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Information Required Securities Excl	FACING PAGE of Brokers and Dealers Pu hange Act of 1934 and Rule	ursuant to Section e 17a-5 Thereund	17 of the
REPORT FOR THE PERIOD BEGINNING	<u>9 01/01/11</u> мм/DD/YY	AND ENDING	12/31/11 MM/DD/YY
A. RI	EGISTRANT IDENTIFICA	TION	
NAME OF BROKER-DEALER: Meri ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BU 645 Tollgate R		No.)	OFFICIAL USE ONLY
Elgin	(No. and Street)	601	<b></b>
(City)	(State)	601 (Zij	2 3 p Code)
VAME AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF I Lynn M. Schmidt	PERSON TO CONTACT IN REG t	(847)	)RT 289-7700 Area Code-Telephone Number)
B. AC	COUNTANT IDENTIFICA	CALIFY AND	
NDEPENDENT PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT SS&G, Inc.	(Name – if individual, state last, first,	middle name)	
(Address)	Street, Suite 300, (City)	Chicago, IL 60 (State)	(Zip Code)
HECK ONE: Certified Public Accountant Public Accountant Accountant not resident in Un	ited States or any of its possessio		(Lip Code)
	FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY	<u> </u>	
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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.

BD

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SEC 1410 (06-02)

# OATH OR AFFIRMATION

I,	Lynn M.	Schmidt		, swear (or affirm) that, to the best of
my kn	iowledge an	d belief the acco	mpanying financial stater	nent and supporting schedules pertaining to the firm of
	Meritus	; Financial	Group, Inc.	, as
	Decembe			11 , are true and correct. I further swear (or affirm) that
				officer or director has any proprietary interest in any account
	-			sincer of uncertor has any proprietary interest in any account
Classi	ned solely a	is that of a custon	ner, except as follows:	
			Nor	le
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				Signature
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$\mathcal{Y}$	www	Crigan	COFFIC	· ₩ SUSAN M JELINSKI > I <sup>AL</sup> // MY COMMISSION EXPIRES
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<b>`</b>	•			
· · · · · ·		t of Income (Loss		
			inansint Constraint Ca	
				artners' or Sole Proprietors' Capital.
<ul> <li>If Statement of Changes in Liabilities Subordinated to Claims of Creditors.</li> <li>(g) Computation of Net Capital.</li> </ul>				
	· •	•		
· · ·	•		<b>.</b>	ments Pursuant to Rule 15c3-3.
				Requirements Under Rule 15c3-3.
🗆 (j)				of the Computation of Net Capital Under Rule 15c3-1 and the
<b>—</b> "				uirements Under Exhibit A of Rule 15c3-3.
L (k			the audited and unaudited	d Statements of Financial Condition with respect to methods of
	consolida	tion.		

- (1) 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).

# MERITUS FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.

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## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

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To the Board of Directors Meritus Financial Group, Inc. Chicago, Illinois

We have audited the accompanying statement of financial condition of Meritus Financial Group, Inc. as of December 31, 2011, and the related statements of operations, changes in stockholder's 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 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 Meritus Financial Group, Inc.'s internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. 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 Meritus Financial Group, Inc. as of December 31, 2011 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 financial statements taken as a whole. The supplementary information required by Rule 17a-5 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

SS+ J. Inc.

February 23, 2012

# MERITUS FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION DECEMBER 31, 2011

## ASSETS

<u>ASSETS</u> Cash and cash equivalents Receivable from brokers - dealers	\$        52,121 16,538
Total Assets	\$68,659_
•	
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDER'S EQUITY	
LIABILITIES Accrued expenses and accounts payable	\$19,213_
<u>STOCKHOLDER'S EQUITY</u> Common stock - no par value; 30,000 shares authorized; 1,000 shares issued and outstanding Additional paid in capital Accumulated deficit	1,000 59,000 ( <u>10,554)</u>
Total Stockholder's Equity	49,446
Total Liabilities and Stockholder's Equity	\$68,659_

## MERITUS FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011

REVENUE Commissions	\$	172,687
EXPENSES Management fees Clearing costs Technology cost Office expense Professional fees Regulatory fees and dues Dues and subscriptions Reimbursable expenses Charitable contributions Insurance Miscellaneous expenses Total Expenses		100,939 16,571 1,783 30,056 7,150 6,312 2,505 16,317 105 443 342 182,523
LOSS FROM OPERATIONS	(	9,836)
OTHER INCOME		5
NET LOSS	\$ <u>(</u>	9,831)

MERITUS FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN LIABILITIES SUBORDINATED TO CLAIMS OF GENERAL CREDITORS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011

BALANCE - JANUARY 1, 2011

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

ADDITIONS (DEDUCTIONS)

BALANCE - DECEMBER 31, 2011

# MERITUS FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN STOCKHOLDER'S EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011

	Common Stock		Additional Paid in Capital		(Accumulated Deficit)	
BALANCE - JANUARY 1, 2011	\$	1,000	\$	59,000	\$(	723)
Net loss for the year ended December 31, 2011					(	9,831)
BALANCE - DECEMBER 31, 2011	\$	1,000	\$	59,000	\$ <u>(</u>	10,554)

# MERITUS FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011

.

CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES Net loss Adjustments to reconcile net loss to net cash used by operating activities:	\$(	9,831)
(Increase) decrease in assets: Receivables from brokers - dealers	(	714)
Increase (decrease) in liabilities: Accrued expenses and accounts payable Net Cash Used by Operating Activities	(	<u>494</u> 10,051)
NET DECREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	(	10,051)
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>-</u>	62,172
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - END OF YEAR	\$	52,121

#### MERITUS FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2011

#### Note 1 - Organization

Meritus Financial Group, Inc. (the Company) was incorporated in the State of Illinois on June 11, 1997. Registration as a broker-dealer with the Securities and Exchange Commission became effective February 2004. Currently, the Company operates as an introducing licensed broker-dealer with its principal location in Elgin, Illinois.

#### Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

#### Basis of Accounting

The Company uses the accrual method of accounting. Customer transactions are cleared on a fullydisclosed basis through another broker-dealer. Commissions and related clearing expenses are recorded on a trade-date basis as transactions occur.

#### Income Taxes

The Company files income tax returns in the U.S. federal jurisdiction and Illinois. The Company, with the consent of its shareholder, elected to be an S-Corporation under the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code. Instead of paying corporate income taxes, the shareholders of an S-Corporation are taxed individually on their proportionate share of the Company's taxable income. Therefore, no provision or liability for federal income taxes has been included in these financial statements. The Company is responsible for paying Illinois state replacement tax on the Company's taxable income.

The Company follows the accounting guidance for uncertainty in income taxes using the provisions of Accounting Standards Codification 740, *Income Taxes* (ASC 740). Using that guidance, tax positions initially need to be recognized in the financial statements when it is more likely than not the position will be sustained upon examination by the tax authorities.

The Company believes that it has appropriate support for any tax positions taken, and as such, does not have any uncertain tax positions that are material to the financial statements. It is the Company's policy to include any penalties and interest related to income taxes in its operating expenses, however, the Company currently has no penalties or interest related to income taxes. The Company is no longer subject to U.S. federal and state income tax examinations by tax authorities for years before 2008.

#### Concentration of Credit Risk

The Company considers all highly liquid debt instruments with an original maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents. Furthermore, the Company maintains its cash in accounts at various financial institutions. The balances, at times, may exceed federally insured amounts. Management periodically reviews the financial stability of these institutions.

#### 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 revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### MERITUS FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2011

#### Note 3 - Net Capital Requirements

The Company is subject to the Securities and Exchange Commission Uniform Net Capital Rule (SEC rule 15c3-1), which requires the maintenance of minimum net capital of \$5,000 and requires that the ratio of aggregate indebtedness to net capital shall not exceed fifteen to one. As of December 31, 2011, the Company had net capital of \$48,446 which was \$43,446 in excess of its required net capital of \$5,000.

#### Note 4 - Exemption from SEC Rule 15c3-3

The Company is a non-clearing broker-dealer that does not carry securities accounts for customers or perform custodial functions relating to customer securities and is therefore exempt from the reserve requirements under SEC rule 15c3-3.

#### Note 5 - Related Party Transactions

The Company shares office space with another company affiliated by common ownership. All rent and associated occupancy costs were paid entirely by this affiliated company on behalf of Meritus Financial Group, Inc. Meritus Financial Group, Inc. pays this affiliated company \$2,505 per month for its share of these costs. These costs are included as office expense on the Statement of Operations.

The Company reimburses a common paymaster (affiliated through common ownership) for salaries and other operating expenses. These costs, which are included as management fee expense in the Statement of Operations, total \$100,939 for the year ended December 31, 2011. Of this amount, \$17,772 is recorded as a liability of Meritus Financial Group, Inc. as of December 31, 2011, pursuant to this reimbursement agreement.

#### Note 6 - Subsequent Events

The Company has evaluated subsequent events through February 23, 2012, the date which the financial statements were available to be issued.

# SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

#### MERITUS FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. COMPUTATION OF NET CAPITAL UNDER RULE 15c3-1 OF THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2011

#### NET CAPITAL

Total stockholder's equity	\$	49,446
Deduct stockholder's equity not allowable for net capital	<u> </u>	
Total stockholder's equity qualified for net capital		49,446
Liabilities subordinated to claims of general creditors allowable in computation of net capital		
Total capital and allowable subordinated borrowings	<del></del>	49,446
Deductions and/or charges		-
Other additions and/or allowable credits		
Net capital before haircuts on securities positions		49,446
Haircuts on securities	(	1,000)
Net Capital	\$	48,446
	•	40.040
Total aggregate indebtedness	\$	<u> 19,213</u>
Percentage of aggregate indebtedness to net capital		40 %

Statement Pursuant to Paragraph (d)(4) Rule 17a-5

The above computation of net capital agrees with the corresponding computation prepared by the Company for inclusion on its Part II FOCUS Report filing as of December 31, 2011.



### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROLS

To the Board of Directors Meritus Financial Group, Inc.

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of Meritus Financial Group, Inc. (the Company), as of and for the year ended December 31, 2011, 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 debits) 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 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 internal control and the practices and procedures

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member of PCAOB, the AICPA's Center for Audit Quality, and The Leading Edge Alliance referred to above, error or 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 deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the company's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis.

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 previously.

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, 2011, to meet the SEC's objectives.

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

SS+ J. Inc.

February 23, 2012

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