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

SEC FILE NUMBER
8-67845

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 01/01/2018 AND ENDING 12/31/2018
MM/DD/YY MM/DD/YY

A. REGISTRANT IDENTIFICATION

NAME OF BROKER-DEALER: **BMO Investment Distributors, LLC**

OFFICIAL USE ONLY
FIRM I.D. NO.

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

115 S. LaSalle Street Floor 11 West

(No. and Street)

Chicago

IL

60603

(City)

(State)

(Zip Code)

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

Stephanie Lake

(312) 461-5126

(Area Code - Telephone Number)

B. ACCOUNTANT IDENTIFICATION

INDEPENDENT PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT whose opinion is contained in this Report*

KPMG LLP

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

200 E. Randolph

Chicago

IL

60601

(Address)

(City)

(State)

(Zip Code)

SEC Mail Processing

CHECK ONE:

Certified Public Accountant

Public Accountant

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

MAR 0 2019

Washington, DC

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*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)

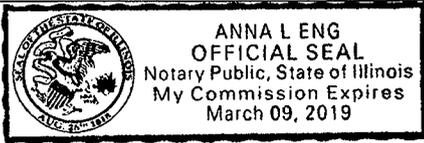
SEC 1410 (06-02)

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OATH OR AFFIRMATION

I, Stephanie Lake, swear (or affirm) that, to the best of my knowledge and belief the accompanying financial statement and supporting schedules pertaining to the firm of BMO Investment Distributors, LLC, as of December 31, 2018, 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:



Stephanie Lake
Signature

Chief Financial Officer
Title

Anna L. Eng
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).



BMO INVESTMENT DISTRIBUTORS LLC

(A wholly owned subsidiary of BMO Financial Corporation)

Statement of Financial Condition

December 31, 2018

(With Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm thereon)

BMO INVESTMENT DISTRIBUTORS LLC
(A wholly owned subsidiary of BMO Financial Corporation)
December 31, 2018

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BMO INVESTMENT DISTRIBUTORS LLC
(A Wholly-Owned Subsidiary of BMO Financial Corp.)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION
December 31, 2018

Assets	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,006,985
Investment securities, at fair value	4,977,370
Receivable from affiliate	129,747
Deferred tax asset, net	204,474
Prepaid expenses	190,177
Other assets	3,985
Total Assets	<u>\$ 7,512,738</u>
 Liabilities	
Payable to affiliates	\$ 181,339
Accrued compensation and related benefits	1,495,855
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	180,503
Total Liabilities	<u>\$ 1,857,697</u>
 Member's Capital	
Additional paid-in capital	\$ 10,110,000
Accumulated deficit	(4,454,959)
Total Member's Capital	<u>\$ 5,655,041</u>
Total Liabilities and Member's Capital	<u>\$ 7,512,738</u>

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

BMO INVESTMENT DISTRIBUTORS LLC
(A wholly owned subsidiary of BMO Financial Corporation)
NOTES TO FINANCIAL CONDITION
December 31, 2018

1. Organization and Description of Business

BMO Investment Distributors, LLC (the "Company") is a registered broker-dealer with the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA") and the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"). The Company is a wholly owned subsidiary of BMO Financial Corp. ("BFC" or the "Parent"), a Delaware corporation, which is a wholly owned subsidiary of Bank of Montreal ("BMO").

The Company was formed on October 4, 2007 and is organized as a Wisconsin limited liability company. The Company acts as a mutual fund distributor to the BMO Mutual Funds ("BMO Funds"). On May 27, 2014, the firm filed a Continuing Member Application (the "Application") with FINRA pursuant to NASD Rule 1017 requesting a material change in business operations which was granted on November 21, 2014.

The Application allowed for the Company to expand its business through increasing the number of associated persons and offices, establishing a networking agreement with its affiliate BMO Harris Bank, N.A. ("BHB", or the "Bank"), referring private placement investment products, and providing retirement planning education to plans and plan participants.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of accounting

The Company maintains its financial records in U.S. dollars. These financial statements are prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP").

Use of estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent liabilities at the date of the financial statements. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash represents funds held in the Company's bank account for firm operating activities. As of December 31, 2018, \$2,006,985 was deposited in a BMO affiliated demand deposit account.

Investment securities

Investment securities consist of U.S. treasury bills recorded at fair value in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") 940, "Financial Services – Brokers and Dealers".

Income taxes

The Company is included in the consolidated tax returns of BFC, which files its income tax returns in the U.S. and various state jurisdictions. Under terms of the tax-sharing agreement with BFC, the Company records provisions for income taxes as if it were a separate company and shall receive payment from or make payment to BFC based upon its current tax liability or benefit.

FASB ASC Topic 740, "Income Taxes", establishes financial accounting and reporting standards for the effect of income taxes. The objectives of accounting for income taxes are to recognize the amount of taxes payable or refundable for the current year and deferred tax liabilities and assets for future tax consequences of events that have been recognized in an entity's financial statements or tax returns. Judgment is required in assessing the future tax consequences of events that have been recognized in the Company's financial statements or tax returns. Fluctuations in the actual outcome of these future tax consequences could impact the Company's financial position or the Company's results of operations.

3. Fair Value Measurements

FASB ASC 820, "Fair Value Measurement", defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value, and establishes a fair value hierarchy, which prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques. Fair value is 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. A fair

BMO INVESTMENT DISTRIBUTORS LLC
(A wholly owned subsidiary of BMO Financial Corporation)
NOTES TO FINANCIAL CONDITION
December 31, 2018

value measurement assumes that the transaction to sell the asset or transfer the liability occurs in the principal market for the asset or liability, or in the absence of a principal market, the most advantageous market. Valuation techniques that are consistent with the market, income, or cost approach, as specified by FASB ASC 820 is used to measure fair value. The Company validates the prices obtained from third-party pricing vendors to ensure that the Company's fair value determination is reasonable. The Company evaluates the methodology of third-party pricing vendors as well as the security level information the vendors supply. The Company often has multiple sources to support fair value pricing, and discrepancies among sources are vetted for consistency with FASB ASC 820.

Level 1 – Quoted prices for *identical* instruments in active markets.

Level 2 – Quoted prices for *similar* instruments in active markets; quoted prices for identical or similar instruments in markets that are not active; and model-derived valuations in which all significant inputs and significant value drivers are observable in active markets.

Level 3 – Valuations derived from valuation techniques in which one or more significant inputs or significant value drivers are *unobservable*.

This hierarchy requires the Company to use observable market data, when available, and to minimize the use of unobservable inputs when determining fair value.

As of December 31, 2018, the Company's investment securities measured at fair value consisted of the following:

	<u>Level 1</u>	<u>Level 2</u>	<u>Level 3</u>	<u>Total at Fair Value</u>
Investment securities, at fair value	\$ 4,977,370	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 4,977,370
Total	<u>\$ 4,977,370</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 4,977,370</u>

There were no transfers between levels during the year ended December 31, 2018.

The fair value of government issued or guaranteed debt securities in active markets is determined by reference to recent transaction prices, broker quotes or third-party vendor prices.

4. Income Taxes

The tax effects of temporary differences that give rise to significant portions of the net deferred tax assets, at December 31, 2018 are presented below:

Deferred tax assets		
Deferred employee compensation	\$	121,771
Federal tax loss carryforward		4,200
State tax loss carryforward		11,121
Employee Benefit Plans		70,319
Other assets		5,508
Gross deferred tax assets	<u>\$</u>	<u>212,919</u>
Valuation allowance		(8,307)
Deferred tax assets, net of valuation allowance	<u>\$</u>	<u>204,612</u>
Deferred tax liabilities		
Depreciable assets		(138)
Gross deferred tax liabilities	<u>\$</u>	<u>(138)</u>
Net deferred tax assets	<u>\$</u>	<u>204,474</u>

BMO INVESTMENT DISTRIBUTORS LLC
(A wholly owned subsidiary of BMO Financial Corporation)
NOTES TO FINANCIAL CONDITION
December 31, 2018

A valuation allowance of \$8,307 exists at December 31, 2018 to offset a portion of the Company's state deferred tax assets and state tax loss carryforwards. The valuation allowance increased by \$94 in 2018 as the Florida valuation allowance on net operating losses exceeded the release of the consolidated group's Illinois valuation allowance on net operating losses. Based on available tax planning strategies and expectations as to future taxable income, management believes that the realization of the deferred tax assets, with the exception of Florida state deferred tax assets and state tax loss carryforwards, is more likely than not at December 31, 2018.

Federal tax loss carryforwards at December 31, 2018 of approximately \$20,000 will expire in the year 2034.

State tax loss carryforwards at December 31, 2018 of approximately \$262,939 will expire in varying amounts in the years 2024 through 2038.

As of December 31, 2018, no audits are currently in process that would have a material impact on the Company's effective tax rate.

The Company is no longer subject to federal, state, or local tax audits for the years prior to 2011.

5. Related-Party Transactions

The Company maintains its cash balances at the Bank. As of December 31, 2018, the cash balance was \$2,006,985. Substantially all of the Company's lending and financing transactions are entered into with the Parent or an affiliate of the Parent. Additionally, investment transactions are conducted with an affiliate of the Parent and related custodial services for these investments are with the Bank.

The Company provides distribution and sales services related to the BMO Funds under agreements with BMO Asset Management Corp., the BMO Funds advisor. At December 31, 2018, accounts receivable from affiliate was \$129,747 which represents costs incurred on behalf of BMO Asset Management Corp and fees receivable.

The Company may enter into agreements with entities related through common ownership for various support services. At December 31, 2018, the payable to affiliates was \$181,339 which represents expenses payable to the Bank.

6. Employee Benefit Plans

The Company is a participating employer in retirement plans offered to BMO's U.S. eligible employees. BFC has grown over time and plan participants include employees of the Company, other BFC subsidiaries and the BMO U.S. Branch. To better align plan sponsorship with plan participants and the corporate structure, plan sponsorship was moved from BHB to the Parent effective January 1, 2017. The change does not affect the benefits that the participants have earned under the plans nor does it affect the security of the plan assets that are held in trust.

BFC sponsors a noncontributory defined benefit pension plan covering the Bank's eligible employees that were hired prior to April 1, 2016. Certain employees participating in the plan are also covered by a supplemental unfunded retirement plan. The purpose of the supplemental plan is to extend full retirement benefits to individuals hired prior to April 1, 2016 without regard to statutory limitations for qualified funded plans.

For employees hired prior to January 1, 2002, the plan's benefit formula is a final average pay formula based upon length of service and an employee's highest qualifying compensation during five consecutive years of active employment less an estimated Social Security benefit. For employees hired on or after January 1, 2002, the plan's benefit formula is an account-based formula based upon eligible pay, age and length of service.

On March 1, 2016, BFC announced that it would no longer offer the defined benefit pension plan or supplemental unfunded retirement plan to employees hired on or after April 1, 2016 and that it would freeze the plans on March 1, 2017 for employees hired prior to April 1, 2016. The final average pay formula will continue to reflect future earnings and the account-based formula will continue to reflect annual interest credits. However, under both benefit formulas, service credits stop as of March 1, 2017. The pension plan was amended effective April 1, 2016 to reflect the changes. In accordance with ASU 2015-04, "Compensation-Retirement Benefits (Topic 715): Practical Expedient for the Measurement Date of an Employer's Defined Benefit Obligation and Plan Assets," the benefit obligation and plan assets were remeasured as of March 31, 2016.

BMO INVESTMENT DISTRIBUTORS LLC
(A wholly owned subsidiary of BMO Financial Corporation)
NOTES TO FINANCIAL CONDITION
December 31, 2018

The policy for the defined benefit pension plan is to have the participating employers, at a minimum, fund annually an amount necessary to satisfy the requirements under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act ("ERISA"), without regard to prior years' contributions in excess of the minimum. During the year ended December 31, 2018, the Company contributed \$9,328 to the pension trust. The Company records liabilities related to its participation in the pension and supplemental unfunded retirement plans in the Statement of Financial Condition. The pension plan and supplemental unfunded retirement plan liabilities of the Company were \$179,342 and \$128,607, respectively, as of December 31, 2018.

BFC sponsors a defined contribution plan that is available to the Company's eligible employees. The 401(k) employer matching contribution is based on the amount of eligible employee contributions. In addition, on March 1, 2016, BFC introduced an automatic employer core contribution to the 401(k) savings plan that began immediately for employees hired on or after April 1, 2016 and March 1, 2017 for employees hired prior to April 1, 2016. BFC also introduced a non-qualified defined contribution plan, the purpose of which is to extend additional retirement benefits to individuals without regard to certain statutory limitations for qualified defined contribution plans. The plan is effective January 1, 2017 for employees hired on or after April 1, 2016 and March 1, 2017 for employees hired prior to April 1, 2016.

7. Net Capital and Other Requirements

The Company is subject to the SEC Uniform Net Capital Rule ("SEC 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, 2018, the Company's net capital of \$3,598,088 was in excess of the minimum requirement by \$3,474,242.

8. Subsequent Events

The Company performed an evaluation of subsequent events through February 27, 2019, the date these financial statements were available, and determined there were no recognized or unrecognized subsequent events that would require an adjustment or additional disclosure in the financial statements as of December 31, 2018.