

UNICO AMERICAN CORP
Form 10-Q
May 15, 2018

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-Q

(Mark One)

Quarterly Report pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

For the quarterly period ended **March 31, 2018** or

Transition Report pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

For the transition period from ____ to ____.

Commission File No. 000-03978

UNICO AMERICAN CORPORATION

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Nevada 95-2583928 (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization) (IRS
Employer Identification No.) **26050 Mureau Road, Calabasas, California 91302** (Address of Principal Executive
Offices) (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: **(818) 591-9800**

No Change

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(Former Name, Former Address and Former Fiscal Year, if Changed Since Last Report)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15 (d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.

Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate website, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, a smaller reporting company, or an emerging growth company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," "smaller reporting company," and "emerging growth company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer Smaller reporting company Emerging growth company

(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes No

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date.

Class Outstanding at May 15, 2018 Common Stock, no par value per share 5,307,133

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UNICO AMERICAN CORPORATION

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CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This Form 10-Q, and the documents incorporated by reference in this document, our press releases and oral statements made from time to time by us or on our behalf, may contain “forward-looking statements” within the meaning of the federal securities laws, including Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (or “the Securities Act”), and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (or “the Exchange Act”). In this context, forward-looking statements are not historical facts and include statements about our plans, objectives, beliefs and expectations. Forward-looking statements include statements preceded by, followed by, or that include the words “believes,” “expects,” “anticipates,” “seeks,” “plans,” “estimates,” “intends,” “projects,” “targets,” “should,” “could,” “may,” “have,” “likely,” the negatives thereof or similar words and expressions. These forward-looking statements are contained throughout this Form 10-Q, including, but not limited to, statements found in Part I – Item 2 – “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.”

Forward-looking statements are only predictions and are not guarantees of future performance. These statements are based on current expectations and assumptions involving judgments about, among other things, future economic, competitive and market conditions and future business decisions, all of which are difficult or impossible to predict accurately and many of which are beyond our control. These predictions are also affected by known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause our actual results to be materially different from those expressed or implied by any forward-looking statement. Many of these factors are beyond our ability to control or predict. Our actual results could differ materially from the results contemplated by these forward-looking statements due to a number of factors. Such factors include, but are not limited to, the following:

- failure to meet minimum capital and surplus requirements;
- vulnerability to significant catastrophic property loss;
- a change in accounting standards issued by the Financial Accounting Standards Board;
- ability to adjust claims accurately;
- insufficiency of loss and loss adjustment expense reserves to cover future losses;
- changes in federal or state tax laws;
- ability to realize deferred tax assets;
- ability to accurately underwrite risks and charge adequate premium;
- ability to obtain reinsurance or collect from reinsurers and or losses in excess of reinsurance limits;
- extensive regulation and legislative changes;
- reliance on subsidiaries to satisfy obligations;
- downgrade in financial strength rating by A.M. Best;
- changes in interest rates;
- investments subject to credit, prepayment and other risks;
- geographic concentration;
- reliance on independent insurance agents and brokers;
- insufficient reserve for doubtful accounts;
- litigation;
- enforceability of exclusions and limitations in policies;
- reliance on information technology systems;
- ability to prevent or detect acts of fraud with disclosure controls and procedures;
- change in general economic conditions;
- dependence on key personnel;
- ability to attract, develop and retain employees and maintain appropriate staffing levels;
- insolvency, financial difficulties, or default in performance of obligations by parties with significant contracts or relationships;
- ability to effectively compete;
- maximization of long-term value and no focus on short-term earnings expectations;
- control by a small number of shareholders;
- failure to maintain effective system of internal controls; and
- difficulty in effecting a change of control or sale of any subsidiaries.

Please see Part I - Item 1A – “Risk Factors” in the Company’s 2017 Annual Report on Form 10-K as filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”), as well as other documents we file with the SEC from time-to-time, for other important factors that could cause our actual results to differ materially from our current expectations and from

the forward-looking statements discussed herein. Because of these and other risks, uncertainties and assumptions, you should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements. In addition, these statements speak only as of the date of this Form 10-Q and, except as may be required by law, we undertake no obligation to revise or update publicly any forward-looking statements for any reason.

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PART 1 - FINANCIAL INFORMATION**ITEM 1 - FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

UNICO AMERICAN CORPORATION

AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

March 31	December 31	2018	2017	(Unaudited)	ASSETS	Investments	Available-for-sale:
Fixed maturities, at fair value (amortized cost: \$65,628,151 at March 31, 2018, and \$58,153,120 at December 31, 2017)	\$64,191,414	\$57,849,454	Held-to-maturity:	Fixed maturities, at amortized cost (fair value: \$23,848,000 at March 31, 2018, and \$28,098,000 at December 31, 2017)	23,848,000	28,098,000	Short-term investments, at fair value
	6,011,792	10,440,496	Total Investments	94,051,206	96,387,950	Cash and restricted cash	262,608
	774,226	Accrued investment income	377,008	490,579	Receivables, net	5,585,244	6,005,764
Reinsurance recoverable:	Paid losses and loss adjustment expenses	539,589	126,682	Unpaid losses and loss adjustment expenses,	11,570,306	8,393,550	Deferred policy acquisition costs
	9,912,406	10,014,869	Deferred income taxes	4,232,231	3,380,806	Other assets	521,098
561,561	Total Assets	\$130,990,312	\$130,298,758	LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY			
LIABILITIES				Unpaid losses and loss adjustment expenses	\$53,914,003	\$49,076,991	Unearned premiums
18,054,341	18,768,264	Advance premium and premium deposits	309,187	207,808	Accrued expenses and other liabilities	1,869,821	2,300,358
Total Liabilities	\$74,147,352	\$70,353,421	STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY				
Commitments and contingencies	Common stock, no par value – authorized 10,000,000 shares; 5,307,133, shares issued and outstanding at March 31, 2018, and December 31, 2017				\$3,772,872	\$3,772,872	Accumulated other comprehensive loss
			(1,135,022)	(239,896)	Retained earnings	54,205,110	56,412,361
			Total Stockholders' Equity	\$56,842,960	\$59,945,337	Total Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity	
	\$130,990,312	\$130,298,758					

See notes to condensed consolidated financial statements (unaudited).

UNICO AMERICAN CORPORATION

AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS

(UNAUDITED)

Three Months Ended	<u>March 31</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	REVENUES	Insurance company operation:	Net earned	
premium	\$7,681,628	\$7,920,699	Investment income	444,702	212,186	Other income	
						<u>55,689</u>	
Total Insurance Company Operation	8,182,019	8,201,097	Other insurance operations:			Gross commissions	
and fees	606,657	741,175	Investment income	97	49	Finance charges and fees earned	
income	<u>21</u>	15	Total Revenues	8,806,891	8,960,497	18,097	
						18,161	
expenses	7,801,757	8,525,181	EXPENSES			Losses and loss adjustment	
			Policy acquisition costs	1,621,505	1,497,634	Salaries and employee benefits	
			Commissions to agents/brokers	41,339	41,889	Other operating expenses	
						<u>866,143</u>	
Total Expenses	11,618,822	12,227,846	Loss before taxes	(2,811,931)	(3,267,349)	Income tax	
benefit	604,680	1,120,097	Net Loss	\$(2,207,251)	\$(2,147,252)		
						PER SHARE DATA:	
Basic	Loss Per Share	\$(0.42)	\$(0.40)	Weighted Average Shares	5,307,133	5,307,133	Diluted
	Loss Per Share	\$(0.42)	\$(0.40)	Weighted Average Shares	5,307,133	5,307,133	

See notes to condensed consolidated financial statements (unaudited).

UNICO AMERICAN CORPORATION

AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE LOSS

(UNAUDITED)

Three Months Ended	March 31	2018	2017	Net loss	\$(2,207,251)	\$(2,147,252)	Other changes in
comprehensive loss:							
Changes in unrealized losses on securities classified as							
available-for-sale arising during the period	(1,133,071)	(8,328)					
Income tax benefit related to changes in unrealized							
losses on securities classified as available-for-sale arising during the period	237,945	2,832					
Comprehensive Loss							
	\$(3,102,377)	\$(2,152,748)					

See notes to condensed consolidated financial statements (unaudited).

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UNICO AMERICAN CORPORATION

AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED)

MARCH 31, 2018

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Nature of Business

Unico American Corporation is an insurance holding company that underwrites property and casualty insurance through its insurance company subsidiary; provides property, casualty, and health insurance through its agency subsidiaries; and provides insurance premium financing and membership association services through its other subsidiaries. Unico American Corporation is referred to herein as the "Company" or "Unico" and such references include both the corporation and its subsidiaries, all of which are wholly owned. Unico was incorporated under the laws of Nevada in 1969.

Principles of Consolidation

The accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Unico American Corporation and its subsidiaries. All significant intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

Basis of Presentation

The accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP") for interim financial information and the instructions to Form 10-Q and Rule 8-03 of Regulation S-X for smaller reporting companies. Accordingly, the financial statements do not include all of the information and footnotes required by GAAP for complete financial statements. In the opinion of management, all adjustments (consisting of normal recurring adjustments) considered necessary for a fair presentation have been included. Operating results for the three months ended March 31, 2018, are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the year ending December 31, 2018. Quarterly financial statements should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and related notes in the Company's 2017 Annual Report on Form 10-K as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Certain reclassifications have been made to prior

period amounts to conform to current quarter presentation.

Use of Estimates in the Preparation of the Financial Statements

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires the Company to make estimates and assumptions that affect its reported amounts of assets and liabilities and its disclosure of any contingent assets and liabilities at the date of its financial statements, as well as its reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. The most significant assumptions in the preparation of these condensed consolidated financial statements relate to losses and loss adjustment expenses. While every effort is made to ensure the integrity of such estimates, actual results may differ.

Fair Value of Financial Instruments

The Company employs a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs for valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The fair value of a financial instrument is the amount 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 exit price). Financial assets and financial liabilities recorded on the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets at fair value are categorized based on the reliability of inputs for the valuation techniques. (See Note 8.)

The Company has used the following methods and assumptions in estimating its fair value disclosures:

- Fixed maturities:

1. Investment securities, excluding long-term certificates of deposit – Fair values are obtained from widely accepted third party vendors.

2. Long-term certificates of deposit – The carrying amounts reported in the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets for these instruments approximate their fair values.

- Cash, restricted cash, and short-term investments – The carrying amounts reported in the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets approximate their fair values given the short-term nature of these instruments.

- Receivables, net – The carrying amounts reported in the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets approximate their fair values given the short-term nature of these instruments.
- Accrued expenses and other liabilities – The carrying amounts reported in the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets approximate the fair values given the short-term nature of these instruments.

NOTE 2 – REPURCHASE OF COMMON STOCK – EFFECTS ON STOCKHOLDERS’ EQUITY

On December 19, 2008, the Board of Directors authorized a stock repurchase program to acquire from time to time up to an aggregate of 500,000 shares of the Company’s common stock. This program has no expiration date and may be terminated by the Board of Directors at any time. As of March 31, 2018, and December 31, 2017, the Company had remaining authority under the 2008 program to repurchase up to an aggregate of 188,655 shares of its common stock. The 2008 program is the only program under which there is authority to repurchase shares of the Company’s common stock. The Company did not repurchase any stock during the three months ended March 31, 2018 and 2017. The Company has retired or will retire all stock repurchased.

NOTE 3 – LOSS PER SHARE

The following table represents the reconciliation of the Company's basic loss per share and diluted loss per share computations reported on the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations for the three months ended March 31, 2018 and 2017:

Three Months Ended March 31	2018	2017	<u>Basic Loss Per Share</u>	Net loss	\$(2,207,251)	\$(2,147,252)
Weighted average shares outstanding	5,307,133	5,307,133		Basic loss per share	\$(0.42)	\$(0.40)
<u>Diluted Loss per Share</u>			Net loss	\$(2,207,251)	\$(2,147,252)	Weighted average shares outstanding
5,307,133	5,307,133	Diluted shares outstanding	5,307,133	5,307,133		Diluted loss per share
\$(0.40)						\$(0.42)

Basic earnings per share exclude the impact of common share equivalents and are based upon the weighted average common shares outstanding. Diluted earnings per share utilize the average market price per share when applying the treasury stock method in determining common share dilution. When outstanding stock options are dilutive, they are treated as common share equivalents for purposes of computing diluted earnings per share and represent the difference between basic and diluted weighted average shares outstanding. In loss periods, stock options are excluded from the calculation of diluted loss per share, as the inclusion of stock options would have an anti-dilutive effect.

NOTE 4 – RECENTLY ISSUED ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

Recently adopted standards

In February 2018, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") 2018-02, "Income Statement - Reporting Comprehensive Income (Topic 220), Reclassification of Certain Tax Effects from Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income." ASU 2018-02 was issued as a result of the enactment of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 ("TCJA") on December 22, 2017. Accounting guidance required deferred tax items to be revalued based on the new tax laws (the most significant of which reduced the corporate tax rate to 21% percent from 34% percent) and to include the change in income from continuing operations. ASU 2018-02 is effective for annual and interim reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2018. The Company adopted ASU 2018-02 for the year ended December 31, 2017.

In May 2017, FASB issued ASU 2017-09, "Compensation - Stock Compensation (Topic 718), Scope of Modification Accounting." ASU 2017-09 provides guidance about which changes to the terms or conditions of a share-based payment award require an entity to apply modification accounting in Topic 718. ASU 2017-09 became effective for the Company beginning January 1, 2018. ASU 2017-09 does not have a material impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements and related disclosures.

In May 2014, the FASB issued ASU 2014-09, "Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606)." The core principal of ASU 2014-09 is that an entity should recognize revenue to depict the transfer of promised goods or services to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration to which the entity expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. To achieve that core principle, the transaction price for a contract is allocated among separately identifiable performance obligations and a portion of the transaction price is recognized as revenue when the associated performance obligation has been completed or transferred to the customer. The Company adopted ASU 2014-09 effective January 1, 2018. The adoption of ASU 2014-09 did not have a material impact to the consolidated statement of operations and the consolidated balance sheet.

Standards not yet adopted

In June 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-13 "Measurement of Credit Losses on Financial Instruments." ASU 2016-13 replaces the current incurred loss methodology for recognizing credit losses with a current expected credit loss model, which requires the measurement of all expected credit losses for financial assets held at the reporting date based on historical experience, current conditions, and reasonable and supportable forecasts. ASU 2016-13 also requires enhanced disclosures for better understanding of significant estimates and judgments used in estimating credit losses. The Company is currently evaluating the effect ASU 2016-13 will have on the Company's consolidated financial statements, but expects the primary changes to be (i) the use of the expected credit loss model for its premium receivables and reinsurance recoverables and (ii) the presentation of credit losses within the available-for-sale fixed maturities portfolio through an allowance method rather than as a direct write-down. ASU 2016-13 will become effective for fiscal years beginning after December 31, 2019, but provides for an early adoption for fiscal years beginning after December 31, 2018. The Company has not determined when it will adopt ASU 2016-13.

In February 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-02 "Leases." ASU 2016-02 requires lessees to recognize on the balance sheet the assets and liabilities for the rights and obligations created by all leases, including those historically accounted for as operating leases. The Company is currently evaluating the effect ASU 2016-02 will have on the Company's consolidated financial statements. The guidance is effective for interim and annual periods beginning after December 31, 2018, and will be applied under a modified retrospective approach for leases that exist or are entered into after the beginning of the earliest comparative period in the consolidated financial statements.

NOTE 5 – ACCOUNTING FOR INCOME TAXES

TCJA, signed into law on December 22, 2017, reduced the corporate Federal income tax rate from 34% to 21%, effective for years beginning after December 31, 2017. The current income tax expense for the period ending March 31, 2018 is affected by this change in the law. As a result of the TCJA, the Company has recognized a decrease to its net deferred asset as of December 31, 2017 in the amount of \$2,176,862. The Company has determined that no other changes are required to the deferred tax asset (liability) as of March 31, 2018.

The Company and its wholly owned subsidiaries file consolidated federal and state income tax returns. Pursuant to a tax allocation agreement, the Company's subsidiaries, Crusader Insurance Company ("Crusader") and American Acceptance Corporation ("AAC"), are allocated taxes or tax credits in the case of losses, at current corporate rates based on their own taxable income or loss. The Company files income tax returns under U.S. federal and various state jurisdictions. The Company is subject to examination by U.S. federal income tax authorities for tax returns filed starting at taxable year 2014 and California state income tax authorities for tax returns filed starting at taxable year 2013. There are no ongoing examinations of income tax returns by federal or state tax authorities.

As of March 31, 2018, and December 31, 2017, the Company had no unrecognized tax benefits or liabilities and, therefore, had not accrued interest and penalties related to unrecognized tax benefits or liabilities. However, if interest and penalties would need to be accrued related to unrecognized tax benefits or liabilities, such amounts would be recognized as a component of federal income tax expense.

As a California based insurance company, Crusader is obligated to pay a premium tax on gross premiums written in all states that Crusader is admitted. Premium taxes are deferred and amortized as the related premiums are earned. The premium tax is in lieu of state franchise taxes and is not included in the provision for state taxes.

NOTE 6 – PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT, NET

Property and equipment consist of the following:

March 31	December 31	2018	2017	Building and leasehold improvements located in Calabasas, California	
\$8,379,203	\$8,352,181	Furniture, fixtures, and equipment	2,730,878	2,724,775	Computer software
355,234	Accumulated depreciation and amortization	(3,345,008)	(3,204,806)	Land located in Calabasas, California	1,787,485
1,787,485	1,787,485	Property and equipment, net	\$9,912,406	\$10,014,869	

Depreciation on the Calabasas building, owned by Crusader, is computed using the straight line method over 39 years. Depreciation on furniture, fixtures, and equipment in the Calabasas building is computed using the straight line method over 3 to 15 years. Amortization of leasehold improvements in the Calabasas building is being computed using the shorter of the useful life of the leasehold improvements or the remaining years of the lease. Depreciation and amortization expense on all property and equipment for the three months ended March 31, 2018 and 2017, was \$140,202 and \$132,269, respectively.

For the three months ended March 31, 2018 and 2017, the Calabasas building has generated rental revenue from non-affiliated tenants in the amount of \$85,906 and \$57,745, respectively, which is included in “Other income” from insurance company operation in the Company’s Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations.

For the three months ended March 31, 2018 and 2017, the Calabasas building incurred operating expenses (including depreciation) in the amount of \$187,904 and \$166,974, respectively, which are included in “Other operating expenses” in the Company’s Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations.

The total square footage of the Calabasas building is 46,884, including common areas. As of March 31, 2018, 14,481 square feet of the Calabasas building was leased to non-affiliated entities. As of March 31, 2018 the Calabasas building was fully occupied.

The Company capitalizes certain computer software costs purchased from outside vendors for internal use. These costs also include configuration and customization activities, coding, testing and installation. Training costs and maintenance are expensed as incurred, while upgrade and enhancements are capitalized if it is probable that such expenditure will result in additional functionality. The capitalized costs are not depreciated until the software is placed into production.

NOTE 7 – SEGMENT REPORTING

Accounting Standards Codification (“ASC”) Topic 280, “Segment Reporting,” establishes standards for the way information about operating segments is reported in financial statements. The Company has identified its insurance company operation as its primary reporting segment. Revenues from this segment comprised 93% and 92% of consolidated revenues for the three months ended March 31, 2018 and 2017, respectively. The Company’s remaining operations constitute a variety of specialty insurance services, each with unique characteristics and individually insignificant to consolidated revenues.

Revenues, loss before income taxes, and assets by segment are as follows:

Three Months Ended March 31	2018	2017	Revenues	Insurance company operation	\$8,182,019	\$8,201,097		
			Other insurance operations	3,042,771	3,389,455	Intersegment eliminations (1)	(2,417,899)	(2,630,055)
Total other insurance operations	624,872	759,400	Total revenues	\$8,806,891	\$8,960,497	Loss Before		
Income Taxes			Insurance company operation	\$(1,952,614)	\$(3,063,919)	Other insurance operations	(859,317)	
(203,430)	Total loss before income taxes	\$(2,811,931)	\$(3,267,349)					

As of	March 31	December 31	2018	2017	Assets	Insurance company operation	\$118,235,474
\$117,274,626	Intersegment eliminations (2)	(3,223,421)	(2,486,500)	Total insurance company operation			
115,012,053	114,788,126	Other insurance operations	15,978,259	15,510,632	Total assets	\$130,990,312	
\$130,298,758							

(1)Intersegment revenue eliminations reflect rents paid by Unico to Crusader for spaced leased in the Calabasas building and commissions paid by Crusader to Unifax Insurance Systems, Inc. (“Unifax”), a wholly owned subsidiary of Unico. (2)Intersegment asset eliminations reflect the elimination of Crusader receivables from Unifax and Unifax payables to Crusader.

NOTE 8 – FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

In determining the fair value of its financial instruments, the Company employs a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs for the valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The fair value of a financial instrument is the amount 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 exit price). Financial assets and financial liabilities recorded on the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets at fair value are categorized based on the reliability of inputs for the valuation techniques as follows:

Level 1 – Financial assets and financial liabilities whose values are based on unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities as of the reporting date.

Level 2 – Financial assets and financial liabilities whose values are based on quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets; quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in non-active markets; or valuation models whose inputs are observable, directly or indirectly, for substantially the full term of the asset or liability as of the reporting date.

Level 3 – Financial assets and financial liabilities whose values are based on prices or valuation techniques that require inputs that are both unobservable and significant to the overall fair value measurement. These inputs reflect the Company’s estimates of the assumptions that market participants would use in valuing the financial assets and financial liabilities as of the reporting date.

The hierarchy gives the highest priority to Level 1 inputs and the lowest priority to Level 3 inputs. In certain cases, the inputs used to measure fair value may fall into different levels of the fair value hierarchy. In such cases, the level in the fair value hierarchy within which the fair value measurement in its entirety falls has been determined based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement in its entirety. Thus, a Level 3 fair value measurement may include inputs that are observable (Level 1 or Level 2) or unobservable (Level 3). The Company’s assessment of the significance of a particular input to the fair value measurement in its entirety requires judgment and considers factors specific to the asset or liability.

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The following table presents information about the Company's consolidated financial instruments and their estimated fair values, which are measured on a recurring basis, and are allocated among the three levels within the fair value hierarchy as of March 31, 2018, and December 31, 2017:

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total	March 31, 2018			Financial instruments:			Available-for-sale		
fixed maturities:				U.S. treasury securities	\$10,202,657	\$—	\$—	\$10,202,657	Corporate securities	—		
31,280,064	—	31,280,064		Agency mortgage backed securities	—	22,708,693	—	22,708,693	Held-to-maturity			
fixed securities:				Certificates of deposit	—	23,848,000	—	23,848,000	Total fixed maturities			
10,202,657	77,836,757	—	88,039,414	Cash and restricted cash	262,608	—	—	262,608	Short-term			
investments	6,011,792	—	6,011,792	Total financial instruments at fair value	\$16,477,057	\$77,836,757	\$—					
\$94,313,814				December 31, 2017			Financial instruments:			Available-for-sale		
fixed maturities:				U.S. treasury securities	\$7,454,225	\$—	\$—	\$7,454,225	Corporate securities	—		
28,657,640	—	28,657,640		Agency mortgage-backed securities	—	21,737,589	—	21,737,589	Held-to-maturity			
Held-to-maturity fixed securities:				Certificates of deposit	—	28,098,000	—	28,098,000	Total fixed			
maturities	7,454,225	78,493,229	85,947,454	Cash and restricted cash	774,226	—	—	774,226	Short-term			
investments	10,440,496	—	10,440,496	Total financial instruments at fair value	\$18,668,947	\$78,493,229	\$—					
\$—	\$97,162,176											

Fair value measurements are not adjusted for transaction costs. The Company recognizes transfers between levels at either the actual date of the event or a change in circumstances that caused the transfer. The Company did not have any transfers between Levels 1, 2, and 3 of the fair value hierarchy during the three months ended March 31, 2018 and 2017.

NOTE 9 – INVESTMENTS

A summary of investment income, net of investment expenses, is as follows:

Three Months Ended March 31	2018	2017	Fixed maturities	\$462,167	\$178,433	Short-term investments
7,947	33,802	Gross investment income	470,114	212,235	Less investment expenses	(25,315)
investment income	\$444,799	\$212,235			Net	

The amortized cost and estimated fair values of investments in fixed maturities by category are as follows:

Amortized

Cost

Gross

Unrealized

Gains

Gross

Unrealized Losses

Estimated

Fair

Value

March 31, 2018	Available-for-sale fixed maturities:	U.S. treasury securities	\$10,364,634
\$1,532	Corporate securities	32,020,488	9,167 (749,591) 31,280,064
Agency mortgage-backed securities	23,243,029	3,197 (537,533)	22,708,693
Held-to-maturity fixed securities:	Certificates of deposits	23,848,000	— — 23,848,000
Total fixed maturities			\$89,476,151 \$13,896
\$(1,450,633)	\$88,039,414		

Amortized
Cost Gross
Unrealized

Gains Gross

Unrealized Losses Estimated

Fair									
Value December 31, 2017				Available-for-sale fixed maturities:				U.S. treasury securities	
\$7,517,901	\$21	\$(63,697)	\$7,454,225	Corporate securities	28,745,223	43,204	(130,787)	28,657,640	
				Agency mortgage-backed securities	21,889,996	—	(152,407)	21,737,589	Held-to-maturity fixed securities:
				Certificates of deposits	28,098,000	—	—	28,098,000	Total fixed maturities
\$43,225	\$(346,891)	\$85,947,454						\$86,251,120	

A summary of the unrealized gains (losses) on investments in fixed maturities carried at fair value and the applicable deferred federal income taxes are shown below:

March 31	December 31	2018	2017	Gross unrealized gains on fixed maturities	\$13,896	\$43,225	Gross unrealized losses on fixed maturities	(1,450,633)	(346,891)	Net unrealized losses on fixed maturities	(1,436,737)
				Deferred federal tax benefit	301,715	63,770	Net unrealized losses, net of deferred income taxes	\$(1,135,022)	\$(239,896)		

A summary of estimated fair value, gross unrealized losses, and number of securities in a gross unrealized loss position by the length of time in which the securities have continually been in that position is shown below:

Less than 12 Months 12 Months or Longer

Estimated Fair Value

Gross Unrealized Losses

Number of Securities

Estimated Fair Value

Gross Unrealized Losses

Number of Securities

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March 31, 2018	U.S. treasury securities	\$9,218,906	\$(163,509)	7	\$—	\$—	—	Corporate securities			
29,825,023	(749,591)	40	—	—	—	Agency mortgage-backed securities	20,766,633	(537,533)	17	—	—
Total	\$59,810,562	\$(1,450,633)	64	\$—	\$—	—					

Less than 12 Months 12 Months or Longer

Estimated Fair Value

Gross Unrealized

Losses

Number of Securities

Estimated Fair Value

Gross Unrealized

Losses

Number of Securities

December 31, 2017	U.S. treasury securities	\$7,454,204	\$(63,697)	6	\$—	\$—	—	Corporate securities			
20,335,512	(130,787)	26	—	—	—	Agency mortgage-backed securities	21,737,589	(152,407)	17	—	—
Total	\$49,527,305	\$(346,891)	49	\$—	\$—	—					

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The Company closely monitors its investments. If an unrealized loss is determined to be other-than-temporary, it is written off as a realized loss through the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations. The Company’s methodology of assessing other-than-temporary impairments is based on security-specific analysis as of the balance sheet date and considers various factors including the length of time to maturity and the extent to which the fair value has been less than the cost, the financial condition and the near-term prospects of the issuer, and whether the debtor is current on its contractually obligated interest and principal payments. The unrealized losses as of March 31, 2018, and December 31, 2017, were determined to be temporary.

Although the Company does not intend to sell its fixed maturity investments prior to maturity, the Company may sell investment securities from time to time in response to cash flow requirements, economic and/or market conditions. The Company did not sell any fixed maturities investments and there were no realized investment gains or losses during the three months ended March 31, 2018 and 2017. The unrealized gains or losses from fixed maturities are reported as “Accumulated other comprehensive income or loss,” which is a separate component of stockholders’ equity, net of any deferred tax effect.

The Company’s investment in certificates of deposit included \$23,448,000 and \$27,698,000 of brokered certificates of deposit as of March 31, 2018, and December 31, 2017, respectively. Brokered certificates of deposit provide the safety and security of a certificate of deposit combined with the convenience gained by one-stop shopping for rates at various institutions. This allows the Company to spread its investments across multiple institutions so that all of its certificate of deposit investments are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (“FDIC”). Brokered certificates of deposit are purchased through UnionBanc Investment Services, LLC, a registered broker-dealer, investment advisor, member of FINRA/SIPC, and a subsidiary of Union Bank, N.A. Brokered certificates of deposit are a direct obligation of the issuing depository institution, are bank products of the issuing depository institution, are held in the name of Union Bank as Custodian for the benefit of the Company, and are FDIC insured within permissible limits. All the Company’s brokered certificates of deposit are within the FDIC insured permissible limits.

The following securities from four different banks represent statutory deposits that are assigned to and held by the California State Treasurer and the Insurance Commissioner of the State of Nevada. These deposits are required for writing certain lines of business in California and for admission to transact insurance business in the state of Nevada.

March 31	December 31	2018	2017	Certificates of deposit	\$400,000	\$400,000	Short-term investments
200,000	200,000	Total state held deposits		\$600,000	\$600,000		

All the Company’s brokered and non-brokered certificates of deposit are within the FDIC insured permissible limits. Due to nature of the Company’s business, certain bank accounts may exceed FDIC insured permissible limits.

Short-term investments have an initial maturity of one year or less and consist of the following:

	March 31	December 31	2018	2017					
Custodial trust	\$946,383	\$6,275,648			U.S. treasury bills	—			
1,148,395 Certificates of deposit	200,000	200,000			Commercial paper	—	499,383		
Bank money market accounts	4,863,646	2,315,307			Bank savings account	1,763	1,763		
					Total short-term investments			\$6,011,792	
	\$10,440,496								

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NOTE 10 – CASH AND RESTRICTED CASH

The following table provides a reconciliation of cash and restricted cash reported within the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets to the amounts shown in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows:

March 31	December 31	2018	2017	Cash	\$262,608	\$774,226	Restricted cash	—	—	Cash and restricted cash	\$262,608	\$774,226
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The restricted cash was represented by two cash deposits placed by Crusader with the Los Angeles Superior Court in lieu of appeal bonds. In December 2015, a judgment was finalized on a Crusader policy liability claim. Crusader appealed the judgment. As a part of the appeal, Crusader deposited \$7,924,178 in cash with the Los Angeles Superior Court on December 28, 2015, in lieu of an appeal bond. This cash deposit was required to appeal the judgment. In March 2016, an additional judgment for plaintiff's attorney fees and costs on this Crusader policy liability claim was finalized. Crusader appealed this additional judgment. That additional appeal required an additional \$5,449,615 cash deposit, which was made on March 21, 2016, in lieu of an appeal bond. In September 2017, the two judgments were settled between the parties thereto for a total of \$7,000,000 which was paid from the two deposits, and the remaining funds on deposit with the Los Angeles Superior Court for the two appeals in the amount of \$6,373,793 were returned to Crusader and were invested in fixed maturities and short-term investments.

NOTE 11 – UNPAID LOSSES AND LOSS ADJUSTMENT EXPENSES

The following table provides an analysis of Crusader's loss and loss adjustment expense reserves, including a reconciliation of the beginning and ending balance sheet liability for the periods indicated:

Three Months Ended March 31	2018	2017	Reserve for unpaid losses and loss adjustment expenses at January 1 – gross of reinsurance	\$49,076,991	\$47,055,787	Less reinsurance recoverable on unpaid losses and loss adjustment expenses	8,393,550	9,520,970	Reserve for unpaid losses and loss adjustment expenses at January 1 – net of reinsurance	40,683,441	37,534,817	Incurring losses and loss adjustment expenses:	Provision for insured events of current year	6,009,138	6,497,566	Development of insured events of prior years	1,792,619	2,027,615	Total incurred losses and loss adjustment expenses	7,801,757	8,525,181	Loss and loss adjustment expense payments:	Attributable to insured events of the current year	1,388,589	1,035,179	Attributable to insured events of prior years	4,752,912	5,020,402	Total payments	6,141,501	6,055,581	Reserve for unpaid losses and loss adjustment expenses at March 31 – net of reinsurance	42,343,697	40,004,417	Reinsurance recoverable on unpaid losses and loss adjustment expenses	11,570,306	9,885,632	Reserve for unpaid losses and loss adjustment expenses at March 31 – gross of reinsurance	\$53,914,003	\$49,890,049
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Some lines of insurance are commonly referred to as "long-tail" lines because of the extended time required before claims are ultimately settled. Lines of insurance in which claims are settled relatively quickly are called "short-tail" lines. It is generally more difficult to estimate loss reserves for long-tail lines because of the long period of time that elapses between the occurrence of a claim and its final disposition and the difficulty of estimating the settlement value of the claim. Crusader's short-tail lines consist of its property coverages, and its long-tail lines consist of its liability coverages. However, Crusader's long-tail liability claims tend to be settled relatively quicker than other long-tail lines not underwritten by Crusader, such as workers' compensation, professional liability, umbrella liability, and medical malpractice. Since trends develop over longer periods of time on long-tail lines of business, the Company generally gives credibility to those trends more slowly than for short-tail or less volatile lines of business.

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The \$6,009,138 provision for insured events of current year for the three months ended March 31, 2018, was \$488,428 lower than the \$6,497,566 provision for insured events of current year for the three months ended March 31, 2017, due primarily to lower frequency and severity of short-tail property claims during the three months ended March 31, 2018.

The \$1,792,619 development of insured events of prior years for the three months ended March 31, 2018, was \$234,996 lower than the \$2,027,615 for the three months ended March 31, 2017, due primarily to lower incurred losses and loss adjustment expenses on long-tail liability claims for 2013, 2014, and 2015 accident years during the three months ended March 31, 2018. The \$1,792,619 development of insured events of prior years during the three months ended March 31, 2018, was due primarily to strengthening of 2017 and 2016 accident years loss and loss adjustment expense reserves.

NOTE 12 – CONTINGENCIES

The Company, by virtue of the nature of the business conducted by it, becomes involved in numerous legal proceedings as either plaintiff or defendant. From time to time, the Company is required to resort to legal proceedings against vendors providing services to the Company or against customers or their agents to enforce collection of premiums, commissions, or fees. These routine items of litigation do not materially affect the Company and are handled on a routine basis by the Company through its counsel.

The Company establishes reserves for lawsuits, regulatory actions, and other contingencies for which the Company is able to estimate its potential exposure and believes a loss is probable. For loss contingencies believed to be reasonably possible, the Company discloses the nature of the loss contingency, an estimate of the possible loss, a range of loss, or a statement that such an estimate cannot be made.

Likewise, the Company is sometimes named as a cross-defendant in litigation, which is principally directed against an insured who was issued a policy of insurance directly or indirectly through the Company. Incidental actions related to disputes concerning the issuance or non-issuance of individual policies are sometimes brought by customers or others. These items are also handled on a routine basis by counsel, and they do not generally affect the operations of the Company. Management is confident that the ultimate outcome of pending litigation should not have an adverse effect on the Company's consolidated results of operations or financial position. The Company vigorously defends itself unless a reasonable settlement appears appropriate.

One of the Company's agents, which was appointed in 2008 to assist the Company in implementing its Trucking Program, failed to pay the net premium and policy fees due Unifax, the exclusive general agent for Crusader. The

agent was initially late in paying its February 2009 production that was due to Unifax on April 15, 2009. In May 2009, as a result of the agent's failure to timely pay its balance due to Unifax, the Company terminated its agency agreement and assumed ownership and control of that agent's policy expirations written with the Company. The Company subsequently commenced legal proceedings against the agent corporation, its three principals (who personally guaranteed the agent's obligations) and another individual for the recovery of the balance due and any related recovery costs incurred. All related recovery costs have been expensed as incurred. The agent corporation and two of its principals filed bankruptcy. The corporation was adjudicated bankrupt. The Company obtained judgments, non-dischargeable in bankruptcy, for the full amount due from the two principals who filed bankruptcy. The other principal stipulated to a judgment of \$1,200,000. The claim against the fourth individual was resolved. The Company collected \$0 during the three months ended March 31, 2018 and 2017. As of March 31, 2018, and December 31, 2017, the agent's balance due to Unifax was \$1,181,272. As of March 31, 2018, and December 31, 2017, the Company's bad debt reserve associated with this matter was \$1,181,272, which represents 100% of the balance due to Unifax. Although the receivable is fully reserved for financial reporting purposes at March 31, 2018, the Company continues to pursue collection of the judgments from the three principals.

ITEM 2 – MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

General

Unico American Corporation, referred to herein as the "Company" or "Unico," is an insurance holding company that underwrites property and casualty insurance through its insurance company subsidiary, Crusader Insurance Company ("Crusader"); provides property, casualty, health and life insurance through its agency subsidiaries, Unifax Insurance Systems, Inc. ("Unifax") and American Insurance Brokers, Inc. ("AIB"); provides insurance premium financing through its subsidiary American Acceptance Company ("AAC"); and provides membership association services through its subsidiary Insurance Club, Inc., dba AAQHC, an Administrator ("AAQHC").

Total revenues for the three months ended March 31, 2018, was \$8,806,891 compared to \$8,960,497 for the three months ended March 31, 2017, a decrease of \$153,606 (2%). The Company had net loss of \$2,207,251 for the three months ended March 31, 2018, compared to net loss of \$2,147,252 for the three months ended March 31, 2017, an increase in net loss of \$59,999.

This overview discusses some of the relevant factors that management considers in evaluating the Company's performance, prospects, and risks. It is not all inclusive and is meant to be read in conjunction with the entirety of the management discussion and analysis, the Company's consolidated financial statements and notes thereto, and all other items contained within the Company's 2017 Annual Report on Form 10-K as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Revenue and Income Generation

The Company receives its revenues primarily from earned premium derived from the insurance company operations, commission and fee income generated from the insurance agency operations, finance charges and fee income from the premium finance operations, and investment income from cash generated primarily from the insurance company operation. The insurance company operation generated approximately 93% and 92% of consolidated revenues for the three months ended March 31, 2018 and 2017, respectively. The Company's remaining operations constitute a variety of specialty insurance services, each with unique characteristics and individually not material to consolidated revenues.

Insurance Company Operation

As of March 31, 2018, Crusader was licensed as an admitted insurance carrier in the states of Arizona, California, Nevada, Oregon, and Washington. From 2004 until September 2014, all of Crusader's business was written in the state of California. Crusader business remains concentrated in California (99.7% and 99.6% of direct written premium (before reinsurance ceded) during the three months ended March 31, 2018 and 2017, respectively)

Crusader's total direct written premium (direct written premium before premium ceded to reinsurers), as reported on Crusader's statutory financial statements, was produced geographically as follows:

Three Months Ended March 31	2018	2017	Decrease	California	\$8,626,671	\$9,530,168	\$(903,497)
Arizona	29,472	39,857	(10,385)	Total direct written premium	\$8,656,143	\$9,570,025	\$(913,882)

Written premium is a financial measure that is defined, under the statutory accounting practices prescribed or permitted the California Department of Insurance, as the contractually determined amount charged by the insurance company to the policyholder for the effective period of the contract based on the expectation of risk, policy benefits, and expenses associated with the coverage provided by the terms of the policies. Written premium is a required statutory measure. Written premium is defined under GAAP in Accounting Standards Codification Topic 405, "Liabilities," as "premiums on all policies an entity has issued in a period." Earned premium represents the portion of written premium that is recognized as income in the financial statements for the period presented and earned on a pro-rata basis over the terms of the policies.

The following is a reconciliation of net written premium to net earned premium (after premium ceded to reinsurers):

Three Months Ended March 31	2018	2017	Net written premium	\$6,904,312	\$7,942,843	Change in direct unearned premium	713,923	(22,541)	Change in ceded unearned premium	63,393	397	Net earned premium	\$7,681,628	\$7,920,699
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The insurance company operation underwriting profitability is defined by pre-tax underwriting profit, which is calculated as net earned premium less losses and loss adjustment expenses and policy acquisition costs.

Crusader's underwriting loss before income taxes is as follows:

Three Months Ended March 31		2018	2017
Increase			
(Decrease)			
Net written premium	\$6,904,312	\$7,942,843	\$(1,038,531)
Change in net unearned premium	777,316		
Net earned premium	7,681,628	7,920,699	(239,071)
Less: Losses and loss adjustment expenses	7,801,757	8,525,181	(723,424)
Policy acquisition costs	1,621,505	1,497,634	123,871
Total underwriting expenses	9,423,262	10,022,815	(599,553)
Underwriting loss before income taxes	\$(1,741,634)	\$(2,102,116)	\$360,482

Underwriting income or loss before income taxes is a non-GAAP financial measure. Underwriting income or loss before income taxes represents one measure of the pretax profitability of the insurance company operation and is derived by subtracting losses and loss adjustment expenses, and policy acquisition costs from net earned premium, which are all GAAP financial measures. Management believes disclosure of underwriting income or loss before income taxes is useful supplemental information that helps align the reader's understanding with management's view of insurance company operations profitability. Each of these captions is presented in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations but is not subtotaled.

The following is a reconciliation of Crusader's underwriting loss before income taxes to the Company's loss before taxes:

Three Months Ended March 31		2018	2017
Underwriting loss before income taxes		\$(1,741,634)	
Insurance company operation revenues:			
Investment income	444,702	212,186	
Other income			55,689
Other insurance operations revenues:			
Gross commissions and fees	606,657	741,175	
Finance charges and fees earned	18,097	18,161	
Other income	21	15	
Less expenses:			
Salaries and employee benefits	1,288,078	1,348,643	
Commissions to agents/brokers	41,339		
Other operating expenses	866,143	814,499	
Loss before taxes		\$(2,811,931)	\$(3,267,349)

Crusader evaluates its unearned premiums periodically for premium deficiencies by comparing the sum of expected claim costs, unamortized deferred policy acquisition costs, and maintenance costs partially offset by net investment income to related unearned premiums. To the extent that any of Crusader's programs become unprofitable, a premium deficiency reserve may be required. There was an increase in the premium deficiency reserve by \$30,000 to \$75,000, as compared to the premium deficiency reserve of \$45,000 as of December 31, 2017; Crusader did not carry such reserve for the three months ended March 31, 2017.

The following table provides an analysis of the losses and loss adjustment expenses:

Three Months Ended March 31 2018 2017

Decrease

Losses and loss adjustment expenses:	Provision for insured events of current year	\$6,009,138	\$6,497,566
\$(488,428) Development of insured events of prior years	1,792,619	2,027,615	(234,996)
Total losses and loss adjustment expenses	\$7,801,757	\$8,525,181	\$(723,424)

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Losses and loss adjustment expenses were 102% of net earned premium for the three months ended March 31, 2018, compared to 108% of net earned premium for the three months ended March 31, 2017. For further analysis, refer to “Results of Operations.”

On December 14, 2017, A.M. Best Company reaffirmed Crusader’s Financial Strength Rating of A- (Excellent) and Long-Term Issuer Credit Rating of a- (Excellent), and revised the rating outlook to “negative” from “stable.” The negative outlook reflects A.M. Best’s concerns with Crusader’s recent declining underwriting performance as well as some of its recent underwriting and marketing leadership changes and the execution risk that comes with such changes.

The property and casualty insurance business is cyclical in nature. The conditions of a “soft market” include premium rates that are stable or falling and insurance is readily available. Contrarily, “hard market” conditions occur during periods in which premium rates rise and coverage may be more difficult to find. The Company believes that the California property and casualty insurance market is relatively mature and intensely competitive, with different products in different stages of the soft/hard market cycle at any given time.

Revenues from Other Insurance Operations

The Company’s revenues from other insurance operations consist of commissions, fees, investment and other income. Excluding investment and other income, these operations accounted for approximately 7% and 9% of total revenues in the three months ended March 31, 2018 and 2017, respectively.

Investments and Liquidity

The Company generated revenues from its total invested assets of \$95,487,943 (at amortized cost) and \$90,039,367 (at amortized cost) as of March 31, 2018 and 2017, respectively. For the three months ended March 31, 2017, the Company also generated revenue from two cash deposits placed with the Los Angeles Superior Court by Crusader in lieu of appeal bonds. These two deposits, totaling \$13,373,793, were made on December 28, 2015, for \$7,924,178, and on March 21, 2016, for \$5,449,615, and their respective balances were included in “Cash and restricted cash” on the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets and were not a part of the total invested assets as of March 31, 2018. In September 2017, both judgments were settled for a total of \$7,000,000 which was paid from the two deposits, and the remaining funds on deposit with the Los Angeles Superior Court were returned to Crusader.

Net investment income (net of investment expenses) included in insurance company operation and other insurance operations revenue increased \$232,564 (110%) to \$444,799 for the three months ended March 31, 2018, compared to \$212,235 for the three months ended March 31, 2017. This increase in net investment income was due primarily to

increase in the yield on average invested assets as a result of a change in the investment guidelines during 2017 and increases in interest rates.

Due to the current interest rate environment, a current target effective duration for the Company's investment portfolio is between 3.25 and 4.75 years. As of March 31, 2018, all of the Company's investments are in U.S. treasury securities, corporate fixed maturity securities, agency mortgage-backed securities, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation ("FDIC") insured certificates of deposit, money market funds, and a savings account. The Company's investments in U.S. treasury securities, corporate fixed maturity securities, agency mortgage-backed securities, and money market funds are readily marketable. As of March 31, 2018, the weighted average maturity of the Company's investments was approximately 6.8 years.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

Crusader has a significant amount of cash as a result of its holdings of unearned premium reserves, its reserves for loss and loss adjustment expense payments, restricted cash, and its capital and surplus. Crusader's loss and loss adjustment expense payments are the most significant cash flow requirement of the Company. These payments are continually monitored and projected to ensure that the Company has the liquidity to cover these payments without the need to liquidate its investments. Cash, restricted cash, and investments (at amortized cost) of the Company at March 31, 2018, were \$95,750,551 compared to \$97,465,842 at December 31, 2017. Crusader's cash, restricted cash, and investments were 98% of the total cash and investments (at amortized cost) held by the Company as of March 31, 2018, and December 31, 2017.

As of March 31, 2018, all of the Company's investments are in U.S. treasury securities, FDIC insured certificates of deposit, other fixed maturity securities, and short-term investments. All of the Company's investments, except for the certificates of deposit, are readily marketable. The Company's investments, at amortized cost, were as follows:

March 31	December 31	2018	2017	Fixed maturities:	Certificates of deposit	\$23,848,000	\$28,098,000
U.S. treasury securities	10,364,634	7,517,901	Corporate securities	32,020,488	28,745,223	Agency	
mortgage-backed securities	23,243,029	21,889,996	Total fixed maturities	89,476,151	86,251,120	Short-term	
investments	6,011,792	10,440,496	Total investments	\$95,487,943	\$96,691,616		

The short-term investments include custodial trust, U.S. treasury bills, certificates of deposit, commercial paper, bank money market accounts, and a bank savings account that are all highly rated and redeemable within one year.

The Company is required to classify its investment securities into one of three categories: held-to-maturity, available-for-sale, or trading securities. Although part of the Company's investments in fixed maturity securities is classified as available-for-sale and, while the Company may sell investment securities from time to time in response to economic and market conditions, its investment guidelines place primary emphasis on buying and holding high-quality investments to maturity.

On March 24, 2017, the Company's Board of Directors approved new investment guidelines. Those guidelines are similar to what the Company believes are general investment guidelines used by Crusader's peers.

Under the new investment guidelines, investments may only include U.S. treasury notes, U.S. government agency notes, mortgage-backed securities (including pass through securities and collateralized mortgage obligations) that are backed by agency and non-agency collateral, commercial mortgage-backed securities, U.S. corporate obligations, asset backed securities, (including but not limited to credit card, automobile and home equity backed securities), tax-exempt bonds, preferred stocks, common stocks, commercial paper, repurchase agreements (treasuries only), mutual funds, exchange traded funds, bank certificates of deposits and time deposits. The new investment guidelines provide for certain investment limitations in each investment category.

Unless agreed to in advance in writing by Crusader, investments in the following types of securities are prohibited:

- Mortgage loans, except for mortgage backed securities issued by an agency of the U.S. government.
- Derivative mortgage-backed securities including interest only, principal only and inverse floating rate securities.
- All fixed maturity real estate securities, except mortgage-backed securities (including pass through securities and collateralized mortgage obligations) that are backed by agency and non-agency collateral and commercial mortgage-backed securities.
- Options and futures contracts.
- All non-U.S. dollar denominated securities.
- Any security that would not be in compliance with the regulations of Crusader's state of domicile.

The Company's previous investment guidelines on equity securities limited investments in equity securities to an aggregate maximum of \$2,000,000. The Company's previous investment guidelines on fixed maturities limited those investments to high-grade obligations with a maximum term of eight years. The maximum investment authorized in any one issuer was \$2,000,000. This dollar limitation excluded bond premium paid in excess of par value and U.S. government or U.S. government guaranteed issues. Investments in municipal securities were primarily pre-refunded and secured by U.S. treasury securities. The short-term investments were either U.S. government obligations, FDIC insured, or were in an institution with a Moody's rating of at least P2 and/or a Standard & Poor's rating of A1. All of the Company's fixed maturity investment securities were rated, readily marketable, and could be liquidated without any materially adverse financial impact.

Historically, the Company managed Crusader's investments in-house. Effective April 1, 2017, an outside investment advisor began managing Crusader's investments. The advisor's role currently is limited to maintaining Crusader's portfolio within the new investment guidelines and providing investment accounting services to the Company. The investments will continue to be held by Crusader's current custodian, Union Bank Global Custody Services.

On December 19, 2008, the Board of Directors authorized a stock repurchase program to acquire from time to time up to an aggregate of 500,000 shares of the Company's common stock. This program has no expiration date and may be terminated by the Board of Directors at any time. As of March 31, 2018, and December 31, 2017, the Company had remaining authority under the 2008 program to repurchase up to an aggregate of 188,655 shares of its common stock. The 2008 program is the only program under which there is authority to repurchase shares of the Company's common stock. The Company did not repurchase any stock during the three months ended March 31, 2018 and 2017. The Company has retired or will retire all stock repurchased.

The Company reported \$1,579,285 net cash used by operating activities for the three months ended March 31, 2018, compared to \$398,415 net cash used by operating activities for the three months ended March 31, 2017. The change in cash flows from operating activities is primarily attributable to the increase in loss and loss adjustment expense payments. Other fluctuations in cash flows from operating activities relate to the timing of the collection and the payment of insurance-related receivables and payables. The variability of the Company's losses and loss adjustment expenses is primarily due to its small population of claims which may result in greater fluctuations in claim frequency and/or severity. Although the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows reflect net cash used by operating activities, the Company does not anticipate future liquidity problems, and the Company believes it continues to be well capitalized and adequately reserved.

While material capital expenditures may be funded through borrowings, the Company believes that its cash and short-term investments at March 31, 2018, net of statutory deposits of \$700,000, and California insurance company statutory dividend restrictions applicable to Crusader, plus the cash to be generated from operations, should be sufficient to meet its operating requirements during the next 12 months without the necessity of borrowing funds. Trust restrictions on cash and short-term investments were \$0 at March 31, 2018.

Results of Operations

All comparisons made in this discussion are comparing the three months ended March 31, 2018, to the three months ended March 31, 2017, unless otherwise indicated.

For the three months ended March 31, 2018, total revenues were \$8,806,891, a decrease of \$153,606 (2%) compared to total revenues of \$8,960,497 for the three months ended March 31, 2017. For the three months ended March 31, 2018, the Company had loss before taxes of \$2,811,931 a decrease of \$455,418 (14%) compared to loss before taxes of \$3,267,349 for the three months ended March 31, 2017. For the three months ended March 31, 2018, the Company had net loss of \$2,207,251, an increase of \$59,999 (3%) compared to net loss of \$2,147,252 for the three months ended March 31, 2017.

The decrease in revenues of \$153,606 for the three months ended March 31, 2018, when compared to March 31, 2017, was primarily due to a decrease in net earned premium of \$239,071 (3%) and a decrease in gross commissions and fees of \$134,518 (18%) offset partially by an increase in net investment income of \$232,564 (110%).

The decrease in loss before tax of \$455,418 for the three months ended March 31, 2018, compared to the three months ended March 31, 2017, was due primarily to a decrease in losses and loss adjustment expenses of \$723,424 (8%), offset partially by an increase in policy acquisition costs of \$123,871 (8%) and the decrease in revenues of \$153,606.

Written premium is a required statutory measure. Direct written premium reported on Crusader's statutory financial statements decreased \$913,882 (10%) to \$8,656,143 for the three months ended March 31, 2018, compared to \$9,570,025 for the three months ended March 31, 2017 due primarily to curtailment or exclusion of coverage for risk of assault and battery claims at night clubs in California.

The property casualty insurance marketplace continues to be intensely competitive. While Crusader attempts to meet such competition with competitive prices, its emphasis is on service, promotion, and distribution. Crusader believes that rate adequacy is more important than premium growth and that underwriting profit (net earned premium less losses and loss adjustment expenses and policy acquisition costs) is its primary goal. As a result, Crusader received approvals from the California Department of Insurance for rate increases for several programs in May 2017 (implemented during the three months ended June 30, 2017), February 2018 (implemented during the three months ended March 31, 2018), and April 2018 (implemented between March 31, 2018, and this Form 10-Q filing date). The purpose of the rate increases is to ensure Crusader charges adequate premium for risks it underwrites.

Crusader believes that it can currently grow its sales and profitability by continuing to focus upon four areas of its operations: (1) product development, (2) improved service to retail brokers, (3) appointment of captive and independent retail agents, and (4) use of alternative marketing channels. While the Company's policy administration system continues to support the Company's existing operations, the Company believes it would realize more competitive parity with respect to product and service by switching or upgrading to a more contemporary platform. The Company is currently evaluating its alternatives.

Earned premium (before reinsurance) decreased \$177,418 (2%) to \$9,370,066 for the three months ended March 31, 2018, compared to \$9,547,484 for the three months ended March 31, 2017. The Company writes annual policies. Earned premium represents a portion of written premium that is recognized as income in the financial statements for the period presented and earned daily on a pro-rata basis over the terms of the policies, and, therefore, premiums earned in the current year are related to policies written during both the current year and immediately preceding year.

Ceded earned premium increased \$61,653 (4%) to \$1,688,438 for the three months ended March 31, 2018, compared to \$1,626,785 for the three months ended March 31, 2017. Ceded earned premium as a percentage of direct earned premium was 18% and 17% for the three months ended March 31, 2018 and 2017, respectively.

Reinsurance treaties are generally structured in layers, with different negotiated economic terms and retention of participation, or liability in each layer. In calendar year 2018, Crusader retained a participation in its excess of loss reinsurance treaties of 5% in its 1st layer (reinsured losses between \$500,000 and \$1,000,000), 0% in its 2nd layer (reinsured losses between \$1,000,000 and \$4,000,000), and 0% in its property and casualty clash treaty. In calendar year 2017, Crusader retained a participation in its excess of loss reinsurance treaties of 5% in its 1st layer (reinsured losses between \$500,000 and \$1,000,000), 0% in its 2nd layer (reinsured losses between \$1,000,000 and \$3,000,000), and 0% in its property and casualty clash treaty.

Crusader also has catastrophe reinsurance treaties from various highly rated California authorized and California unauthorized reinsurance companies. These reinsurance treaties help protect Crusader against losses in excess of certain retentions from catastrophic events that may occur on property risks which Crusader insures. In calendar years 2018 and 2017, Crusader retained a participation in its catastrophe excess of loss reinsurance treaties of 5% in its 1st layer (reinsured losses between \$1,000,000 and \$10,000,000) and 0% in its 2nd layer (reinsured losses between \$10,000,000 and \$46,000,000).

The Company evaluates each of its ceded reinsurance contracts at its inception to determine if there is a sufficient risk transfer to allow the contract to be accounted for as reinsurance under current accounting literature. As of March 31, 2018, all such ceded contracts are accounted for as risk transfer reinsurance.

Net investment income increased \$232,564 (110%) to \$444,799 for the three months ended March 31, 2018, compared to \$212,235 for the three months ended March 31, 2017. The Company had no realized gains or losses for the three months ended March 31, 2018 and 2017. This increase in investment income was due primarily to increase in the yield on average invested assets as a result of a change in the investment guidelines during 2017 and increases in interest rates.

Net investment income, excluding net realized investment losses, and average annualized yields on the Company's average invested assets are as follows:

Three Months Ended March 31	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	Average invested assets (1) - at amortized cost	\$96,079,780
\$90,310,610	Net investment income:	Insurance company operation (2)	\$444,702	\$212,186
operations	97	49	Total investment income	\$444,799
			\$212,235	Annualized yield on average invested assets (3)
	1.9%	0.9%		

(1)The average is based on the beginning and ending balance of the amortized cost of the invested assets for each respective period.

(2) Net investment income from insurance company operation included no interest on the cash deposits in lieu of appeal bonds for the three months ended March 31, 2018, compared to \$25,745 for the three months ended March 31, 2017. Investment income from insurance company operation included \$25,315 of investment expense for the three months ended March 31, 2018, compared to no such expense for the three months ended March 31, 2017.

(3) Annualized yield on average invested assets did not include the interest on the cash deposits in lieu of appeal bonds.

The par value, amortized cost, estimated market value and weighted average yield of fixed maturity investments by contractual maturity are as follows:

Par Value	Amortized						
Cost	Fair Value	Weighted					
Average Yield Maturities by year at March 31, 2018:							
				Due in one year	\$18,170,000	\$18,170,000	
\$18,170,000	1.1%	Due after one year through five years	38,203,000	38,187,867	37,626,484	2.1%	Due after
five years and beyond	32,545,320	33,118,284	32,242,930	2.7%	Total	\$88,918,320	\$89,476,151
\$88,039,414	2.1%						

Par	Value Amortized						
Cost	Fair Value	Weighted					
Average Yield Maturities by year at December 31, 2017:							
				Due in one year	\$21,272,000	\$21,272,019	
\$21,271,851	1.1%	Due after one year through five years	32,161,000	32,213,970	32,052,025	1.9%	Due after
five years and beyond	32,162,020	32,765,131	32,623,578	2.7%	Total	\$85,595,020	\$86,251,120
\$85,947,454	2.0%						

Expected maturities will differ from contractual maturities because borrowers may have the right to call or prepay obligations with or without penalties.

The weighted average maturity of the Company's fixed maturity investments was 6.8 years as of March 31, 2018, and 1.2 years as of March 31, 2017.

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A summary of estimated fair value, gross unrealized losses, and number of securities in a gross unrealized loss position by the length of time in which the securities have continually been in that position is shown below:

Less than 12 Months 12 Months or Longer

Estimated Fair Value

Gross Unrealized Losses

Number of Securities

Estimated Fair Value

Gross Unrealized Losses

Number of Securities

March 31, 2018	U.S. treasury securities	\$9,218,906	\$(163,509)	7	\$—	\$—	—	Corporate securities			
29,825,023	(749,591)	40	—	—	—	Agency mortgage-backed securities	20,766,633	(537,533)	17	—	—
Total	\$59,810,562	\$(1,450,633)	64	\$—	\$—	—					

Less than 12 Months 12 Months or Longer

Estimated Fair Value

Gross Unrealized

Losses

Number of Securities

Estimated Fair Value

Gross Unrealized

Losses

Number of Securities

December 31, 2017	U.S. treasury securities	\$7,454,204	\$(63,697)	6	\$—	\$—	—	Corporate securities			
20,335,512	(130,787)	26	—	—	—	Agency mortgage-backed securities	21,737,589	(152,407)	17	—	—
Total	\$49,527,305	\$(346,891)	49	\$—	\$—	—					

The Company closely monitors its investments. If an unrealized loss is determined to be other-than-temporary, it is written off as a realized loss through the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations. The Company's methodology of assessing other-than-temporary impairments is based on security-specific analysis as of the balance sheet date and considers various factors including the length of time to maturity and the extent to which the fair value has been less than the cost, the financial condition and the near-term prospects of the issuer, and whether the debtor is current on its contractually obligated interest and principal payments. The unrealized losses as of March 31, 2018, and December 31, 2017, were determined to be temporary.

Although the Company does not intend to sell its fixed maturity investments prior to maturity, the Company may sell investment securities from time to time in response to cash flow requirements, economic and/or market conditions. The Company did not sell any fixed maturities investments and there were no realized investment gains or losses during the three months ended March 31, 2018 and 2017. The unrealized gains or losses from fixed maturities are reported as “Accumulated other comprehensive income or loss,” which is a separate component of stockholders’ equity, net of any deferred tax effect.

Other income included in Insurance Company Revenues and Other Insurance Operations decreased \$12,517 (18%) to \$55,710 for the three months ended March 31, 2018, compared to \$68,227 for the three months ended March 31, 2017.

Gross commissions and fees decreased \$134,518 (18%) to \$606,657 for the three months ended March 31, 2018, compared to gross commissions and fees of \$741,175 for the three months ended March 31, 2017.

The changes in gross commission and fee income for the three months ended March 31, 2018, as compared to the three months ended March 31, 2017, are as follows:

Three Months Ended March 31	2018	2017	Decrease		Policy fee income	\$308,920	\$407,336	\$(26,416)
Health insurance program	209,407	311,211	(101,804)	Membership and fee income	16,330	18,252	(1,922)	
Daily automobile rental insurance program commission	—	4,376	(4,376)	Total	\$606,657	\$741,175	\$(134,518)	

Unifax sells and services insurance policies for Crusader. The commissions paid by Crusader to Unifax are eliminated as intercompany transactions and are not reflected as income in the condensed consolidated financial statements. Unifax also receives non-refundable policy fee income that is directly related to the Crusader policies it sells. For financial statement reporting purposes, policy fees are earned ratably over the life of the related insurance policy. The unearned portion of the policy fee is recorded as a liability on the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets under “Accrued expenses and other liabilities.” The earned portion of the policy fee charged to the policyholder by Unifax is recognized as income in the condensed consolidated financial statements. Policy fee income decreased \$26,416 (7%) in the three months ended March 31, 2018, compared to the three months ended March 31, 2017, due primarily to reduction in policy counts.

AIB markets health insurance in California through non-affiliated insurance companies for individuals and groups. For these services, AIB receives commission based on the premiums that it writes. Commission income decreased \$101,804 (33%) in the three months ended March 31, 2018, compared to the three months ended March 31, 2017. The decrease in commission income reported in the three months ended March 31, 2018, when compared to the prior year

period, is primarily a result of a cumulative commission correction of \$68,971 by the non-affiliated insurance carriers received during the three months ended March 31, 2017.

AAQHC is a third party administrator for contracted insurance companies and is a membership association that provides various consumer benefits to its members, including participation in group health care insurance policies that AAQHC negotiates for the association. For these services, AAQHC receives membership and fee income from its members. Membership and fee income decreased \$1,922 (11%) for the three months ended March 31, 2018, compared to the three months ended March 31, 2017. This decrease is primarily a result of a decrease in the number of association members enrolled in AAQHC.

The daily automobile rental insurance program was produced by Bedford. Bedford received commission income from non-affiliated insurance companies based on written premium. Bedford stopped selling and servicing daily automobile rental policies in 2015. Accordingly, since 2016, all Bedford's commission income is comprised of commission on previous business written. As a result, the daily automobile rental insurance program commission income for the three months ended March 31, 2018, decreased \$4,376 (100%) compared to the three months ended March 31, 2017.

Finance charges and fees earned consist of finance charges, late fees, returned check fees and payment processing fees. These charges and fees earned by AAC decreased \$64 (less than 1%) to \$18,097 for the three months ended March 31, 2018, compared to \$18,161 in fees earned during the three months ended March 31, 2017. AAC issued 660 loans and had 2,071 loans outstanding during the three months ended March 31, 2018, compared to 743 loans issued and 2,196 loans outstanding during the three months ended March 31, 2017. AAC provides premium financing only for Crusader policies produced by Unifax in California. Since July 2010, AAC has offered 0% financing on policies produced by Unifax for Crusader. Effective March 1, 2018, the annual percentage rate charged on AAC new loans increased up to 4.99% from 0%. The Company believes the new interest rate is competitive and will not have a negative impact on its business.

Losses and loss adjustment expenses were 102% of net earned premium for the three months ended March 31, 2018, compared to 108% of net earned premium for the three months ended March 31, 2017.

Loss ratio is calculated by dividing losses and loss adjustment expenses by net earned premium. Losses and loss adjustment expenses and loss ratios are as follows:

Three Months Ended March 31	2018	2018	Loss Ratio	2017	2017	Loss Ratio	Decrease	Net earned
premium	\$7,681,628	\$7,920,699						
for insured events of current year	6,009,138	6,497,566	78%	6,497,566	82%	(488,428)	Losses and loss adjustment expenses:	Provision
prior years	1,792,619	2,027,615	26%	(234,996)			Development of insured events of	
	102%	\$8,525,181	108%	\$(723,424)			Total losses and loss adjustment expenses	\$7,801,757

Some lines of insurance are commonly referred to as "long-tail" lines because of the extended time required before claims are ultimately settled. Lines of insurance in which claims are settled relatively quickly are called "short-tail" lines. It is generally more difficult to estimate loss reserves for long-tail lines because of the long period of time that elapses between the occurrence of a claim and its final disposition and the difficulty of estimating the settlement value of the claim. Crusader's short-tail lines consist of its property coverages, and its long-tail lines consist of its liability coverages. However, Crusader's long-tail liability claims tend to be settled relatively quicker than other long-tail lines not underwritten by Crusader, such as workers' compensation, professional liability, umbrella liability, and medical malpractice. Since trends develop over longer periods of time on long-tail lines of business, the Company generally gives credibility to those trends more slowly than for short-tail or less volatile lines of business.

The \$6,009,138 provision for insured events of current year for the three months ended March 31, 2018, was \$488,428 lower than the \$6,497,566 provision for insured events of current year for the three months ended March 31, 2017, due primarily to lower frequency and severity of short-tail property claims during the three months ended March 31, 2018.

The \$1,792,619 development of insured events of prior years for the three months ended March 31, 2018, was \$234,996 lower than the \$2,027,615 for the three months ended March 31, 2017, due primarily to lower incurred losses and loss adjustment expenses on long-tail liability claims for 2013, 2014, and 2015 accident years during the three months ended March 31, 2018. The \$1,792,619 development of insured events of prior years during the three months ended March 31, 2018, was due primarily to strengthening of 2017 and 2016 accident years loss and loss adjustment expense reserves.

The following table breaks out adverse (favorable) development from total losses and loss adjustment expenses quarterly since March 31, 2016:

Provision for Insured Events of Current Year

Adverse (Favorable) Development of Insured Events of Prior Years

Total Losses and Loss Adjustment Expenses

Three Months Ended:	March 31, 2018	\$6,009,138	\$1,792,619	\$7,801,757	December 31, 2017		
5,330,275	808,481	6,138,756	September 30, 2017	5,982,245	3,935,651	9,917,896	June 30, 2017
5,567,142	341,532	5,908,674	March 31, 2017	6,497,566	2,027,615	8,525,181	December 31, 2016
5,731,198	(886,671)	4,844,527	September 30, 2016	6,792,115	1,245,985	8,038,100	June 30, 2016
5,603,427	(744,670)	4,858,757	March 31, 2016	4,723,668	361,826	5,085,494	

The variability of the Crusader's losses and loss adjustment expenses for the periods presented is primarily due to the small and diverse population of the Crusader's policyholders and claims, which may result in greater fluctuations in claim frequency and/or severity. In addition, Crusader's reinsurance retention, which is relatively high in relationship to its net earned premium, can result in increased loss ratio volatility when large losses are incurred in a relatively short period of time. Nevertheless, management believes that its reinsurance retention is reasonable given the amount of Crusader's surplus and its goal to minimize ceded premium.

The preparation of the Company's consolidated financial statements requires estimation of certain liabilities, most significantly the liability for unpaid losses and loss adjustment expenses. Management makes its best estimate of the liability for these unpaid claims costs as of the end of each fiscal quarter. Due to the inherent uncertainties in estimating the Company's unpaid claims costs, actual loss and loss adjustment expense payments are expected to vary, perhaps significantly, from any estimate made prior to the settling of all claims. Variability is inherent in establishing loss and loss adjustment expense reserves, especially for a small insurer such as Crusader. For any given line of insurance, accident year, or other group of claims, there is a continuum of possible loss and loss adjustment expense reserve estimates, each having its own unique degree of propriety or reasonableness. Due to the complexity and nature of the insurance claims process, there are potentially an infinite number of reasonably likely scenarios. Management draws on its collective experience to judgmentally determine its best estimate. In addition to applying a variety of standard actuarial methods to the data, an extensive series of diagnostic tests are applied to the resultant loss and loss adjustment expense reserve estimates to determine management's best estimate of the unpaid claims liability. Among the statistics reviewed for each accident year are: loss and loss adjustment expense development patterns; frequencies; severities; and ratios of loss to premium, loss adjustment expense to premium, and loss adjustment expense to loss.

When there is clear evidence that the actual claims costs emerged are different than expected for any prior accident year, the claims cost estimates for that year are revised accordingly. If the claims costs that emerge are less favorable than initially anticipated, generally, the Company increases its loss and loss adjustment expense reserves immediately. However, if the claims costs that emerge are more favorable than initially anticipated, generally, the Company reduces its loss and loss adjustment expense reserves over time while it continues to assess the validity of the observed trends based on the subsequent emerged claim costs.

The establishment of loss and loss adjustment expense reserves is a detailed process as there are many factors that can ultimately affect the final settlement of a claim. Estimates are based on a variety of industry data and on the Company's current and historical accident year claims data, including but not limited to reported claim counts, open claim counts, closed claim counts, closed claim counts with payments, paid losses, paid loss adjustment expenses, case loss reserves, case loss adjustment expense reserves, earned premiums and policy exposures, salvage and subrogation, and unallocated loss adjustment expenses paid. Many other factors, including changes in reinsurance, changes in pricing, changes in policy forms and coverage, changes in underwriting and risk selection, legislative changes, results of litigation and inflation are also taken into account.

At the end of each fiscal quarter, the Company's loss and loss adjustment expense reserves for each accident year (i.e., for all claims incurred within each year) are re-evaluated independently by the Company's president, the Company's chief financial officer, and by an independent consulting actuary. Generally accepted actuarial methods, including the widely used Bornhuetter-Ferguson and loss development methods, are employed to estimate ultimate claims costs. An actuarial central estimate of the ultimate claims costs and IBNR reserves is ultimately determined by management and tested for reasonableness by the independent consulting actuary.

Policy acquisition costs consist of commissions, premium taxes, inspection fees, and certain other underwriting costs that are directly related to and vary with the successful production of Crusader insurance policies. These costs include both Crusader expenses and the allocated expenses of other Unico subsidiaries. Crusader's reinsurers pay Crusader a ceding commission, which is primarily a reimbursement of the acquisition cost related to the ceded premium. No ceding commission is received on facultative or catastrophe ceded premium. Policy acquisition costs, net of ceding commission, are deferred and amortized as the related premiums are earned. The Company annually reevaluates its acquisition costs to determine that costs related to successful policy acquisition are capitalized and deferred. These costs were approximately 21% and 19% of net earned premium for the three months ended March 31, 2018 and 2017, respectively. Policy acquisition costs increased during the three months ended March 31, 2018, as compared to the prior year period, partly due higher amortization of deferred acquisition costs resulting from a reduction in a deferral rate of commission related acquisition costs. In addition, there was an increase in the premium deficiency reserve by \$30,000 to \$75,000, as compared to the premium deficiency reserve \$45,000 as of December 31, 2017; Crusader did not carry such reserve for the three months ended March 31, 2017.

Policy acquisition costs and the ratio to net earned premium are as follows:

Three Months Ended March 31	2018	2017	Increase	Policy acquisition costs	\$1,621,505	\$1,497,634
\$123,871	Ratio to net earned premium (GAAP ratio)	21%	19%			

Salaries and employee benefits decreased \$60,565 (4%) to \$1,288,078 for the three months ended March 31, 2018, compared to \$1,348,643 for the three months ended March 31, 2017.

Salaries and employee benefits incurred and charged to operating expenses are as follows:

Three Months Ended March 31	2018	2017	Increase			
(Decrease)	Total salaries and employee benefits incurred	\$2,092,704	\$1,997,271	\$95,433	Less: charged to losses and loss adjustment expenses	(430,146)
		(323,018)	(107,128)		Less: capitalized to policy acquisition costs	(374,480)
		(48,870)			Net amount charged to operating expenses	\$1,288,078
						\$1,348,643
						\$(60,565)

The increase in the total salaries and employee benefits incurred for the three months ended March 31, 2018, compared to the three months ended March 31, 2017, was due primarily to an increase in claims and underwriting headcount.

The decrease in the net amount of salaries and employee benefits charged to operating expenses for the three months ended March 31, 2018, compared to the three months ended March 31, 2017, was due to a decrease in support headcount.

Commissions to agents/brokers decreased \$550 (1%) to \$41,339 for the three months ended March 31, 2018, compared to \$41,889 for the three months ended March 31, 2017. The decrease in commissions to agents/brokers for the three months ended March 31, 2018, compared to the three months ended March 31, 2017, was due primarily to timing of payment receipts.

Other operating expenses increased \$51,644 (6%) to \$866,143 for the three months ended March 31, 2018, compared to \$814,499 for the three months ended March 31, 2017. The increase in other operating expenses for the three months ended March 31, 2018, compared to the three months ended March 31, 2017, is related primarily to an increase in building maintenance expenses and higher costs of acquiring new employees.

Income tax benefit decreased \$515,417 (46%) to \$604,680 (22% of pre-tax loss) for the three months ended March 31, 2018, from an income tax benefit of \$1,120,097 (34% of pre-tax loss) for the three months ended March 31, 2017. The decrease in income tax benefit during the three months ended March 31, 2018, when compared to three months ended March 31, 2017, was primarily due to a reduction in the corporate Federal income tax rate from 34% to 21%, effective for years beginning after December 31, 2017 as a result of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017, which was signed into law on December 22, 2017. The calculated tax rate for the three months ended March 31, 2018, consisted of federal tax benefit rate of 21 % and a state income tax benefit rate of 0.8%. The calculated tax rate for the three months ended March 31, 2017, was comprised of a calculated federal tax benefit rate of approximately 34% while the calculated state tax expense rate was approximately 0.5%.

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

During the periods presented, there were no off-balance sheet transactions, unconditional purchase obligations or similar instruments and the Company was not a guarantor of any other entities' debt or other financial obligations.

ITEM 3 – QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

The Company is currently a “smaller reporting company,” as defined in Item 10(f)(1) of Regulation S-K. The Company has elected to comply with the scaled disclosure requirements applicable to smaller reporting companies and has therefore omitted the information required under Item 305 of Regulation S-K.

ITEM 4 – CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

An evaluation was carried out by the Company's management, including its Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures as of March 31, 2018, as defined in Rule 13a-15(e) or 15d-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Based upon that evaluation, the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that the design and operation of these disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of March 31, 2018.

During the period covered by this report, there has been no change in the Company's internal control over financial reporting identified in connection with the evaluation required by paragraph (d) of Rule 13a-15 or 15d-15 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that has materially affected or is reasonably likely to materially affect the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

PART II - OTHER INFORMATION

ITEM 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

The Company and its subsidiaries are named from time to time as defendants in various legal actions that are incidental to its business, including those which arise out of or are related to the handling of claims made in connection with Crusader's insurance policies. The Company establishes reserves for certain claims-related lawsuits, regulatory actions and other contingencies when the Company believes a loss is probable and is able to estimate its potential exposure. While actual losses may differ from the amounts recorded and such matters are subject to many uncertainties and outcomes that are not predictable with assurance, the Company is not aware of any currently pending or threatened legal or regulatory proceedings that, either individually or in the aggregate, it anticipates will have a material adverse effect on its consolidated financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

ITEM 1A – RISK FACTORS

There were no material changes from risk factors as previously disclosed in the Company's Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017, in response to Item 1A to Part I of Form 10-K.

ITEM 2. UNREGISTERED SALES OF EQUITY SECURITIES AND USE OF PROCEEDS

None.

ITEM 3. DEFAULTS UPON SENIOR SECURITIES

None.

ITEM 4. MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES

Not applicable.

ITEM 5. OTHER INFORMATION

None.

ITEM 6 – EXHIBITS

31.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

31.2 Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

32.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350.

32.2 Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350.

101The following information from the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarter ended March 31, 2018, formatted in XBRL (Extensible Business Reporting Language) and furnished electronically herewith: (i) the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets; (ii) the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations; (iii) the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Loss; (iv) the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows; and (v) the Condensed Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.*

*XBRL information is furnished and deemed not filed as part of a registration statement or prospectus for purposes of Sections 11 or 12 of the Securities Act of 1933, is deemed not filed for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act and otherwise is not subject to liability under these sections.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

UNICO AMERICAN CORPORATION

Date: May 15, 2018 By: /s/ CARY L. CHELDIN

Cary L. Cheldin

Chairman of the Board, President and Chief

Executive Officer, (Principal Executive Officer)

Date: May 15, 2018 By: /s/ MICHAEL BUDNITSKY

Michael Budnitsky

Treasurer, Chief Financial Officer and Secretary, (Principal

Accounting and Principal Financial Officer)

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