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**FORM X-17A-5** 

**PART III** 

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

01/01/12	AND ENDING12/	31/12
MM/DD/YY		MM/DD/YY
SISTRANT IDENTIFIC	CATION	
NAME OF BROKER-DEALER: Cleary Gull Inc.  ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS: (Do not use P.O. Box No.)		OFFICIAL USE ONLY
		FIRM I.D. NO.
(No. and Street)		
Wisconsin	53202	
(State)	(Zip	Code)
	(4 (A	RT 14) 291-4500 .rea Code – Telephone Number
hose opinion is contained i	n this Report*	
(Name - if individual, state last, j	first, middle name)	
Milwaukee	Wisconsin	53202
(City)	(State)	(Zip Code)
ed States or any of its posse	essions.	
	Inc.  (No. and Street)  Wisconsin  (State)  CRSON TO CONTACT IN I	MM/DD/YY  GISTRANT IDENTIFICATION  Inc.  (No. and Street)  Wisconsin  (State)  (State)  (State)  (Quite (A)  COUNTANT IDENTIFICATION  Those opinion is contained in this Report*  (Name – if individual, state last, first, middle name)  Milwaukee  Wisconsin  Wisconsin

\*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.

## OATH OR AFFIRMATION

, William H. Braun	, swear (or affirm) that, to the best of
Cleary Gull Inc.	financial statement and supporting schedules pertaining to the firm of , a
f December 31	, 20_12, are true and correct. I further swear (or affirm) that
either the company nor any partner, proprie	etor, principal officer or director has any proprietary interest in any account
classified solely as that of a customer, excep-	as follows:
·	
	\ 7
	Signature
	Chief Financial Officer
	Title
$\lambda$	
- John St	
Nøtary Public	
This report ** contains (check all applicable	boxes):
(a) Facing Page.	
(b) Statement of Financial Condition.	
(c) Statement of Income (Loss).	4141
(d) Statement of Changes in Financial C	ondition. rs' Equity or Partners' or Sole Proprietors' Capital.
(f) Statement of Changes in Stockholde	
(g) Computation of Net Capital.	Additional to Claims of Creations.
	eserve Requirements Pursuant to Rule 15c3-3.
	on or Control Requirements Under Rule 15c3-3.
(i) A Reconciliation, including appropri	ate explanation of the Computation of Net Capital Under Rule 15c3-1 and the
Computation for Determination of the	e Reserve Requirements Under Exhibit A of Rule 15c3-3.
(k) A Reconciliation between the audite	d and unaudited Statements of Financial Condition with respect to methods of
consolidation.	
(1) An Oath or Affirmation.	
(m) A copy of the SIPC Supplemental R	
	equacies found to exist or found to have existed since the date of the previous au
(o) Independent Registered Public Account *For conditions of confidential treatment of	ating Firm's Supplementary Report on Internal Control.  Secretain portions of this filing, see section 240.17a-5(e)(3).



Statement of Financial Condition and Reports of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

Cleary Gull Inc.

December 31, 2012

(Available for Public Inspection)

Statement of Financial Condition and Reports of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm Cleary Gull Inc. December 31, 2012 (Available for Public Inspection)

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## REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

Grant Thornton LLP 100 E. Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 2100 Milwaukee, WI 53202-4169

T 414.289.8200 F 414.289.9910 www.GrantThornton.com

Board of Directors Cleary Gull Inc.

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Cleary Gull Inc. (the "Company"), which comprise the statement of financial condition as of December 31, 2012 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.

#### Auditor's 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 from 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 auditor's 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

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In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Cleary Gull Inc. as of December 31, 2012 in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Milwaukee, Wisconsin February 19, 2013

Grant Thomas LLP

As of December 31, 2012

## **ASSETS**

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,558,577
Advisory fees and other receivables	156,512
Receivable from clearing broker	54,257
Deposit with clearing broker	100,000
Other assets	184,972
Total assets	\$ 2,054,318
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDER'S EQUITY	
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDER'S EQUITY LIABILITIES:	
LIABILITIES:	\$ 504,130
	\$ 504,130 393,461

## STOCKHOLDER'S EQUITY:

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Common stock; \$0.01 par value, authorized 3,000 shares; issued and outstanding 100 shares	1
Additional paid-in capital	800,000
Retained earnings	 356,726
Total stockholder's equity	 1,156,727
Total liabilities and stockholder's equity	\$ 2,054,318

The accompanying notes to statement of financial condition are an integral part of this statement.

December 31, 2012

#### **NOTE A - ORGANIZATION**

Cleary Gull Inc. (the "Company"), a Delaware corporation and a wholly-owned subsidiary of Cleary Gull Holdings Inc. ("Holdings"), is a financial services firm located in Wisconsin that provides investment management and investment consulting services to individuals, foundations, retirement plans and corporations and provides privately held and small public companies with merger and acquisition advisory services, private capital raising, and financial advisory services. The Company is a member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA") and registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") as an investment advisor and introducing broker-dealer.

## NOTE B - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### 1. 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 disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and accompanying notes. Management believes that the estimates utilized in preparing its financial statements are reasonable and prudent. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### 2. Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Company considers cash and cash equivalents to include those investments with original maturities of 90 days or less. The cash balance includes money market funds held at RBC Capital Markets, LLC ("Clearing Broker") and other investment accounts.

The Company maintains cash balances which at times exceed federally insured limits. The Company has not experienced any losses in such accounts and believes it is not exposed to any significant credit risk.

#### 3. Receivables

Receivables primarily represent amounts due from Investment Banking clients. An allowance is made for receivables that are deemed uncollectible by management. As of December 31, 2012, there was no allowance for uncollectible accounts.

#### 4. Income Taxes

The Company has elected, for federal and state income tax purposes, to be treated as an S Corporation under the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code. Accordingly, the Company's taxable income is included in the tax return of the stockholders of its parent company, Cleary Gull Holdings Inc.

December 31, 2012

### NOTE C - COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

The Company is an introducing broker and clears transactions for customers on a fully- disclosed basis with the Clearing Broker. In connection with this arrangement, the Company is contingently liable for its customers' transactions. At December 31, 2012 there were no amounts to be indemnified to the Clearing Broker for these customer transactions. The Company maintains a \$100,000 deposit with the Clearing Broker and grants the Clearing Broker a continuing security interest and general lien upon the deposit in the event of a claim associated with customers' transactions. The Clearing Broker seeks to control the risks associated with these customer activities by requiring customers to maintain collateral in compliance with various regulatory and internal guidelines. The Company and its Clearing Broker monitor required margin levels and, pursuant to such guidelines, require each customer to deposit additional collateral, or reduce positions, when necessary.

The Company occupies office space and is allocated rent expense in accordance with an Operating Agreement with Holdings which includes a commitment to lease office space through April 30, 2021 with the right to renew through April 30, 2026. See Note E - Related Party Transactions. The Company also leases certain equipment.

Estimated future minimum office and equipment lease payments are as follows:

2013	\$ 256,000
2014	260,000
2015	250,000
2016	248,000
2017	252,000
Thereafter	 874,000
Total	\$ 2,140,000

The Company is also responsible for its pro-rata share of operating expenses of the building in which it rents space.

Many aspects of the Company's business involve substantial risks of liability. The Company recognizes liabilities for contingencies that, when fully analyzed, indicate it is both probable that a liability has been incurred and the amount of loss can be reasonably estimated. When a range of probable loss can be estimated, the Company accrues the most likely amount; if not determinable, the Company accrues at least the minimum of the range of probable loss. Management's assessment of contingencies is subject to change which may result in a material effect on the results of operations in a future period.

December 31, 2012

## NOTE D - NET CAPITAL REQUIREMENTS

The Company is a registered broker-dealer subject to the Securities and Exchange Commission Uniform Net Capital Rule (Rule 15c3-1, the "Rule") and is required to maintain minimum capital as defined under the Rule. Under the Rule, the Company is required to maintain regulatory net capital equivalent to the greater of \$5,000; or 6-2/3 % of aggregate indebtedness, as these terms are defined. The Rule prohibits a broker-dealer from engaging in any securities transactions at a time when its aggregate indebtedness exceeds 15 times its net capital.

Net capital and aggregate indebtedness change from day to day. As of December 31, 2012, the Company had regulatory net capital and net capital requirements of \$809,841 and \$59,839, respectively, and its ratio of aggregate indebtedness to net capital was 1.11 to 1.

### NOTE E - RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Cleary Gull Advisors Inc. ("CGA") is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Holdings. CGA and the Company share certain expenses in accordance with an Operating Agreement. CGA provides advice on investment policy development, asset allocation strategy, investment manager and mutual fund due diligence evaluation, selection and monitoring to the Company. The Company provides operational support (client reporting services and trading) and administration services and compliance services to CGA.

Under an agreement between the Company and Holdings, the Company occupies a portion of office space leased by Holdings. Under this agreement, Holdings may purchase leasehold improvements, property and equipment for the benefit of the Company and its affiliate.

As of December 31, 2012, \$44,392 was payable to CGA and \$393,461 was payable to Holdings. The amount payable to CGA is recorded within accounts payable and accrued expenses; the amount payable to Holdings is recorded as dividend payable.

#### NOTE F - EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLAN

Holdings sponsors a defined-contribution savings plan covering substantially all employees of both operating companies, Cleary Gull Inc. and CGA. The Plan is designated to qualify under Internal Revenue Code Section 401(k) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and allows participant contributions on a pretax basis. The Plan provides for a Company match of employee contributions on a percentage determined by the Company each year. The Company profit sharing contributions are discretionary.

December 31, 2012

### NOTE G - UNCERTAIN TAX POSITIONS

In September 2009, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued guidance on accounting for uncertain tax positions and the disclosure requirements for nonpublic entities. Nonpublic entities are required to disclose information concerning tax positions for which a material change in the unrecognized tax benefit / liability is reasonably possible in the next 12 months, the total amount of interest and penalties recognized in the statement of operation and in the statement of financial condition, and open tax years by major jurisdiction.

The Company has elected for federal income tax purposes to be treated as a Qualified Subchapter S Subsidiary (QSub) of Cleary Gull Holdings Inc. As such, the Company's taxable income is included in the tax return of its parent, Cleary Gull Holdings Inc. The parent has appropriately elected to be taxed as an S-Corporation under the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code. As such, the taxable income of the parent (as well as the QSub) is not taxed at the entity level but is instead taxed at the shareholder level after the income has flowed through from the S-Corporation to its owners. States, generally, accept the S-Corporation tax treatment established at the federal level for income tax purposes.

Uncertain tax positions are assessed for open tax years at a state (2008 and later) and federal (2009 and later) level, based on the likelihood of sustainability of the positions taken. The Company believes that it is not exposed to significant risk with regards to uncertain tax positions.

#### **NOTE H - SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

The Company has evaluated its December 31, 2012 financial statements for subsequent events through February 19, 2013, the date the financial statements were available to be issued. The Company is not aware of any subsequent events which would require recognition or disclosure in the financial statements.

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

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# REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM ON INTERNAL CONTROL REQUIRED BY SEC RULE 17a-5(g)(1)

Grant Thornton LLP 100 E. Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 2100 Milwaukee, WI 53202-4169

T 414.289.8200 F 414.289.9910 www.GrantThornton.com

Board of Directors Cleary Gull Inc.

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of Cleary Gull Inc. (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 audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing an 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 U.S. 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 compliance with 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 Company does not carry securities accounts for customers or perform custodial functions related to customer securities, we did not review the practices and procedures followed by the Company in any of the following:

- 1. Making the 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.

Management of the Company is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control and for 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 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 material weakness is a deficiency, or a 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 was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in the Company's 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, 2012, 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 Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. 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.

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Grant Thouter UP

February 19, 2013

