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

SEC FILE NUMBER
8-40214

FACING PAGE

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

SEC
Section
12/31/07
MM/DD/YYYY 7008

REPORT FOR THE PERIOD BEGINNING 1/01/07 AND ENDING 12/31/07
MM/DD/YY

A. REGISTRANT IDENTIFICATION

NAME OF BROKER DEALER:

Sandler O'Neill & Partners, L.P.

OFFICIAL USE ONLY
FIRM ID. NO.

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

919 Third Avenue
(No. and Street)

New York
(City)

New York
(State)

10022
(Zip Code)

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

May Della Pietra

212-466-7785

(Area Code — Telephone No.)

B. ACCOUNTANT IDENTIFICATION

INDEPENDENT PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT whose opinion is contained in this Report*

BDO Seidman, LLP

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

330 Madison Avenue
(Address)

New York
(City)

New York

10017
(Zip Code)

PROCESSED

CHECK ONE:

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

B FEB 25 2008
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).

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.

2/23/08

OATH OR AFFIRMATION

I, May Della Pierta, swear (or affirm) that, to the best of my knowledge and belief the accompanying financial statement and supporting schedules pertaining to the firm of Sandler O'Neill & Partners, L.P., as of December 31, 2007, 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:



May Della Pierta
Signature

Chief Financial Officer

Title

[Signature]
Notary Public

LAWRENCE BUCKLEY
Notary Public, State of New York
No. 01BU6062331
Qualified in Nassau County
Commission Expires 8/6/2009

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 Auditors' Report on internal control required by SEC Rule 17a-5.

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

Sandler O'Neill & Partners, L.P.

Statement of Financial Condition
December 31, 2007



BDO Seidman, LLP
Accountants and Consultants

Sandler O'Neill & Partners, L.P.

Statement of Financial Condition

December 31, 2007

Sandler O'Neill & Partners, L.P.

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Independent Auditors' Report

The Partners
Sandler O'Neill & Partners, L.P.
New York, New York

We have audited the accompanying statement of financial condition of Sandler O'Neill & Partners, L.P. as of December 31, 2007 that you are filing pursuant to rule 17a-5 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. This financial statement is the responsibility of the Partnership's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on this financial statement 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 statement of financial condition is free of material misstatement. An 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 Partnership'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, as well as 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 Sandler O'Neill & Partners, L.P. as of December 31, 2007, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

BDO Seldman, LLP

January 24, 2008

Sandler O'Neill & Partners, L.P.

Statement of Financial Condition

December 31, 2007

Assets

Cash and cash equivalents	\$130,859,263
Securities owned, at market (Notes 1 and 4)	16,499,924
Due from clearing brokers (Note 1)	4,350,056
Due from related parties (Note 3)	551,030
Other assets	23,339,617
	<hr/>
	\$175,599,890

Liabilities and Partnership Capital**Liabilities:**

Securities sold, not yet purchased, at market (Notes 1 and 4)	\$ 657,509
Commissions and bonuses payable	48,320,387
Accrued expenses and other liabilities	9,885,447
	<hr/>
Total liabilities	58,863,343
Commitments and contingencies (Notes 2, 4, 5 and 7)	
Partnership capital (Note 7)	116,736,547
	<hr/>
	\$175,599,890

*See accompanying summary of business and significant accounting policies
and notes to the statement of financial condition.*

Sandler O'Neill & Partners, L.P.

Summary of Business And Significant Accounting Policies

Business

Sandler O'Neill & Partners, L.P. ("Partnership") is a Delaware limited partnership. The Partnership provides brokerage and investment banking services. The Partnership is registered as a broker-dealer under the provisions of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and is a member of the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. ("NASD").

The Partnership has agreements ("Agreements") with clearing brokers ("Brokers") to clear securities transactions, carry customers' accounts on a fully disclosed basis and perform certain recordkeeping functions. Accordingly, the Partnership operates under the exemptive provisions of Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") Rule 15c3-3(k)(2)(ii).

Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Partnership considers all highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less to be cash equivalents. The Partnership has cash at certain banks that exceeds the \$100,000 insured by the FDIC.

Valuation of Securities

Securities owned and securities sold, not yet purchased, are valued at the last recorded sales price or the bid and ask prices, respectively.

Income Taxes

The Partnership is organized and operates as a limited partnership and is not subject to Federal and state income taxes as a separate entity.

Use of Estimates

In preparing the statement of financial condition in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles, management is required to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the statement of financial condition. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Sandler O'Neill & Partners, L.P.

Summary of Business And Significant Accounting Policies

New Accounting Pronouncements

In September 2006, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards ("SFAS") No. 157, "Fair Value Measurements". This standard clarifies the definition of fair value for financial reporting, establishes a framework for measuring fair value and requires additional disclosures about the use of fair value measurements. SFAS No. 157 is effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007 and interim periods within those fiscal years. As of December 31, 2007, the Partnership does not believe the adoption of SFAS No. 157 will impact the amounts reported in the statement of financial condition. However, additional disclosures will be required about the inputs used to develop the measurements of fair value in the statement of financial condition.

In July 2006, the FASB issued FASB Interpretation No. 48 ("FIN 48"), "Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes", which establishes that a tax position taken or expected to be taken in a tax return is to be recognized in the financial statements when it is more likely than not, based on the technical merits, that the position will be sustained upon examination. FIN 48 is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2007. The Partnership does not believe that the adoption of FIN 48 will have a material impact on its results of operations or its financial position.

Sandler O'Neill & Partners, L.P.

Notes to Statement of Financial Condition

- 1. Clearing Agreements**

The Partnership has clearing agreements with brokerage firms to carry its account as a customer of the clearing firms and the accounts of its customers. The brokers have custody of the Partnership securities and, occasionally, cash balances which may be due from these brokers.

These securities and/or cash positions serve as collateral for any amounts due to the brokers or as collateral for securities sold short or securities purchased on margin. The securities and/or cash positions also serve as collateral for potential defaults of the Partnership's customers which are carried on the books and records of the clearing firms.

The Partnership is subject to credit risk if the brokers are unable to repay balances due or deliver securities in their custody.
- 2. Short-Term Borrowings**

From time to time, the Partnership meets its short-term financing needs through margin borrowings. At December 31, 2007, the Partnership had no short-term borrowings.
- 3. Related Party Transactions**

The Partnership pays certain general and administrative expenses on behalf of affiliates for which it is reimbursed.
- 4. Securities Owned and Securities Sold, Not Yet Purchased**

Securities owned consist of trading and investment securities at their fair values. Securities owned consist of various corporate obligations and stocks totaling \$16,499,924. Securities sold, not yet purchased consist of stocks totaling \$657,509.

In its ordinary course of trading activities, the Partnership has sold securities it does not own, in its trading accounts, in anticipation of a decline in the fair value of those securities. When the Partnership sells a security short, it must borrow the security sold short. A gain, limited to the price at which the Partnership sold the security short, or a loss, potentially unlimited in amount, will be

Sandler O'Neill & Partners, L.P.

Notes to Statement of Financial Condition

recognized upon the termination of a short sale. There is an element of market risk in that, if the securities increase in value, it will be necessary to purchase the securities at a cost in excess of the price reflected in the statement of financial condition.

5. Commitments and Contingencies

Litigation

The Partnership is a defendant in various legal actions arising out of its activities as a broker-dealer. While predicting the outcome of litigation is inherently very difficult, and the ultimate resolution, range of loss and impact on operating results cannot be reliably estimated, management believes, based upon its understanding of the facts and the advice of applicable legal counsel, that it has meritorious defenses for all such actions and it intends to defend each of these vigorously, and that resolution of these actions will not have a materially adverse effect on the Partnership's financial position.

Customer Transactions

In the normal course of business, the Partnership executes as agent transactions on behalf of its customers. If the agency transactions do not settle because of failure to perform by either the customer or the counterparty, the Partnership may be obligated to discharge the obligation of the nonperforming party and, as a result, may incur a loss if the market value of the securities differs from the contract amount.

The Partnership does not anticipate nonperformance by customers or counterparties in the above situations. The Partnership's policy is to monitor its market exposure and counterparty risk. In addition, the Partnership has a policy of reviewing the credit standing of each counterparty and customer with which it conducts business.

Sandler O'Neill & Partners, L.P.

Notes to Statement of Financial Condition

Operating Leases

The Partnership leases office space and equipment under noncancellable lease agreements expiring through 2012. Minimum rental payments approximate:

Year ending December 31,

2008	\$ 3,138,000
2009	2,973,000
2010	2,817,000
2011	2,541,000
2012	635,000
	<hr/>
	\$12,104,000

6. **Profit Sharing Plan** The Partnership has a profit sharing plan under Section 401(k) of the Internal Revenue Code ("Code") covering substantially all of its employees. Participants may contribute a percentage of compensation, but not in excess of the maximum allowed under the Code.
7. **Regulatory Net Capital Requirements** The Partnership is subject to the SEC Uniform Net Capital Rule, which requires the maintenance of minimum regulatory net capital and requires that the ratio of aggregate indebtedness to regulatory net capital, both as defined, shall not exceed 15 to 1. As of December 31, 2007, the Partnership had regulatory net capital of approximately \$98,949,000 and a minimum regulatory net capital requirement of approximately \$3,880,000. The regulatory net capital ratio of the Partnership was .59 to 1.

Sandler O'Neill & Partners, L.P.

**Report on Internal Control Pursuant to
Securities and Exchange Commission
Rule 17a-5
Year Ended December 31, 2007**

BDO

BDO Seidman, LLP
Accountants and Consultants

Sandler O'Neill & Partners, L.P.

**Report on Internal Control Pursuant to
Securities and Exchange Commission**

Rule 17a-5

Year Ended December 31, 2007

Sandler O'Neill & Partners, L.P.

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Independent Auditors' Report on Internal Control Required by Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 17a-5

The Partners
Sandler O'Neill & Partners, L.P.
New York, New York

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements and supplemental schedules of Sandler O'Neill & Partners, L.P. ("Partnership") as of and for the year ended December 31, 2007, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, we considered the Partnership's internal control over financial reporting ("internal control") as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Partnership's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Partnership's internal control.

Also, as required by Rule 17a-5(g)(1) of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"), we have made a study of the practices and procedures followed by the Partnership including consideration of control activities for safeguarding securities. This study included tests of such practices and procedures 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. Because the Partnership does not carry securities accounts for customers or perform custodial functions relating to customer securities, we did not review the practices and procedures followed by the Partnership in any of the following:

1. Making quarterly securities examinations, counts, verifications, and comparisons and the recordation of differences required by Rule 17a-13.
2. 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.



The management of the Partnership 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 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 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 Partnership 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 conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. Rule 17a-5(g) lists additional objectives of the practices and procedures listed in the preceding paragraph.

Because of inherent limitations in internal control and the practices and procedures referred to above, error or fraud may occur and not be detected. Also, projection of any evaluation of them to future periods is subject to the risk that they may become inadequate because of changes in conditions or that the effectiveness of their design and operation may deteriorate.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the entity's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles such that there is more than a remote likelihood that a misstatement of the entity's financial statements that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies, that results in more than a remote likelihood that a material misstatement of the financial statements will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first and second paragraphs and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control and 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 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 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 Partnership's practices and procedures, as described in the second paragraph of this report, were adequate at December 31, 2007 to meet the SEC's objectives.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, the SEC, the New York Stock Exchange, Inc., the American Stock Exchange, Inc., the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority 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.

BDO Seidman, LLP

Certified Public Accountants

New York, New York

January 24, 2008

END