UNITED FIRE & CASUALTY CO Form 10-Q July 30, 2010

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

#### **FORM 10-O**

Quarterly Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 for the quarterly period ended June 30, 2010 Commission File Number 001-34257

# **UNITED FIRE & CASUALTY COMPANY** (Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Iowa (State of Incorporation)

42-0644327

(IRS Employer Identification No.)

118 Second Avenue, S.E., Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52407 (Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

Registrant s telephone number, including area code: (319) 399-5700

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports) and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. YES b NO o 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 o NO o

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. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer o Accelerated filer b Non-accelerated filer o Smaller reporting company o Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Act). YES o NO b As of July 26, 2010, 26,321,219 shares of common stock were outstanding.

### United Fire & Casualty Company and Subsidiaries Index to Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q June 30, 2010

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#### FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION

It is important to note that our actual results could differ materially from those projected in our forward-looking statements. Information concerning factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those in the forward-looking statements is contained in Part I, Item 2 Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and Part II, Item 1A Risk Factors.

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# PART I FINANCIAL INFORMATION ITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

United Fire & Casualty Company and Subsidiaries Consolidated Balance Sheets

(In Thousands, Except Per Share Data and Number of Shares)		(une 30, 2010 naudited)	De	ecember 31, 2009
ASSETS	<b>(</b>	,		
Investments				
Fixed maturities (including \$72,956, at fair value, of securities loaned in				
2010)				
Held-to-maturity, at amortized cost (fair value \$8,103 in 2010 and \$9,720 in				
2009)	\$	8,017	\$	9,605
Available-for-sale, at fair value (amortized cost \$2,169,436 in 2010 and	,	2 202 526		2 150 201
\$2,075,733 in 2009)  Figure 1	4	2,283,526 123,996		2,158,391
Equity securities, at fair value (cost \$51,490 in 2010 and \$53,306 in 2009) Trading securities, at fair value (amortized cost \$9,461 in 2010 and \$11,724		123,990		132,718
in 2009)		9,454		12,613
Mortgage loans		7,067		7,328
Policy loans		7,504		7,947
Other long-term investments		17,145		15,880
Short-term investments		1,100		7,359
	\$ 2	2,457,809	\$	2,351,841
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	156,839	\$	190,852
Accrued investment income		29,458		28,697
Securities lending collateral		75,013		
Premiums receivable		144,371		127,456
Deferred policy acquisition costs		88,222		92,505
Property and equipment (primarily land and buildings, at cost, less				
accumulated depreciation of \$32,100 in 2010 and \$30,812 in 2009)		21,815		22,278
Reinsurance receivables and recoverables		48,310		40,936
Prepaid reinsurance premiums		1,759		1,673
Income taxes receivable		16,733		28,197
Other assets		16,250		18,109
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 3	3,056,579	\$	2,902,544
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY Liabilities Future policy benefits and losses, claims and loss settlement expenses				
Property and casualty insurance	\$	601,527	\$	606,045
Life insurance	•	1,354,009	7	1,321,600
Unearned premiums		222,891		206,010
Securities lending payable		75,013		
Accrued expenses and other liabilities		79,489		84,934

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Deferred income taxes		17,715		11,220
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$	2,350,644	\$	2,229,809
Stockholders Equity Common stock, \$3.33 1/3 par value; authorized 75,000,000 shares; 26,321,219 and 26,533,040 shares issued and outstanding in 2010 and 2009,	Φ	02 222	Φ.	00.442
respectively Additional paid-in capital Retained earnings Accumulated other comprehensive income, net of tax	\$	87,737 137,322 411,118 69,758	\$	88,443 139,403 384,242 60,647
TOTAL STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY	\$	705,935	\$	672,735
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY	\$	3,056,579	\$	2,902,544

The Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements are an integral part of these statements.

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United Fire & Casualty Company and Subsidiaries Consolidated Statements of Income (Unaudited)

	T	hree Month	s End	led June					
(In Thousands, Except Per Share Data		30	0,		Six Months Ended June 30,				
and Number of Shares)		2010		2009		2010	2009		
Revenues									
Net premiums earned	\$	117,082	\$	119,671	\$	231,390	\$	237,992	
Investment income, net of investment expenses Realized investment gains (losses)		28,291		27,359		56,259		50,630	
Other-than-temporary impairment charges		(117)		(13,583)		(459)		(18,139)	
All other realized gains		2,463		430		5,531		1,498	
Total realized investment gains (losses)		2,346		(13,153)		5,072		(16,641)	
Other income		295		169		418		328	
	\$	148,014	\$	134,046	\$	293,139	\$	272,309	
Benefits, Losses and Expenses									
Losses and loss settlement expenses	\$	72,757	\$	90,558	\$	141,120	\$	176,636	
Future policy benefits  Amortization of deferred policy acquisition		7,375		5,874		13,765		9,262	
costs		28,057		28,795		54,573		58,201	
Other underwriting expenses		8,587		9,782		17,371		17,910	
Interest on policyholders accounts		10,647		10,397		21,448		20,169	
	\$	127,423	\$	145,406	\$	248,277	\$	282,178	
Income (loss) before income taxes	\$	20,591	\$	(11,360)	\$	44,862	\$	(9,869)	
Federal income tax expense (benefit)		5,197		(6,026)		10,076		(7,805)	
Net Income (Loss)	\$	15,394	\$	(5,334)	\$	34,786	\$	(2,064)	
Weighted average common shares									
outstanding		26,356,353		26,591,677		6,395,593		6,602,518	
Basic earnings (loss) per common share	\$	0.58	\$	(0.20)	\$	1.32	\$	(0.08)	
Diluted earnings (loss) per common share	\$	0.58	\$	(0.20)	\$	1.32	\$	(0.08)	
Cash dividends declared per common share	\$	0.15	\$	0.15	\$	0.30	\$	0.30	

The Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements are an integral part of these statements.

# United Fire & Casualty Company and Subsidiaries Consolidated Statement of Stockholders Equity (Unaudited)

(In Thousands, Except Per Share Data and Number of Shares)	Six ths Ended 2 30, 2010
Common stock Balance, beginning of y ear Shares repurchased (213,076 shares) Shares issued for stock-based awards (1,255 shares)	\$ 88,443 (710) 4
Balance, end of period	\$ 87,737
Additional paid-in capital Balance, beginning of year Compensation expense and related tax benefit for stock-based award grants Shares repurchased Shares issued for stock-based awards	\$ 139,403 879 (2,979) 19
Balance, end of period	\$ 137,322
Retained earnings Balance, beginning of year Net income Dividends on common stock (\$0.30 per share)	\$ 384,242 34,786 (7,910)
Balance, end of period	\$ 411,118
Accumulated other comprehensive income, net of tax Balance, beginning of year Change in net unrealized appreciation (1) Change in underfunded status of employee benefit plans	\$ 60,647 8,417 694
Balance, end of period	\$ 69,758
Summary of changes Balance, beginning of year Net income All other changes in stockholders equity accounts	\$ 672,735 34,786 (1,586)
Balance, end of period	\$ 705,935

(1)

The change in net unrealized appreciation is net of reclassification adjustments.

The Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements are an integral part of these statements.

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# United Fire & Casualty Company and Subsidiaries Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows (Unaudited)

(In Thousands)	S	June 30, 2009		
Cash Flows From Operating Activities		2010		2007
Net income	\$	34,786	\$	(2,064)
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating	•	2 - 4,1 - 2	_	(=, = )
activities				
Net accretion of bond premium		1,891		1,548
Depreciation and amortization		1,455		1,805
Stock-based compensation expense		878		1,267
Realized investment (gains) losses		(5,072)		16,641
Net cash flows from trading investments		2,379		(2,352)
Deferred income tax expense (benefit)		2,976		(9,673)
Changes in:		ŕ		, , ,
Accrued investment income		(761)		(1,012)
Premiums receivable		(16,915)		(19,685)
Deferred policy acquisition costs		(7,294)		(3,992)
Reinsurance receivables		(7,374)		7,225
Prepaid reinsurance premiums		(86)		(295)
Income taxes receivable		11,464		10,341
Other assets		1,859		(541)
Future policy benefits and losses, claims and loss settlement expenses		12,659		15,274
Unearned premiums		16,881		16,565
Accrued expenses and other liabilities		(4,377)		4,746
Deferred income taxes		(1,388)		,
Other, net		(494)		953
Total adjustments	\$	8,681	\$	38,815
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$	43,467	\$	36,751
Cash Flows From Investing Activities				
Proceeds from sale of available-for-sale investments	\$	3,402	\$	8,360
Proceeds from call and maturity of held-to-maturity investments		1,603		2,675
Proceeds from call and maturity of available-for-sale investments		192,888		177,632
Proceeds from short-term and other investments		3,200		17,925
Purchase of available-for-sale investments		(277,962)		(251,479)
Purchase of short-term and other investments		(3,308)		(7,534)
Change in securities lending collateral		(75,013)		(69,845)
Net purchases and sales of property and equipment		(960)		(4,662)
Net cash used in investing activities	\$	(156,150)	\$	(126,928)
Cash Flows From Financing Activities				
Policyholders account balances				
Deposits to investment and universal life contracts	\$	70,669	\$	163,857
Withdrawals from investment and universal life contracts		(55,437)		(91,610)

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Change in securities lending payable	75,013	69,845
Payment of cash dividends	<b>(7,910)</b>	(7,982)
Repurchase of common stock	(3,689)	(538)
Issuance of common stock	23	19
Tax benefit from issuance of common stock	1	(23)
Net cash provided by financing activities	\$ 78,670	\$ 133,568
Net Change in Cash and Cash Equivalents Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Period	\$ (34,013) 190,852	\$ 43,391 109,582
Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Period	\$ 156,839	\$ 152,973

The Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements are an integral part of these statements.

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United Fire & Casualty Company and Subsidiaries

Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements

#### NOTE 1. NATURE OF OPERATIONS AND BASIS OF PRESENTATION

The terms United Fire, we, us, or our refer to United Fire & Casualty Company or United Fire & Casualty Company and its consolidated subsidiaries and affiliate, as the context requires. In the opinion of the management of United Fire, the accompanying unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements contain all adjustments (consisting of normal recurring adjustments) necessary to present fairly the financial position, results of operations and cash flows for the periods presented. The results reported for the interim periods are not necessarily indicative of the results of operations that may be expected for the year. The unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements should be read in conjunction with our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009. The review report of Ernst & Young LLP as of and for the three- and six-month periods ended June 30, 2010, accompanies the unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements included in Item 1 of Part I.

We maintain our records in conformity with the accounting practices prescribed or permitted by the insurance departments of the states in which we are domiciled. To the extent that certain of these practices differ from U.S. generally accepted accounting principles ( GAAP ), we have made adjustments to present the accompanying unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements in conformity with GAAP.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates. The financial statement categories that are most dependent on management estimates and assumptions include investments, deferred policy acquisition costs, and future policy benefits and losses, claims and loss settlement expenses.

In the preparation of the accompanying unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements, we have evaluated all material subsequent events or transactions that occurred after the balance sheet date through the date on which the financial statements were issued for potential recognition or disclosure in our unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements. Certain prior year amounts have been reclassified to conform to the current year presentation.

#### **Cash and Cash Equivalents**

For purposes of reporting cash flows, cash and cash equivalents include cash, money market accounts and non-negotiable certificates of deposit with original maturities of three months or less. We made payments for income taxes of \$10.5 million and \$1.8 million for the six-month periods ended June 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively. We received tax refunds totaling \$13.5 million and \$10.3 million in the six-month periods ended June 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively, due to overpayment of prior year tax and operating loss carrybacks. We made no significant payments of interest for the six-month periods ended June 30, 2010 and 2009, other than for interest credited to policyholders accounts.

#### **Income Taxes**

We reported a federal income tax expense of \$10.1 million (at an effective tax rate of 22.5 percent) and a federal income tax benefit of \$7.8 million for the six-month periods ended June 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively. Our effective tax rate is less than the federal statutory rate of 35.0 percent due principally to the effect of tax-exempt municipal bond interest income and non-taxable dividend income.

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We have recognized no liability for unrecognized tax benefits for the six-month periods ended June 30, 2010 and 2009. In addition, we have not accrued for interest and penalties related to unrecognized tax benefits. However, if interest and penalties would need to be accrued related to unrecognized tax benefits, such amounts would be recognized as a component of federal income tax expense.

We file income tax returns in the U.S. federal jurisdiction and various state jurisdictions. We are no longer subject to U.S. federal or state income tax examination for years before 2004. There are no ongoing examinations of income tax returns by federal or state tax authorities except for the State of Illinois examinations of 2007 and 2008 tax years, which are currently ongoing.

#### **Legal Proceedings**

We have been named as a defendant in various lawsuits, including actions seeking certification from the court to proceed as a class action suit and actions filed by individual policyholders, relating to disputes arising from damages that occurred as a result of Hurricane Katrina in 2005. As of June 30, 2010, there were approximately 130 individual policyholder cases pending, and an additional seven class action cases pending. These cases have been filed in Louisiana state courts and federal district courts and involve, among other claims, disputes as to the amount of reimbursable claims in particular cases, as well as the scope of insurance coverage under homeowners and commercial property policies due to flooding, civil authority actions, loss of use and business interruption. Certain of these cases also claim a breach of duty of good faith or violations of Louisiana insurance claims-handling laws or regulations and involve claims for punitive or exemplary damages. Other cases claim that under Louisiana so-called Valued Policy Law, the insurers must pay the total insured value of a home that is totally destroyed if any portion of such damage was caused by a covered peril, even if the principal cause of the loss was an excluded peril. Other cases challenge the scope or enforceability of the water damage exclusion in the policies.

Several actions pending against various insurers, including us, were consolidated for purposes of pretrial discovery and motion practice under the caption In re Katrina Canal Breaches Consolidated Litigation, Civil Action No. 05-4182 in the United States District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana. In August 2009, the Federal trial court ruled in that case that certification of policyholder claims as a class would be inappropriate. This ruling has been appealed by the plaintiff policyholders. Federal court rulings in that case are not binding on state courts, which do not have to follow the federal court ruling on class certification.

Following an April 2008 Louisiana Supreme Court decision finding that flood damage was clearly excluded from coverage, both state and federal courts have been reviewing pending lawsuits seeking class certification and other pending lawsuits in order to expedite pre-trial discovery and to move the cases towards trial. In the six-month period ended June 30, 2010, we concluded approximately 85 of the 215 lawsuits that were pending at December 31, 2009. In July 2008, Lafayette Insurance Company participated in a hearing in St Bernard Parish, Louisiana after which the court entered an order certifying a class defined as all Lafayette Insurance Company personal lines policyholders within an eight parish area in and around New Orleans who sustained wind damage as a result of Hurricane Katrina and whose claims were at least partially denied or allegedly misadjusted. We appealed this order as we feel it was not supported by the evidence. On October 14, 2009, we were notified that our appeal to the Louisiana Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals was denied. We sought review of this decision by the Louisiana Supreme Court and in May 2010 we were notified that the Court had agreed to review the case. The case is currently in the briefing stage. We have reserved each case included in this class action based on the estimated exposure attributable to our policy. However, if we do not obtain relief in our appeal, we will review recorded reserves and adjust them if we believe adjustment to be necessary.

We intend to continue to defend the cases related to losses incurred as a consequence of Hurricane Katrina. We have established our loss and loss settlement expense reserves on the assumption that the application of the Valued Policy Law will not result in our having to pay damages for perils not otherwise covered. We believe that, in the aggregate, these reserves are adequate. However, our evaluation of these claims and the adequacy of recorded reserves may change if we encounter adverse developments in the further defense of these claims.

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We consider all of our other litigation pending as of June 30, 2010 to be ordinary, routine, and incidental to our business.

#### **Securities Lending**

We participate in a securities lending program administered by The Northern Trust Company (Northern Trust). The program generates investment income and we receive discounts from Northern Trust on unrelated investment fees. Pursuant to the lending agreement, Northern Trust, as our agent, loans certain of our fixed maturity securities to other institutions for short periods of time. Borrowers of these securities must deposit collateral, generally in the form of cash, with Northern Trust that is equal to at least 102% of the market value of the loaned securities, plus accrued interest. Northern Trust marks the loaned securities to market daily at an aggregate level per borrower. As the market value of the loaned securities fluctuates, the borrower either deposits additional collateral or Northern Trust refunds collateral to the borrower in order to maintain the collateral level at 102%. We retain the right to terminate the loan at any time, whereupon the borrower must return the loaned securities to Northern Trust. If the borrower defaults and does not return the securities, Northern Trust will use the deposited collateral to purchase equivalent securities for us. If Northern Trust is unable to purchase equivalent securities, we would receive the deposited collateral in place of the borrowed securities.

Under the accounting guidance for secured borrowing transactions, the collateral deposited by the borrower and our obligation to return that collateral to the borrower is reported in the accompanying Consolidated Balance Sheets as an asset (securities lending collaterals) and a corresponding liability (securities lending payables) at June 30, 2010. There were no securities on loan under the program at December 31, 2009. At June 30, 2010, we had securities totaling \$73.0 million on loan under the program. At June 30, 2010, collateral received and managed by our agent having a fair value of \$75.0 million had been reinvested in short-term highly liquid investments.

#### **Recently Issued Accounting Standards**

### Adopted Accounting Standards

Fair Value Measurements

In January 2010, the FASB issued revised accounting guidance that clarifies and provides additional disclosure requirements related to recurring and non-recurring fair value measurements. The guidance requires separate disclosures for the amounts of significant transfers in and out of Level 1 and Level 2 fair value measurements, along with an explanation for the transfers. Additionally, a separate disclosure is required for purchases, sales, issuances and settlements on a gross basis for Level 3 fair value measurements. The guidance also provides additional clarification for both the level of disaggregation reported for each class of assets or liabilities and disclosures of inputs and valuation techniques used to measure fair value for both recurring and non-recurring fair value measurements for assets and liabilities categorized as Level 2 or Level 3.

The new disclosures and clarifications of existing disclosures are effective for interim and annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2009, except for the disclosures about purchases, sales, issuances, and settlements in the roll forward of activity in Level 3 fair value measurements, which are effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2010. Refer to Note 3 for the information required to be disclosed upon our adoption of the guidance effective January 1, 2010. We are currently evaluating the impact the adoption of the guidance effective January 1, 2011 will have on the disclosures made in our Consolidated Financial Statements.

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#### **NOTE 2. SUMMARY OF INVESTMENTS**

#### **Fair Value of Investments**

A reconciliation of the amortized cost (cost for equity securities) to fair value of investments in held-to-maturity and available-for-sale fixed maturity and equity securities as of June 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, is as follows:

June 30, 2010 HELD-TO-MATURITY Fixed maturities Bonds		Cost or Amortized Cost		(Dollars in 'Gross Inrealized Oppreciation	Ur	ands) Gross nrealized preciation	Fa	air Value
United States government Collateralized mortgage obligations Mortgage-backed securities States, municipalities and political subdivisions	\$	318 487	\$	6 67	\$		\$	324 554
General obligations Special revenue		1,355 5,857		18 135		140		1,373 5,852
<b>Total Held-to-Maturity Fixed Maturities</b>	\$	8,017	\$	226	\$	140	\$	8,103
AVAILABLE-FOR-SALE Fixed maturities Bonds United States government and government- sponsored enterprises Collateralized mortgage obligations Mortgage-backed securities US Treasury Agency States, municipalities and political subdivisions	\$	17,502 2 42,683 103,868	\$	2,263 1,037 252	\$	29	\$	19,765 2 43,720 104,091
General obligations		370,429		24,960 11,054		113		395,276
Special revenue Foreign bonds Canadian Other foreign Public utilities Electric Natural gas Other		220,513 73,123 88,710 212,476 60,919 3,450		11,954 5,047 4,549 14,081 3,497 277		485 45 404		231,982 78,170 93,214 226,153 64,416 3,727
Corporate bonds Bank, trust and insurance companies Transportation Energy Technology Basic industry		268,671 27,934 133,611 122,988 122,004		12,002 1,451 6,189 7,205 6,026		5,085 5 436 22 196		275,588 29,380 139,364 130,171 127,834

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Credit cyclicals Other		61,378 239,175		3,867 16,749	496		65,245 255,428	
Total Available-For-Sale Fixed Maturities	\$ 2	\$ 2,169,436		121,406	\$ 7,316	\$ 2,283,520		
Equity securities								
Common stocks								
Public utilities								
Electric	\$	6,319	\$	3,513	\$ 47	\$	9,785	
Natural gas		838		782			1,620	
Bank, trust and insurance companies								
Banks		6,478		28,752	153		35,077	
Insurance		3,129		9,048	124		12,053	
Other		1,505		628			2,133	
All other common stocks								
Energy		4,903		3,460	28		8,335	
Technology		8,100		5,371	265		13,206	
Basic industry		7,019		4,735	28		11,726	
Credit cyclicals		116		549			665	
Other		11,621		16,734	141		28,214	
Nonredeemable preferred stocks		1,462			280		1,182	
Total Available-for-Sale Equity Securities	\$	51,490	\$	73,572	\$ 1,066	\$	123,996	
Total Available-for-Sale Securities	\$ 2	,220,926	\$	194,978	\$ 8,382	\$	2,407,522	

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	Cost or Amortized		τ	(Dollars in Gross Inrealized		ands) Gross nrealized		
December 31, 2009		Cost	A	ppreciation	De	preciation	Fa	ir Value
HELD-TO-MATURITY			•			•		
Fixed maturities								
Bonds								
United States government								
Collateralized mortgage obligations	\$	955	\$	21	\$		\$	976
Mortgage-backed securities		534		73				607
States, municipalities and political								
subdivisions						_		
General obligations		1,478		21		5		1,494
Special revenue		6,638		163		158		6,643
<b>Total Held-to-Maturity Fixed Maturities</b>	\$	9,605	\$	278	\$	163	\$	9,720
AVAILABLE-FOR-SALE								
Fixed maturities								
Bonds								
United States government and government-								
sponsored enterprises								
Collateralized mortgage obligations	\$	17,452	\$	1,500	\$		\$	18,952
Mortgage-backed securities		2						2
US Treasury		35,278		564		192		35,650
Agency		71,667		6		1,048		70,625
States, municipalities and political								
subdivisions								
General obligations		371,098		19,408		128		390,378
Special revenue		219,991		8,605		1,234		227,362
Foreign bonds								
Canadian		55,979		2,847				58,826
Other		79,115		3,571		272		82,414
Public utilities								
Electric		212,699		11,603		298		224,004
Natural gas		54,936		2,870				57,806
Other		3,597		181				3,778
Corporate bonds		207 400		10.061		0.061		• • • • • • •
Banks, trusts and insurance companies		287,409		10,061		8,261		289,209
Transportation		30,427		1,775		15		32,187
Energy		145,933		6,653		247		152,339
Technology		84,123		5,180		131		89,172
Basic industry		105,631		4,266		330		109,567
Credit cyclicals		69,686		2,912		13		72,585
Other		230,710		13,874		1,049		243,535
Total Available-For-Sale Fixed Maturities	\$ 2	2,075,733	\$	95,876	\$	13,218	\$ 2	2,158,391

Equity securities						
Common stocks						
Public utilities						
Electric	\$	6,646	\$ 3,649	\$ 262	\$	10,033
Natural gas		838	846			1,684
Banks, trusts and insurance companies						
Banks		6,517	29,503	131		35,889
Insurance		3,129	8,634	111		11,652
Other		1,505	437			1,942
All other common stocks						
Transportation		38	1,555			1,593
Energy		4,903	4,650	24		9,529
Technology		8,100	5,995	185		13,910
Basic industry		7,156	6,403	110		13,449
Credit cyclicals		1,402	1,774			3,176
Other		11,611	17,241	20		28,832
Nonredeemable preferred stocks		1,461		432		1,029
Total Available-for-Sale Equity Securities	\$	53,306	\$ 80,687	\$ 1,275	\$	132,718
Total Available-for-Sale Securities	\$ 2	,129,039	\$ 176,563	\$ 14,493	\$ 2	2,291,109

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#### **Maturities**

The amortized cost and fair value of held-to-maturity, available-for-sale and trading securities at June 30, 2010, by contractual maturity, are shown in the following table. Actual maturities may differ from contractual maturities because borrowers may have the right to call or prepay obligations with or without call or prepayment penalties. Mortgage-backed securities and collateralized mortgage obligations may be subject to prepayment risk and are therefore not categorized by contractual maturity.

		Held-To-	Mat	urity		Available	-For							
(Dollars in Thousands)	An	nortized		Fair	A	Amortized Fair		An	Amortized		Fair			
June 30, 2010		Cost	7	Value		Cost	Value		st Value Co		Cost	Value		
Due in one year or less	\$	556	\$	563	\$	209,044	\$	214,061	\$	2,815	\$	2,748		
Due after one year through five														
years		6,337		6,310		1,085,130	1	1,150,011		459		494		
Due after five years through 10														
years		319		352		759,337		797,673						
Due after 10 years						98,421		102,014		6,187		6,212		
Mortgage-backed securities		487		554		2		2						
Collateralized mortgage														
obligations		318		324		17,502		19,765						
	\$	8,017	\$	8,103	\$ 2	2,169,436	\$ 2	2,283,526	\$	9,461	\$	9,454		

#### **Realized Investment Gains and Losses**

We determine the cost of investments sold by the specific identification method. A summary of realized investment gains (losses) resulting from investment sales, calls and other-than-temporary impairment ( OTTI ) charges, is as follows:

	Tì	nree Month 30		Six Months Ended June 30,				
(In Thousands)		2010	10		2010			2009
Realized investment gains (losses)								
Fixed maturities	\$	373	\$	(2,222)	\$	862	\$	(5,497)
Equity securities		2,565		(11,472)		4,909		(11,982)
Trading securities		(592)		541		(684)		838
Other long-term investments						(15)		
Total realized investment gains (losses)	\$	2,346	\$	(13,153)	\$	5,072	\$	(16,641)

For the six-month periods ended June 30, 2010 and 2009, the proceeds and gross realized gains and losses on the sale of available-for-sale securities were as follows:

	Th	ree Month	Six Months Ended June 30,					
(In Thousands)		2	2009		2010	2009		
Proceeds from sales	\$	2,800	\$	311	\$	3,402	\$	8,360
Gross realized gains		1,513				1,915		
Gross realized losses				346				426

There were no sales of held-to-maturity securities during the three-month or six-month periods ended June 30, 2010 and 2009.

Our investment portfolio includes trading securities with embedded derivatives. These securities, which are primarily convertible redeemable preferred debt securities, are recorded at fair value. Income or loss, including the change in the fair value of these trading securities, is recognized currently in earnings as a component of realized investment gains and losses. Our portfolio of trading securities had a fair value of \$9.5 million and \$12.6 million at June 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, respectively.

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The realized gains (losses) attributable to the change in fair value during the reporting period of trading securities held at June 30, 2010 and 2009 were as follows:

	Three Mo	Three Months Ended June 30,						
(In Thousands)	2010	2	009	20	)10	2009		
Trading								
Realized gains	\$	\$	541	\$		\$	815	
Realized losses	609	9			896			

#### **Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements**

Pursuant to an agreement with one of our limited liability partnership holdings, we are contractually committed to make capital contributions up to \$15.0 million, upon request by the partnership, through December 31, 2017. As of June 30, 2010, our remaining potential contractual obligation was \$12.2 million.

#### **Unrealized Appreciation and Depreciation**

A summary of changes in net unrealized investment appreciation is as follows:

	Six Months Ended June							
(In Thousands)			2009					
Change in net unrealized investment appreciation								
Available-for-sale fixed maturities and equity securities	\$	24,526	\$	71,398				
Deferred policy acquisition costs		(11,576)		(40,670)				
Income tax effect		(4,533)		(10,755)				
Total change in net unrealized appreciation, net of tax	\$	8,417	\$	19,973				

We continually monitor the difference between our cost basis and the estimated fair value of our investments. Our accounting policy for impairment recognition requires OTTI charges to be recorded when we determine that it is more likely than not that we will be unable to collect all amounts due according to the contractual terms of the fixed maturity security or that the anticipated recovery in fair value of the equity security will not occur in a reasonable amount of time. Impairment charges on investments are recorded based on the fair value of the investments at the measurement date. Factors considered in evaluating whether a decline in value is other-than-temporary include: the length of time and the extent to which fair value has been less than cost; the financial condition and near-term prospects of the issuer; our intention to hold the investment; and the likelihood that we will be required to sell the investment.

The tables on the following pages present a summary of fixed maturity and equity securities that were in an unrealized loss position at June 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009. It is possible that we could recognize OTTI charges in future periods on securities held at June 30, 2010, if future events or information cause us to determine that a decline in fair value is other-than-temporary.

We believe the unrealized depreciation in value of our fixed maturity portfolio is primarily attributable to changes in market interest rates and not the credit quality of the issuer. We have no intent to sell and it is more likely than not that we will not be required to sell the securities until such time that the fair value recovers or the securities mature. We have evaluated the unrealized losses reported for all of our equity securities at June 30, 2010, and have concluded that the duration and severity of these losses do not warrant the recognition of an OTTI charge at June 30, 2010. Our largest unrealized loss greater than 12 months on an individual equity security at June 30, 2010 was \$.2 million. We have no intention to sell any of these securities prior to a recovery in value, but will continue to monitor the fair value reported for these securities as part of our overall process to evaluate investments for OTTI recognition.

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(Dollars in Thousands)	Les	ss than 12	months Gross	12	months o		Total Gross			
June 30, 2010	Number of	Fair	Unrealized	Number of	Fair	Unrealize	ed Fair	. (	Unrealized	
Type of Investment HELD-TO-MATURITY Fixed maturities Bonds States, municipalities and politics subdivisions	Issues	Value	Depreciation		Value	Depreciati	on Valu	e D	epreciation	
Special revenue		\$	\$	1	\$ 700	\$ 14	0 \$ '	700	<b>\$</b> 140	
Total Held-to-Maturity Fixed Maturities		\$	\$	1	\$ 700	\$ 14	0 \$	700 5	<b>\$</b> 140	
AVAILABLE-FOR-SALE Fixed maturities Bonds United States government and government-sponsored enterprise Agency States, municipalities and political				2	9,971	. 2	9 9,	971	29	
subdivisions General obligations Special revenue Foreign bonds	1 4	491 3,990		4	3,032 9,143		,	523 133	113 485	
Other foreign Public utilities	1	3,199	11	1	1,394	3	4 4,	593	45	
Electric Corporate bonds Bank, trust and insurance	1	1,300	100	3	7,179	30	4 8,4	<b>179</b>	404	
companies Transportation Energy	5 6	8,875 12,097	76 383	39 1 1	48,066 2,001 2,119		5 2,0	001	5,085 5 436	
Technology Basic industry Other	1 1 2	999 1,047 7,794	1 1	1 3 5	3,035 5,591 7,151	5 2 19	1 4,0 5 6,0	034 638	22 196 496	
Total Available-For-Sale Fixed Maturities	22	\$ 39,792	\$ 1,030	69	\$ 98,682	2 \$ 6,28	6 \$138,4	174	\$ 7,316	
Equity securities Common stocks Public utilities Electric Bank, trust and insurance companies Banks	3	\$ 299	\$ 9	5	\$ 412 403	·		711 S	\$ 47 153	

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Insurance	1	247	41	4		430	83		677	124
All other common stocks										
Energy	2	184	28						184	28
Technology	7	953	30	3		861	235		1,814	265
Basic industry	2	123	28						123	28
Other	8	2,442	126	3		264	15		2,706	141
Nonredeemable preferred stocks		·		7		1,182	280		1,182	280
Total Available-for-Sale Equity Securities	23	\$ 4,248	\$ 262	23	\$	3,552	\$ 804	\$	7,800	\$ 1,066
Total Available-for-Sale Securities	45	\$ 44,040	\$ 1,292	92	\$1	102,234	\$ 7,090	<b>\$</b> 1	146,274	\$ 8,382
Total	45	\$ 44,040	\$ 1,292	93	<b>\$</b> 1	02,934	\$ 7,230	<b>\$</b> 1	146,974	\$ 8,522

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(I TIL 1)	Less than 12 months				12	12 months or longer						Total			
(In Thousands) December 31, 2009	Number	r	Fair		Gross realized N	Number of	•	Fair		Gross realized		Fair		Gross realized	
Type of Investment HELD-TO-MATURITY Fixed maturities Bonds States, municipalities and	Issues		Value	Dep	reciation							Value	Dej	preciation	
political subdivisions General obligations Special revenue	1	\$	300	\$	5	1	\$	679	\$	158	\$	300 679	\$	5 158	
Total Held-to-Maturity Fixed Maturities	1	\$	300	\$	5	1	\$	679	\$	158	\$	979	\$	163	
AVAILABLE-FOR-SALI Fixed maturities Bonds United States government and government- sponsored enterprises															
US Treasury Agency States, municipalities and political subdivisions	5 5	\$	11,772 24,755	\$	192 246	10	\$	42,198	\$	802	\$	11,772 66,953	\$	192 1,048	
General obligations Special revenue	2 21		966 22,892		23 463	3 10		2,118 9,401		105 771		3,084 32,293		128 1,234	
Foreign bonds Other Public utilities	2		1,329		19	4		10,492		253		11,821		272	
Electric Corporate bonds Banks, trusts and insurance	1		4,958		99	6		7,761		199		12,719		298	
companies Transportation	13		20,789		813	46 1		70,871 1,997		7,448 15		91,660 1,997		8,261 15	
Energy Technology Basic industry	1 4 6		3,189 8,263 15,843		37 65 136	5 1 2		9,710 952 4,806		210 66 194		12,899 9,215 20,649		247 131 330	
Credit cyclicals Other	3		5,217 3,270		13 72	7		16,892		977		5,217 20,162		13 1,049	
Total Available-For-Sale Fixed Maturities	64	\$	123,243	\$	2,178	95	\$	177,198	\$	11,040	\$	300,441	\$	13,218	
Equity securities															

Equity securities Common stocks Public utilities

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Electric Banks, trusts and insurance companies		\$		\$	12	\$	2,074	\$ 262	\$	2,074	\$ 262
Banks					1		425	131		425	131
Insurance	2		299	46	3		391	65		690	111
All other common stock											
Energy					2		188	24		188	24
Technology					5		2,235	185		2,235	185
Basic industry					2		151	110		151	110
Other					3		258	20		258	20
Nonredeemable preferred stocks					5		1,030	432		1,030	432
Total Available-for-Sale Equity Securities	2	\$	299	\$ 46	33	\$	6,752	\$ 1,229	\$	7,051	\$ 1,275
Total Available-for-Sale Securities	66	\$ 1	23,542	\$ 2,224	128	\$ 1	183,950	\$ 12,269	\$3	307,492	\$ 14,493
Total	67	\$ 1	23,842	\$ 2,229	129	\$ 1	184,629	\$ 12,427	\$ 3	308,471	\$ 14,656

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#### **NOTE 3.** FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

We estimate the fair value of our financial instruments based on relevant market information or by discounting estimated future cash flows at estimated current market discount rates appropriate to the particular asset or liability shown.

In most cases, we use quoted market prices to determine the fair value of fixed maturities, equity securities, trading securities and short-term investments. Where quoted market prices do not exist, we base fair values on pricing or valuation techniques that require inputs that are both unobservable and significant to the overall fair value measurement of the financial instrument. Such inputs may reflect management s own assumptions about the assumptions a market participant would use in pricing the financial instrument.

We base the estimated fair value of mortgage loans on discounted cash flows, utilizing the market rate of interest for similar loans in effect at the valuation date.

The estimated fair value of policy loans is equivalent to carrying value. We do not make policy loans for amounts in excess of the cash surrender value of the related policy. In all instances, the policy loans are fully collateralized by the related liability for future policy benefits for traditional insurance policies or by the policyholders account balance for interest-sensitive policies.

Our other long-term investments consist primarily of holdings in limited liability partnership funds that are valued by the various fund managers and are recorded on the equity method of accounting. In management s opinion, these values represent fair value.

For cash and cash equivalents and accrued investment income, carrying value is a reasonable estimate of fair value, due to its short-term nature.

We calculate the fair value of the liabilities for all annuity products based upon the estimated value of the business, using current market rates and forecast assumptions and risk-adjusted discount rates, when relevant observable market data does not exist.

A summary of the carrying value and estimated fair value of our financial instruments at June 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009 is as follows:

June	*	December 31, 2009					
	• •		Carrying				
Fair Value	Value	Fair Value	Value				
\$ 8,103	\$ 8,017	\$ 9,720	\$ 9,605				
2,283,526	2,283,526	2,158,391	2,158,391				
9,454	9,454	12,613	12,613				
123,996	123,996	132,718	132,718				
7,962	7,067	8,229	7,328				
7,504	7,504	7,947	7,947				
17,145	17,145	15,880	15,880				
1,100	1,100	7,359	7,359				
156,839	156,839	190,852	190,852				
29,458	29,458	28,697	28,697				
\$ 996,028	\$ 929,562	\$ 1,087,457	\$ 914,003				
84,598	82,786	85,336	77,025				
	\$ 8,103 2,283,526 9,454 123,996 7,962 7,504 17,145 1,100 156,839 29,458	\$ 8,103 \$ 8,017 2,283,526 2,283,526 9,454 9,454 123,996 123,996 7,962 7,067 7,504 7,504 17,145 17,145 1,100 1,100 156,839 156,839 29,458 \$ 929,562	Fair Value       Carrying Value       Fair Value         \$ 8,103       \$ 8,017       \$ 9,720         2,283,526       2,283,526       2,158,391         9,454       9,454       12,613         123,996       123,996       132,718         7,962       7,067       8,229         7,504       7,504       7,947         17,145       17,145       15,880         1,100       1,100       7,359         156,839       156,839       190,852         29,458       29,458       28,697				

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FASB guidance on fair value measurements includes the application of a fair value hierarchy that requires us to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs when measuring fair value. Our financial instruments are categorized into a three-level hierarchy, which is based upon the priority of the inputs to the valuation technique. The fair value hierarchy gives the highest priority to quoted prices in active markets for identical assets (Level 1) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3). If the inputs used to measure fair value fall within different levels of the hierarchy, the category level is based on the lowest priority level input that is significant to the fair value measurement of the instrument.

Financial instruments recorded at fair value are categorized in the fair value hierarchy as follows:

Level 1: Valuations are based on unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical financial instruments.

Level 2: Valuations are based on quoted prices, other than quoted prices included in Level 1, in markets that are not active or on inputs that are observable either directly or indirectly for the full term of the financial instrument.

Level 3: Valuations are based on pricing or valuation techniques that require inputs that are both unobservable and significant to the overall fair value measurement of the financial instrument. Such inputs may reflect management s own assumptions about the assumptions a market participant would use in pricing the financial instrument.

Transfers between levels, if any, are recorded as of the beginning of the period.

To determine the fair value of the majority of our investments, we utilize prices obtained from independent, nationally recognized pricing services. We obtain one price for each security. When the pricing services cannot provide a determination of fair value for a specific security, we obtain non-binding price quotes from broker-dealers that we have had several years—experience with and who have demonstrated knowledge of the subject security. We request and utilize one broker quote per security.

We validate the prices obtained from pricing services and brokers prior to their use for reporting purposes by evaluating their reasonableness on a monthly basis. Our validation process includes a review for unusual fluctuations. In our opinion, the pricing obtained at June 30, 2010, was reasonable.

In order to determine the proper classification in the fair value hierarchy for each security where the price is obtained from an independent pricing service, we obtain and evaluate the vendors pricing procedures and inputs used to price the security, which include unadjusted quoted market prices for identical securities, such as a New York Stock Exchange closing price and quoted prices for identical securities in markets that are not active. For fixed maturity securities, an evaluation of interest rates and yield curves observable at commonly quoted intervals, volatility, prepayment speeds, and credit risks and default rates may also be performed. We have determined that these processes and inputs result in fair values and classifications consistent with the applicable FASB guidance on fair value measurements.

We review our fair value hierarchy categorizations on a quarterly basis, at which time the classification of certain financial instruments may change if the input observations have changed.

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The following tables present the categorization for our financial instruments measured at fair value on a recurring basis in our Consolidated Balance Sheets at June 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009:

(In Thousands) Description AVAILABLE-FO R-SALE	Ju	ne 30, 2010	L	Fair Level 1		e Measuren Level 2		ents Level 3	
Fixed maturities Bonds United States government and government- sponsored enterprises Collateralized mortgage obligations	\$	19,765	\$		\$	19,765	\$		
Mortgage-backed securities	φ	19,703	φ		Ψ	19,703	φ		
US Treasury		43,720				43,720			
Agency		104,091				104,091			
States, municipalities and political subdivisions		101,051				10.,071			
General obligations		395,276				395,276			
Special revenue		231,982				230,926		1,056	
Foreign bonds		- ,				).		,	
Canadian		78,170				78,170			
Other		93,214				91,820		1,394	
Public utilities		,				,		,	
Electric		226,153				226,118		35	
Natural gas		64,416				64,416			
Other		3,727				3,727			
Corporate bonds									
Banks, trusts and insurance companies		275,588				263,437		12,151	
Transportation		29,380				29,380			
Energy		139,364				139,364			
Technology		130,171				130,171			
Basic industry		127,834				123,028		4,806	
Credit cyclicals		65,245				62,595		2,650	
Other		255,428				249,314		6,114	
Total Available-For-Sale Fixed Maturities	\$	2,283,526	\$		\$ 2	2,255,320	\$	28,206	
Equity securities									
Common stocks									
Public utilities									
Electric	\$	9,785	\$	9,785	\$		\$		
Natural gas	Ψ	1,620	Ψ	1,620	Ψ		Ψ		
Banks, trusts and insurance companies		1,020		1,020					
Banks		35,077		35,077					
Insurance		12,053		12,053					
Other		2,133		2,133					
All other common stocks		,		,					
Energy		8,335		8,335					
Technology		13,206		13,178		28			
Basic industry		11,726		11,726					
Credit cyclicals		665		665					

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Other Nonredeemable preferred stocks	28,214 1,182	27,950 953		264 229	
Total Available-for-Sale Equity Securities	\$ 123,996	\$ 123,475	\$	521	\$
Total Available-for-Sale Securities	\$ 2,407,522	\$ 123,475	\$ 2,	,255,841	\$ 28,206
TRADING Fixed maturities					
Bonds Foreign bonds	\$ 2,444	\$	\$	2,444	\$
Corporate bonds Energy Technology	2,492 2,822			2,492 2,822	
Other Redeemable Preferred Stock	320 1,376	1,376		320	
<b>Total Trading Securities</b>	\$ 9,454	\$ 1,376	\$	8,078	\$
<b>Short-Term Investments</b>	\$ 1,100	\$ 1,100	\$		\$
Money Market Accounts	\$ 36,773	\$ 36,773	\$		\$
Total	\$ 2,454,849	\$ 162,724	\$ 2,	,263,919	\$ 28,206

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(In Thousands)	Dag	ember 31,		Value	Value Measurements					
Description	Dec	2009	T	Level 1	T	Level 2	Level 3			
AVAILABLE-FOR-SALE		2007		LC VCI I	Ec (C) 2		Et i Level 2			ic ver 5
Fixed maturities										
Bonds										
United States government and government-										
sponsored enterprises										
Collateralized mortgage obligations	\$	18,952	\$		\$	18,952	\$			
Mortgage-backed securities	Ψ	2	Ψ		Ψ	2	Ψ			
US Treasury		35,650				35,650				
Agency		70,625				70,625				
States, municipalities and political subdivisions		70,023				70,023				
General obligations		390,378				390,378				
Special revenue		227,362				226,252		1,110		
Foreign bonds		221,302				220,232		1,110		
Canadian		58,826				58,826				
Other		82,414				81,020		1,394		
Public utilities		02,414				01,020		1,334		
Electric		224,004				223,934		70		
Natural gas		57,806				57,806		70		
Other		3,778				3,778				
Corporate bonds		3,776				3,776				
Banks, trusts and insurance companies		289,209				275,181		14,028		
		32,187				32,187		14,026		
Transportation		152,339				152,339				
Energy		89,172								
Technology  Pagin industry		•				89,172		1 906		
Basic industry		109,567				104,761		4,806		
Credit cyclicals		72,585				69,737		2,848		
Other		243,535				237,332		6,203		
Total Available-For-Sale Fixed Maturities	\$	2,158,391	\$		\$ 2	2,127,932	\$	30,459		
Equity securities										
Common stocks										
Public utilities										
Electric	\$	10,033	\$	10,033	\$		\$			
Natural gas		1,684		1,684						
Banks		35,889		35,889						
Insurance		11,652		11,652						
Other		1,942		1,942						
All other common stocks										
Transportation		1,593		1,593						
Energy		9,529		9,529						
Technology		13,910		13,879		31				
Basic industry		13,449		13,449						
Credit cyclicals		3,176		3,176						
Other		28,832		28,573		259				

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Nonredeemable preferred stocks	1,029	1,029			
Total Available-for-Sale Equity Securities	\$ 132,718	\$ 132,428	\$	290	\$
Total Available-for-Sale Securities	\$ 2,291,109	\$ 132,428	\$ 2,128,222		\$ 30,459
TRADING Fixed maturities Bonds Foreign bonds Public utilities Corporate bonds Energy Technology Other Redeemable Preferred Stock	\$ 2,689 1,460 2,310 4,314 532 1,308	\$ 211 1,308	\$	2,689 1,460 2,310 4,314 321	\$
<b>Total Trading Securities</b>	\$ 12,613	\$ 1,519	\$	11,094	\$
<b>Short-Term Investments</b>	\$ 7,359	\$ 1,100	\$	6,005	\$ 254
Money Market Accounts	\$ 96,163	\$ 96,163	\$		\$
Total	\$ 2,407,244	\$ 231,210	\$ 2	,145,321	\$ 30,713

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The fair value of securities that are categorized as Level 1 is based on quoted market prices that are readily and regularly available.

The fair value of securities that are categorized as Level 2 is determined by management after reviewing market prices obtained from independent pricing services and brokers. Such estimated fair values do not necessarily represent the values for which these securities could have been sold at the reporting date. Our independent pricing services and brokers obtain prices from reputable pricing vendors in the marketplace. They continually monitor and review the external pricing sources, while actively participating to resolve any pricing issues that may arise.

For the six-month period ended June 30, 2010, the change in our securities categorized as Level 1 and Level 2, shown in the foregoing tables, is the result of investment purchases made during the period. This change is reflected in the amount of funds held in our money markets at June 30, 2010 as compared to December 31, 2009, as we primarily used these funds to purchase fixed maturity securities. Also contributing to the change was an increase in the unrealized appreciation on available-for-sale securities since December 31, 2009. There were no significant transfers of securities in or out of Level 1 or Level 2 during the period.

The securities that may be categorized as Level 3 include holdings in certain private placement fixed maturity and equity securities and certain securities that were determined to be other-than-temporarily impaired in a prior period and for which an active market does not currently exist.

The fair value of our Level 3 private placement securities is determined by management in reliance on pricing received from our independent pricing services and brokers consistent with the estimation of fair value for Level 2 securities.

The fair value of our Level 3 impaired securities was determined primarily based upon management s assumptions regarding the timing and amount of future cash inflows. If a security has been written down or the issuer is in bankruptcy, management relies in part on outside opinions from rating agencies, our lien position on the security, general economic conditions and management s expertise to determine fair value. We have the ability and the positive intent to hold securities until such time that we are able to recover all or a portion of our original investment. If a security does not have a market at the balance sheet date, management will estimate the security s fair value based on other securities in the market. Management will continue to monitor securities after the balance sheet date to confirm that their estimated fair value is reasonable.

The following table provides a summary of the changes in fair value of our Level 3 securities for the three-month period ended June 30, 2010:

(In Thousands)	States, municipalities and political subdivisions		Foreign bonds		Public utilities		Corporate bonds		Total	
Balance at March 31, 2010	\$	1,110	\$	1,394	\$	35	\$	25,813	\$	28,352
Realized gains (1)										
Unrealized gains (1)								47		47
Amortization										
Purchases										
Disposals		(54)						(139)		(193)
Transfers in										
Transfers out										
Balance at June 30, 2010	\$	1,056	\$	1,394	\$	35	\$	25,721	\$	28,206

(1) Realized gains are recorded as a component of

current
operations
whereas
unrealized gains
are recorded as
a component of
comprehensive
income.

The amount reported in the previous table as disposals, included \$.2 million of corporate bonds where an unobservable price was not available at June 30, 2010.

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The following table provides a summary of the changes in fair value of our Level 3 securities for the six-month period ended June 30, 2010:

(In Thousands)	muni and	tates, cipalities political livisions		oreign oonds		ıblic lities		orporate bonds		rt-term stments	Total
Balance at December 31, 2009	\$	1,110	\$	1,394	\$	70	\$	27,885	\$	254	\$ 30,713
Realized gains (1)	Ψ	1,110	Ψ	1,00	Ψ	, 0	4	27,000	4	-0.	Ψ 00,710
Unrealized gains (losses) (1)						(2)		104			102
Amortization											
Purchases											
Disposals		(54)				(33)		(2,522)			(2,609)
Transfers in								254			254
Transfers out										(254)	(254)
Balance at June 30, 2010	\$	1,056	\$	1,394	\$	35	\$	25,721	\$		\$ 28,206

# (1) Realized gains

are recorded as

a component of

current

operations

whereas

unrealized gains

(losses) are

recorded as a

component of

comprehensive

income.

The amount reported in the previous table as disposals under the column corporate bonds, included \$2.1 million of corporate bonds that were disposed of due to issuer debt restructuring. The securities disposed of included \$.3 million of securities previously classified as short-term investments that were transferred to corporate bonds as a result of this debt restructuring.

# **NOTE 4. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS**

Our pension and postretirement benefit expense for the three- and six-month periods ended June 30, 2010 and 2009 is as follows:

	Three Months Ended June				Six Months Ended June				
		3	0,			3	0,		
(In Thousands)		2010		2009		2010		2009	
Pension expense	\$	1,182	\$	1,967	\$	2,544	\$	2,724	
Other postretirement benefit expense		628		687		1,257		1,257	

We previously disclosed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009 that we expected to contribute \$3.0 million to the pension plan in 2010. For the six-month period ended June 30, 2010, we contributed \$1.8 million to the pension plan. We anticipate that the total contribution for the 2010 plan year will not vary significantly from the expected contribution.

# **NOTE 5. STOCK-BASED COMPENSATION**

# Nonqualified Employee Stock Award Plan

The United Fire & Casualty Company 2008 Stock Plan (the 2008 Stock Plan ) authorizes the issuance of restricted stock awards, stock appreciation rights, incentive stock options, and nonqualified stock options for up to 1,900,000 shares of United Fire common stock to employees, with 820,805 authorized shares available for future issuance at June 30, 2010. The 2008 Stock Plan is administered by the Board of Directors, which determines those employees that will receive awards under the 2008 Stock Plan, when awards will be granted, and the terms and conditions of the awards. The Board of Directors may also take any action it deems necessary and appropriate for the administration of the 2008 Stock Plan. Pursuant to the 2008 Stock Plan, the Board of Directors may, in its sole discretion, grant awards to employees of United Fire or any of its affiliated companies who are in positions of substantial responsibility with United Fire.

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Option awards granted pursuant to the 2008 Stock Plan are granted to buy shares of United Fire s common stock at the market value of the stock on the date of grant. All outstanding option awards vest and are exercisable in installments of 20.0 percent of the number of shares covered by the option award each year from the grant date, unless the Board of Directors authorizes the acceleration of vesting. To the extent not exercised, vested option awards accumulate and are exercisable by the awardee, in whole or in part, in any subsequent year included in the option period, but not later than 10 years from the grant date. Restricted stock awards granted pursuant to the 2008 Stock Plan fully vest after five years from the date of issuance, unless accelerated upon the approval of the Board of Directors, at which time United Fire common stock will be issued to the awardee. Restricted stock awards are generally granted free of charge to the eligible employees of United Fire as designated by the Board of Directors.

The activity in the 2008 Stock Plan is displayed in the following table.

	DIA	
	Months	
	Ended	Inception
Authorized Shares Available for Future Award Grants	<b>June 30, 2010</b>	to Date
Beginning balance	919,525	1,900,000
Number of awards granted	(114,070)	(1,139,045)
Number of awards forfeited or expired	15,350	59,850
Ending balance	820,805	820,805
Number of option awards exercised	250	167,292
Number of restricted stock awards vested		

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# Nonqualified Nonemployee Director Stock Option and Restricted Stock Plan

We have a nonemployee director stock option and restricted stock plan that authorizes United Fire to grant restricted stock and nonqualified stock options to purchase 150,000 shares of United Fire s common stock, with 37,003 options available for future issuance at June 30, 2010. The Board of Directors has the authority to determine which nonemployee directors receive awards under the plan, when options and restricted stock shall be granted, the option price, the option expiration date, the date of grant, the vesting schedule of options or whether the options shall be immediately vested, the terms and conditions of options and restricted stock (other than those terms and conditions set forth in the plan) and the number of shares of common stock to be issued pursuant to an option agreement or restricted stock agreement. The Board of Directors may also take any action it deems necessary and appropriate for the administration of the plan.

The activity in our nonemployee director stock option and restricted stock plan is displayed in the following table.

	Six Mandan	
	Months Ended	Inception
Authorized Shares Available for Future Award Grants	<b>June 30, 2010</b>	to Date
Beginning balance	70,003	150,000
Number of awards granted	(33,000)	(119,000)
Number of awards forfeited or expired		6,003
Ending balance	37,003	37,003
Number of awards exercised		

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# **Stock-Based Compensation Expense**

For each of the three-month periods ended June 30, 2010 and 2009, we recognized stock-based compensation expense of \$.4 million. For the six-month periods ended June 30, 2010 and 2009, we recognized stock-based compensation expense of \$.9 million, and \$1.3 million respectively. As of June 30, 2010, we had \$4.1 million in stock-based compensation expense that has yet to be recognized through our results of operations. We expect this compensation to be recognized over the remainder of 2010 and subsequent years according to the following table, except with respect to awards that are accelerated by the Board of Directors, in which case we will recognize any remaining compensation expense in the period in which the awards are accelerated.

(In Thousands)	
2010	\$ 855
2011	1,399
2012	990
2013	548
2014	314
2015	32
Total	\$ 4,138

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# **NOTE 6. SEGMENT INFORMATION**

We have two reportable business segments in our operations: property and casualty insurance and life insurance. The property and casualty insurance segment has three domestic locations from which it conducts its business. All offices target a similar customer base, market the same products and use the same marketing strategies and are therefore aggregated. The life insurance segment operates from our home office. Because all of our insurance is sold domestically, we have no revenues allocable to foreign operations.

We evaluate the two segments on the basis of both statutory accounting practices prescribed by our states of domicile and GAAP. We analyze results based on profitability (i.e., loss ratios), investment results, expenses, and return on equity. The basis we use to determine and analyze segments and to measure segment profit or loss have not changed from that reported in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009.

The following tables for the three-month periods ended June 30, 2010 and 2009 have been reconciled to the amounts reported in our unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements to adjust for intersegment eliminations.

(In Thousands)	Property and Casualty Insurance	Life Insurance		Total
Three Months Ended June 30, 2010 Net premiums earned Investment income, net of investment expenses Realized investment gains (losses) Other income	\$ 105,396 9,049 (721) 75	\$	11,766 19,288 3,067 220	\$ 117,162 28,337 2,346 295
Revenues	\$ 113,799	\$	34,341	\$ 148,140
Intersegment eliminations	(46)		(80)	(126)
Total revenues	\$ 113,753	\$	34,261	\$ 148,014
Net income	\$ 11,424	\$	3,970	\$ 15,394
Assets	\$ 1,344,024	\$	1,712,555	\$ 3,056,579
Invested assets	\$ 956,108	\$	1,501,701	\$ 2,457,809
Three Months Ended June 30, 2009 Net premiums earned Investment income, net of investment expenses Realized investment losses Other income	\$ 109,458 9,125 (7,631) 17	\$	10,290 18,277 (5,522) 152	\$ 119,748 27,402 (13,153) 169
Revenues	\$ 110,969	\$	23,197	\$ 134,166
Intersegment eliminations	(43)		(77)	(120)
Total revenues	\$ 110,926	\$	23,120	\$ 134,046
Net income	\$ (3,783)	\$	(1,551)	\$ (5,334)

Assets \$ 1,319,141 \$ 1,556,893 \$ 2,876,034

Invested assets \$ 874,078 \$ 1,328,842 \$ 2,202,920

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# **Table of Contents**

The following tables for the six-month periods ended June 30, 2010 and 2009 have been reconciled to the amounts reported in our unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements to adjust for intersegment eliminations.

(In Thousands) Six Months Ended June 30, 2010		Property and Casualty Insurance	Life Insurance		Total	
Net premiums earned Investment income, net of investment expenses Realized investment gains Other income		207,375 17,731 1,455 17	\$	24,174 38,619 3,617 401	\$ 231,549 56,350 5,072 418	
Revenues	\$	226,578	\$	66,811	\$ 293,389	
Intersegment eliminations		(91)		(159)	(250)	
Total revenues	\$	226,487	\$	66,652	\$ 293,139	
Net income	\$	27,500	\$	7,286	\$ 34,786	
Assets	\$	1,344,024	\$	1,712,555	\$ 3,056,579	
Invested assets	\$	956,108	\$	1,501,701	\$ 2,457,809	
Six Months Ended June 30, 2009 Net premiums earned Investment income, net of investment expenses Realized investment losses Other income	\$	218,672 15,216 (8,348) 45	\$	19,475 35,500 (8,293) 283	\$ 238,147 50,716 (16,641) 328	
Revenues	\$	225,585	\$	46,965	\$ 272,550	
Intersegment eliminations		(86)		(155)	(241)	
Total revenues	\$	225,499	\$	46,810	\$ 272,309	
Net loss	\$	(1,919)	\$	(145)	\$ (2,064)	
Assets	\$	1,319,141	\$	1,556,893	\$ 2,876,034	
Invested assets	\$	874,078	\$	1,328,842	\$ 2,202,920	

# **NOTE 7.** EARNINGS PER COMMON SHARE

Basic earnings per share is computed by dividing net income by the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding during the reporting period. Diluted earnings per share gives effect to all dilutive common shares outstanding during the reporting period. The dilutive shares we consider in our diluted earnings per share calculation relate to our outstanding stock options and restricted stock awards.

We determine the dilutive effect of our stock options outstanding using the treasury stock method. Under this method, we assume the exercise of all of the outstanding stock options whose exercise price is less than the weighted-average fair market value of our common stock during the reporting period. This method also assumes that the proceeds from the hypothetical stock option exercises are used to repurchase shares of our common stock at the weighted-average fair market value of the stock during the reporting period. The net of the assumed stock options exercised and assumed common shares repurchased represent the number of dilutive common shares, which we add to the denominator of the earnings per share calculation.

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The components of basic and diluted earnings (loss) per share were as follows for the three-month periods ended June 30, 2010 and 2009:

	Three Months Ended June 30,							
	2010				2009			
(In Thousands Except Per Share Data)		Basic		Diluted		Basic		Diluted
Net income (loss)	\$	15,394	\$	15,394	\$	(5,334)	\$	(5,334)
Weighted-average common shares outstanding		26,356		26,356		26,592		26,592
Add dilutive effect of restricted stock awards				19				
Add dilutive effect of stock options				25				
Weighted-average common shares for EPS								
calculation		26,356		26,400		26,592		26,592
Earnings (loss) per common share	\$	0.58	\$	0.58	\$	(0.20)	\$	(0.20)
Awards excluded from diluted EPS calculation <sup>(1)</sup>				814				924

# (1) Outstanding awards were excluded from the diluted earnings per share calculation because the effect of including them would have

been

anti-dilutive.

The components of basic and diluted earnings (loss) per share were as follows for the six-month periods ended June 30, 2010 and 2009:

			June 30,	ıe 30,					
(In Thousands Except Per Share Data)		2010				2009			
		Basic	Diluted		Basic		Diluted		
Net income (loss)	\$	34,786	\$	34,786	\$	(2,064)	\$	(2,064)	
Weighted-average common shares outstanding		26,396		26,396		26,603		26,603	
Add dilutive effect of restricted stock awards				19					
Weighted-average common shares for EPS									
calculation		26,396		26,415		26,603		26,603	
Earnings (loss) per common share	\$	1.32	\$	1.32	\$	(0.08)	\$	(0.08)	
Awards excluded from diluted EPS calculation <sup>(1)</sup>				814				924	

(1) Outstanding awards were excluded from the diluted earnings per share calculation because the effect of including them would have been anti-dilutive.

# **NOTE 8.** COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

Comprehensive income includes all changes in stockholders equity during the reporting period except those resulting from investments by stockholders and dividends to stockholders.

The following table sets forth the components of our comprehensive income and the related tax effects for the three-month periods ended June 30, 2010 and 2009.

	Th	Ended June 30,			
(In Thousands)		2010		2009	
Net income (loss)	\$	15,394	\$	(5,334)	
Other comprehensive income (loss)					
Change in net unrealized appreciation on investments		(3,455)		27,259	
Adjustment for net realized (gains) losses included in income		(2,346)		13,153	
Adjustment for costs included in employee benefit expense		453		899	
Other comprehensive income (loss), before tax		(5,348)		41,311	
Income tax effect		1,858		(14,458)	
Other comprehensive income (loss), after tax		(3,490)		26,853	
Comprehensive income	\$	11,904	\$	21,519	

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The following table sets forth the components of our comprehensive income and the related tax effects for the six-month periods ended June 30, 2010 and 2009.

(In Thousands)	Six Months Ended 2010					
Net income (loss)	\$	34,786	\$	2009 (2,064)		
Other comprehensive income						
Change in net unrealized appreciation on investments		18,022		14,087		
Adjustment for net realized (gains) losses included in income		(5,072)		16,641		
Adjustment for costs included in employee benefit expense		1,068		1,215		
Other comprehensive income, before tax		14,018		31,943		
Income tax effect		(4,907)		(11,180)		
Other comprehensive income, after tax		9,111		20,763		
Comprehensive income	\$	43,897	\$	18,699		

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# **Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**

Board of Directors and Stockholders of

United Fire & Casualty Company

We have reviewed the consolidated balance sheet of United Fire & Casualty Company as of June 30, 2010, and the related consolidated statements of income for the three-month and six-month periods ended June 30, 2010 and 2009, the consolidated statements of cash flows for the six-month periods ended June 30, 2010 and 2009, and the consolidated statement of stockholders equity for the six-month period ended June 30, 2010. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company s management.

We conducted our review in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). A review of interim financial information consists principally of applying analytical procedures and making inquiries of persons responsible for financial and accounting matters. It is substantially less in scope than an audit conducted in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board, the objective of which is the expression of an opinion regarding the financial statements taken as a whole. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

Based on our review, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the interim consolidated financial statements referred to above for them to be in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. We have previously audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the consolidated balance sheet of United Fire & Casualty Company as of December 31, 2009, and the related consolidated statements of income, stockholders equity, and cash flows for the year then ended, not presented herein, and in our report dated March 1, 2010, we expressed an unqualified opinion on those consolidated financial statements. In our opinion, the information set forth in the accompanying consolidated balance sheet as of December 31, 2009, is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the consolidated balance sheet from which it has been derived.

/s/ Ernst & Young LLP Ernst & Young LLP

Chicago, Illinois July 30, 2010

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# ITEM 2. MANAGEMENT S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

# FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This report may contain forward-looking statements about our operations, anticipated performance and other similar matters. The Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 provides a safe harbor under the Securities Act of 1933 and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 for forward-looking statements. The forward-looking statements are not historical facts and involve risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expected and/or projected. Such forward-looking statements are based on current expectations, estimates, forecasts and projections about our company, the industry in which we operate, and beliefs and assumptions made by management. Words such as expect(s), anticipate(s), intend(s), plan(s), believe(s), continue(s), seek(s), goal(s). target(s). forecast(s). project(s). predict(s). should. could. may. will continue. might. words and terms of similar meaning or expression in connection with a discussion of future operations, financial performance or financial condition, are intended to identify forward-looking statements. These statements are not guarantees of future performance and involve risks, uncertainties and assumptions that are difficult to predict. Therefore, actual outcomes and results may differ materially from what is expressed in such forward-looking statements. Information concerning factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those in the forward-looking statements is contained in Part II Item 1A Risk Factors of this document. Among the factors that could cause our actual outcomes and results to differ are:

ho

The adequacy of our loss and loss settlement reserves established for Hurricane Katrina, which are based on management estimates.

The resolution of regulatory issues and litigation pertaining to and arising out of Hurricane Katrina.

The frequency and severity of claims, including those related to catastrophe losses, and the impact those claims have on our loss reserve adequacy.

Developments in the domestic and global financial markets that could affect our investment portfolio and financing plans.

The valuation of invested assets.

The calculation and recovery of deferred policy acquisition costs (DAC).

The valuation of pension and other postretirement benefit obligations.

The absolute and relative performance of our products or services.

Our relationship with our agents.

Our relationship with our reinsurers.

The financial strength rating of our reinsurers.

The increased costs and risk associated with the security of our data.

Changes in industry trends and significant industry developments.

Governmental actions, policies or regulations, including, but not limited to, domestic health care reform, financial services regulatory reform, corporate governance, new laws or regulations or court decisions interpreting existing

laws and regulations or policy provisions.

NASDAQ policies or regulations relating to corporate governance, and the cost to comply. These are representative of the risks, uncertainties and assumptions that could cause actual outcomes and results to differ materially from what is expressed in forward-looking statements. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date of this report or as of the date they are made. Except as required under the federal securities laws and the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission, we do not have any intention or obligation to update publicly any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

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# CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES

Critical accounting estimates are defined as those that are reflective of significant judgments and uncertainties and that potentially may result in materially different results under different assumptions and conditions. Our discussion and analysis of our results of operations and financial condition is based upon our Consolidated Financial Statements, which we have prepared in accordance with GAAP. As we prepare these financial statements, we must make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. We evaluate our estimates on an ongoing basis. We base our estimates on historical experience and on other assumptions that we believe to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results could differ from those estimates. Our critical accounting estimates are: the valuation of investments; the valuation of reserves for losses, claims, and loss settlement expenses; the valuation of reserves for future policy benefits; and the calculation of the deferred policy acquisition costs asset. These critical accounting estimates are more fully described in our Management s Discussion and Analysis of Results of Operations and Financial Condition presented in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009.

# INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the Management s Discussion and Analysis is to provide an understanding of our results of operations and consolidated financial position. Our Management s Discussion and Analysis should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and related notes included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009. When we provide information on a statutory basis, we label it as such; otherwise all other data is presented in accordance with GAAP.

This discussion and analysis is presented in these sections:

Our Business

**Executive Summary** 

Consolidated Financial Highlights

Results of Operations for Property and Casualty Insurance, Life Insurance and Investment Portfolio Liquidity and Capital Resources

Statutory Financial Measures

# **OUR BUSINESS**

Founded in 1946, United Fire & Casualty Company provides insurance protection for individuals and businesses through several regional companies. We are represented by over 800 independent property and casualty insurance agencies and more than 975 independent life insurance agencies throughout the country, predominantly in the Midwest, West and South.

We operate two business segments:

property and casualty insurance, which includes commercial insurance, personal insurance, surety bonds and assumed insurance

life insurance, which includes deferred and immediate annuities, universal life products and traditional life (primarily single premium whole life insurance) products

These business segments are managed separately, as they generally do not share the same customer base, and they each have different products, pricing and expense structures.

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For the six months ended June 30, 2010, property and casualty business accounted for nearly 90.0 percent of our net premiums earned, with approximately 91.0 percent from commercial lines. Life insurance business made up approximately 10.0 percent of our net premiums earned, with over 62.0 percent from traditional life insurance products.

We do not expect the current composition of property and casualty insurance and life insurance to change materially during 2010.

For the six months ended June 30, 2010, more than half of our property and casualty premiums were written in Iowa, Texas, Missouri, Louisiana and Illinois; and over three-fourths of our life insurance premiums were written in Iowa, Wisconsin, Illinois, Nebraska and Minnesota.

We evaluate segment profit or loss based upon operating and investment results. Segment profit or loss described in the following sections of the Management s Discussion and Analysis is reported on a pretax basis.

Our primary sources of revenue are premiums and investment income. Major categories of expenses include losses and loss settlement expenses, changes in reserves for future policy benefits, operating expenses and interest on policyholders accounts.

The profitability of our company is influenced by many factors, including price competition, economic conditions, interest rates, weather-related events and other catastrophes, such as natural disasters (e.g., hurricanes and tornados) and manmade disasters, state regulations, court decisions and changes in the law. Management believes that climate change will not have a material impact on our profitability.

To manage these risks and uncertainties, we maintain a conservative approach to our business operations, focusing on writing good business at an adequate price and preferring quality to volume. Our goal is to achieve consistent profitability through disciplined underwriting, superior loss control services, fair and ethical claims handling, exceptional customer service, efficient and effective technology and strong agency relationships.

# **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

United Fire Group had a profitable second quarter in 2010, posting a net income of \$15.4 million, compared with a net loss of \$5.3 million in the second quarter of 2009.

Contributing to our favorable results for the second quarter and first six months of 2010 were increased realized investment gains from a significant reduction in other-than-temporary impairment (OTTI) charges and decreased losses and loss settlement expenses from improved noncatastrophe claims experience.

Also, year-to-date losses related to Hurricane Katrina were significantly lower than last year, as we continued to aggressively work to resolve remaining lawsuits related to this catastrophe.

Our property and casualty and life insurance business segments performed well in the second quarter despite marketplace challenges.

In the property and casualty segment, net premiums written were down in both the three-month and six-month periods ended June 30, 2010, as the weak economy continued to restrict our growth. Pricing levels were flat in our commercial lines business, while personal lines pricing levels increased slightly.

Offsetting the decline in our net premiums earned were lower levels of losses and loss settlement expenses and underwriting expenses. Our combined ratio improved by 15.5 percentage points to 94.2 percent in the second quarter and by 14.8 percentage points to 93.0 percent in the first six months of 2010, indicating an underwriting gain. With sustained downward pressure on pricing, our underwriters continue to focus on writing good business at an adequate price, preferring quality over volume. In the three-month and six-month periods ended June 30, 2010, we were able to retain approximately 80 percent of our personal and commercial lines book of business, which was in line with our retention goals.

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In the life insurance segment, net premiums earned increased in the second quarter and first six months of 2010, reflecting sales growth of our single premium whole life product. We are focusing on increasing sales of our traditional life insurance products, especially single premium whole life, to better balance our product mix. Annuity sales are down substantially in the second quarter and first six months of 2010, as consumers are choosing to surrender their annuities and reinvest the funds in products with greater risk and potentially greater returns. The growth in annuity sales in 2009 contributed to the increase in our invested assets and as a result an improvement in our investment results. This occurred in spite of historically low interest rates and declining dividends from our equity portfolio. Net investment income, which is a primary source of revenue, increased 3.4 percent in the second quarter of 2010 and 11.1 percent in the first six months of 2010, as compared with the same periods of 2009. We recorded realized investment gains of \$2.3 million in the second quarter of 2010 and \$5.1 million in the first six months of 2010, benefitting from significantly smaller OTTI charges in 2010 versus 2009.

Our stockholders equity rose by 4.9 percent to \$705.9 million at June 30, 2010, from \$672.7 million at December 31, 2009. Our book value increased by \$1.47 per share to \$26.82 per share as of June 30, 2010, from \$25.35 per share at December 31, 2009.

After two difficult years for United Fire, our profits have finally begun to rebound.

# CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

	Three M	Three Months Ended June 30,			Six Months Ended June 30,				
(In Thousands)	2010	2009	%	2010	2009	%			
Revenues									
Net premiums earned	\$117,082	\$119,671	(2.2)%	\$ 231,390	\$ 237,992	(2.8)%			
Investment income, net of									
investment expenses	28,291	27,359	3.4	56,259	50,630	11.1			
Realized investment gains									
(losses) Other-than-temporary									
impairment charges	(117)	(13,583)	99.1	(459)	(18,139)	97.5			
All other realized gains	2,463	430	472.8	5,531	1,498	269.2			
	,			- /	,				
Total realized investment gains									
(losses)	2,346	(13,153)	117.8	5,072	(16,641)	130.5			
Other income	295	169	74.6	418	328	27.4			
	\$ 148,014	\$ 134,046	10.4%	\$ 293,139	\$ 272,309	7.6%			
Benefits, Losses and									
Expenses									
Losses and loss settlement				* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *	*	/ <b>-</b> - 1\ - 1			
expenses	\$ 72,757	\$ 90,558	(19.7)%	\$ 141,120	\$ 176,636	(20.1)%			
Increase in liability for future policy benefits	7,375	5,874	25.6	13,765	9,262	48.6			
Amortization of deferred	7,373	3,674	23.0	13,703	9,202	40.0			
policy acquisition costs	28,057	28,795	(2.6)	54,573	58,201	(6.2)			
Other underwriting expenses	8,587	9,782	(12.2)	17,371	17,910	(3.0)			
Interest on policyholders									
accounts	10,647	10,397	2.4	21,448	20,169	6.3			

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	\$ 127,423	\$ 145,406	(12.4)%	\$ 248,277	\$ 282,178	(12.0)%
Income (loss) before income taxes Federal income tax expense	\$ 20,591	\$ (11,360)	281.3%	\$ 44,862	\$ (9,869)	554.6
(benefit)	5,197	(6,026)	186.2	10,076	(7,805)	229.1
Net Income (Loss)	\$ 15,394	\$ (5,334)	388.6%	\$ 34,786	\$ (2,064)	NM%

NM = Not meaningful

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The following is a summary of our financial performance for the three-month and six-month periods ended June 30, 2010.

# Consolidated Results of Operations

Net income was \$15.4 million in the second quarter of 2010, compared with net loss of \$5.3 million in the second quarter of 2009. The quarter-over-quarter improvement is largely attributable to a significant reduction in OTTI charges in 2010, as our investment portfolio began to recover from the financial crisis experienced by the economy. Also contributing to the improvement for the quarter was a lower level of losses and loss settlement expenses due to an improvement in severity and frequency in our noncatastrophe claims.

For the six months ended June 30, 2010, net income was \$34.8 million versus a net loss of \$2.1 million in the six months ended June 30, 2009. The year-over-year improvement is due to the significant reduction in OTTI charges in 2010 and the lower level of losses and loss settlement expenses as a result of our noncatastrophe claims experience and a reduction in Hurricane Katrina development.

Net premiums written for the property and casualty segment decreased 2.8 percent in the second quarter of 2010 and 4.6 percent in the first six months of 2010, as compared with the same periods of 2009, due primarily to the weak economy, as some of our current and prospective commercial policyholders are forced to reduce staff, cut vehicle fleets and, in some cases, go out of business.

Annuity deposits decreased 71.1 percent in the second quarter of 2010 and 72.0 percent in the first six months of 2010, as compared with the same periods of 2009. In the second quarter and first half of 2010, annuity sales have decreased, as consumers who perceive a recovering economy are choosing to surrender their annuities and reinvest the funds in products with greater risk and potentially greater returns. Annuity deposits are not recorded as a component of net premiums written or net premiums earned; however, we invest the funds to generate investment income.

Our combined ratio improved to 94.2 percent in the second quarter of 2010, from 109.7 percent in the second quarter of 2009. In the six months ended June 30, 2010, our combined ratio was 93.0 percent versus 107.8 percent for the six-month period ended June 30, 2009.

We experienced no adverse development from Hurricane Katrina claims litigation in the second quarter of 2010, compared with \$.5 million in the second quarter of 2009. For the six months ended June 30, 2010, losses and loss settlement expenses related to Hurricane Katrina were \$5.4 million, versus \$12.4 million in the first six months of 2009.

# Consolidated Financial Condition

Net cash outflow related to our annuity business was \$.5 million in the second quarter of 2010 and \$1.6 million in the first six months of 2010 versus a net cash inflow of \$37.2 million in the second quarter of 2009 and \$56.6 million in the first six months of 2009. The net cash outflow is attributable to the decline in annuity deposits and annuitant withdrawals as discussed previously.

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In the second quarter of 2010, United Fire repurchased 46,800 shares of our common stock for \$.9 million at an average cost of \$19.90 per share. In the first six months of 2010, we repurchased 213,076 shares of our common stock for \$3.7 million at an average cost of \$17.31 per share. As of June 30, 2010, the book value per share of our common stock was \$26.82 and we were authorized to purchase an additional 303,078 shares of common stock under our share repurchase program, which expires in August 2011.

Net unrealized investment gains totaled \$90.9 million as of June 30, 2010, an increase of \$8.4 million or 10.2 percent since December 31, 2009. An increase in the value of our fixed maturity portfolio was the primary factor for the rise in net unrealized investment gains. However, this increase was somewhat offset by a decrease in the value of our equity portfolio, as the equity markets experienced a decline in the second quarter of 2010.

Our stockholders equity increased to \$705.9 million at June 30, 2010, from \$672.7 million at December 31, 2009.

Book value increased by \$1.47 per share to \$26.82 per share as of June 30, 2010, from \$25.35 per share at December 31, 2009. The change in 2010 is attributable to a significant increase in our net income, as well as the rise in our net unrealized investment gains, net of tax.

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# **RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

# **Property and Casualty Insurance Segment Results**

	T	Three Months	End	ed June				
		30	,		Six Months Ended June 30,			
(In Thousands)		2010		2009		2010		2009
Net premiums written <sup>(1)</sup>	\$	117,099	\$	120,413	\$	224,223	\$	235,062
Net premiums earned	\$	105,396	\$	109,458	\$	207,375	\$	218,672
Losses and loss settlement expenses Amortization of deferred policy acquisition		(68,253)		(86,394)		(131,881)		(168,673)
costs		(25,482)		(26,244)		(49,525)		(53,142)
Other underwriting expenses		(5,574)		(7,287)		(11,505)		(13,380)
Underwriting gain (loss) (1)	\$	6,087	\$	(10,467)	\$	14,464	\$	(16,523)
Investment income, net of underwriting expenses Realized investment gains (losses)		9,003		9,082		17,640		15,130
Other-than-temporary impairment charges		(117)		(7,847)		(153)		(9,657)
All other realized gains (losses)		(604)		216		1,608		1,309
Total realized investment gains (losses)		(721)		(7,631)		1,455		(8,348)
Other income		75		17		17		45
Income (loss) before income taxes	\$	14,444	\$	(8,999)	\$	33,576	\$	(9,696)
GAAP Ratios:								
Net loss ratio (without catastrophes) Hurricane Katrina litigation effect on net loss		57.6%		71.9%		55.8%		66.8%
ratio				0.5		2.6		5.7
Other catastrophes effect on net loss ratio		7.2		6.5		5.2%		4.6%
Net loss ratio		64.8%		78.9%		63.6%		77.1%
Expense ratio (2)(3)		29.4		30.8		29.4		30.7
Combined ratio		94.2%		109.7%		93.0%		107.8%

(1) The Statutory
Financial
Measures
section of this
report defines
data prepared in
accordance with
statutory
accounting

practices, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than U.S. GAAP.

- (2) Includes policyholder dividends.
- (3) We have excluded disaster charges and other related expenses, net of recoveries, from the GAAP expense ratio. These charges resulted from flood damage at our home office and hurricane damage at our **Gulf Coast** regional office in 2008, totaling \$7,051 in the second quarter of 2010 and \$(16,376) in the first six months of 2010, compared with \$(188,200) in the second guarter of 2009 and \$(545,782) in the first six

months of 2009.

Net premiums written declined in the three-month and six-month periods ended June 30, 2010, as compared with the same periods of the prior year. This is due primarily to the weak economy, as some of our current and prospective commercial policyholders are forced to reduce staff, cut vehicle fleets and, in some cases, go out of business. Also limiting our ability to grow are sustained soft-market conditions in the insurance industry, with continued downward pressure on pricing. Our pricing levels were flat in our commercial lines business, while our personal lines pricing levels increased slightly. To overcome these market challenges, our underwriters continue to focus on writing good business at an adequate price, preferring quality over volume. In the three-month and six-month periods ended June 30, 2010, we were able

to retain approximately 80 percent of our personal and commercial lines book of business, which was in line with our retention goals.

**Losses and loss settlement expenses** decreased 21.0 percent in the second quarter of 2010 and 21.8 percent in the first six months of 2010, as compared with the same periods in 2009. This is due to an improvement in our noncatastrophe claims experience and a reduction in our Hurricane Katrina development:

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**Noncatastrophe claims experience** our claims frequency decreased slightly in the six months ended June 30, 2010, as compared with the same prior-year period, which is a trend in the industry that we expect to level off. We also experienced a decrease in claims severity in the first six months of 2010, as compared with the same period of 2009.

**Hurricane Katrina** we experienced no adverse development from Hurricane Katrina claims litigation in the second quarter of 2010, compared with \$.5 million in the second quarter of 2009. For the six months ended June 30, 2010, losses and loss settlement expenses related to Hurricane Katrina were \$5.4 million, versus \$12.4 million in the first six months of 2009.

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**Amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs** decreased 2.9 percent in the second quarter of 2010 and 6.8 percent in the first six months of 2010, as compared with the same periods in 2009. The decrease in net premiums written has resulted in a reduction of the deferred acquisition costs asset and related amortization. **GAAP combined ratio** improved by 15.5 percentage points in the second quarter of 2010 and 14.8 percentage points in the first six months of 2010, as compared with the same prior-year periods. This is due primarily to the aforementioned decrease in our losses and loss settlement expenses.

For a detailed discussion of our consolidated investment results, refer to the Investment Portfolio section of this item. The following tables display our premiums earned, losses and loss settlement expenses and loss ratio by line of business for the three-month periods ended June 30, 2010 and 2009.

Three Months Ended June 30,

2010

			2010					2009	
		]	Losses					Losses	
		aı	nd Loss				a	nd Loss	
		Se	ttlement				Se	ettlement	
(In Thousands)	Premiums	$\mathbf{E}$	xpenses	Loss	Pre	miums	E	xpenses	Loss
Unaudited	Earned	Ir	curred	Ratio	E	arned	I	ncurred	Ratio
Commercial lines									
Other liability (1)	\$ 28,507	\$	13,104	46.0%	\$	30,585	\$	29,116	95.2%
Fire and allied lines (2)	24,460	)	19,482	79.6		25,621		21,462	83.8
Automobile	23,216		16,653	71.7		24,387		17,426	71.5
Workers compensation	11,628		7,505	64.5		12,943		9,390	72.5
Fidelity and surety	4,297		2,273	52.9		4,729		898	19.0
Miscellaneous	197		9	4.6		215		67	31.2
Total commercial lines	\$ 92,305	\$	59,026	63.9%	\$	98,480	\$	78,359	79.6%
Personal lines									
Fire and allied lines (3)	\$ 6,108		5,758	94.3%	\$	5,448	\$	4,671	85.7%
Automobile	3,616		3,076	85.1		3,183		2,571	80.8
Miscellaneous	116		(49)	N/A		89		(28)	N/A
Total personal lines	\$ 9,840	\$	8,785	89.3%	\$	8,720	\$	7,214	82.7%
Reinsurance assumed	\$ 3,251	\$	442	13.6%	\$	2,258	\$	821	36.4%
Total	\$ 105,396	\$	68,253	64.8%	\$ 1	09,458	\$	86,394	78.9%

(1) Other liability is business

insurance
covering bodily
injury and
property
damage arising
from general
business
operations,
accidents on the
insured s
premises and
products
manufactured or
sold.

- (2) Fire and allied lines includes fire, allied lines, commercial multiple peril and inland marine.
- (3) Fire and allied lines includes fire, allied lines, homeowners and inland marine.

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The following tables display our premiums earned, losses and loss settlement expenses and loss ratio by line of business for the six-month periods ended June 30, 2010 and 2009. Six Months Ended June 30,

		2010 Losses and Loss Settlement			2009 Losses and Loss Settlement	
(In Thousands)	<b>Premiums</b>	<b>Expenses</b>	Loss	Premiums	Expenses	Loss
Unaudited	Earned	Incurred	Ratio	Earned	Incurred	Ratio
Commercial lines Other liability Fire and allied lines Automobile Workers compensation Fidelity and surety Miscellaneous	\$ 56,721 48,844 46,226 22,846 8,976 399	\$ 31,945 39,281 30,483 11,783 2,482 45	56.3% 80.4 65.9 51.6 27.7 11.3	\$ 61,637 51,021 48,773 26,154 10,142 425	\$ 49,221 48,535 32,636 21,166 1,171 118	79.9% 95.1 66.9 80.9 11.5 27.8
Total commercial lines	\$ 184,012	\$ 116,019	63.0%	\$ 198,152	\$ 152,847	77.1%
Personal lines Fire and allied lines Automobile Miscellaneous	\$ 12,087 7,083 203	\$ 7,825 5,957 (76)	64.7% 84.1 (37.4)	\$ 10,787 6,269 173	\$ 8,479 4,922 266	78.6% 78.5 153.8
Total personal lines	\$ 19,373	\$ 13,706	70.7%	\$ 17,229	\$ 13,667	79.3%
Reinsurance assumed	\$ 3,990	\$ 2,156	54.0%	\$ 3,291	\$ 2,159	65.6%
Total	\$ 207,375	\$ 131,881	63.6%	\$ 218,672	\$ 168,673	77.1%

**Other liability** The loss ratio improved 49.2 percentage points to 46.0 percent in the three months ended June 30, 2010, from 95.2 percent in the three months ended June 30, 2009. For the six months ended June 30, 2010, the loss ratio improved 23.6 percentage points to 56.3 percent, from 79.9 percent in the six months ended June 30, 2009. The decrease in our loss ratio in both periods is due to an improvement in the severity in our noncatastrophe claims experience.

**Workers compensation** The loss ratio improved 8.0 percentage points to 64.5 percent in the three months ended June 30, 2010, from 72.5 percent in the three months ended June 30, 2009. For the six months ended June 30, 2010, the loss ratio improved 29.3 percentage points to 51.6 percent, from 80.9 percent in the six months ended June 30, 2009. The improvement in this line is due to the normal fluctuations that generally occur in the workers compensation line of business.

**Fidelity and surety** The loss ratio increased 33.9 percentage points to 52.9 in the three months ended June 30, 2010, from 19.0 percent in the three months ended June 30, 2009. For the six months ended June 30, 2010, the loss ratio increased 16.2 percentage points to 27.7 percent, from 11.5 percent in the six months ended June 30, 2009. This is primarily the result of an increase in our losses and loss settlement expenses in the fidelity and surety line of business, primarily from a large claim of \$1.7 million incurred in the second quarter of 2010. Also, contributing to the higher loss ratio was a decline in the premiums earned. Because the size of this line is relatively small in relation to our other lines of business, large fluctuations in

the loss ratio may occur, which is indicative of the current state of the economy.

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# **Life Insurance Segment Results**

	Three Months Ended June 30,					Six Months Ended June 30,			
(In Thousands)		2010	2009		2010		2009		
Revenues									
Net premiums earned	\$	11,686	\$	10,213	\$	24,015	\$	19,320	
Investment income, net		19,288		18,277		38,619		35,500	
Realized investment gains (losses)									
Other-than-temporary impairment charges				(5,736)		(306)		(8,482)	
All other realized gains		3,067		214		3,923		189	
Total realized investment gains (losses)		3,067		(5,522)		3,617		(8,293)	
Other income		220		152		401		283	
<b>Total Revenues</b>	\$	34,261	\$	23,120	\$	66,652	\$	46,810	
Benefits, Losses and Expenses									
Losses and loss settlement expenses	\$	4,504	\$	4,164	\$	9,239	\$	7,963	
Increase in liability for future policy benefits Amortization of deferred policy acquisition		7,375		5,874		13,765		9,262	
costs		2,575		2,551		5,048		5,059	
Other underwriting expenses		3,013		2,495		5,866		4,530	
Interest on policyholders accounts		10,647		10,397		21,448		20,169	
<b>Total Benefits, Losses and Expenses</b>	\$	28,114	\$	25,481	\$	55,366	\$	46,983	
Income (Loss) Before Income Taxes	\$	6,147	\$	(2,361)	\$	11,286	\$	(173)	

(1) The Statutory

Financial

Measures

section of this

report defines

data prepared in

accordance with

statutory

accounting

practices, which

is a

comprehensive

basis of

accounting other

than U.S.

GAAP.

As part of our long-term strategy for profitability, we are emphasizing the marketing of our traditional life insurance products, primarily single premium whole life, to our independent life insurance agents to achieve a more balanced

product mix. Sales growth of our single premium whole life product is the primary reason for the following increases:

Net premiums earned increased 14.4 percent in the second quarter of 2010 and 24.3 percent in the first six months of 2010, as compared with the same periods of 2009.

**Increase in liability for future policy benefits** increased 25.6 percent in the second quarter of 2010 and 48.6 percent in the first six months of 2010, as compared with the same periods of 2009.

Our life insurance segment also experienced the following:

**Losses and loss settlement expenses** increased 8.2 percent in the second quarter of 2010 and 16.0 percent in the first six months of 2010, as compared with the same prior-year periods, reflecting a rise in both annuity benefits and life insurance death benefits.

Other underwriting expenses increased 20.8 percent in the second quarter of 2010 and 29.5 percent in the first six months of 2010, as compared with the same prior-year periods, due largely to an increase in agent commissions that resulted from the improvement in premiums written for our single premium whole life and universal life products.

Annuity deposits decreased 71.1 percent in the second quarter of 2010 and 72.0 percent in the first six months of 2010, as compared with the same periods of 2009. In 2009, we experienced a significant increase in our annuity sales, as consumers in a troubled economy sought products with guaranteed rates of return. In the second quarter and first half of 2010, annuity sales have decreased, as consumers who perceived a recovering economy chose to surrender their annuities and reinvest the funds in products with greater risk and potentially greater returns. Annuity deposits are not recorded as a component of net premiums written or net premiums earned; however, we invest the funds to generate investment income.

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**Net cash outflow** related to our annuity business was \$.5 million in the second quarter of 2010 and \$1.6 million in the first six months of 2010, versus net cash inflow of \$37.2 million in the second quarter of 2009 and \$56.6 million in the first six months of 2009. The net cash outflow is attributable to the decline in annuity deposits and annuitant withdrawals.

# **Investment Portfolio**

Our invested assets totaled \$2,457.8 million at June 30, 2010, compared with \$2,351.8 million at December 31, 2009. At June 30, 2010, 93.3 percent of the value of our investment portfolio was fixed maturity securities and 5.0 percent was equity securities. Because the primary purpose of our investment portfolio is to fund future claims payments, we follow a conservative investment philosophy and invest in a diversified portfolio of high quality, intermediate-term taxable corporate bonds, taxable U.S. government bonds and tax-exempt U.S. municipal bonds.

# **Composition**

We develop our investment strategies based on a number of factors, including estimated duration of reserve liabilities, short- and long-term liquidity needs, projected tax obligation, general economic conditions, expected rates of inflation and regulatory requirements. We administer our investment portfolio based on investment guidelines approved by management and the investment committee of our Board of Directors that comply with applicable statutory regulations.

The composition of our investment portfolio at June 30, 2010 is presented at carrying value in the following table:

	Property & Casualty		Life	e			
	Insurance	Insurance Segment		Segment	Total		
		Percent		Percent		Percent	
(Dollars in Thousands)		of Total		of Total		of Total	
Fixed maturities (1)	\$819,227	85.7%	\$1,472,316	98.0%	\$ 2,291,543	93.3%	
Equity securities	111,621	11.7	12,375	0.8	123,996	5.0	
Trading securities	9,454	1.0			9,454	0.4	
Mortgage loans			7,067	0.5	7,067	0.3	
Policy loans			7,504	0.5	7,504	0.3	
Other long-term investments	14,706	1.5	2,439	0.2	17,145	0.7	
Short-term investments	1,100	0.1			1,100		
Total	\$ 956,108	100.0%	\$ 1,501,701	100.0%	\$ 2,457,809	100.0%	

 Available-for-sale fixed maturities are carried at fair value. Held-to-maturity fixed maturities are carried at amortized cost.

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The composition of our investment portfolio at December 31, 2009 is presented at carrying value in the following table:

	Property & Casualty		Life	e			
	Insurance	Segment	Insurance S	Segment	Total		
		Percent		Percent		Percent	
(Dollars in Thousands)		of Total		of Total		of Total	
Fixed maturities	\$ 766,274	83.6%	\$1,401,722	97.5%	\$ 2,167,996	92.3%	
Equity securities	117,741	12.9	14,977	1.0	132,718	5.6	
Trading securities	12,613	1.4			12,613	0.5	
Mortgage loans			7,328	0.5	7,328	0.3	
Policy loans			7,947	0.6	7,947	0.3	
Other long-term investments	13,344	1.5	2,536	0.2	15,880	0.7	
Short-term investments	5,083	0.6	2,276	0.2	7,359	0.3	
Total	\$ 915,055	100.0%	\$ 1,436,786	100.0%	\$ 2,351,841	100.0%	

At June 30, 2010, we classified \$2,283.5 million, or 99.7 percent, of our fixed maturities portfolio as available-for-sale, compared with \$2,158.4 million, or 99.6 percent, at December 31, 2009. We classified our remaining fixed maturity securities as held-to-maturity securities (which are reported at amortized cost) or trading securities. We recorded trading securities, primarily convertible redeemable preferred debt securities, at fair value, with any changes in fair value recognized in earnings. As of June 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, we did not have direct exposure to investments in subprime mortgages, derivative securities or other credit enhancement vehicles. *Credit Quality* 

The following table displays a breakdown for all of our fixed maturity securities by credit rating at June 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009. Information contained in the table is generally based upon the issue credit ratings provided by Moody s. If credit ratings from Moody s were unavailable, we obtained them from Standard & Poor s.

(In Thousands)	June 3	0, 2010	December 31, 2009 Carrying			
	Carrying					
Rating	Value	% of Total	Value	% of Total		
AAA	\$ 293,569	12.8%	\$ 207,199	9.5%		
AA	441,367	19.2	397,380	18.2		
A	495,773	21.5	562,795	25.8		
Baa/BBB	945,516	41.1	869,465	39.9		
Other/Not Rated	124,772	5.4	143,770	6.6		
	\$ 2,300,997	100.0%	\$ 2,180,609	100.0%		

The credit ratings of our fixed maturity securities portfolio at June 30, 2010, have not changed significantly since December 31, 2009, however, the increase in our AAA fixed maturity securities is reflective of the investment purchases we have made during 2010.

### Duration

Our investment portfolio is composed primarily of fixed maturity securities whose fair values are susceptible to market risk, specifically interest rate changes. Duration is a measurement we use to quantify our inherent interest rate risk and analyze our ability to match our invested assets to our claim liabilities. If our invested assets and claims liabilities have similar durations, then any change in interest rates will have an equal and opposite effect on our investments and claim liabilities. Mismatches in the duration of assets and liabilities can cause significant fluctuations

in our results of operations. The primary purpose for matching invested assets and claim liabilities is liquidity. With appropriate matching, our investments will mature when cash is needed, preventing the need to liquidate other assets prematurely.

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### Group

The maximum weighted average duration of our fixed maturity available-for-sale, held-to-maturity and trading security portfolios, including convertible bonds, was 5.4 years at June 30, 2010, compared with 6.0 years at December 31, 2009.

Property and Casualty Insurance Segment

For our property and casualty insurance segment, the maximum weighted average duration of our fixed maturity available-for-sale, held-to-maturity and trading security portfolios, including convertible bonds, was 6.8 years at June 30, 2010, compared with 7.3 years at December 31, 2009.

Life Insurance Segment

For our life insurance segment, the maximum weighted average duration of our fixed maturity available-for-sale, held-to-maturity and trading security portfolios, was 3.7 years at June 30, 2010, compared with 4.3 years at December 31, 2009.

# Investment Results

Our net investment income increased 3.4 percent in the second quarter of 2010 and 11.1 percent in the first six months of 2010, as compared with the same periods of 2009. The growth in annuity sales last year contributed to the increase in our invested assets and net investment income, in spite of historically low interest rates and declining dividends from our equity portfolio.

Realized investment gains were \$2.3 million in the second quarter of 2010 and \$5.1 million in the first six months of 2010, compared with realized investment losses of \$13.2 million in the second quarter of 2009 and \$16.6 million in the first six months of 2009. The recovery in our investment portfolio is attributable to a significant reduction in OTTI charges, which totaled \$.1 million in the second quarter of 2010 and \$.5 million in the first six months of 2010 versus \$13.6 million in the second quarter of 2009 and \$18.1 million in the first six months of 2009. We incurred substantial OTTI charges in 2009 as a result of the financial crisis experienced by the economy.

We continually monitor the difference between our cost basis and the estimated fair value of our investments. Our accounting policy for impairment recognition requires OTTI charges to be recorded when we determine that it is more likely than not that we will be unable to collect all amounts due according to the contractual terms of the fixed maturity security or that the anticipated recovery in fair value of the equity security will not occur in a reasonable amount of time. Impairment charges on investments are recorded based on the fair value of the investments at the measurement date. Factors considered in evaluating whether a decline in value is other-than-temporary include: the length of time and the extent to which fair value has been less than cost; the financial condition and near-term prospects of the issuer; our intention to hold the investment; and the likelihood that we will be required to sell the investment.

Changes in unrealized gains on available-for-sale securities do not affect net income and earnings per share but do impact comprehensive income, stockholders equity and book value per share. We believe that any unrealized losses on our available-for-sale securities at June 30, 2010, are temporary based upon our current analysis of the issuers of the securities that we hold and current market events. It is possible that we could recognize OTTI charges in future periods on securities that we own at June 30, 2010, if future events and information cause us to determine that a decline in value is other-than-temporary. However, we endeavor to invest in high quality assets to provide protection from future credit quality issues and corresponding impairment write-downs.

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# LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

Liquidity measures our ability to generate sufficient cash flows to meet our short- and long-term cash obligations. Our cash inflows are primarily a result of premiums, annuity deposits, reinsurance recoveries, sales or maturities of investments, and investment income. Historically, we have generated substantial cash inflows from operations because cash from premium payments is usually received in advance of cash payments made to settle losses. When investing the cash generated from operations, we invest in securities with maturities that correlate to the anticipated timing of payments for losses and loss settlement expenses of the underlying insurance policies. The majority of our assets are invested in available-for-sale fixed maturity securities.

Our cash outflows are a result of losses and loss settlement expenses, commissions, premium taxes, income taxes, operating expenses, dividends, annuity withdrawals, and investment purchases. Cash outflows may be variable because of the uncertainty regarding settlement dates for losses. In addition, the timing and amount of individual catastrophe losses are inherently unpredictable and could increase our liquidity requirements. The following table displays a summary of cash sources and uses in 2010 and 2009.

Cash Flow Summary	Six I	Six Months Ended June 30,						
(In Thousands)	2	010	2009					
Cash provided provided by (used in)								
Operating activities	\$	43,467	\$	36,751				
Investing activities	(1	156,150)		(126,928)				
Financing activities		<b>78,670</b>		133,568				
Net (decrease) increase in cash and cash equivalents	\$	(34,013)	\$	43,391				

Net cash flows provided by operating activities totaled \$43.5 million and \$36.8 million for the six-month periods ended June 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively. Our operating cash flows increased in the six-month period ended June 30, 2010, as compared with the six-month period ended June 30, 2009, due to the lower level of claims payments in the first six months of 2010, as compared with the same period of 2009. A decrease in net premiums written during 2010 somewhat offset our positive operating cash flows, but also caused a corresponding lower level of commissions to be paid during this time.

Net cash flows used in investing activities totaled \$156.2 million and \$126.9 million for the six-month periods ended June 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively. In the six-month period ended June 30, 2010, we had cash inflows from sales of investments, scheduled and unscheduled investment maturities, redemptions and prepayments that totaled \$201.1 million, compared with \$206.6 million for the six-month period ended June 30, 2009. Our cash outflows for investment purchases totaled \$281.3 million for the six-month period ended June 30, 2010, compared with \$259.0 million for the six-month period ended June 30, 2009, as in 2010 we continued to purchase a higher level of fixed maturity securities rather than other investment vehicles such as short-term investments, which continue to be less profitable due to the lower market interest rates.

Net cash flows provided by financing activities totaled \$78.7 million and \$133.6 million for the six-month periods ended June 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively. In the six-month period ended June 30, 2010, net cash inflows from our life insurance segment s annuity and universal life deposits totaled \$15.2 million, compared with \$72.2 million for the same period of 2009. Additionally, in the six-month period ended June 30, 2010, our common stock repurchases totaled \$3.7 million, compared with \$.5 million in the six-month period ended June 30, 2009.

If our operating and investing cash flows are not sufficient to support our operations, we may also borrow up to \$50.0 million on a bank line of credit. Under the terms of our credit agreement, interest on outstanding notes is payable at the lender s prevailing prime rate, minus 1.0 percent. We did not use our line of credit during the first six months of 2010.

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# Stockholders Equity

Stockholders equity increased 4.9 percent to \$705.9 million at June 30, 2010, from \$672.7 million at December 31, 2009. The increase in our stockholders equity was largely attributable to net income of \$34.8 million and net unrealized investment appreciation of \$8.4 million, net of tax. This was partially offset by stockholder dividends of \$7.9 million and stock repurchases of \$3.7 million. At June 30, 2010, book value per share was \$26.82, compared with \$25.35 at December 31, 2009.

# **Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements**

Pursuant to an agreement with one of our limited liability partnership holdings, we are contractually committed to make capital contributions up to \$15.0 million, upon request by the partnership, through December 31, 2017. As of June 30, 2010, our remaining potential contractual obligation was \$12.2 million.

# STATUTORY FINANCIAL MEASURES

United Fire and its subsidiaries are required to file financial statements based on statutory accounting principles in each of the states where our insurance companies are domiciled or licensed to conduct business. Management analyzes financial data and statements that are prepared in accordance with statutory accounting principles rather than U.S. GAAP.

The following definitions of key statutory measures are provided for our readers—convenience. United Fire does not reconcile data prepared under statutory accounting principles to those prepared under U.S. GAAP because Regulation G does not require reconciliation to U.S. GAAP of data prepared under a system of regulation of a government or governmental authority or self-regulatory organization that is applicable to the registrant. **Premiums written** is a measure of our overall business volume. Net premiums written comprises direct and assumed premiums written less ceded premiums written. Direct premiums written is the amount of premiums charged for

premiums written is a measure of our overall business volume. Net premiums written comprises direct and assumed premiums written, less ceded premiums written. Direct premiums written is the amount of premiums charged for policies issued during the period. Assumed premiums written is consideration or payment we receive in exchange for insurance we provide to other insurance companies. We report these premiums as revenue as they are earned over the underlying policy period. Ceded premiums written is the portion of direct premiums written that we cede to our reinsurers under our reinsurance contracts. Premiums written is an important measure of business production for the period under review.

	Three Months Ended June 30,					Six Months Ended June 30,			
(In Thousands)	2010		2009		2010		2009		
Net premiums written	\$	128,749	\$	127,679	\$	248,185	\$	248,525	
Net change in unearned premium		(11,695)		(8,079)		(16,881)		(10,369)	
Net change in prepaid reinsurance premium		28		71		86		(164)	
Net premiums earned	\$	117,082	\$	119,671	\$	231,390	\$	237,992	

**Combined ratio** is a commonly used financial measure of underwriting performance. A combined ratio below 100 percent generally indicates a profitable book of business. The combined ratio is the sum of two separately calculated ratios, the loss and loss settlement expense ratio (referred to as the net loss ratio ) and the underwriting expense ratio (the expense ratio ).

When prepared in accordance with U.S. GAAP, the net loss ratio is calculated by dividing the sum of losses and loss settlement expenses by net premiums earned. The expense ratio is calculated by dividing nondeferred underwriting expenses and amortization of DAC by net premiums earned.

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When prepared in accordance with statutory accounting principles, the net loss ratio is calculated by dividing the sum of losses and loss settlement expenses by net premium earned and the expense ratio is calculated by dividing underwriting expenses by net premiums written.

**Underwriting income (loss)** is the gain or loss by an insurance company from the business of insurance.

Underwriting income is equal to net premiums earned less incurred losses and loss settlement expenses, amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs, and other underwriting expenses. We use this financial measure in evaluating the results of our operations and to analyze the profitability of our property and casualty segment separately from our investment results.

# NON-GAAP FINANCIAL MEASURES

We believe that disclosure of certain Non-GAAP financial measures enhances investor understanding of our financial performance. The following Non-GAAP financial measure is utilized in this filing:

Catastrophe losses utilize the designations of the Insurance Services Office ( ISO ) and are reported with loss and loss settlement expense amounts net of reinsurance recoverables, unless specified otherwise. According to the ISO, a catastrophe loss is a single unpredictable incident or series of closely related incidents causing severe insured losses that cause \$25.0 million or more in industry-wide direct insured losses to property and that affect a significant number of insureds and insurers. We also include as catastrophes those events we believe are, or will be, material to our operations, either in amount or in number of claims made. Management at times may determine for comparison purposes that it is more meaningful to exclude extraordinary catastrophe losses and resulting litigation, such as Hurricane Katrina. The frequency and severity of catastrophic losses we experience in any year affect our results of operations and financial position. In analyzing the underwriting performance of our property and casualty insurance segment, we evaluate performance both including and excluding catastrophe losses. Portions of our catastrophe losses may be recoverable under our catastrophe reinsurance agreements. We include a discussion of the impact of catastrophes because we believe it is meaningful for investors to understand the variability in periodic earnings.

	Thr	ee Months	Ended	June 30,	Si	x Months E	nded	June 30,
(In Thousands)		2010		2009		2010		2009
ISO catastrophes	\$	7,545	\$	7,135	\$	15,924	\$	21,148
Less Hurricane Katrina loss development				(498)		(5,351)		(12,442)
ISO catastrophes without Hurricane Katrina Non-ISO catastrophes	\$	7,545 25	\$	6,637 494	\$	10,573 153	\$	8,706 1,402
Total catastrophes	\$	7,570	\$	7,131	\$	10,726	\$	10,108

# ITEM 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

We have exposure to market risk arising from potential losses in our investment portfolio due to adverse changes in interest rates and market prices. However, we have the ability to hold fixed maturity investments to maturity. Our investment guidelines define the overall framework for managing our market and other investment risks, including accountability and controls. In addition, each of our subsidiaries has specific investment policies that delineate the investment limits and strategies that are appropriate given each entity s liquidity, surplus, product, and regulatory requirements. We respond to market risk by managing the character of investment purchases.

We do not utilize financial instrument hedges or derivative financial instruments to manage risks, nor do we enter into any swap, forward or option contracts, but attempt to mitigate our exposure through active portfolio management. In addition, we place the majority of our investments in high-quality, liquid securities and limit the amount of credit exposure to any one issuer. At June 30, 2010, we did not hold investments in sub-prime mortgages, derivative securities, credit default swaps or other credit-enhancement exposures.

While our primary market risk exposure is changes in interest rates, we do have exposure to changes in equity prices and limited exposure to foreign currency exchange rates.

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There have been no material changes in our market risk or market risk factors from that reported in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009.

# ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

### **Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures**

Our management, with the participation of our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, evaluated the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rule 15d-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended) as of the end of the period covered by this report. Based on that evaluation, the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures as of the end of the period covered by this report were designed and functioning effectively to provide reasonable assurance that the information required to be disclosed by us in reports filed under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the Securities and Exchange Commission s rules and forms. We believe that a controls system, no matter how well designed and operated, cannot provide absolute assurance that the objectives of the controls system are met, and no evaluation of controls can provide absolute assurance that all control issues and instances of fraud, if any, within a company have been detected.

# **Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

Our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, has evaluated our internal control over financial reporting to determine whether any changes occurred during the fiscal quarter to which this report relates that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting. Based on this evaluation, no such change in our internal control over financial reporting occurred during the fiscal quarter to which this report relates.

# PART II OTHER INFORMATION

# ITEM 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

For a detailed discussion of legal proceedings of the Company, refer to Note 1 Legal Proceedings in the Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements of this Form 10-Q.

# ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

Our business is subject to a number of risks, including those identified in Part I, Item 1A of our 2009 Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 1, 2010, that could have a material effect on our business, results of operations, financial condition, and/or liquidity and that could cause our operating results to vary significantly from period to period. The risks described in the above mentioned document are not the only risks we face. Additional risks and uncertainties not currently known to us or that we currently deem to be immaterial could also have a material effect on our business, results of operations, financial condition and/or liquidity.

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# ITEM 2. UNREGISTERED SALES OF EQUITY SECURITIES AND USE OF PROCEEDS

Under our Share Repurchase Program, first announced in August 2007, we may purchase common stock from time to time on the open market or through privately negotiated transactions. The amount and timing of any purchases will be at our discretion and will depend upon a number of factors, including the share price, economic and general market conditions, and corporate and regulatory requirements. We will generally consider repurchasing company stock on the open market if (i) the trading price on NASDAQ drops below 130 percent of its book value, (ii) sufficient excess capital is available to purchase the stock, and (iii) we are optimistic about future market trends and the performance of our company. Our Share Repurchase Program may be modified or discontinued at any time. It is currently set to expire in August 2011.

The following table provides information with respect to purchases of shares of common stock made by or on our behalf or by any affiliated purchaser, as defined in Rule 10b-18(a)(3) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, during the three-month period ended June 30, 2010.

			Total Number of	Maximum
			Shares	Number of
			Purchased as a Part	Shares that may
	Total		of	be
		Average	Publicly	Purchased Under
	Number of	Price	Announced	the
	Shares	Paid per		
Period	Purchased	Share	Plans or Programs	Plans or Programs
4/1/10 - 4/30/10		\$		349,878
5/1/10 - 5/31/10				349,878
6/1/10 - 6/30/10	46,800	19.90	46,800	303,078

# ITEM 3. DEFAULTS UPON SENIOR SECURITIES

None

ITEM 4. (REMOVED AND RESERVED)

None.

**ITEM 5. OTHER INFORMATION** 

None.

# **ITEM 6. EXHIBITS**

Exhibit		Filed
number	Exhibit description	herewith
11	Statement Re Computation of Per Share Earnings. All information required	X
	by Exhibit 11 is presented within Note 7 of the Notes to Unaudited	
	Consolidated Financial Statements, in accordance with the FASB guidance on	
	Earnings per Share	
31.1	Certification of Randy A. Ramlo pursuant to Section 302 of the	X
	Sarbanes Oxley Act of 2002	
31.2	Certification of Dianne M. Lyons pursuant to Section 302 of the	X
	Sarbanes Oxley Act of 2002	
32.1	Certification of Randy A. Ramlo pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as	X
	adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes Oxley Act of 2002	
32.2	Certification of Dianne M. Lyons pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as	X
	adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes Oxley Act of 2002	

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# **SIGNATURES**

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

# UNITED FIRE & CASUALTY COMPANY

(Registrant)

/s/ Randy A. Ramlo /s/ Dianne M. Lyons

Randy A. Ramlo Dianne M. Lyons

President, Chief Executive Officer, Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and

Director and Principal Executive Officer Principal Accounting Officer

July 30, 2010 July 30, 2010

(Date) (Date)

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