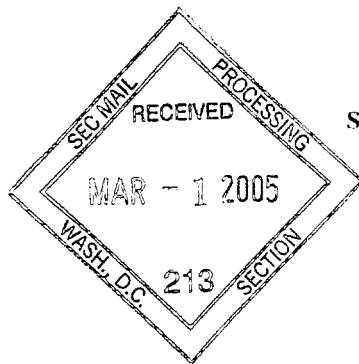




SECURIT



05038177

SION

## OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0123  
Expires: October 31, 2004  
Estimated average burden  
hours per response..... 12.00

## SEC FILE NUMBER

8- 33854

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

FACING PAGE

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 January 1, 2004 AND ENDING December 31, 2004  
MM/DD/YY MM/DD/YY

## A. REGISTRANT IDENTIFICATION

NAME OF BROKER-DEALER: GWFS Equities, Inc.

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

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

FIRM I.D. NO.

Second Floor - 8525 East Orchard Road

(No. and Street)

Greenwood Village, CO 80111

(City)

(State)

(Zip Code)

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

Brian Elder

(303) 737-4344

(Area Code - Telephone Number)

## B. ACCOUNTANT IDENTIFICATION

INDEPENDENT PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT whose opinion is contained in this Report\*

Deloitte &amp; Touche LLP

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

Suite 3600

(Address)

555 Seventeenth Street

(City)

Denver, CO

(State)

80202-3942

(Zip Code)

CHECK ONE:

☒ Certified Public Accountant☐ Public Accountant☐ Accountant not resident in United States or any of its possessions.

PROCESSED

MAR 23 2005

THOMSON  
FINANCIAL

## FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

\*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)

SEC 1410 (06-02)

Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of  
information contained in this form are not required to respond  
unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

23/6

## OATH OR AFFIRMATION

I, Glen R. Derback, swear (or affirm) that, to the best of my knowledge and belief the accompanying financial statement and supporting schedules pertaining to the firm of GWFS Equities, Inc., as of December 31,, 20 04, 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:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

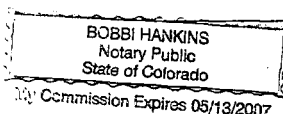
\_\_\_\_\_

*Glen R. Derback*  
Signature

Treasurer

Title

*Bobbi Hankins*  
Notary Public



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 15c3-3 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).

***GWFS Equities, Inc.***  
***(A wholly-owned subsidiary***  
***of BenefitsCorp, Inc.)***

*(SEC I.D. No. 8-33854)*

*Financial Statements and Supplemental Schedules  
for the Year Ended December 31, 2004 and  
Independent Auditors' Report and Supplemental  
Report on Internal Control*

*Filed pursuant to Rule 17a-5(e)(3)  
as a PUBLIC DOCUMENT.*

GWFS EQUITIES, INC.

(A wholly-owned subsidiary of BenefitsCorp, Inc.)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

|                                                                                                                                                          | Page |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT .....                                                                                                                       | 1    |
| FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS OF AND FOR THE YEAR ENDED<br>DECEMBER 31, 2004:                                                                                  |      |
| Statement of Financial Condition .....                                                                                                                   | 3    |
| Statement of Operations .....                                                                                                                            | 4    |
| Statement of Changes in Stockholder's Equity .....                                                                                                       | 5    |
| Statement of Cash Flows .....                                                                                                                            | 6    |
| Notes to Financial Statements .....                                                                                                                      | 7    |
| SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULES:                                                                                                                                  |      |
| Computation of Net Capital for Brokers and Dealers Pursuant to Rule 15c3-1<br>under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 .....                            | 9    |
| Computation for Determination of Reserve Requirements for Brokers and Dealers<br>Pursuant to Rule 15c3-3 Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ..... | 10   |
| SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL .....                                                                                                            | 11   |

## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Board of Directors and Stockholder of  
GWFS Equities, Inc.  
Greenwood Village, Colorado:

We have audited the following financial statements of GWFS Equities, Inc. (the Company), a wholly-owned subsidiary of BenefitsCorp, Inc., as of and for the year ended December 31, 2004, that you are filing pursuant to Rule 17a-5 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934:

|                                              | <u>Page</u> |
|----------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Statement of Financial Condition             | 3           |
| Statement of Operations                      | 4           |
| Statement of Changes in Stockholder's Equity | 5           |
| Statement of Cash Flows                      | 6           |

These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. Our audit includes consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, 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. An audit also includes examining on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, such financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of GWFS Equities, Inc. at December 31, 2004, 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.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The following supplemental schedules of GWFS Equities, Inc. as of December 31, 2004, are presented for the purpose of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements, but are supplementary information required by Rule 17a-5 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934:

|                                                                                                                                                      | <u>Page</u> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Computation of Net Capital for Brokers and Dealers Pursuant to Rule 15c3-1 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.....                            | 9           |
| Computation for Determination of Reserve Requirements for Brokers and Dealers Pursuant to Rule 15c3-3 Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934..... | 10          |

These schedules are the responsibility of the Company's management. Such schedules have been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in our audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, are fairly stated in all material respects when considered in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

*Deloitte & Touche LLP*

Denver, Colorado  
February 25, 2005

GWFS EQUITIES, INC.

(A wholly-owned subsidiary of BenefitsCorp, Inc.)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION

DECEMBER 31, 2004

|                                             | <u>2004</u>          |
|---------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| <u>ASSETS</u>                               |                      |
| CURRENT ASSETS:                             |                      |
| Cash                                        | \$ 8,778,596         |
| Securities commissions receivable           | 11,751,077           |
| Other assets                                | <u>375,817</u>       |
| TOTAL                                       | <u>\$ 20,905,490</u> |
| <u>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDER'S EQUITY</u> |                      |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES:                        |                      |
| Accrued expenses and other liabilities      | \$ 239,016           |
| Due to affiliates                           | <u>17,098,178</u>    |
| Total current liabilities                   | 17,337,194           |
| STOCKHOLDER'S EQUITY (Note 3):              |                      |
| Common stock, no par value; 10,000 shares   |                      |
| Authorized; 4,000 shares                    |                      |
| issued and outstanding                      | 2,200,000            |
| Contributed capital                         | 1,015,000            |
| Retained earnings                           | <u>353,296</u>       |
| Total stockholder's equity                  | <u>3,568,296</u>     |
| TOTAL                                       | <u>\$ 20,905,490</u> |

See notes to financial statements.

GWFS EQUITIES, INC.

(A wholly-owned subsidiary of BenefitsCorp, Inc.)

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2004

---

|                                  | <u>2004</u>       |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| <u>REVENUES:</u>                 |                   |
| Securities commissions           | \$ 42,775,442     |
| Marketing and communication fees | 1,601,296         |
| Interest income                  | <u>68,574</u>     |
| Total revenues                   | <u>44,445,312</u> |
| <u>EXPENSES:</u>                 |                   |
| Service level agreement expense  | 42,661,943        |
| General and administrative       | <u>1,783,369</u>  |
| Total expenses                   | <u>44,445,312</u> |
| NET INCOME                       | <u>\$ 0</u>       |

See notes to financial statements.



GWFS EQUITIES, INC.  
(A wholly-owned subsidiary of BenefitsCorp, Inc.)

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN STOCKHOLDER'S EQUITY  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2004

|                            | Common Stock |              | Contributed<br>Capital | Retained<br>Earnings | Total        |
|----------------------------|--------------|--------------|------------------------|----------------------|--------------|
|                            | Shares       | Amount       |                        |                      |              |
| BALANCE, JANUARY 1, 2004   | 4,000        | \$ 2,200,000 | \$ 1,015,000           | \$ 353,296           | \$ 3,568,296 |
| Net income                 |              |              |                        | 0                    | 0            |
| BALANCE, DECEMBER 31, 2004 | 4,000        | \$ 2,200,000 | \$ 1,015,000           | \$ 353,296           | \$ 3,568,296 |

See notes to financial statements.

GWFS EQUITIES, INC.

(A wholly-owned subsidiary of BenefitsCorp, Inc.)

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2004

---

|                                                                                      | <u>2004</u>         |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| OPERATING ACTIVITIES:                                                                |                     |
| Net income                                                                           | \$ 0                |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash<br>provided by operating activities: |                     |
| Changes in operating assets and liabilities:                                         |                     |
| Due to affiliates                                                                    | 13,957,116          |
| Securities commissions receivable                                                    | (11,751,077)        |
| Accrued expenses and other liabilities                                               | (133,302)           |
| Other assets                                                                         | <u>45,220</u>       |
| Net cash provided by operating activities                                            | <u>2,117,957</u>    |
| NET INCREASE IN CASH                                                                 | 2,117,957           |
| CASH - beginning of year                                                             | <u>6,660,639</u>    |
| CASH - end of year                                                                   | <u>\$ 8,778,596</u> |

See notes to financial statements.

GWFS EQUITIES, INC.

(A wholly-owned subsidiary of BenefitsCorp, Inc.)

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2004

---

1. ORGANIZATION

Organization – GWFS Equities, Inc. (the Company) is a wholly-owned subsidiary of BenefitsCorp, Inc. (BCI), which is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Great-West Life & Annuity Insurance Company (GWL&A), an insurance company domiciled in Colorado. GWL&A is a wholly-owned subsidiary of GWL&A Financial, Inc., a holding company.

The Company provides communication and marketing services for financial products to group retirement plans and to individuals. The Company acts as a non-clearing broker/dealer and is exempt from the provisions of Rule 15c3-3 of the Securities and Exchange Commission, in that the Company's activities are limited to those set forth in the conditions for exemption appearing in paragraph (k)(2)(i) of the Rule.

The Company pays fees to certain affiliates for developing, negotiating and completing contracts in the form of service level agreement expense. In addition, the Company has in place an administrative services agreement with GWL&A, pursuant to which GWL&A assumes responsibility for payment of expenses on behalf of the company. The expenses assumed are net of fees paid to affiliates. Due to affiliates represents non-interest bearing amounts, which are due upon demand. Accordingly, the accompanying financial statements are not necessarily indicative of the conditions that would exist or the results of operations that would prevail if the Company were operated as an unaffiliated entity.

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Use of Estimates - The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted 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 reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Cash - Cash includes only amounts in demand deposit accounts.

Income Taxes - The Company is included in a consolidated income tax return filed by GWL&A Financial Inc. Income taxes are recorded using an asset and liability approach that, among other provisions, requires the recognition of deferred tax assets and liabilities for the expected future tax consequences of temporary differences in amounts that have been recognized in the Company's financial statements and tax returns. In estimating future tax consequences, all expected future events (other than the enactments or changes in the tax laws or rules) are considered.

Securities Commissions - Commissions are recognized on a trade-date basis as securities transactions occur. Related service level agreement expense is recognized as commissions are recognized.

Marketing and Communication - Revenue is recognized as earned.

### 3. STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

The Company is subject to the Uniform Net Capital Rule of the Securities and Exchange Commission. The rule requires minimum net capital of 6-2/3% of aggregate indebtedness, or \$25,000, whichever is greater, and the rule prohibits withdrawal of equity or the payment of dividends if aggregate indebtedness exceeds 1,000% of net capital. At December 31, 2004, the Company had net capital of \$3,568,296, which was \$2,412,484 in excess of its required net capital of \$1,155,812. Aggregate indebtedness at December 31, 2004 was \$17,337,194 and the ratio of aggregate indebtedness to net capital was 4.86 to 1.

GWFS EQUITIES, INC.

(A wholly-owned subsidiary of BenefitsCorp, Inc.)

COMPUTATION OF NET CAPITAL FOR BROKERS AND DEALERS  
PURSUANT TO RULE 15c3-1 UNDER THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934  
DECEMBER 31, 2004

---

|                                                |                      |
|------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| TOTAL STOCKHOLDER'S EQUITY                     | \$ 3,568,296         |
| DEDUCT NON-ALLOWABLE ASSETS:                   | <u>0</u>             |
| NET CAPITAL                                    | \$ <u>3,568,296</u>  |
| AGGREGATE INDEBTEDNESS                         | \$ <u>17,337,194</u> |
| MINIMUM NET CAPITAL REQUIRED                   | \$ <u>1,155,812</u>  |
| EXCESS NET CAPITAL                             | \$ <u>2,412,484</u>  |
| EXCESS NET CAPITAL AT 1,000%                   | \$ <u>1,834,577</u>  |
| RATIO OF AGGREGATE INDEBTEDNESS TO NET CAPITAL | <u>4.86:1</u>        |

There were no material differences between the computation for determination of net capital, net capital requirement and aggregate indebtedness, as compared above and as reported by GWFS Equities, Inc. in the unaudited revised Form X-17a-5 Part IIA as of December 31, 2004, filed on February 25, 2005.

GWFS EQUITIES, INC.

(A wholly-owned subsidiary of BenefitsCorp, Inc.)

COMPUTATION FOR DETERMINATION OF RESERVE REQUIREMENTS  
FOR BROKERS AND DEALERS PURSUANT TO RULE 15c3-3 UNDER THE  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934  
AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2004

---

The Company is exempt from the provisions of Rule 15c3-3 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, in that the Company's activities are limited to those set forth in the conditions for exemption appearing in paragraph (k)(2)(i) of the Rule.

## SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL

To the Board of Directors and Stockholder  
of GWFS Equities, Inc.:

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of GWFS Equities, Inc. (the Company), a wholly-owned subsidiary of BenefitsCorp, Inc., for the year ended December 31, 2004 (on which we have issued our report dated February 25, 2005) we considered its internal control, including control activities for safeguarding securities, in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the Company's internal control.

Also, as required by Rule 17a-5(g)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, we have made a study of the practices and procedures (including tests of compliance with such practices and procedures) followed by the Company that we considered relevant to the objectives stated in Rule 17a-5(g) in making the periodic computations of aggregate indebtedness and net capital under Rule 17a-3(a)(11), and for determining compliance with the exemptive provisions of Rule 15c3-3. We did not review the practices and procedures followed by the Company in making the quarterly securities examinations, counts, verifications and comparisons, and the recordation of differences required by Rule 17a-13 or in complying with the requirements for prompt payment for securities under Section 8 of Regulation T of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, because the Company does not carry security accounts for customers or perform custodial functions relating to customer securities.

The management of the Company is responsible for establishing and maintaining internal control and the practices and procedures referred to in the preceding paragraph. In fulfilling this responsibility, estimates and judgments by management are required to assess the expected benefits and related costs of internal control and of the practices and procedures, and to assess whether those practices and procedures can be expected to achieve the Securities and Exchange Commission's (the "Commission") above-mentioned objectives. Two of the objectives of internal control and the practices and procedures are to provide management with reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that assets for which the Company has responsibility are safeguarded against loss from unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition, and that transactions are executed in accordance with management's authorization and recorded properly to permit the preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Rule 17a-5(g) lists additional objectives of the practices and procedures listed in the preceding paragraph.

Because of inherent limitations in any internal control or the practices and procedures referred to above, misstatements due to error or fraud may occur and not be detected. Also, projections of any evaluation of the internal control or of such practices and procedures to future periods are subject to the risk that they may become inadequate because of changes in conditions or that the degree of compliance with the practices or procedures may deteriorate.

Our consideration of the Company's internal control would not necessarily disclose all matters in the Company's internal control that might be material weaknesses under standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements caused by error or fraud in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. However, we noted no matters involving the Company's internal control and its operation (including control activities for safeguarding securities) that we consider to be material weaknesses as defined above.

We understand that practices and procedures that accomplish the objectives referred to in the second paragraph of this report are considered by the Commission to be adequate for its purposes in accordance with the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and related regulations, and that practices and procedures that do not accomplish such objectives in all material respects indicate a material inadequacy for such purposes. Based on this understanding and on our study, we believe that the Company's practices and procedures were adequate at December 31, 2004, to meet the Commission's objectives.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the board of directors, management, the Securities and Exchange Commission, the National Association of Securities Dealers and other regulatory agencies that rely on Rule 17a-5(g) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 in their regulation of registered brokers and dealers, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

*Deloitte & Touche LLP*

February 25, 2005