

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

May 8, 2014

Via E-mail
Mr. James Lipham
Chief Financial Officer
Total System Services, Inc.
One TSYS Way
Columbus, GA 31901

**Re:** Total System Services, Inc.

Form 10-K for the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2013

Filed February 25, 2014 File No. 001-10254

Dear Mr. Lipham:

We have reviewed your filing and have the following comments. In some of our comments, we may ask you to provide us with information so we may better understand your disclosure.

Please respond to this letter within ten business days by amending your filing, by providing the requested information, or by advising us when you will provide the requested response. If you do not believe our comments apply to your facts and circumstances or do not believe an amendment is appropriate, please tell us why in your response.

After reviewing any amendment to your filing and the information you provide in response to these comments, we may have additional comments.

Form 10-K for the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2013

## Exhibit 13.1

### General

1. On page 7, you indicate that you provide services in the Caribbean, Africa and the Middle East, regions that include Cuba, Sudan and Syria. Additionally, your website contains a hyperlink for Syria under a passage referring to your country-specific payment solutions and regional overview pages.

Cuba, Sudan and Syria are designated by the Department of State as state sponsors of terrorism, and are subject to U.S. economic sanctions and export controls. Please describe to us the nature and extent of your past, current, and anticipated contacts with

Mr. James Lipham Total System Services, Inc. May 8, 2014 Page 2

Cuba, Sudan and Syria, if any, whether through subsidiaries, affiliates, distributors, partners, customers or other direct or indirect arrangements. Your response should describe any services, products, information or technology you have provided to Cuba, Sudan or Syria, directly or indirectly, and any agreements, commercial arrangements, or other contacts you have had with the governments of those countries or entities controlled by their governments.

2. Please discuss the materiality of any contacts with Cuba, Sudan and Syria described in response to the foregoing comment, and whether those contacts constitute a material investment risk for your security holders. You should address materiality in quantitative terms, including the approximate dollar amounts of any associated revenues, assets, and liabilities for the last three fiscal years and the subsequent interim period. Also, address materiality in terms of qualitative factors that a reasonable investor would deem important in making an investment decision, including the potential impact of corporate activities upon a company's reputation and share value. Various state and municipal governments, universities, and other investors have proposed or adopted divestment or similar initiatives regarding investment in companies that do business with U.S.-designated state sponsors of terrorism. Your materiality analysis should address the potential impact of the investor sentiment evidenced by such actions directed toward companies that have operations associated with Cuba, Sudan and Syria.

### Financial Review

### Non-GAAP Financial Measures, page 22

3. We note your measure "adjusted cash earnings per share" on page 23. We further note you state that you believe the use of this measure provides investors with the same key financial performance indicator that is utilized by management to assess the company's operating results. However, it is unclear to us how you use this measure, what purpose the "cash earnings" line serves, whether that title may be misleading, and what "adjusted cash earnings" represents. Please make these clarifications for us and tell us why you believe this measure provides useful information to investors regarding your financial condition and results of operations. Also tell us your consideration of clarifying your disclosures in future filings and include a draft of the proposed revisions in your response. We refer you to Item 10(e) of Regulation S-K.

We urge all persons who are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of the disclosure in the filing to be certain that the filing includes the information the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and all applicable Exchange Act rules require. Since the company and its management are in possession of all facts relating to a company's disclosure, they are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of the disclosures they have made.

Mr. James Lipham Total System Services, Inc. May 8, 2014 Page 3

In responding to our comments, please provide a written statement from the company acknowledging that:

- the company is responsible for the adequacy and accuracy of the disclosure in the filing;
- staff comments or changes to disclosure in response to staff comments do not foreclose the Commission from taking any action with respect to the filing; and
- the company may not assert staff comments as a defense in any proceeding initiated by the Commission or any person under the federal securities laws of the United States.

You may contact Melissa Kindelan, Staff Accountant, at (202) 551-3564 if you have questions regarding comments on the financial statements and related matters. If you have any other questions, please contact Ji Kim, Staff Attorney, at (202) 551-3579 or Barbara Jacobs, Assistant Director at (202) 551-3735. If you require further assistance, do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 551-3406.

Sincerely,

/s/ Patrick Gilmore

Patrick Gilmore Accounting Branch Chief