

**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549**

FORM 10-Q

**[X] QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

For the quarterly period ended March 31, 2004

OR

**[] TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

Commission File Number 0-11176

NTS-PROPERTIES III

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Georgia

*(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)*

61-1017240

(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

10172 Linn Station Road, Louisville, Kentucky 40223

(Address of principal executive offices)

(502) 426-4800

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

(Former name, former address and former fiscal year, if changed since last report)

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 registrant is an accelerated filer (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes ☐ No ☒

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Some of the statements included in this quarterly report on Form 10-Q, particularly those included in Part I, Item 2 - Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations ("MD&A"), may be considered "forward-looking statements" because the statements relate to matters which have not yet occurred. For example, phrases such as "we anticipate," "believe" or "expect" indicate that it is possible that the event anticipated, believed or expected may not occur. If these events do not occur, the result which we expected also may, or may not, occur in a different manner, which may be more or less favorable to us. We do not undertake any obligation to update these forward-looking statements.

Any forward-looking statements included in MD&A, or elsewhere in this report, reflect our general partner's best judgment based on known factors, but involve risks and uncertainties. Actual results could differ materially from those anticipated in any forward-looking statements as a result of a number of factors, including but not limited to those described in our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, particularly our annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2003. Any forward-looking information provided by us pursuant to the safe harbor established by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 should be evaluated in the context of these factors.

PART I - FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Item 1 - Financial Statements

NTS-PROPERTIES III BALANCE SHEETS

	As of March 31, 2004 (UNAUDITED)	As of December 31, 2003
<u>ASSETS</u>		
Cash and equivalents	\$ 223,493	\$ 180,911
Cash and equivalents - restricted	27,716	9,233
Accounts receivable, net	876,258	804,027
Land, buildings and amenities, net	8,904,691	9,118,287
Other assets	<u>352,658</u>	<u>347,164</u>
 TOTAL ASSETS	 \$ <u>10,384,816</u>	 \$ <u>10,459,622</u>
<u>LIABILITIES AND PARTNERS' EQUITY</u>		
Mortgages payable	\$ 6,200,552	\$ 6,309,037
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	231,954	291,500
Security deposits	145,977	143,292
Other liabilities	<u>105,123</u>	<u>34,246</u>
 TOTAL LIABILITIES	 6,683,606	 6,778,075
 COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES (Note 8)		
 PARTNERS' EQUITY	 <u>3,701,210</u>	 <u>3,681,547</u>
 TOTAL LIABILITIES AND PARTNERS' EQUITY	 \$ <u>10,384,816</u>	 \$ <u>10,459,622</u>

NTS-PROPERTIES III STATEMENT OF PARTNERS' EQUITY (UNAUDITED)

	Limited Partners	General Partner	Total
<u>PARTNERS' EQUITY/(DEFICIT)</u>			
Initial equity	\$ 15,600,000	\$ 8,039,710	\$ 23,639,710
Adjustment to historical basis	<u>--</u>	<u>(5,455,030)</u>	<u>(5,455,030)</u>
 EQUITY	 \$ 15,600,000	 \$ 2,584,680	 \$ 18,184,680
Net income (loss) - prior years	551,145	(2,799,208)	(2,248,063)
Net income (loss) - current year	31,184	(11,522)	19,662
Cash distributions declared to date	(11,349,844)	(206,985)	(11,556,829)
Repurchase of limited partnership interests	<u>(698,240)</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>(698,240)</u>
 BALANCES ON MARCH 31, 2004	 \$ <u>4,134,245</u>	 \$ <u>(433,035)</u>	 \$ <u>3,701,210</u>

The accompanying notes to financial statements are an integral part of these statements.

NTS-PROPERTIES III
STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS
(UNAUDITED)

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2004	2003
<u>REVENUES</u>		
Rental income	\$ 771,463	\$ 826,331
Rental income - affiliated	73,834	73,834
Tenant reimbursements	88,770	92,699
	<u>934,067</u>	<u>992,864</u>
<u>EXPENSES</u>		
Operating expenses	191,169	212,250
Operating expenses - affiliated	87,460	70,470
Management fees	42,922	48,342
Real estate taxes	52,146	52,041
Professional and administrative expenses	126,610	64,351
Professional and administrative expenses - affiliated	36,042	35,821
Depreciation and amortization	279,088	283,847
	<u>815,437</u>	<u>767,122</u>
OPERATING INCOME	118,630	225,742
Interest and other income	2,919	4,651
Interest expense	(101,439)	(113,940)
Loss on disposal of assets	(448)	--
Net income	\$ <u>19,662</u>	\$ <u>116,453</u>
Net income allocated to the limited partners	\$ <u>31,184</u>	\$ <u>127,495</u>
Net income per limited partnership interest	\$ <u>2.48</u>	\$ <u>10.14</u>
Weighted average number of limited partnership interests	<u>12,570</u>	<u>12,570</u>

The accompanying notes to financial statements are an integral part of these statements.

NTS-PROPERTIES III
STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
(UNAUDITED)

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2004	2003
<u>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</u>		
Net income	\$ 19,662	\$ 116,453
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Loss on disposal of assets	448	--
Depreciation and amortization	306,694	311,479
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
Cash and equivalents - restricted	(18,483)	(19,371)
Accounts receivable	(72,231)	(25,357)
Other assets	(37,472)	(16,370)
Accounts payable	(59,546)	614
Security deposits	2,685	4,724
Other liabilities	70,877	47,120
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>212,634</u>	<u>419,292</u>
<u>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</u>		
Additions to land, buildings and amenities	<u>(60,567)</u>	<u>(105,255)</u>
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(60,567)</u>	<u>(105,255)</u>
<u>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</u>		
Principal payments on mortgages payable	(108,485)	(103,274)
Increase in loan costs	<u>(1,000)</u>	<u>--</u>
Net cash used in financing activities	<u>(109,485)</u>	<u>(103,274)</u>
Net increase in cash and equivalents	42,582	210,763
CASH AND EQUIVALENTS, beginning of period	<u>180,911</u>	<u>388,449</u>
CASH AND EQUIVALENTS, end of period	<u>\$ 223,493</u>	<u>\$ 599,212</u>
Interest paid on a cash basis	<u>\$ 100,618</u>	<u>\$ 113,193</u>

The accompanying notes to financial statements are an integral part of these statements.

NTS-PROPERTIES III
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(UNAUDITED)

The unaudited financial statements included herein should be read in conjunction with NTS-Properties III's 2003 annual report on Form 10-K as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 26, 2004. In the opinion of our general partner, all adjustments, consisting only of normal recurring accruals, necessary for a fair presentation have been made to the accompanying financial statements for the three months ended March 31, 2004 and 2003. The results of operations for the interim periods are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the full year or any other interim period. As used in this quarterly report on Form 10-Q the terms "we," "us" or "our," as the context requires, may refer to NTS-Properties III or its interests in its properties.

Note 1 - Use of Estimates in the Preparation of Financial Statements

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Note 2 - Concentration of Credit Risk

We own and operate three commercial properties - Peachtree Corporate Center, in Norcross, Georgia, a suburb of Atlanta, and NTS Center and Plainview Center, both in Jeffersontown, Kentucky, a suburb of Louisville. One tenant in NTS Center occupies 46% of the office building's net rentable area. One tenant in Plainview Center occupies 49% of the office building's net rentable area.

Our financial instruments that are exposed to concentrations of credit risk consist of cash and equivalents. We maintain our cash accounts primarily with banks located in Kentucky. Cash balances are insured by the FDIC up to \$100,000 per bank account. We may at times, in certain accounts, have deposits in excess of \$100,000.

Note 3 - Cash and Equivalents

Cash and equivalents include cash on hand and short-term, highly liquid investments with initial maturities of three months or less. We have a cash management program which provides for the overnight investment of excess cash balances. Under an agreement with a bank, excess cash is invested in a repurchase agreement for U.S. government or agency securities each night. As of March 31, 2004, approximately \$207,000 of our overnight investment was included in cash and equivalents.

Note 4 - Cash and Equivalents - Restricted

Cash and equivalents - restricted represents funds which have been escrowed with a mortgage company for NTS Center's property taxes in accordance with the loan agreement.

Note 5 - Basis of Property and Depreciation

Land, buildings and amenities are stated at historical cost, less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets which are 6-30 years for land improvements, 5-30 years for buildings and improvements, 3-27 years for amenities and the applicable lease term for tenant improvements. The aggregate cost of our properties for federal tax purposes is approximately \$28,700,000.

Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 144, "Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets," specifies circumstances in which certain long-lived assets must be reviewed for impairment. If the carrying amount of an asset exceeds the sum of its expected future cash flows, the asset's carrying value must be written down to fair value. There were no impairment losses during any of the periods presented.

Note 6 - Mortgages Payable

Mortgages payable consists of the following:

	March 31, 2004	December 31, 2003
Mortgage payable to an insurance company in monthly installments, bearing interest at 6.89%, maturing April 10, 2015, secured by land and buildings.	\$ 5,260,552	\$ 5,339,037
Mortgage payable to a bank in monthly installments, bearing a variable interest rate of Prime -.25%, due March 1, 2005, secured by land and a building. The current rate on March 31, 2004 was 3.75%.	940,000	970,000
	<u>\$ 6,200,552</u>	<u>\$ 6,309,037</u>

Our mortgages may be prepaid but are subject to a yield-maintenance premium.

As of March 31, 2004, the fair value of long-term debt was approximately \$6,180,000, based on the borrowing rates currently available to us for mortgages with similar terms and average maturities.

Note 7 - Related Party Transactions

Pursuant to an agreement with us, NTS Development Company, an affiliate of our General Partner, receives property management fees. The fees are paid in an amount equal to 5% of the gross receipts from our properties. Also pursuant to an agreement, NTS Development Company receives a repair and maintenance fee equal to 5.9% of the costs incurred which relate to capital improvements. These repair and maintenance fees are capitalized as part of land, buildings and amenities.

We were charged the following amounts pursuant to an agreement with NTS Development Company for the three months ended March 31, 2004 and 2003. These charges include items which have been expensed as operating expenses - affiliated or professional and administrative expenses - affiliated and items which have been capitalized as other assets or as land, buildings and amenities.

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2004	2003
Property management fees	\$ 42,922	\$ 48,342
Property management	54,487	43,991
Leasing	15,291	14,835
Administrative - operating	15,653	8,775
Other	2,029	2,869
Total operating expenses - affiliated	87,460	70,470
Professional and administrative expenses - affiliated	36,042	35,821
Repair and maintenance fees	1,890	--
Leasing commissions	3,303	5,500
Total related party transactions capitalized	5,193	5,500
Total related party transactions	\$ 171,617	\$ 160,133

During the three months ended March 31, 2004 and 2003, we were charged \$1,828 and \$1,988, respectively, for property maintenance fees from an affiliate of NTS Development Company.

During the three months ended March 31, 2004 and 2003, NTS Development Company leased 20,368 square feet in NTS Center at a rental rate of \$14.50 per square foot. We received approximately \$74,000 in rental payments from NTS Development Company during each of the three months ended March 31, 2004 and 2003. The lease term for NTS Development Company ended on March 31, 2004. The lease was extended for one year to March 31, 2005, at a rental rate of \$14.50 per square foot for 20,368 square feet.

Note 8 - Commitments and Contingencies

As an owner of real estate, we are subject to various environmental laws of federal, state and local governments. Our compliance with existing laws has not had a material adverse effect on our financial condition or results of operations. However, we cannot predict the impact of new or changed laws or regulations on our current properties or on properties that we may acquire in the future.

Litigation

On December 12, 2001, three individuals filed an action in the Superior Court of the State of California for the County of Contra Costa (the “Superior Court”) originally captioned *Buchanan, et al. v. NTS-Properties Associates, et al.* (Case No. C 01-05090) against the general partners (the “General Partners”) of NTS-Properties III, NTS-Properties IV, NTS-Properties V, NTS-Properties VI and NTS-Properties VII, Ltd. (the “Partnerships”), as well as several individuals and entities affiliated with us. The action purports to bring claims on behalf of a class of limited partners. These claims are based on, among other things, tender offers made by the Partnerships and an affiliate of the General Partners, as well as the operation of the Partnerships by the General Partners. The plaintiffs allege, among other things, that the prices at which limited partnership interests were purchased in these tender offers were too low. The plaintiffs are seeking monetary damages and equitable relief, including an order directing the disposition of the properties owned by the Partnerships and the distribution of the proceeds. No amounts have been accrued as a liability for this action in our financial statements. Under an indemnification agreement with our general partner, we are responsible for the costs of defending any such action.

On February 27, 2003, two individuals filed a class and derivative action in the Circuit Court of Jefferson County, Kentucky captioned *Bohm, et al. v. J.D. Nichols, et al.* (Case No. 03-CI-01740) against certain of the General Partners and several individuals and entities affiliated with us. The complaint was amended to include the general partner of NTS-Properties III and the general partner of NTS-Properties Plus Ltd., which is no longer in existence. In the amended complaint, the plaintiffs purport to bring claims on behalf of a class of limited partners and derivatively on behalf of us and the Partnerships based on alleged overpayment of fees, prohibited investments, improper failures to make distributions, purchases of limited partnerships interests at insufficient prices and other violations of the limited partnership agreements. The plaintiffs are seeking, among other things, compensatory and punitive damages in an unspecified amount, an accounting, the appointment of a receiver or liquidating trustee, the entry of an order of dissolution against the Partnerships, a declaratory judgment and injunctive relief. No amounts have been accrued as a liability for this action in our financial statements. Our general partner believes that this action is without merit and is vigorously defending it.

On June 20, 2003, the General Partners reached an agreement in principle with the representatives of the class of plaintiffs to settle the *Buchanan* litigation. This agreed upon settlement includes releases for all of the parties for all of the claims asserted in the *Buchanan* litigation and the *Bohm* litigation. As part of the agreed upon settlement, the General Partners agreed to pursue a merger of the Partnerships and other real estate entities affiliated with the General Partners into a newly-formed entity named NTS Realty Holdings Limited Partnership (“NTS Realty”).

On December 5, 2003, the General Partners, certain of their affiliates and the class of plaintiffs in the *Buchanan* litigation jointly filed a Stipulation and Agreement of Settlement (the “Settlement Agreement”) with the Superior Court. The Settlement Agreement sets forth in writing the terms of the agreed upon settlement the parties reached on June 20, 2003. On February 26, 2004, the Superior Court preliminarily approved the Settlement Agreement as within the range of reasonableness and that it is fair, just and adequate to the class of plaintiffs. The Superior Court scheduled a hearing to finally determine whether the Settlement Agreement is in the best interests of the class of plaintiffs and whether the *Buchanan* litigation should be dismissed with prejudice.

On March 2, 2004, we, along with all defendants, filed a Motion to Dismiss the *Bohm* litigation. The Motion is currently pending before the court.

On May 6, 2004, the Superior Court granted its final approval of the Settlement Agreement. At the final hearing, any member of the class of plaintiffs was given the opportunity to object to the final approval of the Settlement Agreement, the entry of a final judgment dismissing with prejudice the *Buchanan* litigation, or an application of an award for attorneys’ fees and expenses to plaintiffs’ counsel. The Superior Court’s order provides, among other things, that: (1) the Settlement Agreement, and all transactions contemplated thereby, including the proposed merger of the Partnerships into NTS Realty, are fair, reasonable and adequate, and in the best interests of the class of plaintiffs; (2) the plaintiffs’ complaint and each and every cause of action and claim set forth therein is dismissed with prejudice; (3) each class member is barred from (a) transferring, selling or otherwise disposing of (other than by operation of law) their interests until the earlier of the closing date of the merger, the termination of the settlement or June 30, 2004; and (4) each class member who requested to be excluded from the settlement released their claims in the *Bohm* litigation.

For the three months ended March 31, 2004, our share of the legal costs for the *Buchanan* and *Bohm* litigations was approximately \$29,000, which was included in our professional and administrative expenses.

We do not believe there is any other litigation threatened against us other than routine litigation arising out of the ordinary course of business, some of which is expected to be covered by insurance, none of which is expected to have a material effect on our financial position or results of operations, except as discussed herein.

Proposed Merger

As part of the Settlement Agreement, our general partner and the general partners of the four public partnerships affiliated with us, have agreed to pursue a merger of the partnerships and several other affiliated real estate entities into a newly formed limited partnership known as NTS Realty. The merger is subject to, among other things, approval by a majority of the limited partner interests in each partnership. We may not seek the approval of the limited partners until a filing made by NTS Realty with the Securities and Exchange Commission is declared effective. For the three months ended March 31, 2004, our share of the legal and professional fees for the proposed merger was approximately \$73,000.

On February 4, 2004, NTS Realty filed a joint consent solicitation statement/prospectus on Form S-4 with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The solicitation statement/prospectus presents the merger of NTS-Properties III; NTS-Properties IV; NTS-Properties V; NTS-Properties VI; and NTS-Properties VII, Ltd. with NTS Realty. Concurrent with the merger, ORIG, LLC, a Kentucky limited liability company, which is affiliated with our general partner, will contribute substantially all its real estate assets and all of its liabilities to NTS Realty.

Note 9 - Segment Reporting

Our reportable operating segments include only one segment - Commercial Real Estate Operations.

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

Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations should be read in conjunction with the Financial Statements in Item 1 and the cautionary statements below.

Critical Accounting Policies

General

A critical accounting policy is one that would materially effect our operations or financial condition, and requires management to make estimates or judgments in certain circumstances. These judgments often result from the need to make estimates about the effect of matters that are inherently uncertain. Critical accounting policies discussed in this section are not to be confused with accounting principles and methods disclosed in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States ("GAAP"). GAAP requires information in financial statements about accounting principles, methods used and disclosures pertaining to significant estimates. The following disclosure discusses judgments known to management pertaining to trends, events or uncertainties known which were taken into consideration upon the application of those policies and the likelihood that materially different amounts would be reported upon taking into consideration different conditions and assumptions.

Impairment and Valuation

Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 144 "Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets," specifies circumstances in which certain long-lived assets must be reviewed for impairment. If the carrying amount of an asset exceeds the sum of its expected future cash flows, the asset's carrying value must be written down to fair value. In determining the value of an investment property and whether the investment property is impaired, management considers several factors such as projected rental and vacancy rates, property operating expenses, capital expenditures and interest rates. The capitalization rate used to determine property valuation is based on the market in which the investment property is located, length of leases, tenant financial strength, the economy in general, demographics, environment, property location, visibility, age and physical condition among others. All of these factors are considered by management in determining the value of any particular investment property. The value of any particular investment property is sensitive to the actual results of any of these factors, either individually or taken as a whole. If the actual results differ from management's judgment, the valuation could be negatively or positively affected.

Recognition of Rental Income

Our commercial property leases are accounted for as operating leases. We accrue minimum rents on a straight-line basis over the terms of their respective leases. We structure our leases to allow us to recover a significant portion of our property operating, real estate taxes and repairs and maintenance expenses from our tenants. Property operating expenses typically include utility, insurance, security, janitorial, landscaping and other administrative expenses. We accrue reimbursements from tenants for recoverable portions of all these expenses as revenue in the period the applicable expenditures are incurred. We also receive estimated payments for these reimbursements from substantially all our tenants throughout the year. We do this to reduce the risk of loss on uncollectible accounts once we perform the final year-end billings for recoverable expenditures. We recognize the difference between estimated recoveries and the final billed amounts in the subsequent year and we believe these differences were not material in any period presented.

Under GAAP, we are required to recognize rental income based on the effective monthly rent for each lease. The effective monthly rent is equal to the average monthly rent during the term of the lease, not the stated rent for any particular month. The process, known as "straight-lining" or "stepping" rent generally has the effect of increasing rental revenues during the early phases of a lease and decreasing rental revenues in the latter phases of a lease. Due to the impact of "straight-lining," rental income exceeded the cash collected for rent by approximately \$64,000 and \$31,000, for the three months ended March 31, 2004 and 2003, respectively. If rental income calculated on a straight-line basis exceeds the cash rent due under the lease, the difference is recorded as an increase in deferred rent receivable and included as a component of accounts receivable on the relevant balance sheet. If the cash rent due under the lease exceeds rental income calculated on a straight-line basis, the difference is recorded as a decrease in deferred rent receivable and is recorded as a decrease of accounts receivable on the relevant balance sheet. We defer recognition of contingent rental income, such as percentage or excess rent, until the specified target that triggers the contingent rental income is achieved. We periodically review the collectability of outstanding receivables. Allowances are generally taken for tenants with outstanding balances due for a period greater than ninety days and for tenants with potentially uncollectible outstanding balances due for a period less than ninety days.

Recognition of Lease Termination Income

We recognize lease termination income upon receipt of the income. We accrue lease termination income if there is a signed termination agreement, all of the conditions of the agreement have been met and the tenant is no longer occupying the property.

Cost Capitalization and Depreciation Policies

We review all expenditures and capitalize any item exceeding \$1,000 deemed to be an upgrade or a tenant improvement with an expected useful life greater than one year. Land, buildings and amenities are stated at cost. Depreciation expense is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets. Buildings and improvements have estimated useful lives between 5-30 years, land improvements have estimated useful lives of between 6-30 years and amenities have estimated useful lives between 3-27 years.

Results of Operations

The following tables include our selected summarized operating data for the three months ended March 31, 2004 and 2003. This data is presented to provide assistance in identifying trends in our operating results and other factors affecting our business. This data should be read in conjunction with our financial statements, including the notes thereto, in Part I, Item 1 of this report.

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2004	2003
Total revenues	\$ 934,067	\$ 992,864
Operating expenses and operating expenses - affiliated	278,629	282,720
Depreciation and amortization	279,088	283,847
Interest expense	101,439	113,940
Net income	19,662	116,453

Rental income and tenant reimbursements generated by our properties for the three months ended March 31, 2004 and 2003 were as follows:

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2004	2003
NTS Center	\$ 266,276	\$ 335,367
Plainview Center	\$ 334,717	\$ 308,708
Peachtree Corporate Center	\$ 333,074	\$ 348,789

We believe the changes in rental income and tenant reimbursements from period to period are temporary effects of each property's specific mix of lease maturities and are not indicative of any known trend.

The occupancy levels at our properties as of March 31, 2004 and 2003 were as follows:

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2004	2003
NTS Center	72%	87%
Plainview Center	78%	69%
Peachtree Corporate Center	85%	83%

We believe the changes in occupancy on March 31 from year to year are temporary effects of each property's specific mix of lease maturities and are not indicative of any known trend.

The average occupancy levels at our properties for the three months ended March 31, 2004 and 2003 were as follows:

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2004	2003
NTS Center	72%	86%
Plainview Center	78%	70%
Peachtree Corporate Center	85%	84%

We believe the changes in average occupancy from period to period are temporary effects of each property's specific mix of lease maturities and are not indicative of any known trend.

We are making efforts to increase the occupancy levels at our properties. The leasing and renewal negotiations for NTS Center and Plainview Center are handled by leasing agents that are employees of NTS Development Company, in Louisville, Kentucky. At Peachtree Corporate Center, in Norcross, Georgia, we have an off-site leasing agent, who makes calls to potential tenants, negotiates lease renewals with current tenants and manages local advertising with the assistance of NTS Development Company's marketing staff located in Louisville, Kentucky.

The following discussion relating to changes in our results of operations includes only material line items within our Statements of Operations or line items for which there was a material change between the three months ending March 31, 2004 and 2003.

Rental Income and Tenant Reimbursements

Our rental income and tenant reimbursements for the three months ended March 31, 2004 and 2003 was approximately \$934,000 and \$993,000, respectively. The decrease of \$59,000, or 6%, was primarily due to decreased average occupancy at NTS Center. The decrease was partially offset by increased average occupancy at Plainview Center. Rental income - affiliated was approximately \$74,000 for each of the periods ended March 31, 2004 and 2003.

Quarter-ending occupancy percentages represent occupancy only on a specific date; therefore, the above analysis considers average occupancy percentages, which are more representative of the entire year-to-date results.

Operating Expenses and Operating Expenses – Affiliated

Our operating expenses for the three months ended March 31, 2004 and 2003 were approximately \$191,000 and \$212,000, respectively. The decrease of \$21,000, or 10%, was primarily due to decreased utility expenses (NTS Center, Plainview Center and Peachtree Corporate Center) and decreased bad debt expense (Peachtree Corporate Center).

Our operating expenses – affiliated for the three months ended March 31, 2004 and 2003 were approximately \$87,000 and \$70,000, respectively. The increase of \$17,000, or 24%, was primarily due to increased personnel costs at NTS Center and Plainview Center.

Operating expenses – affiliated are for the services performed by employees of NTS Development Company, an affiliate of our General Partner. These employee services include property management, leasing, maintenance, security and other services necessary to manage and operate our business.

Professional and Administrative Expenses and Professional and Administrative Expenses – Affiliated

Our professional and administrative expenses for the three months ended March 31, 2004 and 2003 were approximately \$127,000 and \$64,000, respectively. The increase of \$63,000, or 97%, was a result of costs incurred for legal and professional fees related to our proposed merger and litigation filed by limited partners. See Item 1- Note 8 for information regarding our proposed merger and litigation filed by limited partners.

Our professional and administrative expenses – affiliated did not change significantly between the periods ending March 31, 2004 and 2003. There were no offsetting material changes.

Professional and administrative expenses – affiliated are for the services performed by employees of NTS Development Company, an affiliate of our General Partner. These employee services include legal, financial and other services necessary to manage and operate our business.

Depreciation and Amortization Expense

Our depreciation and amortization expense did not change significantly between the periods ending March 31, 2004 and 2003. There were no offsetting material changes.

Interest Expense

Our interest expense for the three months ended March 31, 2004 and 2003 was approximately \$101,000 and \$114,000, respectively. The decrease of \$13,000, or 11%, was primarily the result of additional principal payments made in 2003 which reduced the outstanding balance on our mortgage payable secured by Plainview Center.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

The following table sets forth the cash provided by or used in operating activities, investing activities and financing activities for the three months ended March 31, 2004 and 2003.

Cash flows provided by (used in):

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2004	2003
Operating activities	\$ 212,634	\$ 419,292
Investing activities	(60,567)	(105,255)
Financing activities	(109,485)	(103,274)
Net increase in cash and equivalents	\$ <u>42,582</u>	\$ <u>210,763</u>

Net cash provided by operating activities decreased from approximately \$419,000 for the three months ended March 31, 2003 to approximately \$213,000 for the three months ended March 31, 2004. The \$206,000 decrease was due to decreased cash available from operations as a result of increased expenses associated with our litigation filed by limited partners and our proposed merger and decreased average occupancy at NTS Center.

Net cash used in investing activities decreased from approximately \$105,000 for the three months ended March 31 2003 to approximately \$61,000 for the three months ended March 31, 2004. The \$44,000 decrease in net cash used was primarily due to a decrease in additions to land, buildings and amenities at NTS Center.

Net cash used in financing activities increased from approximately \$103,000 for the three months ended March 31, 2003 to approximately \$109,000 for the three months ended March 31, 2004. The \$6,000 increase was primarily the result of additional principal payments made on the Plainview Center mortgage in 2003.

Due to the fact that no distributions were made during the three months ended March 31, 2004 or 2003, the table which presents that portion of the distributions that represents a return of capital in accordance with GAAP has been omitted.

Future Liquidity

We believe the current occupancy levels are adequate to fund the operations of our properties. However, our future liquidity depends significantly on our properties' occupancy remaining at a level which provides for debt payments and adequate working capital, currently and in the future. If occupancy were to fall below that level and remain at or below that level for a significant period of time, our ability to make payments due under our debt agreements and to continue paying daily operational costs would be greatly impaired. In addition, we may be required to obtain financing in connection with the capital improvements and leasing costs described below.

A major tenant at NTS Center with a near lease term expiration is seeking alternatives to renewing its expiring lease with us. This tenant is currently occupying 53,435 square feet, or 46% of the total rentable square feet of the building, at an annual rate of \$13.59 per square foot. The failure of this tenant to renew its lease at NTS Center would result in a loss of annual rental revenue and operating expense recoveries of approximately \$726,000, or 19% of 2003's total revenues. This would significantly impair our liquidity, and could result in significant costs to refurbish the vacated space and locate new tenants. At this time, we are not certain whether the tenant intends to renew its lease as allowed by the lease agreement, or vacate its space. Approximately \$1,000,000 will be needed for renovations if this tenant renews its lease. We do not have an estimate for the costs to locate a replacement tenant or refinish the space occupied by this tenant.

On March 31, 2003, a major tenant at NTS Center vacated its space. This tenant occupied 16,937 square feet, or 15% of the total rentable square feet of the building, at an annual rate of \$15.28 per square foot. This will result in an annual loss of approximately \$259,000, or 7% of 2003's total revenues. There may be significant demands on future liquidity as a result of this vacancy.

In the next 12 months, we expect the demand on future liquidity to increase as a result of future leasing activity. There has been and will likely continue to be a protracted period for Plainview Center and NTS Center to become fully leased again. At March 31, 2004 there were approximately 29,000, 21,000 and 30,000 square feet of vacant space available to lease at NTS Center, Plainview Center and Peachtree Corporate Center, respectively. Approximately \$1,255,000 will be needed for leasing costs, especially those needed to refinish these spaces for new tenants. As of March 31, 2004, we had not made any commitments for tenant finish improvements at Plainview Center, NTS Center or Peachtree Corporate Center.

As of March 31, 2004, we anticipate making certain building improvements in 2004 totaling approximately \$105,000. These improvements include HVAC replacements and window seal repairs at Peachtree Corporate Center, estimated to cost \$55,000, HVAC replacements, electrical panel repairs and exterior stairwell repairs at NTS Center, estimated to cost \$33,000 and HVAC replacements at Plainview Center, estimated to cost \$17,000.

We anticipate using cash provided by operations and cash reserves to fund a portion of the capital improvements and leasing costs described above. However, we believe that funding these expenses may also require existing financing or additional financing secured by our properties and there is no assurance that this financing will be available.

We have no other material commitments for renovations or capital expenditures as of March 31, 2004.

Proposed Merger

As part of the Settlement Agreement, our general partner and the general partners of the four public partnerships affiliated with us, have agreed to pursue a merger of the partnerships and several other affiliated real estate entities into a newly formed limited partnership known as NTS Realty Holdings Limited Partnership (“NTS Realty”). The merger is subject to, among other things, approval by a majority of the limited partner interests in each partnership. We may not seek the approval of the limited partners until a filing made by NTS Realty with the Securities and Exchange Commission is declared effective. For the three months ended March 31, 2004, our share of the legal and professional fees for the proposed merger was approximately \$73,000.

On February 4, 2004, NTS Realty filed a joint consent solicitation statement/prospectus on Form S-4 with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The solicitation statement/prospectus presents the merger of NTS-Properties III; NTS-Properties IV; NTS-Properties V; NTS-Properties VI; and NTS-Properties VII, Ltd. with NTS Realty. Concurrent with the merger, ORIG, LLC, a Kentucky limited liability company, which is affiliated with our general partner, will contribute substantially all its real estate assets and all of its liabilities to NTS Realty.

Website Information

Our website address is www.ntsdevelopment.com. Our annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K and amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act are available and may be accessed free of charge through the “About NTS” section of our website as soon as reasonably practicable after we electronically file this material with, or furnish it to, the SEC. Our website and the information contained therein or connected thereto are not incorporated into this quarterly report on Form 10-Q.

Item 3 - Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

Our primary market risk exposure with regard to financial instruments stems from changes in interest rates. Our debt bears interest at a fixed rate with the exception of the \$3,500,000 mortgage payable obtained on May 9, 2000, which had a balance of \$940,000 as of March 31, 2004. On March 31, 2004, a hypothetical 100 basis point increase in interest rates would result in an approximate \$247,000 decrease in the fair value of the debt and would increase interest expense on the variable rate mortgage by approximately \$9,000 annually.

Item 4 - Controls and Procedures

Our General Partner, with the participation of the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, has evaluated the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures as of March 31, 2004. Based on that evaluation, the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of March 31, 2004. There were no material changes in our internal controls over financial reporting during the first quarter of 2004.

PART II - OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1 - Legal Proceedings

On May 6, 2004, the Superior Court of the State of California for the County of Contra Costa granted its final approval of the Stipulation and Agreement of Settlement (the “Settlement Agreement”) jointly filed by the general partners (the “General Partners”) of NTS-Properties III, NTS-Properties IV, NTS-Properties V, NTS-Properties VI and NTS-Properties VII, Ltd. (the “Partnerships”), along with certain of their affiliates, with the class of plaintiffs in the action originally captioned *Buchanan, et al. v. NTS-Properties Associates, et al.* (Case No. C 01-05090) on December 5, 2003. At the final hearing, any member of the class of plaintiffs was given the opportunity to object to the final approval of the Settlement Agreement, the entry of a final judgment dismissing with prejudice the *Buchanan* litigation, or an application of an award for attorneys’ fees and expenses to plaintiffs’ counsel. The Superior Court’s order provides, among other things, that: (1) the Settlement Agreement, and all transactions contemplated thereby, including the proposed merger of the Partnerships into NTS Realty Holdings Limited Partnership, are fair, reasonable and adequate, and in the best interests of the class of plaintiffs; (2) the plaintiffs’ complaint and each and every cause of action and claim set forth therein is dismissed with prejudice; (3) each class member is barred from (a) transferring, selling or otherwise disposing of (other than by operation of law) their interests until the earlier of the closing date of the merger, the termination of the settlement or June 30, 2004; and (4) each class member who requested to be excluded from the settlement released their claims in the *Bohm* litigation.

Items 2 through 5 are omitted because these items are inapplicable or the answers to the items are negative.

Item 6 - Exhibits and Reports on Form 8-K

Exhibit No.

3	Amended and Restated Agreement and Certificate of Limited Partnership of NTS-Properties III.	*
10	Management Agreement between NTS Development Company and NTS-Properties III.	*
14	Code of Ethics	**
31.1	Certification of Chief Executive Officer Pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) and Rule 15d-14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act, as amended.	***

- 31.2 Certification of Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) and Rule 15d-14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act, as amended. ***
- 32.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. ***
- 32.2 Certification of Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. ***
- * Incorporated by reference to documents filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission in connection with the filing of the Registration Statements on Form S-11 on June 25, 1982 (effective October 13, 1982) under Commission File No. 2-78152.
- ** See www.ntsdevelopment.com for our code of ethics.
- *** Attached as an exhibit with this Form 10-Q.

Reports on Form 8-K

We filed a Form 8-K on February 6, 2004, to announce that NTS Realty Holdings Limited Partnership filed a Form S-4, which included a joint consent solicitation statement/prospectus, with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 4, 2004.

We filed a Form 8-K on March 1, 2004, to announce the preliminary approval of the settlement with the class of plaintiffs in the action originally captioned *Buchanan et al. v. NTS-Properties Associates, et al.* (Case No. C 01-05090) by the Superior Court of the State of California for the County of Contra Costa.

We filed a Form 8-K on May 10, 2004, to announce the final approval of the settlement with the class of plaintiffs in the action originally captioned *Buchanan et al. v. NTS-Properties Associates, et al.* (Case No. C 01-05090) by the Superior Court of the State of California for the County of Contra Costa.

SIGNATURES

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

NTS-PROPERTIES III

BY: NTS-Properties Associates,
General Partner,
BY: NTS Capital Corporation,
General Partner

/s/ Brian F. Lavin

Brian F. Lavin
President of NTS Capital Corporation

/s/ Gregory A. Wells

Gregory A. Wells
Chief Financial Officer of NTS Capital Corporation

Date: May 13, 2004

EXHIBIT 31.1

CERTIFICATION

I, Brian F. Lavin, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this quarterly report on Form 10-Q of NTS-Properties III;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) for the registrant and have:
 - a) designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
 - b) evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
 - c) disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter that has materially affected or is reasonably likely to materially affect the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the registrant's general partner:
 - a) all significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
 - b) any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal controls over financial reporting.

Date: May 13, 2004

/s/ Brian F. Lavin

President of NTS Capital Corporation,
General Partner of NTS-Properties Associates,
General Partner of NTS-Properties III

EXHIBIT 31.2

CERTIFICATION

I, Gregory A. Wells, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this quarterly report on Form 10-Q of NTS-Properties III;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) for the registrant and have:
 - a) designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
 - b) evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
 - c) disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter that has materially affected or is reasonably likely to materially affect the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the registrant's general partner:
 - a) all significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
 - b) any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal controls over financial reporting.

Date: May 13, 2004

/s/ Gregory A. Wells

Chief Financial Officer of NTS Capital Corporation,
General Partner of NTS-Properties Associates,
General Partner of NTS-Properties III

EXHIBIT 32.1

CERTIFICATION

I, Brian F. Lavin, President of NTS Capital Corporation, the general partner of NTS-Properties Associates, the general partner of NTS-Properties III (the “Partnership”), certify, pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, that:

1. The quarterly report on Form 10-Q of the Partnership for the period ended March 31, 2004 (the “Report”) fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended; and
2. The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Partnership.

Dated: May 13, 2004

/s/ Brian F. Lavin
President of NTS Capital Corporation,
General Partner of NTS-Properties Associates,
General Partner of NTS-Properties III

A signed original of this written statement required by Section 906 has been provided to the Partnership and will be retained by the Partnership and furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission or its staff upon request.

EXHIBIT 32.2

CERTIFICATION

I, Gregory A. Wells, Chief Financial Officer of NTS Capital Corporation, the general partner of NTS-Properties Associates, the general partner of NTS-Properties III (the “Partnership”), certify, pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, that:

1. The quarterly report on Form 10-Q of the Partnership for the period ended March 31, 2004 (the “Report”) fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended; and
2. The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Partnership.

Dated: May 13, 2004

/s/ Gregory A. Wells
Chief Financial Officer of NTS Capital Corporation,
General Partner of NTS-Properties Associates,
General Partner of NTS-Properties III

A signed original of this written statement required by Section 906 has been provided to the Partnership and will be retained by the Partnership and furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission or its staff upon request.