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

SEC FILE NUMBER
8 - 43788

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 01/01/19 AND ENDING 12/31/19  
MM/DD/YY MM/DD/YY

**A. REGISTRANT IDENTIFICATION**

NAME OF BROKER-DEALER:  
**Alliance Financial Group, Inc.**

OFFICIAL USE ONLY
FIRM ID. NO.

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

**5950 Berkshire Lane, Suite 1060**

(No. and Street)

**Dallas**  
(City)

**TX**  
(State)

**75225**  
(Zip Code)

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

**Jack D Liston III**

**(214) 750-4400**  
(Area Code - Telephone No.)

**B. ACCOUNTANT IDENTIFICATION**

INDEPENDENT PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT whose opinion is contained in this Report\*

**Spicer Jefferies LLP**

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

**4601 DTC Boulevard, Suite 700**  
(Address)

**Denver**  
(City)

**CO**  
(State)

**80237**  
(Zip Code)

CHECK ONE:

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

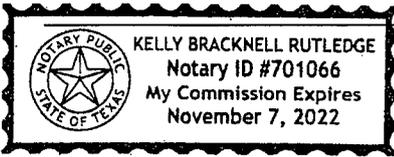
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\*Claims for exemption from the requirement that the annual report be covered by the opinion of an independent public accountant must be supported by a statement of facts and circumstances relied on as the basis for the exemption. See section 240.17a-5(e)(2).

OATH OR AFFIRMATION

I, Jack D Liston III, swear (or affirm) that, to the best of my knowledge and belief the accompanying financial statement and supporting schedules pertaining to the firm of Alliance Financial Group, Inc., as of December 31, 2019, 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:

NONE



Kelly B. Rutledge 2/25/20  
Notary Public

Jack D Liston III  
Signature  
President  
Title

This report\*\* contains (check all applicable boxes):

- (a) Facing page.
- (b) Statement of Financial Condition.
- (c) Statement of Income (Loss).
- (d) Statement of Cash Flows.
- (e) Statement of Changes in Stockholders' Equity or Partners' or Sole Proprietor's 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).

**ALLIANCE FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

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	<u>Page (s)</u>
Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm	3
Statement of Financial Condition	4
Notes to Financial Statements	5 – 11

## REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Board of Directors and Shareholder of  
Alliance Financial Group, Inc.

### Opinion on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying statement of financial condition of Alliance Financial Group, Inc. (the “Company”) as of December 31, 2019, and the related notes (collectively referred to as the “financial statements”). In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company as of December 31, 2019, 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 statements 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 financial statements are 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 statements, 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 financial statements. Our audit also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

We have served as Alliance Financial Group, Inc.’s auditor since 2013.



Denver, Colorado  
February 12, 2020

ALLIANCE FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION  
DECEMBER 31, 2019

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**ASSETS**

Cash and cash equivalents (Note 1)	\$	62,667
Due from clearing brokers and others		25,909
Deposits with clearing brokers		113,899
Equipment and leasehold improvements at cost, net of accumulated depreciation of \$88,176		5,162
Operating lease right of use asset		16,269
Other assets		<u>26,377</u>
<b><i>Total assets</i></b>	<b>\$</b>	<b><u>250,283</u></b>

**LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDER'S EQUITY**

**LIABILITIES:**

Commissions, salaries and payroll taxes payable	\$	34,595
Operating lease liability		16,396
Accounts payable		<u>16,768</u>
<b><i>Total liabilities</i></b>		<u>67,759</u>

**COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES (Notes 4 and 5)**

**SHAREHOLDER'S EQUITY (Note 2)**

Common stock, \$1.00 par value; 11,000 shares authorized; 1,935 shares issued and outstanding		1,935
Additional paid-in capital		244,565
Deficit		<u>(63,976)</u>
<b><i>Total shareholder's equity</i></b>		<u>182,524</u>
<b><i>Total liabilities and shareholder's equity</i></b>	<b>\$</b>	<b><u>250,283</u></b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

# ALLIANCE FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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### ***NOTE 1 - ORGANIZATION AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES***

#### **Organization and Business**

Alliance Financial Group, Inc. (the "Company") is a Texas corporation incorporated on November 14, 1986. The Company is registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") and is a member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA"). The original name of the Company was EGV Securities, Inc. On May 13, 1991, the Company name was changed to Alliance Financial Group, Inc. The Company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Alliance Financial Holdings, LLC (the "Parent").

The Company operates as a broker-dealer in securities. All customers' securities, funds and accounts are processed and carried by correspondent broker-dealers.

#### **Clearing Agreements**

The Company, under Rule 15c3-3(k)(2)(ii), is exempt from the reserve and possession or control requirements of Rule 15c3-3 of the Securities and Exchange Commission. The Company does not carry or clear customer accounts. Accordingly, all customer transactions are executed and cleared on behalf of the Company by its clearing brokers on a fully disclosed basis. The Company's agreement with its clearing brokers provide that as a clearing broker, that firm will make and keep such records of the transactions effected and cleared in the customer accounts as are customarily made and kept by a clearing broker pursuant to the requirements of Rules 17a-3 and 17a-4 of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Act"). It also performs all services customarily incident thereto, including the preparation and distribution of customers' confirmations and statements and maintenance margin requirements under the Act and the rules of the Self-Regulatory Organizations of which the Company is a member.

#### **Cash and Cash Equivalents**

For purposes of the statement of cash flows, the Company considers all highly liquid instruments purchased with an original maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents.

#### **Equipment and Leasehold Improvements**

Equipment and leasehold improvements is stated at cost. The Company provides for depreciation on these assets on the straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of three to seven years. Substantial leasehold improvements are capitalized and amortized over the term of the related lease.

#### **Revenue Recognition**

The Company records commission revenue and related expenses on a trade date basis. In connection with the Company's accounts receivable, amounts considered uncollectable or doubtful of collection are written off and charged against income when such determinations are made. In connection with the Company's rent activities, expense advances received by the Company, along with any related expenses, are deferred and recognized when its commitments are completed.

ALLIANCE FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(continued)

**NOTE 1 - ORGANIZATION AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**  
(continued)

**Basis of Accounting, Trading and Valuation of Securities**

The Company values its securities in accordance with Accounting Standards Codification 820 - Fair Value Measurements ("ASC 820"). Under ASC 820, fair value is defined as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability (i.e., the "exit price") in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. In determining fair value, the Company uses various valuation approaches. ASC 820 establishes a fair value hierarchy for inputs used in measuring fair value that maximizes the use of observable inputs and minimizes the use of unobservable inputs by requiring that the most observable inputs be used when available. Observable inputs are those that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability based on market data obtained from sources independent of the Company. Unobservable inputs reflect the Company's assumption about the inputs market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability developed based on the best information available in the circumstances. The fair value hierarchy is categorized into three levels based on the inputs as follows:

Level 1 - Valuations based on unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the Company has the ability to access. Valuation adjustments are not applied to Level 1 securities. Since valuations are based on quoted prices that are readily and regularly available in an active market, valuation of these securities does not entail a significant degree of judgment.

Level 2 - Valuations based on quoted prices in markets that are not active or for which all significant inputs are observable, either directly or indirectly.

Level 3 - Valuations based on inputs that are unobservable and significant to the overall fair value measurement.

The availability of valuation techniques and observable inputs can vary from security to security and is affected by a wide variety of factors, including the type of security, whether the security is new and not yet established in the marketplace, and other characteristics particular to the transaction. To the extent that valuation is based on models or inputs that are less observable or unobservable in the market, the determination of fair value requires more judgment. Those estimated values do not necessarily represent the amounts that may be ultimately realized due to the occurrence of future circumstances that cannot be reasonably determined. Because of the inherent uncertainty of valuation, those estimated values may be materially higher or lower than the values that would have been used had a ready market for the securities existed.

Accordingly, the degree of judgment exercised by the Company in determining fair value is greatest for securities categorized in Level 3. In certain cases, the inputs used to measure fair value may fall into different levels of the fair value hierarchy. In such cases, for disclosure purposes, the level in the fair value hierarchy within which the fair value measurement falls in its entirety is determined by the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement.

ALLIANCE FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(continued)

**NOTE 1 - ORGANIZATION AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**  
(continued)

**Basis of Accounting, Trading and Valuation of Securities** (concluded)

Fair value is a market-based measure considered from the perspective of a market participant rather than an entity-specific measure. Therefore, even when market assumptions are not readily available, the Company's own assumptions are set to reflect those that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability at the measurement date. The Company uses prices and inputs that are current as of the measurement date, including during periods of market dislocation. In periods of market dislocation, the observability of prices and inputs may be reduced for many securities. This condition could cause a security to be reclassified to a lower level within the fair value hierarchy.

The Company does not hold any securities as of December 31, 2019.

**Income Taxes**

The Company utilizes the asset and liability method of accounting for income taxes, as prescribed by Accounting Standards Codification 740 - Income Taxes ("ASC 740"). Under this method, deferred tax assets and liabilities are recognized for the future tax consequences attributable to differences between the financial statement carrying amounts of existing assets and liabilities and their respective tax bases. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured using enacted tax rates expected to apply in the years in which these temporary differences are expected to be recovered or settled. Changes in tax rates are recognized in income in the period that includes the enactment date.

The Company adopted Financial Accounting Standards Board Accounting Standards Codification Topic 740-10, *Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes*, which establishes that a tax position taken or expected to be taken in a tax return is to be recognized in the financial statements when it is more likely than not, based on the technical merits, that the position will be sustained upon examination. The Company is required to determine whether a tax position is more likely than not to be sustained upon examination by the applicable taxing authority, including resolution of any tax related appeals or litigation processes, based on the technical merits of the position. The Company files an income tax return in the U.S. federal jurisdiction, and may file income tax returns in various U.S. states. The Company is not subject to income tax return examinations by major taxing authorities for years before 2016. The tax benefit recognized is measured as the largest amount of benefit that has a greater than fifty percent likelihood of being realized upon ultimate settlement. De-recognition of a tax benefit previously recognized results in the Company recording a tax liability that reduces net assets. However, the Company's conclusions regarding this policy may be subject to review and adjustment at a later date based on factors including, but not limited to, ongoing analyses of and changes to tax laws, regulations and interpretations thereof. The Company recognizes interest accrued related to unrecognized tax benefits and penalties related to unrecognized tax benefits in income taxes payable, if assessed. No interest expense or penalties have been recognized as of and for the year ended December 31, 2019.

ALLIANCE FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(continued)

**NOTE 1 - ORGANIZATION AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**  
(concluded)

**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 revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

**NOTE 2 - NET CAPITAL REQUIREMENTS**

Pursuant to the net capital provisions of Rule 15c3-1 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Company is required to maintain a minimum net capital, as defined under such provisions. At December 31, 2019, the Company had net capital and net capital requirements of \$145,473 and \$50,000, respectively. The Company's net capital ratio (aggregate indebtedness to net capital) was .35 to 1. According to Rule 15c3-1, the Company's net capital ratio shall not exceed 15 to 1.

**NOTE 3 - INCOME TAXES**

The Company has a net operating loss carryforward of approximately \$40,000 available to offset future taxable income which expires through 2028. The net operating loss carryforward may produce future income tax benefits of approximately \$8,400, but realization of this benefit is uncertain at the present time and accordingly a valuation allowance has been established for the entire amount.

Deferred income tax liabilities or assets arise from the net tax effects of temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the amounts used for income tax purposes. The Company has immaterial temporary differences.

Significant components of the Company's deferred tax liabilities and assets as of December 31, 2019 are as follows:

Deferred tax liabilities:	\$ -
Deferred tax assets:	
Net operating loss carryforward	\$ 8,400
Other	1,000
Valuation allowance	(9,400)
	<u>\$ -</u>

The valuation allowance decreased \$5,100 for the year ended December 31, 2019. The Company paid \$1,168 in Texas Franchise taxes for the year ended December 31, 2019.

**ALLIANCE FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

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**NOTE 4 - COMMITMENTS AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

The Company leases office facilities from an unrelated third party. During the year ended December 31, 2019, rental payments were \$122,647. At December 31, 2019, annual minimum lease requirements were as follows:

<b>Year Ending December 31,</b>	<b>Amount</b>
2020	\$ 16,494
Less imputed interest	(98)
	<b>\$ 16,396</b>

Services and office facilities are provided to an affiliated entity through common ownership and management. During the year ended December 31, 2019 expense reimbursements from the affiliated entity were \$137,500. The expense reimbursements have been allocated and netted against expenses incurred.

The components of lease expense for the year ended December 31, 2019 were as follows:

<b>Operating Lease Costs:</b>	
Amortization of right-of-use assets	\$ 94,910
Interest on operating lease liabilities	3,291
Total operating lease costs	<b>\$ 98,201</b>

Supplemental statement of financial condition at December 31, 2019, relating to leases were as follows:

<b>Operating Leases:</b>	
Right-of-use assets	\$ 111,179
Accumulated amortization	(94,910)
Right-of-use assets, net	<b>\$ 16,269</b>
Operating lease liabilities	<b>\$ 16,396</b>

ALLIANCE FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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**NOTE 5 - FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS WITH OFF-BALANCE SHEET RISKS AND CONTINGENCIES**

In the normal course of business, the Company's activities through its clearing broker involve the execution, settlement and financing of various customer securities transactions. These activities may expose the Company to off-balance sheet risk. In the event a customer fails to satisfy its obligations, the Company may be required to purchase or sell financial instruments at prevailing market prices in order to fulfill the customer's obligations.

In addition, the Company bears the risk of financial failure by its clearing broker. If the clearing broker should cease doing business, the Company's receivable and deposit from this clearing broker could be subject to forfeiture. The Company also maintains its cash balance in a financial institution, which at times may exceed federally insured limits. As of December 31, 2019, the Company held no cash in excess of the federally insured limit. The Company has not experienced any losses in such accounts and believes it is not exposed to any significant credit risk.

The Company's financial instruments, including cash and cash equivalents, due from clearing brokers and others, deposits with clearing brokers, other assets, commissions, salaries and payroll taxes payable, due to related party and accounts payable are carried at amounts which approximate fair value. Securities owned are valued as described in Note 1.

**NOTE 6 - PROFIT SHARING PLAN**

The Alliance Financial Group, Inc. Profit Sharing Plan (the "Plan"), a qualified plan, became effective in 2007 and is subject to the requirements and regulations of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA) and the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions to the Plan are made by and at the sole discretion of the Company.

**NOTE 7 - RECENTLY ISSUED ACCOUNTING STANDARDS**

The Company adopted the new guidance for leases prospectively effective December 2019. The new guidance requires that the Company determine if an arrangement is a lease at inception of the transaction. Operating lease assets are included in right-of-use ("ROU") assets while the corresponding lease liabilities are included in operating lease liabilities in the statement of financial condition. Finance leases are included in property and equipment while the related liabilities are included in loans payable in the statement of financial condition.

A ROU asset represents the Company's right to use an underlying asset for the lease term while the related operating lease liability represents the obligations to make future lease payments arising from the lease. A ROU asset and related operating lease liability are recognized at lease commencement date, based on the present value of lease payments over the lease term. The Company does not borrow funds and does not have a determinable incremental borrowing rate. The incremental borrowing rate used is the Treasury Bill Rate approximating the term of the operating lease.

ALLIANCE FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(continued)

**NOTE 7 - RECENTLY ISSUED ACCOUNTING STANDARDS (concluded)**

The ROU asset also includes any lease payments made and excludes lease incentives. The lease term may include options to extend or terminate the lease when it is reasonably certain that the Company exercise that option. The lease expense for a ROU asset is recognized on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

There are several elections the Company may choose to utilize, simplifying the adoption process. They are; the practical expedients, the hindsight expedient, combining lease and non-lease components and utilizing the short-term lease option.

The package of practical expedient has three components. The Company has specific elections it may utilize; (i) not to reassess historical lease classification, (ii) not to recognize short-term leases on the statement of financial position and (iii) not to separate lease and non-lease components. The practical expedient is an all or nothing election; the Company elected to use the package of practical expedients.

The Company may elect the hindsight practical expedient to; (i) reassess the likelihood that a lease renewal, termination or purchase option will be exercised and (ii) reassess the impairment of ROU assets. The Company elected to use the hindsight practical expedient.

The Company may elect to include both lease and non-lease components of a lease as a single component, by asset class, and account for both components as part of the lease payment. This election relieves the Company from the obligation to perform a pricing allocation. The Company elected to include both the lease and non-lease components as a single component.

For short-term leases, defined as a lease term of twelve months or less, the Company can elect not to apply the recognition requirements and recognize lease payments in the statement of operations on a straight-line basis and recognize variable lease payments, if any, as they are incurred. The Company elected not to apply the recognition requirements to leases classified as short term.

The Company has both operating leases and finance leases for office space, furniture and fixtures, office equipment, telecommunications equipment and computer equipment. These leases have remaining terms ranging from one year to three years and do not contain options to either extend or terminate the leases.

**NOTE 8 - MANAGEMENT FEE FROM RELATED PARTY**

During the year, the management of the Company spent considerable time reviewing it's options to continue as a member of FINRA or to file a BDW. As compensation for time and expenses, the Company charged its parent company, Alliance Financial Holdings, LLC, a management fee.

**NOTE 9 - SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

The Company has performed an evaluation of subsequent events through the date the financial statements were issued. The evaluation did not result in any subsequent events that required disclosures and/or adjustments.

The Company is currently fast tracking a "Continuing Membership Application" with FINRA and is planning to file a BDW in April 2020.

SEC  
Mail Processing  
Section  
FEB 25 2020  
Washington DC  
415

**ALLIANCE FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION**  
**YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019**