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

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8-51242

FACING PAGE

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

REPORT FOR THE PERIOD BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2012 AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2012
MM/DD/YY MM/DD/YY

A. REGISTRANT IDENTIFICATION

NAME OF BROKER-DEALER: NORTHERN FUNDS DISTRIBUTORS, LLC

OFFICIAL USE ONLY
FIRM I.D. NO.

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

THREE CANAL PLAZA, 3RD FLOOR
(No. and Street)

PORTLAND
(City)

MAINE
(State)

04101
(Zip Code)

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

WESTON SOMMERS

(207) 553-7129

(Area Code - Telephone Number)

B. ACCOUNTANT IDENTIFICATION

INDEPENDENT PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT whose opinion is contained in this Report*

MARCUM LLP

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

750 THIRD AVENUE, 11TH FLR. NEW YORK

(Address)

(City)

NEW YORK

(State)

10017

(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)

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OATH OR AFFIRMATION

I, WESTON SOMMERS, swear (or affirm) that, to the best of my knowledge and belief the accompanying financial statement and supporting schedules pertaining to the firm of NORTHERN FUNDS DISTRIBUTORS, LLC, as of DECEMBER 31, 2012, 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:

Weston Sommers
Signature

ACTING FINANCIAL AND OPERATIONS PRINCIPAL
Title

Alan S. McKown
Notary Public

My Commission Expires 10/30/2015

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).

NORTHERN FUNDS DISTRIBUTORS, LLC
(A Wholly-Owned Subsidiary of Foreside Financial Group, LLC)

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Member of
Northern Funds Distributors, LLC

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying statement of financial condition of Northern Funds Distributors, LLC (a wholly-owned subsidiary of Foreside Financial Group, LLC) (the "Company") as of December 31, 2012, and the related statements of income and member's equity and cash flows for the year then ended that are filed pursuant to Rule 17a-5 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, and the related notes to the financial statements.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditors' Responsibility

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 involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditors' judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Company's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design 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. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Northern Funds Distributors, LLC as of December 31, 2012, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Other Matter

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements as a whole. The information contained in Schedules I and II is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements, but is supplementary information required by Rule 17a-5 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. 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 in Schedules I and II 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 in Schedules I and II is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

Marcum LLP

New York, NY
February 22, 2013

NORTHERN FUNDS DISTRIBUTORS, LLC
(A Wholly-Owned Subsidiary of Foreside Financial Group, LLC)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION

DECEMBER 31, 2012

Assets		
Cash	\$	124,120
Prepaid expenses		1,728
Other receivables		<u>60,187</u>
Total Assets		<u>\$ 186,035</u>
Liabilities and Member's Equity		
Liabilities		
Accrued expenses	\$	25,520
Due to related parties		<u>37,099</u>
Total Liabilities		\$ 62,619
Commitments and Contingencies		
Member's Equity		
		<u>123,416</u>
Total Liabilities and Member's Equity		<u>\$ 186,035</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

NORTHERN FUNDS DISTRIBUTORS, LLC
(A Wholly-Owned Subsidiary of Foreside Financial Group, LLC)

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND MEMBER'S EQUITY

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012

Revenues

Base distribution fees	\$ 278,044
Licenses and fees rebill	<u>110,964</u>

Total Revenues \$ 389,008

Expenses

Administrative service fee to related party	154,019
Professional fees	28,905
Licenses and fees	83,052
Other expenses	<u>816</u>

Total Expenses 266,792

Net Income 122,216

Member's Equity - Beginning of year 151,200

Distributions to Parent (150,000)

Member's Equity - End of year \$ 123,416

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

NORTHERN FUNDS DISTRIBUTORS, LLC
(A Wholly-Owned Subsidiary of Foreside Financial Group, LLC)

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012

Cash Flows from Operating Activities		
Net Income		\$ 122,216
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Prepaid expenses	\$ 2,102	
Other receivables	(4,348)	
Accrued expenses	(3,055)	
Due to related parties	<u>(7,602)</u>	
Total Adjustments		<u>(12,903)</u>
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities		109,313
Cash Used in Financing Activities		
Distributions to Parent		<u>(150,000)</u>
Net Decrease in Cash		(40,687)
Cash - Beginning of year		<u>164,807</u>
Cash - End of year		<u><u>\$ 124,120</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

NORTHERN FUNDS DISTRIBUTORS, LLC
(A Wholly-Owned Subsidiary of Foreside Financial Group, LLC)

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012

NOTE 1 - ORGANIZATION

Northern Funds Distributors, LLC (the "Company"), a limited liability company, is an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of Foreside Financial Group, LLC and a direct subsidiary of Foreside Distributors, LLC ("Foreside" or the "Parent"). The Company is registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") as a broker-dealer and is a member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA").

The limited liability company operating agreement provides for the Company to exist into perpetuity.

The Company serves as the distributor and principal underwriter for the Northern Funds and Northern Institutional Funds (the "Funds"), which are sponsored by Northern Trust Investments, NA (the "Advisor"). Substantially all of the Company's revenues are earned from the Funds or from the Advisor. In accordance with the structure of the Company, sales of the Funds' shares are executed by unaffiliated third party broker-dealers.

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared from the separate records maintained by the Company and, due to certain transactions and agreements with affiliated entities, may not necessarily be indicative of the financial condition that would have existed, or the results that would have been obtained from operations, had the Company operated as an unaffiliated entity.

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

USE OF ESTIMATES

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP") 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. Actual results could differ from those amounts.

CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

The Company considers all highly liquid temporary cash investments with an original maturity of three months or less when purchased to be cash equivalents.

At December 31, 2012, the Company had no cash equivalents.

NORTHERN FUNDS DISTRIBUTORS, LLC
(A Wholly-Owned Subsidiary of Foreside Financial Group, LLC)

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

RECEIVABLES

The Company extends unsecured credit in the normal course of business to its clients. The determination of the amount of uncollectible accounts is based on the amount of credit extended and the length of time each receivable has been outstanding. The allowance for uncollectible amounts reflects the amount of loss that can be reasonably estimated by management. As of December 31, 2012, the Company had not recorded an allowance for any potential non-collection.

REVENUE RECOGNITION

The Company receives fees for distribution services, which are recorded in accordance with the terms of the contractual agreements. Related expenses are recorded in the period that the revenues are recorded. Below are the primary sources of income for the Company and how they are addressed.

Base distribution fees are fees paid by the Funds' Advisor for providing ongoing management and oversight of distributor activities. These fees are billed and earned monthly. The fee contains a fixed monthly fee plus a variable portion if additional services are provided.

Licenses and fees rebill represents payments made by the Funds' Advisor to compensate the Company for certain expenses incurred. These expenses include FINRA representative registration and advertising review fees.

INCOME TAXES

The Company is a disregarded entity for federal income tax purposes and is, therefore, required to be treated as a division of its single member. The earnings and losses of the Company are included in the tax return of Foreside Financial Group, LLC. The Company is not subject to income taxes in any jurisdiction. Each member is responsible for the tax liability, if any, related to its proportionate share of the Company's taxable income. Accordingly, no provision for income taxes is reflected in the accompanying financial statements. Management has concluded that the Company is a pass-through entity and there are no uncertain tax positions that would require recognition in the financial statements. If the Company were to incur an income tax liability in the future, interest on any income tax liability would be reported as interest expense and penalties on any income tax liability would be reported as income taxes. For the year ended December 31, 2012, no interest or penalties were required to be recorded.

NORTHERN FUNDS DISTRIBUTORS, LLC
(A Wholly-Owned Subsidiary of Foreside Financial Group, LLC)

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

INCOME TAXES (CONTINUED)

Management's conclusions regarding uncertain tax positions may be subject to review and adjustment at a later date based upon ongoing analyses of tax laws, regulations and interpretations thereof as well as other factors. Generally, federal, state and local authorities may examine the Company's tax returns (as part of Foreside Financial Group, LLC's returns) for three years from the date of filing. These returns remain subject to examinations from 2009 through the current year.

NOTE 3 - FAIR VALUE

The Company defines fair value as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The standard establishes the following hierarchy used in fair value measurements and expands the required disclosures of assets and liabilities measured at fair value:

- Level 1 - Inputs use quoted unadjusted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the Company has the ability to access.
- Level 2 - Fair value measurements use other inputs that are observable, either directly or indirectly. These inputs include quoted prices for similar assets and liabilities in active markets as well as other inputs such as interest rates and yield curves that are observable at commonly quoted intervals.
- Level 3 - Inputs that are unobservable inputs, including inputs that are available in situations where there is little, if any, market activity for the related asset or liability.

The inputs or methodology used for valuing assets and liabilities are not necessarily an indication of the risk associated with investing in those assets and liabilities.

Certain financial instruments are carried at cost on the balance sheet, which approximates fair value due to their short-term, highly liquid nature. These instruments include cash and cash equivalents, prepaid expenses, distribution fees receivable, other receivables, accrued expenses and other liabilities and are classified as Level 1.

There were no transfers between Levels 1, 2, or 3 as of December 31, 2012.

NORTHERN FUNDS DISTRIBUTORS, LLC
(A Wholly-Owned Subsidiary of Foreside Financial Group, LLC)

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012

NOTE 3 - FAIR VALUE (CONTINUED)

At December 31, 2012, the Company did not hold any Level 2 or Level 3 assets or liabilities.

NOTE 4 - RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The financial statements are prepared from the separate records maintained by the Company. The Company shares office space and equipment with affiliates, which is under common control of Foreside. Accordingly, the Company has been allocated a portion of such shared costs. Also, Foreside provides administrative, legal, human resource and other general support services, the cost of which is allocated to the Company. For the year ended December 31, 2012, these allocated expenses totaled \$154,019, which are included in "Administrative service fee to related party" in the accompanying Statement of Income and Member's Equity. At December 31, 2012, amounts due to the related party totaled \$14,774, which is included in "Due to related parties" on the Statement of Financial Condition.

At December 31, 2012, due to related parties included \$22,325 which resulted from revenue collected on behalf of its affiliate.

Foreside agrees to financially assist the Company and is committed to provide such funds, as needed, to operate the business.

During the year ended December 31, 2012, the Company made capital distributions to its Parent totaling \$150,000.

NOTE 5 - NET CAPITAL REQUIREMENT

The Company is subject to the SEC's Uniform Net Capital Rule 15c3-1, which requires the maintenance of minimum net capital and the ratio of aggregate indebtedness to net capital not to exceed 15 to 1. The rule also provides that equity capital may not be withdrawn, or cash distributions paid, if the resulting net capital ratio would exceed 10 to 1. At December 31, 2012, the Company had net capital of \$61,501, which was \$56,501 in excess of its minimum required net capital of \$5,000. The Company's ratio of aggregate indebtedness to net capital at December 31, 2012 was 1.01 to 1.

NORTHERN FUNDS DISTRIBUTORS, LLC
(A Wholly-Owned Subsidiary of Foreside Financial Group, LLC)

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012

NOTE 6 - REGULATORY COMPLIANCE

The Company claims exemption under the exemptive provisions of Rule 15c3-3 under subparagraph (k)(1) - all customer transactions are limited to the sale and redemption of redeemable securities of registered investment companies and the Company does not maintain customer accounts or handle customer funds.

NOTE 7 - COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

INDEMNIFICATIONS

The Company provides representations and warranties to counterparties in connection with a variety of commercial transactions and occasionally indemnifies them against potential losses caused by the breach of those representations and warranties. These indemnifications generally are standard contractual terms and are entered into in the normal course of business. The Company's maximum exposure under these arrangements cannot be known; however, the Company expects any risk of loss to be remote.

CREDIT RISK

The Company maintains a checking account in a financial institution. The account at the bank is insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation ("FDIC"). At times, cash may be uninsured or in deposit accounts that exceed the FDIC insurance limit. Management periodically assesses the financial condition of the bank and believes that any potential credit loss is minimal.

NOTE 8 - AGREEMENTS

The Company has a Distribution Agreement (the "Agreement") with the Funds under which it acts as the distributor of the shares of beneficial interest of the Funds. The Agreement is generally for an initial two year term. Thereafter, if not terminated, the Agreement shall continue with respect to the Funds for successive one-year terms, provided such continuation is approved at least annually in accordance with the terms of the Agreement. The Agreement is terminable without penalty with 60 days' prior written notice, by the Funds or by the Company in accordance with the terms of the Agreement. The Company has also entered into a Distribution Services Agreement with the Funds' Advisor (the "Services Agreement") which continues in effect through the term of the Agreement.

NORTHERN FUNDS DISTRIBUTORS, LLC
(A Wholly-Owned Subsidiary of Foreside Financial Group, LLC)

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012

NOTE 8 - AGREEMENTS (CONTINUED)

The Company enters into Dealer and Selling Group Member Agreements with various intermediaries (including third party broker-dealers, banks and third party administrators) related to the sale of the shares of the Funds and the servicing of the Funds' shareholders. The Company may pay these intermediaries distribution fees as outlined in their respective Dealer and Selling Group Member Agreements provided that the Company first receives such payments from the Funds.

NOTE 9 - SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Management has evaluated the impact of all events and transactions occurring after period end through the date these financial statements were issued, and has determined that there were no subsequent events requiring recognition or disclosure.

NORTHERN FUNDS DISTRIBUTORS, LLC
(A Wholly-Owned Subsidiary of Foreside Financial Group, LLC)

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

DECEMBER 31, 2012

Net Capital		\$ 123,416
Member's equity		\$ 123,416
Deduction for Nonallowable Assets		
Prepaid expenses	\$ 1,728	
Other receivables	<u>60,187</u>	
Total Nonallowable Assets		<u>61,915</u>
Net Capital		<u>\$ 61,501</u>
Aggregate Indebtedness		<u>\$ 62,619</u>
Computation of Basic Net Capital Requirement		
Minimum net capital required (greater of 6-2/3% of aggregate indebtedness or \$5,000 minimum dollar net capital requirement)		<u>\$ 5,000</u>
Excess Net Capital		<u>\$ 56,501</u>
Excess Net Capital at 1,000%		<u>\$ 55,239</u>
Ratio of Aggregate Indebtedness to Net Capital		<u>1.01 to 1</u>

See independent auditors' report.

NORTHERN FUNDS DISTRIBUTORS, LLC
(A Wholly-Owned Subsidiary of Foreside Financial Group, LLC)

**DETERMINATION OF RESERVE REQUIREMENTS AND INFORMATION
RELATING TO POSSESSION OR CONTROL REQUIREMENTS UNDER
RULE 15c3-3 OF THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

DECEMBER 31, 2012

The Company claims exemption under the exemptive provisions of Rule 15c3-3 under subparagraph (k)(1) — all customer transactions are limited to the sale and redemption of redeemable securities of registered investment companies and the Company does not maintain customer accounts or handle customer funds.

See independent auditors' report.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL
REQUIRED BY SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION RULE 17a-5**

To the Member of
Northern Funds Distributors, LLC

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of Northern Funds Distributors, LLC (a wholly-owned subsidiary of Foreside Financial Group, LLC) (the "Company"), as of and for the year ended December 31, 2012, 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 previously 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 *deficiency in internal control* 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 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, 2012, to meet the SEC's objectives.

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

Marcum LLP

New York, NY
February 22, 2013

NORTHERN FUNDS DISTRIBUTORS, LLC
(A Wholly-Owned Subsidiary of Foreside Financial Group, LLC)
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012

MARCUM
ACCOUNTANTS ▲ ADVISORS