

55-

AA 1/19/06

SECURIT

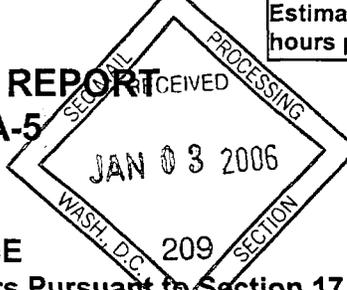


06001879

ISSION

OMB APPROVAL	
OMB Number:	3235-0123
Expires:	January 31, 2007
Estimated average burden hours per response . . .	12.00

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



SEC FILE NUMBER
8-47195

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 November 1, 2004 AND ENDING October 31, 2005  
MM/DDYY MM/DDYY

**A. REGISTRANT IDENTIFICATION**

NAME OF BROKER-DEALER:  
George K. Baum & Company

OFFICIAL USE ONLY
_____
FIRM I.D. NO.

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

Plaza Colonade, 4801 Main Street, Suite 500

(No. and Street)

Kansas City  
(City)

Missouri  
(State)

64112  
(Zip Code)

NAME AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF PERSON TO CONTACT IN REGARD TO THIS REPORT  
Dana L. Bjornson, CFO/EVP (816) 474-1100

(Area Code - Telephone No.)

**B. ACCOUNTANT IDENTIFICATION**

INDEPENDENT PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT whose opinion is contained in this Report\*  
Ernst & Young LLP

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

One Kansas City Place, 1200 Main Street

Kansas City

Missouri

64105

(Address)

(City)

(State)

(Zip Code)

**CHECK ONE:**

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

PROCESSED

JAN 23 2006

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY
THOMSON FINANCIAL

\*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).

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.

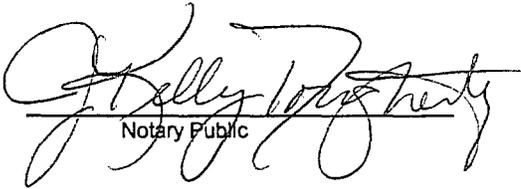
AA 1/20/06

## OATH OR AFFIRMATION

I, Dana L. Bjornson, swear (or affirm) that, to the best of my knowledge and belief the accompanying financial statements and supporting schedules pertaining to the firm of George K. Baum & Company, as of October 31, 2005, 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:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature  
CFO/Executive Vice President  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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 Cash Flows.
- (e) Statement of Changes in Stockholders' Equity or Partners' or Sole Proprietor's 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.
- (o) Independent auditor's report on internal control.
- (p) Schedule of segregation requirements and funds in segregation - customers' regulated commodity futures account pursuant to Rule 171-5.

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

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION

George K. Baum & Company

October 31, 2005

With Report and Supplementary Report of Independent  
Registered Public Accounting Firm

George K. Baum & Company

Statement of Financial Condition

October 31, 2005

**Contents**

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm .....1

Financial Statement

Statement of Financial Condition .....2

Notes to Statement of Financial Condition .....3

Supplementary Report

Supplementary Report of Independent Registered Public  
Accounting Firm on Internal Control .....8

## Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

The Board of Directors  
George K. Baum & Company

We have audited the accompanying statement of financial condition of George K. Baum & Company (the Company) as of October 31, 2005. The statement of financial condition is the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the statement of financial condition based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the statement of financial condition is free of material misstatement. We were not engaged to perform an audit of the Company's internal control over financial reporting. Our audit included 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 statement of financial condition, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, and evaluating the overall statement of financial condition presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the statement of financial condition referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of George K. Baum & Company at October 31, 2005, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States.

November 22, 2005



George K. Baum & Company  
Statement of Financial Condition

October 31, 2005

**Assets**

Cash		\$ 2,470,231
Deposits with clearing organizations		1,293,884
Receivables from customers		2,133,973
Receivables from brokers, dealers, and clearing organizations		855,093
Securities owned, at fair value:		
U.S. government obligations	\$ 1,114,023	
State and municipal obligations	23,447,270	
Corporate stock and debt obligations	186,805	
		24,748,098
Deferred taxes		2,327,000
Prepays and other assets		6,997,968
		\$40,826,247

**Liabilities and stockholder's investment**

Payables to customers		\$ 52,538
Payables to brokers, dealers, and clearing organizations		636,072
Payables to affiliates		3,699,284
Accrued compensation and benefits		13,550,799
Other liabilities and accrued expenses		1,834,966
		19,773,659
Subordinated borrowings		3,052,588
Stockholder's investment		18,000,000
		\$40,826,247

*See accompanying notes.*

# George K. Baum & Company

## Notes to Statement of Financial Condition

October 31, 2005

### **1. Organization**

George K. Baum & Company (the Company) is a wholly owned subsidiary of George K. Baum Holdings, Inc. (the Parent). The Company is a registered broker-dealer under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and is a member of the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. The Company, which provides a range of investment banking services, is a leading underwriter of tax-exempt securities.

### **2. Significant Accounting Policies**

#### **Revenue Recognition**

Securities transactions and related commission and trading revenue and expenses are recorded on a settlement-date basis which does not differ materially from a trade-date basis.

#### **Securities Owned**

Securities owned are stated at fair value. Fair value generally is based on published market prices. If no published market prices exist, fair value is based on other relevant factors including dealer price quotations and valuation pricing models, which take into account time value and volatility factors underlying the securities.

#### **Receivables From and Payables to Customers**

Receivables from and payables to customers include amounts due on cash and margin transactions. Securities owned by customers, but not fully paid for, are held as collateral against the receivables. Such collateral is not reflected in the accompanying financial statements. Included in payables to customers are free credit balances of \$52,195.

#### **Prepays and Other Assets**

Prepays and other assets include the cash value of life insurance contracts owned in connection with the Company's deferred compensation plan and loans to employees. These loans are generally forgivable based on continued employment.

## George K. Baum & Company

### Notes to Statement of Financial Condition (continued)

#### 2. Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

##### Fixed Assets

Fixed assets are recorded at cost and include furniture and equipment, which are depreciated using the straight-line method over the useful lives of the assets, and leasehold improvements, which are amortized using the straight-line method over the shorter of the lease term or useful life.

##### Income Taxes

The Company is included in the consolidated federal income tax return filed by the Parent. The Company files separate state and local income tax returns. State and local taxes have been provided for in these financial statements at the effective income tax rate of the Company.

The Company's income tax provision is computed in accordance with a tax sharing agreement between the Parent and its subsidiaries, and such taxes are settled through the intercompany account with its Parent.

##### Use of Estimates

The preparation of the financial statement in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the statement of financial condition and accompanying notes. Actual results may differ from those estimates.

#### 3. Income Taxes

The Company's deferred tax assets of \$2,327,000 consist primarily of temporary differences associated with deferred compensation and certain other liabilities being recognized for financial reporting purposes which are deferred for tax purposes. The realization of the deferred tax assets is dependent on the Company's ability to generate taxable income in future periods.

## George K. Baum & Company

### Notes to Statement of Financial Condition (continued)

#### 4. Commitments and Contingencies

The Company is obligated to pay rent for office space under noncancelable leases with minimum annual rental payments. Such leases are subject to escalation clauses covering operating expenses and real estate taxes. Expected minimum annual rental payments for years ending October 31 are as follows:

	<u>Minimum Annual Rental Payments</u>
2006	\$ 2,367,522
2007	2,080,237
2008	1,997,987
2009	1,749,803
2010	1,069,963
Thereafter	3,857,233
	<u>\$13,122,745</u>

The Company is a party to certain financial instruments and contracts with off-balance-sheet risk in the normal course of principal trading, securities underwriting, and clearance of securities transactions. These financial instruments involve elements of market risk whose ultimate obligation may exceed the amount recognized in the statement of financial condition.

As a result of the nature of the Company's business, certain transactions underwritten by the Company and by other broker-dealers are the subject of reviews by various governmental agencies. These reviews do not involve any actual or threatened direct claims against the Company. The ultimate resolution of such reviews and the Company's financial exposure, if any, is not reasonably determinable as of October 31, 2005.

As a securities broker-dealer, the Company maintains margin and cash security accounts for its customers and may extend credit to its customers subject to various regulatory and internal margin requirements, collateralized by cash and securities in the customer's account. In the event a customer fails to satisfy its obligations, the Company may be required to purchase or sell securities at prevailing market prices in order to fulfill the customer's obligations. The Company monitors required margin levels daily and, pursuant to such guidelines, requires customers to deposit additional collateral or reduce positions, when necessary.

## George K. Baum & Company

### Notes to Statement of Financial Condition (continued)

#### **4. Commitments and Contingencies (continued)**

The Company seeks to minimize the above off-balance-sheet risks and credit risks through a variety of reporting and control procedures. Among the policies of the Company to address these risks, besides maintaining collateral in compliance with regulatory and internal requirements, is the setting and monitoring of credit limits for customers and other brokers with which it conducts significant transactions and continual monitoring of market exposure and counterparty risk.

#### **5. Short-Term Borrowings**

Short-term borrowings of the Company represent credit arrangements which are secured by firm-owned securities and are payable on demand. Interest is charged at fluctuating rates tied to the daily federal funds rate. Under these lines of credit, the Company had no outstanding borrowings at October 31, 2005.

#### **6. Subordinated Liabilities**

The Company has subordinated liabilities of \$3,052,588 relating to the Company's deferred compensation plan. The subordination agreements have been approved by the Company's designated self-regulatory organization and therefore are allowable in the computation of net capital under the Securities and Exchange Commission rules. The subordinated liabilities are secondary to the claims of all other creditors, and to the extent these liabilities are necessary for the Company's continued compliance with minimum net capital requirements, they may not be repaid.

#### **7. Financial Instruments**

The Company's financial instruments are recorded at fair value or contract amount, which approximates fair value, in the Company's statement of financial condition. Financial instruments that are recorded by the Company at contract amounts include receivables from and payables to brokers, dealers, and clearing organizations; receivables from and payables to affiliates and customers; bank loans; and subordinated borrowings. The financial instruments carried at contract amount have short-term maturities (one year or less) and are repriced frequently or bear market interest rates.

## George K. Baum & Company

### Notes to Statement of Financial Condition (continued)

#### **8. Related-Party Transactions**

The Company performs certain administrative services for affiliated entities for which it receives a monthly management fee. Additionally, the Company has a compensation and facilities sharing arrangement with an affiliated entity.

#### **9. Net Capital Requirements and Other Regulatory Matters**

As a registered broker-dealer with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC), the Company is subject to the SEC's net capital rule (Rule 15c3-1). The Company computes its net capital requirements under the alternative method provided for in Rule 15c3-1, which requires that the Company maintain net capital equal to the greater of 2% of aggregate customer-related debit items, as defined, or \$250,000.

At October 31, 2005, the Company had net capital of \$12,965,728, which was 452% of aggregate debit balances and \$12,715,728 in excess of the required net capital.

Advances to affiliates, repayment of subordinated liabilities, dividend payments, and other equity withdrawals are subject to certain notification and other provisions of the net capital rule of the SEC and other regulatory bodies.

Supplementary Report of Independent  
Registered Public Accounting Firm  
on Internal Control

## Supplementary Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm on Internal Control

The Board of Directors  
George K. Baum & Company

In planning and performing our audit of the statement of financial condition of George K. Baum & Company (the Company) for the year ended October 31, 2005, we considered its internal control, including control activities for safeguarding securities, to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the statement of financial condition and not to provide assurance on internal control.

Also, as required by rule 17a-5(g)(1) of the SEC, we have made a study of the practices and procedures followed by the Company, including tests of such practices and procedures that we considered relevant to the criteria stated in rule 17a-5(g), in the following:

1. Making the periodic computations of aggregate debits and net capital under rule 17a-3(a)(11) and the reserve required by rule 15c3-3(e) of the SEC.
2. Making the quarterly securities examinations, counts, verifications, and comparisons and the recordation of differences required by rule 17a-13.
3. Complying with the requirements for prompt payment for securities under Section 8 of Federal Reserve Regulation T of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.
4. Obtaining and maintaining physical possession or control of all fully paid and excess margin securities of customers as required by rule 15c3-3.

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 controls and of the practices and procedures referred to in the preceding paragraph and to assess whether those practices and procedures can be expected to achieve the SEC's above-mentioned criteria. Two of the criteria of internal control and the practices and procedures are to provide management with reasonable but not absolute assurance that assets for which the

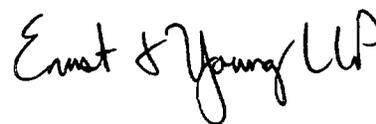
Company has responsibility are safeguarded against loss from unauthorized use or disposition, and that transactions are executed in accordance with management's authorization and recorded properly to permit the preparation of financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. Rule 17a-5(g) of the SEC lists additional criteria 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, misstatement due to errors or fraud may occur and not be detected. Also, projections of any evaluation of internal control to future periods are subject to the risk that internal control may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the effectiveness of its design and operation may deteriorate.

Our consideration of internal control would not necessarily disclose all matters in 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 specific internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that errors 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 internal control, including control activities for safeguarding securities, and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses as defined above.

We understand that practices and procedures that meet the criteria referred to in the second paragraph of this report are considered by the SEC 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 meet such criteria 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 October 31, 2005, to meet the SEC's criteria.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Board of Directors, management, the SEC, the NASD, 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.



November 22, 2005