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

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WASH, D.C.

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 01/01/17 AND ENDING 12/31/17
MM/DD/YY MM/DD/YY

A. REGISTRANT IDENTIFICATION

NAME OF BROKER-DEALER: TripleTree, LLC

OFFICIAL USE ONLY
FIRM I.D. NO.

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

3600 Minnesota Drive, Suite 200

(No. and Street)

Edina

Minnesota

55435

(City)

(State)

(Zip Code)

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

Susan Haedt

952-223-8429

(Area Code - Telephone Number)

B. ACCOUNTANT IDENTIFICATION

INDEPENDENT PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT whose opinion is contained in this Report*

BDO USA, LLP

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

800 Nicollet Mall, Suite 600

Minneapolis

Minnesota

55402

(Address)

(City)

(State)

(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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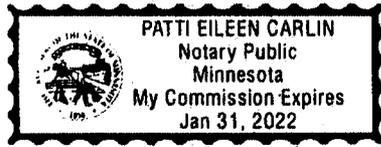
OATH OR AFFIRMATION

I, Susan Haedt, swear (or affirm) that, to the best of my knowledge and belief the accompanying financial statement and supporting schedules pertaining to the firm of TripleTree, LLC, as of December 31, 2017, 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:

Susan Haedt
Signature

SVP of Finance
Title

Patti E. Carlin
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).

TRIPLETREE, LLC
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Public Document

For the Year Ended December 31, 2017

TRIPLETREE, LLC
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For the Year Ended December 31, 2017

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Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

Board of Governors
TripleTree, LLC
Edina, Minnesota

Opinion on Statement of Financial Condition

We have audited the accompanying statement of financial condition of TripleTree, LLC (the "Company") as of December 31, 2017. In our opinion, the statement of financial condition presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company at December 31, 2017, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

This financial statement is the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company's financial statement based on our audit. We are a public accounting firm registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) ("PCAOB") and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the statement of financial condition is free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. Our audit included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statement, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the statement of financial condition. Our audit also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the statement of financial condition. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

BDO USA, LLP

We have served as the Company's auditor since 2013.

Minneapolis, Minnesota
February 19, 2018

TRIPLETREE, LLC

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION

December 31, 2017

ASSETS

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 22,558,050
Receivables from customers	1,189,693
Due from related parties	1,304,008
Prepaid expenses	345,055
Property and equipment, net	<u>771,120</u>
Total assets	<u>\$ 26,167,926</u>

LIABILITIES AND MEMBER'S EQUITY

Accounts payable	\$ 105,803
Accrued compensation	11,028,541
Distributions payable	1,595,000
Deferred rent	392,636
Other accrued expenses	<u>75,278</u>
Total liabilities	<u>13,197,258</u>
Commitments and contingencies	-
Member's equity	<u>12,970,668</u>
Total member's equity	<u>12,970,668</u>
Total liabilities and member's equity	<u>\$ 26,167,926</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

TRIPLETREE, LLC

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the Year Ended December 31, 2017

1. Organization and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Nature of Business:

TripleTree, LLC ("Company") is a privately held Minnesota limited liability company, wholly owned by TripleTree Holdings, LLC ("Holdings"). Pursuant to the Company's articles of organization, the Company will exist for a thirty-year period expiring January 13, 2027. The Company operates as a registered securities broker-dealer with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") and is a member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA"). The Company primarily provides investment banking advisory services to clients in the information technology and health care industries located throughout the United States and Internationally. The Company's corporate offices are located in Edina, Minnesota.

The Company does not carry customers' accounts or hold securities for the accounts of customers and accordingly operates under the exemptive provisions of Rule 15c3-3(k)(2)(i) under the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934.

Basis of Presentation:

The financial statements have been prepared on an accrual basis of accounting in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Cash and Cash Equivalents:

For purposes of the statement of financial condition presentation and reporting of cash flows, the Company considers all unrestricted demand deposits, money market funds, and highly liquid debt instruments with a purchase date maturity of less than 90 days to be cash and cash equivalents.

Concentration of Credit Risk:

Financial instruments that potentially subject the Company to concentration of credit risk consist principally of cash and receivables from customers. The Company maintains cash in bank deposit accounts, which, at times, may exceed federally insured limits. The Company believes it has its cash deposits at high quality financial institutions. The Company has not experienced any losses to date related to these balances. At December 31, 2017, the Company had deposits in excess of federally insured amounts aggregating \$22,209,244 at two financial institutions.

Receivables from customers arise from the Company providing investment banking services to its customers located throughout the United States and Internationally. The Company is typically dependent on a small number of customers for its investment banking fees and generally does not require any collateral from its customers. At December 31, 2017, 85% of accounts receivable from customers was owed by one customer.

TRIPLETREE, LLC

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the Year Ended December 31, 2017

1. Organization and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

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 certain reported amounts of assets and liabilities, disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

Receivables from Customers and Allowance for Doubtful Accounts:

The Company evaluates the collectability of receivables from customers based on a combination of factors. In circumstances where the Company is aware of a specific customer's inability to meet its financial obligations, a specific reserve is recorded to reduce the receivable to the amount the Company believes will be collected. For all other customers, the Company records allowances for doubtful accounts based on the length of time the receivables are past due and historical experience. Typically, the Company considers all receivables not paid within specified terms of the invoice (generally ninety days) as past due. There was no allowance for doubtful accounts recorded at December 31, 2017.

Property and Equipment:

Property and equipment is stated at cost. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method and is charged to expense based on the estimated useful lives of the assets. Expenditures for additions and improvements are capitalized, while repairs and maintenance are expensed as incurred.

Revenue Recognition:

Over the term of an investment banking engagement, the Company typically receives monthly non-refundable retainer fees. These monthly retainer fees are recognized as revenue in the month in which they are earned. The Company also receives success fees on investment banking engagements which are earned and recognized upon the closing of an investment banking transaction. Revenues from earn-outs and contingent events are recognized in the period the event has occurred, the revenue amount is determinable and collectability is reasonably assured.

TRIPLETREE, LLC

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the Year Ended December 31, 2017

1. **Organization and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)**

Income Taxes:

The Company is considered a disregarded entity for income tax purposes and, therefore reported as a wholly owned subsidiary on Holdings' income tax returns. Holdings is treated as a partnership for income tax purposes. Accordingly, there is no provision for income taxes in the Company's financial statements.

The Company accounts for income taxes pursuant to Financial Accounting Standards Board guidance. This guidance prescribes a recognition threshold and a measurement attribute for the financial statement recognition and measurement of tax positions taken or expected to be taken in a tax return. For those benefits to be recognized, a tax position must be more-likely-than not to be sustained upon examination by taxing authorities. Tax positions include decisions to file or not to file income tax returns in certain tax jurisdictions that can assess delinquent taxes to the Company. The Company believes any income tax filing positions and deductions attributable to the Company in Holdings' partnership tax return will be sustained upon examination and, accordingly, no reserves or related accruals for interest and penalties have been recorded or allocated by Holdings to the Company at December 31, 2017. In accordance with the guidance, the Company has adopted a policy, whereby, interest related to the underpayment of income taxes required to be recognized in the future, will be classified as a component of interest expense, and any related penalties will be classified in other administrative expenses in the statement of income. The tax years open and subject to examination include the years ended December 31, 2014 and onwards.

2. **Property and Equipment**

Property and equipment consisted of the following at December 31:

	2017	Estimated Useful Lives In Years
Office furniture and equipment	\$ 659,700	7
Computer equipment	424,645	5
Leasehold improvements	<u>1,069,722</u>	Life of Lease
Total property and equipment	2,154,067	
Less accumulated depreciation	<u>(1,382,947)</u>	
Property and equipment, net	<u>\$ 771,120</u>	

TRIPLETREE, LLC

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the Year Ended December 31, 2017

3. Member's Equity

Authorized, issued and outstanding units at December 31, 2017 were as follows:

	<u>Units</u>
	<u>Voting</u>
	<u>Class A Common</u>
Authorized units	20,000,000
Issued and outstanding	5,173,333

The Company has a mandatory distribution policy whereby at least 50% of the Company's income would be distributed to common unit holders within 60 days after a year end. Upon unanimous approval of the Board of Governors or two-thirds approval of outstanding Class A Common Unit holders, the amount of the distribution can be modified or forgone. Subsequent to December 31, 2017, \$1,595,000 in distributions was paid to its member.

4. Commitments and Contingencies

Operating Leases:

During 2013, the Company and Holdings, jointly executed a non-cancellable office lease. The lease provides for increasing monthly base rent payments over the lease term plus a pro-rata share of operating expenses and real estate taxes. The Company recognizes rent expense on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease, and recognizes the difference between the straight-line expense and the cash payments as deferred rent in the accompanying statement of financial condition. The lease expires December 2020 and has a renewal option for an additional five years. The Company pays its pro-rata portion of the office space representing 75% of the total leased space, with Holdings and its other subsidiaries occupying and paying the costs associated with the remaining 25% of the leased office space. If Holdings and its other subsidiaries were not able to meet their obligation of paying their 25% portion, the Company would be responsible to cover these payments.

The Company also leases equipment under a non-cancelable lease expiring June 2022.

Future minimum rental payments, for the Company's pro-rata portion (75%) of the leased office space and equipment, are as follows for the years ending December 31:

2018	\$ 358,693
2019	363,652
2020	368,611
Thereafter	<u>47,079</u>
	<u>\$ 1,138,035</u>

TRIPLETREE, LLC

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the Year Ended December 31, 2017

5. Related Party Transactions

The Company and TTCP Management Services, LLC ("TTCP"), a wholly owned subsidiary of Holdings, have an expense allocation agreement whereby the Company pays and is reimbursed for certain shared general and administrative expenses incurred on behalf of TTCP. During 2017, the Company paid an aggregate of \$1,063,090 of expenses on behalf of TTCP. The total amount of previous year expenses that had not been paid by TTCP at the end of last year totaled \$529,038. During 2017, TTCP reimbursed the Company \$245,000 for these expenses. The total due from TTCP at December 31, 2017 is \$1,347,128, which is reflected in due from related parties on the accompanying statement of financial condition. As of February 7, 2018, this remaining balance has been received from TTCP.

During 2017, the Company paid \$54,000 of compensation expense on behalf of TripleTree Holdings. Additionally, as of December 31, 2017, the Company owed \$97,120 to TripleTree Holdings for collected amounts on behalf of TripleTree Holdings members. The net amount of \$43,120 is reflected in the due from related parties on the accompanying statement of financial condition. As of February 7, 2018, this balance has been paid to Holdings.

6. 401(k) Profit Sharing Plan

The Company has a 401(k) profit sharing plan covering substantially all of its employees. Participants may contribute a percentage of compensation up to the maximum allowed by the Internal Revenue Code. The Plan also provides for discretionary matching and profit sharing contributions. The Company has accrued \$167,202 in discretionary contributions for the year ended December 31, 2017.

7. Net Capital Requirements

The Company is subject to the SEC Uniform Net Capital Rule, 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. Net capital and the related net capital ratio may fluctuate on a daily basis. At December 31, 2017, the Company had net capital of \$9,360,792 which was \$8,480,974 in excess of its required net capital of \$879,818. The Company's ratio of aggregate indebtedness to net capital was 1.41:1 at December 31, 2017.

8. Reserve Requirements SEC Rule 15c-3

Determination of Reserve Requirements Under Rule 15c3-3 of the Securities and Exchange Commission

The Company is exempt from the Reserve Requirements of computation according to the provision of Rule 15c3-3(k)(2)(i).

Information Relating to Possession or Control Requirements Under 15c3-3

The Company is exempt from the Rule 15c3-3 as it relates to Possession and Control requirements under (k)(2)(i) exemptive provision.