# Merrill Lynch Professional Clearing Corp.

(SEC ID No. 8-33359)

Balance Sheet (Unaudited)

June 30, 2023

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# Merrill Lynch Professional Clearing Corp.

Balance Sheet (Unaudited)

As of June 30, 2023

(Dollars in thousands except share and per share amounts)		
ASSETS		
Cash	\$	89,416
Cash and securities segregated for regulatory purposes or deposited with clearing organizations		823,870
Securities financing transactions		
Receivables under resale agreements		17,375,232
Receivables under securities borrowed transactions		22,899,310
Other receivables		40,274,542
Customers		12,732,094
Brokers and dealers		
		14,167,139
Interest and other		432,307 27,331,540
Goodwill		72,000
Other assets Total Assets	\$	9,262 <b>68,600,630</b>
Total Assets	Ψ	00,000,030
LIABILITIES		
Securities financing transactions		
Payables under securities loaned transactions	\$	1,734,455
Other payables		
Customers		34,842,376
Brokers and dealers		15,221,374
Loans due to affiliates		4,506,549
Interest and other		3,082,923
		57,653,222
Commitments, contingencies and guarantees (see Note 8)		
Subordinated borrowings		5,000,000
Total Liabilities	\$	64,387,677
STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Preferred stock, \$1,000 liquidation preference per share; par value \$1 per share; 10,000 shares authorized; 1,215 shares issued and outstanding		1,150
Common stock, par value \$1 per share; 50,000 shares authorized; 2,000 shares issued and outstanding		2
Paid-in capital		2,120,701
Retained earnings		2,091,100
Total Stockholders' Equity	\$	4,212,953
Total Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity	\$	68,600,630

## 1. Organization

# **Description of Business**

Merrill Lynch Professional Clearing Corp. (the "Company") is registered as a broker-dealer with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and is a member firm of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA). The Company is also registered as a futures commission merchant with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) and is a member of the National Futures Association and the Securities Investor Protection Corporation (SIPC). The Company provides prime brokerage services such as margin lending, securities financing, and clearing and settlement to clearing broker-dealers, introducing broker-dealers and other professional trading entities on a fully disclosed basis. The Company is guaranteed by BofA Securities, Inc. (BofAS), a broker-dealer that owns all of the voting shares of the Company. Additionally BofAS is a wholly-owned direct subsidiary of NB Holdings Corporation ("NB Holdings"), which is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Bank of America Corporation ("Bank of America").

In June 2023, the Boards of Directors of the Company and BofAS approved a merger of these two broker-dealers. This merger supports Bank of America's legal entity strategy to simply operations by eliminating legal entities. In addition, the merger will allow both Institutional and Prime businesses and clients to operate in the same legal entity, providing additional platform enhancement and improved client experience opportunities. *Refer to Note 10 - Subsequent Events*.

# 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

#### **Basis of Presentation**

The balance sheet is presented in accordance with United States Generally Accepted Accounting Principles ("U.S. GAAP"). The balance sheet is presented in U.S. dollars.

The preparation of the balance sheet in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect reported amounts and disclosures. Actual results could materially differ from those estimates and assumptions. Securities owned by customers and brokers and dealers, including those that collateralize margin loans or other similar transactions, are not reflected on the Balance Sheet of the Company.

# Cash and Securities Segregated for Regulatory Purposes or Deposited with Clearing Organizations

The Company maintains relationships with clients and therefore is obligated by rules, which have been promulgated to protect client assets mandated by its primary regulators, including the SEC and the CFTC, to segregate client funds or set aside cash and/or qualified securities to satisfy these regulations. Included in Cash and securities segregated for regulatory purposes or deposited with clearing organizations as of June 30, 2023 there was \$10.2 million cash that is considered restricted cash by the Company. In addition, the Company is a member of various clearing organizations at which it maintains cash required to conduct its day-to-day clearance activities, including clearing fund deposits held at the Options Clearing Corporation (OCC). The OCC maintains a clearing fund to cover possible losses in the event of default of a clearing member (see *Note 8 - Commitments, Contingencies and Guarantees* for additional information). Substantially all amounts included in Cash and Securities segregated for regulatory purposes or deposited with clearing organizations on the Balance Sheet consist of cash deposits held at clearing organizations.

#### Securities Financing Transactions

All resale agreements are transacted with affiliates, accounted for as collateralized financing transactions and are recorded at their contractual amounts which approximate fair value. The fair value of these items is not materially sensitive to shifts in market interest rates because of the short-term nature of the instruments and/or their variable interest rates or to credit risk because the resale agreements are substantially collateralized.

The Company uses qualifying securities received as collateral for resale agreements to meet client cash segregation requirements pursuant to Rule 15c3-3 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("SEA Rule 15c3-3"). As of June 30, 2023, the Company had \$5.7 billion of U.S. Government securities segregated in a special reserve bank account in accordance with SEA Rule 15c3-3. See Note 11 - Regulatory Requirements for further information.

All securities borrowed and loaned transactions are transacted with affiliates and are recorded at the amount of cash collateral advanced or received. The carrying value of securities borrowed and loaned transactions approximates fair value as these items are not materially sensitive to shifts in market interest rates because of their short-term nature and/or variable interest rates or to credit risk because securities borrowed and loaned transactions are substantially collateralized.

For securities financing transactions, the Company's policy is to monitor the fair value of the underlying securities as compared with the amount of cash advanced or received, and the Company may obtain additional collateral from or return collateral pledged to counterparties when appropriate. Securities financing agreements do not create material credit risk due to these collateral provisions and the allowance for loan losses is not material. The collateral maintenance provisions consisting of daily margining of collateral is expected to be maintained into the foreseeable future and any expected losses are assumed to not have a material impact to the Company's Balance Sheet.

All securities financing activities are transacted under master repurchase agreements or master securities lending agreements that give the Company the right, in the event of default, to liquidate collateral held and to offset receivables and payables with the same counterparty. See *Note* 5 - *Securities Financing Transactions* for additional information on securities financing arrangements.

#### Customers and Brokers and Dealers Receivable and Payable

Customers and brokers and dealers securities transactions are recorded on a settlement date basis. Receivables from and payables to customers and brokers and dealers include amounts due on cash and margin accounts, primarily comprised of margin loans and client cash balances held by the Company. In accordance with SEA Rule 15c3-3, client cash and margin balances are classified as customer or non-customer and are recorded in receivables from and payables to customers or brokers and dealers, respectively.

Receivables from and payables to brokers and dealers also include amounts due on clients' futures accounts and unsettled trades (e.g., failed to deliver and failed to receive). In addition, receivables from brokers and dealers reflect customer related cash held in omnibus accounts, net of omnibus financing transactions.

Customer and broker and dealer margin loan transactions are those in which the Company makes a loan to a client to finance the client's purchase of securities. These transactions are conducted through margin accounts. In these transactions, the customers and brokers and dealers are required to post collateral in excess of the value of the loan and the collateral must meet marketability criteria. Collateral is valued daily and must be maintained over the life of the loan. Given that these loans are fully collateralized by marketable securities, credit risk is negligible and allowance for loan losses is immaterial. The collateral maintenance provisions consisting of daily margining of collateral is expected to be maintained into the foreseeable future. The expected losses are assumed to not have a material impact to the Balance Sheet as of June 30, 2023, and there was no allowance for credit losses recorded.

#### Interest and Other Receivable and Payable

Interest and other receivables include interest receivable on customers and brokers and dealers margin account balances and securities financing transactions. The Company performs qualitative analyses, using current economic conditions to estimate any expected credit losses which is recorded as a contra asset of the financial asset. The allowance for expected credit loss is not material. Also included are commissions and fees to be collected from clients, receivables from dividends, and other receivables. Interest and other payables primarily includes interest payable on client margin account balances and securities financing transactions. Also included are amounts payable for dividends, taxes, exchange fees, and accrued expenses.

#### Goodwill

Goodwill is the purchase premium after adjusting for the fair value of net assets acquired. Goodwill is not amortized but is reviewed for potential impairment on an annual basis, or when events or circumstances indicate a potential impairment.

The Company assesses its fair value against its carrying value, including goodwill, as measured by equity. In performing its goodwill impairment testing, the Company first assesses qualitative factors to determine whether it is more likely than not that the Company's fair value is less than its carrying value. Qualitative factors include, among other things, macroeconomic conditions, industry and market considerations, financial performance and other relevant entity specific considerations. If the Company concludes it is more likely than not that its fair value is less than its carrying value, a quantitative assessment is performed. The Company has an unconditional option to bypass the qualitative assessment in any period and proceed directly to performing the quantitative goodwill impairment test. The Company may resume performing the qualitative assessment in any subsequent period.

When performing the quantitative assessment, if the Company's fair value exceeds its carrying value, goodwill would not be considered impaired. If the carrying value of the Company exceeds its fair value, a goodwill impairment loss would be recognized for the amount by which equity exceeds its fair value. An impairment loss recognized cannot exceed the amount of the Company's goodwill. An impairment loss establishes a new basis in the goodwill, and subsequent reversals of goodwill impairment losses are not permitted under applicable accounting guidance.

The Company completed its annual goodwill impairment test as of June 30, 2022 using a qualitative assessment. Based on the results of the annual goodwill impairment test, the Company determined there was no impairment.

# Other Assets

Other assets consist primarily of other investments and other receivables.

#### **Loans Due to Affiliates**

Loans due to affiliates consist of unsecured borrowings with Bank of America, NB Holdings, and Bank of America National Association (BANA) to meet funding needs. See *Note 3 - Related Party Transactions* for more information.

#### Fair Value of Financial Instruments

The Company had no financial instrument assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of June 30, 2023.

The Company measures the fair values of its assets and liabilities, where applicable, in accordance with accounting guidance that requires an entity to base fair value on exit price. Under this guidance, an entity is required to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs in measuring fair value. Under applicable accounting standards, fair value measurements are categorized into one of three levels based on the inputs to the valuation technique with the highest priority given

to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets and the lowest priority given to unobservable inputs. The Company categorizes its fair value measurements of financial instruments based on this three-level hierarchy.

Level 1 Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.

**Level 2** Observable inputs other than Level 1 prices, such as quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities, quoted prices in markets that are not active, or other inputs that are observable or can be corroborated by observable market data for substantially the full term of the assets or liabilities.

Level 3 Unobservable inputs that are supported by little or no market activity and that are significant to the overall fair value of the assets or liabilities.

Assets and liabilities including segregated securities, securities financing transactions, other receivables and payables from and to customers, brokers and dealers, and affiliates, interest and other receivables and payables, and subordinated borrowings are considered level 2. Cash is considered level 1.

#### **Income Taxes**

There are two components of income tax: current and deferred. Current income tax reflects taxes to be paid or refunded for the current period. Deferred income tax results from changes in deferred tax assets and liabilities between periods. These gross deferred tax assets and liabilities represent decreases or increases in taxes expected to be paid in the future because of future reversals of temporary differences in the bases of assets and liabilities as measured by tax laws and their bases as reported in the Balance Sheet. Deferred tax assets are also recognized for tax attributes such as net operating loss carryforwards and tax credit carryforwards. Valuation allowances are recorded to reduce deferred tax assets to the amounts management concludes are more likely than not to be realized.

Unrecognized income tax benefits (UTBs) are recognized and measured based upon a two-step model: first, a tax position must be more likely than not to be sustained based solely on its technical merits in order to be recognized, and second, the benefit is measured as the largest dollar amount of that position that is more likely than not to be sustained upon settlement. The difference between the benefit recognized and the tax benefit claimed on a tax return is referred to as an unrecognized tax benefit.

The Company is included in the U.S. federal income tax return and certain state tax returns filed by the Parent. The method of allocating income tax expense is determined under the intercompany tax allocation agreements of Bank of America, which specify that income tax expense will be computed for all Bank of America subsidiaries generally on a separate pro forma return basis, taking into account the tax position of the consolidated group and the Company.

Under the intercompany tax allocation agreements, tax benefits associated with net operating losses (NOLs) (or other tax attributes) of the Company are payable to the Company generally upon utilization in Bank of America's tax returns.

In addition, under these agreements, substantially all current income taxes (federal, combined and unitary state) are recorded as income tax receivable and payable due to affiliate, which are included on the Balance Sheet within Interest and other receivables, including loans due from affiliates, Interest and other payables, and Loans due to affiliates, and is settled on at least an annual basis.

In accordance with Bank of America's intercompany tax allocation agreements, any new or subsequent change in a UTB related to Bank of America's state consolidated, combined, or unitary return in which the Company is a member will generally not be reflected in the Company's Balance Sheet. However, upon resolution of the item, any significant impact determined to be attributable to the Company will be reflected in the Company's Balance Sheet.

Refer to Note 9 - Income Taxes for further information.

# 3. Related Party Transactions

The Company enters into various transactions with BofAS, Bank of America, NB Holdings, and other companies affiliated by common ownership.

The Company enters into securities financing transactions with affiliates to satisfy the reserve requirements of SEA Rule 15c3-3, to meet daily margin and clearing fund requirements at clearing organizations, to facilitate the settlement of short sale transactions by clients, and to maintain liquidity.

In addition, the Company maintains omnibus and settlement accounts at BofAS to facilitate the clearing, settlement, custody, and financing of clients' securities and futures transactions. These account balances are included within Brokers and dealers receivable.

Related party payables primarily consist of securities loaned transactions with BofAS and other affiliates to finance client activities, unsecured lines of credit, subordinated borrowings with NB Holdings, and other payables to affiliates, which includes income taxes. It also includes omnibus accounts maintained at BofAS, which are included within Brokers and dealers payable. See *Note* 6 - *Subordinated Borrowings and Other Financing* for more information regarding subordinated borrowings with NB Holdings.

# Merrill Lynch Professional Clearing Corp.

Notes to Balance Sheet (Unaudited)

As of June 30, 2023

The following tables summarize related party assets and liabilities as of June 30, 2023.

(Dollars in thousands)	
Assets	
Cash	\$ 36,414
Receivables under resale agreements	17,375,231
Receivables under securities borrowed transactions	22,899,310
Brokers and dealers receivables	4,948,671
Interest and other receivables	126,364
Total	\$ 45,385,990
Liabilities	
Payables under securities loaned transactions	\$ 1,734,455
Brokers and dealers payables	830,040
Loans due to affiliates	4,506,549
Interest and other payables	2,520,272
Subordinated borrowings	5,000,000
Total	\$ 14,591,316

The Company has established unsecured borrowing agreements with Bank of America and NB Holdings in the normal course of business. Amounts outstanding under these arrangements are included within Loans due to affiliates on the Company's Balance Sheet.

Certain of these agreements are revolving senior lines of credit, which have a term of six months. Interest is based on prevailing short-term market rates. The credit lines will be automatically extended for another six month term unless specific actions are taken 180 days prior to the maturity date. These arrangements are summarized below:

#### Revolving Lines of Credit

(Dollars in thousands)

Borrower	Lender	Committed/ Uncommitted	Limit	Maturity	Outst	anding Balance
MLPCC	NB Holdings	Uncommitted	\$ 32,000,000	2/1/2024	\$	4,505,353
MLPCC	Bank of America	Uncommitted	1,000,000	2/1/2024		1,196
MLPCC	NB Holdings	Committed	2,000,000	2/1/2024		_
-					\$	4,506,549

Other borrowing agreements are intraday lines of credit, in which intraday liquidity is provided through daylight overdraft of the demand deposit accounts held by the Company at the lender. These arrangements are summarized below:

#### **Intraday Lines of Credit**

(Dollars in thousands)

Borrower	Lender	Committed/ Uncommitted	Limit	Outstanding	Balance
MLPCC	BANA	Committed	\$ 2,200,000	\$	_
MLPCC	BANA	Uncommitted	1,300,000		_
				\$	

#### **Trading Activities** 4.

In connection with its prime brokerage business, the Company's trading activities consist primarily of the clearance, settlement, and financing of clients' securities and futures transactions.

## Trading Risk Management

Trading activities subject the Company to market and credit risks. These risks are managed in accordance with Bank of America's established risk management policies and procedures. Bank of America's risk management structure as applicable to the Company is described below.

Global Risk Management is responsible for providing senior management with a clear and comprehensive understanding of the trading risks to which Bank of America is exposed. These responsibilities include owning the market risk policy, developing and maintaining quantitative risk models, calculating aggregated risk measures, establishing and monitoring position limits consistent with risk appetite, conducting daily reviews and analysis of trading inventory, approving material risk exposures and fulfilling regulatory requirements.

Bank of America conducts its business operations through many subsidiaries. The subsidiaries are established to fulfill a wide range of legal, regulatory, tax, licensing and other requirements. As such, to ensure a consistent application of minimum levels of controls and processes across its subsidiaries, Bank of America has in place a Subsidiary Governance Policy, to which the Company complies. This policy outlines the minimum required governance, controls, management reporting, financial and regulatory reporting and risk management practices for Bank of America's subsidiaries.

#### Market Risk

Market risk is the risk that changes in market conditions may adversely impact the value of assets or liabilities.

The majority of this risk is generated by the services the Company provides to its prime brokerage clients, including margin lending and securities financing. In addition, the value of assets and liabilities could change due to market liquidity, correlations across markets and expectations of market volatility. The Company seeks to manage these risk exposures by using a variety of techniques that encompass a broad range of financial instruments.

#### **Market Liquidity Risk**

Market liquidity risk represents the risk that the level of expected market activity changes dramatically and, in certain cases, may even cease. This exposes the Company to the risk that the Company will not be able to transact business in an orderly manner, which may impact results. This impact could be further exacerbated if expected hedging or pricing correlations are compromised by disproportionate demand or lack of demand for certain instruments.

#### Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk is the risk of inability to meet expected or unexpected cash flow and collateral needs while continuing to support the Company's business and customer needs, under a range of economic conditions. The Company's primary liquidity risk management objective is to meet all contractual and contingent financial obligations at all times, including during periods of stress. To achieve that objective, the Company analyzes and monitors its liquidity risk under expected and stressed conditions, maintains liquidity and access to diverse funding sources and seeks to align liquidity-related incentives and risks.

Liquidity is defined as readily available assets, limited to cash and high-quality, liquid, unencumbered securities that the Company can use to meet contractual and contingent financial obligations as those obligations arise. As of June 30, 2023, the Company maintains unencumbered securities, including securities purchased under resale agreements, sufficient to meet its liquidity needs.

In addition, the Company is supported through committed and uncommitted borrowing arrangements with various affiliates (see *Note 3 - Related Party Transactions* for more information).

#### Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk represents exposures to instruments whose values vary with the level or volatility of interest rates. The Company's exposure to changes in interest rates arises primarily in connection with financing client transactions. The Company's earnings are not significantly exposed to interest rate movements due to the short-term nature of these exposures; additionally, the benchmark interest rates on the Company's interest bearing assets and liabilities are generally matched.

#### Foreign Exchange Risk

Foreign exchange risk arises from the possibility that fluctuations in foreign exchange rates will impact the value of financial instruments and future cash flows denominated in currencies other than the U.S. dollar. The type of instruments exposed to this risk primarily includes foreign currency denominated margin loans and client cash balances. Hedging instruments used to mitigate this risk includes foreign currency denominated debt and foreign exchange spot contracts.

#### **Counterparty Credit Risk**

The Company is exposed to risk of loss if an issuer or a counterparty fails to perform its obligations under contractual terms ("default risk"). The Company has established policies and procedures for mitigating credit risk, including reviewing and establishing limits for credit exposure, limiting transactions with specific counterparties, maintaining qualifying collateral and continually assessing the creditworthiness of counterparties.

In the normal course of business, the Company clears, settles, and finances various customer and brokers and dealers securities and futures transactions. These activities may expose the Company to default risk arising from the potential that a client, or counterparty may fail to satisfy their obligations. In these situations, the Company may be required to purchase or sell financial instruments at unfavorable market prices to satisfy obligations to its customers, brokers and dealers or counterparties. The Company seeks to control the risks associated with its customer and brokers and dealers' margin activities by requiring customers and brokers and dealers to maintain collateral in compliance with regulatory and internal guidelines.

Liabilities to clients related to unsettled transactions (i.e., failed to receive) are recorded at the amount for which the securities were acquired, and are paid upon receipt of the securities from the counterparty. In the case of aged securities failed to receive, the Company may purchase the underlying securities in the market and seek reimbursement for any losses from the counterparty.

#### Concentrations of Credit Risk

The Company's exposure to credit risk associated with its prime brokerage activities is measured on an individual counterparty basis, as well as by groups of counterparties that share similar attributes. Concentrations of credit risk can be affected by changes in political, industry, or economic factors. To reduce the potential for risk concentration, credit limits are established and monitored in light of changing counterparty and market conditions.

#### Concentration of Risk to the U.S. Government and its Agencies

At June 30, 2023, the Company's significant concentration of credit risk was with the U.S. Government and its agencies. The Company's indirect exposure primarily results from maintaining U.S. Government and agencies securities as collateral for resale agreements and margin loans. The Company's direct credit exposure on these transactions is with the counterparty; thus the Company has credit exposure to the U.S. Government and its agencies only in the event of the counterparty's default. Securities issued by the U.S. Government and its agencies held as collateral as of June 30, 2023 totaled \$22.0 billion, which was primarily received from affiliated companies.

#### 5. Securities Financing Transactions

The Company enters into securities financing transactions which include securities borrowed or purchased under agreements to resell and securities loaned, which are all transacted with affiliates, primarily to meet the financing needs of its clients, to satisfy daily margin and clearing fund requirements of clearing organizations, to meet its regulatory reserve requirements under SEA Rule 15c3-3, and to maintain liquidity.

#### Collateral Received and Pledged

The Company receives securities, including U.S. Government and agency securities, corporate debt, and equity securities as collateral in connection with resale agreements, securities borrowed transactions, and client margin loans. Under most agreements, the Company is permitted to sell or repledge the securities received (e.g., to use these securities to secure repurchase agreements, enter into securities lending transactions or to deliver these securities to counterparties in order to settle client short sale transactions).

At June 30, 2023, the fair value of securities received as collateral where the Company is permitted to sell or repledge the securities was \$249.1 billion, of which \$117.1 billion was received from affiliated companies. The fair value of these securities that had been sold or repledged was \$228.9 billion, of which \$112.7 billion have been sold or repledged to affiliated companies.

## Offsetting of Securities Financing Agreements

All resale activities are transacted with affiliates and are under legally enforceable master repurchase agreements that give the Company, in the event of default by the counterparty, the right to liquidate securities held.

All securities borrowing and lending activities are transacted with affiliates and are under legally enforceable master securities lending agreements that give the Company, in the event of default by the counterparty, the right to liquidate securities held and to offset receivables and payables with the same counterparty. When eligible, the Company offsets securities borrowing and lending transactions with the same counterparty on the Company's Balance Sheet where it has such legally enforceable master netting agreement and the transactions have the same maturity date.

The table below presents the securities financing agreements included on the Company's Balance Sheet at June 30, 2023. Balances are presented on a gross basis, prior to the application of counterparty netting. Gross assets and liabilities are adjusted on an aggregate basis to take into consideration the effects of legally enforceable master netting agreements.

The column entitled "Financial Instruments" in the table below includes securities collateral received or pledged under securities financing agreements where there is a legally enforceable master netting agreement. These amounts are not offset on the Balance Sheet but are shown as a reduction to the net Balance Sheet amount in the table to derive a net asset or liability.

#### Securities Financing Transactions

(Dollars in thousands)	Gross Assets	Amounts Offset	Ne	et Balance Sheet Amount	Financial Instruments <sup>(1)</sup>	Net Asset
Receivable under resale agreements	\$ 17,375,232	\$ _	\$	17,375,232	\$ (17,375,232) \$	_
Receivable under securities borrowed transactions	99,560,109	(76,660,799)		22,899,310	(22,626,231)	273,079
Total	\$ 116,935,341	\$ (76,660,799)	\$	40,274,542	\$ (40,001,463) \$	273,079

	Gr	oss Liabilities		Amounts Offset	Ne	et Balance Sheet Amount		Financial Instruments <sup>(1)</sup>	Net Liability
Payables under securities loaned transactions	Φ.	70 205 054	Φ.	(70,000,700)	φ.	4 704 455	Φ.	(4.722.000) A	4 200
แสกรสนินบกร	\$	78,395,254	Ъ	(76,660,799)	<b>Þ</b>	1,734,455	Э	(1,733,069) \$	1,386
Total	\$	78,395,254	\$	(76,660,799)	\$	1,734,455	\$	(1,733,069) \$	1,386

<sup>(1)</sup> These amounts are limited to the securities financing asset/liability balance and accordingly, do not include excess collateral received/pledged.

#### Securities Loaned Transactions Accounted for as Secured Borrowings

All of the Company's securities loaned transactions are contractually overnight or continuous (i.e., no stated term) and are transacted with affiliates. Certain agreements contain a right to substitute collateral and/or terminate the agreement prior to maturity at the option of the Company or the counterparty. The table below presents securities loaned transactions by class of collateral pledged.

Class of Collateral Pledged	
(Dollars in thousands)	
U.S. government and agencies	\$ 11,104
Corporate securities and other	708,370
Equities	77,675,779
Total	\$ 78,395,254

For securities loaned transactions, the Company receives collateral in the form of cash. The collateral is generally valued daily based on the market value of the securities loaned and the Company may receive or return collateral pledged, when appropriate.

#### 6. Subordinated Borrowings and Other Financing

The Company has an \$8.5 billion committed revolving subordinated line of credit agreement with NB Holdings. The credit line will mature on March 20, 2025 and may be automatically extended by one year unless specific actions are taken 390 days prior to the maturity date. At June 30, 2023, there was an outstanding balance of \$5.0 billion on the line of credit. The borrowing, which has been approved for regulatory capital purposes, bears interest at a variable rate based on the Secured Overnight Financing Rate (SOFR) plus a market-based spread. *Refer to Note 10 - Subsequent Events.* 

The Company obtains letters of credit (LOCs) from issuing banks to satisfy various counterparty collateral requirements in lieu of depositing cash or securities collateral. There were no LOCs outstanding at June 30, 2023.

# 7. Stockholders' Equity

The Company is authorized to issue 10,000 shares of \$1 par value non-voting preferred stock, with a liquidation preference of \$1,000, and 50,000 shares of \$1 par value common stock. The common stock of the Company is entirely held by BofAS. During the period ended June 30, 2023, the Company issued 300 shares of preferred stock of the Company. The Company pays annual dividends to its preferred shareholders, which are certain clients of the Company. At June 30, 2023, there were 1,150 preferred and 2,000 common shares issued and outstanding. *Refer to Note 10 - Subsequent Events*.

#### 8. Commitments, Contingencies and Guarantees

#### Litigation

In the ordinary course of business, the Company is occasionally a defendant in or party to pending and threatened legal actions and proceedings. In view of the inherent difficulty of predicting the outcome of such litigation and regulatory matters, particularly where the claimants seek very large or indeterminate damages or where the matters present novel legal theories or involve a large number of parties, the Company cannot predict what the eventual outcome of the pending matters will be, what the timing of the ultimate resolution of these matters will be.

In accordance with applicable accounting guidance, the Company establishes an accrued liability for litigation and regulatory matters when those matters present loss contingencies that are both probable and estimable. In such cases, there may be an exposure to loss in excess of any amounts accrued. As a matter develops, the Company, in conjunction with any outside counsel handling the

# Merrill Lynch Professional Clearing Corp. Notes to Financial Statements (Confidential) For the Year Ended June 30, 2023

matter, evaluates on an ongoing basis whether such matter presents a loss contingency that is probable and estimable. Once the loss contingency related to a litigation or regulatory matter is deemed to be both probable and estimable, the Company will establish an accrued liability. At June 30, 2023, the Company did not have an accrued liability for litigation nor regulatory matters.

#### Commitments

The Company has conditional commitments under which it would provide additional financing to certain counterparties. Such commitments aggregated to \$0.3 billion as of June 30, 2023, and would expire within twelve months after certain specified conditions are met. As of June 30, 2023, none of the specified conditions were met that would require the Company to provide additional financing.

#### Guarantees

The Company is a member of various securities and derivative exchanges and clearinghouses. As a member, the Company may be required to pay a pro-rata share of the losses incurred by some of these organizations as a result of another member's default and under other loss scenarios. The Company's potential obligations may be limited to its membership interests in such exchanges and clearinghouses, to the amount (or multiple) of the Company's contribution to the guarantee fund or, in limited instances, to the full pro-rata share of the residual losses after applying the guarantee fund. The Company's maximum potential exposure under these membership agreements is difficult to estimate; however, the potential for the Company to be required to make these payments is remote.

In connection with its prime brokerage and clearing businesses, the Company performs securities clearance and settlement services with other brokerage firms and clearinghouses on behalf of its clients. Under these arrangements, the Company stands ready to meet the obligations of its clients with respect to securities transactions. The Company's obligations in this respect are secured by the assets in the clients' accounts and the accounts of their customers as well as by any proceeds received from the transactions cleared and settled by the Company on behalf of clients or their customers. The Company's maximum potential exposure under these arrangements is difficult to estimate; however, the potential for the Company to incur material losses pursuant to these arrangements is remote.

#### 9. Income Taxes

The Company did not have any unrecognized tax benefits at June 30, 2023.

The Company files income tax returns in numerous state and local jurisdictions each year. The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and other tax authorities in states and cities in which the Company has significant business operations, examine tax returns periodically (continuously in some jurisdictions). The table below summarizes the status of significant tax examinations, by jurisdiction, for the Company as of June 30, 2023.

Tax Examination Status		
Jurisdiction	Years under examination <sup>(1)</sup>	Status
United States	2017-2021	Field Examination
California	2015-2017	Field Examination
New York	2019-2021	Field Examination

 $<sup>^{\</sup>left(1\right)}$  All tax years subsequent to the above years remain open to examination.

As of June 30, 2023, the Company did not have an accrual for interest and penalties that related to income taxes, net of taxes and remittances.

# Merrill Lynch Professional Clearing Corp. Notes to Financial Statements (Confidential) For the Year Ended June 30, 2023

Current income taxes are included on the Balance Sheet within Interest and other payables. Significant components of the Company's deferred tax assets as of June 30, 2023 are presented below.

Deferred Tax Assets and Liabilities	
(Dollars in thousands)	
Deferred tax assets	
Accrued expenses	\$ 89
State tax deduction	_
Loss carryforwards	61
Gross deferred tax assets	150
Valuation allowance	(4)
Total deferred tax assets, net of valuation allowance	146
Deferred tax liabilities	
Other	(1)
Total deferred tax liabilities	(1)
Net deferred tax asset	\$ 145

At June 30, 2023, the Company had U.S. state NOLs and U.S. state capital loss carryforwards, before considering the benefit of federal deductions, of approximately \$0.1 million. The related valuation allowance for U.S. states was nil. Expiration of these losses begins in 2023.

At June 30, 2023, the Company had a current income tax payable due to its affiliates of approximately \$125 million as a result of its inclusion in consolidated, combined, and unitary tax return filings with Bank of America as determined under the intercompany tax allocation agreements with Bank of America.

#### 10. Subsequent Events

ASC 855, Subsequent Events, requires the Company to evaluate whether events, occurring after the Balance Sheet date but before the date the Balance Sheet are available to be issued, require accounting as of the Balance Sheet date, or disclosure in the Balance Sheet. The Company has evaluated subsequent events through the date of issuance.

In August 2023, the Company merged into BofAS, which will continue operating as a registered broker-dealer with the SEC and a registered FCM with the CFTC, resulting in the elimination of the Company. As a result of this merger, the Company's subordinated line of credit was cancelled, and all outstanding Floating Rate Preferred shares were replaced by new Floating Rate Preferred shares issued by BofAS.

There were no other material subsequent events which affected the amounts or disclosures in the Balance Sheet through September 1, 2023, which is the issuance date of the Balance Sheet.

#### 11. Regulatory Requirements

# **SEC Uniform Net Capital Rule**

As a registered broker-dealer and futures commission merchant, the Company is subject to the net capital requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 Rule 15c3-1 ("SEA Rule 15c3-1") and CFTC Regulation 1.17. The Company has elected to compute the minimum capital requirement in accordance with the "Alternative Standard" as permitted by SEA Rule 15c3-1.

In accordance with the Alternative Standard, the Company is required to maintain net capital in excess of \$1.5 million or two percent of aggregate debit items, computed in accordance with the Formula for Determination of Customer Account Reserve Requirements of Brokers and Dealers, which was \$1.5 billion. In addition, the Company was also subject to the CFTC minimum net capital requirement of \$205 million.

At June 30, 2023, the Company's regulatory net capital as defined by SEA Rule 15c3-1 was \$7.4 billion and exceeded the minimum requirement of \$1.5 billion by \$5.9 billion.

# **SEC Customer Protection Rule**

The Company is also subject to SEA Rule 15c3-3, which requires, under certain circumstances, that cash or securities be deposited into a special reserve bank account for the exclusive benefit of customers. As of June 30, 2023, the Company had \$5.4 billion of U.S. Government securities segregated in a special reserve bank account.

As a clearing broker and in accordance with SEA Rule 15c3-3, the Company computed a reserve requirement for the proprietary accounts of broker dealers. As of June 30, 2023, the Company had \$320 million of U.S. Government securities segregated in a special reserve bank account for such requirement.

# Merrill Lynch Professional Clearing Corp. Notes to Financial Statements (Confidential) For the Year Ended June 30, 2023

## Commodity Exchange Act (CEA) - Regulated Commodities

As a futures commission merchant, in accordance with the CEA, the Company is required to segregate and hold in separate accounts all monies, securities, and property received to margin and to guaranty or secure the trades or contracts of customers in regulated commodities. As of June 30, 2023, for customers trading on U.S commodity exchanges, pursuant to Section 4d(2) of the CEA, segregated funds exceeded such requirement by \$3.0 billion.

The Company prepares SEC Form X-17A-5, FOCUS Report, Part II. The following is a summary of certain financial information of the Company:

	Standalone			Balance
(Dollars in thousands)	FOCUS	Adj	ustments <sup>(1)</sup>	Sheet
Total Assets	\$ 68,600,766	\$	(136) \$	68,600,630
Total Liabilities	\$ 64,387,812	\$	(135) \$	64,387,677
Stockholders' Equity	4,212,954		(1)	4,212,953
Total Liabilities & Stockholders' Equity	\$ 68,600,766	\$	(136) \$	68,600,630

<sup>(1)</sup> Adjustment for other assets and other liabilities