperformance risk, if any. The difference between the premium and the fair value of the option is reported in gain (loss) on derivative instruments and trading securities, net in our consolidated statement of operations and comprehensive income. When a written put or call option expires unexercised, a realized gain is reported in our consolidated statement of operations equal to the premium received. When we terminate a written put or call option, a realized gain or loss is reported in our consolidated statement of operations equal to the difference between the termination payment and the premium received. When a written put or call option is exercised, a realized gain or loss is reported in our consolidated statement of operations equal to the difference between the premium received and the fair value of the exercised put or call option. In addition, a derivative asset or liability is recorded in our consolidated balance sheet for the TBA security resulting from the put or call option exercise.

We may enter into a forward commitment to purchase or sell specified agency securities as a means of acquiring assets or as a hedge against short-term changes in interest rates. Contracts for the purchase or sale of specified agency securities are accounted for as derivatives if the delivery of the specified agency security and settlement extends beyond the shortest period possible for that type of security. We may designate the forward commitment as a qualifying cash flow hedge if at the time of the purchase or sale of the security, and throughout the term of the individual contract, it is probable that physical delivery of the security will occur. Realized and unrealized gains and losses associated with forward commitments not designated as hedging instruments are recognized in our consolidated statement of operations and comprehensive income in the line item gain (loss) on derivative instruments and trading securities, net.

We estimate the fair value of interest rate swaps and interest rate swaptions based on the estimated net present value of the future cash flows using a forward interest rate yield curve in effect as of the measurement period, adjusted for non-performance risk based on our credit risk and our counterparty's credit risk and, in the case of interest rate swaptions, on the future interest rate swap that we have the option to enter into as well as the remaining length of time that we have to exercise the option. We consider the impact of any collateral requirements, credit enhancements or netting arrangements on credit risk. TBA securities and forward settling contracts to purchase or sell securities are valued using a combination of third-party pricing services and dealer

Table of Contents

AMERICAN CAPITAL AGENCY CORP.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

(unaudited)

quotes. These third-party pricing services use pricing models that incorporate such factors as coupons, prepayment speeds, spread to the Treasury and swap curves, convexity, duration, periodic and life caps and credit enhancement. The dealer quotes incorporate similar pricing models as well as other common market pricing methods.

The use of derivatives creates exposure to credit risk relating to potential losses that could be recognized in the event that the counterparties to these instruments fail to perform their obligations under the contracts. We attempt to minimize this risk by limiting our counterparties to major financial institutions with acceptable credit ratings and monitoring positions with individual counterparties.

Variable Interest Entities

In June 2009, the FASB issued SFAS No. 167, *Amendments to FASB Interpretation No. 46(R)* (SFAS No. 167). In December 2009, the FASB issued Accounting Standards Update (ASU) No. 2009-17, *Improvements to Financial Reporting by Enterprises Involved with Variable Interest Entities*, which codified SFAS No. 167 in FASB ASC Topic 810, *Consolidation* (ASC 810). ASC 810, as amended by ASU 2009-17, revises the evaluation of whether entities represent variable interest entities (VIEs) and requires a qualitative assessment in determining the primary beneficiary of a VIE. Further, ASC 2009-17 requires ongoing assessments of control over such entities as well as additional disclosures for entities that have variable interests in VIEs. The amendments significantly affect the overall consolidation analysis under ASC 810 and change the way entities account for securitizations and special purpose entities as a result of the elimination of the qualifying special purpose entity (QSPE) scope exemption from ASC 810. The requirements of ASC 810 as they relate to ASU 2009-17 were effective for us as of January 1, 2010 and did not have a material effect on our consolidated financial statements.

We will consolidate a CMO trust if we are its primary beneficiary, that is, if we have a variable interest (or combination of variable interests) that provides us with a controlling financial interest in the CMO trust. An entity is deemed to have a controlling financial interest if the entity has the power to direct the activities of a VIE that most significantly impacts the VIE's economic performance and the obligation to absorb losses of or right to receive benefits from the VIE that could potentially be significant to the VIE. In determining if we have a controlling financial interest, we evaluate whether we share the power to control the selection of financial assets transferred to the CMO trust with an unrelated party. We may share power in the selection of assets for certain CMO trusts (i.e. both we and the unrelated party must consent to the transfer of such assets to the CMO trust), however, if our economic interest in the CMO trust is disproportionate to the shared power, we may be deemed to be the primary beneficiary.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In June 2009, the FASB issued SFAS No. 166, *Accounting for Transfers of Financial Assets* an amendment of FASB Statement No. 140 (SFAS No. 166). In December 2009, the FASB issued ASU No. 2009-16, *Accounting for Transfers of Financial Assets*, which codified SFAS No. 166 in FASB ASC Topic 860, *Transfers and Servicing* (ASC 860). SFAS No. 166 amends the derecognition guidance in SFAS No. 140, *Accounting*

Edgar Filing: American Capital Agency Corp - Form 10-Q

for Transfers and Servicing of Financial Assets and Extinguishments of Liabilities, eliminates the concept of a QSPE and requires more information about transfers of financial assets, including securitization transactions as well as a company's continuing exposure to the risks related to transferred financial assets. We adopted the requirements of ASC 860, as they relate to SFAS No. 166, on January 1, 2010. The requirements were effective for financial asset transfers occurring after January 1, 2010 and for substantive subsequent changes to transfers of financial assets that occurred prior to January 1, 2010.

Table of Contents

AMERICAN CAPITAL AGENCY CORP.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

(unaudited)

In January 2010, the FASB issued ASU No. 2010-06, *Improving Disclosures about Fair Value Measurements* (ASU 2010-06), which amended FASB ASC Topic 820, *Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures* (ASC 820), to require a number of additional disclosures regarding fair value measurements, including the amount of transfers between Levels 1 and 2 of the fair value hierarchy, the reasons for transfers in or out of Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy and activity for recurring Level 3 measures. ASU 2010-06 also clarifies certain existing disclosure requirements related to the level at which fair value disclosures should be disaggregated and the requirement to provide disclosures about the valuation techniques and inputs used in determining the fair value of assets or liabilities classified as Levels 2 or 3. The ASU was effective for interim and annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2009, except for the disclosures related to the activity in Level 3 fair value measurements, which are effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2010 and for interim periods within those fiscal years. Early adoption is permitted. We adopted the requirements of ASU 2010-06 in the first quarter of 2010 and the adoption did not have a material effect on our consolidated financial statements.

In February 2010, the FASB issued ASU No. 2010-09, *Amendments to Certain Recognition and Disclosure Requirements* (ASU 2010-09), which amends FASB ASC Topic 855, *Subsequent Events* (ASC 855). ASU No. 2010-09 removes the requirement for an SEC filer (as defined in ASU 2010-09) to disclose the date, in both issued and revised financial statements, through which it has evaluated subsequent events. This change alleviates potential conflicts with current SEC guidance. ASU No. 2010-09 is effective upon issuance for all entities other than conduit bond obligors. We adopted the requirements of ASU No. 2010-09 on the effective date. We do not have any material subsequent events that impact our consolidated financial statements.

Reclassifications

Certain prior period amounts in the consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes have been reclassified to conform to the current period presentation.

Table of Contents**AMERICAN CAPITAL AGENCY CORP.****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****(unaudited)****Note 4. Agency Securities**

The following tables summarize our investments in agency securities as of September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009 (dollars in thousands):

	As of September 30, 2010			
	Fannie Mae	Freddie Mac	Ginnie Mae	Total
Available-for-sale securities:				
Agency securities, par	\$ 5,707,082	\$ 3,277,696	\$ 180,555	\$ 9,165,333
Unamortized discount	(178)	(5)		(183)
Unamortized premium	259,044	175,599	8,320	442,963
Amortized cost	5,965,948	3,453,290	188,875	9,608,113
Gross unrealized gains	82,413	30,426	1,482	114,321
Gross unrealized losses	(2,989)	(1,964)	(272)	(5,225)
Available-for-sale securities, at fair value	6,045,372	3,481,752	190,085	9,717,209
Agency securities remeasured at fair value through earnings:				
Interest-only strips, amortized cost(1)	8,335	13,469		21,804
Gross unrealized gains	17			17
Gross unrealized losses	(298)	(2,269)		(2,567)
Agency securities measured at fair value through earnings, at fair value	8,054	11,200		19,254
Total agency securities, at fair value	\$ 6,053,426	\$ 3,492,952	\$ 190,085	\$ 9,736,463
Weighted average coupon as of September 30, 2010(2)	4.89%	5.10%	4.08%	4.95%
Weighted average yield as of September 30, 2010(3)	3.25%	3.30%	2.14%	3.25%
Weighted average yield for the nine months ended September 30, 2010(3)	3.48%	3.36%	2.34%	3.42%

- (1) Interest-only strips represent the right to receive a specified portion of the contractual interest flows of the underlying unamortized principal balance of specific CMO securities. The underlying unamortized principal balance of our Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac interest-only strips was \$150.8 million and \$126.3 million, respectively, or a total of \$277.1 million, and the weighted average contractual interest we are entitled to receive was 3.91% of these amounts as of September 30, 2010.
- (2) The weighted average coupon includes the interest cash flows from our interest-only strips taken together with the interest cash flows from our fixed-rate, adjustable-rate and CMO securities as a percentage of the par value of our agency securities (excluding the underlying unamortized principal balance of our interest-only strips) as of September 30, 2010.

Edgar Filing: American Capital Agency Corp - Form 10-Q

- (3) Incorporates an average future constant prepayment rate assumption of 18% based on forward rates as of September 30, 2010 and an average reset rate for adjustable rate securities of 2.83%, which is equal to the average underlying index rate of 1.03% based on the current spot rate in effect as of the date we acquired the securities and an average margin of 1.80%.

		As of September 30, 2010		
	Amortized	Gross	Gross	Fair Value
	Cost	Unrealized	Unrealized	
		Gain	Loss	
Fixed-Rate	\$ 5,582,057	\$ 68,703	\$ (3,367)	\$ 5,647,393
Adjustable-Rate	3,594,670	37,657	(1,858)	3,630,469
CMO	431,386	7,961		439,347
Interest-only strips	21,804	17	(2,567)	19,254
Total agency securities	\$ 9,629,917	\$ 114,338	\$ (7,792)	\$ 9,736,463

Table of Contents**AMERICAN CAPITAL AGENCY CORP.****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****(unaudited)**

	As of December 31, 2009			
	Fannie Mae	Freddie Mac	Ginnie Mae	Total
Available-for-sale securities:				
Agency securities, par	\$ 2,853,278	\$ 1,248,698	\$ 12,456	\$ 4,114,432
Unamortized discount	(92)			(92)
Unamortized premium	99,709	49,662	386	149,757
Amortized cost	2,952,895	1,298,360	12,842	4,264,097
Gross unrealized gains	36,750	8,965	340	46,055
Gross unrealized losses	(6,335)	(3,702)		(10,037)
Agency securities, at fair value	\$ 2,983,310	\$ 1,303,623	\$ 13,182	\$ 4,300,115
Weighted average coupon as of December 31, 2009	5.26%	5.31%	6.00%	5.28%
Weighted average yield as of December 31, 2009(1)	4.20%	3.50%	5.33%	3.99%
Weighted average yield for the year ended December 31, 2009(1)	4.78%	4.27%	4.88%	4.64%

- (1) Incorporates an average future constant prepayment rate assumption of 16% based on forward rates as of December 31, 2009 and an average reset rate for adjustable rate securities of 3.06%, which is equal to the average underlying index rate of 1.18% based on the current spot rate in effect as of the date we acquired the securities and an average margin of 1.88%.

	As of December 31, 2009			
	Amortized Cost	Gross Unrealized Gain	Gross Unrealized Loss	Fair Value
Fixed-Rate	\$ 1,863,261	\$ 28,210	\$ (4,067)	\$ 1,887,404
Adjustable-Rate	1,699,513	9,447	(3,473)	1,705,487
CMO	701,323	8,398	(2,497)	707,224
Total agency securities	\$ 4,264,097	\$ 46,055	\$ (10,037)	\$ 4,300,115

Actual maturities of agency securities are generally shorter than the stated contractual maturities. Actual maturities are affected by the contractual lives of the underlying mortgages, periodic principal payments and principal prepayments. The following table summarizes our agency securities as of September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, according to their estimated weighted average life classifications (dollars in thousands):

Edgar Filing: American Capital Agency Corp - Form 10-Q

Weighted Average Life	As of September 30, 2010			As of December 31, 2009		
	Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Weighted Average Coupon	Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Weighted Average Coupon
Less than one year	\$	\$		\$ 432	\$ 428	1.95%
Greater than one year and less than three years	1,099,889	1,094,322	5.83%	281,721	281,143	5.87%
Greater than three years and less than five years	6,687,443	6,600,341	4.95%	1,340,665	1,337,777	5.14%
Greater than or equal to five years	1,949,131	1,935,254	4.46%	2,677,297	2,644,749	5.25%
Total	\$ 9,736,463	\$ 9,629,917	4.95%	\$ 4,300,115	\$ 4,264,097	5.28%

The weighted average lives of the agency securities as of September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009 in the table above incorporate anticipated future prepayment assumptions. As of September 30, 2010, our expected constant prepayment rate (CPR) over the remaining life of our aggregate investment portfolio was 18%. Our

Table of Contents**AMERICAN CAPITAL AGENCY CORP.****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****(unaudited)**

estimates differ materially for different types of securities and thus individual holdings have a wide range of projected CPRs. We estimate long-term prepayment assumptions for different securities using third-party services, market data and internal estimates. These third-party services estimate prepayment speeds using models that incorporate the forward yield curve, current mortgage rates, mortgage rates of the outstanding loans, loan age, volatility and other factors. As market conditions are changing rapidly, we use our judgment in making adjustments to our models for different securities. Various market participants could use materially different assumptions.

The following table presents the gross unrealized loss and fair values of our available-for-sale agency securities by length of time that such securities have been in a continuous unrealized loss position as of September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009 (in thousands):

	Unrealized Loss Position For					
	Less than 12 Months		12 Months or More		Total	
	Estimated Fair Value	Unrealized Loss	Estimated Fair Value	Unrealized Loss	Estimated Fair Value	Unrealized Loss
September 30, 2010	\$ 2,321,190	\$ (5,225)	\$	\$	\$ 2,321,190	\$ (5,225)
December 31, 2009	\$ 1,683,452	\$ (10,037)	\$	\$	\$ 1,683,452	\$ (10,037)

As of September 30, 2010, we did not intend to sell any of these agency securities and we believe it is not more likely than not we will be required to sell the agency securities before recovery of their amortized cost basis. We do not believe the unrealized losses on these agency securities are due to credit losses given the GSE or government guarantees, but are rather due to changes in interest rates and prepayment expectations.

Our agency securities classified as available-for-sale are reported at fair value, with unrealized gains and losses excluded from earnings and reported in OCI, a component of stockholders' equity. The following table summarizes changes in accumulated OCI for available-for-sale agency securities for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009 (in thousands):

	Beginning Balance	Unrealized Gains and (Losses)	Reversal of Prior Period Unrealized (Gains) and Losses on Realization	Ending Balance
Three months ended September 30, 2010	\$ 97,435	37,461	(25,800)	\$ 109,096
Three months ended September 30, 2009	\$ 36,138	41,870	(16,071)	\$ 61,937
Nine months ended September 30, 2010	\$ 36,018	155,349	(82,271)	\$ 109,096
Nine months ended September 30, 2009	\$ 3,304	89,051	(30,418)	\$ 61,937

Table of Contents**AMERICAN CAPITAL AGENCY CORP.****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****(unaudited)*****Gains and Losses***

The following table is a summary of our net gain from sale of agency securities for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009 (in thousands):

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 30, 2010	September 30, 2009	September 30, 2010	September 30, 2009
Agency securities sold, at cost	\$ (2,172,978)	\$ (1,679,557)	\$ (6,914,764)	\$ (4,151,797)
Proceeds from agency securities sold	2,197,543	1,695,627	6,996,322	4,182,215
Net gains on sale of agency securities	\$ 24,565	\$ 16,070	\$ 81,558	\$ 30,418
Gross gains on sale of agency securities	26,333	16,885	87,714	32,021
Gross losses on sale of agency securities	(1,768)	(815)	(6,156)	(1,603)
Net gains on sale of agency securities	\$ 24,565	\$ 16,070	\$ 81,558	\$ 30,418

For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010, we recognized an unrealized loss of \$0.9 million and \$7.8 million, respectively, in loss on derivative instruments and trading securities, net in our consolidated statements of operations and comprehensive income for the change in value of investments in interest-only strips, net of prior period reversals. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010, we realized a loss of \$1.2 million and \$0.7 million, respectively, in gain from sale of agency securities, net on the sale of interest-only strips during the periods. We did not invest in interest-only strips during the nine months ended September 30, 2009.

Pledged Assets

The following tables summarize our agency securities pledged as collateral under repurchase, other debt, derivative and prime broker agreements by type as of September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009 (in thousands):

Agency Securities Pledged(1)	As of September 30, 2010			Total
	Fannie Mae	Freddie Mac	Ginnie Mae	

Edgar Filing: American Capital Agency Corp - Form 10-Q

Under Repurchase Agreements				
Fair value	\$ 5,024,556	\$ 3,195,791	\$ 257,269	\$ 8,477,616
Amortized cost	4,942,108	3,168,179	255,219	8,365,506
Accrued interest on pledged agency securities	18,444	12,149	686	31,279
Under Other Debt Agreements				
Fair value	85,953			85,953
Amortized cost	85,919			85,919
Accrued interest on pledged agency securities				
Under Derivative Agreements				
Fair value	46,479	24,426		70,905
Amortized cost	45,549	24,295		69,844
Accrued interest on pledged agency securities	196	109		305
Under Prime Broker Agreements				
Fair value	17,357	10,566		27,923
Amortized cost	17,280	10,386		27,666
Accrued interest on pledged agency securities	56	36		92
Total Fair Value of Agency Securities Pledged and Accrued Interest	\$ 5,193,041	\$ 3,243,077	\$ 257,955	\$ 8,694,073

(1) Agency securities pledged include pledged amounts of \$340.9 million related to agency securities sold but not yet settled as of September 30, 2010.

Table of Contents**AMERICAN CAPITAL AGENCY CORP.****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****(unaudited)**

	As of December 31, 2009			
Agency Securities Pledged	Fannie Mae	Freddie Mac	Ginnie Mae	Total
Under Repurchase Agreements				
Fair value	\$ 2,851,735	\$ 1,240,830	\$ 13,182	\$ 4,105,747
Amortized cost	2,821,792	1,207,952	12,843	4,042,587
Accrued interest on pledged agency securities	11,774	4,799	62	16,635
Under Derivative Agreements				
Fair value	12,719	2,651		15,370
Amortized cost	12,409	2,567		14,976
Accrued interest on pledged agency securities	57	12		69
Under Prime Broker Agreements				
Fair value	2,360	13,119		15,479
Amortized cost	2,270	13,270		15,540
Accrued interest on pledged agency securities	12	54		66
Total Fair Value of Agency Securities Pledged and Accrued Interest	\$ 2,878,657	\$ 1,261,465	\$ 13,244	\$ 4,153,366

The following table summarizes our agency securities pledged as collateral under repurchase agreements by remaining maturity as of September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009 (in thousands):

Remaining Maturity	As of September 30, 2010(1)			As of December 31, 2009		
	Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Accrued Interest on Pledged Agency Securities	Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Accrued Interest on Pledged Agency Securities
30 days or less	\$ 7,491,114	\$ 7,396,130	\$ 27,519	\$ 3,216,242	\$ 3,177,975	\$ 12,815
31 - 59 days	968,570	951,467	3,683	889,505	864,612	3,820
60 - 90 days	17,932	17,911	65			
Greater than 90 days	85,953	85,917	12			
Total	\$ 8,563,569	\$ 8,451,425	\$ 31,279	\$ 4,105,747	\$ 4,042,587	\$ 16,635

(1) Agency securities pledged include pledged amounts of \$340.9 million related to amounts for sold but not yet settled agency securities as of September 30, 2010.

Securitizations

During the three months ended September 30, 2010, we entered into a CMO transaction whereby we transferred agency securities with a cost basis of \$85.9 million to an investment bank in exchange for cash proceeds of \$80.8 million and at the same time entered into a commitment with the same investment bank to purchase a to-be-issued interest-only security collateralized by the agency securities transferred for \$5.1 million. The investment bank contributed the transferred agency securities to a securitization trust held by Fannie Mae in exchange for CMO securities held in the trust. Once the transferred agency securities were transferred to the securitization trust, Fannie Mae may only remove such securities upon certain events. Pursuant to the pre-existing commitment, the investment bank transferred to us the interest-only security held in the trust. Our primary purpose for entering into this transaction was to eliminate the need to finance the principal class by transferring it to third parties while still retaining the underlying economics of a financed transaction for the transferred securities, which we viewed as favorable. We recorded the structured transaction as a financing

Table of Contents

AMERICAN CAPITAL AGENCY CORP.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

(unaudited)

transaction and, accordingly, we consolidated the CMO trust. The effect of consolidating the CMO trust was that the interest-only strip received was eliminated and we continued to recognize the assets transferred to the securitization trust in our total agency securities held and recorded a corresponding liability for the debt issued by the securitization trust classified as other debt in our accompanying consolidated balance sheets. As of September 30, 2010, the fair value of the agency securities collateralizing the debt issued by the securitization trust was \$86.0 million. Such agency securities can only be used to settle this debt and the holder(s) of the debt issued by the securitization trust have no recourse to us. Further, there are no arrangements that could require us to provide financial support to this securitization trust. The consolidation did not materially impact our accompanying consolidated statements of operations and comprehensive income and consolidated statements of cash flows.

During 2009, we entered into CMO transactions whereby we transferred agency securities with a cost basis of \$831.0 million to various investment banks in exchange for cash proceeds of \$845.3 million and at the same time entered into a commitment with the same investment banks to purchase to-be-issued securities collateralized by the agency securities transferred for \$601.3 million. In each case, the investment bank contributed the transferred agency securities to a securitization trust held by either Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac in exchange for CMO securities held in the trust. Pursuant to the pre-existing commitments, the investment banks transferred to us certain of the CMO securities and interest-only strips held in the trusts, typically representing the longer maturity classes, or 70 to 75 percent of the cash flows of the agency securities initially transferred by us. Our primary purpose for entering into these transactions was to reduce our exposure to short-term spikes in prepayments by holding the longer maturity classes. We did not begin to receive any repayments of principal on these CMO securities until holders of securities entitled to the shorter maturity classes were repaid in full. During the nine months ended September 30, 2010 we received cash proceeds of \$348.3 million from these securities, including principal repayments, interest and proceeds from sales. The fair value of the remaining securities held as of September 30, 2010 was \$320.7 million.

All of our CMO securities are backed by fixed or adjustable-rate agency securities and Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac guarantee the payment of interest and principal and act as the trustee and administrator of their respective securitization trusts. Our involvement with the trusts described above is limited to the agency securities transferred to them by the investment banks and the CMO securities subsequently held by us. Accordingly, we are not required to provide the beneficial interest holders of the CMO securities any financial or other support. As of September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, the fair value of all of our CMO securities and interest-only strips, including additional CMOs and interest-only strips purchased from third parties in separate transactions, was \$458.6 million and \$707.2 million, respectively.

Our maximum exposure to loss as a result of our involvement with the trusts relates to the additional liquidity risk of holding CMO securities and interest-only strips in a period of severe market dislocations as compared to the underlying collateral transferred to the trusts. The maximum exposure related to this risk is the fair value of the CMO securities and interest-only strips held by us.

Note 5. Repurchase Agreements and Other Debt

We pledge certain of our agency securities as collateral under repurchase arrangements with financial institutions, the terms and conditions of which are negotiated on a transaction-by-transaction basis. Interest rates on these borrowings are generally based on LIBOR plus or minus a

Edgar Filing: American Capital Agency Corp - Form 10-Q

margin and amounts available to be borrowed are dependent upon the fair value of the agency securities pledged as collateral, which fluctuates with changes in interest rates, type of security and liquidity conditions within the banking, mortgage finance and real estate industries. In response to declines in fair value of pledged agency securities, lenders may require us to post

Table of Contents**AMERICAN CAPITAL AGENCY CORP.****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****(unaudited)**

additional collateral or pay down borrowings to re-establish agreed upon collateral requirements, referred to as margin calls. As of September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, we have met all margin call requirements. Due to their short-term nature, repurchase agreements are carried at cost, which approximates fair value.

The following table summarizes our borrowings under repurchase arrangements and weighted average interest rates classified by original maturities as of September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009 (dollars in thousands):

Original Maturity	As of September 30, 2010			As of December 31, 2009		
	Borrowings Outstanding	Average Interest Rate	Weighted Average Days to Maturity	Borrowings Outstanding	Average Interest Rate	Weighted Average Days to Maturity
30 days or less	\$ 3,024,906	0.27%	17	\$ 1,997,243	0.22%	15
31 - 60 days	3,460,555	0.28%	23	967,625	0.25%	20
61 - 90 days	886,205	0.29%	31	327,945	0.28%	42
Greater than 90 days	597,733	0.30%	22	549,021	0.27%	52
Total / Weighted Average	\$ 7,969,399	0.28%	22	\$ 3,841,834	0.24%	24

As of September 30, 2010, we did not have an amount at risk with any counterparty greater than 10% of our stockholders' equity. We do not anticipate any defaults by our repurchase agreement counterparties.

Other debt of \$80.8 million as of September 30, 2010 consists of other variable rate debt outstanding at LIBOR plus 25 bps in connection with the consolidation of a structured transaction recognized as a financing transaction in our accompanying financial statements (see Note 4). We had no other debt outstanding as of December 31, 2009.

Note 6. Derivative Instruments

In connection with our risk management strategy, we hedge a portion of our interest rate risk by entering into derivative financial instrument contracts. We may enter into interest rate swap agreements, interest rate swaptions, TBA agency securities, caps, collars, floors, forward contracts, options or futures to attempt to manage the overall interest rate risk of the portfolio, reduce fluctuations in book value and generate additional income distributable to stockholders. For additional information regarding our derivative instruments and our overall risk management strategy, see discussion of derivative instruments in Note 3.

As of September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, our derivative instruments were comprised primarily of interest rate swaps, which have the effect of modifying the repricing characteristics of our repurchase agreements and cash flows on such liabilities. Our interest rate swaps are used to manage the interest rate risk created by our variable rate short-term repurchase agreements. Under our interest rate swaps, we typically pay a fixed-rate and receive a floating rate based on one month LIBOR with terms usually ranging up to 5 years. Our interest rate swaps are generally designated as cash flow hedges under ASC 815.

Derivative instruments entered into in addition to interest rate swap agreements are intended to supplement our use of interest rate swaps and we do not currently expect our use of these instruments to be the primary protection against interest rate risk for our portfolio. These instruments are accounted for as derivatives, but are not typically designated as hedges under ASC 815. Therefore, any changes in the fair values of the contracts prior to their settlement date are included in earnings. We do not use derivative instruments for speculative purposes.

Table of Contents**AMERICAN CAPITAL AGENCY CORP.****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****(unaudited)*****Derivatives Designated as Hedging Instruments***

As of September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, we had net interest rate swap liabilities of \$109.9 million and \$10.5 million, respectively. The tables below summarize information about our outstanding interest rate swaps as of September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009 (dollars in thousands):

Derivatives Designated as Hedging Instruments	Balance Sheet Location	September 30, 2010	As of December 31, 2009
Interest rate swap assets	Derivative assets, at fair value	\$ 17	\$ 4,205
Interest rate swap liabilities	Derivative liabilities, at fair value	(109,958)	(14,719)
		\$ (109,941)	\$ (10,514)

Remaining Interest Rate Swap Term	Notional Amount	As of September 30, 2010			
		Average Fixed Pay Rate	Average Receive Rate	Net Estimated Fair Value	Average Maturity (Years)
1 year or less	\$ 450,000	1.48%	0.26%	\$ (4,363)	0.8
Greater than 1 year and less than 3 years	1,700,000	1.76%	0.26%	(42,109)	2.0
Greater than 3 years and less than 5 years	2,050,000	1.92%	0.26%	(63,469)	4.3
Greater than 5 years					
Total	\$ 4,200,000	1.81%	0.26%	\$ (109,941)	3.0

Remaining Interest Rate Swap Term	Notional Amount	As of December 31, 2009			
		Average Fixed Pay Rate	Average Receive Rate	Net Estimated Fair Value	Average Maturity (Years)
1 year or less	\$			\$	
Greater than 1 year and less than 3 years	1,500,000	1.71%	0.23%	(9,681)	2.2
Greater than 3 years and less than 5 years	550,000	2.71%	0.23%	(833)	4.5
Greater than 5 years					
Total	\$ 2,050,000	1.98%	0.23%	\$ (10,514)	2.8

Edgar Filing: American Capital Agency Corp - Form 10-Q

The following table summarizes information about our outstanding interest rate swaps designated as hedging instruments for the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2010 and 2009 (in thousands):

Interest Rate Swaps Designated as Hedging Instruments	Beginning Notional Amount	Additions	Terminations	Ending Notional Amount	Termination Fee
Three months ended September 30, 2010	\$ 3,000,000	1,200,000		\$ 4,200,000	\$
Three months ended September 30, 2009	\$ 950,000	450,000		\$ 1,400,000	\$
Nine months ended September 30, 2010	\$ 2,050,000	2,150,000		\$ 4,200,000	\$
Nine months ended September 30, 2009	\$ 650,000	1,300,000	(550,000)	\$ 1,400,000	\$ 16,417

Net settlements for terminated interest rate swaps are amortized into earnings over the remaining life of the terminated interest rate swaps and included in interest expense on our consolidated statements of operations and

Table of Contents**AMERICAN CAPITAL AGENCY CORP.****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****(unaudited)**

comprehensive income. Amortization expense for terminated interest rate swaps was \$ and \$3.7 million for the three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively, and \$6.3 million and \$6.7 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively. As of September 30, 2010, there was no remaining unamortized cost associated with terminated interest rate swaps.

During the three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, we recorded no losses as a result of the reclassification from OCI of hedged forecasted transactions becoming probable not to occur. During the nine months ended September 30, 2010, we recorded no losses and during the nine months ended September 30, 2009, we recorded losses of \$1.0 million as a result of the reclassification from OCI of hedged forecasted transactions becoming probable not to occur.

The table below summarizes the effect of interest rate swaps designated as hedges under ASC 815 on our income statement for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009 (in thousands):

Interest Rate Swaps in Cash Flow Hedging Relationships	Amount of Gain or (Loss) Recognized in OCI (Effective Portion)	Location of Gain or (Loss) Reclassified from OCI into Earnings (Effective Portion)	Amount of Gain or (Loss) Reclassified from OCI into Earnings (Effective Portion)	Location of Gain or (Loss) Recognized in Earnings (Ineffective Portion and Amount Excluded from Effectiveness Testing)	Amount of Gain or (Loss) Recognized in Earnings (Ineffective Portion and Amount Excluded from Effectiveness Testing)
Three months ended September 30, 2010	\$ (39,823)	Interest Expense	\$ (13,261)	Loss on derivative instruments and trading securities, net	\$ (25)
Three months ended September 30, 2009	\$ (10,854)	Interest Expense	\$ (8,720)	Loss on derivative instruments and trading securities, net	\$ (220)
Nine months ended September 30, 2010	\$ (99,428)	Interest Expense	\$ (40,332)	Loss on derivative instruments and trading securities, net	\$ (340)
Nine months ended September 30, 2009(1)	\$ (4,106)	Interest Expense	\$ (19,175)	Loss on derivative instruments and trading securities, net	\$ 496

(1) This amount excludes \$1.0 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2009, recorded as a loss in loss on derivative instruments and trading securities, net in our consolidated statement of operations and comprehensive income as a result of the reclassification from OCI of hedged forecasted transactions becoming probable not to occur.

Edgar Filing: American Capital Agency Corp - Form 10-Q

The amount of net interest expense expected to flow through our statement of operations over the next twelve months due to expected net settlements on our interest rate swaps is \$62.0 million.

Additionally, during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010, we entered into forward contracts to purchase agency securities that were designated as cash flow hedges pursuant to ASC 815. The cash flow hedges had gross and net unrealized appreciation (or a net asset) of \$1.8 million as of September 30, 2010. The effective portion of gains or losses is initially recognized in OCI for cash flow hedges and is subsequently reclassified to OCI for available-for-sale securities upon acquisition of the underlying hedged item. The

Table of Contents**AMERICAN CAPITAL AGENCY CORP.****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****(unaudited)**

ineffective portion of gains or losses is recognized in earnings in loss on derivative instruments and trading securities, net. The amount of net gains reclassified to OCI for available-for-sale securities (effective portion) for both the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 was \$1.3 million. There was no ineffective portion for the nine month periods ended September 30, 2010.

The following table summarizes information about our outstanding forward contracts designated as hedging instruments for the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2010 (dollars in thousands):

Purchases of TBAs and Forward					Average Maturity as of Period End (Months)	
Settling Agency Securities Designated as Hedging Instruments	Beginning Notional Amount	Additions	Settlement / Expirations	Ending Notional Amount	Fair Value as of Period End	
Three months ended September 30, 2010	\$ 80,000	175,000	(80,000)	\$ 175,000	\$ 1,807	3
Nine months ended September 30, 2010	\$	321,303	(146,303)	\$ 175,000	\$ 1,807	3

We did not enter into any forward commitments during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009.

Derivatives Not Designated as Hedging Instruments

As of September 30, 2010, we had contracts to purchase and sell TBA agency securities and specified agency securities on a forward basis with notional amounts of \$369.1 million for the purchase of securities and \$923.2 million for the sale of securities. As of December 31, 2009, we had contracts to purchase and sell TBA agency securities and specified agency securities on a forward basis with notional amounts of \$596.5 million for the purchase of securities and \$616.7 million for the sale of securities.

As of September 30, 2010, we had interest rates swap agreements outstanding that were not designated as hedges under ASC 815 consisting of \$50.0 million in notional amount of interest rate swap agreements where we pay a fixed rate (payer interest rate swaps) and \$200.0 million in notional amount of interest rate swap agreements where we receive a fixed rate (receiver interest rate swaps), summarized in the table below (dollars in thousands). As of December 31, 2009, all of our outstanding interest rate swaps agreements were designated as hedges under ASC 815.

Interest Rate Swaps Not	As of September 30, 2010				
	Notional Amount	Average Fixed	Average Receive Rate	Net Estimated	Average Maturity

Edgar Filing: American Capital Agency Corp - Form 10-Q

Designated as Hedging		Pay Rate		Fair Value	(Years)
Instruments					
Payer interest rate swaps	\$ 50,000	1.85%	0.26%	\$ (1,168)	4.9
Receiver interest rate swaps	\$ 200,000	-2.26%	-0.26%	\$ 8,425	5.0

Additionally, as of September 30, 2010, we had interest rate swaption agreements outstanding consisted of \$200.0 million in notional amount of options to enter into interest rate swaps in the future where we would pay a fixed rate (Payer Swaptions), as summarized in the table below (dollars in thousands):

		As of September 30, 2010						
		Option		Underlying Swap				
Swaption	Cost	Fair Value	Average Months to Expiration	Notional Amount	Pay Rate	Average Receive Rate	Average Term (Years)	
Payer	\$ 2,148	\$	1	\$ 200,000	4.23%	1M Libor	5	

Table of Contents**AMERICAN CAPITAL AGENCY CORP.****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****(unaudited)**

As of December 31, 2009, our interest rate swaption agreements outstanding consisted of \$200 million in notional amount of options to enter into Payer Swaptions and \$100 million in notional amount of options to enter into interest rate swaps in the future where we would receive a fixed rate (Receiver Swaptions) as summarized in the table below (dollars in thousands):

Swaption	Cost	Option Fair Value	Months to Expiration	As of December 31, 2009		Underlying Swap Pay Rate	Receive Rate	Term (Years)
				Notional Amount				
Payer	\$ 2,148	\$ 2,389	10	\$ 200,000		4.23%	1M Libor	5
Receiver	243	169	2	100,000		1M Libor	2.54%	5
	\$ 2,391	\$ 2,558		\$ 300,000				

The table below summarizes information about our derivatives outstanding that were not designated as hedging instruments as of September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009 (in thousands):

Derivatives Not Designated as Hedging Instruments	Balance Sheet Location	As of	
		September 30, 2010	December 31, 2009
Purchase of TBA and forward settling agency securities	Derivative assets, at fair value	\$ 573	\$ 172
Sale of TBA and forward settling agency securities	Derivative assets, at fair value	522	5,025
Receiver interest rate swaps	Derivative assets, at fair value	8,425	
Payer Swaptions	Derivative assets, at fair value		2,389
Receiver Swaptions	Derivative assets, at fair value		169
		\$ 9,520	\$ 7,755
Purchase of TBA and forward settling agency securities	Derivative liabilities, at fair value	\$ (260)	\$ (3,069)
Sale of TBA and forward settling agency securities	Derivative liabilities, at fair value	(2,514)	(10)
Payer interest rate swaps	Derivative liabilities, at fair value	(1,168)	
		\$ (3,942)	\$ (3,079)

Edgar Filing: American Capital Agency Corp - Form 10-Q

During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 we recorded a loss of \$3.3 million and \$13.4 million, respectively, in loss on derivative instruments and trading securities, net in our consolidated statement of operations and comprehensive income for derivatives not designated as hedging instruments under ASC 815.

Table of Contents**AMERICAN CAPITAL AGENCY CORP.****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****(unaudited)**

The tables below summarize the effect of derivative instruments not designated as hedges under ASC 815 on our income statement for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 (in thousands):

For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2010

Derivatives Not Designated as Hedging Instruments	Notional Amount as of June 30, 2010	Additions	Settlement, Expiration or Exercise	Notional Amount as of September 30, 2010	Amount of Gain/(Loss) Recognized in Income on Derivatives(1)
Purchase of TBA and forward settling agency securities	\$ 181,142	947,974	(760,018)	\$ 369,098	\$ 2,296
Sale of TBA and forward settling agency securities	\$ 270,000	2,005,073	(1,351,912)	\$ 923,161	(10,059)
Payer interest rate swaps	\$	200,000	(150,000)	\$ 50,000	(2,303)
Receiver interest rate swaps	\$	200,000		\$ 200,000	88
Payer swaptions	\$ 200,000			\$ 200,000	(7)
Receiver swaptions	\$ 300,000		(300,000)	\$	7,004
Short sales of U.S. government securities	\$	150,000	(150,000)	\$	(330)
					\$ (3,311)

For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2010

Derivatives Not Designated as Hedging Instruments	Notional Amount as of December 31, 2009	Additions	Settlement, Expiration or Exercise	Notional Amount as of September 30, 2010	Amount of Gain/(Loss) Recognized in Income on Derivatives(2)
Purchase of TBA and forward settling agency securities	\$ 596,516	2,037,063	(2,264,481)	\$ 369,098	\$ 14,730
Sale of TBA and forward settling agency securities	\$ 616,747	4,822,333	(4,515,919)	\$ 923,161	(30,936)
Payer interest rate swaps	\$	350,000	(300,000)	\$ 50,000	(3,414)
Receiver interest rate swaps	\$	200,000		\$ 200,000	88
Payer Swaptions	\$ 200,000			\$ 200,000	(2,389)
Receiver Swaptions	\$ 100,000	300,000	(400,000)	\$	9,130
Put Options	\$	75,000	(75,000)	\$	(328)
Short sales of U.S. government securities	\$	150,000	(150,000)	\$	(330)
					\$ (13,449)

(1)

Edgar Filing: American Capital Agency Corp - Form 10-Q

This amount excludes \$0.9 million recorded as a loss for interest-only strips re-measured at fair value through earnings, a loss of \$25 thousand for hedge ineffectiveness on our outstanding interest rate swaps and a gain of \$0.5 million from trading securities in loss on derivative instruments and trading securities, net in our consolidated statements of operations and comprehensive for the three months ended September 30, 2010.

- (2) This amount excludes \$7.8 million recorded as a loss for interest-only strips re-measured at fair value through earnings, a loss of \$0.3 million for hedge ineffectiveness on our outstanding interest rate swaps and a gain of \$1.9 million from trading securities in loss on derivative instruments and trading securities, net in our consolidated statements of operations and comprehensive for the nine months ended September 30, 2010.

Table of Contents**AMERICAN CAPITAL AGENCY CORP.****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****(unaudited)**

During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009, we recorded a loss of \$3.2 million and \$2.1 million, respectively, in loss on derivative instruments and trading securities, net in our consolidated statement of operations and comprehensive income for derivatives not designated as hedging instruments under ASC 815.

The table below summarizes the effect of derivative instruments not designated as hedges under ASC 815 on our income statement for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009 (in thousands):

Derivatives Not Designated as Hedging Instruments	For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2009				
	Notional Amount as of June 30, 2009	Additions	Settlement, Expiration or Exercise	Notional Amount as of September 30, 2009	Amount of Loss Recognized in Income on Derivatives(1)
Sale of TBA and forward settling agency securities	\$ 75,000	605,000	(585,000)	\$ 95,000	\$ (3,215)

Derivatives Not Designated as Hedging Instruments	For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2009				
	Notional Amount as of December 31, 2008	Additions	Settlement, Expiration or Exercise	Notional Amount as of September 30, 2009	Amount of Loss Recognized in Income on Derivatives(1)
Sale of TBA and forward settling agency securities	\$	955,000	(860,000)	\$ 95,000	\$ (2,114)

- (1) Amount excludes a net loss of \$0.2 million and \$0.5 for hedge ineffectiveness and missed forecasts on our outstanding interest rate swaps in loss on derivative instruments and trading securities, net in our consolidated statements of operations and comprehensive for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009, respectively.

Credit Risk-Related Contingent Features

The use of derivatives creates exposure to credit risk relating to potential losses that could be recognized in the event that the counterparties to these instruments fail to perform their obligations under the contracts. We minimize this risk by limiting our counterparties to major financial institutions with acceptable credit ratings and monitoring positions with individual counterparties. In addition, we may be required to pledge assets as collateral for our derivatives whose amounts vary over time based on the market value, notional amount and remaining term of the derivative contract. In the event of a default by a counterparty we may not receive payments provided for under the terms of our derivative agreement, and may have difficulty obtaining our assets pledged as collateral for our derivatives. The cash and cash equivalents and agency securities pledged as collateral for our derivative instruments is included in restricted cash and agency securities, respectively, on our

consolidated balance sheets.

Each of our ISDA Master Agreements contains provisions under which we are required to fully collateralize our obligations under the interest rate swap instrument if at any point the fair value of the interest rate swap represents a liability greater than the minimum transfer amount contained within our agreements. We were also required to post initial collateral upon execution of certain of our interest rate swap transactions. If we breach any of these provisions we will be required to settle our obligations under the agreements at their termination values.

Further, each of our ISDA Master Agreements also contains a cross default provision under which a default under certain of our other indebtedness in excess of a certain threshold causes an event of default under the agreement. Threshold amounts range from \$10 million to \$25 million. Following an event of default, we could be required to settle our obligations under the agreements at their termination values. Additionally, under certain of our ISDA Master Agreements, we could be required to settle our obligations under the agreements at their

Table of Contents

AMERICAN CAPITAL AGENCY CORP.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

(unaudited)

termination values if we fail to maintain certain minimum shareholders' equity thresholds or our REIT status or comply with limits on our leverage above certain specified levels.

As of September 30, 2010, the fair value of our interest rate swaps in a liability position related to these agreements was \$111.1 million. We had agency securities with fair values of \$70.9 million, and restricted cash of \$61.7 million, or \$132.6 million in total agency securities and restricted cash, pledged as collateral against our interest rate swaps as of September 30, 2010. Termination values of interest rate swaps in a liability position totaled \$112.6 million as of September 30, 2010. The difference between the fair value liability and the termination liability represents accrued interest and an adjustment for nonperformance risk of our counterparties.

Note 7. Fair Value Measurements

FASB ASC Topic 820, *Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures* (ASC 820) defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value and establishes a three-level valuation hierarchy for disclosure of fair value measurement. The valuation hierarchy is based upon the transparency of inputs to the valuation of an asset or liability as of the measurement date. A financial instrument's categorization within the hierarchy is based upon the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurement. The three levels of hierarchy established by ASC 820 are defined as follows:

Level 1 Inputs Quoted prices (unadjusted) for identical unrestricted assets and liabilities in active markets that are accessible at the measurement date.

Level 2 Inputs Quoted prices for similar assets and liabilities in active markets; quoted prices for identical or similar instruments in markets that are not active; and model-derived valuations whose inputs are observable or whose significant value drivers are observable.

Level 3 Inputs Instruments with primarily unobservable market data that cannot be corroborated.

There were no transfers between hierarchy levels during the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009.

Repurchase Agreements

Edgar Filing: American Capital Agency Corp - Form 10-Q

Due to their short-term nature, repurchase agreements are carried at cost, which approximates fair value.

Agency Securities

Agency securities are valued based on a market approach using Level 2 Inputs from third-party pricing services and dealer quotes. The third-party pricing services use pricing models that incorporate such factors as coupons, primary and secondary mortgage rates, prepayment speeds, spread to the Treasury and interest rate swap curves, convexity, duration, periodic and life caps and credit enhancements. The dealer quotes incorporate common market pricing methods, including a spread measurement to the Treasury or interest rate swap curve as well as underlying characteristics of the particular security including coupon, periodic and life caps, rate reset period, issuer, additional credit support and expected life of the security. Management reviews the fair values determined by the third-party pricing models and dealer quotes and compares the results, if available, to values from the repurchase agreement counterparties and internal pricing models on each investment to validate reasonableness.

Table of Contents

AMERICAN CAPITAL AGENCY CORP.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

(unaudited)

Derivative Instruments

Interest rate swaps and swaptions are valued based on an income and market approach using Level 2 Inputs from a third-party pricing model. The third-party pricing model incorporates such factors as the Treasury curve, LIBOR rates, the pay rate on the interest rate swaps and, in the case of interest rate swaptions, on the future interest rate swap that we have the option to enter into as well as the remaining length of time we have to exercise the option. We also incorporate our counterparties' nonperformance risk in estimating the fair value of our interest rate swap and swaption agreements. In considering the effect of nonperformance risk, we considered the impact of netting and credit enhancements, such as collateral postings and guarantees, and have concluded that our own and our counterparty risk is not significant to the overall valuation of these agreements.

Contracts to purchase or sell TBA securities and specified agency securities on a forward basis and options to purchase or sell TBA securities are valued using Level 2 Inputs at September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009 based on a market approach using the same methods to value agency securities described above.

Note 8. Stockholders' Equity

Equity Offerings

In May 2010, we completed a public offering in which 6.9 million shares of our common stock, including the over-allotment option, were sold at a public offering price of \$25.75 per share. Upon completion of the offering we received proceeds, net of underwriters' discount and other offering costs, of approximately \$169.0 million.

Dividend Reinvestment and Direct Stock Purchase Plan

We sponsor a dividend reinvestment and direct stock purchase plan through which stockholders may purchase additional shares of our common stock by reinvesting some or all of the cash dividends received on shares of our common stock. Stockholders may also make optional cash purchases of shares of our common stock subject to certain limitations detailed in the plan prospectus. During the three months ended September 30, 2010, we issued approximately 5.3 million shares under the plan for cash proceeds of \$142.1 million and during the nine months then ended we issued 7.7 million shares under the plan for cash proceeds of \$204.3 million. We did not issue any shares under the plan prior to

Edgar Filing: American Capital Agency Corp - Form 10-Q

December 31, 2009. As of September 30, 2010, there were approximately 5.3 million shares available for issuance under the plan.

Note 9. Subsequent Events

In October 2010, we completed a public offering in which 13.2 million shares of our common stock, including the over-allotment option, were sold at a public offering price of \$26.00 per share. Upon completion of the offering we received proceeds, net of underwriters' discount and other offering costs, of approximately \$328.1 million.

Table of Contents

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

Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations ("MD&A") is designed to provide a reader of American Capital Agency Corp.'s consolidated financial statements with a narrative from the perspective of management. Our MD&A is presented in five sections:

Executive Overview

Financial Condition

Results of Operations

Liquidity and Capital Resources

Forward-Looking Statements

EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW

American Capital Agency Corp. (together with its consolidated subsidiary, is referred throughout this report as the "Company", "we", "us" and "our") is a real estate investment trust ("REIT") that invests primarily in residential mortgage pass-through securities and collateralized mortgage obligations on a leveraged basis. These investments consist of securities for which principal and interest are guaranteed by government-sponsored entities such as the Federal National Mortgage Association ("Fannie Mae") and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation ("Freddie Mac"), or by a U.S. Government agency such as the Government National Mortgage Association ("Ginnie Mae"). We refer to these types of securities as agency securities and the specific agency securities in which we invest as our investment portfolio.

We were organized on January 7, 2008, and commenced operations on May 20, 2008 following the completion of our IPO. Our common stock is traded on The NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol "AGNC".

We are externally managed by American Capital Agency Management, LLC (our "Manager"). Our Manager is a wholly-owned subsidiary of American Capital, LLC, which is a wholly-owned portfolio company of American Capital. We do not have any employees.

Our principal objective is to generate net income for distribution to our stockholders through regular quarterly dividends from our net interest income, which is the spread between the interest income earned on our investment portfolio and the interest costs of our borrowings and hedging activities, and realized gains on our investments. We fund our investments through short-term borrowings structured as repurchase agreements. Since our IPO, we have declared or paid dividends of \$11.86 per share.

We have elected to be taxed as a REIT under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code). As long as we qualify as a REIT, we generally will not be subject to federal income taxes on our taxable income to the extent that we annually distribute all of our taxable income to stockholders.

Our Manager

We are externally managed and advised by our Manager pursuant to the terms of a management agreement. Because we have no employees or separate facilities, we rely on our Manager to administer our business activities and day-to-day operations, subject to the supervision and oversight of our Board of Directors. Our Manager is a subsidiary of a wholly-owned portfolio company of American Capital. American Capital is a publicly traded private equity firm and global asset manager. American Capital, both directly and through its asset management business, originates, underwrites and manages investments in middle market private equity, leveraged finance, real estate and structured products. Founded in 1986, American Capital has \$18 billion in capital resources under management, as of September 30, 2010, and eight offices in the U.S., Europe and Asia. Gary Kain is the President of our Manager and also serves as our Senior Vice President and Chief Investment Officer.

Table of Contents

Our Investment Strategy

Our investment strategy is to manage an investment portfolio consisting primarily of agency securities (other than for hedging purposes) that seeks to generate attractive, risk-adjusted returns. Our Manager has established an investment committee comprised of certain of its officers. The investment committee has established investment guidelines, certain of which have been approved by our Board of Directors. The investment committee can change those investment guidelines at any time with the approval of our Board of Directors. The following are our investment guidelines approved by our Board of Directors:

no investment shall be made in any non-agency securities (other than for hedging purposes);

no investment shall be made that would cause us to fail to qualify as a REIT for federal income tax purposes;

no investment shall be made that would cause us to be regulated as an investment company under the Investment Company Act; and

prior to entering into any proposed investment transaction with American Capital or any of its affiliates, a majority of our independent directors must approve the terms of the transaction.

Agency securities consist of residential pass-through certificates and collateralized mortgage obligations for which the principal and interest are guaranteed by a U.S. Government agency or a U.S. Government sponsored entity.

Residential Pass-Through Certificates. Residential pass-through certificates are securities representing interests in pools of mortgage loans secured by residential real property where payments of both interest and principal, plus pre-paid principal, on the securities are made monthly to holders of the securities, in effect passing through monthly payments made by the individual borrowers on the mortgage loans that underlie the securities, net of fees paid to the issuer/guarantor and servicers of the securities. Holders of the securities also receive guarantor advances of principal and interest for delinquent loans in the mortgage pools.

Collateralized Mortgage Obligations. CMOs are structured instruments representing interests in residential pass-through certificates. CMOs consist of multiple classes of securities, with each class having specified characteristics, including stated maturity dates, weighted average lives and rules governing principal and interest distribution. Monthly payments of interest and principal, including prepayments, are typically returned to different classes based on rules described in the trust documents. Principal and interest payments may also be divided between holders of different securities in the CMO and some securities may only receive interest payments while others receive only principal payments.

These securities are collateralized by pools of fixed-rate mortgage loans (FRMs), adjustable-rate mortgage loans (ARMs) or hybrid ARMs. Hybrid ARMs are mortgage loans that have interest rates that are fixed for an initial period (typically three, five, seven or 10 years) and, thereafter, reset at regular intervals subject to interest rate caps. Our allocation of investments among securities collateralized by FRMs, ARMs or hybrid ARMs will depend on our assessment of the relative value of the securities, which will be based on numerous factors including, but not limited to, expected future prepayment trends, supply and demand, costs of financing, costs of hedging, expected future interest rate volatility and the overall shape of the U.S. Treasury and interest rate swap yield curves.

Edgar Filing: American Capital Agency Corp - Form 10-Q

As of September 30, 2010, our \$9.7 billion investment portfolio was financed with \$8.0 billion of repurchase agreements, \$0.1 billion of other debt and \$0.9 billion of equity capital, resulting in a leverage ratio of approximately 8.8 times our stockholders' equity. When adjusted for net payables and receivables for unsettled agency securities, the leverage ratio was approximately 9.8 times our stockholders' equity as of September 30, 2010. Financing spreads (the difference between yields on our investments and rates on related borrowings, including amortization expense related to terminated swaps) averaged 2.21% and 2.18%, respectively, for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010.

Table of Contents

The size and composition of our investment portfolio depends on investment strategies being implemented by our Manager, the availability of investment capital and overall market conditions, including the availability of attractively priced investments and suitable financing to appropriately leverage our investment portfolio. Market conditions are influenced by, among other things, current levels of and expectations for future levels of short-term interest rates, mortgage prepayments, market liquidity and government participation in the market.

Our Active Portfolio Management Strategy

Our Manager employs on our behalf an active management strategy to achieve our principal objectives of generating attractive risk-adjusted returns and preserving our net asset value. Our active management strategy involves buying and selling securities in all sectors of the agency securities market, including fixed-rate agency securities, adjustable-rate agency securities, options on agency securities, interest-only strips and agency CMOs, based on our Manager's continual assessment of the relative value and risk and return of these securities. Therefore, the composition of our portfolio will vary as our Manager believes changes to market conditions, risks and valuations warrant. Consequently, we may experience investment gains or losses when we sell securities that our Manager no longer believes provide attractive risk-adjusted returns or when our Manager believes more attractive alternatives are available in the agency security market. We may also experience fluctuations in leverage as we pursue our active management strategy, but we generally would expect our leverage to be within six to eleven times the amount of our stockholders' equity.

Our Financing Strategy

As part of our investment strategy, we leverage our investment portfolio pursuant to master repurchase agreements. A repurchase transaction acts as a financing arrangement under which we effectively pledge our agency securities as collateral to secure a short-term loan. Our borrowings pursuant to these repurchase transactions generally have maturities that range from 30 to 90 days, but may have maturities of less than 30 days or up to 364 days. Our leverage may vary periodically depending on market conditions and our assessment of risk and returns. We generally would expect our leverage to be within six to eleven times the amount of our stockholders' equity. However, under certain market conditions, we may operate at leverage levels outside of this range for extended periods of time. We also cannot assure you that we will continue to be successful in borrowing sufficient amounts to fund our intended acquisitions of agency securities.

Our Hedging Strategy

As part of our risk management strategy, we may hedge our exposure to interest rate and prepayment risk as our Manager determines is in our best interest given our investment strategy, the cost of the hedging transactions and our intention to qualify as a REIT. As a result, we may elect to bear a level of interest rate or prepayment risk that could otherwise be hedged when our Manager believes, based on all relevant facts, that bearing the risk enhances our risk/return profile. Our Manager designs an interest rate risk management program consistent with its outlook for the market to attempt to mitigate the impact of changes in interest rates on our investment portfolio and related borrowings. We may enter into interest rate swap agreements, interest rate swaptions, caps, collars, floors, forward contracts, options or futures to attempt to manage the overall interest rate risk of the portfolio, reduce fluctuations in book value and generate additional income distributable to stockholders.

Our Option Strategy

Edgar Filing: American Capital Agency Corp - Form 10-Q

As part of our risk management strategy, we may purchase or sell TBA securities or purchase or write put or call options on TBA securities as a method of insulating our stockholders' equity and enhancing our risk/return profile. Our Manager implements this strategy based upon overall market conditions, the level of volatility in the mortgage market, size of our agency securities portfolio, notional value of our swap positions outstanding and our intention to qualify as a REIT.

Table of Contents

Summary of Critical Accounting Policies

Our critical accounting policies relate to investment accounting, revenue recognition, securities valuation, derivative accounting and income taxes. Each of these items involves estimates that will require management to make judgments that are subjective in nature. We rely on our Manager's experience and analysis of historical and current market data in order to arrive at what we believe to be reasonable estimates. Under different conditions, we could report materially different amounts using these critical accounting policies. All of our critical accounting policies are fully described in Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations in our Annual Report on Form 10-K/A for the year ended December 31, 2009.

Table of Contents

FINANCIAL CONDITION

As of September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, our investment portfolio consisted of \$9.7 billion and \$4.3 billion, respectively, of agency securities. The following tables summarize certain characteristics of our investment portfolio as of September 30, 2010 (dollars in thousands):

	As of September 30, 2010					
		Amortized	Amortized		Weighted Average	
	Par Value	Cost	Cost	Fair Value	Coupon	Yield(1)
Available-For-Sale Agency Securities:						
Fannie Mae	\$ 5,707,082	\$ 5,965,948	104.5%	\$ 6,045,372	4.81%	3.24%
Freddie Mac	3,277,696	3,453,290	105.4%	3,481,752	4.91%	3.19%
Ginnie Mae	180,555	188,875	104.6%	190,085	4.08%	2.14%
Total / Weighted Average Available- For-Sale Agency Securities	\$ 9,165,333	\$ 9,608,113	104.8%	\$ 9,717,209	4.83%	3.20%
Fixed-Rate	\$ 5,318,889	\$ 5,582,057	104.9%	\$ 5,647,393	4.86%	3.51%
Adjustable-Rate	3,427,093	3,594,670	104.9%	3,630,469	4.85%	2.67%
CMO	419,351	431,386	102.9%	439,347	4.27%	3.47%
Total / Weighted Average Available- For-Sale Securities	\$ 9,165,333	\$ 9,608,113	104.8%	\$ 9,717,209	4.83%	3.20%

	Underlying Unamortized Principal Balance	As of September 30, 2010		Weighted Average	
		Amortized Cost	Fair Value	Coupon	Yield(1)
Agency Securities Remeasured at Fair Value Through Earnings:					
Interest-Only Strips					
Fannie Mae	\$ 126,272	\$ 8,335	\$ 8,054	2.87%	15.50%
Freddie Mac	150,781	13,469	11,200	5.16%	31.93%
Total / Weighted Average Agency Securities Remeasured at Fair Value Through Earnings	\$ 277,053	\$ 21,804	\$ 19,254	3.91%	25.65%

(1) Incorporates an average future constant prepayment rate assumption of 18% based on forward rates as of September 30, 2010 and an average reset rate for adjustable rate securities of 2.83%, which is equal to the average underlying index rate of 1.03% based on the current spot rate in effect as of the date we acquired the securities and an average margin of 1.80%.

Interest-only strips represent the right to receive a specified portion of the contractual interest flows of the underlying unamortized principal balance of specific CMO securities. The interest cash flows from our interest-only strips taken together with interest cash flows from our fixed-rate, adjustable-rate and CMO securities, total 4.95% of the combined par value our agency securities (excluding the underlying

Edgar Filing: American Capital Agency Corp - Form 10-Q

unamortized principal balance of our interest-only strips) as of September 30, 2010. The combined weighted average yield of our agency portfolio was 3.25% as of September 30, 2010.

Table of Contents

The following table summarizes certain characteristics of our investment portfolio as of December 31, 2009 (dollars in thousands):

	As of December 31, 2009					
		Amortized	Amortized		Weighted Average	
	Par Value	Cost	Cost	Fair Value	Coupon	Yield(2)
Available-For-Sale Securities:						
Fannie Mae	\$ 2,853,278	\$ 2,952,895	103.5%	\$ 2,983,310	5.26%	4.20%
Freddie Mac	1,248,698	1,298,360	104.0%	1,303,623	5.31%	3.50%
Ginnie Mae	12,456	12,842	103.1%	13,182	6.00%	5.33%
Total / Weighted Average Available- For-Sale Securities	\$ 4,114,432	\$ 4,264,097	103.6%	\$ 4,300,115	5.28%	3.99%
Available-For-Sale Securities:						
Fixed-Rate	\$ 1,806,559	\$ 1,863,261	103.1%	\$ 1,887,404	5.40%	4.77%
Adjustable-Rate	1,625,477	1,699,513	104.6%	1,705,487	5.17%	3.18%
CMO	682,396	701,323	102.8%	707,224	5.23%	3.90%
Total / Weighted Average Available- For-Sale Securities	\$ 4,114,432	\$ 4,264,097	103.6%	\$ 4,300,115	5.28%	3.99%

(2) Incorporates an average future constant prepayment rate assumption of 16% based on forward rates as of December 31, 2009 and an average reset rate for adjustable rate securities of 3.06%, which is equal to the average underlying index rate of 1.18% based on the current spot rate in effect as of the date we acquired the securities and an average margin of 1.88%.

As of September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, we held fixed-rate pass-through agency securities, pass-through agency securities collateralized by ARMs and hybrid ARMs, with coupons linked to various indices. The following tables detail the characteristics of our ARMs and hybrid ARMs portfolio by index as of September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009 (dollars in thousands):

	As of September 30, 2010				As of December 31, 2009			
	Six-Month Libor	One-Year Libor	One-Year Treasury	Twelve-Month Treasury Average	Six-Month Libor	One-Year Libor	One-Year Treasury	Twelve-Month Treasury Average
Weighted average term to next reset (months)	41	84	59	36	56	69	54	41
Weighted average margin	1.53%	1.76%	2.01%	1.83%	1.60%	1.72%	2.24%	1.83%
Weighted average annual period cap	1.23%	2.00%	1.67%	1.00%	1.20%	2.00%	2.00%	1.00%
Weighted average lifetime cap	10.84%	9.79%	10.07%	10.13%	10.65%	10.28%	10.22%	10.12%
Principal amount	\$ 138,216	\$ 2,490,817	\$ 531,531	\$ 266,529	\$ 123,088	\$ 750,375	\$ 467,996	\$ 284,018
Percentage of investment portfolio at par value	2%	27%	6%	3%	3%	18%	11%	7%

The following tables detail the number of months to the next reset for our pass-through securities collateralized by ARMs and hybrid ARMs as of September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009 (dollars in thousands):

Edgar Filing: American Capital Agency Corp - Form 10-Q

	As of September 30, 2010			As of December 31, 2009		
	Fair Value	% Total	Average Reset	Fair Value	% Total	Average Reset
Less than one year	\$ 6,441	0%	1	\$		
Greater than or equal to one year and less than two years	159,749	4%	25	23,802	1%	30
Greater than or equal to two years and less than three years	233,456	6%	25	253,275	15%	30
Greater than or equal to three years and less than five years	970,059	27%	45	648,093	38%	45
Greater than or equal to five years	2,260,764	63%	96	780,317	46%	81
Total / Weighted Average	\$ 3,630,469	100%	74	\$ 1,705,487	100%	59

Table of Contents

Actual maturities of agency securities are generally shorter than stated contractual maturities primarily as a result of prepayments of principal of the underlying mortgages. The stated contractual final maturity of the mortgage loans underlying our portfolio of agency securities ranges up to 40 years, but the expected maturity is subject to change based on the actual and expected future prepayments of the underlying loans. As of September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, the average final contractual maturity of the agency securities in our investment portfolio was 25 and 27 years, respectively. The estimated weighted average months to maturity of the agency securities in the tables below are based upon our prepayment expectations, which are estimated based on assumptions for different securities using a combination of third-party services, market data and internal models. The third-party services estimate prepayment speeds using models that incorporate the forward yield curve, mortgage rates, current mortgage rates of the outstanding loans, loan age, volatility and other factors. As market conditions are changing rapidly, we use judgment in making adjustments to our models for some products. Various market participants could use materially different assumptions.

The following tables summarize our agency securities, at fair value, according to their estimated weighted average life classifications as of September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009 (in thousands):

	September 30, 2010	December 31, 2009
Less than one year	\$	\$ 432
Greater than one year and less than three years	1,099,889	281,721
Greater than three years and less than five years	6,687,443	1,340,665
Greater than or equal to five years	1,949,131	2,677,297
Total	\$ 9,736,463	\$ 4,300,115

The constant prepayment rate (CPR) reflects the percentage of principal that is prepaid over a period of time on an annualized basis. In general, while there are various factors that impact the rate of prepayments, as interest rates rise, the rate of refinancings typically declines, which may result in lower rates of prepayment and, as a result, a lower portfolio CPR. Conversely, as interest rates fall, the rate of refinancings typically increases, which we expect may result in higher rates of prepayment and, as a result, a higher portfolio CPR. As of September 30, 2010, our portfolio was purchased at a net premium. The actual CPR was approximately 15% and 19% for the three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively. The actual CPR was approximately 20% and 19% for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

In determining the yield on our agency securities, we have assumed that the CPR over the remaining projected life of our aggregate investment portfolio is 18% as of September 30, 2010. We make different prepayment assumptions for the individual securities that comprise the investment portfolio and these individual assumptions can differ materially from the average. There is also considerable uncertainty around prepayment speeds in this environment and actual speeds could differ materially from our estimates. Furthermore, U.S. Government agency or U.S. Government entity buyouts of loans in imminent risk of default, loans that have been modified, or loans that have defaulted will generally be reflected as prepayments on agency securities and also increase the uncertainty around these estimates. In addition, securities were purchased with different amounts of premiums and therefore the yield on some securities is more sensitive to changes in prepayment speeds.

In addition, pursuant to FASB ASC Topic 310-20, *Receivables-Nonrefundable Fees and Other Costs*, the yield on our adjustable rate securities assumes that the securities reset at a rate equal to the underlying index rate in effect as of the date we acquired the security plus the stated margin. Consequently, future reset rate assumptions incorporated in our asset yields may differ materially from future reset rates implied by the forward yield curve and the actual reset rates ultimately achieved. Further, notwithstanding changes to our actual and projected CPR assumptions, the lower our reset rate assumption is pursuant to ASC 310 than the current fixed rate in effect, the greater the rate of premium amortization we will recognize over the initial fixed rate period.

Table of Contents

Our adjustable rate portfolio was acquired for a premium above par value and most securities were acquired within the past four months, during a period of historically low index rates. Accordingly, the majority of the premium balance on our adjustable rate securities will be amortized prior to their first reset date, regardless of actual or forecasted prepayment speeds and changes in the underlying index rates prior to actual reset. Adjustable rate securities acquired during a different interest rate environment may experience a different premium amortization pattern even as current index rates remain near their historical lows. For securities held as of September 30, 2010, the weighted average coupon rate was 4.85%, the weighted average months to reset was 74 months and the weighted average reset rate assumption was 2.83%, which is based on a weighted average underlying index rate of 1.03% as of the date we acquired the securities and a weighted average margin of 1.80%.

Table of Contents**RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

The following analysis of our financial condition and results of operations should be read in conjunction with our interim consolidated financial statements and the notes thereto. The table below presents our condensed consolidated statements of operations and key statistics for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009 (in thousands, except per share amounts):

	For the three months ended September 30,		For the nine months ended September 30,	
	2010	2009	2010	2009
Consolidated Statement of Operations Data:				
Interest income	\$ 62,600	\$ 32,793	\$ 151,986	\$ 86,834
Interest expense	18,531	11,551	51,389	29,265
Net interest income	44,069	21,242	100,597	57,569
Gain from sale of agency securities, net	24,565	16,070	81,558	30,418
Loss from derivative instruments and trading securities, net	(3,733)	(3,435)	(19,680)	(2,567)
Total other income, net	20,832	12,635	61,878	27,851
Management fees	2,697	1,166	6,795	3,008
General and administrative expenses	1,926	1,474	5,394	4,498
Total expenses	4,623	2,640	12,189	7,506
Net income before excise tax	60,278	31,237	150,286	77,914
Excise tax	250		250	
Net income	\$ 60,028	\$ 31,237	\$ 150,036	\$ 77,914
Net income per common share basic and diluted	\$ 1.69	\$ 1.82	\$ 4.97	\$ 4.95
Weighted average number of common shares outstanding basic and diluted	35,495	17,191	30,161	15,741
Key Statistics*:				
Average agency securities, at cost	\$ 7,751,068	\$ 2,992,151	\$ 5,912,577	\$ 2,365,925
Average agency securities, at cost percent of par value	104.6%	103.4%	104.2%	102.9%
Average total assets, at fair value	\$ 8,454,760	\$ 3,263,632	\$ 6,515,662	\$ 2,477,227
Average repurchase agreements and other debt	\$ 7,241,783	\$ 2,693,851	\$ 5,536,394	\$ 2,127,918
Average stockholders equity	\$ 853,250	\$ 376,229	\$ 713,925	\$ 319,165
Fixed-rate agency securities at fair value as of period end	\$ 5,647,393	\$ 1,272,407	\$ 5,647,393	\$ 1,272,407
Adjustable-rate agency securities at fair value as of period end	\$ 3,630,469	\$ 1,904,184	\$ 3,630,469	\$ 1,904,184
CMO agency securities at fair value as of period end	\$ 439,347	\$ 261,536	\$ 439,347	\$ 261,536
Interest-only strips agency securities, at fair value as of period end	\$ 19,254	\$	\$ 19,254	\$
Average coupon(1)	5.03%	5.82%	5.12%	5.95%
Average asset yield(2)	3.23%	4.38%	3.42%	4.89%
Average cost of funds(3)	1.02%	1.16%	1.09%	1.42%
Average cost of funds terminated swap amortization expense(4)		0.54%	0.15%	0.42%

Edgar Filing: American Capital Agency Corp - Form 10-Q

Average net interest rate spread(5)	2.21%	2.68%	2.18%	3.05%
Average actual CPR for securities held during the period	15%	19%	20%	19%
Average forecasted CPR as of period end	18%	17%	18%	17%
Leverage (<i>average during the period</i>)(6)	8.5:1	7.2:1	7.8:1	6.7:1
Leverage (<i>as of period end</i>)(7)	9.8:1	7.3:1	9.8:1	7.3:1
Expenses % of average assets(8)	0.22%	0.32%	0.25%	0.41%
Expenses % of average stockholders' equity(9)	2.15%	2.78%	2.28%	3.14%
Net asset value per common share as of period end(10)	\$ 23.43	\$ 22.23	\$ 23.43	\$ 22.23
Dividends declared per common share	\$ 1.40	\$ 1.40	\$ 4.20	\$ 3.75
Annualized economic return(11)	21.7%	54.9%	30.6%	49.9%
Annualized net return on average stockholders' equity(12)	27.9%	32.9%	28.1%	32.6%

* Average numbers for each period are weighted based on days on our books and records, all percentages are annualized.

- (1) Weighted average coupon for the period was calculated by dividing our total coupon (or cash) interest income on our agency securities by our weighted average agency securities.
- (2) Weighted average asset yield for the period was calculated by dividing our total interest income on our agency securities, including amortization of premiums and discounts, by our weighted average agency securities.

Table of Contents

- (3) Weighted average cost of funds for the period was calculated by dividing our total interest expense by our weighted average repurchase agreements and other debt. Total interest expense excludes amortization expense related to the costs of the previously terminated interest rate swaps during the periods presented.
- (4) Represents amortization expense associated with the termination of interest rate swaps of \$ million and \$3.7 million for the three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively, and \$6.3 million and \$6.7 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively.
- (5) Average net interest rate spread for the period was calculated by subtracting our weighted average cost of funds, net of interest rate swaps and terminated swap amortization expense, from our weighted average asset yield.
- (6) Leverage during the period was calculated by dividing our average repurchase agreements and other debt outstanding by our average stockholders' equity.
- (7) Leverage at period end was calculated by dividing the amount outstanding under our repurchase agreements, net receivables/liabilities for unsettled agency securities and other debt by our total stockholders' equity at period end.
- (8) Expenses as a percentage of average total assets was calculated by dividing our total expenses by our average total assets on an annualized basis.
- (9) Expenses as a percentage of average stockholders' equity was calculated by dividing our total expenses by our average stockholders' equity on an annualized basis.
- (10) Net asset value per common share was calculated by dividing our total stockholders' equity by our number of shares outstanding.
- (11) Annualized economic return represents the sum of the change in net asset value over the period and dividends declared during the period over the beginning net asset value on an annualized basis.
- (12) Annualized net return on average stockholders' equity for the period was calculated by dividing our net income by our average stockholders' equity on an annualized basis.

Interest Income and Asset Yield

Interest income increased 91% and 75% to \$62.6 million and \$152.0 million for the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2010, respectively, compared to their respective prior periods. This was due to a 159% and 163% increase in our average investment portfolio, offset by a decline in our average asset yield over their respective comparative periods.

Our average asset yield declined over the comparative periods as a result of acquiring lower yielding securities due to changes in our portfolio composition and increase in the size of our average investment portfolio. The average coupon of our investment portfolio declined to 5.03% from 5.82% for the three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively, and declined to 5.12% from 5.95% for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively, over their comparative periods and the average amortized cost basis of our investment portfolio increased to 104.6% from 103.4% for the three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively, and increased to 104.2% from 102.9% for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively, over their comparative periods.

We amortize premiums and discounts associated with agency securities into interest income over the life of such securities using the effective yield method. The effective yield (or asset yield) on our agency securities is based on actual CPRs realized for individual securities in our investment portfolio through the reporting date and assumes a CPR over the remaining projected life of our aggregate investment portfolio of 18% and 17% as of September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively. In addition, pursuant to FASB ASC Topic 310-20, *Receivables-Nonrefundable Fees and Other Costs*, the yield on our adjustable rate securities assumes that the securities reset at a rate equal to the underlying index rate in effect as of the date we acquired the security plus the stated margin. Consequently, future reset rate assumptions incorporated in our asset yields may differ materially from future reset rates implied by the forward yield curve and the actual reset rates ultimately achieved. Further, notwithstanding changes to our actual and projected CPR assumptions, the lower our reset rate assumption is pursuant to ASC 310 than the current fixed rate in effect, the greater the rate of premium amortization we will recognize over the initial fixed rate period.

Our adjustable rate portfolio was acquired for a premium above par value and most securities were acquired within the past four months, during a period of historically low index rates. Accordingly, the majority of the premium balance on our adjustable rate securities will be amortized prior to their first reset date, regardless of actual or forecasted prepayment speeds and changes in the underlying index rates prior to actual reset. Adjustable rate securities acquired during a different interest rate environment may experience a different premium amortization pattern even as current index rates remain near their historical lows. For securities held as of September 30, 2010,

Table of Contents

the weighted average coupon rate was 4.85%, the weighted average months to reset was 74 months and the weighted average reset rate assumption was 2.83%, which is based on a weighted average underlying index rate of 1.03% as of the date we acquired the securities and a weighted average margin of 1.80%.

Interest income for the three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009 is net of \$30.8 million and \$9.4 million premium and discount amortization, net on our investment portfolio, respectively. Interest income for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, is net of \$66.0 million and \$15.9 million premium and discount amortization, net on our investment portfolio, respectively. The unamortized premium balance, net of discounts, of our aggregate investment portfolio was \$464.6 million (including the unamortized cost basis of our interest-only strips) and \$112.8 million as of September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

Leverage

Our leverage as of September 30, 2010 and 2009 was 8.8 and 6.9 times our stockholders' equity, respectively. When adjusted for the net amount of agency securities purchased and sold but not yet settled, our leverage ratio was 9.8 and 7.3 times our stockholders' equity as of September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively. Our actual leverage will vary from time to time based on various factors, including our Manager's opinion of the level of risk of our assets and liabilities, our liquidity position, our level of unused borrowing capacity, over-collateralization levels required by lenders when we pledge agency securities to secure our borrowings and the current market value of our investment portfolio. In addition, certain of our master repurchase agreements and master swap agreements contain a restriction that prohibits our leverage from exceeding levels ranging from 12 to 16 times our stockholders' equity.

The table below presents our average and period end repurchase agreement and other debt balance outstanding and leverage ratios for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and the year ended December 31, 2009 (dollars in thousands):

Quarter Ended	Repurchase Agreements and Other Debt			Average Daily Interest Rate on Amounts Outstanding	Average Interest Rate on Ending Amount Outstanding	Average Leverage(1)	Leverage as of Period End(2)	Leverage as of Period End, Net of Unsettled Trades(3)
	Average Daily Amount Outstanding	Maximum Daily Amount Outstanding	Ending Amount Outstanding					
March 31, 2009	\$ 1,537,798	\$ 1,996,087	\$ 1,849,473	1.07%	0.81%	5.6:1	6.4:1	7.0:1
June 30, 2009	\$ 2,139,402	\$ 2,451,077	\$ 2,346,875	0.60%	0.47%	7.0:1	7.5:1	7.7:1
September 30, 2009	\$ 2,693,851	\$ 3,349,087	\$ 2,949,010	0.42%	0.35%	7.2:1	6.9:1	7.3:1
December 31, 2009	\$ 3,637,220	\$ 4,247,367	\$ 3,841,834	0.28%	0.24%	6.8:1	7.0:1	7.3:1
March 31, 2010	\$ 3,787,583	\$ 4,651,115	\$ 4,651,115	0.22%	0.21%	6.5:1	7.6:1	7.9:1
June 30, 2010	\$ 5,548,225	\$ 6,634,342	\$ 6,634,342	0.26%	0.28%	7.9:1	8.4:1	8.2:1
September 30, 2010	\$ 7,241,783	\$ 8,050,221	\$ 8,050,221	0.28%	0.28%	8.5:1	8.8:1	9.8:1

- (1) Average leverage during the period was calculated by dividing our average repurchase agreements and other debt outstanding for the period by our average stockholders' equity for the period.
- (2) Leverage as of period end was calculated by dividing the amount outstanding under our repurchase agreements and other debt by our stockholders' equity at period end.
- (3) Leverage as of period end, net of unsettled trades was calculated by dividing the amount outstanding under our repurchase agreements, net liabilities and receivables for unsettled agency securities and other debt by our total stockholders' equity at period end.

Edgar Filing: American Capital Agency Corp - Form 10-Q

For the quarter ended September 30, 2010, our ending leverage and ending repurchase agreement and other debt balances were significantly higher than our average balances for the quarter because we increased our asset positions through the use of additional leverage toward the end of the quarter in anticipation of our follow-on equity offering that we completed on October 1, 2010 for net proceeds of \$328 million.

Interest Expense and Cost of Funds

Interest expense was \$18.5 million and \$11.6 million for the three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively. Interest expense was \$51.4 million and \$29.3 million for the nine months ended

Table of Contents

September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively. The increase in interest was due to an increase in our average repurchase agreements and other debt outstanding, partially offset by a decline our total cost of funds for each of the comparative periods as described below.

For the three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, average repurchase agreements and other debt outstanding were \$7.2 billion and \$2.7 billion, respectively. For the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, average repurchase agreements outstanding were \$5.5 billion and \$2.1 billion, respectively. The increase in the average repurchase agreement balance over the prior period was primarily driven by deploying new equity capital raised over the 12 month period ended September 30, 2010 on a levered basis.

The average interest rate on our repurchase agreements declined to 0.28% from 0.42% for the three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively, and to 0.26% from 0.63% for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively, primarily driven by the decline in the one month LIBOR interest rate. Including the net impact of interest rate swaps, the total average cost of funds for the three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009 declined to 1.02% from 1.70% (or to 1.02% from 1.16% when excluding amortization expense associated with previously terminated interest rate swaps), and for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009 to 1.24% from 1.84% (or to 1.09% from 1.42%, when excluding amortization expense associated with previously terminated interest rate swaps).

We did not terminate any interest rate swaps accounted for as hedges under ASC 815 during the three or nine months ended September 30, 2010 or during the three months ended September 30, 2009. During the nine months ended September 30, 2009 we terminated interest rate swaps with a notional amount of \$550.0 million resulting in net settlement payments \$16.4 million equal to their fair value on the date of termination. The net settlements were amortized into income over the remaining life of the terminated interest rate swaps through the second quarter of 2010 and included in interest expense on our consolidated statements of operations and comprehensive income. Amortization expense for terminated swaps was \$3.7 million for the three months ended September 30, 2009 and \$6.3 million and \$6.7 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

As of September 30, 2010 and 2009, we had outstanding interest rate swap agreements designated as cash flow hedges under ASC 815 for a total notional amount of \$4.2 billion (or \$4.1 billion including the net amount of payer and receiver interest rate swap agreements not designated as cash flow hedges described further in Note 6 to our consolidated financial statements in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q) and \$1.4 billion, respectively. Outstanding designated interest rate swaps were 52% (or 50% including the net amount of undesignated interest rate swap agreements) and 47% of the outstanding balance under our repurchase agreements, respectively. For the three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009 our designated interest rate swaps increased the cost of our borrowings by \$13.4 million and \$8.7 million (or \$5.0 million excluding amortization expense associated with the termination of interest rate swaps), respectively, which equaled 0.74% and 1.28% (or 0.74% excluding terminated swap amortization expense) of interest bearing liabilities, respectively, and for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009 our interest rate swaps increased the cost of our borrowings by \$40.6 million and \$19.2 million (or \$34.3 million and \$12.5 million excluding terminated swap amortization expense), which equaled 0.98% and 1.21% (or 0.83% and 0.79% excluding terminated swap amortization expense) of interest bearing liabilities, respectively.

Net Interest Income and Net Interest Rate Spread

Net interest income, which equals interest income less interest expense, was \$44.1 million and \$21.2 million for the three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively. Net interest income was \$100.6 million and \$57.6 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively. The average net interest rate spread, which equals the average yield on our assets less the average cost of funds was 2.21% and 2.68% (or 3.22% excluding terminated swap amortization expense) for the three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively. The average net interest rate spread was 2.18% and 3.05% for the nine months ended

Table of Contents

September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively, (or 2.33% and 3.47% excluding terminated swap amortization expense). As of September 30, 2010, the net interest rate spread was 2.16%.

The decrease in our average net interest rate spread for each of the comparative periods was due to a decline in our average asset yield, partially offset by a decrease in our cost of funds, as discussed above. Our cost of funds as of September 30, 2010 was higher than our average cost of funds for the three months then ended because we increased our interest rate swap positions near the end of September in anticipation of a higher repurchase agreement balance following our completed equity offering on October 1, 2010.

Gain on Sale of Agency Securities, Net

The following table is a summary of our net gain on sale of agency securities for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009 (in thousands):

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 30, 2010	September 30, 2009	September 30, 2010	September 30, 2009
Agency securities sold, at cost	\$ (2,172,978)	\$ (1,679,557)	\$ (6,914,764)	\$ (4,151,797)
Proceeds from agency securities sold	2,197,543	1,695,627	6,996,322	4,182,215
Net gains on sale of agency securities	\$ 24,565	\$ 16,070	\$ 81,558	\$ 30,418
Gross gains on sale of agency securities	26,333	16,885	87,714	32,021
Gross losses on sale of agency securities	(1,768)	(815)	(6,156)	(1,603)
Net gains on sale of agency securities	\$ 24,565	\$ 16,070	\$ 81,558	\$ 30,418

The increase in the amount of agency securities sold for each of the comparative periods was due to an increase in the size of our investment portfolio as well as our Manager's execution of our active portfolio management strategy. Our strategy for the periods presented was largely focused on repositioning our portfolio towards securities with attributes our Manager believes reduce the level of prepayment risk in light of current and anticipated interest rates, federal government programs, general economic conditions and other factors.

Table of Contents

Loss on Derivative Instruments and Trading Securities, Net

The following table is a summary of our loss on derivative instruments and trading securities, net for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009 (in thousands):

	For the three months		For the nine months	
	2010	2009	2010	2009
Realized (loss) gain from derivative instruments and trading securities:				
TBAs and forward settling agency securities	\$ (9,157)	\$ (3,158)	\$ (12,396)	\$ (1,592)
Interest rate swaptions	9,298		9,056	
Interest rate swaps not designated as hedges under ASC 815	(1,014)		(2,125)	
U.S. government securities	372		1,815	
Short sales of U.S. government securities	(330)		(330)	
Hedge ineffectiveness related to missed forecasts on interest rate swaps designated as hedges under ASC 815				(948)
Put options			(328)	
Other	96		96	
Total realized (loss) gain from derivative instruments and trading securities, net	(735)	(3,158)	(4,212)	(2,540)
Unrealized (loss) gain from derivative instruments and trading securities:(1)				
TBAs and forward settling agency securities	1,394	(58)	(3,810)	(523)
Interest-only strips	(865)		(7,802)	
Interest rate swaptions	(2,301)		(2,315)	
Interest rate swaps not designated as hedges under ASC 815	(1,201)		(1,201)	
Hedge ineffectiveness on interest rate swaps accounted for as hedges under ASC 815	(25)	(219)	(340)	496
Total unrealized (loss) gain from derivative instruments and trading securities, net	(2,998)	(277)	(15,468)	(27)
Total loss from derivative instruments and trading securities, net	\$ (3,733)	\$ (3,435)	\$ (19,680)	\$ (2,567)

(1) Unrealized (loss) gain from derivatives and trading securities includes reversals of prior period amounts for settled or expired derivatives and trading securities.

The increase in the net loss from derivatives and trading securities for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 over the prior period is due to unrealized losses on interest-only strips that are remeasured at fair value through earnings and an increase in hedging activity involving derivative instruments that were not designated as hedges under ASC 815 and. These instruments, while not designated as hedges under ASC 815, were entered into to manage the potential adverse impact of short term changes in interest rates on the value of our investments and our cash flows.

Further details regarding our derivatives and related hedging activity for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009 are discussed in Note 3 and 6 to our consolidated financial statements in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q.

Management Fees and General and Administrative Expenses

Edgar Filing: American Capital Agency Corp - Form 10-Q

We pay our Manager a base management fee payable monthly in arrears in an amount equal to one twelfth of 1.25% of our Equity. Our Equity is defined as our month-end stockholders' equity, adjusted to exclude the effect of any unrealized gains or losses included in either retained earnings or OCI, each as computed in

Table of Contents

accordance with GAAP. There is no incentive compensation payable to our Manager pursuant to the management agreement. We incurred management fees of \$2.7 million and \$1.2 million during the three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively, and \$6.8 million and \$3.0 million during the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively. The increase in management fees compared to prior periods was due to an increase in the amount of Equity outstanding as a result new equity capital raised during the 12 months ended September 30, 2010.

General and administrative expenses were \$1.9 million and \$1.5 million for the three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively, and \$5.4 million and \$4.5 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively. Our total expenses as a percentage of our average stockholders' equity declined to 2.15% for the three months ended September 30, 2010 compared to 2.78% in the prior period and declined to 2.28% for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 compared to 3.14% in the prior period due to improved operating leverage.

Net Income and Net Return on Equity

Net income was \$60.0 million, or \$1.69 per basic and diluted share, for the three months ended September 30, 2010, compared to \$31.2 million, or \$1.82 per basic and diluted share, for the prior period. Our annualized net return on average equity declined to 27.9% for the current period compared to 32.9% for the prior period. While many factors may affect net income per share and the annualized return on our average equity, the primary factors impacting their decline for the current period were a decrease in gains from the sale of our agency securities of \$0.24 per share partially offset by a decrease in net losses on our derivatives and trading securities of \$0.09 per share. Although our interest income declined \$0.14 per share over the period, net interest income per share remained unchanged at \$1.24 per share, due to a reduction in our average cost of funds and an 18% increase in our average leverage over the prior period.

Net income was \$150.0 million, or \$4.97 per basic and diluted share, for the nine months ended September 30, 2010, compared to \$77.9 million, or \$4.95 per basic and diluted share, for the prior period. Our annualized net return on average equity declined to 28.1% for the current period compared to 32.6% for the prior period. The increase in net income per share of \$0.02 was driven by an increase in gains from the sale of our agency securities of \$0.77 per share and a reduction in expenses of \$0.07 per share, partially offset by a reduction of net interest income of \$0.32 per share and a increase in loss on derivative instruments and trading securities of \$0.49 per share. The decrease in our annualized return on average equity, despite the increase in our net income per share, was largely due to an increase of our average equity due to new equity capital raised during the twelve months ended September 30, 2010.

Dividends

For the three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, we declared dividends of \$1.40 per share. For the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, we declared dividends of \$4.20 and \$3.75 per share, respectively. As a REIT, we are required to distribute annually 90% of our taxable income to maintain our status as a REIT and all of our taxable income to avoid Federal, state and local corporate income taxes. We can treat dividends declared by September 15 and paid by December 31 as having been a distribution of our taxable income for our prior tax year. As of September 30, 2010, we did not have any undistributed taxable income from 2009. We intend to distribute sufficient dividends to eliminate our taxable income for 2010. However, we may elect not to distribute sufficient dividends to eliminate our taxable income so long as we distribute at least 90% of our taxable income in order to maintain our qualification as a REIT. Income as determined under GAAP differs from income as determined under tax rules because of both temporary and permanent differences in income and expense recognition. Examples include temporary differences for unrealized gains and losses on derivative instruments and trading securities recognized in income for GAAP but are excluded from taxable income until realized or settled, differences in the CPR used to amortize premiums or accrete discounts as well as hedge ineffectiveness, and stock-based compensation and permanent differences for excise tax expense.

Table of Contents

As a REIT, if we fail to distribute in any calendar year at least the sum of (i) 85% of our ordinary income for such year, (ii) 95% of our capital gain net income for such year, and (iii) any undistributed taxable income from the prior year, we would be subject to a non-deductible 4% federal excise tax on the excess of such required distribution over the sum of (i) the amounts actually distributed and (ii) the amounts of income we retained and on which we have paid corporate income tax. Dividends declared by December 31 and paid by January 31 count as having been a distribution of our taxable income for the prior tax year. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010, we accrued a federal excise tax of \$0.3 million because we believe it is more likely than not that we will have undistributed taxable income for excise tax purposes at the end of the year. We did not accrue excise tax on undistributed taxable income for the nine months ended September 30, 2009.

LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

Our primary sources of funds are borrowings under master repurchase agreements, equity offerings, asset sales and monthly principal and interest payments on our investment portfolio. Because the level of these borrowings can be adjusted on a daily basis, the level of cash and cash equivalents carried on the balance sheet is significantly less important than the potential liquidity available under our borrowing arrangements. We currently believe that we have sufficient liquidity and capital resources available for the acquisition of additional investments, repayments on borrowings and the payment of cash dividends as required for our continued qualification as a REIT. To qualify as a REIT, we must distribute annually at least 90% of our taxable income. To the extent that we annually distribute all of our taxable income in a timely manner, we will generally not be subject to federal and state income taxes. We currently expect to distribute all of our taxable income. This distribution requirement limits our ability to retain earnings and thereby replenish or increase capital for operations.

During the nine months ended September 30, 2010, we issued 7.7 million shares of our common stock under our direct stock purchase plan for proceeds of \$204.3 million. Additionally, we completed two public offerings in 2010. In May 2010, we sold 6.9 million shares of our common stock, including the over-allotment option, at a public offering price of \$25.75 per share, for \$169.0 million of proceeds, net of underwriters discount and other offering costs. On October 1, 2010, we completed the sale of 13.2 million shares of our common stock, including the over-allotment option, at a public offering price of \$26.00 per share, for \$328.1 million of proceeds, net of underwriters discount and other offering costs.

To the extent we raise additional equity capital through secondary equity offerings or under our direct stock purchase plan, we currently anticipate using cash proceeds from such transactions to purchase additional agency securities, to make scheduled payments of principal and interest on our repurchase agreements and for other general corporate purposes. There can be no assurance, however, that we will be able to raise additional equity capital at any particular time or on any particular terms.

As part of our investment strategy, we borrow against our investment portfolio pursuant to master repurchase agreements. We expect that our borrowings pursuant to repurchase transactions under such master repurchase agreements generally will have maturities that range from 30 to 90 days, but may have maturities of less than 30 days or up to 364 days. When adjusted for net payables and receivables for agency securities purchased but not yet settled and other debt, our leverage ratio was 9.8 times the amount of our stockholders' equity as of September 30, 2010, which does not reflect the impact of net proceeds received from our follow-on equity offering that closed on October 1, 2010. Our cost of borrowings under master repurchase agreements generally corresponds to LIBOR plus or minus a margin. We have master repurchase agreements with 21 financial institutions, subject to certain conditions. As of September 30, 2010, borrowings under repurchase arrangements secured by agency securities totaled \$8.0 billion and other debt associated with a structured transaction accounted for as a financing transaction totaled \$0.1 billion. As of September 30, 2010, we did not have an amount at risk with any counterparty greater than 10% of our stockholders' equity. Refer to Note 5 to our consolidated financial statements in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for further details regarding our borrowings under repurchase agreements and other debt and weighted average interest rates as of September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009.

Table of Contents

Amounts available to be borrowed under our repurchase agreements are dependent upon lender collateral requirements and the lender's determination of the fair value of the securities pledged as collateral, which fluctuates with changes in interest rates, credit quality and liquidity conditions within the investment banking, mortgage finance and real estate industries. Under the repurchase agreements, we may be required to pledge additional assets to the repurchase agreement counterparties (i.e., lenders) in the event the estimated fair value of the existing pledged collateral under such agreements declines and such lenders demand additional collateral (a margin call), which may take the form of additional securities or cash. Similarly, if the estimated fair value of investment securities increases due to changes in the market interest rates, lenders may release collateral back to us. Specifically, margin calls would result from a decline in the value of the agency securities securing our repurchase agreements and prepayments on the mortgages securing such agency securities. As of September 30, 2010, we have met all margin requirements. We had unrestricted cash and cash equivalents of \$115.3 million and unpledged agency securities of \$191.9 million available to meet margin calls on our repurchase agreements and derivative instruments as of September 30, 2010.

Although we believe that we will have adequate sources of liquidity available to us through repurchase agreement financing to execute our business strategy, there can be no assurances that repurchase agreement financing will be available to us upon the maturity of our current repurchase agreements to allow us to renew or replace our repurchase agreement financing on favorable terms or at all. If our repurchase agreement lenders default on their obligations to resell the underlying agency securities back to us at the end of the term, we could incur a loss equal to the difference between the value of the agency securities and the cash we originally received.

We maintain an interest rate risk management strategy under which we use derivative financial instruments to manage the adverse impact of interest rates changes on the value of our investment portfolio as well as our cash flows. In particular we attempt to mitigate the risk of the cost of our short-term variable rate liabilities increasing at a faster rate than the earnings of our long-term assets during a period of rising interest rates. The principal derivative instruments that we use are interest rate swaps, supplemented with the use of interest rate swaptions, TBA agency securities, options and futures.

We use interest rate swap agreements to effectively lock in fixed rates on a portion of our short-term borrowings because longer-term committed borrowings are not available at attractive terms. We have entered into interest rate swap agreements to attempt to mitigate the risk of the cost of our short-term variable rate liabilities rising during a period of rising interest rates, thereby compressing the net spreads that we earn on our long-term fixed-rate assets. As of September 30, 2010, we had interest rate swap agreements that were designated as cash flow hedges for accounting purposes of a like amount of our short-term borrowings, or \$4.1 billion of interest rate swaps agreements net of payer and receiver interest rate swap agreements which were not designated as cash flow hedges for accounting purposes. Refer to Note 6 to our consolidated financial statements in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for further details regarding our outstanding interest rate swaps as of September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009 and the related activity for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009.

We may be limited on the types of hedging strategies we can deploy as a REIT under the Code; therefore, we may implement part of our hedging strategy through American Capital Agency TRS, LLC, our domestic taxable REIT subsidiary, which will be subject to federal, state and, if applicable, local income tax. As of September 30, 2010, we had not transacted any hedging transactions through American Capital Agency TRS, LLC.

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

As of September 30, 2010, we did not maintain any relationships with unconsolidated entities or financial partnerships, such as entities often referred to as structured finance, or special purpose or variable interest entities, established for the purpose of facilitating off-balance sheet arrangements or other contractually narrow

Table of Contents

or limited purposes. Further, as of September 30, 2010, we had not guaranteed any obligations of unconsolidated entities or entered into any commitment or intent to provide funding to any such entities.

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This document contains forward-looking statements (within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995) that inherently involve risks and uncertainties. Our actual results and liquidity can differ materially from those anticipated in these forward-looking statements because of changes in the level and composition of our investments and other factors. These factors may include, but are not limited to, changes in general economic conditions, the availability of suitable investments from both an investment return and regulatory perspective, the availability of new investment capital, fluctuations in interest rates and levels of mortgage prepayments, deterioration in credit quality and ratings, the effectiveness of risk management strategies, the impact of leverage, liquidity of secondary markets and credit markets, increases in costs and other general competitive factors.

Item 3. *Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk*

Market Risk

Market risk is the exposure to loss resulting from changes in interest rates, foreign currency exchange rates, commodity prices and equity prices. The primary market risks that we are exposed to are interest rate risk, prepayment risk, liquidity risk, extension risk and inflation risk.

Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is highly sensitive to many factors, including governmental monetary and tax policies, domestic and international economic and political considerations and other factors beyond our control.

Changes in the general level of interest rates can affect our net interest income, which is the difference between the interest income earned on interest-earning assets and the interest expense incurred in connection with our interest-bearing liabilities, by affecting the spread between our interest-earning assets and interest bearing liabilities. Changes in the level of interest rates can also affect the rate of prepayments of our securities and the value of the agency securities that constitute our investment portfolio, which affects our ability to realize gains from the sale of these assets and impacts our ability and the amount that we can borrow against these securities.

We may utilize a variety of financial instruments, including interest rate swaps, swaptions, caps, collars, floors, purchases and sales of TBA agency securities and specified agency securities on a forward basis, or put and call options on securities or securities underlying futures contracts, in order to limit the effects of changes in interest rates on our operations. When we use these types of derivatives to hedge the risk of interest-earning assets or interest-bearing liabilities, we may be subject to certain risks, including the risk that losses on a hedge position will reduce the funds available for payments to holders of our common stock and that the losses may exceed the amount we invested in the instruments.

Edgar Filing: American Capital Agency Corp - Form 10-Q

Our profitability and the value of our investment portfolio (including derivatives used for hedging purposes) may be adversely affected during any period as a result of changing interest rates including resulting changes in forward yield curves. The following table quantifies the estimated changes in net interest income and investment portfolio value should interest rates go up or down by 50 and 100 basis points, assuming the yield curves of the rate shocks will be parallel to each other and the current yield curve. These estimates were compiled using a combination of third-party services, market data and internal models. All changes in income and value are measured as percentage changes from the projected net interest income and investment portfolio value at the base interest rate scenario. The base interest rate scenario assumes interest rates as of September 30, 2010. Given the

Table of Contents

low level of interest rates, we also apply a floor of 0% for all anticipated interest rates included in our assumptions, such that any hypothetical interest rate decrease would have a limited positive impact on our funding costs beyond a certain level. However, because estimated prepayment speeds are unaffected by this floor, it is expected that an increase in our prepayment speeds as a result of a hypothetical interest rate decrease would result in an acceleration of our premium amortization and could result in reinvestment of such prepaid principal into lower yielding assets.

Actual results could differ materially from estimates, especially in the current market environment. The accuracy of the projected agency securities prices relies on assumptions that define specific agency securities spreads and varying prepayment assumptions at projected interest rate levels. To the extent that these estimates or other assumptions do not hold true, which is likely in a period of high price volatility, actual results will likely differ materially from projections and could be larger or smaller than the estimates in the table below. Moreover, if different models were employed in the analysis, materially different projections could result. In addition, while the tables below reflect the estimated impact of interest rate increases and decreases on a static portfolio we may from time to time sell any of our agency securities as a part of our overall management of our investment portfolio.

Change in Interest Rate	Percentage Change in Projected Net Interest Income	Percentage Change in Projected Portfolio Value, with Effect of Derivatives
+100 Basis Points	0.8%	-1.3%
+50 Basis Points	1.6%	-0.5%
-50 Basis Points	-7.1%	0.2%
-100 Basis Points	-20.5%	0.0%

Prepayment Risk

Premiums and discounts associated with the purchase of agency securities are amortized or accreted into interest income over the projected lives of the securities, including contractual payments and estimated prepayments using the interest method. Furthermore, U.S. Government agency or U.S. Government entity buyouts of loans in imminent risk of default, loans that have been modified, or loans that have defaulted will generally be reflected as prepayments on agency securities and also increase the uncertainty around these estimates. Our policy for estimating prepayment speeds for calculating the effective yield is to evaluate published prepayment data for similar agency securities, market consensus and current market conditions. If the actual prepayment experienced differs from our estimate of prepayments, we will be required to make an adjustment to the amortization or accretion of premiums and discounts that would have an impact on future income.

Spread Risk

Our available-for-sale securities are reflected at their estimated fair value with unrealized gains and losses excluded from earnings and reported in OCI pursuant to ASC 320. As of September 30, 2010, the fair value of these securities was \$9.7 billion. When the spread between the yield on our agency securities and U.S. Treasuries or swap rates widens, this could cause the value of our agency securities to decline, creating what we refer to as spread risk. The spread risk associated with our agency securities and the resulting fluctuations in fair value of these securities can occur independent of interest rates and may relate to other factors impacting the mortgage and fixed income markets such as liquidity or changes in required rates of return on different assets.

Liquidity Risk

Edgar Filing: American Capital Agency Corp - Form 10-Q

The primary liquidity risk for us arises from financing long-term assets with shorter-term borrowings in the form of repurchase agreements. Our assets which are pledged to secure repurchase agreements are high-quality agency securities and cash. As of September 30, 2010, we had unrestricted cash and cash equivalents of \$115.3

Table of Contents

million and unpledged agency securities of \$191.9 million available to meet margin calls on our repurchase agreements, derivative instruments and for other corporate purposes. However, should the value of our agency securities pledged as collateral suddenly decrease, margin calls relating to our repurchase agreements could increase, causing an adverse change in our liquidity position. As such, we cannot assure that we will always be able to renew (or roll) our repurchase agreements.

Extension Risk

The projected weighted-average life of our investments is based on our assumptions regarding the rate at which the borrowers will prepay the underlying mortgage loans. In general, when we acquire an agency security collateralized by fixed rate mortgages or hybrid ARMs, we may, but are not required to, enter into an interest rate swap agreement or other hedging instrument that effectively fixes our borrowing costs for a period close to the anticipated average life of the fixed-rate portion of the related assets. This strategy is designed to protect us from rising interest rates because the borrowing costs are fixed for the duration of the fixed-rate portion of the related agency security.

However, if prepayment rates decrease in a rising interest rate environment, the life of the fixed-rate portion of the related assets could extend beyond the term of the swap agreement or other hedging instrument. This could have a negative impact on our results from operations, as borrowing costs would no longer be fixed after the end of the hedging instrument while the income earned on the agency securities collateralized by fixed rate mortgages or hybrid ARMs would remain fixed. This situation may also cause the market value of our agency security collateralized by fixed rate mortgages or hybrid ARMs to decline, with little or no offsetting gain from the related hedging transactions. In extreme situations, we may be forced to sell assets to maintain adequate liquidity, which could cause us to incur losses.

Inflation Risk

Virtually all of our assets and liabilities are interest rate sensitive in nature. As a result, interest rates and other factors influence our performance more so than does inflation. Changes in interest rates do not necessarily correlate with inflation rates or changes in inflation rates. Further, our consolidated financial statements are prepared in accordance with GAAP and our distributions are determined by our Board of Directors based primarily by our net income as calculated for income tax purposes. In each case, our activities and balance sheet are measured with reference to historical cost and/or fair market value without considering inflation.

Item 4. *Controls and Procedures*

Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

We maintain disclosure controls and procedures that are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed in our Exchange Act reports is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and forms, and that such information is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure based on the definition of disclosure controls and procedures as promulgated under the SEC Act of 1934, as amended. In designing and evaluating the disclosure controls and procedures, management recognized that any controls and procedures, no matter how well designed and operated, can provide only reasonable assurance of achieving the desired control objectives, and management necessarily was required to apply its judgment in evaluating the cost-benefit relationship of possible controls and procedures.

Edgar Filing: American Capital Agency Corp - Form 10-Q

We, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, evaluated the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures as of September 30, 2010. Based on the foregoing, our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective.

Table of Contents

Changes in Internal Controls over Financial Reporting

There have been no changes in our internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rule 13a-15(f) of the Exchange Act) that occurred during the quarter ended September 30, 2010 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

PART II. OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1. Legal Proceedings

From time to time, we may be involved in various claims and legal actions arising in the ordinary course of business. As of September 30, 2010, we have no legal proceedings.

Item 1A. Risk Factors

There have been no material changes to the risk factors previously disclosed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009, except as described below.

You should carefully consider the risks described below and all other information contained in this interim report on Form 10-Q, including our interim consolidated financial statements and the related notes thereto before making a decision to purchase our securities. The risks and uncertainties described below are not the only ones facing us. Additional risks and uncertainties not presently known to us, or not presently deemed material by us, may also impair our operations and performance.

If any of the following risks actually occur, our business, financial condition or results of operations could be materially adversely affected. If that happens, the trading price of our securities could decline, and you may lose all or part of your investment.

Risks Related to Our Investing, Active Portfolio Management and Financing Strategy

The conservatorship of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac and related efforts, along with any changes in laws and regulations affecting the relationship between Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac and the federal government, may adversely affect our business.

Due to increased market concerns about Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac's ability to withstand future credit losses associated with securities held in their investment portfolios, and on which they provide guarantees, without the direct support of the federal government, on July 30, 2008, the

Edgar Filing: American Capital Agency Corp - Form 10-Q

government passed the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008 (the "HERA"). On September 6, 2008, the FHFA placed Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac into conservatorship and, together with the U.S. Treasury, established a program designed to boost investor confidence in Fannie Mae's and Freddie Mac's debt and mortgage-backed securities. As the conservator of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, the FHFA controls and directs the operations of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac and may (i) take over the assets of and operate Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac with all the powers of the stockholders, the directors and the officers of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac and conduct all business of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac; (ii) collect all obligations and money due to Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac; (iii) perform all functions of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac which are consistent with the conservator's appointment; (iv) preserve and conserve the assets and property of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac; and (v) contract for assistance in fulfilling any function, activity, action or duty of the conservator. A primary focus of the HERA was to increase the availability of mortgage financing by allowing Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac to continue to grow their guarantee business without limit, while limiting net purchases of agency securities to a modest amount.

Table of Contents

through the end of 2009. Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac began gradually reducing the size of their agency security portfolios in 2010.

In addition to FHFA becoming the conservator of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, the U.S. Department of Treasury, or the U.S. Treasury, took three additional actions: (i) the U.S. Treasury and FHFA entered into preferred stock purchase agreements between the U.S. Treasury and Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac pursuant to which the U.S. Treasury required that each of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac maintain a positive net worth; (ii) the U.S. Treasury established a secured lending credit facility which provided Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac and the Federal Home Loan Banks access to a liquidity backstop; and (iii) the U.S. Treasury initiated a temporary program to purchase agency securities issued by Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac.

Initially, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac each issued \$1.0 billion of senior preferred stock to the U.S. Treasury and warrants to purchase 79.9% of the fully-diluted common stock outstanding of each government sponsored enterprise, or GSE, at a nominal exercise price. Pursuant to these stock purchase agreements, each of Fannie Mae's and Freddie Mac's mortgage and agency security portfolios may not exceed \$900 billion as of December 31, 2009. In December 2009, these stock purchase agreements were amended to allow Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae additional flexibility to reduce the size of their portfolios over time, such that each portfolio will be required to decline by 10% of the maximum portfolio size permitted as of December 31, 2009 each year until such portfolio reaches \$250 billion. Given the highly fluid and evolving nature of these events, it is unclear how our business will be impacted.

Although the U.S. Treasury has committed capital to Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, there can be no assurance that these actions will be adequate for their needs. If these actions are inadequate, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac could continue to suffer losses and could fail to honor their guarantees and other obligations. The future roles of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac could be significantly reduced and the nature of their guarantees could be considerably limited relative to historical measurements. Any changes to the nature of the guarantees provided by Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac could redefine what constitutes an agency security and could have broad adverse market implications.

On November 25, 2008, the Federal Reserve announced that it would initiate a program to purchase \$100 billion in direct obligations of Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac and the Federal Home Loan Banks and \$500 billion in agency securities backed by Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac and Ginnie Mae. In March 2009, the size of the direct obligation purchase program was expanded to \$200 billion and the agency securities purchase program was expanded to a total of \$1.25 trillion. Purchases of direct obligations began in December 2008 and purchases of agency securities began in January 2009. Both purchase programs were concluded in the first quarter of 2010. One of the effects of these programs has been to increase competition for available direct obligations and agency securities, with the result being an increase in pricing of such securities. The Federal Reserve may hold the direct obligations and agency mortgage securities to maturity or may sell them on the open market. Sales by the Federal Reserve of the direct obligations or agency mortgage securities that it currently holds may reduce the market price of such securities. Reductions in the market price of agency mortgage securities may negatively impact our book value.

In December 2009, the U.S. Treasury extended the duration and increased the size of its credit support commitment to Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac under the HERA. However, the U.S. Treasury could stop providing credit support to Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac in the future. The problems faced by Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac resulting in their being placed into conservatorship have stirred debate among some federal policy makers regarding the continued role of the federal government in providing liquidity for mortgage loans. Following expiration of the current authorization, each of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac could be dissolved and the federal government could stop providing liquidity support of any kind to the mortgage market. If Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac were eliminated, or their structures were to change radically, we would not be able to acquire agency securities from these companies, which would eliminate the major component of our business model.

Table of Contents

In April 2010, Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae announced tighter underwriting guidelines for ARMs and hybrid interest-only ARMs in particular. Specifically, Freddie Mac announced that it would no longer purchase interest-only mortgages and Fannie Mae changed its eligibility criteria for purchasing and securitizing ARMs to protect consumers from potentially dramatic payment increases. Although our portfolio includes fixed-rate agency securities, we also purchase adjustable-rate agency securities and tighter underwriting standards could reduce the supply of ARMs, resulting in a reduction in the attractiveness of the asset class.

The Federal Reserve also recently announced in November 2010 that it plans to initiate another purchase program for an additional \$600 billion of longer-term US Treasury securities by mid-2011 as part of its continuing effort to help stimulate the economy by reducing mortgage and interest rates. Such action could negatively affect our income or our net book value by impacting interest rate levels and the spread between mortgage rates and other interest rates. Thus, these actions could reduce the yields on assets that we are targeting for purchase thereby reducing our net interest spreads. Alternatively, the Federal Reserve's actions may not have the intended impact and could create inflation and higher interest rates. This could negatively impact our net book value or our funding cost.

As indicated above, recent legislation has changed the relationship between Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac and the federal government and requires Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac to reduce the amount of mortgage loans they own or for which they provide guarantees on agency securities. Future legislation could further change the relationship between Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac and the federal government, and could also nationalize or eliminate such entities entirely. Any law affecting these GSEs may create market uncertainty and have the effect of reducing the actual or perceived credit quality of securities issued or guaranteed by Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac. As a result, such laws could increase the risk of loss on investments in Fannie Mae and/or Freddie Mac agency security. It also is possible that such laws could adversely impact the market for such securities and spreads at which they trade. All of the foregoing could materially adversely affect our business, operations and financial condition.

There can be no assurance that the actions of the U.S. Treasury, the Federal Reserve and other governmental and regulatory bodies for the purpose of stabilizing the financial markets, or market response to those actions, will achieve the intended effect, our business may not benefit from these actions and further government or market developments could adversely impact us. Further, when the U.S. Government withdraws its support under these programs, the market may lose liquidity, adversely impacting us.

In response to the financial issues affecting the banking system and financial markets and going concern threats to investment banks and other financial institutions, the U.S. Government implemented a number of initiatives intended to bolster the banking system, the financial and housing markets and the economy as a whole. These initiatives include: (i) the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008, or the EESA, which established the Troubled Asset Relief Program, (ii) the voluntary Capital Purchase Program which was implemented under authority provided in the EESA and gives the U.S. Treasury the authority to purchase up to \$250 billion of senior preferred shares in qualifying U.S. controlled banks, saving associations, and certain bank and savings and loan holding companies engaged only in financial activities, (iii) a program to purchase \$200 billion in direction obligations issued by Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac and the Federal Home Loan Banks and \$1.25 trillion in agency securities backed by Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac and Ginnie Mae, which was concluded during the first quarter of 2010, (iv) a program to purchase up to \$300 billion of U.S. Treasury securities, (v) the creation of the PPIP for private investors to purchase mortgage-related assets from financial institutions and (vi) the TALF which is intended to increase securitization activity for various consumer and commercial loans and other financial assets, including student loans, automobile loans and leases, credit card receivables, SBA small business loans and commercial mortgage-backed securities. There can be no assurance these programs and proposals will have a beneficial impact on the financial and housing markets or the banking system. To the extent the market does not respond favorably to these programs and proposals or the initiatives do not function as intended, our business may not receive the anticipated positive impact therefrom.

Table of Contents

Changes in prepayment rates may adversely affect our profitability.

The agency securities in our investment portfolio are backed by pools of mortgage loans. We receive payments, generally, from the payments that are made on these underlying mortgage loans. When borrowers prepay their mortgage loans at rates that are faster or slower than expected, this results in prepayments that are faster or slower than expected on the related agency securities. These faster or slower than expected payments may adversely affect our profitability.

We may purchase agency securities that have a higher interest rate than the then prevailing market interest rate. In exchange for this higher interest rate, we may pay a premium to par value to acquire the security. In accordance with GAAP, we amortize this premium over the expected term of the agency security based on our prepayment assumptions. If the agency security is prepaid in whole or in part at a faster than expected rate, however, we must expense all or a part of the remaining unamortized portion of the premium that was paid at the time of the purchase, which will adversely affect our profitability.

We also may purchase agency securities that have a lower interest rate than the then prevailing market interest rate. In exchange for this lower interest rate, we may pay a discount to par value to acquire the security. We accrete this discount over the expected term of the agency security based on our prepayment assumptions. If the agency security is prepaid at a slower than expected rate, however, we must accrete the remaining portion of the discount at a slower than expected rate. This will extend the expected life of the portfolio and result in a lower than expected yield on securities purchased at a discount to par.

Prepayment rates generally increase when interest rates fall and decrease when interest rates rise, but changes in prepayment rates are difficult to predict. Prepayments can also occur when borrowers sell the property and use the sale proceeds to prepay the mortgage as part of a physical relocation or when borrowers default on their mortgages and the mortgages are prepaid from the proceeds of a foreclosure sale of the property. Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac will generally, among other conditions, purchase mortgages that are 120 days or more delinquent from MBS trusts when the cost of guarantee payments to security holders, including advances of interest at the security coupon rate, exceeds the cost of holding the nonperforming loans in their portfolios. Consequently, prepayment rates also may be affected by conditions in the housing and financial markets, which may result in increased delinquencies on mortgage loans, the GSEs' cost of capital, general economic conditions and the relative interest rates on FRM and ARM loans, which could lead to an acceleration of the payment of the related principal. Additionally, changes in the GSEs' decisions as to when to repurchase delinquent loans can materially impact prepayment rates.

In addition, the introduction of government programs, such as the U.S. Treasury's HASP program, are expected to increase the availability of mortgage credit to a large number of homeowners in the U.S., which we expect will impact the prepayment rates for the entire mortgage securities market, but primarily for Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac agency securities. While increased prepayment rates negatively impact our interest income for agency securities purchased at a premium, we believe we have sourced agency securities with collateral attributes that improve the prepayment profile of our investment portfolio. However, these are new programs and there could be additional programs or changes to existing programs made in the future, such that there is substantial uncertainty around the magnitude of prepayment speed increases and our asset selection process may not provide the desired benefits. While we will seek to manage prepayment risk, in selecting investments we must balance prepayment risk against other risks, the potential returns of each investment and the cost of hedging our risks. No strategy can completely insulate us from prepayment or other such risks, and we may deliberately retain exposure to prepayment or other risks.

Table of Contents

Risks Related to Conflicts of Interest in Our Relationship with Our Manager and American Capital

Our Manager's management fee is based on the amount of our Equity and is payable regardless of our performance.

Our Manager is entitled to receive a management fee from us that is based on the amount of our Equity (as defined in our management agreement), regardless of the performance of our investment portfolio. For example, we would pay our Manager a management fee for a specific period even if we experienced a net loss during the same period. The amount of the management fee is equal to one-twelfth of 1.25% of our Equity and therefore is only increased by raising new Equity, which could result in a conflict of interest between our manager and our shareholders with respect to the timing and terms of our equity offerings. Our Manager's entitlement to substantial nonperformance-based compensation may reduce its incentive to devote sufficient time and effort to seeking investments that provide attractive risk-adjusted returns for our investment portfolio. This in turn could harm our ability to make distributions to our stockholders and the market price of our common stock.

Risks Related to Our Common Stock

Changes in laws or regulations governing our operations or our failure to comply with those laws or regulations may adversely affect our business.

We are subject to regulation by laws at the local, state and federal level, including securities and tax laws and financial accounting and reporting standards. These laws and regulations, as well as their interpretation, may be changed from time to time. Accordingly, any change in these laws or regulations or the failure to comply with these laws or regulations could have a material adverse impact on our business. Certain of these laws and regulations pertain specifically to REITs.

The market price of our common stock may fluctuate significantly.

The market price and marketability of shares of our securities may from time to time be significantly affected by numerous factors, including many over which we have no control and that may not be directly related to us. These factors include the following:

price and volume fluctuations in the stock market from time to time, which are often unrelated to the operating performance of particular companies;

significant volatility in the market price and trading volume of securities of REITs or other companies in our sector, which is not necessarily related to the operating performance of these companies;

changes in regulatory policies, tax guidelines and financial accounting and reporting standards, particularly with respect to REITs;

Edgar Filing: American Capital Agency Corp - Form 10-Q

changes in our dividend policy and earnings or variations in operating results;

any shortfall in revenue or net income or any increase in losses from levels expected by securities analysts;

decreases in our net asset value per share;

general economic trends and other external factors; and

loss of major repurchase agreement providers.

Fluctuations in the trading price of our common stock may adversely affect the liquidity of the trading market for our common stock and, in the event that we seek to raise capital through future equity financings, our ability to raise such equity capital.

Item 2. *Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds*

None.

Item 3. *Defaults Upon Senior Securities*

None.

Item 4. *Removed and Reserved*

Item 5. *Other Information*

None.

Table of Contents

Item 6. Exhibits

(a) Exhibits:

- 10.1 Underwriting Agreement, dated September 28, 2010, among American Capital Agency Corp., American Capital Agency Management, LLC, Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner and Smith Incorporated, Citigroup Global Markets Inc., Deutsche Bank Securities Inc. and UBS Securities LLC, as representatives of the several underwriters listed on Schedule A attached thereto.
- 31.1 Certification pursuant to Section 302(a) of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 31.2 Certification pursuant to Section 302(a) of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 32 Certification pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

Table of Contents

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Company has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

AMERICAN CAPITAL AGENCY CORP.

Date: November 8, 2010

By: /s/ MALON WILKUS
Malon Wilkus

Chairman of the Board of Directors,

President and Chief Executive Officer

Table of Contents

INDEX TO EXHIBITS

Exhibit No.	Description
10.1	Underwriting Agreement, dated September 28, 2010, among American Capital Agency Corp., American Capital Agency Management, LLC, Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner and Smith Incorporated, Citigroup Global Markets Inc., Deutsche Bank Securities Inc. and UBS Securities LLC, as representatives of the several underwriters listed on Schedule A attached thereto.
31.1	Certification pursuant to Section 302(a) of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
31.2	Certification pursuant to Section 302(a) of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
32	Certification pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.