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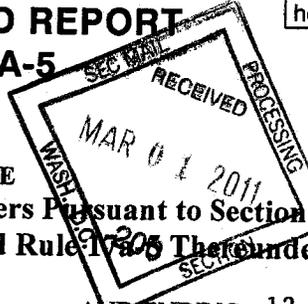
UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

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



SEC FILE NUMBER
8-67306

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 01-01-2010 AND ENDING 12-31-2010  
MM/DD/YY MM/DD/YY

**A. REGISTRANT IDENTIFICATION**

NAME OF BROKER-DEALER: Elevation, LLC

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

214 North Tryon Street, Suite 3010

(No. and Street)

Charlotte

(City)

NC

(State)

28202

(Zip Code)

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

Pat Sheehan

(704) 926-1100

(Area Code - Telephone Number)

**B. ACCOUNTANT IDENTIFICATION**

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

Miller McNeish Breedlove & Hearn, P.A.

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

309 South Laurel Avenue

(Address)

Charlotte

(City)

NC

(State)

28207

(Zip Code)

CHECK ONE:

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

**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.

BB  
3/24

OATH OR AFFIRMATION

I, Patrick Sheehan, swear (or affirm) that, to the best of my knowledge and belief the accompanying financial statement and supporting schedules pertaining to the firm of Elevation, LLC, as of December 31, 2010, 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:

SHEREL R HOFFMAN
NOTARY PUBLIC
GASTON COUNTY, NC
My Commission Expires 5-7-2013

[Handwritten Signature]
Signature

CEO
Title

[Handwritten Signature: Sherel B. Hoffman]
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 15c3-1 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.

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

# MILLER MCNEISH BREEDLOVE & HEARN, PA

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

309 S. LAUREL AVENUE  
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA 28207

TELEPHONE (704) 376-8415  
FACSIMILE (704) 376-8417

## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Members of  
Elevation, LLC  
Charlotte, North Carolina

We have audited the accompanying statement of financial condition of Elevation, LLC (a North Carolina Limited Liability Company) as of December 31, 2010, and the related statements of income, changes in members' equity, changes in liabilities subordinated to claims of general creditors and cash flows for the year then ended that you are filing pursuant to Rule 17a-5 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. 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 misstatements. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes 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, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Elevation, LLC as of December 31, 2010, and the results of its operations and cash flows for the year then ended, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

*Miller McNeish Breedlove & Hearn, PA*

February 23, 2011

ELEVATION, LLC

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION

December 31, 2010

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ASSETS

Current assets:

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 907,968
Receivables from brokers	451,039
Receivables from clearing firms	709,490
Deposits with clearing firms	450,069
Prepaid expenses	74,732
Receivables from affiliates	425,873
Production advances	361,111
Other assets	<u>41,330</u>

Total current assets 3,421,612

Property and equipment:

Office furniture and equipment	234,308
Automobile	<u>46,612</u>
	280,920
Less accumulated depreciation	<u>(100,738)</u>

Net property and equipment 180,182

Total assets \$ 3,601,794

LIABILITIES AND MEMBER'S EQUITY

Current liabilities:

Accounts payable	\$ 325,819
Accrued expenses	507,155
Other liabilities	<u>6,224</u>

Total current liabilities 839,198

Subordinated debt 2,000,000

MEMBER'S EQUITY 762,596

Total liabilities and member's equity \$ 3,601,794

See Independent Auditors' Report and Accompanying Notes

ELEVATION, LLC

STATEMENT OF INCOME  
Year Ended December 31, 2010

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Revenues:

Commissions	\$ 12,045,555
Interest and dividends	<u>2,855</u>
Total revenue	<u>12,048,410</u>

Expenses:

Employee compensation and benefits	6,388,682
Clearing fees	1,811,355
Travel and entertainment	1,028,505
Market data services	863,782
Professional fees	461,794
Insurance	306,349
Technology	289,779
Occupancy costs	229,838
Interest	177,139
Utilities	108,120
Office	60,894
Regulatory	54,244
Marketing and promotions	50,959
Depreciation	37,067
Communications and data processing	28,549
Other	<u>87,754</u>
Total expenses	<u>11,984,810</u>

Net income	\$ <u><u>63,600</u></u>
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ELEVATION, LLC

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN MEMBERS' EQUITY  
 As of and for the year ended December 31, 2010

	<u>Class A</u>	<u>Class B</u>	<u>Class A Warrants</u>	<u>Total</u>
Members' equity - December 31, 2009	\$ 199,687	\$ 20,576	\$	\$ 220,263
Member contributions	299,000	-		299,000
Member withdrawals	(197,500)	-		(197,500)
Warrants issued (Note 10)	-		500,000	500,000
Cumulative preferred return	-	(122,767)		(122,767)
Net income	<u>62,964</u>	<u>636</u>		<u>63,600</u>
Members' equity - December 31, 2010	<u>\$ 364,151</u>	<u>\$ (101,555)</u>	<u>\$ 500,000</u>	<u>\$ 762,596</u>

See Independent Auditors' Report and Accompanying Notes

ELEVATION, LLC

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN LIABILITIES SUBORDINATED TO  
CLAIMS OF GENERAL CREDITORS

As of and for the year ended December 31, 2010

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Subordinated Debt, December 31, 2009	\$	1,500,000
Increase in subordinated debt		<u>500,000</u>
Subordinated Debt, December 31, 2010	\$	<u><u>2,000,000</u></u>

ELEVATION, LLC

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

Year Ended December 31, 2010

Cash flows from operating activities:	
Net income	\$ 63,600
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:	
Depreciation expense	37,067
Increase in receivables from brokers	(451,039)
Increase in receivables from clearing firms	(562,291)
Increase in deposits with clearing firms	(65)
Increase in prepaid expenses	(35,960)
Increase in receivables from affiliates	(402,792)
Increase in production advances	(361,111)
Increase in other assets	(15,078)
Increase in accounts payable	224,481
Increase in accrued expenses	362,359
Increase in other liabilities	<u>6,224</u>
Net cash used in operating activities	<u>(1,134,605)</u>
Cash flows from investment activities:	
Purchase of property and equipment	<u>(130,292)</u>
Net cash used in investment activities	<u>(130,292)</u>
Cash flows from financing activities:	
Proceeds from subordinated debt	500,000
Preferred return Class B member	(122,767)
Member contributions	299,000
Member withdrawals	(197,500)
Class A warrants issued	<u>500,000</u>
Net cash provided by financing activities	<u>978,733</u>
Net decrease in cash	(286,164)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	<u>1,194,132</u>
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	<u>\$ 907,968</u>
<b>Supplemental Cash Flow Information</b>	
Cash paid during the year for:	
Interest	<u>\$ 160,377</u>

See Independent Auditors' Report and Accompanying Notes

## ELEVATION, LLC

### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS Year Ended December 31, 2010

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#### Note 1 – Nature of Business and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

##### Nature of Business:

Elevation, LLC (the “Company”) was organized on December 27, 2005 under the North Carolina Limited Liability Company Act. The Company operates as an institutional broker-dealer located in Charlotte, North Carolina. The Company is registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and is a member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) and National Futures Association (NFA).

A summary of the Company’s significant policies follows:

##### Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles 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 and Cash Equivalents

For the purpose of the financial statements, the Company considers cash in operating accounts, cash on hand, and short-term debt securities purchased with maturity of three months or less as cash and cash equivalents. The Company maintains cash deposits with financial institutions that at times may exceed federally insured limits. At December 31, 2010, the Company had approximately \$657,968 in deposits that were in excess of federally insured limits.

##### Revenue Recognition

The Company recognizes revenue and prepares its financial statements on the accrual basis of accounting. Commissions and related clearing expenses are recorded on a trade-date basis as securities transactions occur.

##### Accounts Receivable

The Company extends credit to certain clearing firms for commissions earned for securities transactions completed under clearing agreements, and to other financial institutions for commissions earned for securities transactions completed. As of December 31, 2010, the Company considers all such receivables fully collectible, and therefore, no allowance has been provided.

##### Property and Equipment

Property and equipment are stated at cost. Significant additions and betterments are capitalized. Expenditures for maintenance and repairs and minor renewals are charged to operations as incurred.

## ELEVATION, LLC

### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS Year Ended December 31, 2010

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#### Note 1 - Nature of Business and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

##### Depreciation

Depreciation is provided using straight-line methods for financial reporting purposes over the estimated useful lives of the assets. Depreciation expense charged to operations was \$37,067 for the year ended December 31, 2010.

##### Foreign Currencies

Assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at year-end rates of exchange, whereas the income statement accounts are translated at average rates of exchange for the year. Gains or losses resulting from foreign currency transactions are included in net income.

##### Subsequent Events

In preparing the financial statements, the Company has evaluated subsequent events through February 23, 2011, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

#### Note 2 – Revenue

The Company operates under a fully disclosed clearing agreement whereby Sterne Agee Capital Markets, Inc. introduces the Company's customer accounts to an affiliate securities clearing firm, Sterne, Agee & Leach, Inc. ("Sterne Agee"). Sterne Agee clears transactions on behalf of the Company and carries and clears on a fully disclosed basis the Company's and its customers' trading accounts. The company earns income, net of clearing costs, on these introduced transactions.

The Company also operates under a fully disclosed clearing agreement with Merrill Lynch Broadcourt ("Merrill Lynch"). Merrill Lynch clears certain securities transactions on behalf of the Company, and carries and clears on a fully disclosed basis the Company's and its customers' trading accounts. The Company earns income, net of clearing costs, on these introduced transactions.

#### Note 3 – Concentrations of Credit Risk

The Company is engaged in various trading and brokerage activities in which counterparties primarily include broker-dealers, banks and other financial institutions. In the event counterparties do not fulfill their obligations, the Company may be exposed to risk. The risk of default depends on the creditworthiness of the counterparty. It is the Company's policy to review, as necessary, the credit standing of each counterparty.

## ELEVATION, LLC

### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS Year Ended December 31, 2010

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#### Note 4 – Receivables From and Deposits With Clearing Firms

For transactions cleared on its behalf, the Company had net receivables in the amount of \$674,721 from Sterne Agee and \$34,769 from Merrill Lynch as of December 31, 2010, respectively.

The Company had deposits of \$450,069 held by its clearing firms as of December 31, 2010. The clearing deposits are interest-bearing and are required under the clearing agreements between the Company and the clearing firms.

#### Note 5 – Production Advances

During 2010, the Company entered into promissory note agreements with certain employees. The outstanding value of these production advances totaled \$361,111 as of December 31, 2010. The original value of these promissory notes was \$500,000 and they are being forgiven over a three year period if the employees meet certain performance objectives and are still employed by the Company. The notes are payable upon demand in the event that the employees do not meet the established performance objectives or in the event that the employee is terminated or leaves the employment of the Company prior to the end of the three year term.

#### Note 6 – Income Taxes

For income tax purposes, the Company is considered to be a partnership. No provision for federal or state income taxes has been made in the accompanying financial statements since the members include their allocable share of Company income or losses in their respective income tax returns. Temporary differences exist between income or loss recognized for financial reporting and income tax purposes. Such differences primarily relate to depreciation, and to the use of the accrual basis of accounting for financial reporting purposes and the cash basis of accounting for income tax purposes.

#### Note 7 – Lease Commitments

The Company leases office space in North Carolina, New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Florida and Chicago under operating leases with terms expiring at various dates through June 2013. The Company is currently leasing some of its office space on a month-to-month basis. Rent expense under the office leases for the year ended December 31, 2010 totaled \$229,838 and was included in occupancy costs in the accompanying Statement of Income.

Aggregate future minimum lease payments under such leases as of December 31, 2010 are as follows:

Year ending December 31:	
2011	\$ 91,753
2012	63,610
2013	<u>20,842</u>
Total	<u>\$176,205</u>

## ELEVATION, LLC

### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS Year Ended December 31, 2010

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#### **Note 8 – Subordinated Loan**

In October 2009, the Company entered into a subordinated loan agreement for \$1,500,000 with the Class B member. Interest is payable quarterly based on a fixed rate of 10% and the note matures August 31, 2029. During 2010, the Company increased this agreement by an additional \$500,000. The total subordinated debt balance as of December 31, 2010 is \$2,000,000. The subordinated borrowings are available in computing net capital under the SEC's uniform net capital rule. To the extent that such borrowings are required for the Company's continued compliance with the minimum net capital requirements, they may not be repaid. The amount of interest due to the Class B member at December 31, 2010 is \$50,000.

#### **Note 9 - Related Parties**

During the year ended December 31, 2010, the Company made advances totaling \$402,792 to affiliated entities either partially or fully owned by certain officers of the Company, primarily to accommodate expansion and other short-term financing needs of the affiliates. These advances are non-interest bearing and do not have specified repayment terms. The receivable from affiliates at December 31, 2010 is \$425,873 and is included in current assets in the accompanying Statement of Financial Condition as the Company expects to be repaid in the current year.

#### **Note 10 – Members' Equity**

The members of the Company are subject to the Amended and Restated Operating Agreement dated June 2010, which specifies the rights and obligations of its members. The agreement provides for both Class A and Class B units, and governs the allocation of profits, losses and distributions to the respective ownership interests. The Company had only one Class B member as of December 31, 2010. The Class B member is entitled to receive distributions and allocations corresponding to its cumulative preferred return, as defined in the agreement. The preferred return is to be paid on the twentieth business day following the applicable quarter end.

The Class B member is subject to the Securities Purchase Agreement as amended in June 2010. The agreement entitles the Class B member to receive a return, or revenue participation amount, based upon quarterly revenues generated by the Company as defined in the agreement. As of December 31, 2010, the cumulative preferred return and revenue participation amount due to the Class B member totaled \$35,630. The cumulative preferred return for the year ended December 31, 2010 is \$122,767.

The Company entered into a Purchase Agreement and Assignment dated September 2010 with an individual by which warrants for the acquisition of 5,000 Class A Units were granted. These warrants will automatically convert to Class A units if certain performance objectives are met during 2011 by the individual. These warrants are included in equity as of December 31, 2010 at the value of the cash outlay to purchase the warrants. If the performance objectives are not met for 2011, the warrants expire and the Company has no further obligation to the individual.

**ELEVATION, LLC**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**Year Ended December 31, 2010**

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**Note 11 – Contingent Liabilities**

The Company is liable to the clearing broker if a loss is incurred for failure to pay on behalf of any introduced account.

**Note 12 – Reserve Requirements**

The Company does not hold, carry or maintain cash or securities for the benefit of its' customers, or perform custodial functions, and is exempted under paragraph (k)(1) of Rule 15c3-3 from reserve requirements of that rule.

**Note 13 – Net Capital Requirements**

The Company is subject to the Securities and Exchange Commission Uniform Net Capital Rule (Rule 15c3-1), which requires the maintenance of minimum net capital and requires that the ratio of aggregate indebtedness to net capital, both as defined, shall not exceed 15 to 1. At December 31, 2010, the Company had net capital of \$1,462,967 which was \$1,362,967 in excess of its required capital amount of \$100,000 (minimum per regulation). At December 31, 2010, the Company's net capital ratio was .5763 to 1.

**Note 14 – Focus Report**

Amounts reported on the Company's FOCUS Report as of December 31, 2010 and for the year ended, were reconciled to the accompanying financial statements. No material differences in net capital were noted. The most recent annual report of the Company is available for examination at the offices of the Company and the Atlanta regional office of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

**ELEVATION, LLC**

**Supplemental Information**

**Year Ended December 31, 2010**

# MILLER MCNEISH BREEDLOVE & HEARN, PA

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

309 S. LAUREL AVENUE  
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA 28207

TELEPHONE (704) 376-8415  
FACSIMILE (704) 376-8417

## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON SUPPLEMENTARY SCHEDULES

The Members of  
Elevation, LLC  
Charlotte, North Carolina

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Elevation, LLC as of and for the year ended December 31, 2010 and have issued our report thereon dated February 23, 2011. Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The accompanying information on the following pages is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements, but is supplementary information required by Rule 17a-5 of the Securities and Exchange Commission. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

*Miller McNeish Breedlove & Hearn, PA*

February 23, 2011

ELEVATION, LLC

COMPUTATION OF NET CAPITAL UNDER RULE 15c3-1 OF THE  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

As of December 31, 2010

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**Net Capital**

Total member's equity qualified for net capital	\$	762,596
Add allowable credit:		
Subordinated debt		2,000,000
Deductions for non-allowable assets:		
Other assets		(1,115,447)
Net property and equipment		(180,182)
Net capital before haircuts		<u>1,466,967</u>
Other haircuts:		
Clearing deposit		<u>(4,000)</u>
Net capital at December 31, 2010	\$	<u><u>1,462,967</u></u>

**Aggregate Indebtedness**

Current liabilities included in statement of financial condition \$ 839,198

**Computation of Basic Net Capital Requirement**

Minimum net capital required at 6.667%	\$	<u>55,975</u>
Minimum net capital required, per regulation	\$	<u>100,000</u>
Excess net capital	\$	<u>1,362,967</u>
Excess net capital at 1000%	\$	<u>1,379,047</u>
Percent of aggregate indebtedness to net capital		<u>57.36%</u>

**Reconciliation With Company's Computation**

(included in Part II of Form X-17A-5 as of December 31, 2010)

Net capital, as reported in Company's Part II (unaudited) FOCUS report	\$	1,477,681
Increase in depreciation expense		(832)
Increase in members' equity		70,286
Increase in interest expense		(5,000)
Increase in professional fees		(80,000)
Deductions for non-allowable assets:		
Net property and equipment		<u>832</u>
Net capital per above	\$	<u><u>1,462,967</u></u>

# MILLER MCNEISH BREEDLOVE & HEARN, PA

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

309 S. LAUREL AVENUE  
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA 28207

TELEPHONE (704) 376-8415  
FACSIMILE (704) 376-8417

## REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL STRUCTURE REQUIRED BY SEC RULE 17a-5

The Members of  
Elevation, LLC  
Charlotte, North Carolina

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of Elevation, LLC (the Company) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2010, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, we considered the Company'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 Company's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control.

Also, as required by rule 17a-5(g)(1) of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), we have made a study of the practices and procedures followed by the Company 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 (or aggregate debts) and net capital under rule 17a-3(a)(11) and for determining compliance with the exemptive provisions of rule 15c3-3. Because the Company 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 Company in any of the following:

1. Making quarterly securities examinations, counts, verifications, and comparisons and 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 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 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 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 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 Company's practices and procedures, as described in the second paragraph of this report, were adequate at December 31, 2010, to meet the SEC's objectives.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the members of the Company, the SEC, 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.

*Miller McNeish Breedlove & Heann, PA*

Charlotte, NC

February 23, 2011

**ELEVATION, LLC**

Material inadequacies – Rule 17a-5(j)  
Year Ended December 31, 2010

<u>Material Inadequacy</u>	<u>Corrective Action Taken or Proposed</u>
None	Not Applicable

See report on accompanying information.

# MILLER MCNEISH BREEDLOVE & HEARN, PA

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

309 S. LAUREL AVENUE  
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA 28207

TELEPHONE (704) 376-8415  
FACSIMILE (704) 376-8417

## INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES RELATED TO AN ENTITY'S SIPC ASSESSMENT

The Members of  
Elevation, LLC  
Charlotte, North Carolina

In accordance with Rule 17a-5(e)(4) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, we have performed the procedures enumerated below with respect to the accompanying Schedule of Assessment and Payments [General Assessment Reconciliation (Form SIPC-7)] to the Securities Investor Protection Corporation (SIPC) for the year ended December 31, 2010, which were agreed to by Elevation, LLC and the Securities and Exchange Commission, Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. and SIPC, solely to assist you and the other specified parties in evaluating Elevation, LLC's compliance with the applicable instructions of the General Assessment Reconciliation (Form SIPC-7). Elevation LLC's management is responsible for the compliance with those requirements. This agreed-upon procedures engagement was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. The sufficiency of these procedures is solely the responsibility of those parties specified in this report. Consequently, we make no representation regarding the sufficiency of the procedures described below either for the purpose for which this report has been requested or for any other purpose. The procedures we performed and our findings are as follows:

1. Compared the listed assessment payments in Form SIPC-7 with respective cash disbursement records entries noting no differences;
2. Compared the amounts reported on the audited Form X-17A-5 for the year ended December 31, 2010, as applicable, with the amounts reported in Form SIPC-7 for the year ended December 31, 2010, noting no differences;
3. Compared any adjustments reported in Form SIPC-7 with supporting schedules and working papers noting no differences;
4. Proved the arithmetical accuracy of the calculations reflected in Form SIPC-7 and in the related schedules and working papers supporting the adjustments noting no differences.

We were not engaged to, and did not conduct an examination, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion on compliance. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the specified parties listed above and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

*Miller McNeish Breedlove & Hearn, PA*

February 23, 2011

**SIPC-7**

(31-REV 5/10)

**SECURITIES INVESTOR PROTECTION CORPORATION**  
P.O. Box 92185 Washington, D.C. 20090-2185  
202-371-8300

**General Assessment Reconciliation**

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 20 10  
(Read carefully the instructions in your Working Copy before completing this Form)

**SIPC-7**

(31-REV 5/10)

**TO BE FILED BY ALL SIPC MEMBERS WITH FISCAL YEAR ENDINGS**

1. Name of Member, address, Designated Examining Authority, 1934 Act registration no. and month in which fiscal year ends for purposes of the audit requirement of SEC Rule 17a-5:

Elevation LLC  
214 N Tryon Street  
Suite 300  
Charlotte NC 28202

Note: If any of the information shown on the mailing label requires correction, please e-mail any corrections to form@sipc.org and so indicate on the form filed.

Name and telephone number of person to contact respecting this form.

George Calvo 704-926-1100

**WORKING COPY**

- 2. A. General Assessment [item 2e from page 2 (not less than \$150 minimum)] \$ 24933
- B. Less payment made with SIPC-6 filed (exclude interest) ( \_\_\_\_\_ )
- \_\_\_\_\_ Date Paid
- C. Less prior overpayment applied ( \_\_\_\_\_ )
- D. Assessment balance due or (overpayment) 7 months
- E. Interest computed on late payment (see instruction E) for \_\_\_\_\_ days at 20% per annum 1298
- F. Total assessment balance and interest due (or overpayment carried forward) \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- G. PAID WITH THIS FORM:  
Check enclosed, payable to SIPC  
Total (must be same as F above) \$ 26,231
- H. Overpayment carried forward \$( \_\_\_\_\_ )

3. Subsidiaries (S) and predecessors (P) included in this form (give name and 1934 Act registration number):

The SIPC member submitting this form and the person by whom it is executed represent thereby that all information contained herein is true, correct and complete.

Elevation LLC  
(Name of Corporation, Partnership or other organization)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Authorized Signature)

Dated the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20 \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Title)

This form and the assessment payment is due 60 days after the end of the fiscal year. Retain the Working Copy of this form for a period of not less than 6 years, the latest 2 years in an easily accessible place.

**SIPC REVIEWER**

Dates: Postmarked Received Reviewed

Calculations \_\_\_\_\_ Documentation \_\_\_\_\_ Forward Copy \_\_\_\_\_

Exceptions: \_\_\_\_\_

Disposition of exceptions: \_\_\_\_\_

**DETERMINATION OF "SIPC NET OPERATING REVENUES"  
AND GENERAL ASSESSMENT**

Amounts for the fiscal period  
beginning Jan, 2010  
and ending Dec, 2010  
Eliminate cents

**Item No.**

2a. Total revenue (FOCUS Line 12/Part IIA Line 9, Code 4030)

\$ 12,048,409

**2b. Additions:**

- (1) Total revenues from the securities business of subsidiaries (except foreign subsidiaries) and predecessors not included above.
- (2) Net loss from principal transactions in securities in trading accounts.
- (3) Net loss from principal transactions in commodities in trading accounts.
- (4) Interest and dividend expense deducted in determining item 2a.
- (5) Net loss from management of or participation in the underwriting or distribution of securities.
- (6) Expenses other than advertising, printing, registration fees and legal fees deducted in determining net profit from management of or participation in underwriting or distribution of securities.
- (7) Net loss from securities in investment accounts.

Total additions

**2c. Deductions:**

- (1) Revenues from the distribution of shares of a registered open end investment company or unit investment trust, from the sale of variable annuities, from the business of insurance, from investment advisory services rendered to registered investment companies or insurance company separate accounts, and from transactions in security futures products.
- (2) Revenues from commodity transactions.
- (3) Commissions, floor brokerage and clearance paid to other SIPC members in connection with securities transactions.
- (4) Reimbursements for postage in connection with proxy solicitation.
- (5) Net gain from securities in investment accounts.
- (6) 100% of commissions and markups earned from transactions in (i) certificates of deposit and (ii) Treasury bills, bankers acceptances or commercial paper that mature nine months or less from issuance date.
- (7) Direct expenses of printing advertising and legal fees incurred in connection with other revenue related to the securities business (revenue defined by Section 16(9)(L) of the Act).
- (8) Other revenue not related either directly or indirectly to the securities business. (See Instruction C):

261,171

1,811,355

2854

(9) (i) Total interest and dividend expense (FOCUS Line 22/PART IIA Line 13, Code 4075 plus line 2b(4) above) but not in excess of total interest and dividend income.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

(ii) 40% of margin interest earned on customers securities accounts (40% of FOCUS line 5, Code 3960).

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Enter the greater of line (i) or (ii)

Total deductions

2d. SIPC Net Operating Revenues

\$ 9,973,029

2e. General Assessment @ .0025

\$ 24,933

(to page 1 but not less than \$150 minimum)

ELEVATION, LLC

SIPC ASSESSMENT PAYMENTS

Year ended December 31, 2010

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<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Paid To</u>
2010	NONE	Securities Investors Protection Corporation

**ELEVATION, LLC**

**Audited Financial Statements and  
Supplementary Information**

**Year Ended December 31, 2010**