

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

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

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

REPORT FOR THE PERIOD BEGINNING 01/01/2017 AND ENDING 12/31/2017
MM/DD/YY MM/DD/YY

A. REGISTRANT IDENTIFICATION

NAME OF BROKER-DEALER: CORE FINANCIAL, LLC

ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS: (Do not use P.O. Box No.)

21 E. STATE STREET, SUITE 1800

OFFICIAL USE ONLY
FIRM I.D. NO.

(No. and Street)

COLUMBUS

OHIO

43215

(City)

(State)

(Zip Code)

NAME AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF PERSON TO CONTACT IN REGARD TO THIS REPORT

JEFFREY COOPERSMITH

614.485.2500

(Area Code - Telephone Number)

B. ACCOUNTANT IDENTIFICATION

INDEPENDENT PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT whose opinion is contained in this Report*

CROWE HORWATH LLP

(Name - if individual, state last, first, middle name)

600 SUPERIOR ST. STE. 902 CLEVELAND

OH

44114-2619

(Address)

(City)

(State)

(Zip Code)

CHECK ONE:



Certified Public Accountant



Public Accountant



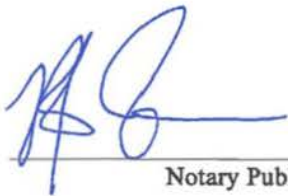
Accountant not resident in United States or any of its possessions.

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

OATH OR AFFIRMATION

I, BENJAMIN HORN, swear (or affirm) that, to the best of my knowledge and belief the accompanying financial statement and supporting schedules pertaining to the firm of CORE FINANCIAL, LLC, as of DECEMBER 31, 2017, are true and correct. I further swear (or affirm) that neither the company nor any partner, proprietor, principal officer or director has any proprietary interest in any account classified solely as that of a customer, except as follows:


Notary Public


Signature
PARTNER

Title



BROOKE M. TUCKER
NOTARY PUBLIC, STATE OF OHIO
My Commission Expires 3/9/2021

This report ** contains (check all applicable boxes):

- ☒ (a) Facing Page.
- ☒ (b) Statement of Financial Condition.
- ☒ (c) Statement of Income (Loss).
- ☒ (d) Statement of Changes in Financial Condition.
- ☒ (e) Statement of Changes in Stockholders' Equity or Partners' or Sole Proprietors' Capital.
- ☐ (f) Statement of Changes in Liabilities Subordinated to Claims of Creditors.
- ☒ (g) Computation of Net Capital.
- ☐ (h) Computation for Determination of Reserve Requirements Pursuant to Rule 15c3-3.
- ☒ (i) Information Relating to the Possession or Control Requirements Under Rule 15c3-3.
- ☐ (j) A Reconciliation, including appropriate explanation of the Computation of Net Capital Under Rule 15c3-1 and the Computation for Determination of the Reserve Requirements Under Exhibit A of Rule 15c3-3.
- ☐ (k) A Reconciliation between the audited and unaudited Statements of Financial Condition with respect to methods of consolidation.
- ☒ (l) An Oath or Affirmation.
- ☐ (m) A copy of the SIPC Supplemental Report.
- ☒ (n) A report describing any material inadequacies found to exist or found to have existed since the date of the previous audit.

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

CORE FINANCIAL, LLC

A wholly-owned subsidiary of Core Capital Partners, LLC

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2017

CORE FINANCIAL, LLC
Columbus, Ohio
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
December 31, 2017

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Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

Member and Principals of Core Financial, LLC
Columbus, Ohio

Opinion on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying statement of financial condition of Core Financial, LLC (the "Company") as of December 31, 2017, the related statements of operations and changes in member's equity, and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes (collectively referred to as the "financial statements"). In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company as of December 31, 2017, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company's financial statements based on our audit. We are a public accounting firm registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) ("PCAOB") and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. The Company is not required to have, nor were we engaged to perform, an audit of its internal control over financial reporting in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. As part of our audit we are required to obtain an understanding of internal control over financial reporting but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB.

Our audit included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. Our audit also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Supplemental Information

The Schedule of Computation of Net Capital Pursuant to Rule 15c3-1 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Statement Regarding Possession or Control Requirements Under Rule 15c3-3 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Supplemental Information") have been subjected to audit procedures performed in conjunction with the audit of Core Financial, LLC's financial statements. The Supplemental Information is the responsibility of the Company's management. Our audit procedures included determining whether the Supplemental Information reconciles to the financial statements or the underlying accounting and other records, as applicable, and performing procedures to test the completeness and accuracy of the information presented in the Supplemental Information. In forming our opinion on the Supplemental Information, we evaluated whether the Supplemental Information, including its form and content is presented in conformity with 17 C.F.R. § 240.17a-5. In our opinion, the Supplemental Information is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements as a whole.


Crowe Horwath LLP

We have served as the Company's auditor since 2013.
Cleveland, Ohio
February 24, 2018

CORE FINANCIAL, LLC
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION
December 31, 2017

Assets

Cash	\$ 163,940
Other assets:	
Prepaid expenses	10,859
CRD fund deposit	<u>2,593</u>
Total other assets	<u>13,452</u>
Total assets	<u>\$ 177,392</u>

Liabilities and Member's Equity

Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 51,976
Member's equity	<u>125,416</u>
Total liabilities and member's equity	<u>\$ 177,392</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

CORE FINANCIAL, LLC
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN MEMBER'S EQUITY
For the Year Ended December 31, 2017

Revenue	\$ 329,820
Expenses	
Compensation, rent, insurance and other expenses paid to a related party	377,040
Consulting fees	12,200
Professional fees	124,646
FINRA licenses and fees	12,513
Other expenses	<u>1,693</u>
Total expenses	<u>528,092</u>
Net loss	(198,272)
Member's equity – beginning of the year	48,688
Contributions from member	<u>275,000</u>
Member's equity – end of the year	<u><u>\$ 125,416</u></u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

CORE FINANCIAL, LLC
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
For the Year Ended December 31, 2017

Cash flows from operating activities

Net loss	\$ (198,272)
Adjustments to reconcile net loss to net cash from operating activities:	
Decrease in other assets	774
Increase in liabilities	<u>14,483</u>
Net cash from operating activities	(183,015)

Cash flows from financing activities

Contributions from member	275,000
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Cash – beginning of year	<u>71,955</u>
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Cash – end of year	<u><u>\$ 163,940</u></u>
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See accompanying notes to financial statements.

CORE FINANCIAL, LLC
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
December 31, 2017

NOTE 1 – ORGANIZATION AND OPERATIONS

Core Financial LLC (the Company) was established in May 2009. The Company was approved by the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) in June 2010 to conduct securities transactions. In November 2011, the shareholders of Core Financial, LLC transferred their ownership to Core Capital Partners, LLC (Partners), and the Company became a wholly-owned subsidiary.

The Company is a limited broker-dealer whose only business is to act as placement agent for real estate investment syndications mandated by and with an affiliate. The Company is required to meet the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and the Divisions of Securities in the states the Company is registered. The Company operates under the exemptive provisions of SEC Rule 15c3-3(k)(2)(i).

NOTE 2 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Use of Estimates: The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted (GAAP) in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reported period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Revenue Recognition: The Company recognizes revenue from the contingent private offerings it places at the time the contingency is met. Revenue recorded is based on mutually agreed-upon financing fees within private placement memorandums of the syndications.

Income Taxes: The Company is a limited liability company and does not pay federal or state income taxes on its income. Accordingly, no provision or credit for federal or state income taxes is recorded in the financial statements.

The Company annually evaluates tax positions in accordance with the Income Taxes Topic of the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Accounting Standards Codification (ASC). The standard prescribes recognition thresholds and measurement attributes for the financial statement recognition and measurement of tax position taken or expected to be taken in the tax return. This standard also provides guidance on de-recognition, classification, interest and penalties, accounting in interim periods, disclosure and transition accounting. The Company remains subject to examination by taxing authorities in jurisdictions where the Company has filed returns for years after 2014. As of December 31, 2017, management believes that no uncertain tax positions exist based on its most recent annual reviews.

Statements of Cash Flows: For purposes of reporting cash flows, cash includes demand deposits held by banks.

New Accounting Pronouncements: In May 2014, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued ASU No. 2014-09, "Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606)." ASU No. 2014-09 revises GAAP by offering a single comprehensive revenue recognition standard. On July 9, 2015, the FASB announced it would defer the effective date by one year to December 15, 2017 for annual reporting periods beginning after that date. The FASB also decided to permit early adoption of the standard, but not before the original effective date of December 15, 2016. Revenues earned from contingent private offerings under the new standard will be recognized in a manner materially consistent with our current patterns of recognition. This new standard will be effective for the Company on January 1, 2018, and the adoption of this standard does not have a significant impact on the Company's results of operations upon adoption.

CORE FINANCIAL, LLC
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
December 31, 2017

NOTE 3 – CASH

The Company maintains its cash in one account, which, at times, may exceed federally insured limits. At December 31, 2017, the cash balance was \$163,940.

NOTE 4 – NET CAPITAL REQUIREMENTS

The Company is subject to the SEC Uniform Net Capital Rule (Rule 15c3-1) which requires the maintenance of minimum net capital and requires that the ratio of aggregate indebtedness to net capital, both as defined, shall not exceed 15:1. At December 31, 2017, the Company had net capital of \$111,964, which was \$106,964 in excess of its required net capital of \$5,000. The Company's percentage of aggregate indebtedness to net capital was 46.42%.

NOTE 5 – RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Company has entered into an expense sharing agreement with Partners. For the year ended December 31, 2017, the expense sharing agreement required payment of \$31,420 per month to pay for overhead and administrative costs. The total of expense sharing payments made during 2017 was \$377,040. The following table provides a summary of the Company's expense sharing payments.

Payroll	\$ 305,100
Office Rent	23,600
Office Overhead	22,300
Insurance	<u>26,040</u>
Total Expense Sharing	<u>\$ 377,040</u>

Accounts payable to related parties totaled \$12,200 at December 31, 2017.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

CORE FINANCIAL, LLC
SCHEDULE OF COMPUTATION OF NET CAPITAL PURSUANT TO
RULE 15c3-1 OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
December 31, 2017

Computation of Net Capital

Member's equity	\$ 125,416
Non-allowable assets:	
Other assets	<u>\$ 13,452</u>
Net capital	<u>\$ 111,964</u>
Total aggregate indebtedness	<u>\$ 51,976</u>
Computation of basic net capital requirement (greater of \$5,000 and 6 2/3% of aggregate indebtedness)	<u>\$ 5,000</u>
Excess net capital	<u>\$ 106,964</u>
Percentage of aggregate indebtedness to net capital	<u>46.42%</u>

Statement Pursuant to Rule 17a-5(d)(4)

There are no material differences between the computation detailed above and the Company's computation of net capital as reported in the unaudited Part IIA of Form X-17A-5A filing as of December 31, 2017.

CORE FINANCIAL, LLC
STATEMENT REGARDING POSSESSION OR CONTROL REQUIREMENTS UNDER
RULE 15c3-3 OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
As of December 31, 2017

The Company's business is to act as a placement agent for real estate investment syndications. The Company operates under the exemptive provisions of SEC Rule 15c3-3(k)(2)(i) as there are "Special Accounts for the Exclusive Benefit of Customers" established and maintained. Therefore, computations of reserve requirements and information related to possession and control are not applicable.

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

We have reviewed management's statements included in the accompanying Core Financial, LLC Exemption Report, in which (1) Core Financial, LLC identified the following provisions of 17 C.F.R. § 240.15c3-3(k) under which Core Financial, LLC claimed an exemption from 17 C.F.R. § 240.15c3-3(k)(2)(i) (the "exemption provisions") and (2) Core Financial, LLC stated that Core Financial, LLC met the identified exemption provisions throughout the most recent fiscal year ended December 31, 2017 without exception. Core Financial, LLC's management is responsible for compliance with the exemption provisions and its statements.

Our review was conducted in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) and, accordingly, included inquiries and other required procedures to obtain evidence about Core Financial, LLC's compliance with the exemption provisions. A review is substantially less in scope than an examination, the objective of which is the expression of an opinion on management's statements. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

Based on our review, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to management's statements referred to above for them to be fairly stated, in all material respects, based on the conditions set forth in paragraph (k)(2)(i) of Rule 15c3-3 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.


Crowe Horwath LLP

Cleveland, Ohio
February 24, 2018

CORE FINANCIAL LLC EXEMPTION REPORT

Core Financial LLC is a registered broker dealer subject to Rule 17a-5 promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission. This Exemption Report was prepared as required by 17C.F.R. 240.17a-5 (d)(1) and (4).

To the best of my knowledge and belief:

- (1) Core Financial LLC claimed an exemption from 240.15c3-3 under paragraph (k)(2)(i) of the rule during the period January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017.
- (2) Core Financial LLC met the identified exemption provisions under 240.15c3-3(k)(2)(i) during the period January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017 without exception.

Core Financial LLC Exemption Report

I, Jeffrey Coopersmith, affirm that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, this Exemption Report is true and correct.

By:  _____

Title: Chief Compliance Officer

Date of Report: February 24, 2018

Principals of Core Financial, LLC
Columbus, Ohio

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of Core Financial, LLC ("Company") as of and for the year ended December 31, 2017, in accordance with the standards established by the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board, we considered the Company's internal control over financial reporting ("internal control") as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over financial reporting that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those responsible for oversight of the Company's financial reporting.

A material weakness is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over financial reporting such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the Company's annual or interim financial statements will not be prevented or detected on a timely basis.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. However, we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Principals, management and others within the organization and regulatory agencies, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.


Crowe Horwath LLP

Cleveland, Ohio
February 24, 2018