

ASSURANCEAMERICA CORP

Form 10-K

April 16, 2012

Table of Contents

Index to Financial Statements

**UNITED STATES**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, DC 20549

**Form 10-K**

x ANNUAL REPORT UNDER SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934  
For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011

.. TRANSITION REPORT UNDER SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1934  
Commission File Number: 0-6334

**ASSURANCEAMERICA CORPORATION**

NEVADA  
(State or Other Jurisdiction of  
Incorporation or Organization)

5500 Interstate North Pkwy.,

Suite 600, Atlanta, Georgia  
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

87-0281240  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

30328  
(Zip Code)

Edgar Filing: ASSURANCEAMERICA CORP - Form 10-K

**Registrant's telephone number, including area code:**

**(770) 952-0200**

**Securities registered under Section 12(b) of the Exchange Act:**

**None**

**Securities registered under Section 12(g) of the Exchange Act:**

**Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share**

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act: Yes  No

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act: Yes  No

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

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

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K.

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 the definitions of large accelerated filer, accelerated filer and smaller reporting company in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer

Accelerated filer

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

Smaller reporting company

## Edgar Filing: ASSURANCEAMERICA CORP - Form 10-K

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

The aggregate market value of the voting and non-voting common equity held by persons other than affiliates of the registrant as of June 30, 2011 was \$5,859,178 based on a sale price of \$.17 per share.

There were 66,110,531 shares of the registrant's common stock outstanding as of March 30, 2012.

**Table of Contents**

**Index to Financial Statements**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

|  | <b>Page<br/>Number</b> |
|--|------------------------|
| <u>Forward Looking Statements</u>  | 1                      |
| <b><u>PART I</u></b>   |                        |
| 1. <u>Business</u>   | 2                      |
| 2. <u>Properties</u>   | 10                     |
| 3. <u>Legal Proceedings</u>  | 10                     |
| 4. <u>Removed and Reserved</u>   | 10                     |
| <b><u>PART II</u></b>  |                        |
| 5. <u>Market for Registrant's Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities</u> | 10                     |
| 6. <u>Selected Financial Data</u>  | 11                     |
| 7. <u>Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u>                        | 11                     |
| 8. <u>Financial Statements and Supplementary Data</u>  | 21                     |
| 9. <u>Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure</u>                         | 21                     |
| 9A. <u>Controls and Procedures</u>   | 21                     |
| 9B. <u>Other Information</u>   | 22                     |
| <b><u>PART III</u></b>   |                        |
| 10. <u>Directors, Executive Officers, and Corporate Governance</u>   | 23                     |
| 11. <u>Executive Compensation</u>  | 25                     |
| 12. <u>Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters</u>              | 26                     |
| 13. <u>Certain Relationships and Related Transactions and Director Independence</u>                                    | 27                     |
| 14. <u>Principal Accounting Fees and Services</u>  | 27                     |
| <b><u>PART IV</u></b>  |                        |
| 15. <u>Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules</u>  | 28                     |
| 16. <u>Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance</u>   | 31                     |
| <u>Signatures</u>  | 32                     |

**Table of Contents**

**Index to Financial Statements**

**Forward-Looking Statements**

Statements in this report that are not historical fact are forward-looking statements that are subject to certain risks and uncertainties that could cause actual events and results to differ materially from those discussed in this report. In addition, words such as may, will, believe, plan, show, could, seek, expect, anticipate, intend, estimate, goal objective, project, forecast, target and similar words, identify forward-looking statements. The risks and uncertainties include, without limitation, uncertainties related to estimates and assumptions generally; inflation and other changes in economic conditions (including changes in interest rates and financial markets); pricing competition and other initiatives by competitors; ability to obtain regulatory approval for requested rate changes and the timing thereof; legislative and regulatory developments; risks related to the nature of AssuranceAmerica Corporation's business, such as the adequacy of its reserve for loss and loss adjustment expense; claims experience; losses; reliance on key personnel; weather conditions (including the severity and frequency of storms, hurricanes, tornadoes and hail); changes in driving patterns and loss trends; acts of war and terrorist activities; court decisions and trends in litigation and health care and auto repair costs; and other matters described from time to time by AssuranceAmerica Corporation in this report. In addition, you should be aware that generally accepted accounting principles prescribe when a company may reserve for particular risks, including litigation exposures. Accordingly, results for a given reporting period could be significantly affected if and when a reserve is established for a major contingency. Reported results may therefore appear to be volatile in certain accounting periods. AssuranceAmerica Corporation undertakes no duty to update Forward-Looking Statements.

---

**Table of Contents**

**Index to Financial Statements**

**PART I**

**Item 1. BUSINESS  
History**

AssuranceAmerica Corporation, a Nevada corporation (the Company), is an insurance holding company that was originally incorporated in 1969 under the laws of the state of Utah. The Company began its current insurance business in 1998 through its subsidiary, TrustWay Insurance Agencies, LLC (TrustWay), a Delaware limited liability company (formerly AssetAmerica Insurance Agencies, LLC). In 1999, the Company formed another subsidiary, AssuranceAmerica Managing General Agency, LLC (MGA), a Delaware limited liability company, that until 2003 provided all of the underwriting, claims and policyholder service functions for the Georgia nonstandard personal automobile program for Gateway Insurance Company of St. Louis, Missouri. In late 2002, the Company formed its subsidiary AssuranceAmerica Insurance Company (AAIC), a property and casualty insurance company and South Carolina corporation that focuses on writing nonstandard automobile business and other specialty products.

In 2006, the Company formed TrustWay T.E.A.M., Inc., a Georgia corporation (formerly TrustWay Partners Agencies of Alabama, LLC) a subsidiary of TrustWay Insurance Agencies, LLC. In 2010, the Company formed TrustWay T.E.A.M. Services, LLC a Georgia limited liability professional services Company and subsidiary of TrustWay Insurance Agencies, LLC. During 2011, the Company sold the assets of TrustWay Insurance Agencies, LLC and the stock of TrustWay T.E.A.M., Inc. and interests in TrustWay T.E.A.M. Services, LLC.

**Who We Are**

We are a holding company which, through our wholly owned insurance company and managing general agency, underwrites and distributes primarily non-standard personal automobile insurance products to individuals. The Company offers non-standard personal automobile insurance that is typically provided to insureds who are unable to obtain standard insurance coverage because of their payment history, driving record, age, vehicle type, or other factors. These policies generally require higher premiums than standard policies for comparable coverage. As of December 31, 2011, we offered products in ten states: Alabama, Arizona, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina, Texas and Virginia.

**Our Business**

We currently have two revenue producing operating subsidiaries, the combination of which we believe is important to generating consistent profitability throughout the insurance cycle: AAIC and MGA. These two subsidiaries constitute what we refer to as our wholesale operations. The wholesale operation sells its insurance products through our 2700 independent insurance agents. AAIC is a property and casualty insurance company domiciled in South Carolina that focuses on writing non-standard automobile business in the states of Alabama, Arizona, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina, Texas and Virginia. Additionally, AAIC is licensed to underwrite business in Arkansas, Illinois, Missouri, Pennsylvania, Tennessee and West Virginia. We expect to enter the other states at a later time, provided that the underwriting environment remains positive and the capital and surplus of AAIC supports such growth. AAIC currently has reinsurance contracts with nine reinsurers, eight of which are rated A- or better by A.M. Best and one of which is not formally followed by A.M. Best.

MGA markets AAIC's policies through more than 2,700 appointed independent insurance agencies. MGA provides all of the underwriting, accounting, product management, legal, policyholder administration and claims functions for AAIC. The Company also provides claims services for two unaffiliated carriers in Texas and Florida and one MGA in Florida, which are in run-off. Our own MGA receives commissions and various fees related to insurance transactions that vary according to state insurance laws and regulations.

**Our Industry**

Personal auto insurance is the largest line of property and casualty insurance in the United States. In 2011, this market was estimated to be \$163 billion as reported by the most recent A.M. Best industry data. Personal auto insurance provides coverage to drivers for liability to others for both bodily injury and property damage and for physical damage to an insured's vehicle from collision and other perils. Personal auto insurance is comprised of preferred, standard and non-standard risks. Non-standard insurance is intended for drivers who, due to their driving record, age, vehicle type, payment history or other factors represent a higher than normal risk. As a result, customers that purchase non-standard auto insurance generally pay higher premiums for similar coverage than drivers who qualify for standard or preferred policies. Non-standard

Edgar Filing: ASSURANCEAMERICA CORP - Form 10-K

personal automobile insurance consumers typically purchase the statutory minimum limits of liability insurance required to register their vehicles.

## **Table of Contents**

### **Index to Financial Statements**

#### **Competition**

We believe that we primarily compete on the basis of price, the amount of down payment required to bind coverage, and payment terms. However, we also generally compete on the basis of consumer recognition, agency relationships, types of coverage offered, claims handling, financial stability, customer service and geographic availability. Because of the purchasing habits of our customers, the rate of policy retention is poor when compared to the retention rate of standard and preferred policies. Our success, therefore, depends in part on our ability to replace insureds that do not renew their policies.

We currently compete with many national, regional and local insurance underwriters. The insurance underwriting and agency businesses are highly competitive. Many competitors are national in scope, larger, and better capitalized than we are. Some competitors have broad distribution networks of employed agents. Smaller regional insurance companies and local agents also compete vigorously at the local level. We believe our focus on the non-standard automobile market gives us a competitive advantage together with competitive prices, payment terms and emphasis on customer service.

While there is no established industry-recognized demarcation between non-standard policies and all other personal auto policies, we believe that non-standard auto risks or specialty auto risks generally constitute approximately 15-20% of the overall personal automobile insurance market, with the exact percentage fluctuating according to competitive conditions in the market.

The personal auto insurance industry is cyclical, characterized by periods of price competition and excess capacity followed by periods of high premium rates and shortages of underwriting capacity. When underwriting standards for preferred and standard companies become more restrictive, more insureds seek non-standard coverage and the size of the non-standard market increases.

#### **Our Products**

Our non-standard insurance products provide customers with coverage for the minimum required statutory limits for bodily injury and property damage liability arising out of the operation of a personal passenger automobile. We also offer insurance coverage that affords protection for collision and physical damage to the insureds' motor vehicles, bodily injury and property damage caused by uninsured motorists, medical payments, towing and labor, and accidental death and dismemberment.

#### **Target Market**

The typical purchaser of non-standard personal automobile insurance is highly sensitive to price and payment terms, but generally insensitive to insurer ratings. AAIC is not rated by A.M. Best. Our insureds typically purchase insurance from AAIC or one of its competitors because of a lack of other coverage options and will switch to a standard provider when able. Generally, the resulting customer non-renewals have historically been more than offset by new customers entering our markets.

A significant portion of our policyholder base is comprised of foreign nationals residing in the United States. This market demographic is prominent in the southeast and, as of December 31, 2011, represents approximately 10% of our policies in force.

#### **Wholesale Operations**

Our wholesale operations are divided into four primary functional areas: Claims, Underwriting and Customer Service, Product Development and Information Technology.

#### **Claims**

AAIC seeks to pay the claims it owes in a fast, fair manner and strives to have the lowest cycle time for non-contested claims (the period of time from the initial claim report to settlement) in the industry. The non-standard personal automobile insurance market experiences a higher level of fraudulent or inflated claims than the standard or preferred market. Our Claims Division takes a hard stance on the claims AAIC does not owe and works to develop a reputation as a carrier that will aggressively fight such inflated or fraudulent claims. In order to accomplish these objectives, the Claims Division seeks the highest caliber associate, paying above prevailing market rates in order to attract and retain experienced professionals in every area of the Claims Division.



## Edgar Filing: ASSURANCEAMERICA CORP - Form 10-K

All claims are triaged to the appropriate level of experienced claims personnel. Our claims system has the capability to identify numerous facts related to a newly reported claim and triage the claim to the appropriate level of claims employee. The files are automatically assigned by the system to a claims representative once the loss is entered into the claims system. By doing so, cycle time is reduced since the file is immediately assigned to the appropriate level of claims representative 98% of the time. The Claims Division is organized into various units to provide efficient file handling capability.

We make an effort to keep the file pending levels for our adjusters below industry standards to reduce errors. All adjuster authority levels are determined based on the experience of the particular adjuster. We have formalized reserving and audit processes.

## **Table of Contents**

### **Index to Financial Statements**

We conduct weekly file reviews and provide direct feedback to the file handler and their supervisor. As part of these reviews we audit for reserving and compliance practices as well. We also have extensive claims reporting which allows us to monitor key aspects of the claims operation.

The Claims Division has a web-based claims system which is instrumental in increasing productivity by streamlining the claims processes, and it provides a competitive advantage by utilizing immediate, real-time data for evaluation purposes and allowing the exchange of information with fraud fighting agencies. The Company maintains a claims office in Tampa, Florida in order to service its customers, help fight fraud and have claims professionals located in the region handling the unique laws and issues relative to bodily injury ( BI ) and personal injury protection ( PIP ) coverages.

### ***Underwriting and Customer Service***

AssuranceAmerica's strategy is to deliver excellent service to our agents and policyholders, using technology and process efficiencies to achieve a low-cost operating model. The underwriting and customer service function services the needs of our agents and insureds. Many Customer Service representatives are bilingual, providing service to our Spanish-speaking agents and insureds. We emphasize the use of automation wherever possible.

The Company has a phone messaging system that telephones policyholders to remind them of payments due and of pending cancellations. We send agents copies of policyholder notices electronically instead of mailing them and agents can apply payments and process their own policy changes online, reducing the time spent by Customer Service performing these activities. During 2011 the Company developed and implemented an online payment system for our policyholders.

The underwriting team works closely with the claims department in order to address underwriting questions regarding material representations, undisclosed drivers, cancellations and non-renewing of policies. Our underwriting department also utilizes key reporting metrics to improve productivity and the quality of business. Also, the recently developed web-based quoting system has significantly streamlined and improved the issuance of quoted policies.

### ***Product Development***

The Product Development function is responsible for designing and pricing products, assisting with new product introduction, monitoring product performance and recommending rate changes. This department uses information from our data warehouse to analyze and monitor each product from the point of sale through termination and claims settlement, if any. We perform a market analysis prior to expanding operations into a new state. As part of the analysis, we produce and review actuarial studies, analyze required coverages, analyze rates and legal and competitive environment studies.

### ***Information Technology***

The Information Technology department is responsible for the management and support of the information technology functions of MGA and AAIC. This function is organized in three groups: Application Development, Business Intelligence and Infrastructure Support.

With respect to the Application Development group, our primary application is our policy management system (PTS) which was designed for the non-standard automobile insurance industry. This software application is an end-to-end, enterprise wide, real-time, web-based policy administration system. PTS manages and increases efficiencies among the most critical functions throughout our entire organization.

By utilizing internet technologies, PTS provides a method to manage policies from any location. PTS centralizes information and is designed to reduce workload, errors and costs associated with tracking and managing an insurance policy. It allows for control of user access to the database and opens communication channels through all levels of the organization. PTS is designed to be scalable and is expected to be capable of handling hundreds of thousands of policies. This allows PTS to grow as our business grows. The agreement with the vendor of this software package grants us a perpetual license to the source code and the ability to develop derivatives and advance the product to meet business demands and react to changing market conditions.

The Technology Group has implemented its own proprietary quote and issue application. It provides a clean and easy user interface that executes all business rules and processes to provide a quote, bind and issue of a policy at an independent agent's location. This system allows for the initial premium collection, printing of declarations pages, policies, endorsements and insurance ID cards at the point of sale. The solution rates policies

in real time, verifies and interfaces with external information, such as VIN, MVR, CLUE, ADD and credit.

## **Table of Contents**

### **Index to Financial Statements**

The Business Intelligence group supports our central data warehouse. Our data warehouse integrates and cleanses data from multiple sources and is the main repository of our Company's historical data. It allows for complex reporting queries to be run without slowing down operational systems. This area also provides the Company with real time business intelligence through a set of processes, architectures, and technologies that transform raw data into actionable reports, gauge driven scorecards, and dashboards.

The Infrastructure Support group supports our voice and data networks, hosts our websites, policy administration system, the accounting system, the claims administration system and the data warehouse. They are also responsible for the VOIP phone system and desktop support.

QTS is the third largest data center provider in the US and provides our core data center services. We are conveying to our customers our commitment to providing seamless, consistent access to our services. This quality data center is designed and constructed to provide mission critical electrical, mechanical and high capacity network systems. This crucial design philosophy is built into our product to minimize service disruption and ensure the highest level of customer service available.

### **Retail Operations**

In 2011, the Company sold the assets of TrustWay retail agencies in Alabama, Florida and Georgia. Previously, the Company operated under the TrustWay brand through a total of 50 independent non-standard automobile insurance agencies located in Florida (31), Alabama (14), and Georgia (5).

### **Reinsurance**

In the normal course of business, AAIC seeks to reduce its overall risk levels by obtaining quota share reinsurance. Reinsurance contracts do not relieve AAIC from its obligations to policyholders in the event that a reinsurer is unable to make its payments to AAIC. The Company periodically reviews the financial condition of its reinsurers to minimize its exposure to losses from reinsurer insolvencies. AAIC cedes gross written premium to nine reinsurers, eight of which are rated A- or better by A.M. Best and one of which is not formally followed by A.M. Best.

### **Liability for Property-Casualty Losses and Loss Adjustment Expenses**

The Company's consolidated financial statements include its estimated liability for unpaid losses and loss adjustment expenses (LAE). Our objective is to determine that the total reserves (i.e., case reserves and incurred but not reported reserves, or (IBNR)) are adequate to cover all loss costs, while sustaining minimal variation from the time reserves are initially established until losses are fully developed. The liabilities for losses and LAE are determined using actuarial and statistical procedures and represent undiscounted estimates of the ultimate net cost of all unpaid losses and LAE incurred through December 31 of each year. These estimates are subject to the effect of future trends on claims settlement, among other factors. These estimates are reviewed monthly as new information becomes known and we are able to observe actual loss development. Adjustments, if any, relating to accidents that occurred in prior years are reflected in the current results of operations and are referred to as development of the prior year estimates. A detailed discussion of our loss reserving practices can be found in the Critical Accounting Policies of the Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations in this Annual Report on Form 10-K. The accompanying tables present information concerning our property-casualty losses and LAE.

### **Reserves**

AAIC establishes reserves for its estimated liability for unpaid losses and loss adjustment expenses on an individual case basis for all reported incidents. The reserve includes amounts for anticipated future claim development and losses incurred but not reported (based upon actuarial analysis of historical data). Our claims system is designed to set up a statistical reserve when a feature is opened. These reserve amounts are set by age of claim for each coverage and each state. The claims department conducts file audits, monthly reserve reconciliation and periodic reviews of every pending file. Additionally, the reserves for loss and loss adjustment expenses are reviewed independently each quarter by a consulting independent actuarial firm.

**Table of Contents****Index to Financial Statements**

The following table provides a reconciliation of beginning and ending estimated liability balances for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009:

## RECONCILIATION OF NET RESERVES FOR LOSSES AND LOSS ADJUSTMENT EXPENSES

| (thousands)                                    | 2011             | 2010             | 2009             |
|--|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Balance at January 1                           | \$ 33,311        | \$ 41,973        | \$ 42,581        |
| Less reinsurance recoverables on unpaid losses | 23,410           | 29,710           | 29,747           |
| <b>Net balance at January 1</b>                | <b>9,901</b>     | <b>12,263</b>    | <b>12,834</b>    |
| Incurred related to:                           |                  |                  |                  |
| Current year                                   | 26,959           | 22,864           | 26,002           |
| Prior years                                    | 4,081            | 2,158            | (754)            |
| <b>Total incurred</b>                          | <b>31,040</b>    | <b>25,022</b>    | <b>25,248</b>    |
| Paid related to:                               |                  |                  |                  |
| Current year                                   | (15,965)         | (15,587)         | (16,195)         |
| Prior years                                    | (10,428)         | (11,797)         | (9,624)          |
| <b>Total paid</b>                              | <b>(26,393)</b>  | <b>(27,384)</b>  | <b>(25,819)</b>  |
| Net balance at December 31                     | 14,548           | 9,901            | 12,263           |
| Plus reinsurance recoverable on unpaid losses  | 27,550           | 23,410           | 29,710           |
| <b>Balance at December 31</b>                  | <b>\$ 42,098</b> | <b>\$ 33,311</b> | <b>\$ 41,973</b> |

Total development consists of net changes in estimates made by our external actuary for prior accident year reserves, based on quarterly scheduled reviews, the settlement of claims for more or less than reserved, the emergence of unrecorded claims at rates different than reserved, and changes in reserve estimates by claim representatives. Our net reserves developed unfavorably in 2011 resulting from higher than expected costs on auto liability claims to what was originally estimated. The unfavorable development in 2010 resulted from an increase in the number of reported claims and higher than expected costs to settle claims for prior accident years. We have not entered into any loss reserve portfolio transfers or similar transactions having a material effect on earnings or reserves.

The following loss triangle table represents the development of balance sheet liabilities for losses and LAE from the beginning of the Company's insurance operations in 2003 through 2011. The third line of the table shows the Company's estimated liability for unpaid losses and LAE recorded at the balance sheet date for each of the indicated years, after adjustment for the effect of reinsurance. This liability represents the Company's estimated amount of losses and LAE for claims that were unpaid at the balance sheet date, including IBNR.

**Table of Contents****Index to Financial Statements****ANALYSIS OF LOSS AND LOSS ADJUSTMENT EXPENSES DEVELOPMENT**

(thousands)

|   | 2003     | 2004      | 2005      | 2006      | 2007       | 2008      | 2009       | 2010      | 2011      |
|---|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| GROSS LIABILITY FOR UNPAID LOSSES AND LAE(1)          | \$ 4,499 | \$ 10,656 | \$ 15,110 | \$ 24,904 | \$ 33,661  | \$ 42,581 | \$ 41,973  | \$ 33,311 | \$ 42,098 |
| REINSURANCE RECOVERABLE ON UNPAID LOSSES              | 3,149    | 7,459     | 10,577    | 17,433    | 23,250     | 29,747    | 29,710     | 23,410    | 27,550    |
| LIABILITY FOR UNPAID LOSSES AND LAE NET               | \$ 1,350 | \$ 3,197  | \$ 4,533  | \$ 7,471  | \$ 10,411  | \$ 12,834 | \$ 12,263  | \$ 9,901  | \$ 14,548 |
| NET PAID (CUMULATIVE) AS OF:                          |          |           |           |           |            |           |            |           |           |
| One year later  | 796      | 2,040     | 2,940     | 4,576     | 8,248      | 9,624     | 11,797     | 10,428    | 0         |
| Two years later                                       | 967      | 2,393     | 3,744     | 6,605     | 10,650     | 11,819    | 14,258     | 0         | 0         |
| Three years later                                     | 992      | 2,580     | 4,373     | 7,217     | 11,353     | 12,495    | 0          | 0         | 0         |
| Four years later                                      | 1,015    | 2,686     | 4,533     | 7,366     | 11,569     | 0         | 0          | 0         | 0         |
| Five years later                                      | 1,031    | 2,715     | 4,583     | 7,423     | 0          | 0         | 0          | 0         | 0         |
| Six years later                                       | 1,031    | 2,722     | 4,586     | 0         | 0          | 0         | 0          | 0         | 0         |
| Seven years later                                     | 1,032    | 2,723     | 0         | 0         | 0          | 0         | 0          | 0         | 0         |
| Eight years later                                     | 1,032    | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0          | 0         | 0          | 0         | 0         |
| Nine years later                                      | 0        | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0          | 0         | 0          | 0         | 0         |
| Ten years later                                       | 0        | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0          | 0         | 0          | 0         | 0         |
| NET LIABILITY RE-ESTIMATED AS OF:                     |          |           |           |           |            |           |            |           |           |
| One year later  | 1,171    | 2,783     | 4,691     | 7,394     | 11,164     | 12,080    | 14,421     | 13,982    | 0         |
| Two years later                                       | 1,062    | 2,823     | 4,615     | 7,694     | 11,437     | 12,474    | 15,460     | 0         | 0         |
| Three years later                                     | 1,045    | 2,794     | 4,374     | 7,373     | 11,566     | 12,785    | 0          | 0         | 0         |
| Four years later                                      | 1,051    | 2,785     | 4,573     | 7,406     | 11,635     | 0         | 0          | 0         | 0         |
| Five years later                                      | 1,172    | 2,730     | 4,592     | 7,450     | 0          | 0         | 0          | 0         | 0         |
| Six years later                                       | 1,031    | 2,739     | 4,610     | 0         | 0          | 0         | 0          | 0         | 0         |
| Seven years later                                     | 1,032    | 2,742     | 0         | 0         | 0          | 0         | 0          | 0         | 0         |
| Eight years later                                     | 1,032    | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0          | 0         | 0          | 0         | 0         |
| Nine years later                                      | 0        | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0          | 0         | 0          | 0         | 0         |
| Ten years later                                       | 0        | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0          | 0         | 0          | 0         | 0         |
| NET CUMULATIVE FAVORABLE/ (UNFAVORABLE) PERCENTAGE(2) | \$ 318   | \$ 455    | \$ (77)   | \$ 21     | \$ (1,224) | \$ 49     | \$ (3,197) | (4,081)   | 0         |
|   | 23.6%    | 14.2%     | (1.7)%    | 0.3%      | (11.8)%    | 0.4%      | (26.1)%    | (41.2)%   | 0         |

(1) Represents loss and LAE reserves, without regard to reinsurance recoverable on unpaid losses at the balance sheet date.

(2) Net Cumulative Development as a percentage of Liability for Unpaid Losses and LAE Net.

## **Table of Contents**

### **Index to Financial Statements**

The section of the table (labeled Paid (Cumulative) as of ) shows the cumulative amount paid with respect to the previously recorded liability as of the end of each succeeding year. The lower portion of the table (labeled Liability Re-estimated as of ) shows the re-estimated amount of the previously recorded liability based on experience as of the end of each succeeding year. The re-estimated amount is the sum of the paid amounts above and the outstanding reserve for occurrences prior to the reserve date. The estimate is increased or decreased as more information about the claims becomes known for individual years. For example, at December 31, 2010, we estimated our net unpaid losses to be \$9.9 million. During 2011, these reserves developed unfavorably by \$4.1 million, bringing the re-estimated net unpaid losses to \$14.0 million, as shown at the bottom of the table.

The Analysis of Loss and Loss Adjustment Expenses Development table is constructed from Schedule P, Part-1, from the Company's Statutory Annual Statements as filed with the various state insurance departments.

The Company did change its reinsurance terms for the state of Florida, whereby we ceded 50% of the Florida business for nine months of the year. There were no other recent material changes in mix of business, unusually large losses or gains, hedging or effects of currency fluctuations in its estimated loss reserves.

The Company did not have any differences between U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles ( GAAP ) and statutory basis property-casualty reserves for claims and loss adjustment expenses. Further, the claim reserves have not been discounted on a GAAP basis.

### **State Insurance Licenses**

AAIC and MGA operate under licenses issued by various insurance authorities. Certain employees must be licensed as insurance adjusters in any state where they perform a function requiring licensure. These licenses may be of perpetual duration or renewable periodically, provided the holder continues to meet applicable regulatory requirements. The licenses govern the kinds of insurance that may be written in the issuing state and the other services that may be provided. Such licenses are normally issued only after the filing of an appropriate application and the satisfaction of prescribed criteria. All licenses that are material to our businesses are in good standing.

### **Supervision and Regulation**

Insurance companies are generally subject to regulation and supervision by insurance departments of the jurisdiction in which they are domiciled or licensed to transact business. The nature and extent of such regulation and supervision varies from jurisdiction to jurisdiction. Generally, an insurance company is subject to a higher degree of regulation and supervision in its state of domicile. State insurance departments have broad administrative power relating to licensing insurers and agents, regulating premium charges and policy forms, establishing reserve requirements, prescribing statutory accounting methods, the form and content of statutory financial reports, and regulating the type and amount of investments permitted. Rate regulation varies from file and use to prior approval to mandated rates.

State insurance departments are charged with the responsibility of ensuring that insurance companies maintain adequate capital and surplus and comply with a variety of operational standards. Insurance companies are generally required to file detailed annual and other reports with the insurance department of each jurisdiction in which they conduct business. State insurance departments are authorized to make periodic and other examinations of insurers' financial condition and operations to monitor the financial stability of the insurers, to ensure adherence to statutory accounting principles, and compliance with state insurance laws and regulations.

Insurance holding company laws enacted in many jurisdictions grant to insurance authorities the power to regulate acquisitions of insurers and certain other transactions and require periodic disclosure of certain information. These laws impose prior approval requirements for transactions between regulated insurers and their affiliates and generally regulate dividends and other distributions, including management fees, loans, and cash advances, between regulated insurers and their affiliates.

Under state insolvency and guaranty laws, regulated insurers can be assessed or required to contribute to state guaranty funds to cover policyholder losses resulting from the insolvency of other insurers. Insurers are also required by many states, as a condition of doing business in the state, to provide coverage to certain risks which are not insurable in the voluntary market. These assigned risk plans generally specify the types of insurance and the level of coverage which must be offered to such involuntary risks, as well as the allowable premium. Many states also have involuntary market plans which hire a limited number of servicing carriers to provide insurance to involuntary risks. These plans, through assessments, pass underwriting and administrative expenses on to insurers that write voluntary coverages in those states.





---

**Table of Contents**

**Index to Financial Statements**

Insurance companies are generally required by insurance regulators to maintain sufficient surplus to support their writings. Although, the ratio of writings to surplus that the regulators will allow is a function of a number of factors, including the type of business being written, the adequacy of the insurer's reserves, the quality of the insurer's assets and the identity of the regulator, the annual net premiums that an insurer may write are generally limited in relation to the insurer's total policyholders' surplus. Thus, the amount of an insurer's surplus may, in certain cases, limit its ability to grow its business. The National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) also has developed a risk-based capital (RBC) program to enable regulators to carry out appropriate and timely regulatory actions relating to insurers that show signs of weak or deteriorating financial condition. The RBC program consists of a series of dynamic surplus related formulas which contain a variety of factors that are applied to financial balances based on a degree of certain risks, such as asset, credit and underwriting risks.

Many states have laws and regulations that limit an insurer's ability to exit a market. For example, certain states limit an automobile insurer's ability to cancel or non-renew policies. Furthermore, certain states prohibit an insurer from withdrawing one or more lines of business from the state, except pursuant to a plan that is approved by the state insurance department. The state insurance department may disapprove a plan that may lead to market disruption. Laws and regulations that limit cancellation or non-renewal of policies and that subject program withdrawals to prior approval requirements may restrict an insurer's ability to exit unprofitable markets.

Regulation of insurance constantly changes as real or perceived issues and developments arise. Some changes may be due to economic developments, such as changes in investment laws made to recognize new investment vehicles. Other changes result from such general pressures as consumer resistance to price increases and concerns relating to insurer rating, underwriting practices and solvency. In recent years, legislation and voter initiatives have been introduced, and in some areas adopted, which deal with use of non-public consumer information, use of financial responsibility and credit information in underwriting, insurance rate development, rate determination and the ability of insurers to cancel or non-renew insurance policies, reflecting concerns about consumer privacy, coverage, availability, prices and alleged discriminatory pricing. In addition, during 2010, the federal government established the Federal Insurance Office in order to monitor the financial condition of insurers. The U.S. Congress and certain federal agencies will continue to investigate the current condition of the insurance industry.

In some states, the automobile insurance industry has been under pressure in past years from regulators, legislators or special interest groups to reduce, freeze, or set rates to a level that is not necessarily related to underlying costs. This kind of activity has affected adversely, and in the future may affect adversely, the profitability and growth of the automobile insurance business in those jurisdictions and may limit the ability to increase rates to compensate for increases in costs. Adverse legislative and regulatory activity limiting the ability to price automobile insurance adequately or affecting the insurance operations adversely in other ways may occur in the future. The impact of these regulatory changes on us cannot be predicted.

**Statutory Accounting Principles**

The Company's results are reported in accordance with GAAP, which differ in certain respects from amounts reported under statutory accounting principles (SAP) prescribed by insurance regulatory authorities. Primarily, under GAAP:

1. Commissions, premium taxes and other variable costs incurred in connection with writing new and renewal business are capitalized and amortized on a pro rata basis over the period in which the related premiums are earned, rather than expensed as incurred, as required by SAP.
2. Certain assets are included in the consolidated balance sheet, but are non-admitted and charged directly against statutory surplus under SAP. These assets consist primarily of premium receivables and reinsurance recoverables that are outstanding over 90 days, federal deferred tax assets in excess of statutory limitations, furniture, equipment, application computer software, leasehold improvements and prepaid expenses.
3. Amounts related to ceded reinsurance, such as prepaid reinsurance premiums and reinsurance recoverables, are shown gross, rather than netted against unearned premium reserves and loss and loss adjustment expense reserves, respectively, as required by SAP.
4. Fixed-maturity securities, which are classified as available-for-sale, are reported at current market values, rather than at amortized cost, or the lower of amortized cost or market, depending on the credit quality of the specific security, as required by SAP. Equity securities are reported at quoted market values, which may differ from the NAIC market values as required by SAP. The amortization of the cost of the other long-term investment for tax credits are amortized through income tax expense rather than through investment income as required by SAP.
5. Both current and deferred taxes are recognized in the income statement for GAAP, while deferred taxes are posted directly to surplus for SAP.



**Table of Contents**

**Index to Financial Statements**

**Investments**

The Company employs a conservative approach to investment and capital management intended to ensure that there is sufficient capital to support all of the insurance premium that can be profitably written. The Company's portfolio is invested primarily in investment-grade fixed-income securities.

**Employees**

As of December 31, 2011, we had 148 employees, of which 147 are full-time and 1 was part-time, whom we refer to as associates.

**Item 2. PROPERTIES**

AssuranceAmerica Corporation leases office space for its corporate headquarters located at RiverEdge One, 5500 Interstate North Parkway, Atlanta, Georgia 30328. Effective October 1, 2009 the Company signed an amendment to extend its lease until 2019 under more favorable lease terms. AssuranceAmerica Managing General Agency, LLC., leases a claims office in the state of Florida. During 2011, the Company sold its TrustWay retail operations and the leases associated with the sale are no longer commitments for the Company. However, the Company is still obligated for the lease commitment on three discontinued retail offices in Alabama under short term commercial leases. The Company believes that its existing facilities in the various states are adequate for the Company's current requirements and operations. Rent expense for long-term leases with predetermined minimum rental escalations is recognized on a straight-line basis, and the difference between the recognized rental expense and amounts payable under the leases, or deferred rent, is included in other liabilities.

**Item 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS**

The Company is not a party to any pending legal proceedings other than routine litigation that is incidental to its business.

**Item 4. RESERVED**

N/A

**EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF THE REGISTRANT**

Incorporated by reference from information with respect to executive officers of the AssuranceAmerica Corporation and its subsidiaries set forth in Item 10 in Part III of this Form 10-K.

**PART II**

**Item 5. MARKET FOR REGISTRANT'S COMMON EQUITY, RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS AND ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES**

The Company Common Stock is quoted on the Over-the-Counter Bulletin Board (OTC-BB) under the symbol ASAM.PK. There is currently a very limited trading market for the Company Common Stock. The following sets forth, for the respective periods indicated, the high and low bid prices of the Company Common Stock in the over-the-counter market, as reported and summarized by the OTC-BB. Such prices are based on inter-dealer bid and asked prices, without retail mark-up, mark-down, commissions or adjustments, and may not represent actual transactions.

**Bid Prices**

Edgar Filing: ASSURANCEAMERICA CORP - Form 10-K

| Quarter Ended            | High    | Low     |
|--------------------------|---------|---------|
| <b>2011 Fiscal Year:</b> |         |         |
| March 31, 2011           | \$ 0.30 | \$ 0.17 |
| June 30, 2011            | \$ 0.20 | \$ 0.17 |
| September 30, 2011       | \$ 0.17 | \$ 0.16 |
| December 31, 2011        | \$ 0.28 | \$ 0.16 |
| <b>2010 Fiscal Year:</b> |         |         |
| March 31, 2010           | \$ 0.35 | \$ 0.16 |
| June 30, 2010            | \$ 0.35 | \$ 0.18 |
| September 30, 2010       | \$ 0.46 | \$ 0.18 |
| December 31, 2010        | \$ 0.40 | \$ 0.11 |

---

**Table of Contents**

**Index to Financial Statements**

The Company has never declared or paid cash dividends on the Company's common stock and currently intends to retain any future earnings for the operation and expansion of its business. Any determination to pay cash dividends on the Company's common stock will be at the discretion of the Board of Directors of the Company and will be dependent on the Company's financial condition, results of operations, contractual restrictions, capital requirements, business prospects and such other factors as the Company's Board of Directors deems relevant. Additionally, the payment of dividends or distributions from AAIC to the Company is restricted by the insurance laws and regulations of South Carolina (see Note 15 of the Consolidated Financial Statements).

At March 30, 2012, there were approximately 768 holders of record of the Company Common Stock.

**Item 6. *SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA***

N/A

**Item 7. *MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS***  
**Restatement**

During 2011, the company's management discovered an error in its stated accounts receivables. The error arose as a result of the process used to record transactions to the accounting system for insufficient funds on policy payments from insureds. This process, which in certain instances required manual adjustments to the accounts receivable system for insufficient funds transactions, resulted in a duplicate booking of certain transactions to the accounting systems in years 2007 through 2010. The process for recording and reconciling insufficient funds transactions was changed in 2011. Additionally, the company's management strengthened its internal controls as a result of this error.

As a result, the Company's accounts receivable were overstated by \$1.8 million as of December 31, 2010. The effect of the overstatement is a cumulative charge to earnings, after giving effect to taxes, of \$1.2 million over the four-year period from 2007 through and including 2010. Of this aggregate charge to earnings after giving effect to taxes, \$254,623 related to fiscal year 2007; \$397,818 related to fiscal year 2008; \$269,634 related to fiscal year 2009; and \$312,583 related to fiscal year 2010.

Based on the foregoing, on April 2, 2012, the Company's Board of Directors, after consultation with the Company's management, concluded that the Company's financial statements for the fiscal years 2009 and 2010, the interim periods contained therein, and the quarterly statements for the first three quarters of 2011 must be restated to the extent of the overstatements listed above. See Note 3 within the Consolidated Financial Statements for further information.

**Results of Continuing Operations**

The Company reported a net after-tax loss on continuing operations of \$9.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2011 compared to earnings of \$2.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2010. The Company reported basic and fully diluted losses per common share from continuing operations of \$0.136 for the year ended December 31, 2011 compared to earnings of \$0.042 for the same period in 2010. The pre-tax loss from continuing operations was \$6.5 million for the period ended December 31, 2011 compared to pre-tax earnings of \$4.7 million for the same period in 2010.

The pre-tax loss from continuing operations for the year ended December 31, 2011 compared to the same period last year, resulted primarily from lower earnings in the wholesale operation (AAIC and MGA) in 2011 and a \$3.5 million gain on extinguishment of debt recognized in 2010. Total revenue declined by \$6.9 million or 11% from the prior year. This reduction reflects both the challenging economic environment as well as actions taken by the Company to address underwriting results. The loss and loss adjustment expenses increased \$6.0 million compared to the prior year. This increase included \$4.1 million of adverse loss development from prior accident years, primarily 2009 and 2010.

**Results of Discontinued Operations**

The Company sold its TrustWay retail agencies in 2011. The TrustWay business is reported as discontinued operations in the Consolidated Financial Statements and 2010 results for this business was reclassified as discontinued operations for comparative purposes. The Company

## Edgar Filing: ASSURANCEAMERICA CORP - Form 10-K

reported a net after-tax loss from discontinued operations of \$2.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2011, compared to a net after-tax loss of \$2.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2010. The Company reported basic and fully diluted losses per common share from discontinued operations of \$0.040 for the year ended December 31, 2011, compared to losses of \$0.033 in the same period in 2010. The pre-tax loss from discontinued operations was \$2.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2011 and \$3.2 million for 2010, respectively.

The \$2.7 million pre-tax loss from discontinued operations for the year ended December 31, 2011 includes a loss on disposal of \$1.3 million from the sale of TrustWay retail agency operations. The pre-tax loss from discontinued operations also includes \$1.4 million of discontinued operating losses for the year ended December 31, 2011 compared to a \$3.2 million pre-tax loss for the same period last year. The prior year pre-tax loss reflects a discontinued operating loss of \$1.7 million and a goodwill impairment of \$1.5 million related to the TrustWay agency operations. See Note 9 of the Consolidated Financial Statements for further information.

---

**Table of Contents**

**Index to Financial Statements**

**Revenues**

***Premiums***

Gross premiums written ( GPW ) for the year ended December 31, 2011 were \$89.5 million, a decline of 11% compared to the same period in 2010. The decline in premium was driven by a reduction in new business policies as well as a product mix shift from 12 month policies to 6 month policies. The reduction in new business is due to the challenging economic environment as well as actions taken by the Company to improve profitability in underperforming market segments. These actions include rate increases, implementation of tighter underwriting guidelines and restrictions on new business in high fraud areas in the state of Florida. Additionally, the Company stopped writing new business policies in the states of Texas, Mississippi and Louisiana in November, 2011. Average policy premium for six month policies increased for new and renewal policies written during the last six months of the year by 15.4% and 5.4%, respectively, compared to the same period in 2010, reflecting the impact of the rate increases taken earlier in the year.

Policies in-force of 68,663 as of December 31, 2011 decreased 16.7% from policies in-force at December 31, 2010.

The Company ceded approximately 65% or \$58.1 million of its direct premiums written to its reinsurers in 2011 compared to 67% or \$67.8 million in 2010. The reduction is the result of lower direct premium volume produced and lower ceded premium for the state of Florida, which was ceded for only nine months during 2011.

Premiums written refers to the total amount of premiums billed to the policyholder less the amount of premiums returned, generally as a result of cancellations, during a given period. Premiums written become premiums earned as the policy ages. Barring premium rate changes, if an insurance company writes the same gross premiums written ( GPW ) each year, premiums written and premiums earned will be equal and the unearned premium reserve will remain constant. During periods of growth in GPW, the unearned premium reserve will increase, causing premiums earned to be less than premiums written. Conversely, during periods of decline in GPW, the unearned premium reserve will decrease, causing premiums earned to be greater than premiums written. The Company's net premiums earned, after deducting reinsurance, remained flat at \$33.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2011.

***Commission and Fee Income***

Our MGA operations receive managing general agent commissions for agency, underwriting, policy administration, and claims adjusting services performed on behalf of insurers. Commission income for the year ended December 31, 2011 was \$12.2 million compared to \$14.8 million in 2010. The decrease in commission income was driven by the reduction in premium volume and a lower ceding commission rate. AAIC pays the MGA commission on premium, which AAIC retains and this amount is subsequently eliminated upon consolidation.

The MGA operations also receive finance and other fees associated with premium installment plans. Managing general agent fees of \$10.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2011 were \$0.5 million lower than the prior year, resulting from the reduction of in-force policies.

***Gain on extinguishment of debt***

On December 30, 2010, AAIC issued a dividend in-kind to its parent Company of all the 5,000 of the AssuranceAmerica Capital Trust's floating rate capital securities, with a liquidation amount of \$1,000 per capital security (the Capital Securities ) in the amount of \$1,001,089 and the Company extinguished the floating rate junior subordinated debentures of the Company (the Debentures ) of \$4,988,513, which resulted in a gain of \$3,509,845 after the unamortized issuance cost.

***Net Investment Income and Investment Gains***

Our investment portfolio is highly liquid and consists substantially of readily marketable, investment-grade debt securities. Net investment income is primarily comprised of interest and dividends earned on these securities and related investment expenses. Net investment income and gains were \$0.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2011 and \$0.7 million for the same period last year. The lower investment performance was mainly due to interest income received on the trust preferred debt in the prior year, which was extinguished in December of 2010, offset by higher realized gains on equity securities sold in 2011.

**Expenses**

*Insurance Loss and Loss Adjustment Expenses*

Insurance losses and loss adjustment expenses include payments made to settle claims, estimates for future claim payments and changes in those estimates for current and prior periods, as well as loss adjustment expenses incurred in connection with settling



**Table of Contents****Index to Financial Statements**

claims. Insurance losses and loss adjustment expenses are influenced by many factors, such as claims frequency and severity trends, the impact of changes in estimates for prior accident years, and increases in the cost of medical treatment and automobile repairs. The anticipated impact of inflation is considered when we establish our premium rates and set loss reserves. During 2011, our outside actuarial firm performed quarterly analyses of accident year results to update reserve requirements. The estimate of ultimate loss and loss adjustment expenses is evaluated by accident quarter and by major coverage group (e.g., bodily injury, physical damage). The quarterly analyses are gross of reinsurance and then reinsurance terms are applied to calculate indicated net reserves.

We have historically used reinsurance to manage our exposure to losses and loss adjustment expenses by ceding a portion of our gross losses and loss adjustment expenses to reinsurers. We remain obligated for amounts covered by reinsurance in the event that the reinsurers do not meet their obligations under the reinsurance agreements due to, for example, disputes with the reinsurer or the reinsurer's insolvency.

Effective May 15, 2011, the Company entered into a twelve month catastrophe agreement with Shelter Mutual Insurance Company ( SMIC ). SMIC shall be liable for private passenger automobile physical damage coverage with respect to each loss occurrence, for the ultimate net loss over and above an initial ultimate net loss of \$400,000 each event such as a storm or flood, subject to a limit of liability to the reinsurer of \$1,600,000 each event, and further subject to a limit of liability to SMIC of \$3,200,000 with respects to all events commencing during the term of this contract.

Effective April 1, 2011, the Company entered into a new quota share agreement with Greenlight Reinsurance Ltd. ( Greenlight ) for premium written in the state of Florida for the period of April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2012. The Company ceded 50% of premiums and losses for bodily injury liability, physical damage and other automobile liability coverages to Greenlight. The Company will receive a 19% ceding commission on ceded premiums earned if the loss and loss adjustment expense ratio as a percentage of earned premium is 75.5% or greater. If the loss ratio is less than 75.5%, but not less than 71.5% then the ceding commission shall be 19.0%, plus one half of the difference in percentage points between 75.5% and the actual loss ratio. If the loss ratio is 71.5% or less, then the ceding commission rate will be 21.0%. The Company receives a provisional commission rate of 20% in advance, which is subject to adjustment once the final loss ratio is known.

Effective January 1, 2011, the Company entered into a new quota share agreement with Swiss Reinsurance America Corporation for business written in 2011 for all states other than Florida. The Company ceded premium and losses equal to 75% of the bodily injury liability coverage and 82.5% of physical damage and other automobile liability coverages. The agreement includes a loss corridor of 75.0%-79.0%, whereby the Company retains the amount by which losses and loss adjustment expenses incurred exceed 75% of collected net premiums earned, subject to a maximum additional retention equal to 4% of collected net premiums earned. The Company retains the amount by which losses and loss adjustment expense incurred, after the application of the loss corridor, exceeds 120% of collected net premiums earned.

As a result of the reinsurance agreements, the Company is currently ceding to its reinsurers approximately 67% in 2011 and 72% in 2010 of its direct loss and loss adjustment expenses incurred. The Company ceded approximately 65% of its direct premiums written to its reinsurers during 2011 compared to 67% in 2010.

After making deductions for the effect of reinsurance, losses and loss adjustment expenses were \$31.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2011, compared to \$25.0 million for the same period in 2010. The amount represents actual payments made and changes in estimated future payments to be made to or on behalf of AAIC's policyholders, including the expenses associated with settling claims. As a percentage of earned premiums, the loss ratio for the year ended December 31, 2011 was 92.9% and 75.0% for the same period in 2010. The year-over-year increase in loss cost includes \$4.1 million of adverse loss development on claims from accident years 2009 and 2010 and \$1.5 million of reserves established for the loss corridor provision in the 2011 reinsurance treaty.

The \$4.1 million of adverse development is attributed to higher than expected cost for bodily injury claims as well as additional cost exposure for Florida no-fault coverage (PIP). The Company has implemented both rate and underwriting actions to improve loss results for the bodily injury coverage. The adverse development on PIP coverage in Florida is related to recent Florida district court decisions, ruling that an insurer may not limit payment for PIP medical services to the permissive fee schedule of the Florida PIP statute unless there is specific language in the policy contract indicating use of the fee schedule. This is not expected to be a recurring issue as the Company added language to its policy contract effective January 1, 2011. As of December 31, 2011 the Company reserved for the estimated amount of remaining exposure.

***Operating Expenses***

Selling, general and administrative expenses were \$30.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2011 and \$32.3 million for the same period of 2010. The decrease of \$1.4 million in 2011 expenses relates to a \$1.7 million decrease in selling expenses due to lower premium volume in the

## Edgar Filing: ASSURANCEAMERICA CORP - Form 10-K

wholesale division and a \$1.5 million goodwill impairment loss reflected in the prior year, partially offset by increases in personnel costs of \$0.6 million, boards and bureau assessments of \$0.6 million and \$0.4 million in other administrative costs. Depreciation and amortization expenses increased \$223 thousand related to investment in a proprietary web-based quoting and policy issuance platform. Interest expense was \$344 thousand lower than the prior year, primarily due to the extinguishment of the trust preferred debt in late 2010.

---

**Table of Contents****Index to Financial Statements*****Income Tax Expense***

The net income tax expense for the year ended December 31, 2011 from continuing and discontinued operations was \$2.4 million compared to \$0.9 million for the prior year. The increase in the tax expense during the year relates to a valuation allowance of \$4.9 million on the Company's deferred tax assets. The valuation allowance was established based on the more likely than not threshold for the Company's net deferred income tax asset as of December 31, 2011. The Company's ability to realize deferred tax assets depends on the ability to generate sufficient taxable income within the carryforward period provided for in the tax law. The Company considered the following possible sources of taxable income when assessing the possible realization of deferred tax assets: future reversals of existing taxable temporary differences; future taxable income exclusive of reversing temporary differences and carryforwards; taxable income in prior carryback years; and tax planning strategies.

**Financial Condition**

As of December 31, 2011, the Company had investments and cash of \$16.6 million, compared to \$21.5 million at December 31, 2010. The Company's investment strategy is to be investing in bonds with short durations in order to meet its insurance obligations. As of December 31, 2011, the Company had \$8.1 million in cash and short-term investments, which included \$0.3 million of cash restricted to provide security for certain reinsurance reserve obligations. The Company's long term investments of \$7.9 million are spread among direct obligations of the U.S. Treasury as well as those securities unconditionally guaranteed as to the payment of principal and interest by the United States government or any agency thereof and in corporate bonds. The Company changed its investment strategy during the year and sold all of its remaining equity securities in order to mitigate its exposure to a volatile equity market environment and reinvested the funds received in bonds. The other long term investments of \$0.6 million represent low income housing tax credits, which will be used to offset the Company's future tax liabilities.

The Company's investment activities are made in accordance with the Company's investment policy. The objectives of the investment policy are to obtain favorable after-tax returns on investments through a diversified portfolio of fixed income securities. The Company's investment criteria and practices reflect the short-term duration of its contractual obligations with policyholders. Tax considerations include federal and state income tax as well as premium tax abatement and credit opportunities offered to insurance companies in the states where AAIC writes policies.

As of December 31, 2011, the Company's assets included two promissory notes secured by real estate mortgages, in the amount of \$2.5 million and \$1.5 million, respectively. The two notes were subsequently assigned by the Company as a capital contribution to its subsidiary AssuranceAmerica Insurance Company. The assigned promissory notes are secured by mortgages and real estate deeds owned by Guy Millner the Chairman of the Company and a related party. See Note 6 of the Consolidated Financial Statements for further details regarding the notes.

Receivable from insureds as of December 31, 2011, decreased \$5.7 million to \$25.1 million compared to \$30.8 million as of December 31, 2010. The balance represents amounts due from AAIC's insureds and the majority of the decrease is directly attributable to the decline in AAIC's premium writings during 2011. The Company's policy is to write off uncollected receivable balances within 60 days of cancellation or expiration, and the Company does not consider an allowance for doubtful accounts to be necessary.

Reinsurance recoverable as of December 31, 2011, increased \$2.7 million to \$36.7 million compared to \$34.0 million as of December 31, 2010. The increase is directly related to an increase in ceded loss reserves. AAIC maintains quota-share reinsurance treaties whereby it ceded approximately 65% of premiums and 67% of losses in 2011. The \$36.7 million represents the reinsurers' portion of losses and loss adjustment expenses, both paid and unpaid.

Prepaid reinsurance premiums as of December 31, 2011, decreased \$4.2 million to \$19.5 million compared to \$23.6 million as of December 31, 2010. The decrease results from AAIC's decline in premium during the year of 2011 and represents premiums ceded to its reinsurers which have not been fully earned.

Other receivables as of December 31, 2011 increased \$0.9 million to \$1.6 million when compared to December 31, 2010. The increase mainly relates to \$0.2 million note receivable due from the purchaser of the TrustWay Alabama agencies, \$0.3 million due from the purchaser of the TrustWay Florida agencies and \$0.4 million increase for balances related to the managing general agency agreements.

Assets of discontinued operations decreased \$8.1 million to \$0.2 million as of December 31, 2011 from the balance of \$8.3 million as of December 31, 2010. This decrease is mainly related to the sale of the TrustWay agency assets disposed of during 2011. See Note 9 of the Consolidated Financial Statements for further information.



---

**Table of Contents**

**Index to Financial Statements**

Prepaid income taxes decreased \$107 thousand as of December 31, 2011, when compared to the balance at December 31, 2010. Deferred tax assets decreased \$2.4 million as of December 31, 2011 compared to the balance as of December 31, 2010. A valuation allowance of \$4,851,743 was established based on the more likely than not threshold for the Company's net deferred income tax asset as of December 31, 2011. See Note 10 of the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Accounts payable and accrued expenses as of December 31, 2011, increased \$0.6 million to \$7.3 million from the balance of \$6.7 million as of December 31, 2010. The increase is due to \$1.6 million of unclaimed property, offset by a decrease of \$0.3 million in lower premium tax accruals, \$0.5 million in general and administrative expense accruals, and amounts due to agents of \$0.2 million.

Unearned premium decreased \$6.1 million to \$28.1 million as of December 31, 2011 from \$34.2 million as of December 31, 2010, and represents premiums written but not earned. This decrease is directly attributable to the decline in AAIC's premium writings during 2011.

Unpaid losses and loss adjustment expenses increased \$8.8 million to \$42.1 million as of December 31, 2011 from \$33.3 million at December 31, 2010. This amount represents management's estimates of future amounts needed to pay claims and related expenses. The increase is primarily related to reserve strengthening and adjustments to the actuarial estimate for prior accident years related to the bodily injury and personal injury protection coverages.

Reinsurance payable as of December 31, 2011 decreased \$8.9 million to \$20.5 million, compared to \$29.4 million on December 31, 2010. The amount represents premiums owed to the Company's reinsurers. AAIC maintains nine reinsurance treaties with its reinsurers and is currently ceding approximately 65% of premiums written. The decrease is mainly due to the decrease in premiums written during the year.

Provisional commission reserves represent the difference between the minimum ceding commission and the provisional amount paid by the reinsurers. These balances as of December 31, 2011 decreased \$0.8 million to \$2.5 million, compared to the balance on December 31, 2010 of \$3.3 million. The decrease is related to the reduction in ceded written premium in 2011 and a reduction in the commission rate.

The Company's revolving line of credit of \$1.5 million was fully paid during 2011. The line was not renewed by the Company.

Notes payable due to a related party increased by \$1,557,911. The increase represents two notes payable issued in the amount of \$2.5 million and \$1.5 million to Mr. Millner, the Chairman of the Company, in consideration of providing the secured notes to AssuranceAmerica Corporation, (for assignment by the Company as a capital contribution to its subsidiary AssuranceAmerica Insurance Company). As additional consideration, the Company also issued a Warrant Agreement giving the Chairman the right to purchase 11,629,000 shares of the common stock of the Company for \$0.01 per share. At December 31, 2011, the recorded balance of the notes is \$1,557,911, net of \$2,442,089 discount related to the issuance of the warrants. The discount will be amortized over the life of the notes as a yield adjustment. See Note 11 of the Consolidated Financial Statements for further information.

Notes and interest payable as of December 31, 2011 decreased \$58 thousand due to principal payments on a note with a third party.

**Liquidity and Capital Resources**

Net cash used by operating activities for the year ended December 31, 2011 was \$7.0 million. The decrease in operating cash was primarily due to a change in payment terms for reinsurance commissions (paid on collected premium versus paid on written premium) impacting cash flow in 2011 by \$3.4 million, the return of \$1.6 million held as restricted on behalf of the reinsurer and payment of provisional commissions of \$1.8 million.

Investing activities provided cash for the year ended December 31, 2011 of \$7.9 million. The increase primarily consists of \$4.5 million related to the sale of the TrustWay insurance agencies, \$2.8 million net proceeds from the sale of bonds and equity securities, and \$1.5 million transfer of cash from restricted funds held for reinsurers, offset by \$0.9 million of purchases of property and equipment related to the wholesale division.

Financing activities for the year ended December 31, 2011, used cash of \$1.5 million, primarily due to the \$1.5 million payment of the line of credit.

On June 30, 2010, the Company entered into a First Amendment Agreement ( First Amendment ) to the Loan Agreement between the Company and Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. (as successor in interest by merger to Wachovia Bank, N.A.) ( Lender ). The First Amendment amends the Loan

Edgar Filing: ASSURANCEAMERICA CORP - Form 10-K

Agreement, dated July 17, 2009, between the Company and the Lender ( Loan Agreement ).

---

**Table of Contents**

**Index to Financial Statements**

The First Amendment extended the maturity date for the credit facility to July 16, 2011. However, the lender extended the agreement through September 30, 2011. The facility was fully paid in July 2011 and upon expiration, the facility was not renewed. The proceeds of the facility was used for funding certain permitted acquisitions, funding short-term loans to the Company's wholly owned subsidiary, AAIC, or for working capital or general corporate needs in the ordinary course of business. The credit facility was secured by a pledge of the Company's ownership interests in two of the Company's subsidiaries, TrustWay and MGA, and was guaranteed by the same entities.

On December 30, 2010, AAIC issued a dividend in-kind to the Company of all the capital securities issued by AssuranceAmerica Capital Trust in the amount of \$1,001,089 and the Company extinguished the related junior subordinated debentures of \$4,988,513, which resulted in a gain of \$3,509,845. On March 10, 2009, AAIC purchased all of the capital securities issued by the trust at a discounted price of \$1,000,000 from the non-affiliated holder of those securities. The discount was accreted to interest income over the remaining life of the capital securities using the interest method. The purchase resulted in an increase in AAIC's investment portfolio for redeemable preferred stock in the amount of \$1,001,089.

To support Company growth, the Company maintains a highly liquid investment portfolio and closely manages capital requirements. AAIC is required by the state of South Carolina to maintain minimum statutory capital and surplus of \$3.0 million. As of December 31, 2011, AAIC's statutory capital and surplus was \$11.4 million.

***Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements***

The Company does have off balance sheet leasing arrangements. For further information, please refer to Note 16 in the Consolidated Financial Statements.

**CRITICAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Loss and LAE Reserves**

The Company is required to make certain estimates and assumptions when preparing its financial statements and accompanying notes in accordance with GAAP. One area which requires estimations and assumptions is the establishment of loss and LAE reserves. Loss and LAE reserves are established to reflect the estimated costs of paying claims and claims expenses under insurance policies we have issued. These reserves are an approximation of amounts necessary to settle all outstanding claims, including known claims and claims that have been incurred but not reported (IBNR) as of the financial statement date.

Loss and LAE reserves are determined using actuarial and statistical procedures and represent undiscounted estimates of the ultimate net cost of all unpaid losses and LAE incurred through December 31 of each year. When establishing loss and LAE reserves, the Company considers its historical loss experience and current trends or assumptions, particularly those relating to the following factors:

Claims settlement and payment practices;

Industry averages and average paid losses by state and other geographical regions;

Coverage limits and deductibles;

Inflation and changes in automobile repair costs, medical costs and industry averages; and

Legal and regulatory trends affecting claims settlements and average legal defense costs by state and other geographical regions.

## Edgar Filing: ASSURANCEAMERICA CORP - Form 10-K

The Company considers its historical loss experience and the factors set forth above at a state, product and line of business level to estimate its loss and LAE reserves. The Company reviews its loss and LAE reserves by line of business on a monthly basis as new information becomes known and it is able to observe actual loss development. Our statistical average reserves are reviewed throughout the year. If emerging issues relating to a product or state necessitate a change in our scheduled reviews of a particular coverage of the business, we identify and measure variances and make adjustments if necessary. For example, we track medical and auto repair costs and may adjust statistical averages if trends were emerging.

At December 31, 2011 and 2010, we had \$14.5 million and \$9.9 million of net loss and LAE reserves, respectively, which included \$5.1 million and \$5.2 million of case reserves and \$9.4 million and \$4.7 million of IBNR reserves, respectively. The Company's case reserves were flat year-over-year and IBNR reserves increased \$4.7 million. This increase in IBNR reserves is related to reserve strengthening and adjustments to the actuarial estimate for prior accident years related to the bodily injury and personal injury protection coverages.



**Table of Contents****Index to Financial Statements****GROSS RESERVES BY LINE OF BUSINESS**

The following table presents the gross reserves by line of business as of December 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010:

|   | <b>2011</b>          | <b>2010</b>          |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|
| Personal Auto Liability                           | \$ 39,969,262        | \$ 31,638,391        |
| Personal Auto Physical Damage                     | 2,129,001            | 1,672,676            |
| <b>Total Gross Reserves-Unpaid Losses and LAE</b> | <b>\$ 42,098,263</b> | <b>\$ 33,311,067</b> |

The increase in gross reserves was \$8.8 million mainly representing an increase in the bodily injury and personal injury protection coverages of \$8.3 million and \$0.5 million in physical damage coverages.

**Determination of Loss and LAE Reserves**

IBNR reserves are established on a quarterly basis and are based on a reserve analysis by the Company's external actuarial firm. Various standard actuarial tests are applied to lines of business. Included in the analyses are the following:

Paid and incurred extrapolation methods utilizing paid and incurred loss development to predict ultimate losses;

Paid and incurred Bornhuetter-Ferguson method adding expected development to actual paid or incurred experience to project ultimate losses;

Frequency and severity method to predict ultimate losses;

Pure premium method experience to project ultimate losses; and

Ultimate Loss and ALAE by coverage method to predict ultimate losses and ALAE.

For each line of business evaluated, each test generates a low, high and medium point estimate based on development factors applied to known paid and incurred losses. Selections of factors are based on historical loss development patterns with adjustments based on actuarial judgment where anticipated development patterns vary from those seen historically. This estimation of IBNR requires selection of various factors. A single point estimate for the line of business being evaluated is then selected from the results of various tests, based on a combination of simple averages of the point estimates of the various tests and selections based on actuarial judgment.

While the ultimate liability may be greater or lower than recorded loss reserves, the development period for personal auto coverage is shorter than that associated with many other property and casualty coverages and can therefore be established with more certainty than coverages developing over longer periods such as environmental coverage.

Our best estimates of the appropriate amounts for our reserves as of December 31, 2011 and 2010 are included in our financial statements for those years. Our goal is to establish the total reserves and determine the adequacy of reserves to cover all loss costs, while sustaining minimal variation from the time reserves are initially established until losses are fully developed. At the point in time when the reserves are established, we have no way of knowing whether our reserve estimates will prove to be high or low and, thus, whether future reserve development will be favorable or unfavorable.

### **Adjustment to Unpaid Losses and LAE**

On a quarterly basis, the Company's external actuary performs an in-depth independent review of our actuarial data and determines whether or not the established reserves for both IBNR and LAE are within an acceptable range. At the end of each year, our independent actuary opines on and certifies our reserves. For all years presented, our independent actuary has determined that our reserves are within acceptable ranges, and therefore management has not adjusted the liability for unpaid losses and LAE from the amount determined by its external actuaries.

### **Key Assumptions**

AssuranceAmerica estimates liabilities for the costs of losses and LAE for both reported and unreported IBNR claims based on the historical trends and assumptions set forth above. When possible, where deviations from historical trends in these key areas exist, quantitative and qualitative modifications to, or selections of, such factors are made to reflect such deviations. Management analyzes the adequacy of reserves using actuarial data and analytical reserve development techniques, including projections of ultimate paid losses, to determine the ultimate amount of reserves. The key assumptions and factors previously discussed under the **Critical Accounting Policies** Section are taken into account in developing these estimates. AssuranceAmerica reviews loss reserve adequacy quarterly by accident year at a line of business level. Reserves are adjusted as additional information becomes known. Such adjustments are reflected in current year operations. Loss and LAE reserves are also certified to state regulators annually.

**Table of Contents****Index to Financial Statements**

During each quarterly review by the external actuarial staff, factor selections are updated using the additional information obtained with the passage of time. The ultimate loss estimates and held IBNR reserves for the line of business and accident periods effected are adjusted through this updating process. Additionally, the external actuaries and internal staff evaluate the overall reasonableness of the loss and LAE ratios by accident year and by line of business.

Factors that can affect actual frequency include, among others, changes in weather, driving patterns or trends and class of driver. Estimates of average frequency can be affected by changes in claims settlement and reserving practices. Loss severity can be affected by auto repair and medical cost inflation, jury awards and changes in policy limit profiles. Estimation of LAE reserves is subject to variation from factors such as the use of outside adjusters, frequency of lawsuits, claims staffing and experience levels. Key assumptions as of December 31, 2011 and 2010 were premised on historical loss reserve development patterns.

**Variability of Reserves for Loss and LAE**

Management believes that there are no reasonably likely changes in the key factors and assumptions that materially affect the Company's estimate of the reserve for loss and LAE that would materially impact the Company's financial position, liquidity and results of operations. The Company's low average policy limit and concentration on the nonstandard auto driver classification help stabilize fluctuations in frequency and severity, thereby limiting the potential variability the reserve level may have on reported results. For example, approximately 96% of policies included within the nonstandard book of business include only the state-mandated minimum policy limits for bodily injury and property damage, which mitigates the complexity of estimating average severity. These low limits tend to reduce the exposure of the loss reserves on this coverage to medical cost inflation on severe injuries since the minimum policy limits will limit the total payout.

The following table provides the estimated changes in the liability and related payments made for the year ended December 31, 2011 and 2010:

|                                      | 2011                 | 2010                 |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Change in net loss and LAE reserves  | \$ 4,647,432         | \$ (2,362,503)       |
| Paid losses and LAE                  | 26,392,261           | 27,384,652           |
| <b>Total incurred losses and LAE</b> | <b>\$ 31,039,693</b> | <b>\$ 25,022,149</b> |
| Loss and LAE ratio(1)                | 92.9%                | 75.0%                |

(1) The ratio was calculated by taking losses and LAE divided by the Net Premiums Earned.

**Losses and Loss Adjustment Expenses (LAE)**

The Company's claims costs represent payments made and estimated future payments to be made to or on behalf of our policyholders, including expenses needed to adjust or settle claims. These costs relate to current costs under our non-standard state-mandated automobile insurance programs. Claims costs are impacted by loss severity and frequency and are influenced by inflation and driving patterns, among other factors. Accordingly, anticipated changes in these factors are taken into account when we establish premium rates and loss reserves.

During the year ended December 31, 2011, our loss and LAE ratio increased 17.9%, as compared to 1.7% in the same period a year ago, which reflects reserve strengthening for prior year loss development. We continuously monitor internal and industry-wide severity trends and adjust rates as appropriate to compensate for the higher loss costs.

The table below presents the development experienced in the following periods:

2011                      2010

Edgar Filing: ASSURANCEAMERICA CORP - Form 10-K

|  |                      |                      |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|
| Prior year incurred losses                       | \$ 4,081,001         | \$ 2,158,004         |
| Current year incurred losses and LAE             | 26,958,692           | 22,864,145           |
| <b>Total incurred losses and LAE</b>             | <b>\$ 31,039,693</b> | <b>\$ 25,022,149</b> |
| Increase to the calendar year loss and LAE ratio | 17.9%                | 1.7%                 |

**Table of Contents****Index to Financial Statements****Ceded Reinsurance**

The Company cedes a significant portion of its personal automobile premium and losses to reinsurers. The Company's reinsurance strategy is to use quota share reinsurance to mitigate the financial impact of losses on its operations, while enabling premium growth within the limits of its capital base. Historically, the Company's reinsurance contracts have been one or two years in duration, subject to renewal.

Effective May 15, 2011, the Company entered into a new catastrophe agreement with Shelter Mutual Insurance Company (SMIC). SMIC shall be liable for private passenger automobile physical damage coverage with respect to each loss occurrence, for the ultimate net loss over and above an initial ultimate net loss of \$400,000 each event, such as a storm or flood, subject to a limit of liability to SMIC of \$1,600,000 each event, and further subject to a limit of liability to SMIC of \$3,200,000 with respects all events commencing during the term of this contract.

Effective April 1, 2011, the Company entered into a twelve month quota share agreement with Greenlight Reinsurance Ltd. for business written in Florida. The Company ceded 50% of premium and losses for bodily injury liability, physical damage and other automobile liability coverages. The Company will receive a 19% ceding commission on ceded premiums earned if the loss and loss adjustment expense ratio as a percentage of earned premium is 75.5% or greater. If the loss ratio is less than 75.5%, but not less than 71.5% then the ceding commission shall be 19.0%, plus one half of the difference in percentage points between 75.5% and the actual loss ratio. If the loss ratio is 71.5% or less, then the ceding commission rate will be 21.0%. The Company receives a provisional commission rate of 20% in advance, which is subject to adjustment once the final loss ratio is known.

Effective January 1, 2011, the Company entered into a new quota share agreement with Swiss Reinsurance America Corporation for the 2011 treaty year business. The Company ceded 75.0% of the bodily injury liability coverage and 82.5% of physical damage and other automobile liability coverages. The agreement includes a loss corridor of 75.0%-79.0%, whereby the Company shall retain the amount by which losses and LAE incurred exceed 75.0% of net premiums earned, subject to a maximum additional retention equal to 4% of net premiums earned. The reinsurance contract will cover all states except Florida. Further, the Company shall retain the amount by which losses and LAE incurred, after the application of the loss corridor, exceeds 120% of collected net premiums earned. The Company will receive a 21.0% ceding commission on ceded premiums earned if the loss and loss adjustment expense ratio is 73.5% or greater. If the loss ratio is 73.5%, but not less than 71.5% then the ceding commission shall be 21.0%, plus the difference in percentage points between 73.5% and the actual loss ratio. If the loss ratio is 71.5% or less, the ceding commission rate will be 23.0%.

Reinsurance contracts do not relieve the Company from its obligations to policyholders. The Company periodically reviews the financial condition of its reinsurers to minimize its exposure to losses from reinsurer insolvencies. The Company has nine reinsurers, of which eight are A- rated or better based on the most recent A.M. Best ratings available. While one of the reinsurers does not have a rating, the contract is in run-off. Further, the reinsurers cover up to \$2,000,000 in aggregate claims for extra contractual obligations each policy year.

**The impact of reinsurance on the income statement as of December 31 is as follows:**

|  | 2011          | 2010          |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| Gross premiums ceded                               | \$ 58,053,377 | \$ 67,795,311 |
| Ceded commissions incurred                         | \$ 11,925,703 | \$ 15,355,480 |
| Ceded losses and loss adjustment expenses incurred | \$ 63,097,598 | \$ 61,574,293 |

**The impact of reinsurance on the balance sheets as of December 31 is as follows:**

|  | 2011          | 2010          |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| Reinsurance recoverable                          | \$ 36,664,396 | \$ 34,013,415 |
| Ceded unpaid losses and loss adjustment expenses | \$ 27,550,209 | \$ 23,410,446 |
| Ceded prepaid premiums                           | \$ 19,466,923 | \$ 23,643,822 |
| Reinsurance payable                              | \$ 20,538,203 | \$ 29,426,944 |

Amounts recoverable from reinsurers are estimated in a manner consistent with the claim liability associated with the reinsured policies. The Company reports as assets (a) the estimated reinsurance recoverable on unpaid losses, including an estimate for losses incurred but not reported, and (b) amounts paid to reinsurers applicable to the policies-in-force. During 2011, the Company ceded approximately 65% of its premium and

## Edgar Filing: ASSURANCEAMERICA CORP - Form 10-K

67% of losses during the year ended December 31, 2011 as compared to approximately 67% of its premium and 71% of losses ceded to reinsurers for the prior year. The ceded premium and losses reflect the new contract terms entered into during 2011 as previously mentioned. The ceded premium under these reinsurance agreements for the year ended December 31, 2011 and 2010 was \$58.1 million and \$67.8 million, respectively. The related ceding commission earned was \$11.9 million in 2011 and \$15.4 million in 2010. The lower ceded premium and commission were mainly due to lower production and the reduced ceded premium related to the state of Florida, which is ceded at 50% effective April 1, 2011.

---

**Table of Contents**

**Index to Financial Statements**

Ceded reinsurance for all programs reduced the Company's incurred losses and LAE for the year ended December 31, 2011 and 2010 by \$63.1 million and \$61.6 million, respectively.

Reinsurance assets include balances due from other contracted reinsurers under the terms of reinsurance agreements. Amounts applicable to ceded unearned premiums, ceded loss payments, and ceded claims liabilities are reported as assets in the accompanying balance sheets. Under the reinsurance agreements, the Company has four reinsurers that are required to collateralize the reinsurance recoverables. As of December 31, 2011, all reinsurers have provided a letter of credit or a secured trust account to provide security sufficient to satisfy the reinsurer's obligations under the reinsurance agreements. The Company believes the fair value of its reinsurance recoverables approximates their carrying amounts.

The Company's reinsurance recoverable balances amounted to \$36.7 million and \$34.0 million as of December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. The reinsurance recoverable includes ceded unpaid losses and loss adjustment expenses of \$27.6 million and \$23.4 million for the same periods, respectively. The ceded reserves from reinsurers are estimated in a manner consistent with the claim liability associated with the reinsured policies ceded. Reinsurance recoverable assets include paid loss balances due from other reinsurers under the terms of reinsurance agreements in the amount of \$9.1 million and \$10.6 million as of December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. The paid loss recoverables are current as of December 31, 2011.

The Company's ceded prepaid premium relates to policies in force and is earned ratably over the policy period. As of December 31, 2011 and 2010, the ceded prepaid premiums amounted to \$19.5 million and \$23.6 million, respectively. Reinsurance payable of \$20.5 million and \$29.4 million as of December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively, represents the amounts due to reinsurers for ceded premiums net of commissions. The Company pays its reinsurers on a collected premium basis. Effective for the 2011 treaty year, the Company receives ceding commissions on ceded collected premiums, whereas for prior treaty years ceding commissions were based on ceded written premiums. The Company does not have any balances that are in dispute as of December 31, 2011.

The Company's quota share reinsurance facility has a significant impact on its cash flows. Since the Company cedes a significant amount of its premium and losses, the Company relies heavily on its reinsurers to settle outstanding reinsurance balances due for loss payments net of ceded premiums collected. The Company paid ceded premiums net of commissions of \$55.1 and \$51.5 million for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively, and received reinsurance recoverables on paid loss and loss adjustment expenses of \$60.0 million and \$71.3 million during the same periods.

The Company's reinsurance strategies have not changed from previous years and the Company's limited loss exposure is based on the existing quota share agreement. While the Company monitors conditions within the reinsurance market, adverse conditions could have an impact on the Company's ability to secure reinsurance capacity, thereby limiting its ability to cede future premium and losses.

**Valuation of Long Lived Assets and Goodwill**

We assess the carrying amount of identifiable intangible assets and long-lived assets if events or changes in circumstances indicate that such carrying amount may not be recoverable. We assess the carrying amount of our goodwill at least annually. Factors we consider important, which could trigger an impairment review, include the following:

significant underperformance relative to historical and projected future results;

significant changes in the manner of our use of these assets or the strategy for our overall business; and

significantly negative industry or economic trends.

When we determine that the carrying amount of intangible assets or goodwill may not be recoverable based upon the existence of one or more of the above indicators of impairment, we measure the impairment based on the pro forma sustainable earnings capacity and discounted cash flows. This review is based upon our historical earnings, industry comparisons, and the underlying risks inherent in Trustway's current business model.

## Edgar Filing: ASSURANCEAMERICA CORP - Form 10-K

While we believe that our assumptions are appropriate, such amounts estimated could differ materially from what will actually occur in the future. In assessing goodwill, these estimates are prepared at the generating segment level. Goodwill is allocated to the TrustWay segments for the purpose of impairment testing.

The intangible asset carrying value as of December 31, 2010 relates to the TrustWay division, which was sold during 2011 and the value was reduced to zero as of December 31, 2011 (see Note 9 of the Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information).



---

**Table of Contents**

**Index to Financial Statements**

**Valuation of Deferred Tax Asset**

The Company reviews its deferred tax assets for recoverability at each interim reporting date. The Company's ability to realize deferred tax assets depends on the ability to generate sufficient taxable income within the carryforward period provided for in the tax law. The Company considered the following possible sources of taxable income when assessing the possible realization of deferred tax assets: future reversals of existing taxable temporary differences, future taxable income exclusive of reversing temporary differences and carryforwards; taxable income in prior carryback years; and tax planning strategies. As of December 31, 2011, a valuation allowance of \$4.9 million was established based on the more likely than not threshold for the Company's net deferred income tax asset.

**Item 8. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA**

All information required to be disclosed in Item 8 is incorporated by reference from the consolidated financial statements and schedules thereto in Item 15 of this Annual Report.

**Item 9. CHANGES IN AND DISAGREEMENTS WITH ACCOUNTANTS ON ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE.**

None

**Item 9A. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES**

**Background and Restatement**

During the course of its review of the Company's current financial statements and accounting procedures, the Company's management discovered an error in its stated accounts receivable. The error arose as a result of the process used to record transactions to the accounting system for insufficient funds on policy payment from insureds. This process, which in certain instances required manual adjustments to the accounts receivable system for insufficient funds transactions, resulted in a duplicate booking of certain transactions to the accounting systems in years 2007 through 2010.

As a result, the Company's accounts receivable were overstated by \$1.8 million as of December 31, 2010. The effect of the overstatement is a cumulative charge to earnings, after giving effect to taxes, of \$1.2 million over the four-year period from 2007 through and including 2010. Of this aggregate charge to earnings after giving effect to taxes, \$254,623 related to fiscal year 2007; \$397,818 related to fiscal year 2008; \$269,634 related to fiscal year 2009; and \$312,583 related to fiscal year 2010.

Based on the foregoing, the Company's Board of Directors, after consultation with the Company's management, concluded that the Company's financial statements for the fiscal years 2009 and 2010, the interim periods contained therein, and the quarterly statements for the first three quarters of 2011 must be restated to the extent of the overstatements listed above. Such restated financial information is presented in this report. See Note 3 of the Consolidated Financial Statements and Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial condition and Results of Operations in this annual report for further information.

As a result of the foregoing, management has concluded that the Company's controls and procedures to ensure the accuracy of its accounts receivable were not effective during the periods described above. Specifically, the Company did not maintain effective controls over the review and analysis of the account reconciliation process. The control deficiencies represented a material weakness in our internal control over financial reporting and required corrective and remedial actions. In response to the discovery of the material weakness, the Company implemented the following additional controls and procedures: (1) all account reconciliations shall be reviewed by two levels of management; (2) all findings and resolutions from the reviews shall be documented and reviewed by the Company's Chief Financial Officer; and (3) all account reconciliations that need to be corrected following such reviews shall be corrected within 90 days.

We believe that the additional controls that we have implemented have remediated the control deficiencies and strengthened our internal control over financial reporting. We are committed to continuing to improve our internal control processes and will continue to review our financial reporting controls and procedures. As we continue to evaluate our internal control over financial reporting, we may determine to implement

additional controls relating to the reconciliation of accounts receivable or modify certain of the additional controls described above.

---

**Table of Contents**

**Index to Financial Statements**

**Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures**

The Company maintains disclosure controls and procedures designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by the Company in the reports that it files or submits under the Exchange Act is accumulated and communicated to the Company's management, including its principal executive officer and principal financial officer, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure and are effective to ensure that such information is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the Securities and Exchange Commission's rules and forms. As of the end of the period covered by this Annual Report on Form 10-K, the Company's management, under the supervision and with the participation of the Company's Chief Executive Officer and its Chief Financial Officer carried out an evaluation of the effectiveness of the design and operation of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act")).

Based upon that evaluation, the Company's Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that because of the material weakness described above, our disclosure controls and procedures were not effective as of December 31, 2011. Notwithstanding the foregoing, our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, has concluded that the consolidated financial statements included in this Annual Report present fairly, in all material respects, our financial position, results of operations and cash flows for the periods presented in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States.

**Changes in Internal Controls over Financial Reporting**

The Company has implemented changes in its internal controls over financial reporting in connection with its year-end review and restatement of its financial statements that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal controls over financial reporting. Changes were implemented to strengthen controls over the review and analysis of the account reconciliation process as noted above.

**Management's Annual Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

Our management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f). Our internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Management, under the supervision and with the participation of the Company's Chief Executive Officer and its Chief Financial Officer, assessed the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2011. In making this assessment, management used the criteria described in "Internal Control - Integrated Framework" issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with policies and procedures may deteriorate. Based on its assessment, management determined that, as of December 31, 2011, because of the material weakness described above, we did not maintain effective internal control over financial reporting.

This Annual Report does not include an attestation report of the Company's registered public accounting firm regarding internal control over financial reporting. Management's report was not subject to attestation by the Company's registered public accounting firm pursuant to rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission that permit the Company to provide only management's report in this Annual report.

**Item 9B. OTHER INFORMATION**

Effective December 30, 2011, the Company assigned two Promissory Notes (one for \$2.5 million and one for \$1.5 million) secured by mortgages ("Secured Notes") to AAIC as a capital contribution to AAIC. The Secured Notes were issued by Guy W. Millner, the Company's Chairman, and secured by real estate in Atlanta, Georgia and Palm Beach, Florida. The notes carry an interest rate of 5%, due and payable quarterly in arrears, with the first payment due March 31, 2012 and each quarter, thereafter. The principal balance is due and payable on the earlier to occur of: (i) the sale of the real estate securing the note, (ii) the payment of the notes payable described in Note 11 of the Consolidated Financial Statements, or (iii) December 28, 2018.

## Edgar Filing: ASSURANCEAMERICA CORP - Form 10-K

In consideration of the Company's Chairman providing the Secured Notes to the Company (for assignment by the Company as a capital contribution to AAIC as described above), the Company issued its promissory notes to the Company's Chairman in like amount. The

**Table of Contents****Index to Financial Statements**

notes were secured in part with the stock of AAIC and the interest of the Company in MGA. The notes payable carry an interest rate of 12.5% per annum, due and payable quarterly in arrears, with the first payment due on March 30, 2012 and each quarter thereafter. The principal balance on the note is due and payable on the earlier to occur of: (i) December 28, 2018, (ii) the sale and closing of all or substantially all of the assets of the Company, or (iii) payment of the mortgage notes receivable discussed in Note 6 of the Consolidated Financial Statements.

The Company also issued a Warrant Agreement as part of the consideration giving the Company's Chairman the right to purchase 11,629,000 shares of the common stock of the Company for \$0.01 per share. The warrant is exercisable immediately and expires on December 30, 2015. The warrant shall not be exercisable and shall be of no further effect if the Company sells all or substantially all of its assets in a transaction closed on or before June 30, 2012. The initial fair value of the warrant was calculated using the Black-Scholes-Merton option pricing model with the following assumptions: 4 year contractual term; annual risk-free interest rate of 2.69%; 162% volatility; and 0% dividend rate. The fair value of the warrant was determined to be \$2,442,090 and was recorded as equity in additional paid-in capital and a discount to the carrying value of the loan. The discount will be amortized to interest expense using the effective interest rate method over the seven year term of the loan.

See Exhibits 10.29, 10.30, 10.31, 10.32, 10.33, 10.34, 10.35, 10.36 and 10.37

**PART III****Item 10. DIRECTORS, EXECUTIVE OFFICERS, AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE**

The following table sets forth the names and ages, as of March 30, 2012, of the members of our Board of Directors.

| Name             | Age | Director Since | Position  |
|------------------|-----|----------------|---|
| Guy W. Millner   | 76  | 2003           | Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer |
| Donald Ratajczak | 69  | 2000           | Director  |
| Sam Zamarripa    | 59  | 2004           | Director  |

**Biographies of Directors**

*Guy W. Millner* has served as the Chairman of the Board since June 2003 and Chief Executive Officer since October 2008. Mr. Millner served as Chairman of AA Holdings, LLC, the predecessor of the Company, from 1998 to 2003. From 1961 to 1999, Mr. Millner served as Chairman of Norrell Corporation, a leading provider of staffing and outsourcing solutions.

*Donald Ratajczak* has served on our Board of Directors since 2000. Dr. Ratajczak previously served as the Chairman of our Board of Directors and our Chief Executive Officer from May 2000 to June 2003. From May 2000 to November 2000, Dr. Ratajczak also served as our President. From July 1973 to June 2000, he served as a professor and Director of Economic Forecasting Center at the J. Mack Robinson College of Business Administration at Georgia State University. Dr. Ratajczak currently serves on the Board of Directors of the following organizations: Crown Crafts, Inc., a textile manufacturing company; Ruby Tuesday, Inc., a food service company; and Citizens Bancshares, a holding company for Citizens Trust Company. He is a consulting economist for Morgan, Keegan & Co., a broker/dealer company.

*Sam Zamarripa* has served on our Board of Directors since August 2004. Mr. Zamarripa has been the President of Zamarripa Capital, Inc. since 2007 and was a managing partner of Heritage Capital Advisors, LLC, an investment banking services firm, from 2002 to 2007.

**Meetings and Committees of the Board**

Our Board of Directors held five meetings during the year ended December 31, 2011. Each Director attended 75% or more of the aggregate number of meetings held by the Board of Directors and the Committees, if any, on which such Director served. The Board of Directors has a standing Compensation Committee. The Compensation Committee was composed of Mr. Zamarripa, Chairman and Mrs. Street. The Compensation Committee met two times in 2011. The Compensation Committee is responsible for overseeing the compensation and benefits of our management and employees and acts in accordance with a charter adopted by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors has a standing

Audit Committee. The Audit Committee was composed of Mr. Healey, Chairman,

**Table of Contents****Index to Financial Statements**

Mr. Reed, and Dr. Ratajczak. The Audit Committee met six times in 2011. The Audit Committee acts pursuant to a charter adopted by the Board of Directors. Mr. Healey and Dr. Ratajczak were audit committee financial experts as defined by the SEC rules. Copies of the current charters for each of the Compensation Committee and Audit Committee as well as the Company's Code of Ethics are available at our website, [www.assuranceamerica.com](http://www.assuranceamerica.com), under Governance in the investor relations section of the website. Mr. Healy and Mr. Reed resigned as Directors in December 2011. Mrs. Street resigned as Director effective March 25, 2012. Until the three vacancies are filled, the Board of Directors will fulfill the duties and responsibilities of the Audit and Compensation Committees.

**Code of Conduct**

We have adopted a code of conduct that applies to all of our directors, officers and employees. This code is publicly available in the investor relations area of our website at [www.assuranceamerica.com](http://www.assuranceamerica.com) and provided as an exhibit to this Annual Report. Copies of our code of conduct may also be requested in print without charge by writing to Investor Relations at AssuranceAmerica Corporation, 5500 Interstate North Parkway, Suite 600, Atlanta, Georgia 30328.

**Executive Officers**

The following table sets forth the name, age and position of each of our executive officers.

| <b>Name</b>      | <b>Age</b> | <b>Positions Held</b>  |
|------------------|------------|--|
| David Anthony    | 53         | Senior Vice President and Chief Information Officer, AssuranceAmerica Managing General Agency, LLC |
| Mark H. Hain     | 62         | Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary  |
| Paul Love        | 53         | Vice President - Claims, AssuranceAmerica Managing General Agency, LLC                             |
| Guy W. Millner   | 76         | Chairman and Chief Executive Officer   |
| Joseph J. Skruck | 48         | President and Chief Operating Officer  |
| Sheree Williams  | 56         | Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer  |

**Biographies of Executive Officers**

*David H. Anthony* has served as Senior Vice President and Chief Information Officer since August 2010 and Vice President of Information Technology from March 2004 to August 2010 of AssuranceAmerica Managing General Agency, LLC., a subsidiary of the Company, since March 2004. Mr. Anthony has over 21 years of experience in the Information Technology industry with the last 12 focused in the area of consulting. Prior to joining the Company, he served as Vice President of CGI Information Systems and Management Consultants for four years.

*Mark H. Hain* has served as Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary since February 2009. He served as Senior Vice President since August 2005 prior to becoming Executive Vice President 2009. Prior to joining the Company, Mr. Hain was in the private practice of law for two years and was General Counsel for Computer Jobs.com, Inc. for two years. He served as Senior Vice President and General Counsel for Norrell Corporation from 1988 to 1999 and as General Counsel for America First Corporation, C.L. Frates & Co, Inc. and the Oklahoma Insurance Department prior to 1988.

*Paul Love*, serves as the Vice President of Claims for Assurance America. Mr. Love joined the company in December of 2009. Prior to joining the company Paul was the Assistant Vice President over Material Damage at AIG/21<sup>st</sup> Century Insurance. Mr. Love has over 24 years of auto insurance claims background including 17 years at Progressive Insurance managing multiple states. Mr. Love holds a BS degree in Psychology from the University of North Florida. The officers serve at the pleasure of the board until their successors are elected and qualified.

*Guy W. Millner* has served as the Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer since June 2003. Mr. Millner served as Chairman of AA Holdings, LLC, the predecessor of AssuranceAmerica Corporation, a Georgia corporation, from 1999 to 2003. From 1961 to 1999, Mr. Millner served as Chairman of Norrell Corporation, a leading provider of staffing and outsourcing solutions.

*Joseph J. Skruck*, CPCU, has served as President and Chief Operating Officer since October 2009. Prior to that Mr. Skruck served as President and Chief Operating Officer of AssuranceAmerica Managing General Agency, LLC, an insurance subsidiary of the Company since January 2002. He served as Senior Vice-President of Sun States Insurance Group from 1998 through 2001.

Edgar Filing: ASSURANCEAMERICA CORP - Form 10-K

*Sheree S. Williams* has served as Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of AssuranceAmerica Corporation since September 2010. Ms. Williams was Vice President of Finance for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Insurance and Financial Services (previously AIG



**Table of Contents****Index to Financial Statements**

Agency Auto), from 2006 through September 2010; she was Corporate Controller for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Insurance and Financial Services from 2004 to 2006. Prior to working with 21<sup>st</sup> Century Insurance and Financial Services, Ms. Williams served as Senior Vice President of Finance and Senior Vice President of Logistics for Swift Denim as well as Corporate Controller for Tom's Foods, Inc.

**Item 11. EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION**

The following table sets forth the compensation paid or accrued by the Company to the Company's Chief Executive Officer and next two most highly paid executive officers of the Company in 2011 who were executive officers at December 31, 2011 and whose annual compensation exceeded \$100,000 (the Named Executive Officers). The information presented is for the years ended December 31, 2011, and 2010.

**Summary Compensation Table****Annual Compensation**

| Name & Principal Position                                 | Year Ended   |             | Bonus (\$) | Option Awards (\$) | All Other            | Total (\$) |
|---|--------------|-------------|------------|--------------------|----------------------|------------|
|   | December 31, | Salary (\$) |            |                    | Compensation (\$)(1) |            |
| Guy W. Millner,<br>Chairman and CEO                       | 2011         | 250,000     |            |                    | 16,928               | 266,928    |
|   | 2010         | 250,000     |            |                    | 16,923               | 266,923    |
| Joseph J. Skruck,<br>President and COO                    | 2011         | 240,000     |            |                    | 17,239               | 257,239    |
|   | 2010         | 240,000     |            |                    | 25,396               | 265,396    |
| Mark H. Hain,<br>Executive VP, General Counsel, Secretary | 2011         | 240,040     |            |                    | 12,349               | 252,389    |
|   | 2010         | 240,000     |            |                    | 17,053               | 257,053    |

(1) Amounts shown consist of certain perquisites, none of which had a value exceeding 25% of the total value of all perquisites provided.

**Director Compensation**

Our non-officer directors are granted an option to purchase 50,000 shares of our common stock (exercisable over ten years and having an exercise price equal to the fair market value of the Company's common stock on the date of the grant) upon their initial election to the Board of Directors. For 2011 and 2012, each non-officer director may choose between (i) an amount in cash equal to \$15,000, plus the number of shares equal to \$15,000 divided by the share price on December 31 of the prior year, or (ii) the number of shares equal to \$30,000 divided by the share price on December 31 of the prior year. We reimburse each non-officer director for travel expenses related to attendance at Board and committee meetings.

For the year ended December 31, 2011, Guy W. Millner was not compensated in his capacity as Director. Donald Ratajczak accepted a grant of 88,235 shares of our common stock for his service for the period ending with the 2012 shareholder meeting and Quill O. Healey, Sam Zamarripa, William Reed, and Kaaren Street elected \$15,000 and 44,117 shares of our common stock for their services for the period ending with the 2012 shareholder meeting.

**DIRECTOR COMPENSATION**

| Name | Fees Earned or Paid | Stock Awards | Total (\$) |
|------|---------------------|--------------|------------|
|------|---------------------|--------------|------------|

Edgar Filing: ASSURANCEAMERICA CORP - Form 10-K

|                   | in        |             |         |        |
|-------------------|-----------|-------------|---------|--------|
|                   | Cash (\$) | # of Shares | (\$)(1) |        |
| Donald Ratajczak  |           | 88,235      | 30,000  | 30,000 |
| Quill O. Healey*  | 15,000    | 44,117      | 15,000  | 30,000 |
| Kaaren J. Street* | 15,000    | 44,117      | 15,000  | 30,000 |
| Sam Zamarripa     | 15,000    | 44,117      | 15,000  | 30,000 |
| William Reed*     | 15,000    | 44,117      | 15,000  | 30,000 |

- \* Mr. Healey and Mr. Reed resigned as directors in December 2011 and Mrs. Street resigned as director effective March 25, 2012.
- (1) Reflects the accounting expense the Company recognized in 2010 for the shares of restricted stock granted to the directors determined in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board Accounting Standards Codification No. 718, Compensation – Stock Compensation.

**Table of Contents****Index to Financial Statements****Item 12. SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT AND RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS****SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT**

The following table provides information concerning beneficial ownership of our common stock as of March 23, 2012, by: (i) each shareholder that we believe owns more than 5% of our outstanding common stock; (ii) each of our Named Executive Officers (as defined below); (iii) each of our Directors; and (iv) all of our Directors and executive officers as a group.

The following table lists the applicable percentage of beneficial ownership based on 66,110,531 shares of common stock outstanding on March 30, 2012. Except where noted, the persons or entities named have sole voting and investment power with respect to all shares shown as beneficially owned by them.

| Name of Beneficial Owner(1)                            | Number of<br>Shares<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Common | Percentage<br>of<br>Ownership<br>(%)<br>Common |
|--|--|--|
| Guy W. Millner   | 41,704,192(3)  | 53.65  |
| Donald Ratajczak                                       | 622,354  | *  |
| Sam Zamarripa  | 287,990(4)   | *  |
| Lawrence (Bud) Stumbaugh                               | 4,089,347(2)   | 6.2  |
| Heritage Assurance Partners, LLP                       | 10,184,955(5)  | 15.5   |
| Joseph J. Skruck                                       | 922,300(6)   | 1.4  |
| Mark H. Hain   | 656,575(7)   | *  |
| Directors & Executive Officers as a group (10 persons) | 79,687,306(8)  | 61.3   |

\* Less than 1.0%.

- (1) Except as otherwise stated, the beneficial owner's address is RiverEdge One, 5500 Interstate North Parkway, Suite 600, Atlanta, Georgia 30328.
- (2) Includes 5,000 shares of our common stock held by Mr. Stumbaugh's spouse as custodian for her son under the Georgia Transfers to Minors Act.
- (3) Includes a warrant to purchase 11,629,000 shares of our common stock exercisable within 60 days.
- (4) Includes 68,000 shares of our common stock owned by his spouse. Mr. Zamarripa disclaims ownership of such shares.
- (5) Heritage Assurance Partners, LP ( HAP ) owns such shares. Heritage Assurance Advisors, LLC ( Advisors ), the general partner of HAP, has voting and dispositive powers with respect to such shares. Jay Martin is the managing member of Advisors. Except for 2,063,077 shares, Mr. Martin disclaims beneficial ownership of such shares. HAP's address is 140 Crescent Drive, Collierville, TN 38017.
- (6) Includes an option to purchase 910,000 shares of common stock exercisable within 60 days.
- (7) Includes options to purchase 476,575 shares of common stock exercisable within 60 days.
- (8) Includes options or rights to purchase 13,576,775 shares of common stock exercisable within 60 days.

**Table of Contents****Index to Financial Statements**

The following table provides information regarding the exercisable and unexercisable stock options held as of December 31, 2011, by each Named Executive Officer. All option grants were issued pursuant to our existing stock option plans. The option grants vest twenty (20%) percent on each anniversary of the date of grant.

| Name             | Grant Date | Option Awards   |   | Option Exercise Price | Option Expiration Date |
|------------------|------------|---|---|-----------------------|------------------------|
|                  |            | Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#) Exercisable | Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#) Unexercisable |                       |                        |
| Joseph J. Skruck | 01/03/2006 | 30,000  |   | \$ 0.88               | 01/03/2016             |
| Joseph J. Skruck | 12/31/2002 | 450,000   |   | \$ 0.25               | 12/31/2012             |
| Joseph J. Skruck | 04/26/2007 | 60,000  | 20,000  | \$ 0.98               | 04/26/2017             |
| Joseph J. Skruck | 11/07/2007 | 90,000  | 60,000  | \$ 0.63               | 11/07/2017             |
| Joseph J. Skruck | 10/03/2008 | 160,000   | 240,000   | \$ 0.22               | 10/03/2018             |
| Mark H. Hain     | 11/07/2007 | 45,000  | 30,000  | \$ 0.63               | 11/07/2017             |
| Mark H. Hain     | 01/03/2006 | 9,375   |   | \$ 0.88               | 01/03/2016             |
| Mark H. Hain     | 07/24/2008 | 40,000  | 60,000  | \$ 0.51               | 07/24/2018             |
| Mark H. Hain     | 08/15/2005 | 280,000   |   | \$ 0.85               | 08/15/2015             |
| Mark H. Hain     | 04/26/2007 | 67,200  | 16,800  | \$ 0.98               | 04/26/2017             |

None of the Named Executive Officers exercised any stock options during the year ended December 31, 2011.

**Equity Compensation Plan Information**

The following table provides information as of December 31, 2011, with respect to the Company's compensation plans under which equity securities are authorized for issuance and adopted by the shareholders:

| Plan Category                           | (a) Number of Securities to be Issued Upon Exercise of Outstanding Options | (b) Weighted-Average Exercise Price of Outstanding Options | (c) Number of Securities Remaining Available for Future Issuance Under Equity Compensation Plans (Excluding Securities Reflected in Column (a)) |
|---|--|--|---|
| Equity Employees 2010 Incentive Plan(1) | 1,282,000  | \$ 0.23  | 718,000   |
| Equity Employees 2000 Incentive Plan(2) | 3,834,375  | \$ 0.47  | 0   |
| Total                                   | 5,116,375  | \$ 0.41  | 718,000   |

- (1) The number of shares available for future issuance is the total number of awards less the cumulative number of awards granted under the plan plus the number of awards cancelled under the plan.

(2) This plan has expired and no further awards may be made thereunder.

**Item 13. CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS AND DIRECTOR INDEPENDENCE**

On December 30, 2011, the Company issued two promissory notes totaling \$4,000,000 payable to the Company's Chairman in exchange for two mortgage notes receivable of equal value secured by real estate mortgages. The secured notes and mortgages and notes were contributed by the Company to its subsidiary AAIC as a capital contribution. The Company also issued a Warrant Agreement as part of the consideration giving the Chairman the right to purchase 11,629,000 shares of the common stock of AAC for \$0.01 per share. See Note 6 and Note 11 of the Consolidated Financial Statements for additional details.

The Company retained Leader Finder, Inc. to perform several executive searches for the Company. Leader Finder is owned by the son in law by marriage of Mr. Millner, our Chairman and Chief Executive Officer. The Company paid Leader Finder \$10,000 for its services to the Company in 2011.

**Item 14. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING FEES AND SERVICES.**

The Board of Directors has appointed Porter Keadle Moore, LLC, our independent auditors, to audit our financial statements for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2012. Porter Keadle Moore, LLC served as the Company's independent auditors for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011. We anticipate that representatives of Porter Keadle Moore, LLC will be present at the Annual Meeting. They will be available to make a statement, if desired, and to respond to questions.

**Table of Contents****Index to Financial Statements**

There have been no disagreements concerning any matter of accounting principle or financial statement disclosure between us and Porter Keadle Moore, LLC.

**Principal Accountant-Audit and Non-Audit Fees**

Aggregate fees for professional services rendered by Porter Keadle Moore, LLC, our independent auditors, for the period indicated below are as follows:

|                    | Fiscal Year Ended    |                      |
|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
|                    | December 31,<br>2011 | December 31,<br>2010 |
| Audit fees         | \$ 201,525           | \$ 207,803           |
| Audit-related fees | 0                    | \$ 2,500             |
| Tax fees           | 0                    | 0                    |
| All other fees     | 0                    | 0                    |
| <b>Total</b>       | <b>\$ 201,525</b>    | <b>\$ 210,303</b>    |

*Audit Fees.* This category includes the aggregate fees billed for professional services rendered for the audit of our consolidated financial statements for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011, and for services that are normally provided by our independent auditors in connection with statutory and regulatory filings or engagements for the relevant fiscal years.

*Audit-Related Fees.* This category includes the aggregate fees billed for assurance and related services by our independent auditors that are reasonably related to the performance of the audits or reviews of the financial statements and are not reported under Audit Fees, as noted above.

*Tax Fees.* This category includes the aggregate fees billed for Federal and State tax preparation services by our independent auditors.

*All Other Fees.* All other fees include all fees not included in any other category.

The Audit Committee reviews and pre-approves audit and non-audit services performed by our independent auditors, as well as the fees charged for such services. All of the fees described above were approved by the Audit Committee.

All of the audit services provided by our independent auditors were pre-approved by the Audit Committee and the Board of Directors.

**PART IV****Item 15. EXHIBITS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULES**

(a) Documents filed as part of this report:

(1) *Financial Statements*

The following financial statements of the Company, together with the Report of the Company's Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm dated April XX, 2012, are filed herewith:

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| <u>Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm</u>                              | Page<br>F-2 |
| <u>Consolidated Balance Sheets as of December 31, 2011 and 2010</u>                         | F-3         |
| <u>Consolidated Statements of Operations for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010</u> | F-4         |

Edgar Filing: ASSURANCEAMERICA CORP - Form 10-K

Consolidated Statements of Changes in Stockholders' Equity for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010

F-5

Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income (Loss) for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010

F-6

Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010

F-7

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

F-8

*(2) Financial Statement Schedules*

All financial statement schedules are omitted, as the required information is inapplicable or the information is presented in the respective financial statements or related notes.

**Table of Contents**

**Index to Financial Statements**

*(3) Exhibit of Index*

- 2.1 Agreement and Plan of Merger and Reorganization dated April 1, 2003, by and among the Company, AA Holdings Acquisition Sub, Inc., AA Holdings, LLC and AssuranceAmerica Corporation (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on April 16, 2003).
- 2.2 Asset Purchase Agreement by and between TrustWay Insurance Agencies, LLC, AssuranceAmerica Corporation, Thomas-Cook Holding Company and James C. Cook (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K dated August 3, 2004).
- 3.1 Amended And Restated Articles of Incorporation of the Company (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-QSB for the quarter ended September 30, 2003).
- 3.2 Amendment to Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation of the Company (incorporated by reference to Appendix A to the Company's Definitive Proxy Statement filed on September 9, 2003).
- 3.3 By-Laws of the Company (incorporated by reference to the Company's Form 10 filed on May 30, 1972).
- 3.4 Amendment to the Company's By-Laws adopted February 14, 2001 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3ii to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-QSB for the quarter ended December 31, 2000).
- 3.5 Amendment to the Company's By-Laws adopted June 26, 2003 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.4 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-KSB/A for the year ended March 31, 2003).
- 3.6 Amendment to the Company's By-Laws adopted June 15, 2004 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.6 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-KSB/A for the year ended December 31, 2004).
- 4.1 Certificate of Designations Establishing the Powers, Preferences, limitations, Restrictions and Relative Rights of Series A Convertible Preferred Stock of AssuranceAmerica Corporation (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-QSB for the quarter ended June 30, 2004).
- 4.2 Amendment to Certificate of Designations Establishing the Powers, Preferences, Limitations, Restrictions and Relative Rights of Series A Convertible Preferred Stock of AssuranceAmerica Corporation (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on April 15, 2005).
- 4.3 Amended and Restated Trust Agreement dated December 22, 2005 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Company's Form 8-K filed on December 27, 2005).
- 4.4 Junior Subordinated Indenture dated December 22, 2005 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.2 to the Company's Form 8-K filed on December 27, 2005).
- 10.1\* Brainworks Ventures, Inc. Stock Option Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit A to the Company's Definitive Proxy Statement filed on October 20, 2000).
- 10.2\* Amendment to the Brainworks Ventures, Inc. Stock Option Plan (incorporated by reference to Appendix 3 to the Company's Definitive Proxy Statement filed on April 11, 2006).
- 10.3\* Promissory Note assumed by the Company to Guy W. Millner dated February 10, 2003 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Form 10-KSB/A for the year ending December 31, 2004).
- 10.4 Promissory Note assumed by the Company to Lawrence Stumbaugh dated January 3, 2003 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to the Company's Form 10-KSB/A for the year ending December 31, 2004).
- 10.5\* Promissory Note assumed by the Company to Guy W. Millner dated August 31, 2002 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.4 to the Company's Form 10-KSB/A for the year ending December 31, 2004).
- 10.6\* Employment Agreement between Agencies and James C. Cook dated July 31, 2004 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K dated August 3, 2003).
- 10.7\* Executive Employment Agreement between AssuranceAmerica Managing General Agency, LLC and Joseph J. Skruck (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's current report on Form 8-K dated March 8, 2006).



Edgar Filing: ASSURANCEAMERICA CORP - Form 10-K

- 10.8 Stock Purchase Agreement (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Form 8-K filed on April 15, 2005).
- 10.9 Amendment to Stock Purchase Agreement (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Form 8-K filed on May 10, 2005).

**Table of Contents**

**Index to Financial Statements**

|        |  |
|--------|--|
| 10.10* | Registration Rights Agreement (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Form 8-K filed on April 15, 2005).   |
| 10.11* | Description of Executive Bonus Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of the Company's Form 10-QSB for the quarter ended June 30, 2005).  |
| 10.12  | Guarantee Agreement dated December 22, 2005 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Form 8-K filed on December 27, 2005).  |
| 10.13* | Executive Employment Agreement between Sercap Holdings, LLC and Lawrence Stumbaugh effective July 10, 2002 and assumed by the Company effective April 1, 2003 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.12 to the Company's Form 10KSB for the year ending December 31, 2005).  |
| 10.14  | Loan Agreement, dated July 17, 2009, by and between AssuranceAmerica Corporation and Wachovia Bank, National Association (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's 10-Q for quarter ended June 30, 2009).  |
| 10.15  | Revolving Loan Note, dated July 17, 2009, by and between AssuranceAmerica Corporation and Wachovia Bank, National Association (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's 10-Q for quarter ended June 30, 2009).   |
| 10.16  | Pledge Agreement, dated July 17, 2009, by and between AssuranceAmerica Corporation and Wachovia Bank, National Association (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to the Company's 10-Q for quarter ended June 30, 2009).  |
| 10.17  | Guaranty of Payment Agreement, dated July 17, 2009, by and between AssuranceAmerica Managing General Agency, LLC and Wachovia Bank, National Association (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.4 to the Company's 10-Q for quarter ended June 30, 2009).  |
| 10.18  | Guaranty of Payment Agreement, dated July 17, 2009, by and between Trustway T.E.A.M., Inc. and Wachovia Bank, National Association (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.5 to the Company's 10-Q for quarter ended June 30, 2009).  |
| 10.19  | Guaranty of Payment Agreement, dated July 17, 2009, by and between Trustway Insurance Agencies, LLC and Wachovia Bank, National Association (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.6 to the Company's 10-Q for quarter ended June 30, 2009).   |
| 10.20  | Pledge Agreement, dated July 17, 2009, by and between Trustway Insurance Agencies, LLC and Wachovia Bank, National Association (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.7 to the Company's 10-Q for quarter ended June 30, 2009).  |
| 10.21* | Executive Employment Agreement between AssuranceAmerica Corporation and Mark H. Hain effective November 20, 2007, as amended by that certain Addendum to Employment Agreement, dated November 20, 2007, by and between AssuranceAmerica Corporation and Mark H. Hain. (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's current report on Form 10-K dated March 26, 2010). |
| 10.22  | AssuranceAmerica Corporation 2010 Incentive Plan (incorporated by reference to Appendix 1 to the Company's Definitive Proxy Statement filed on March 29, 2011).  |
| 10.23  | Quota share reinsurance agreement between AssuranceAmerica Insurance Company and Swiss Reinsurance America Corporation, dated as of January 1, 2011 (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.23 to the Company's Form 10-K dated March 29, 2011).  |
| 10.24* | Employment Agreement and Addendum to Employment agreement between Guy W. Millner and the Company (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's current report on Form 8-K dated March 29, 2011).   |
| 10.25* | Amended and Restated Employment Agreement and Addendum to Employment Agreement between Joseph J. Skruck and the Company (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's current report on Form 8-K dated March 29, 2011).  |
| 10.26* | Amended and Restated Employment Agreement and Addendum to Employment Agreement between Mark H. Hain and the Company (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's current report on Form 8-K dated March 29, 2011).  |
| 10.27  | First Amendment to the Revolving Loan Note, dated June 30, 2010, to the Loan Agreement dated July, 17, 2009, by and between AssuranceAmerica Corporation and Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. (as successor in interest by merger to Wachovia Bank, N.A.) (the Lender ). (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's current Form 8-K dated July 1, 2010).                       |
| 10.28  | Consent of the accountant (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 23.2 of the accountant's current report on Form S-8 dated May 26, 2010).   |
| 10.29  | Promissory Note Secured by Mortgage, effective December 30, 2011, by and between Guy W. Millner and AssuranceAmerica Corporation in the amount of \$1,500,000.00.  |



---

**Table of Contents**

**Index to Financial Statements**

- 10.30 Promissory Note Secured by Deed of Trust dated December 29, 2011, by and between Guy W. Millner and AssuranceAmerica Corporation in the amount of \$2,500,000.00.
- 10.31 Deed to Secure Debt, dated December 29, 2011, by and between Guy W. Millner and Virginia Millner and AssuranceAmerica Corporation.
- 10.32 Assignment Agreement, dated December 29, 2011, by and between AssuranceAmerica Insurance Company and AssuranceAmerica Corporation.
- 10.33 Secured Promissory Note, effective December 30, 2011, by and between AssuranceAmerica Corporation and Guy W. Millner in the amount of \$1,500,000.00.
- 10.34 Promissory Note, dated December 29, 2011, by and between AssuranceAmerica Corporation and Guy W. Millner in the amount of \$2,500,000.00.
- 10.35 Common Share Purchase Warrant Agreement, effective December 30, 2011, by and between AssuranceAmerica Corporation and Guy W. Millner and Virginia W. Millner.
- 10.36 Pledge Agreement, effective December 30, 2011, by and between AssuranceAmerica Corporation and Guy W. Millner.
- 10.37 Assignment Agreement, effective December 30, 2011, by and between AssuranceAmerica Insurance Company and AssuranceAmerica Corporation.
- 10.38 2011 Reinsurance Agreement
- 14.1 Code of Conduct (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 14.1 to the Company's Transition Report on Form 10-KSB for the transition period from April 1, 2003 to December 31, 2003).
- 21.1 List of Subsidiaries
- 31.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 31.2 Certification of Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 32.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

**Item 16(a). BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP REPORTING COMPLIANCE**

Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act requires our Directors, executive officers and persons who own beneficially more than 10% of a registered class of our equity securities to file with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") initial reports of ownership and reports of changes in ownership of such securities. Directors, executive officers, and greater than 10% shareholders are required by SEC regulations to furnish us with copies of all Section 16(a) reports they file.

To the best of our knowledge, the Section 16(a) filing requirements applicable to our Directors, executive officers, and greater than 10% shareholders were complied with during the year ended December 31, 2011.

**Table of Contents**

**Index to Financial Statements**

**SIGNATURES**

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

By: /s/ GUY W. MILLNER  
 Guy W. Millner,  
 Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

Date: April 16, 2012

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the Registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

| Name   | Title  | Date                 |
|--|--|----------------------|
| /s/ Guy W. Millner<br>Guy W. Millner         | Chairman of the Board of Directors,<br>Chief Executive Officer and Director<br><br>(Principal Executive Officer) | Date: April 16, 2012 |
| /s/ Sheree S. Williams<br>Sheree S. Williams | Chief Financial Officer<br><br>(Principal Financial Officer)   | Date: April 16, 2012 |
| /s/ Donald Ratajczak<br>Donald Ratajczak     | Director   | Date: April 16, 2012 |
| /s/ Sam Zamarripa<br>Sam Zamarripa           | Director   | Date: April 16, 2012 |

**Table of Contents**

**Index to Financial Statements**

**Index to Financial Statements**

|  | <b>Page</b> |
|--|-------------|
| <u>Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm</u>   | F-2         |
| <u>Consolidated Balance Sheets as of December 31, 2011 and 2010</u>  | F-3         |
| <u>Consolidated Statements of Operations for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010</u>                      | F-4         |
| <u>Consolidated Statements of Changes in Stockholders' Equity for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010</u> | F-5         |
| <u>Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income (Loss) for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010</u>     | F-6         |
| <u>Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010</u>                      | F-7         |
| <u>Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements</u>  | F-8         |

**Table of Contents**

**Index to Financial Statements**

**REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM**

To the Board of Directors and Shareholders

AssuranceAmerica Corporation

We have audited the consolidated balance sheets of AssuranceAmerica Corporation and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2011 and 2010, and the related consolidated statements of operations, changes in stockholders' equity, comprehensive income (loss), and cash flows for the years then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of AssuranceAmerica Corporation and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2011 and 2010, and the results of their operations and their cash flows for the years then ended, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

As discussed in Note 3 to the consolidated financial statements, the 2010 consolidated financial statements have been restated to correct a misstatement.

Porter Keadle Moore, LLC

Atlanta, Georgia

April 16, 2012

F-2

**Table of Contents****Index to Financial Statements****ASSURANCEAMERICA CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES****CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**

|  | December 31,<br>2011  | (As Restated)<br>December 31,<br>2010 |
|--|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>ASSETS</b>  |                       |                                       |
| Cash and cash equivalents  | \$ 7,733,287          | \$ 7,958,473                          |
| Cash restricted  | 254,222               | 1,802,990                             |
| Short-term investments   | 125,008               | 145,085                               |
| Long-term investments, at fair value (amortized cost \$7,831,560 and \$8,561,245)                | 7,886,617             | 8,630,776                             |
| Marketable equity securities, at fair value (cost \$0 and \$1,978,166)                           | 0                     | 2,243,235                             |
| Other long-term investments  | 600,435               | 727,288                               |
| Investment income due and accrued  | 63,533                | 180,487                               |
| Real estate mortgage loans due from a related party  | 4,000,000             | 0                                     |
| Receivable from insureds   | 25,132,462            | 30,858,022                            |
| Reinsurance recoverable (including \$9,114,187 and \$10,602,969 on paid losses)                  | 36,664,396            | 34,013,415                            |
| Prepaid reinsurance premiums   | 19,466,923            | 23,643,822                            |
| Deferred acquisition costs   | 1,928,401             | 2,286,118                             |
| Property and equipment (net of accumulated depreciation of \$3,847,396 and \$3,260,449)          | 1,904,368             | 1,838,203                             |
| Other receivables  | 1,594,212             | 737,811                               |
| Prepaid expenses   | 450,080               | 541,736                               |
| Security deposits  | 33,833                | 33,833                                |
| Assets of discontinued operations  | 204,059               | 8,290,462                             |
| Prepaid income tax   | 0                     | 106,864                               |
| Deferred tax assets  | 0                     | 2,425,571                             |
| <b>Total assets</b>  | <b>\$ 108,041,836</b> | <b>\$ 126,464,191</b>                 |
| <b>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY</b>   |                       |                                       |
| Accounts payable and accrued expenses  | \$ 7,289,171          | \$ 6,685,262                          |
| Unearned premium   | 28,101,244            | 34,217,108                            |
| Unpaid losses and loss adjustment expenses   | 42,098,263            | 33,311,067                            |
| Reinsurance payable  | 20,538,203            | 29,426,944                            |
| Provisional commission reserve   | 2,453,125             | 3,289,272                             |
| Funds withheld from reinsurers   | 325,000               | 1,875,000                             |
| Liabilities of discontinued operations   | 595,014               | 2,026,825                             |
| Notes payable due to a related party   | 1,557,911             | 0                                     |
| Revolving line of credit   | 0                     | 1,500,000                             |
| Other notes and interest payable   | 116,956               | 175,420                               |
| <b>Total liabilities</b>   | <b>103,074,887</b>    | <b>112,506,898</b>                    |
| <b>Commitments and Contingencies</b>   |                       |                                       |
| Common stock, \$.01 par value (authorized 120,000,000 and outstanding 65,810,531 and 65,494,357) | 658,105               | 654,943                               |
| Paid in capital  | 20,618,146            | 17,875,779                            |
| Accumulated deficit  | (16,343,713)          | (4,782,554)                           |
| Accumulated other comprehensive gains:   |                       |                                       |
| Net unrealized gains on investment securities, net of taxes                                      | 34,411                | 209,125                               |
| <b>Total stockholders equity</b>   | <b>4,966,949</b>      | <b>13,957,293</b>                     |



|  |                |                |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Total liabilities and stockholders equity</b> | \$ 108,041,836 | \$ 126,464,191 |
|--|----------------|----------------|

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

F-3

Table of ContentsIndex to Financial Statements

**ASSURANCEAMERICA CORPORATION**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS**

|  | <b>Year Ended December 31,</b> |                    |
|--|--------------------------------|--------------------|
|  | <b>(As Restated)</b>           |                    |
|  | <b>2011</b>                    | <b>2010</b>        |
| <b>Revenue:</b>  |                                |                    |
| Gross premiums written   | \$ 89,522,757                  | \$ 100,921,776     |
| Gross premiums ceded   | (58,053,377)                   | (67,795,311)       |
| <b>Net premiums written</b>  | <b>31,469,380</b>              | <b>33,126,465</b>  |
| Decrease in unearned premiums, net of prepaid reinsurance premiums   | 1,927,299                      | 244,818            |
| <b>Net premiums earned</b>   | <b>33,396,679</b>              | <b>33,371,283</b>  |
| Commission income  | 12,158,468                     | 14,785,468         |
| Managing general agent fees  | 10,460,530                     | 11,004,248         |
| Gain on extinguishment of debt   | 0                              | 3,509,845          |
| Net investment income  | 209,854                        | 647,184            |
| Net investment gains on securities   | 157,392                        | 18,319             |
| Other income   | 19,866                         | 0                  |
| <b>Total revenue</b>   | <b>56,402,789</b>              | <b>63,336,347</b>  |
| <b>Expenses:</b>   |                                |                    |
| Losses and loss adjustment expenses  | 31,039,693                     | 25,022,149         |
| Selling, general and administrative expenses   | 30,866,186                     | 32,317,938         |
| Stock option expense   | 208,586                        | 410,658            |
| Depreciation and amortization expense  | 806,855                        | 583,414            |
| Interest expense   | 5,637                          | 349,492            |
| <b>Total operating expenses</b>  | <b>62,926,957</b>              | <b>58,683,651</b>  |
| <b>Income (loss) from continuing operations before income taxes</b>  | <b>(6,524,168)</b>             | <b>4,652,696</b>   |
| Income tax benefit (expense) on continuing operations  | (2,446,990)                    | (1,910,237)        |
| <b>Income (loss) from continuing operations</b>  | <b>(8,971,158)</b>             | <b>2,742,459</b>   |
| <b>Loss from discontinued operations</b> (including loss on disposal of \$1,274,909 for the year ended 2011) | <b>(2,667,127)</b>             | <b>(3,217,158)</b> |
| Income tax benefit (expense) on discontinued operations  | 77,126                         | 1,054,693          |
| <b>Loss from discontinued operations, net of taxes</b>   | <b>(2,590,001)</b>             | <b>(2,162,465)</b> |
| <b>Net income (loss)</b>   | <b>\$ (11,561,159)</b>         | <b>\$ 579,994</b>  |
| <b>Earnings (loss) per Common Share</b>  |                                |                    |
| Basic-Income (loss) from continuing operations   | \$ (0.136)                     | \$ 0.042           |
| Diluted-Income (loss) from continuing operations   | \$ (0.136)                     | \$ 0.042           |
| Basic-Loss from discontinued operations  | \$ (0.040)                     | \$ (0.033)         |
| Diluted-Loss from discontinued operations  | \$ (0.040)                     | \$ (0.033)         |
| Basic-Net income (loss)  | \$ (0.176)                     | \$ 0.009           |

Edgar Filing: ASSURANCEAMERICA CORP - Form 10-K

|   |    |            |    |            |
|---|----|------------|----|------------|
| Diluted-Net income (loss)                   | \$ | (0.176)    | \$ | 0.009      |
| Weighted average shares outstanding-basic   |    | 65,741,313 |    | 65,467,508 |
| Weighted average shares outstanding-diluted |    | 65,741,313 |    | 65,917,793 |

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

F-4

Table of ContentsIndex to Financial Statements

## ASSURANCEAMERICA CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY

For the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010

|  | Common<br>Shares | Common<br>Stock | Paid in<br>Capital | Accumulated<br>Deficit | Accumulated<br>Other<br>Comprehensive<br>Income<br>(Loss),<br>Net of Taxes | Total         |
|--|------------------|-----------------|--------------------|------------------------|--|---------------|
| <b>Balance, December 31, 2009 (As Restated)</b>                | 65,144,357       | \$ 651,443      | \$ 17,363,620      | \$ (5,362,548)         | \$ (122,806)   | \$ 12,529,709 |
| Stock issued   | 350,000          | 3,500           | 101,501            | 0                      | 0  | 105,001       |
| Stock option expense   | 0                | 0               | 410,658            | 0                      | 0  | 410,658       |
| Change in value of available-for-sale securities, net of taxes | 0                | 0               | 0                  | 0                      | 331,931  | 331,931       |
| Net income   | 0                | 0               | 0                  | 579,994                | 0  | 579,994       |
| <b>Balance, December 31, 2010 (As Restated)</b>                | 65,494,357       | 654,943         | 17,875,779         | (4,782,554)            | 209,125  | 13,957,293    |
| Stock issued   | 316,174          | 3,162           | 91,692             | 0                      | 0  | 94,854        |
| Stock option expense   | 0                | 0               | 208,586            | 0                      | 0  | 208,586       |
| Warrants issued  | 0                | 0               | 2,442,089          | 0                      | 0  | 2,442,089     |
| Change in value of available-for-sale securities, net of taxes | 0                | 0               | 0                  | 0                      | (174,714)  | (174,714)     |
| Net loss   | 0                | 0               | 0                  | (11,561,159)           | 0  | (11,561,159)  |
| <b>Balance, December 31, 2011</b>                              | 65,810,531       | \$ 658,105      | \$ 20,618,146      | \$ (16,343,713)        | \$ 34,411  | \$ 4,966,949  |

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

**Table of Contents****Index to Financial Statements****ASSURANCEAMERICA CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES****CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)**

|   | <b>For the Years Ended<br/>December 31,</b> |                               |
|---|---|-------------------------------|
|   | <b>2011</b>                                 | <b>(As Restated)<br/>2010</b> |
| <b>Net income (loss)</b>  | \$ (11,561,159)                             | \$ 579,994                    |
| <b>Other comprehensive income (loss):</b>                                 |   |                               |
| Change in unrealized (losses) gains of investments:                       |   |                               |
| Unrealized gains (losses) arising during the year                         | (122,151)                                   | 549,408                       |
| Reclassification adjustment for realized gains recognized during the year | (157,392)                                   | (18,319)                      |
| Net change in unrealized gains (losses)                                   | (279,543)                                   | 531,089                       |
| Deferred income tax benefit (expense) effect on above changes             | 104,829                                     | (199,158)                     |
| <b>Other comprehensive income (loss)</b>                                  | (174,714)                                   | 331,931                       |
| <b>Comprehensive income (loss)</b>  | \$ (11,735,873)                             | \$ 911,925                    |

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

Table of ContentsIndex to Financial Statements

## ASSURANCEAMERICA CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

|   | Year Ended<br>December 31, 2011 |                          |
|---|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
|   | 2011                            | (As<br>Restated)<br>2010 |
| <b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>  |                                 |                          |
| Income (loss) of continuing operations  | \$ (8,971,158)                  | \$ 2,742,459             |
| Loss of discontinued operations   | (2,590,001)                     | (2,162,465)              |
| Net income (loss)   | (11,561,159)                    | 579,994                  |
| <b>Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash provided (used) by operating activities</b> |                                 |                          |
| Net investment gains on securities  | (157,392)                       | (18,219)                 |
| Depreciation and amortization   | 1,049,078                       | 1,295,039                |
| Goodwill impairment   | 0                               | 1,519,200                |
| Loss on disposal of discontinued operations   | 1,274,909                       | 0                        |
| Gain on extinguishment of debt  | 0                               | (3,509,845)              |
| Stock-based compensation  | 208,586                         | 410,658                  |
| Deferred tax provision  | 2,530,399                       | 686,765                  |
| <b>Changes in assets and liabilities:</b>   |                                 |                          |
| Investment income due and accrued   | 116,954                         | 232                      |
| Receivables   | 4,869,159                       | 3,436,473                |
| Prepaid expenses  | 91,656                          | (273,481)                |
| Unearned premiums   | (6,115,864)                     | (1,699,048)              |
| Unpaid loss and loss adjustment expenses  | 8,787,196                       | (8,661,916)              |
| Ceded reinsurance payable   | (8,888,741)                     | 903,660                  |
| Reinsurance recoverable   | (2,650,981)                     | 9,795,710                |
| Prepaid reinsurance premiums  | 4,176,899                       | 1,454,229                |
| Accounts payable and accrued expenses   | 603,909                         | (747,258)                |
| Prepaid income taxes  | 106,864                         | 142,588                  |
| Other operating activities  | 924,683                         | 0                        |
| Funds withheld from reinsurers  | (1,550,000)                     | 0                        |
| Deferred acquisition costs  | 357,717                         | 171,529                  |
| Provisional commission reserve  | (836,147)                       | (310,017)                |
| <b>Net cash provided (used) by operating activities continuing operations</b>                         | (6,662,275)                     | 5,176,293                |
| <b>Net cash used by operating activities discontinued operations</b>                                  | (314,608)                       | (29,839)                 |
| <b>Net cash provided (used) by operating activities</b>   | (6,976,883)                     | 5,146,454                |
| <b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>  |                                 |                          |
| Purchases of property and equipment   | (873,021)                       | (789,056)                |
| Change in short-term investments  | 20,077                          | 220,632                  |
| Proceeds from sales, call and maturities of investments   | 7,208,459                       | 1,867,815                |
| Purchases of investments  | (4,458,583)                     | (2,839,140)              |
| Purchase of other long-term investment  | 0                               | (750,000)                |
| Transfer of restricted cash to cash   | 1,548,768                       | (2,990)                  |
| Proceeds received from sale of discontinued operations  | 4,455,000                       | 0                        |

Edgar Filing: ASSURANCEAMERICA CORP - Form 10-K

|   |                                |              |              |
|---|--------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| <b>Net cash provided (used) by investing activities</b>                         | <b>continuing operations</b>   | 7,900,700    | (2,292,739)  |
| <b>Net cash used by investing activities</b>                                    | <b>discontinued operations</b> | (10,370)     | (234,764)    |
| <b>Net cash provided (used) by investing activities</b>                         |                                | 7,890,330    | (2,527,503)  |
| <b>Cash flows from financing activities:</b>                                    |                                |              |              |
| Repayment of line of credit   |                                | (1,500,000)  | 0            |
| Repayment of notes payable and related party debt                               |                                | (58,465)     | (540,980)    |
| Stock issued, net of expenses   |                                | 94,854       | 105,000      |
| <b>Net cash used by financing activities</b>                                    | <b>continuing operations</b>   | (1,463,611)  | (435,980)    |
| <b>Net cash used by financing activities</b>                                    | <b>discontinued operations</b> | 0            | (57,600)     |
| <b>Net cash used by financing activities</b>                                    |                                | (1,463,611)  | (493,580)    |
| <b>Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>                     |                                | (550,164)    | 2,125,371    |
| <b>Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period</b>                           | <b>continuing operations</b>   | 7,958,473    | 6,155,305    |
| <b>Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period</b>                           | <b>discontinued operations</b> | 420,541      | 98,338       |
| <b>Cash and cash equivalents, end of period</b>                                 |                                | 7,828,850    | 8,379,014    |
| <b>Less cash and cash equivalents, end of period of discontinued operations</b> |                                | 95,563       | 420,541      |
| <b>Cash and cash equivalents, end of period of continuing operations</b>        |                                | \$ 7,733,287 | \$ 7,958,473 |

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

---

**Table of Contents**

**Index to Financial Statements**

**ASSURANCEAMERICA CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES**

**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**

**December 31, 2011 and 2010**

**(1) Description of Business**

AssuranceAmerica Corporation ( AAC ), a Nevada corporation (the Company ), is an insurance holding company whose business is comprised of AssuranceAmerica Insurance Company ( AAIC ), AssuranceAmerica Managing General Agency, LLC ( MGA ) and TrustWay Insurance Agencies, LLC ( TrustWay ), each wholly owned. TrustWay was sold in 2011. The Company solicits and underwrites nonstandard personal passenger automobile insurance. The Company is headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia.

**(2) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

***Basis of Consolidation and Presentation***

The accompanying consolidated financial statements include the accounts and operations of AAIC, MGA and TrustWay. All material intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated. The consolidated financial statements have been prepared in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles ( GAAP ).

Amounts in 2010 have been reclassified to conform to the presentation used in 2011, primarily the assets and liabilities of TrustWay have been reclassified to discontinued operations.

***Estimates***

The preparation of the consolidated financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported financial statement balances as well as the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. Actual results could differ materially from those estimates used.

The Company's liability for unpaid losses and loss adjustment expenses ( LAE ) (an estimate of the ultimate cost to settle claims both reported and unreported), while supported by actuarial projections and other data, is ultimately based on management's reasoned expectations of future events. Although considerable variability is inherent in these estimates, management believes that this liability is adequate. Estimates are reviewed regularly and adjusted as necessary. Such adjustments are reflected in current operations.

Goodwill represents the amount by which the cost of acquired net assets exceeds related fair value. Other intangible assets include the costs of specifically identifiable intangible assets, primarily customer renewal lists. In accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board ( FASB ) and Intangibles, Goodwill and Other (Topic 350), the carrying value of goodwill and other intangible assets is reviewed annually or whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount might not be recoverable. If the fair value of the operations to which goodwill relates is less than the carrying amount of those operations, including unamortized goodwill, the carrying amount of goodwill is reduced accordingly with a charge to expense. The Company's carrying value of all intangibles and goodwill was reduced to zero during 2011 due to the sale of the TrustWay retail operations.

***Accounting Standards Updates***

In October 2010, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ( FASB ) issued Standards Update ( ASU ) No. 2010-26, *Financial Services Insurance (Topic 944): Accounting for Costs Associated with Acquiring or Renewing Insurance Contracts* ( ASU 2010-26 ) which specifies which costs relating to the acquisition of new or renewal insurance contracts qualify for deferral. In accordance with ASU 2010-26, incremental direct costs of contract acquisition should be capitalized. Advertising costs should be included in deferred acquisition costs only if the capitalization criteria in the direct-response advertising guidance in Subtopic 340-20, *Other Assets and Deferred Costs - Capitalized Advertising Costs*, are met. All other acquisition related costs, including costs incurred by the insurer in soliciting potential customers, market research, training, administration, unsuccessful acquisition or renewal efforts, and product development, should be expensed as incurred. If the initial application of ASU 2010-26 results in the capitalization of acquisition costs that had not been capitalized previously, the entity may elect not to



## Edgar Filing: ASSURANCEAMERICA CORP - Form 10-K

capitalize those types of costs. ASU 2010-26 is effective for fiscal years, and interim periods within those fiscal years, beginning after December 15, 2011. ASU 2010-26 should be applied prospectively upon adoption; although retrospective application to all prior periods presented upon the date of adoption is also permitted, but not required. Early adoption is permitted, but only at the beginning of an entity's annual reporting period. The Company will adopt ASU 2010-26 on January 1, 2012 and does not expect the adoption to have a material impact on the Company's financial condition or results of operations.

F-8

**Table of Contents****Index to Financial Statements**

In May 2011, the FASB issued ASU No. 2011-04, *Fair Value Measurement (Topic 820): Amendments to Achieve Common Fair Value Measurement and Disclosure Requirements in U.S. GAAP and IFRSs* ( ASU 2011-04 ). This guidance results in a consistent definition of fair value and common requirements for measurement of and disclosure about fair value between GAAP and International Financial Reporting Standards. While many of the amendments to GAAP are not expected to have a significant effect on practice, this guidance changes some fair value measurement principles and disclosure requirements. ASU 2011-04 is to be applied prospectively. For public entities, this guidance is effective during the interim and annual periods beginning after December 15, 2011. Early adoption by public entities is not permitted. The Company will adopt the amendments in ASU 2011-04 on January 1, 2012 and does not expect the adoption to have a material impact on the Company's financial condition or results of operations.

In June 2011, the FASB issued ASU No. 2011-05, *Comprehensive Income (Topic 220): Presentation of Comprehensive Income* ( ASU 2011-05 ). ASU 2011-05 requires all non-owner changes in stockholders' equity to be presented either in a single continuous statement of comprehensive income or in two separate but consecutive statements. If an entity elects the single continuous statement method of presentation, the entity is required to present the components of net income and total net income, the components of other comprehensive income and a total for other comprehensive income, along with the total of comprehensive income in that statement. In the two separate statement approach, an entity is required to present components of net income and total net income in the statement of net income. The statement of other comprehensive income would then immediately follow the statement of net income and would include the components of other comprehensive income and a total for other comprehensive income, along with a total for comprehensive income. Regardless of the presentation an entity chooses, the entity is required to present on the face of the financial statements reclassification adjustments for items that are reclassified from other comprehensive income to net income in the statement(s) where the components of net income and the components of other comprehensive income are presented. ASU 2011-05 is to be applied retrospectively and is effective for fiscal years, and interim periods within those years, beginning after December 15, 2011. In December 2011, the FASB issued ASU No. 2011-12, *Comprehensive Income (Topic 220): Deferral of the Effective Date for Amendments to the Presentation of Reclassifications of Items Out of Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income* ( ASU 2011-12 ). The amendments in ASU 2011-12 are being made to allow the FASB time to evaluate whether to present on the face of the financial statements the effects of reclassifications out of accumulated other comprehensive income on the components of net income and other comprehensive income for all periods presented. The Company will adopt all the requirements in ASU 2011-05 not affected by ASU 2011-12 on January 1, 2012. As ASU 2011-05 changes only the presentation of certain financial statement information, there will be no impact on the Company's financial condition or results of operations.

***Cash and Cash Equivalents***

Cash and cash equivalents include cash demand deposits, money market accounts and bank certificates of deposit with a maturity of less than twelve months.

***Fair Value of Financial Instruments***

The carrying amounts of the Company's financial instruments, including cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable, accounts payable, and accrued liabilities, approximate fair value because of their short maturities. The carrying amounts of equity securities and long-term bonds purchased are adjusted to reflect the current market value. Our other long-term investment consists of low income federal housing credits, which are being amortized over the life of the credits using the amortized cost method. The credits will be utilized over 10 years as required by the federal government and will be offset against the Company's federal income tax expenses. The carrying amounts of other receivables, real estate mortgage loans due from related party and the notes payable due to related party approximate fair value because they were transacted during 2011 and market interest rates did not significantly change at the balance sheet date.

***Deferred Acquisition Costs***

Deferred acquisition costs ( DAC ) include premium taxes and commissions incurred in connection with the production of new and renewal business, less commissions ceded to reinsurers. These costs are deferred and amortized over the period in which the related premiums are earned. The Company does not consider anticipated investment income in determining the recoverability of these costs. Based on current indications, management believes that these costs will be fully recoverable and, accordingly, no reduction in DAC has been recognized.

***Property and Equipment***

Property and equipment is recorded at cost and depreciated on a straight-line basis. The estimated useful lives used for depreciation purposes are as follows: Furniture and fixtures 5 to 7 years; equipment 3 to 5 years; software currently in



**Table of Contents****Index to Financial Statements**

service 3 to 5 years; autos 3 to 5 years; signs 2 to 5 years, leasehold improvements over the lesser of lease term or useful life. Improvements, additions and major renewals which extend the life of an asset are capitalized. Repairs are expensed in the year incurred. Assets additions for the twelve months ended December 31, 2011 include \$655,084 of internally developed software. Depreciation expense was \$806,855 and \$583,414 for the twelve months ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. Depreciation expense for the twelve months ended December 31, 2011 includes \$92,804 for internally developed software.

A summary of property and equipment is as follows:

|                                | <b>December 31,<br/>2011</b> | <b>December 31,<br/>2010</b> |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Furniture and equipment        | \$ 627,527                   | \$ 634,281                   |
| Automobile                     | 35,263                       | 35,263                       |
| Signs                          | 4,585                        | 4,585                        |
| Computer equipment             | 1,384,459                    | 1,265,536                    |
| Computer software              | 2,800,479                    | 2,256,610                    |
| Leasehold improvements         | 899,451                      | 902,377                      |
| Less: accumulated depreciation | (3,847,396)                  | (3,260,449)                  |
|                                | \$ 1,904,368                 | \$ 1,838,203                 |

***Intangible Assets of Discontinued Operations***

Intangible assets consist of goodwill, non-compete agreements, renewal lists, and restrictive covenants. Intangible assets are stated at cost. Goodwill and certain intangibles with indefinite lives are not amortized, but instead are tested for impairment at least annually. During 2011, the Company recorded an intangible write down related to the sale of the TrustWay retail agencies of \$5,776,702. At December 31, 2011, there were no remaining intangible assets. During 2010, the Company recorded an intangible asset impairment of \$1,519,200 based on an independent review of the assets. The non-compete agreements and restrictive covenants were amortized on a straight-line basis varying from 2 years to 5 years and the renewal lists were amortized on a straight-line basis over a period of 10 years. Amortization expense was \$192,513 and \$376,794 for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

Intangible assets include the following at December 31, 2010:

|                               |              |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| Goodwill                      | \$ 4,622,526 |
| Non-compete agreements        | 809,500      |
| Renewal lists                 | 3,745,860    |
| Restrictive covenants         | 220,000      |
|                               | 9,397,886    |
| Less accumulated amortization | (3,428,671)  |
|                               | \$ 5,969,215 |

***Revenue Recognition***

Insurance premiums are recognized pro rata over the terms of the policies. The unearned portion of premiums is included in the consolidated balance sheets as a liability for unearned premium. Commission income is recognized in the period the insurance policy is written and is reduced by an estimate of future cancellations. Installment and other fees are recognized in the periods the services are rendered.

***Advertising***

## Edgar Filing: ASSURANCEAMERICA CORP - Form 10-K

Advertising costs are expensed as incurred. Advertising expense for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, was \$241,732 and \$479,521, respectively.

### *Stock Options*

The Company accounts for stock options in accordance with Accounting Standards Codification ( ASC ) 718, Compensation - Stock Compensation, which requires companies to expense in their financial statements the estimated fair value of awarded stock options after the grant date. The disclosure provisions required by ASC 718 are provided in Note 14.

F-10

**Table of Contents**

**Index to Financial Statements**

***Income Taxes***

Income taxes are accounted for under the asset and liability method. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are established for temporary differences between the financial reporting bases and the tax bases of assets and liabilities, at the enacted tax rates expected to be in effect when the temporary differences are expected to be recovered or settled. The principal assets and liabilities that generate these temporary differences are unearned premiums, loss and loss adjustment expense reserves, deferred policy acquisition costs, gain on extinguishment of debt, operating loss and tax-credit carry forwards, bad debt and non-deductible provisions for unearned revenue, goodwill and unrealized capital gains and losses. The effect on deferred tax assets and liabilities of a change in tax rates is recognized in net income (loss) in the period that includes the enactment date.

The Company has entered into a tax sharing agreement with AAIC on a statutory basis. The operating results for AAIC are included in the consolidated income tax return filed by the Company. The income tax provision is computed separately for AAIC and the Company. TrustWay and MGA are not tax-paying entities for federal income tax purposes and their results are consolidated with the Company's tax return. AAIC pays only federal income tax. AAIC's income tax benefit was \$2.5 million in 2011 compared to \$60 thousand of income tax benefit in 2010.

F-11

**Table of Contents****Index to Financial Statements****(3) Restatement of Consolidated Financial Statements**

During 2011, the company's management discovered an error in its stated accounts receivables. The error arose as a result of the process used to record transactions to the accounting system for insufficient funds on policy payments from insureds. This process, which in certain instances required manual adjustments to the accounts receivable system for insufficient funds transactions, resulted in a duplicate booking of certain transactions to the accounting systems in years 2007 through 2010.

As a result, the Company's accounts receivable were overstated by \$1.8 million as of December 31, 2010. The effect of the overstatement is a cumulative charge to earnings, after giving effect to taxes, of \$1.2 million over the four-year period from 2007 through and including 2010. Of this aggregate charge to earnings after giving effect to taxes, \$254,623 related to fiscal year 2007; \$397,818 related to fiscal year 2008; \$269,634 related to fiscal year 2009; and \$312,583 related to fiscal year 2010.

Based on the foregoing, on April 2, 2012, the Company's Board of Directors, after consultation with the Company's management, concluded that the Company's financial statements must be restated to the extent of the overstatements listed above. Such restated financial information is presented in this report.

The cumulative adjustments required to correct the errors in the financial statements prior to fiscal year 2010 are reflected in the restated stockholders' equity balance as of December 31, 2009, as shown in the Consolidated Statements of Changes in Stockholders' Equity. The cumulative effect of the correction of errors prior to fiscal year 2010 resulted in an increase in accumulated deficit of \$922,075 as of December 31, 2009.

As a result of the restatement, selling, general and administrative expenses increased \$498,337 for the year ended December 31, 2010. The tax impact of this adjustment was a decrease in income tax expense of \$185,754. Net income for the year ended December 31, 2010 decreased \$312,583 as a result of the restatement.

The nature of the restatement adjustments and the impact of the adjustments on the Consolidated Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2010 are shown in the following table:

**Consolidated Balance Sheet (extract)**

|   | December 31, 2010     |  |                    |                         |                       |
|---|-----------------------|--|--------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
|   | As Reported           | Reclass to<br>Discontinued<br>Operations | Subtotal           | Effect of<br>Correction | As Restated           |
| <b>Assets</b>                                     |                       |  |                    |                         |                       |
| Receivable from insureds                          | \$ 33,120,082         | 0  | 33,120,082         | (2,262,060)             | \$ 30,858,022         |
| Other receivables                                 | \$ 1,776,332          | (1,392,275)                              | 384,057            | 353,754                 | \$ 737,811            |
| Deferred tax assets                               | \$ 1,837,551          | 0  | 1,837,551          | 588,020                 | \$ 2,425,571          |
| <b>Total assets</b>                               | <b>\$ 127,784,477</b> | <b>0</b>                                 | <b>127,784,477</b> | <b>(1,320,286)</b>      | <b>\$ 126,464,191</b> |
| <b>Liabilities</b>                                |                       |  |                    |                         |                       |
| Accounts payable and accrued expenses             | \$ 8,797,715          | (2,026,825)                              | 6,770,890          | (85,628)                | \$ 6,685,262          |
| <b>Total liabilities</b>                          | <b>\$ 112,592,526</b> | <b>0</b>                                 | <b>112,592,526</b> | <b>(85,628)</b>         | <b>\$ 112,506,898</b> |
| <b>Stockholders' equity</b>                       |                       |  |                    |                         |                       |
| Accumulated deficit                               | \$ (3,547,896)        | 0  | (3,547,896)        | (1,234,658)             | \$ (4,782,554)        |
| <b>Total stockholders' equity</b>                 | <b>\$ 15,191,951</b>  | <b>0</b>                                 | <b>15,191,951</b>  | <b>(1,234,658)</b>      | <b>\$ 13,957,293</b>  |
| <b>Total liabilities and stockholders' equity</b> | <b>\$ 127,784,477</b> | <b>0</b>                                 | <b>127,784,477</b> | <b>(1,320,286)</b>      | <b>\$ 126,464,191</b> |

**Table of Contents****Index to Financial Statements**

The nature of the restatement adjustments and the impact of the adjustments on the Consolidated Statement of Operations for the year ended December 31, 2010 are shown in the following table:

**Consolidated Statement of Operations (extract)**

|  | For the Year ended December 31, 2010 |  |                   |                         |                      |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|-------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
|  | As Reported                          | Reclass to<br>Discontinued<br>Operations | Subtotal          | Effect of<br>Correction | As Restated          |
| <b>Expenses:</b>   |                                      |  |                   |                         |                      |
| Selling, general and administrative expenses                 | \$ 39,503,809                        | (7,684,208)                              | 31,819,601        | 498,337                 | \$ 32,317,938        |
| <b>Total operating expenses</b>                              | <b>\$ 67,977,882</b>                 | <b>(9,792,568)</b>                       | <b>58,185,314</b> | <b>498,337</b>          | <b>\$ 58,683,651</b> |
| <b>Income (loss) from continuing operations before taxes</b> | <b>\$ 1,933,876</b>                  | <b>3,217,157</b>                         | <b>5,151,033</b>  | <b>(498,337)</b>        | <b>\$ 4,652,696</b>  |
| Income tax (expense) benefit on continuing operations        | \$ (1,041,299)                       | (1,054,692)                              | (2,095,991)       | 185,754                 | \$ (1,910,237)       |
| <b>Income from continuing operations</b>                     | <b>\$ 892,577</b>                    | <b>2,162,465</b>                         | <b>3,055,042</b>  | <b>(312,583)</b>        | <b>\$ 2,742,459</b>  |
| <b>Net income</b>  | <b>\$ 892,577</b>                    | <b>0</b>                                 | <b>892,577</b>    | <b>(312,583)</b>        | <b>\$ 579,994</b>    |
| <b>Earnings per common share:</b>                            |                                      |  |                   |                         |                      |
| Basic  | \$ 0.014                             | 0  | 0.014             | (0.005)                 | \$ 0.009             |
| Diluted  | \$ 0.014                             | 0  | 0.014             | (0.005)                 | \$ 0.009             |

**Consolidated Statement of Changes in Stockholders' Equity (extract)**

|                                   | For the Year ended December 31, 2010 |                         |                      |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
|                                   | As Reported                          | Effect of<br>Correction | As Restated          |
| <b>Stockholders' equity:</b>      |                                      |                         |                      |
| <b>Balance, December 31, 2009</b> | \$ 13,451,784                        | (922,075)               | \$ 12,529,709        |
| Net income                        | \$ 892,577                           | (312,583)               | \$ 579,994           |
| <b>Balance, December 31, 2010</b> | <b>\$ 15,191,951</b>                 | <b>(1,234,658)</b>      | <b>\$ 13,957,293</b> |

**(4) Investments**

All of the Company's marketable equity and long-term investment securities have been classified as available-for-sale. The Company's long-term securities are available to be sold in response to the Company's liquidity needs, changes in market interest rates, asset-liability management strategies, and other economic factors. Investments available-for-sale are stated at fair value on the balance sheet. The other long-term investments consist of low income federal housing tax credits, which are being amortized over the life of the credits using the amortized cost method. Unrealized gains and losses are excluded from earnings and are reported as a component of other comprehensive income within stockholders' equity net of related deferred income taxes.

A decline in the fair value of an available-for-sale security below cost that is deemed other than temporary and related to credit results in a charge to income. The decline in value attributed to non-credit related factors is recognized in other comprehensive income. For a decline in value deemed to be credit related, a new cost basis for the security is established. Gross unrealized gains, net of unrealized losses and deferred income tax expense as of December 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010 were \$34,411 and \$209,125, respectively.

Premiums and discounts are amortized or accreted, respectively, over the life of the related fixed maturity security as an adjustment to yield using a method that approximates the effective interest method. Dividends and interest income are recognized when earned. Realized gains and losses are included in earnings and are derived using the specific-identification method for determining the cost of securities sold.



**Table of Contents****Index to Financial Statements**

At December 31, 2011 and 2010, long-term investments carried at market value of \$4,346,810 and \$4,708,075, respectively, and short-term investments of approximately \$125,006 and \$145,085, respectively, were pledged by one of the Company's subsidiaries under requirements of regulatory authorities.

A summary of investments follows as of:

|   | December 31,<br>2011 | December 31,<br>2010 |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|
| Short-term investments and bank certificates of deposit | \$ 125,008           | \$ 145,085           |
| U.S. government sponsored enterprises                   | 5,201,132            | 4,617,953            |
| Corporate debt securities                               | 2,685,485            | 4,012,823            |
| Marketable equity securities                            | 0                    | 2,243,235            |
| Other long-term investments                             | 600,435              | 727,288              |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>\$ 8,612,060</b>  | <b>\$ 11,746,384</b> |

The amortized cost, fair value and gross unrealized gains or losses of U.S. sponsored enterprises and corporate debt securities available-for-sale at December 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010, by contractual maturity, is shown below:

| Years to Maturity | December 31, 2011 | Amortized<br>Cost   | Gross               | Gross                | Fair<br>Value       |
|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
|                   |                   |                     | Unrealized<br>Gains | Unrealized<br>Losses |                     |
| Within one year   |                   | \$ 580,257          | \$ 0                | \$ 4,050             | \$ 576,207          |
| One to five years |                   | 3,362,908           | 171,362             | 3,745                | 3,530,525           |
| Five to ten years |                   | 2,695,544           | 0                   | 96,543               | 2,599,001           |
| Over ten years    |                   | 1,192,851           | 11,814              | 23,781               | 1,180,884           |
| <b>Total</b>      |                   | <b>\$ 7,831,560</b> | <b>\$ 183,176</b>   | <b>\$ 128,119</b>    | <b>\$ 7,886,617</b> |

| Years to Maturity | December 31, 2010 | Amortized<br>Cost   | Gross               | Gross                | Fair<br>Value       |
|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
|                   |                   |                     | Unrealized<br>Gains | Unrealized<br>Losses |                     |
| Within one year   |                   | \$ 1,022,943        | \$ 0                | \$ 9,980             | \$ 1,012,963        |
| One to five years |                   | 5,365,295           | 136,961             | 91,481               | 5,410,775           |
| Five to ten years |                   | 1,005,508           | 20,740              | 5,106                | 1,021,142           |
| Over ten years    |                   | 1,167,499           | 18,477              | 80                   | 1,185,896           |
| <b>Total</b>      |                   | <b>\$ 8,561,245</b> | <b>\$ 176,178</b>   | <b>\$ 106,647</b>    | <b>\$ 8,630,776</b> |

The amortized cost, fair value and gross unrealized gains or losses of securities available-for-sale at December 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010, by security type, is shown below:

| Security Type | December 31, 2011 | Amortized<br>Cost | Gross<br>Unrealized | Gross<br>Unrealized | Fair<br>Value |
|---------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------|
|---------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------|

Edgar Filing: ASSURANCEAMERICA CORP - Form 10-K

|                                       |                     | Gains             | Losses            |                     |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| U.S. government sponsored enterprises | \$ 5,047,921        | \$ 183,176        | \$ 29,965         | \$ 5,201,132        |
| Corporate debt securities             | 2,783,639           | 0                 | 98,154            | 2,685,485           |
| <b>Total</b>                          | <b>\$ 7,831,560</b> | <b>\$ 183,176</b> | <b>\$ 128,119</b> | <b>\$ 7,886,617</b> |

| Security Type                         | December 31, 2010 | Amortized<br>Cost    | Gross<br>Unrealized<br>Gains | Gross<br>Unrealized<br>Losses | Fair<br>Value        |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| U.S. government sponsored enterprises |                   | \$ 4,493,940         | \$ 129,199                   | \$ 5,186                      | \$ 4,617,953         |
| Corporate debt securities             |                   | 4,067,305            | 46,979                       | 101,461                       | 4,012,823            |
| Marketable equity securities          |                   | 1,978,166            | 350,552                      | 85,483                        | 2,243,235            |
| <b>Total</b>                          |                   | <b>\$ 10,539,411</b> | <b>\$ 526,730</b>            | <b>\$ 192,130</b>             | <b>\$ 10,874,011</b> |

F-14

**Table of Contents****Index to Financial Statements**

As of December 31, 2011, the Company has determined that all of the unrealized losses in available-for-sale securities were temporary.

There were no fundamental issues with any of these securities and the Company has the ability and intent to hold the securities until there is a recovery in fair value. The carrying amounts of individual assets are reviewed at each balance sheet date to assess whether the fair values have declined below the carrying amounts. The Company considers internal and external information, such as credit ratings, in concluding that the impairments are not other than temporary. The decline in value of investments (bonds) is principally driven by rate.

The following table shows the gross unrealized losses and fair value of securities, aggregated by category and length of time that securities have been in a continuous unrealized loss position at December 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010.

|                                       | Less Than Twelve Months       |                                   | Over Twelve Months            |                                   |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
|                                       | Gross<br>Unrealized<br>Losses | Estimated<br>Market<br>Fair Value | Gross<br>Unrealized<br>Losses | Estimated<br>Market<br>Fair Value |
| <b>December 31, 2011:</b>             |                               |                                   |                               |                                   |
| U.S. government sponsored enterprises | \$ 7,075                      | \$ 1,223,100                      | \$ 22,890                     | \$ 637,875                        |
| Corporate debt securities             | 10,983                        | 1,644,527                         | 87,171                        | 1,040,958                         |
|                                       | \$ 18,058                     | \$ 2,867,627                      | \$ 110,061                    | \$ 1,678,833                      |
| <b>December 31, 2010:</b>             |                               |                                   |                               |                                   |
| U.S. government sponsored enterprises | \$ 5,186                      | \$ 1,165,156                      | \$ 0                          | \$ 0                              |
| Corporate debt securities             | 11,306                        | 1,368,312                         | 90,155                        | 457,325                           |
| Marketable equity securities          | 12,570                        | 154,679                           | 72,913                        | 368,369                           |
|                                       | \$ 29,062                     | \$ 2,688,147                      | \$ 163,068                    | \$ 825,694                        |

The total proceeds received on sales of investments amounted to \$5,683,125 and \$1,867,815 for the year ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. The Company had realized gains and losses of \$376,689 and \$219,297 during 2011, respectively, and \$74,625 and \$56,306 during 2010, respectively.

**(5) Fair Value Disclosures**

The fair value of our investments in fixed income and equity securities is based on observable market quotations, other market observable data, or is derived from such quotations and market observable data. The Company utilizes third party pricing servicers, brokers and internal valuation models to determine fair value. Management gains assurance of the overall reasonableness and consistent application of the assumptions and methodologies and compliance with accounting standards for fair value determination through our ongoing monitoring of the fair values received or derived internally.

Level 1 inputs are unadjusted, quoted prices in active markets for identical instruments at the measurement date (e.g., U.S. Treasury securities and active exchange-traded equity securities). Level 2 securities are comprised of securities whose fair value was determined by a nationally recognized pricing service using observable market inputs. Level 3 securities are comprised of (i) securities for which the pricing service is unable to provide a fair value, (ii) securities whose fair value is determined by the pricing service based on unobservable inputs and (iii) securities, other than securities backed by the U.S. Government, that are not rated by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization.

The following table illustrates the recurring fair value measurements as of December 31, 2011:

**Total**

Edgar Filing: ASSURANCEAMERICA CORP - Form 10-K

|                                       |                     | <b>Quoted<br/>Prices<br/>in Active<br/>Markets<br/>(Level 1)</b> | <b>Significant<br/>Other<br/>Observable<br/>Inputs<br/>(Level 2)</b> | <b>Significant<br/>Other<br/>Unobservable<br/>Inputs<br/>(Level 3)</b> |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|--|--|--|
| <b>Available-for-sale securities:</b> |                     |  |  |  |
| U.S. government sponsored enterprises | \$ 5,201,132        | \$ 5,201,132   | \$ 0   | \$ 0   |
| Corporate debt securities             | 2,685,485           | 0  | 2,685,485  | 0  |
| <b>Total</b>                          | <b>\$ 7,886,617</b> | <b>\$ 5,201,132</b>  | <b>\$ 2,685,485</b>  | <b>\$ 0</b>  |

F-15

**Table of Contents****Index to Financial Statements**

The following table illustrates the recurring fair value measurements as of December 31, 2010:

|                                       | Total                | Quoted<br>Prices<br>in Active<br>Markets<br>(Level 1) | Significant<br>Other<br>Observable<br>Inputs<br>(Level 2) | Significant<br>Other<br>Unobservable<br>Inputs<br>(Level 3) |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|---|---|---|
| Available-for-sale securities:        |                      |   |   |   |
| U.S. government sponsored enterprises | \$ 4,617,953         | \$ 4,617,953  | \$ 0  | \$ 0  |
| Corporate debt securities             | 4,012,823            | 0   | 4,012,823   | 0   |
| Marketable equity securities          | 2,243,235            | 2,243,235   | 0   | 0   |
| <b>Total</b>                          | <b>\$ 10,874,011</b> | <b>\$ 6,861,188</b>                                   | <b>\$ 4,012,823</b>                                       | <b>\$ 0</b>   |

The Company may be required, from time to time, to measure certain assets at fair value on a nonrecurring basis. These include assets that are measured at the lower of cost or market that were recognized at fair value below cost at the end of the period. Assets measured at fair value on a nonrecurring basis are included in the table below as of December 31, 2010. There were no assets measured at fair value on a nonrecurring basis as of December 31, 2011.

|  | Total        | Quoted<br>Prices<br>in<br>Active<br>Markets<br>(Level<br>1) | Significant<br>Other<br>Observable<br>Inputs<br>(Level 2) | Significant<br>Other<br>Unobservable<br>Inputs<br>(Level 3) |
|--|--------------|---|---|---|
| December 31, 2010                            |              |   |   |   |
| Intangible Assets of Discontinued Operations | \$ 5,969,215 | \$ 0  | \$ 0  | \$ 5,969,215  |

**(6) Real estate mortgage loans due from related party**

On December 30, 2011, the Company entered into an agreement with its subsidiary AAIC. Pursuant to the agreement, the Company assigned two promissory notes (one for \$2,500,000 and one for \$1,500,000) to AAIC as a capital contribution to AAIC. The assigned promissory notes are secured by mortgages and real estate deeds owned by the Chairman of the Company. The notes carry an interest rate of 5%, due and payable quarterly in arrears, with the first payment due March 31, 2012 and each quarter, thereafter. The principal balance is due and payable on the earlier to occur of: (i) the sale of the real estate securing the note, (ii) the payment of the notes payable described in Note 11 of the Consolidated Financial Statements, or (iii) December 28, 2018.

**(7) Losses and Loss Adjustment Expenses**

The estimated liabilities for losses and loss adjustment expenses include the accumulation of estimates of losses for claims reported prior to the balance sheet dates ( case reserves ), estimates (based upon actuarial analysis of historical data) of losses for claims incurred but not reported ( IBNR ) and for the development of case reserves to ultimate values, and estimates of expenses for investigating, adjusting and settling all incurred claims. Amounts reported are estimates of the ultimate costs of settlement, net of estimated salvage and subrogation. These estimated liabilities are subject to the outcome of future events, such as changes in medical and repair costs as well as economic and social conditions that impact the settlement of claims. Management believes that, given the inherent variability in any such estimates, the aggregate reserves are reasonably adequate. The methods of making such estimates and for establishing the resulting reserves are reviewed and updated quarterly and any resulting adjustments are reflected in current operations.

## Edgar Filing: ASSURANCEAMERICA CORP - Form 10-K

A summary of unpaid losses and loss adjustment expenses, net of reinsurance ceded, is as follows:

|              | <b>December 31,<br/>2011</b> | <b>December 31,<br/>2010</b> |
|--------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Case basis   | \$ 5,110,499                 | \$ 5,180,252                 |
| IBNR         | 9,437,555                    | 4,720,369                    |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>\$ 14,548,054</b>         | <b>\$ 9,900,621</b>          |

F-16

**Table of Contents****Index to Financial Statements**

Activity in the liability for unpaid losses and loss adjustment expenses is summarized as follows:

|  | <b>2011</b>          | <b>2010</b>          |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|
| Balance at January 1                                   | \$ 33,311,067        | \$ 41,972,983        |
| Less reinsurance recoverables on unpaid losses         | (23,410,446)         | (29,709,859)         |
| <b>Net balance at January 1</b>                        | <b>9,900,621</b>     | <b>12,263,124</b>    |
| Add losses and LAE incurred, net, related to:          |                      |                      |
| Current year   | 26,958,692           | 22,864,149           |
| Prior years  | 4,081,001            | 2,158,000            |
| <b>Net losses and LAE incurred in the current year</b> | <b>31,039,693</b>    | <b>25,022,149</b>    |
| Deduct losses and LAE paid, net, related to:           |                      |                      |
| Current year   | (15,964,259)         | (15,587,589)         |
| Prior years  | (10,428,001)         | (11,797,063)         |
| <b>Net claim payments in the current year</b>          | <b>(26,392,260)</b>  | <b>(27,384,652)</b>  |
| Net balance at December 31                             | 14,548,054           | 9,900,621            |
| Plus reinsurance recoverables on unpaid losses         | 27,550,209           | 23,410,446           |
| <b>Balance at December 31</b>                          | <b>\$ 42,098,263</b> | <b>\$ 33,311,067</b> |

The majority of the Company's net claims incurred relates to accidents occurring in the current year. As a result of changes in estimates of insured events in prior years, the net losses and loss adjustment expenses incurred for prior years increased by \$4,081,001 in 2011 and \$2,158,000 in 2010, reflecting higher than anticipated loss cost for claims from prior accident years. The adverse development is due to higher than expected costs for bodily injury claims and additional cost exposure for the no-fault coverage (personal injury protection) in Florida.

**(8) Reinsurance**

In the normal course of business, the Company seeks to reduce its overall risk levels by obtaining reinsurance from other insurance enterprises or reinsurers. Reinsurance premiums and loss reserves on reinsured business are accounted for on a basis consistent with those used in accounting for the original policies issued and the terms of the reinsurance contracts.

Effective January 1, 2011, the Company entered into a new quota share agreement with Swiss Reinsurance America Corporation for the 2011 treaty year business. The Company ceded 75.0% of the bodily injury liability coverage and 82.5% of physical damage and other automobile liability coverages. The agreement includes a loss corridor of 75.0%-79.0%, whereby the Company shall retain the amount by which losses and LAE incurred exceed 75% of net premiums earned, subject to a maximum additional retention equal to 4% of net premiums earned. The reinsurance contract will cover all states except Florida. Further, the Company shall retain the amount by which losses and LAE incurred, after the application of the loss corridor, exceeds 120% of collected net premiums earned. The Company will receive a 21% ceding commission on ceded premiums earned if the loss and loss adjustment expense ratio is 73.5% or greater. If the loss ratio is 73.5%, but not less than 71.5% then the ceding commission shall be 21.0%, plus the difference in percentage points between 73.5% and the actual loss ratio. If the loss ratio is 71.5% or less then the ceding commission rate will be 23.0%.

Effective April 1, 2011, the Company entered into a twelve month quota share agreement with Greenlight Reinsurance Ltd. for business written in Florida. The Company ceded 50% of premium and losses for bodily injury liability, physical damage and other automobile liability coverages. The Company will receive a 19% ceding commission on ceded premiums earned if the loss and loss adjustment expense ratio as a percentage of earned premium is 75.5% or greater. If the loss ratio is less than 75.5%, but not less than 71.5% then the ceding commission shall be 19.0%, plus one half of the difference in percentage points between 75.5% and the actual loss ratio. If the loss ratio is 71.5% or less, then the ceding

## Edgar Filing: ASSURANCEAMERICA CORP - Form 10-K

commission rate will be 21.0%. The Company receives a provisional commission rate of 20% in advance, which is subject to adjustment once the final loss ratio is known.

Effective May 15, 2011, the Company entered into a new catastrophe agreement with Shelter Mutual Insurance Company ( SMIC ). SMIC shall be liable for private passenger automobile physical damage coverage with respect to each loss occurrence, for the ultimate net loss over and above an initial ultimate net loss of \$400,000 each event, such as a storm or flood, subject to a limit of liability to SMIC of \$1,600,000 each event, and further subject to a limit of liability to SMIC of \$3,200,000 with respects all events commencing during the term of this contract.

F-17



**Table of Contents****Index to Financial Statements**

Reinsurance contracts do not relieve the Company from its obligations to policyholders. The Company periodically reviews the financial condition of its reinsurers to minimize its exposure to losses from reinsurer insolvencies.

Reinsurance assets include balances due from other insurance companies under the terms of reinsurance agreements. Amounts applicable to ceded unearned premiums, ceded loss payments and ceded claims liabilities are reported as assets in the accompanying balance sheets. Under the reinsurance agreements, the Company has four reinsurers that are required to collateralize the reinsurance recoverable. As of December 31, 2011 all four reinsurers have provided a letter of credit or secured trust accounts to provide security sufficient to satisfy AAIC's obligations under the reinsurance agreements. The Company believes the fair value of its reinsurance recoverable approximates its carrying amount.

The impact of reinsurance on the statements of operations for the period ended December 31 was as follows:

|  | 2011          | 2010           |
|--|---------------|----------------|
| <b>Premiums written:</b>                             |               |                |
| Direct   | \$ 89,523,137 | \$ 100,922,694 |
| Assumed  | (380)         | (918)          |
| Ceded  | (58,053,377)  | (67,795,311)   |
| Net  | \$ 31,469,380 | \$ 33,126,465  |
| <b>Premiums earned:</b>                              |               |                |
| Direct   | \$ 95,639,531 | \$ 102,619,742 |
| Assumed  | (910)         | (918)          |
| Ceded  | (62,241,942)  | (69,247,541)   |
| Net  | \$ 33,396,679 | \$ 33,371,283  |
| <b>Losses and loss adjustment expenses incurred:</b> |               |                |
| Direct   | \$ 94,144,425 | \$ 86,558,567  |
| Assumed  | (7,134)       | 37,875         |
| Ceded  | (63,097,598)  | (61,574,293)   |
| Net  | \$ 31,039,693 | \$ 25,022,149  |

The impact of reinsurance on the balance sheets as of December 31 is as follows:

|   | 2011          | 2010          |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| <b>Unpaid losses and loss adjustment expense:</b> |               |               |
| Direct  | \$ 42,001,981 | \$ 33,188,235 |
| Assumed   | 96,282        | 122,832       |
| Ceded   | (27,550,209)  | (23,410,446)  |
| Net   | \$ 14,548,054 | \$ 9,900,621  |
| <b>Unearned premiums:</b>                         |               |               |
| Direct  | \$ 28,100,715 | \$ 34,216,544 |
| Assumed   | 529           | 564           |
| Ceded   | (19,455,257)  | (23,643,822)  |

Edgar Filing: ASSURANCEAMERICA CORP - Form 10-K

|     |              |               |
|-----|--------------|---------------|
| Net | \$ 8,645,987 | \$ 10,573,286 |
|-----|--------------|---------------|

The Company receives commissions on its reinsurance agreements for treaty year 2011 on the basis of ceded collected premium. The Company received commissions on its reinsurance agreements for treaty year 2010 and prior on the basis of ceded written premium. The Company pays the reinsurers premium on the basis of ceded collected premium for all of its reinsurance agreements.

F-18

**Table of Contents****Index to Financial Statements**

For the year ended December 31, 2011, the Company received \$10,285,474 in commissions on ceded collected premiums and refunded \$1,066,172 in commissions on returned ceded written premium, for net commissions of \$9,219,302. Had all of the Company's reinsurance agreements been commuted at December 31, 2011, the Company would have returned \$476,857 in reinsurance commissions to its reinsurers and its reinsurers would have returned \$2,192,163 in collected premiums to the Company.

***Contingent Reinsurance Commission and Provisional Commission Reserve***

The Company's primary reinsurance contract provides ceding commissions for premiums written which are subject to adjustment. The amount of ceding commissions, net of adjustments, is determined by the loss experience for the reinsurance agreement term. The reinsurers provide commissions on a sliding scale with maximum and minimum achievable levels. The reinsurers pay the Company the stated provisional commissions before adjustment. The Company adjusts the commissions based on the current loss experience for the policy year premiums. This results in establishing a liability for the excess of provisional commissions retained compared to amounts recognized, which is subject to variation until the ultimate loss experience is determinable.

The total liability for excess provisional commissions received as of December 31, 2011 by policy year is:

| <b>Policy Year</b> | <b>Amount</b>       |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 2010               | 1,292,912           |
| 2011               | 1,160,213           |
| <b>Total</b>       | <b>\$ 2,453,125</b> |

**(9) Discontinued Operations**

On June 30, 2011, the Company sold its Georgia insurance agencies. The Company received \$750,000 in cash and a promissory note receivable in the amount of \$500,000 related to the sale. The note was fully paid in November 2011 at an interest rate of 8% per annum. The fair value of these assets was \$1,693,255 and the Company recognized a pre-tax loss on disposal of \$443,255. The pre-tax income on the discontinued operations for the Georgia agencies amounted to \$98,599.

Effective July 2, 2011, the Company sold the stock of TrustWay T.E.A.M, Inc. and TrustWay T.E.A.M. Services, LLC. The Company received \$280,000 in cash related to the sale. The fair value of these assets amounted to \$461,452, resulting in a pre-tax loss on disposal of \$181,452. The pre-tax income on the discontinued operations amounted to \$122,942 for TrustWay T.E.A.M.

Effective July 31, 2011, the Company sold its Alabama insurance agencies. The Company received \$75,000 in cash and a promissory note receivable in the amount of \$225,000 related to the sale. The fair value of these assets was \$560,485 and the Company recognized a pre-tax loss on disposal of \$260,485. The pre-tax loss on the discontinued operations for the Alabama agencies amounted to \$175,606. The principal amount payable is due in four consecutive installments of \$45,000 on August 1, 2012 and 2013, with the remaining installments of \$67,500 due on August 1, 2014 and 2015. The interest rate is 10% per annum and is payable on the unpaid balance on the last day of each quarter (April 30, July 31, October 31, and January 31,) commencing with the first date of the note until the maturity date.

On September 30, 2011, the Company sold its Florida insurance agencies and received a total of \$2,850,000 in cash and a \$250,000 receivable related to a purchase price adjustment for certain expense savings. The fair value of these assets was \$3,489,717 and the Company recognized a pre-tax loss on disposal in the amount of \$389,717. The pre-tax loss on discontinued operations for the Florida agencies amounted to \$1,438,153.

**Table of Contents****Index to Financial Statements**

The assets and liabilities of the aforementioned businesses are classified as discontinued operations at December 31, 2011 and 2010 as summarized below. A reclassification was made to the prior year amounts to conform to the 2011 presentation.

|   | December 31,<br>2011 | December 31,<br>2010 |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Assets</b>   |                      |                      |
| Cash and cash equivalents                               | \$ 95,563            | \$ 420,541           |
| Current receivables                                     | 0                    | 1,392,274            |
| Property and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation | 0                    | 314,429              |
| Intangibles, net of accumulated amortization            | 0                    | 5,969,215            |
| Other   | 108,496              | 194,003              |
| <b>Assets of discontinued operations</b>                | <b>\$ 204,059</b>    | <b>\$ 8,290,462</b>  |
| <b>Liabilities</b>                                      |                      |                      |
| Accounts payable and accrued expenses                   | \$ 595,014           | \$ 2,026,825         |
| <b>Liabilities of discontinued operations</b>           | <b>\$ 595,014</b>    | <b>\$ 2,026,825</b>  |

**Table of Contents****Index to Financial Statements**

Summarized financial information for revenues and losses on discontinued operations is shown below.

|  | <b>Year Ended December 31,</b> |                       |
|--|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
|  | <b>2011</b>                    | <b>2010</b>           |
| <b>Revenues</b>  | \$ 4,698,563                   | \$ 8,168,765          |
| <b>Operations</b>                                      |                                |                       |
| Loss from discontinued operations before income taxes  | \$ (1,392,218)                 | \$ (3,217,158)        |
| Income tax benefit                                     | 522,082                        | 1,054,693             |
| <b>Loss from discontinued operations, net of taxes</b> | <b>\$ (870,136)</b>            | <b>\$ (2,162,465)</b> |
| <b>Disposal</b>  |                                |                       |
| Loss on disposal before income taxes                   | \$ (1,274,909)                 | \$ 0                  |
| Income tax expense                                     | (444,956)                      | 0                     |
| <b>Loss on disposal, net of taxes</b>                  | <b>\$ (1,719,865)</b>          | <b>\$ 0</b>           |
| <b>Loss from discontinued operations, net of taxes</b> | <b>\$ (2,590,001)</b>          | <b>\$ (2,162,465)</b> |

**(10) Income Taxes**

The provision for federal and state income taxes for the years ended are as follows:

|                                 | <b>December 31,</b>   |                               |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
|                                 | <b>2011</b>           | <b>(As Restated)<br/>2010</b> |
| Current income tax expense      | \$ 0                  | \$ (168,779)                  |
| Deferred income tax expense     | (2,369,864)           | (686,765)                     |
| <b>Total income tax expense</b> | <b>\$ (2,369,864)</b> | <b>\$ (855,544)</b>           |

The provision for income taxes in the accompanying consolidated statements of operations differed from the statutory rate of 34% as follows:

|  | <b>2011</b>           | <b>2010</b>         |
|--|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Income (loss) before income taxes              | \$ (9,191,296)        | \$ 1,435,538        |
| Income tax benefit (expense) at statutory rate | 3,125,041             | (488,083)           |
| <b>Tax effect of:</b>                          |                       |                     |
| Tax exempt interest income                     | 2,389                 | 10,561              |
| Incentive stock option expense                 | (70,919)              | (139,623)           |
| Nondeductible goodwill                         | (837,023)             | (137,579)           |
| Valuation Allowance                            | (4,851,743)           | 0                   |
| State taxes, net of federal tax benefit        | 233,339               | (79,851)            |
| Other, net                                     | 29,052                | (20,969)            |
| <b>Total income tax benefit (expense)</b>      | <b>\$ (2,369,864)</b> | <b>\$ (855,544)</b> |



**Table of Contents****Index to Financial Statements**

The consolidated balance sheets reflect net deferred income tax asset amounts that resulted from temporary differences as of December 31 as follows:

|   | 2011               | (As Restated)<br>2010 |
|---|--------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Deferred income tax assets:</b>                |                    |                       |
| Discounting of loss reserves                      | \$ 289,962         | \$ 206,915            |
| Federal operating loss carry-forward              | 5,523,988          | 1,620,742             |
| Goodwill  | 0                  | 1,837,977             |
| Unearned premium reserves                         | 648,449            | 792,996               |
| Capital losses carry-forward                      | 283,638            | 274,476               |
| Other   | 246,483            | 13,479                |
| <b>Gross deferred tax assets</b>                  | <b>6,992,520</b>   | <b>4,746,585</b>      |
| <b>Deferred income tax liabilities:</b>           |                    |                       |
| Gain on extinguishment of debt                    | 1,324,708          | 1,316,192             |
| Deferred acquisition costs                        | 723,150            | 857,294               |
| Unrealized gains on securities available for sale | 20,646             | 125,475               |
| Depreciation                                      | 72,273             | 22,053                |
| Other   | 0                  | 0                     |
| <b>Gross deferred tax liabilities</b>             | <b>2,140,777</b>   | <b>2,321,014</b>      |
| <b>Valuation Allowance</b>                        | <b>(4,851,743)</b> | <b>0</b>              |
| <b>Net deferred tax assets</b>                    | <b>\$ 0</b>        | <b>\$ 2,425,571</b>   |

A valuation allowance of \$4,851,743 was established based on the more likely than not threshold for the Company's net deferred income tax assets as of December 31, 2011. The Company's ability to realize deferred tax assets depends on the ability to generate sufficient taxable income within the carryforward period provided for in the tax law. The Company considered the following possible sources of taxable income when assessing the possible realization of deferred tax assets: future reversals of existing taxable temporary differences; future taxable income exclusive of reversing temporary differences and carryforwards; taxable income in prior carryback years; and tax planning strategies.

The Company has net operating loss carry-forwards that may be offset against future taxable income and tax credits that may be used against future income taxes. If not used, the carry-forwards will expire in varying amounts between 2019 and 2028. The net operating loss carry-forwards at December 31, 2011 were \$14,730,634. Utilization of part of the net operating losses carried forward will be limited under Section 382 of the Internal Revenue Code as the Company experienced an ownership change greater than 50% effective April 1, 2003 and on January 1, 2006 for carry-forwards related to the acquisition of The Insurance Center, Inc. Accordingly, certain net operating loss carry-forwards may not be realizable in future years due to this limitation.

As of December 31, 2011, the Company had unused net operating loss carry-forwards available to offset future taxable income as follows:

|              |            |
|--------------|------------|
| Expires 2019 | \$ 448,854 |
| Expires 2020 | 920,162    |
| Expires 2021 | 124,456    |
| Expires 2022 | 2,220      |
| Expires 2024 | 241,662    |

Edgar Filing: ASSURANCEAMERICA CORP - Form 10-K

|              |            |
|--------------|------------|
| Expires 2025 | 17,487     |
| Expires 2028 | 12,975,793 |

\$ 14,730,634

ASC 740 Accounting for Income Taxes prescribes a recognition threshold and measurement attribute for the financial statement recognition and measurement of a tax position taken or expected to be taken in a tax return. The evaluation of a tax position is a two-step process. The Company must determine whether it is more-likely-than-not that a tax position will be sustained upon examination, including resolution of any related appeals or litigation, based on the technical merits of the position. In evaluating

F-22



**Table of Contents****Index to Financial Statements**

whether a tax position has met the more-likely-than-not recognition threshold, the Company should presume that the position will be examined by the appropriate taxing authority. A tax position that meets the more-likely-than-not threshold is measured at the largest amount of benefit that is greater than 50 percent likely of being realized upon ultimate settlement.

**(11) Borrowings****Revolving Line of Credit**

On June 30, 2010, the Company entered into a First Amendment Agreement (the *First Amendment*) to the Loan Agreement between the Company and Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. (as successor in interest by merger to Wachovia Bank, N.A.) (The *Lender*). The First Amendment amends the Loan Agreement, dated July 17, 2009, between the Company and the Lender (the *Loan Agreement*).

The First Amendment extends the maturity date for the facility to July 16, 2011. However, the lender extended the agreement through September 30, 2011. The facility was fully paid in July 2011 and was not renewed upon expiration at September 30, 2011. The proceeds of the facility in the past were used for funding certain permitted acquisitions, funding short-term loans to the Company's wholly owned subsidiary, AAIC, or for working capital or general corporate needs in the ordinary course of business. The credit facility was originally secured by a pledge of the Company's ownership interests in two of the Company's subsidiaries, TrustWay and MGA, and was guaranteed by the same entities.

The Loan Agreement and the First Amendment include customary covenants, including financial covenants regarding minimum fixed charge coverage ratio and minimum net worth. The First Amendment provides that the facility shall be repaid in full and no loans under the facility may be outstanding for at least one period of 30 consecutive days during each 12-month period in which the Loan Agreement is in effect. In addition, the Company's minimum fixed charge coverage ratio, which was 1.35 under the Loan Agreement, decreased to 1.10 for each of the fiscal quarters ended June 30, 2010 and September 30, 2010 and increased to 1.25 for each subsequent fiscal quarter. The interest rate is 3.00% plus 90-day LIBOR (3.374% at December 31, 2011) due and payable monthly. As of December 31, 2011 the Company did not have any borrowings outstanding and as of December 31, 2010, there was \$1.5 million in borrowings outstanding under the credit agreement.

**Notes Payable**

On December 30, 2011, the Company issued two promissory notes totaling \$4,000,000 payable to the Company's Chairman (one for \$2,500,000 and one for \$1,500,000) in exchange for two mortgage notes receivable (*Secured Notes*) of equal value secured by real estate mortgages. The secured notes and mortgages were contributed by the Company to its subsidiary AAIC as a capital contribution. The Company's notes were secured in part with the stock of AAIC and the interest of AAC in MGA. AAC also issued a Warrant Agreement as part of the consideration giving the Chairman the right to purchase 11,629,000 shares of the common stock of AAC for \$0.01 per share. At December 31, 2011, the recorded balance of the notes is \$1,557,911, net of \$2,442,089 discount related to the issuance of the warrant. The discount will be amortized over the life of the notes as a yield adjustment. Refer to Note 13 of the Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information.

The notes payable carry an interest rate of 12.5% per annum, due and payable quarterly in arrears, with the first payment due March 30, 2012 and each quarter thereafter. The principal balance on the note is due and payable on the earlier to occur of: (i) December 28, 2018, (ii) the sale and closing of the sale of all or substantially all the assets of the Company, or (iii) payment of the mortgage notes receivable discussed in Note 6 of the Consolidated Financial Statements.

The Company had two other notes payable outstanding as of December 31, 2011. First, on January 14, 2008 the Company issued a note payable in the amount of \$276,250 to Information Distribution & Marketing, Inc. for the purchase of a software package that grants the Company a perpetual license to the source code and the ability to develop derivatives. The note requires monthly principal and interest payments beginning in January 2008 and maturing in November 2012 with an interest rate of 2.8871% per annum. The outstanding principal balance on the note at December 31, 2011 and 2010 was \$58,619 and \$115,480, respectively.

Second, as a result of the acquisition of First Choice Insurance Agency effective February 26, 2009, the Company issued an unsecured promissory note payable to the former owner in the amount of \$115,200 which carries an interest rate of 5%, with four equal yearly installments of principal and interest payments beginning February 26, 2010. The outstanding balance on the note including interest payable at December 31, 2011 and 2010 was \$58,337 and \$57,600, respectively.



**Table of Contents****Index to Financial Statements**

The aggregate annual maturities of payments due on notes payable outstanding as of December 31, 2011 are as follows:

|                     | <b>Amount</b>    |
|---------------------|------------------|
| 2012                | \$ 88,156        |
| 2013                | 28,800           |
| 2014 and thereafter | 4,000,000        |
| <br>Total           | <br>\$ 4,116,956 |

**(12) Capital Stock****Common Stock**

During 2011 and 2010, the Company issued 316,174 and 350,000 shares of common stock to its board of directors, respectively.

On November 4, 2011, the Company filed with the SEC under Section 13(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act), and Rule 13e-3 promulgated thereunder a Schedule 13E-3 Transaction Statement (the Schedule 13E-3), in connection with a proposed going private transaction. The primary purpose of the going private transaction is to reduce the number of record holders of the Company's common stock, par value \$0.01 per share (the Common Stock), to fewer than 300, thereby allowing the Company to terminate the registration of the Common Stock under Section 12(g) of the Exchange Act defined above and suspend its reporting obligations under Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act. The Company may not consummate the Reverse Stock Split until 20 days after the date on which it first mails the Disclosure Statement to its stockholders.

**(13) Warrants for Common Stock**

On December 30, 2011, the Company issued a warrant to purchase 11,629,000 shares of common stock at an exercise price of \$.01 per share as additional consideration for promissory notes issued by AAC to the Company's Chairman. The warrant is exercisable immediately and expires on December 30, 2015. The warrant shall not be exercisable and shall be of no further effect if AAC sells all or substantially all of its assets in a transaction closed on or before June 30, 2012. The initial fair value of the warrant was calculated using the Black-Scholes-Merton option-pricing model with the following assumptions: 4 year contractual term; annual risk-free interest rate of 2.69%; 162% volatility; and 0% dividend rate. The fair value of the warrant was determined to be \$2,442,089 and was recorded as equity in additional paid-in capital and a discount to the carrying value of the loan. The discount will be amortized to interest expense using the effective interest rate method over the seven year term of the loan.

**(14) Stock-Based Compensation**

In April 2010, the Company's shareholders approved a new Stock Incentive Plan (the 2010 Plan). The Company's 2010 Plan provides for the granting of stock options to officers, key employees, directors, consultants, independent contractors and other agents at the discretion of the Board of Directors. The Company believes that such awards better align the interests of its associates with those of its shareholders. Options become exercisable at various dates, generally vesting over a five-year continuous period of service and have similar contractual terms. Certain employment agreements may provide for accelerated vesting if there is a change in control of the Company (as defined in the Plan). Generally, options are issued with exercise prices no less than the fair market value of the common stock at the time of the grant (or in the case of a ten-percent-or-greater stockholder, 110 percent of fair market value). The aggregate number of common shares authorized under the 2010 Plan is currently 2,000,000. The common stock is reserved and available for issuance pursuant to awards granted to participants under 2010 Plan. As of December 31, 2011, there were 1,282,000 shares of the Company's common stock subject to outstanding awards under the 2010 Plan.

The Company's Prior 2000 Incentive Plan (the Prior Plan) has an aggregate total of 8,500,000 authorized common shares, but no additional awards will be granted under this Plan, as it expired in June 2010. As of December 31, 2011, there were 3,834,375 shares of the Company's common stock subject to outstanding awards under the Prior Plan.

## Edgar Filing: ASSURANCEAMERICA CORP - Form 10-K

The fair value of each option award is estimated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes-Merton option-pricing model using the assumptions noted in the following table. Expected volatilities are based on historical volatilities of the Company's stock. The Company uses historical data to estimate expected term and option forfeitures within the valuation model. The risk-free rate for periods within the contractual life of the option is based on the U.S. Treasury yield curve in effect at the time of grant. The Company does not provide for any expected dividends or discount for post-vesting restrictions in the model.

The fair value of each option awarded during the year ended December 31, 2011 and 2010 is estimated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes-Merton option-pricing model using the assumptions noted in the following table.

|                             | <b>2011</b>  | <b>2010</b>  |
|-----------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Expected volatility         | 160% - 163%  | 160% - 168%  |
| Weighted average volatility | 162%         | 163%         |
| Risk-free interest rate     | 2.53 - 2.92% | 1.91 - 2.59% |
| Expected term (in years)    | 5.82         | 6.26         |
| Expected forfeitures        | 7.1%         | 6.7%         |

F-24

**Table of Contents****Index to Financial Statements**

A summary of all stock option activity during the years ending December 31, 2011 and 2010, were as follows:

| Options Outstanding      | December 31, 2011 |                                 | December 31, 2010 |                                 |
|--------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|
|                          | Number of Shares  | Weighted Average Exercise Price | Number of Shares  | Weighted Average Exercise Price |
| January 1                | 7,598,555         | \$ 0.51                         | 7,789,721         | \$ 0.56                         |
| Add (deduct):            |                   |                                 |                   |                                 |
| Granted                  | 870,000           | \$ 0.20                         | 1,237,000         | 0.24                            |
| Forfeited                | (1,883,994)       | \$ 0.34                         | (992,570)         | 0.44                            |
| Expired                  | (1,468,186)       | \$ 0.90                         | (435,596)         | \$ 0.60                         |
| December 31              | 5,116,375         | \$ 0.41                         | 7,598,555         | \$ 0.51                         |
| Exercisable, December 31 | 2,926,275         | \$ 0.51                         | 3,614,260         | \$ 0.60                         |

The weighted-average grant date fair value of options granted during the year ended December 31, 2011 and 2010 was \$0.20 and \$0.24, respectively. As of December 31, 2011, there was \$402,713 of unrecognized compensation cost related to non-vested stock options and this cost is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 1.4 years.

Total compensation cost for share-based payment arrangements recognized for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, was \$208,586 and \$410,658, respectively.

The following stock options were outstanding or exercisable as of December 31, 2011 and 2010:

|   | December 31, 2011   |                     | December 31, 2010   |                     |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
|   | Options Outstanding | Options Exercisable | Options Outstanding | Options Exercisable |
| Number of shares                            | 5,116,375           | 2,926,275           | 7,598,555           | 3,614,260           |
| Weighted average exercise price             | \$ 0.41             | \$ 0.51             | \$ 0.51             | \$ 0.60             |
| Aggregate intrinsic value                   | \$ 27,600           | \$ 7,640            | \$ 248,697          | \$ 71,123           |
| Weighted average remaining contractual term | 5.82 years          | 4.51 years          | 6.66 years          | 5.46 years          |

At December 31, 2011 the 2,926,275 options exercisable have an exercise price ranging from \$0.11 to \$0.98 per share.

**Table of Contents**

**Index to Financial Statements**

**(15) Risk**

The following is a description of the most significant risks facing the Company and how it mitigates those risks:

(I) *LEGAL/REGULATORY RISKS* the risk that changes in the regulatory environment in which an insurer operates will create additional expenses not anticipated by the insurer in pricing its products. That is, regulatory initiatives designed to reduce insurer profits, restrict underwriting practices and risk classifications, mandate rate reductions and refunds, and new legal theories or insurance company insolvencies through guaranty fund assessments may create costs for the insurer beyond those recorded in the financial statements. The Company attempts to mitigate this risk by monitoring proposed regulatory legislation and by assessing the impact of new laws. As the Company writes business only in ten states, it is more exposed to this risk than some of its more geographically balanced competitors.

(II) *CREDIT RISK* the risk that issuers of securities owned by the Company will default or that other parties, including reinsurers to whom business is ceded, which owe the Company money, will not pay. The Company attempts to minimize this risk by adhering to a conservative investment strategy, maintaining reinsurance agreements with financially sound reinsurers with an A.M. Best rating of A- or better, and by requiring a letter of credit or trust fund to secure reinsurance recoverables as well as provide for any amounts deemed uncollectible. As of December 31, 2011, there were no amounts deemed uncollectible.

---

**Table of Contents**

**Index to Financial Statements**

(III) *INTEREST RATE RISK* the risk that interest rates will change and cause a decrease in the value of an insurer's investments. To the extent that liabilities come due more quickly than assets mature, an insurer might have to sell assets prior to maturity and potentially recognize a gain or a loss. The Company, in accordance with its investment policy, manages its investment portfolio duration according to expected liability duration needs. Since the Company's liabilities are predominantly short-term in nature, the investment portfolio is also short-term duration.

***Concentration of Risk***

As of December 31, 2011, the Company's strategy is to spread its risks geographically in order to mitigate its risk in a specific state where it is dependent on the economies in those states. Hence, the Company operates in Alabama, Arizona, Indiana, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina, Texas, Virginia and plans to enter additional states in the future.

The Company's profitability depends on its ability to determine rates accurately. However, it is difficult to price accurately due to inflation on medical care, auto parts and repair services costs. If the Company under prices its risks, this could have a negative impact on its profit margins. Conversely, over pricing of risks may lead to reduced sales volume and affect profitability as well.

***Concentration of Credit Risk***

The primary credit risk for the Company is with its investment portfolio and balances due from reinsurers. The Company's investment committee monitors credit risk to ensure risk is minimized.

Additionally, the Company maintains a relationship with nine reinsurers. The Company performs periodic evaluations of the relative credit standing of each of these companies.

***Regulatory Requirements and Restrictions***

To retain its certificate of authority, the South Carolina Insurance Code requires that AAIC maintain capital and surplus at a minimum of \$3.0 million. At December 31, 2011, AAIC's statutory capital and surplus was approximately \$11.4 million. AAIC is required to adhere to a prescribed net premium-to-surplus ratio and risk-based capital levels. At December 31, 2011, AAIC was in compliance with this requirement.

Under the South Carolina Insurance Code, AAIC must receive prior regulatory approval to pay a dividend in an amount exceeding 10% of prior year-end policyholder surplus or 100% of prior year net income minus realized capital gains, whichever is greater. On December 30, 2010, AAIC issued a dividend in-kind of its trust preferred securities to the Company in the amount of \$1.0 million.

The Company is required to comply with the NAIC risk-based capital (RBC) requirements. RBC is a method of measuring the amount of capital appropriate for an insurance company to support its overall business operations and to ensure that it has an acceptably low expectation of becoming financially impaired in light of its size and risk profile. NAIC's RBC standards are used by regulators to determine appropriate regulatory actions relating to insurers that show signs of weak or deteriorating condition and are evaluated on at least an annual basis at the end of each year. The model law provides for increasing levels of regulatory intervention as the ratio of an insurer's total adjusted capital and surplus decreases relative to its risk-based capital, culminating with mandatory control of the operations of the insurer by the domiciliary insurance department at the so-called mandatory control level. As of December 31, 2011, based upon calculations using the appropriate NAIC formula, AAIC's total adjusted capital is in excess of the required ratios. As a result, no form of corrective action is required on our part or the part of the regulators.

The NAIC Insurance Regulatory Information System (IRIS) is part of a collection of analytical tools designed to provide state insurance regulators with an integrated approach to screening and analyzing the financial condition of insurance companies operating in their respective states. IRIS is intended to assist state insurance regulators in targeting resources to those insurers in greatest need of regulatory attention. IRIS consists of two phases: statistical and analytical. In the statistical phase, the NAIC database generates key financial ratio results based on financial information obtained from insurers' annual statutory statements. The analytical phase is a review of the annual statements, financial ratios and other automated solvency tools. The primary goal of the analytical phase is to identify companies that appear to require immediate regulatory attention. A ratio result falling outside the usual range of IRIS ratios is not considered a failing result; rather, unusual values are viewed as part of the regulatory early monitoring system. Furthermore, in some years, it may not be unusual for financially sound companies to have several ratios with results outside the usual ranges. An insurance company may fall out of the usual range for one or more ratios because of specific transactions that are in themselves immaterial. As of December 31, 2011, AAIC had seven IRIS ratios outside the usual range. The ratios outside the range are attributable to the Company's heavy dependence on reinsurance and its impact on the liquidity ratio, percentage of

## Edgar Filing: ASSURANCEAMERICA CORP - Form 10-K

change in surplus, lower investment yields and a high combined ratio. The combined ratio and percentage of change in surplus were impacted by the unfavorable loss development for prior years. Management does not expect any regulatory action as a result of these results outside of the usual range.

F-27



**Table of Contents****Index to Financial Statements****(16) Commitments and Contingencies*****Contingencies***

In the normal course of business, the Company is named as a defendant in lawsuits related to claims and other insurance policy issues. Some of the actions seek extra-contractual and/or punitive damages. These actions are vigorously defended unless a reasonable settlement appears appropriate. In the opinion of management, the ultimate outcome of known litigation is not expected to be material to the Company's financial condition, results of operations, or cash flows.

***Contractual Commitments***

The Company leases office space for its corporate headquarters located at RiverEdge One, 5500 Interstate North Parkway, Suite 600, Atlanta, Georgia 30328. Effective October 1, 2009, the Company signed an amendment to extend its lease until 2019 under more favorable lease terms. MGA leases a claims office in the state of Florida. During 2011, the Company sold its TrustWay retail operations and the leases associated with the sale are no longer commitments for the Company. However, the Company is still obligated for the lease commitment for three discontinued retail offices in Alabama under short term commercial leases. The above mentioned companies lease office equipment for use in their various locations. The Company believes that its existing facilities in the various states are adequate for the Company's current requirements and operations. Rent expense for long-term leases with predetermined minimum rental escalations is recognized on a straight-line basis, and the difference between the recognized rental expense and amounts payable under the leases, or deferred rent, is included in accrued expenses.

The Company has entered into leases primarily for office space and certain equipment, classified as operating leases. The future minimum rental payments required under long-term non-cancelable leases are summarized as follows:

| <b>Period ending December 31,</b> | <b>Amount</b>       |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| 2012                              | \$ 922,626          |
| 2013                              | 554,721             |
| 2014                              | 571,293             |
| 2015                              | 588,489             |
| 2016                              | 606,130             |
| Thereafter                        | 1,760,655           |
|                                   | <b>\$ 5,003,914</b> |

**Defined Contribution Plan**

Effective January 1, 2011, associates will be automatically enrolled in the 401(k) defined contribution retirement plan at 3% of their salary. Associates have the option to opt-out of the plan. The Company contributed \$163,759 and \$127,019 to this plan during the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. The plan currently matches 33.3% on the first 6% of employee earnings and the Company can elect to make discretionary contributions. The eligibility requirements are 21 years of age, 6 months of service and full time employment.

**(17) Business Combinations**

On June 16, 2010, the Company purchased the assets of Atlantic Southeastern Insurance Group, LLC and James T. Moore Company for an estimated price of \$144,000. The Company paid \$100,000 in cash and the balance of \$44,000 was to be paid on the last day of the thirteenth month following the closing date. The Company had assigned \$89,000 to the purchased book of business to be amortized over a ten-year period and \$55,000 to goodwill, which was valued in accordance with ASC 350. This insurance agency was part of the Georgia insurance agencies sold on June 30, 2011.

On March 26, 2010, the Company purchased the assets of NexTT Solutions, LLC for an estimated purchase price of \$243,000. The Company paid \$25,000 as a down payment and the remaining balance will be paid once the renewals are finalized. NexTT Solutions offered sports injury solutions to colleges and universities. NexTT Solutions was sold on July 2, 2011 as part of TrustWay T.E.A.M, Inc and TrustWay T.E.A.M.

Services, LLC.

F-28

**Table of Contents****Index to Financial Statements****(18) Net Income (Loss) per Share**

Basic and diluted income (loss) per common share is computed using the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the year. Potential common shares not included in the calculations of net income (loss) per share for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, because their inclusion would be anti-dilutive, are as follows:

|                | <b>Year Ended December 31,</b> |             |
|----------------|--------------------------------|-------------|
|                | <b>2011</b>                    | <b>2010</b> |
| Stock options  | 5,116,375                      | 3,984,295   |
| Stock warrants | 11,629,000                     | 0           |

The reconciliation of the amounts used in the computation of basic and diluted earnings per share for the year ended December 31, 2010 is as follows:

|   | <b>(As Restated)<br/>Net Income<br/>(Loss)</b> | <b>Average Shares<br/>Outstanding</b> | <b>(As Restated)<br/>Per Share<br/>Amount</b> |
|---|--|---------------------------------------|---|
| <b>For the year ended December 31, 2010:</b>  |  |                                       |   |
| Net income basic                              | \$ 579,994                                     | 65,467,508                            | \$ 0.009                                      |
| Effect of dilutive stock warrants and options | 0  | 450,285                               |   |
| Net income diluted                            | \$ 579,994                                     | 65,917,793                            | \$ 0.009                                      |

A reconciliation for the year ended December 31, 2011 is not presented as all potential common shares are anti-dilutive due to the net loss.

**(19) Supplemental Cash Flow Information**

|  | <b>2011</b>  | <b>2010</b> |
|--|--------------|-------------|
| <b>Cash paid (received) during the year ended December 31:</b>               |              |             |
| Interest   | \$ 7,979     | \$ 354,395  |
| Income taxes   | \$ 2,338     | \$ (3,455)  |
| <b>Non-cash investing activities:</b>  |              |             |
| Change in unrealized gains and losses on investment securities, net of taxes | \$ (174,714) | \$ 331,931  |
| Real estate mortgage loans due from related party                            | \$ 4,000,000 | \$ 0        |
| Note payables due to related party   | \$ 4,000,000 | \$ 0        |
| Accounts receivable from sale of TrustWay agencies                           | \$ 250,000   | \$ 0        |
| Note receivable from sale of TrustWay agencies                               | \$ 225,000   | \$ 0        |

**(20) Related Party Transactions**

On December 30, 2011, the Company issued two promissory notes totaling \$4,000,000 payable to the Company's Chairman in exchange for two mortgage notes receivable of equal value secured by real estate mortgages. The secured notes and mortgages and notes were contributed by the Company to its subsidiary AAIC as a capital contribution. The Company also issued a Warrant Agreement as part of the consideration giving the Chairman the right to purchase 11,629,000 shares of the common stock of AAC for \$0.01 per share. See Note 6 and Note 11 of the Consolidated Financial Statements for additional details.

## Edgar Filing: ASSURANCEAMERICA CORP - Form 10-K

AAIC and MGA are party to a Management Agreement. Under the agreement, AAIC appoints MGA as its managing general agent in the states where it is licensed to do business. Under the terms of the agreement, MGA provides all of the marketing, underwriting, accounting, product management, legal, policyholder administration and claims functions for AAIC. As compensation for its services, MGA receives the amount of ceding commission AAIC receives from its reinsurers. MGA also pays AAIC a fronting fee. Additionally, MGA receives various fees related to insurance transactions associated with these policies that vary according to state insurance laws and regulations.

F-29

**Table of Contents****Index to Financial Statements**

The Company provides executive management services, including finance, audit and legal, to MGA. The Company charges a management fee to this subsidiary in exchange for these services.

The Company has entered into a tax sharing agreement between AAIC and the parent company on a statutory basis. The operating results for AAIC are included in the consolidated income tax return filed by the Company. The income tax provision is computed separately for AAIC. MGA is not a tax paying entity for federal income tax purposes and its results are consolidated with the Company's tax return. AAIC only pays federal income tax.

**(21) Segment Reporting**

The Company's subsidiaries are each unique operating entities performing a separate business function. AAIC, a property and casualty insurance company, focuses on writing nonstandard automobile business in the states of Alabama, Arizona, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina, Texas and Virginia. MGA markets AAIC's policies through more than 2,700 independent agencies in these states. MGA provides all of the underwriting, accounting, product management, legal, policyholder administration and claims functions for AAIC and two unaffiliated carriers related to the non-standard automobile insurance policies produced in Florida and Texas. The Company also provides claims services for one unaffiliated MGA in Florida. MGA receives various fees related to insurance transactions that vary according to state insurance laws and regulations. The TrustWay agencies, comprised of 37 retail insurance agencies that focused on selling nonstandard automobile policies and related coverages in Alabama, Florida and Georgia, were sold during 2011.

The Company evaluates profitability based on pretax income (loss). Pretax income (loss) for each segment is defined as the revenues less the segment's operating expenses including depreciation, amortization, and interest expense. During 2011, the Company had discontinued operations for the Trustway agencies as discussed in Note 9 of the Consolidated Financial Statements. Following are the operating results for the Company's various segments and an overview of segment assets:

| (\$ in thousands)           | MGA       | TrustWay | AAIC      | Company  | Eliminations | Consolidated |
|-----------------------------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|--------------|--------------|
| <b>2011</b>                 |           |          |           |          |              |              |
| <b>Revenues</b>             |           |          |           |          |              |              |
| External customer           | \$ 22,588 | \$ 0     | \$ 33,795 | \$ 20    | \$ 0         | \$ 56,403    |
| Intersegment                | 5,089     | 0        | 3,001     | 2,459    | (10,549)     | 0            |
| <b>Pretax Loss</b>          |           |          |           |          |              |              |
| Continuing operations       | (1,466)   | (215)    | (4,778)   | (65)     | 0            | (6,524)      |
| Discontinued operations     | 0         | (2,667)  | 0         | 0        | 0            | (2,667)      |
| Total pretax loss           | (1,466)   | (2,882)  | (4,778)   | (65)     | 0            | (9,191)      |
| <b>Assets</b>               |           |          |           |          |              |              |
| Segment assets              | 5,992     | 204      | 107,088   | 9,314    | (14,556)     | 108,042      |
| <b>2010 (As Restated)</b>   |           |          |           |          |              |              |
| <b>Revenues</b>             |           |          |           |          |              |              |
| External customer           | \$ 25,638 | \$ 0     | \$ 34,188 | \$ 3,510 | \$ 0         | \$ 63,336    |
| Intersegment                | 6,897     | 0        | 3,290     | 3,391    | (13,578)     | 0            |
| <b>Pretax Income (Loss)</b> |           |          |           |          |              |              |
| Continuing operations       | 1,776     | (409)    | (53)      | 3,339    | 0            | 4,653        |
| Discontinued operations     | 0         | (3,217)  | 0         | 0        | 0            | (3,217)      |
| Total pretax income (loss)  | 1,776     | (3,626)  | (53)      | 3,339    | 0            | 1,436        |
| <b>Assets</b>               |           |          |           |          |              |              |
| Segment assets              | 7,931     | 8,290    | 116,347   | 21,841   | (27,945)     | 126,464      |

**Table of Contents**

**Index to Financial Statements**

**(22) Subsequent Event**

Effective January 1, 2012, the Company entered into a new quota share agreement with Greenlight Reinsurance Ltd. ( Greenlight ) for premium written for the period of January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2012 in all states excluding Florida, Texas, Louisiana and Mississippi. Premium written in the state of Florida will be covered by the agreement for the period of April 1, 2012 to December 31, 2012. The Company will cede 50% of premiums and losses for bodily injury liability and 85% of premiums and losses for coverages other than bodily injury liability. The Company will receive a ceding commission on ceded premiums collected calculated on a sliding scale. If the loss and loss adjustment expense ratio as a percentage of earned premium is 79.5% or greater the commission rate will be 14%. If the loss ratio is less than 79.5%, but not less than 69.5%, then the ceding commission shall be 14.0%, plus the difference in percentage points between 79.5% and the actual loss ratio. If the loss ratio is 69.5% or less, then the ceding commission rate will be 24.0%. The Company will receive a provisional commission rate of 20% in advance, which is subject to adjustment once the final loss ratio is known. The terms of the agreement include a loss ratio cap with respect to the bodily injury liability coverage of 77.5% for the individual states of Georgia and Florida and collectively for all other states combined. The reinsurer's liability for loss and loss adjustment expense plus ceding commission shall not exceed 140% of ceded earned premium during the term of this contract.

On January 10, 2012, the Company filed an Amendment to Schedule 13E-3 with the SEC to amend the original Schedule 13E-3 discussed in Note 12 of the Consolidated Financial Statements. The going private transaction was postponed until further notice by the Company.