

AARON'S INC  
Form 10-Q  
August 06, 2015  
UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

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FORM 10-Q

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☒ QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT  
OF 1934

FOR THE QUARTERLY PERIOD ENDED JUNE 30, 2015

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 NUMBER 1-13941

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AARON'S, INC.  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

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|                                                                   |                                           |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Georgia                                                           | 58-0687630                                |
| (State or other jurisdiction of<br>incorporation or organization) | (I. R. S. Employer<br>Identification No.) |

|                                                   |            |
|---------------------------------------------------|------------|
| 309 E. Paces Ferry Road, N.E.<br>Atlanta, Georgia | 30305-2377 |
| (Address of principal executive offices)          | (Zip Code) |

(404) 231-0011  
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Not Applicable

(Former name, former address and former fiscal year, if changed since last report)

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Indicate by check mark whether 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 Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) 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, or a smaller reporting company. See the definition of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

|                         |                                  |                                                  |                                                 |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Large Accelerated Filer | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | Accelerated Filer                                | <input type="radio"/>                           |
| Non-Accelerated Filer   | <input type="radio"/>            | (Do not check if a smaller reporting<br>company) | Smaller Reporting Company <input type="radio"/> |

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

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

| Title of Each Class           | Shares Outstanding as of<br>July 31, 2015 |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Common Stock, \$.50 Par Value | 72,578,301                                |

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## PART I—FINANCIAL INFORMATION

## Item 1—Financial Statements

## AARON'S, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

| (In Thousands, Except Share Data)                                                                                                                                                |  | (Unaudited)<br>June 30,<br>2015 | December 31,<br>2014 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>ASSETS:</b>                                                                                                                                                                   |  |                                 |                      |
| Cash and Cash Equivalents                                                                                                                                                        |  | \$91,144                        | \$3,549              |
| Investments                                                                                                                                                                      |  | 22,758                          | 21,311               |
| Accounts Receivable (net of allowances of \$29,957 in 2015 and \$27,401 in 2014)                                                                                                 |  | 94,081                          | 107,383              |
| Lease Merchandise (net of accumulated depreciation of \$722,988 in 2015 and \$701,822 in 2014)                                                                                   |  | 1,038,133                       | 1,087,032            |
| Property, Plant and Equipment at Cost (net of accumulated depreciation of \$220,387 in 2015 and \$216,065 in 2014)                                                               |  | 211,886                         | 219,417              |
| Goodwill                                                                                                                                                                         |  | 533,020                         | 530,670              |
| Other Intangibles (net of accumulated amortization of \$45,862 in 2015 and \$33,250 in 2014)                                                                                     |  | 285,120                         | 297,471              |
| Income Tax Receivable                                                                                                                                                            |  | 11,690                          | 124,095              |
| Prepaid Expenses and Other Assets                                                                                                                                                |  | 59,951                          | 59,560               |
| Assets Held For Sale                                                                                                                                                             |  | 6,924                           | 6,356                |
| Total Assets                                                                                                                                                                     |  | \$2,354,707                     | \$2,456,844          |
| <b>LIABILITIES &amp; SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY:</b>                                                                                                                                   |  |                                 |                      |
| Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses                                                                                                                                            |  | \$271,260                       | \$270,421            |
| Accrued Regulatory Expense                                                                                                                                                       |  | 17,500                          | 27,200               |
| Deferred Income Taxes Payable                                                                                                                                                    |  | 198,138                         | 268,551              |
| Customer Deposits and Advance Payments                                                                                                                                           |  | 55,862                          | 61,069               |
| Debt                                                                                                                                                                             |  | 494,858                         | 606,082              |
| Total Liabilities                                                                                                                                                                |  | 1,037,618                       | 1,233,323            |
| Commitments and Contingencies (Note 5)                                                                                                                                           |  |                                 |                      |
| <b>Shareholders' Equity:</b>                                                                                                                                                     |  |                                 |                      |
| Common Stock, Par Value \$.50 Per Share: Authorized: 225,000,000 Shares at June 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014; Shares Issued: 90,752,123 at June 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014 |  | 45,376                          | 45,376               |
| Additional Paid-in Capital                                                                                                                                                       |  | 232,964                         | 227,290              |
| Retained Earnings                                                                                                                                                                |  | 1,360,685                       | 1,274,233            |
| Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss                                                                                                                                             |  | (66)                            | (90)                 |
|                                                                                                                                                                                  |  | 1,638,959                       | 1,546,809            |
| Less: Treasury Shares at Cost                                                                                                                                                    |  |                                 |                      |
| Common Stock: 18,174,923 Shares at June 30, 2015 and 18,263,589 at December 31, 2014                                                                                             |  | (321,870)                       | (323,288)            |
| Total Shareholders' Equity                                                                                                                                                       |  | 1,317,089                       | 1,223,521            |
| Total Liabilities & Shareholders' Equity                                                                                                                                         |  | \$2,354,707                     | \$2,456,844          |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

AARON'S, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES  
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF EARNINGS  
(Unaudited)

|                                       | Three Months Ended<br>June 30, |           | Six Months Ended<br>June 30, |             |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|------------------------------|-------------|
| (In Thousands, Except Per Share Data) | 2015                           | 2014      | 2015                         | 2014        |
| REVENUES:                             |                                |           |                              |             |
| Lease Revenues and Fees               | \$660,472                      | \$552,494 | \$1,355,754                  | \$1,012,310 |
| Retail Sales                          | 7,073                          | 8,419     | 19,067                       | 22,929      |
| Non-Retail Sales                      | 84,449                         | 83,893    | 180,486                      | 175,518     |
| Franchise Royalties and Fees          | 15,491                         | 16,225    | 32,495                       | 34,309      |
| Other                                 | 1,564                          | 1,459     | 3,061                        | 2,847       |
|                                       | 769,049                        | 662,490   | 1,590,863                    | 1,247,913   |
| COSTS AND EXPENSES:                   |                                |           |                              |             |
| Depreciation of Lease Merchandise     | 294,362                        | 232,715   | 610,348                      | 400,627     |
| Retail Cost of Sales                  | 4,849                          | 5,478     | 12,553                       | 14,491      |
| Non-Retail Cost of Sales              | 76,463                         | 76,227    | 163,315                      | 159,134     |
| Operating Expenses                    | 325,555                        | 311,116   | 653,475                      | 573,815     |
| Financial Advisory and Legal Costs    | —                              | 12,404    | —                            | 13,276      |
| Progressive-Related Transaction Costs | —                              | 5,464     | —                            | 6,267       |
| Restructuring Expenses                | —                              | 2,264     | —                            | 2,264       |
| Other Operating Expense (Income), Net | 277                            | 5         | (1,183)                      | (672)       |
|                                       | 701,506                        | 645,673   | 1,438,508                    | 1,169,202   |
| OPERATING PROFIT                      | 67,543                         | 16,817    | 152,355                      | 78,711      |
| Interest Income                       | 792                            | 1,074     | 1,231                        | 1,827       |
| Interest Expense                      | (5,622)                        | (5,479)   | (11,591)                     | (7,012)     |
| Other Non-Operating Income, Net       | 1,641                          | 1,150     | 189                          | 746         |
| EARNINGS BEFORE INCOME TAXES          | 64,354                         | 13,562    | 142,184                      | 74,272      |
| INCOME TAXES                          | 23,808                         | 5,057     | 52,395                       | 27,428      |
| NET EARNINGS                          | \$40,546                       | \$8,505   | \$89,789                     | \$46,844    |
| EARNINGS PER SHARE                    |                                |           |                              |             |
| Basic                                 | \$ .56                         | \$ .12    | \$ 1.24                      | \$ .65      |
| Assuming Dilution                     | \$ .56                         | \$ .12    | \$ 1.23                      | \$ .64      |
| CASH DIVIDENDS DECLARED PER SHARE:    |                                |           |                              |             |
| Common Stock                          | \$ .023                        | \$ .021   | \$ .046                      | \$ .042     |
| WEIGHTED AVERAGE SHARES OUTSTANDING:  |                                |           |                              |             |
| Basic                                 | 72,572                         | 72,246    | 72,544                       | 72,356      |
| Assuming Dilution                     | 72,965                         | 72,598    | 72,910                       | 72,733      |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

AARON'S, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES  
 CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME  
 (Unaudited)

|                                         | Three Months Ended |         | Six Months Ended |          |
|-----------------------------------------|--------------------|---------|------------------|----------|
|                                         | June 30,           |         | June 30,         |          |
| (In Thousands)                          | 2015               | 2014    | 2015             | 2014     |
| Net Earnings                            | \$40,546           | \$8,505 | \$89,789         | \$46,844 |
| Other Comprehensive Income:             |                    |         |                  |          |
| Foreign Currency Translation Adjustment | 21                 | 11      | 24               | 7        |
| Total Other Comprehensive Income        | 21                 | 11      | 24               | 7        |
| Comprehensive Income                    | \$40,567           | \$8,516 | \$89,813         | \$46,851 |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

AARON'S, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES  
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS  
(Unaudited)

|                                                                                               | Six Months Ended<br>June 30, |             |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------|
| (In Thousands)                                                                                | 2015                         | 2014        |
| <b>OPERATING ACTIVITIES:</b>                                                                  |                              |             |
| Net Earnings                                                                                  | \$89,789                     | \$46,844    |
| Adjustments to Reconcile Net Earnings to Cash Provided by Operating Activities:               |                              |             |
| Depreciation of Lease Merchandise                                                             | 610,348                      | 400,627     |
| Other Depreciation and Amortization                                                           | 39,756                       | 38,020      |
| Bad Debt Expense                                                                              | 67,794                       | 28,757      |
| Stock-Based Compensation                                                                      | 6,725                        | 2,312       |
| Deferred Income Taxes                                                                         | (70,748)                     | ) (63,436)  |
| Other Changes, Net                                                                            | (2,825)                      | ) 1,034     |
| Changes in Operating Assets and Liabilities, Net of Effects of Acquisitions and Dispositions: |                              |             |
| Additions to Lease Merchandise                                                                | (801,620)                    | ) (640,866) |
| Book Value of Lease Merchandise Sold or Disposed                                              | 236,750                      | 208,123     |
| Accounts Receivable                                                                           | (56,856)                     | ) (11,882)  |
| Prepaid Expenses and Other Assets                                                             | (898)                        | ) (4,750)   |
| Income Tax Receivable                                                                         | 112,405                      | (3,186)     |
| Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses                                                         | 3,788                        | (22,038)    |
| Accrued Regulatory Expense                                                                    | (9,700)                      | ) —         |
| Customer Deposits and Advance Payments                                                        | (5,361)                      | ) (4,117)   |
| Cash Provided by (Used in) Operating Activities                                               | 219,347                      | (24,558)    |
| <b>INVESTING ACTIVITIES:</b>                                                                  |                              |             |
| Proceeds from Maturities and Calls of Investments                                             | —                            | 19,814      |
| Additions to Property, Plant and Equipment                                                    | (21,821)                     | ) (24,659)  |
| Acquisitions of Businesses and Contracts                                                      | (9,274)                      | ) (672,454) |
| Proceeds from Dispositions of Businesses and Contracts                                        | 8,330                        | 15,773      |
| Proceeds from Sale of Property, Plant and Equipment                                           | 2,719                        | 2,896       |
| Cash Used in Investing Activities                                                             | (20,046)                     | ) (658,630) |
| <b>FINANCING ACTIVITIES:</b>                                                                  |                              |             |
| Proceeds from Debt                                                                            | 30,150                       | 584,041     |
| Repayments on Debt                                                                            | (141,374)                    | ) (114,104) |
| Dividends Paid                                                                                | (1,668)                      | ) (3,121)   |
| Excess Tax Benefits from Stock-Based Compensation                                             | 274                          | 1,458       |
| Issuance of Stock Under Stock Option Plans                                                    | 912                          | 3,632       |
| Other                                                                                         | —                            | (2,238)     |
| Cash (Used in) Provided by Financing Activities                                               | (111,706)                    | ) 469,668   |
| Increase (Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents                                              | 87,595                       | (213,520)   |
| Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Period                                              | 3,549                        | 231,091     |
| Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Period                                                    | \$91,144                     | \$17,571    |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.



## AARON'S, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Unaudited)

## NOTE 1: BASIS AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

## Description of Business

Aaron's, Inc. (the "Company" or "Aaron's") is a leading specialty retailer primarily engaged in the business of leasing and selling furniture, consumer electronics, computers, appliances and household accessories throughout the United States and Canada.

On April 14, 2014, the Company acquired a 100% ownership interest in Progressive Finance Holdings, LLC ("Progressive"), a leading virtual lease-to-own company, for merger consideration of \$700.0 million, net of cash acquired. Progressive provides lease-purchase solutions through over 16,000 retail locations in 46 states. It does so by purchasing merchandise from third-party retailers desired by those retailers' customers and, in turn, leasing that merchandise to the customers on a lease-to-own basis. Progressive consequently has no stores of its own, but rather offers lease-purchase solutions to the customers of traditional retailers.

Subsequent to the Progressive acquisition, our major operating divisions are the Aaron's Sales & Lease Ownership division (established as a monthly payment concept), Progressive, HomeSmart (established as a weekly payment concept) and Woodhaven Furniture Industries, which manufactures and supplies the majority of the upholstered furniture and bedding leased and sold in our stores.

The following table presents store count by ownership type for the Company's store-based operations:

| Stores (Unaudited)            | June 30, 2015 | December 31, 2014 |
|-------------------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Company-operated stores       |               |                   |
| Sales and Lease Ownership     | 1,211         | 1,243             |
| HomeSmart                     | 83            | 83                |
| Total Company-operated stores | 1,294         | 1,326             |
| Franchised stores             | 786           | 782               |
| Systemwide stores             | 2,080         | 2,108             |

## Basis of Presentation

The preparation of the Company's condensed consolidated financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States ("U.S. GAAP") for interim financial information requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect amounts reported in these financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results could differ from those estimates. Generally, actual experience has been consistent with management's prior estimates and assumptions. Management does not believe these estimates or assumptions will change significantly in the future absent unsurfaced and unforeseen events.

The accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements do not include all information required by U.S. GAAP for complete financial statements. In the opinion of management, all adjustments (consisting of normal recurring accruals) considered necessary for a fair presentation have been included in the accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements. These financial statements should be read in conjunction with the financial statements and notes thereto included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission for the year ended December 31, 2014 (the "2014 Annual Report"). The results of operations for the six months ended June 30, 2015 are not necessarily indicative of operating results for the full year.

## Reclassifications

Certain reclassifications have been made to the prior periods to conform to the current period presentation. The condensed consolidated statement of cash flows for the six months ended June 30, 2015 includes a reclassification between additions to lease merchandise and book value of lease merchandise sold or disposed, which reduces both amounts by \$39.6 million. This reclassification has no effect on the amounts reported for net earnings or cash provided by operating activities for the three and six months ended March 31, 2015 or June 30, 2015, respectively, or for the balances reported for cash or lease merchandise as of March 31, 2015 or June 30, 2015.



The Company presents sales net of related taxes for its traditional lease-to-own (“core”) business. Prior to 2015, Progressive presented lease revenues on a gross basis with sales taxes included. Effective January 1, 2015, Progressive conformed its presentation of sales tax to that of the core business. For the three and six months ended June 30, 2014, reclassification adjustments have been made to present sales net of related taxes on a consolidated basis and those adjustments reduce lease revenues and fees and operating expenses by \$10.0 million in each period.

#### Principles of Consolidation and Variable Interest Entities

The condensed consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Aaron’s, Inc. and its subsidiaries, each of which is wholly owned. Intercompany balances and transactions between consolidated entities have been eliminated. The Company holds notes issued by Perfect Home Holdings Limited (“Perfect Home”), a privately-held lease-to-own company that is primarily financed by share capital and subordinated debt. Perfect Home is based in the U.K. and operated 70 retail stores as of June 30, 2015.

Perfect Home is a variable interest entity (“VIE”) because it does not have sufficient equity at risk. However, the Company is not the primary beneficiary and does not consolidate Perfect Home because the Company lacks the power through voting or similar rights to direct the activities that most significantly affect Perfect Home's economic performance. The Company’s maximum exposure to any potential losses associated with this VIE is equal to its total recorded investment, which was \$22.8 million at June 30, 2015.

#### Accounting Policies and Estimates

See Note 1 to the consolidated financial statements in the 2014 Annual Report.

#### Income Taxes

The Company files a federal consolidated income tax return in the United States, and the Company and its subsidiaries file in various state and foreign jurisdictions. With few exceptions, the Company is no longer subject to federal, state and local tax examinations by tax authorities for years before 2011.

As of June 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014, the amount of uncertain tax benefits that, if recognized, would affect the effective tax rate is \$2.5 million and \$2.1 million, respectively, including interest and penalties. The Company recognizes potential interest and penalties related to uncertain tax benefits as a component of income tax expense.

#### Earnings Per Share

Earnings per share is computed by dividing net earnings by the weighted average number of shares of common stock outstanding during the period. The computation of earnings per share assuming dilution includes the dilutive effect of stock options, restricted stock units (RSUs), restricted stock awards and performance share units (collectively, “share-based awards”) as determined under the treasury stock method. The following table shows the calculation of dilutive share-based awards for the three and six months ended June 30, 2015 and 2014:

| (Shares In Thousands)                                 | Three Months Ended<br>June 30, |        | Six Months Ended<br>June 30, |        |
|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------|------------------------------|--------|
|                                                       | 2015                           | 2014   | 2015                         | 2014   |
| Weighted average shares outstanding                   | 72,572                         | 72,246 | 72,544                       | 72,356 |
| Effect of dilutive securities:                        |                                |        |                              |        |
| Dilutive effect of share-based awards                 | 393                            | 352    | 366                          | 377    |
| Weighted average shares outstanding assuming dilution | 72,965                         | 72,598 | 72,910                       | 72,733 |

During the three and six months ended June 30, 2015, there were approximately 545,000 and 507,000 weighted-average share-based awards excluded from the computation for earnings per share assuming dilution because the awards would have been anti-dilutive for the period.

During the three and six months ended June 30, 2014, there were approximately 176,000 and 137,000 weighted-average share-based awards excluded from the computation for earnings per share assuming dilution because the awards would have been anti-dilutive for the period.

### Lease Merchandise

All lease merchandise is available for lease or sale. On a monthly basis, all damaged, lost or unsalable merchandise identified is written off. The Company records lease merchandise adjustments on the allowance method, which estimates the merchandise losses incurred but not yet identified by management as of the end of the accounting period based on historical write off experience. As of June 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014, the allowance for lease merchandise write-offs was \$29.6 million and \$27.6 million, respectively.

Lease merchandise write-offs totaled \$30.2 million and \$21.0 million for the three months ended June 30, 2015 and 2014, respectively, and \$59.5 million and \$34.7 million for the six months ended June 30, 2015 and 2014, respectively. Substantially all lease merchandise adjustments are included in operating expenses in the accompanying condensed consolidated statements of earnings.

### Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Company classifies highly liquid investments with maturity dates of three months or less when purchased as cash equivalents. The Company maintains its cash and cash equivalents in a limited number of banks. Bank balances typically exceed coverage provided by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. However, due to the size and strength of the banks where the balances are held, such exposure to loss is believed to be minimal.

### Investments

On October 14, 2011, the Company purchased 11.5% of the common stock of Perfect Home. As part of the transaction, the Company also received British pound-denominated notes and an option to acquire the remaining interest in Perfect Home at any time through December 31, 2013. In May 2014, subsequent to the Company's decision not to exercise the purchase option, the Company and Perfect Home extended the maturity date of the notes to June 30, 2015, canceled the Company's equity interest in Perfect Home and terminated the option. In June of 2015, the Company and Perfect Home extended the maturity date of the notes to June 30, 2016.

The Perfect Home notes, which totaled £14.2 million (\$22.8 million) and £13.7 million (\$21.3 million) at June 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014, respectively, are classified as held-to-maturity securities because the Company has the positive intent and ability to hold the investments to maturity. The Perfect Home notes are carried at amortized cost in investments in the condensed consolidated balance sheets. The increase in the carrying amount of the notes during the six months ended June 30, 2015 relates to accretion of the original discount on the notes, which had a face value of £10.0 million.

The Company evaluates held-to-maturity securities for other-than-temporary impairment on a quarterly basis, and more frequently when economic or market concerns warrant such evaluation. Consideration is given to (1) the length of time and the extent to which the fair value has been less than cost, (2) the financial condition and near-term prospects of the issuer and (3) the intent and ability of the Company to retain its investment in the issuer for a period of time sufficient to allow for any anticipated recovery in fair value. The Company does not intend to sell its remaining securities and it is not more likely than not that the Company will be required to sell the investments before recovery of their amortized cost bases.

### Accounts Receivable

Accounts receivable consist primarily of receivables due from customers of Company-operated stores and Progressive, corporate receivables incurred during the normal course of business (primarily for vendor consideration, real estate leasing activities, in-transit credit card transactions and an escrow related to the Progressive acquisition) and franchisee obligations.

Accounts receivable, net of allowances, consist of the following:

| (In Thousands) | June 30, 2015 | December 31, 2014 |
|----------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Customers      | \$34,585      | \$30,438          |
| Corporate      | 26,077        | 32,572            |
| Franchisee     | 33,419        | 44,373            |
|                | \$94,081      | \$107,383         |

### Assets Held for Sale

Certain properties, primarily consisting of parcels of land and commercial buildings, met the held for sale classification criteria as of June 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014. After adjustment to fair value, the \$6.9 million and \$6.4 million carrying value of these properties has been classified as assets held for sale in the condensed consolidated balance sheets as of June 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014, respectively. The Company estimated the fair values of real estate properties using the market values for similar properties. These properties are considered Level 2 assets as described in Note 3.

### Deferred Compensation

The Company maintains the Aaron's, Inc. Deferred Compensation Plan, an unfunded, nonqualified deferred compensation plan for a select group of management, highly compensated employees and non-employee directors. On a pre-tax basis, eligible employees can defer receipt of up to 75% of their base compensation and up to 100% of their incentive pay compensation, and eligible non-employee directors can defer receipt of up to 100% of both their cash and stock director fees.

Compensation deferred under the plan is credited to each participant's deferral account and a deferred compensation liability is recorded in accounts payable and accrued expenses in the condensed consolidated balance sheets. The deferred compensation liability was \$12.5 million and \$12.7 million as of June 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014, respectively. Liabilities under the plan are recorded at amounts due to participants, based on the fair value of participants' selected investments. The Company has established a rabbi trust to fund obligations under the plan with Company-owned life insurance. The obligations are unsecured general obligations of the Company and the participants have no right, interest or claim in the assets of the Company, except as unsecured general creditors. The cash surrender value of the insurance contracts totaled \$15.0 million as of June 30, 2015 and \$14.5 million as of December 31, 2014 and is included in prepaid expenses and other assets in the condensed consolidated balance sheets. Deferred compensation expense charged to operations for the Company's matching contributions was not significant during any of the three or six months periods presented. Benefits of \$776,000 and \$652,000 were paid during the first six months of 2015 and 2014, respectively.

### Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss

Changes in accumulated other comprehensive loss by component for the six months ended June 30, 2015 are as follows:

| (In Thousands)             | Foreign Currency | Total    |
|----------------------------|------------------|----------|
| Balance at January 1, 2015 | \$ (90 )         | \$ (90 ) |
| Other comprehensive income | 24               | 24       |
| Balance at June 30, 2015   | \$ (66 )         | \$ (66 ) |

There were no reclassifications out of accumulated other comprehensive loss for the six months ended June 30, 2015.

### Fair Value Measurement

Fair value is defined as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. To increase the comparability of fair value measures, the following hierarchy prioritizes the inputs to valuation methodologies used to measure fair value:

Level 1—Valuations based on quoted prices for identical assets and liabilities in active markets.

Level 2—Valuations based on observable inputs other than quoted prices included in Level 1, such as quoted prices for similar assets and liabilities in active markets, quoted prices for identical or similar assets and liabilities in markets that are not active, or other inputs that are observable or can be corroborated by observable market data.

Level 3—Valuations based on unobservable inputs reflecting the Company's own assumptions, consistent with reasonably available assumptions made by other market participants. These valuations require significant judgment. The Company measures assets held for sale at fair value on a nonrecurring basis and records impairment charges when they are deemed to be impaired. The Company maintains certain financial assets and liabilities, including investments and fixed-rate long-term debt, that are not measured at fair value but for which fair value is disclosed.

The fair values of the Company's other current financial assets and liabilities, including cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable and accounts payable, approximate their carrying values due to their short-term nature.

## Recent Accounting Pronouncements

**Revenue Recognition.** In May 2014, the FASB issued Accounting Standards Update (“ASU”) No. 2014-09, Revenue from Contracts with Customers. ASU 2014-09 is a comprehensive new revenue recognition model that requires a company to recognize revenue to depict the transfer of goods or services to a customer at an amount that reflects the consideration it expects to receive in exchange for those goods or services. ASU 2014-09 also requires additional disclosure about the nature, amount, timing and uncertainty of revenue and cash flows arising from customer contracts, including significant judgments and changes in judgments and assets recognized from costs incurred to obtain or fulfill a contract. In July 2015, the FASB voted to defer the effective date for this ASU by one year, and now the ASU is effective for annual reporting periods, and interim periods within that period, beginning after December 15, 2017. The FASB also voted to permit early adoption of the ASU, but not before the original effective date. Companies may use either a full retrospective or a modified retrospective approach to adopt ASU 2014-09. The Company has not yet determined the potential effects of adopting ASU 2014-09 on its consolidated financial statements.

**Debt Issuance Costs.** In April 2015, the FASB issued ASU 2015-03, Simplifying the Presentation of Debt Issuance Costs, which requires debt issuance costs to be presented in the balance sheet as a deduction from the corresponding debt liability rather than as a separate asset. ASU 2015-03 is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2015, and interim periods within those fiscal years. The Company does not expect the provisions of ASU 2015-03 to have a material impact on its consolidated financial statements.

**Cloud Computing.** In April 2015, the FASB issued ASU No. 2015-05, Customer's Accounting for Fees Paid in a Cloud Computing Arrangement. Among other things, ASU 2015-05 clarifies how a customer in a cloud computing arrangement should determine whether the arrangement includes a software license, and clarifies that the acquisition of a software license must be accounted for in the same manner as other licenses of intangible assets. ASU 2015-05 is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2015, and interim periods within those fiscal years. The Company does not expect the provisions of ASU 2015-05 to have a material impact on its consolidated financial statements.

## NOTE 2. ACQUISITIONS

During the six months ended June 30, 2015 and 2014, net cash payments related to the acquisitions of businesses and contracts were \$9.3 million and \$672.5 million, respectively. Cash payments made during the six months ended June 30, 2014 primarily related to the acquisition of Progressive. The effect of the Company's other acquisitions on the condensed consolidated financial statements for the six months ended June 30, 2015 and 2014 was not significant.

## Progressive Acquisition

On April 14, 2014, the Company acquired a 100% ownership interest in Progressive. The Company completed the acquisition accounting for this transaction during the three months ended March 31, 2015. The following table presents unaudited consolidated pro forma information as if the acquisition of Progressive had occurred on January 1, 2013:

| (In Thousands) | Six Months Ended June 30, 2014 |             |
|----------------|--------------------------------|-------------|
|                | As Reported                    | Pro Forma   |
| Revenues       | \$1,247,913                    | \$1,404,509 |
| Net Earnings   | 46,844                         | 49,654      |

The unaudited pro forma financial information presented above does not purport to represent what the actual results of the Company's operations would have been if the acquisition of Progressive had occurred on January 1, 2013, nor is it indicative of future performance. The unaudited pro forma financial information does not reflect the impact of future events that may occur after the acquisition, including, but not limited to, anticipated cost savings from operating synergies.

The unaudited pro forma financial information presented in the table above has been adjusted to give effect to adjustments that are (1) directly related to the business combination; (2) factually supportable; and (3) expected to

have a continuing impact. These adjustments include, but are not limited to, amortization related to fair value adjustments to intangible assets and the adjustment of interest expense to reflect the additional borrowings of the Company in conjunction with the acquisition.

**NOTE 3. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENT****Financial Assets and Liabilities Measured at Fair Value on a Recurring Basis**

The following table summarizes financial liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis:

| (In Thousands)                  | June 30, 2015 |             |         | December 31, 2014 |             |         |
|---------------------------------|---------------|-------------|---------|-------------------|-------------|---------|
|                                 | Level 1       | Level 2     | Level 3 | Level 1           | Level 2     | Level 3 |
| Deferred Compensation Liability | \$—           | \$(12,491 ) | \$—     | \$—               | \$(12,677 ) | \$—     |

The Company maintains a deferred compensation plan as described in Note 1 to these condensed consolidated financial statements. The liability representing benefits accrued for plan participants is valued at the quoted market prices of the participants' investment elections, which consist of equity and debt "mirror" funds. As such, the Company has classified the deferred compensation liability as a Level 2 liability.

**Non-Financial Assets and Liabilities Measured at Fair Value on a Nonrecurring Basis**

The following table summarizes non-financial assets measured at fair value on a nonrecurring basis:

| (In Thousands)       | June 30, 2015 |         |         | December 31, 2014 |         |         |
|----------------------|---------------|---------|---------|-------------------|---------|---------|
|                      | Level 1       | Level 2 | Level 3 | Level 1           | Level 2 | Level 3 |
| Assets Held for Sale | \$—           | \$6,924 | \$—     | \$—               | \$6,356 | \$—     |

The highest and best use of these assets held for sale is as real estate land parcels for development or real estate properties for use or lease; however, the Company has chosen not to develop or use these properties. Assets held for sale are written down to fair value less cost to sell, and the adjustment is recorded in other operating expense (income), net.

**Certain Financial Assets and Liabilities Not Measured at Fair Value**

The following table summarizes the fair value of assets (liabilities) that are not measured at fair value in the condensed consolidated balance sheets, but for which the fair value is disclosed:

| (In Thousands)                         | June 30, 2015 |            |          | December 31, 2014 |            |          |
|----------------------------------------|---------------|------------|----------|-------------------|------------|----------|
|                                        | Level 1       | Level 2    | Level 3  | Level 1           | Level 2    | Level 3  |
| Perfect Home Notes <sup>1</sup>        | \$—           | \$—        | \$22,758 | \$—               | \$—        | \$21,311 |
| Fixed-Rate Long-Term Debt <sup>2</sup> | —             | (399,660 ) | —        | —                 | (429,049 ) | —        |

The Perfect Home notes were initially valued at cost. The Company periodically reviews the valuation utilizing <sup>1</sup> company-specific transactions or changes in Perfect Home's financial performance to determine if fair value adjustments are necessary.

The fair value of fixed-rate long-term debt is estimated using the present value of underlying cash flows discounted <sup>2</sup> at a current market yield for similar instruments. The carrying value of fixed-rate long-term debt was \$375.0 million and \$400.0 million at June 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014, respectively.

At June 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014, investments classified as held-to-maturity securities consisted of the following:

| (In Thousands)     | Amortized Cost | Gross Unrealized |        | Fair Value |
|--------------------|----------------|------------------|--------|------------|
|                    |                | Gains            | Losses |            |
| June 30, 2015      |                |                  |        |            |
| Perfect Home Notes | \$ 22,758      | \$—              | \$—    | \$22,758   |
| December 31, 2014  |                |                  |        |            |
| Perfect Home Notes | \$ 21,311      | \$—              | \$—    | \$21,311   |

The Company has estimated that the carrying amount of its Perfect Home notes approximates fair value and, therefore, no impairment is considered to have occurred as of June 30, 2015.

#### NOTE 4. INDEBTEDNESS

See Note 6 to the consolidated financial statements in the 2014 Annual Report.

#### NOTE 5. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

##### Leases

The Company leases warehouse and retail store space for most of its store-based operations, call center space for Progressive's operations, and management and information technology space for corporate functions under operating leases expiring at various times through 2033. The Company also leases certain properties under capital leases that are more fully described in Note 6 to the consolidated financial statements in the 2014 Annual Report. Most of the leases contain renewal options for additional periods ranging from one to 20 years or provide for options to purchase the related property at predetermined purchase prices that do not represent bargain purchase options. In addition, certain properties occupied under operating leases contain normal purchase options. Leasehold improvements related to these leases are generally amortized over periods that do not exceed the lesser of the lease term or 15 years. While a majority of leases do not require escalating payments, for the leases which do contain such provisions, the Company records the related expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term. The Company also leases computer equipment and transportation vehicles under operating leases expiring during the next four years. Management expects that most leases will be renewed or replaced by other leases in the normal course of business.

##### Guarantees

The Company has guaranteed certain debt obligations of some of its franchisees under a franchisee loan program with several banks. In the event these franchisees are unable to meet their debt service payments or otherwise experience an event of default, the Company would be unconditionally liable for the outstanding balance of the franchisees' debt obligations under the franchisee loan program, which would be due in full within 90 days of the event of default. At June 30, 2015, the maximum amount that the Company would be obligated to repay in the event franchisees defaulted was \$87.6 million. The Company has recourse rights to franchisee assets securing the debt obligations, which consist primarily of lease merchandise and fixed assets. As a result, the Company has never incurred, nor does management expect to incur, any significant losses under these guarantees. The carrying amount of the franchisee-related borrowings guarantee, which is included in accounts payable and accrued expenses in the condensed consolidated balance sheets, is \$656,000 as of June 30, 2015.

The maximum facility commitment amount under the franchisee loan program is \$175.0 million, including a Canadian subfacility commitment amount for loans to franchisees that operate stores in Canada of Cdn \$50.0 million. The Company remains subject to the financial covenants under the franchisee loan facility.

##### Legal Proceedings

From time to time, the Company is party to various legal and regulatory proceedings arising in the ordinary course of business.

Some of the proceedings to which we are currently a party are described below. We believe we have defenses to all of the claims described below, and intend to vigorously defend against the claims. However, these proceedings are still developing and due to the inherent uncertainty in litigation, regulatory and similar adversarial proceedings, there can be no guarantee that we will ultimately be successful in these proceedings, or in others to which we are currently a party. Substantial losses from these proceedings or the costs of defending them could have a material adverse impact upon our business, financial position and results of operations.

The Company establishes an accrued liability for legal and regulatory proceedings when it determines that a loss is both probable and the amount of the loss can be reasonably estimated. The Company continually monitors its litigation and regulatory exposure and reviews the adequacy of its legal and regulatory reserves on a quarterly basis. The amount of any loss ultimately incurred in relation to matters for which an accrual has been established may be higher or lower than the amounts accrued for such matters.

At June 30, 2015, the Company had accrued \$23.4 million for pending legal and regulatory matters for which it believes losses are probable, which is management's best estimate of the Company's exposure to loss, and mostly related to the now-settled regulatory investigation by the California Attorney General described below. The Company estimates that the aggregate range of possible loss in excess of accrued liabilities for such probable loss contingencies is between \$0 and \$3.0 million.



At June 30, 2015, the Company estimated that the aggregate range of loss for all material pending legal and regulatory proceedings for which a loss is reasonably possible, but less likely than probable (i.e., excluding the contingencies described in the preceding paragraph), is between \$65,000 to \$1.2 million. Those matters for which a reasonable estimate is not possible are not included within estimated ranges and, therefore, the estimated ranges do not represent the Company's maximum loss exposure. The Company's estimates as to legal and regulatory accruals, as to aggregate probable loss amounts and as to reasonably possible loss amounts, are all subject to the uncertainties and variables described above.

#### Consumer

In *Margaret Korrow, et al. v. Aaron's, Inc.*, originally filed in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Middlesex County, Law Division on October 26, 2010, plaintiff filed suit on behalf of herself and others similarly situated alleging that the Company is liable in damages to plaintiff and each class member because the Company's lease agreements issued after March 16, 2006 purportedly violated certain New Jersey state consumer statutes. Plaintiff's complaint seeks treble damages under the New Jersey Consumer Fraud Act, and statutory penalty damages of \$100 per violation of all contracts issued in New Jersey, and also claims that there are multiple violations per contract. The Company removed the lawsuit to the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey on December 6, 2010 (Civil Action No.: 10-06317(JAP)(LHG)). Plaintiff on behalf of herself and others similarly situated seeks equitable relief, statutory and treble damages, pre- and post-judgment interest and attorneys' fees. Discovery on this matter is closed. On July 31, 2013, the Court certified a class comprising all persons who entered into a rent-to-own contract with the Company in New Jersey from March 16, 2006 through March 31, 2011. In August 2013, the Court of Appeals denied the Company's request for an interlocutory appeal of the class certification issue. The Company filed a motion to allow counterclaims against all newly certified class members who may owe legitimate fees or damages to the Company or who failed to return merchandise to the Company prior to obtaining ownership. That motion was denied by the magistrate judge on June 30, 2014, but an appeal of that ruling is pending with the District Court.

#### Privacy and Related Matters

In *Crystal and Brian Byrd v. Aaron's, Inc., Aspen Way Enterprises, Inc., John Does (1-100) Aaron's Franchisees and Designerware, LLC*, filed on May 16, 2011, in the United States District Court, Western District of Pennsylvania (Case No. 1:11-CV-00101-SPB), plaintiffs alleged that the Company and its independently owned and operated franchisee Aspen Way Enterprises ("Aspen Way") knowingly violated plaintiffs' privacy in violation of the Electronic Communications Privacy Act ("ECPA") and the Computer Fraud Abuse Act and sought certification of a putative nationwide class. Plaintiffs based these claims on Aspen Way's use of a software program called "PC Rental Agent." Although the District Court dismissed the Company from the original lawsuit on March 20, 2012, after certain procedural motions, on May 23, 2013, the Court granted plaintiffs' motion for leave to file a third amended complaint, which asserts the claims under the ECPA, common law invasion of privacy, added a request for injunction, and named additional independently owned and operated Company franchisees as defendants. Plaintiffs filed the third amended complaint, and the Company moved to dismiss that complaint on substantially the same grounds as it sought to dismiss plaintiffs' prior complaints. Plaintiffs seek monetary damages as well as injunctive relief. Plaintiffs filed their motion for class certification on July 1, 2013, and the Company's response was filed in August 2013. On March 31, 2014, the U.S. District Judge dismissed all claims against all franchisees other than Aspen Way Enterprises, LLC. The Court also dismissed claims for invasion of privacy, aiding and abetting, and conspiracy against all defendants. In addition, the Court denied the plaintiffs' motion to certify the class. Finally, the Judge denied the Company's motion to dismiss the violation of ECPA claims. Plaintiffs requested and received immediate appellate review of these rulings by the U.S. Third Circuit Court of Appeals. On April 10, 2015, the U.S. Third Circuit Court of Appeals reversed the denial of class certification on the grounds stated by the District Court, and remanded the case back to the District Court for further consideration of that and the other elements necessary for class certification. The District Court has not issued a new ruling on those matters.

In *Michael Winslow and Fonda Winslow v. Sultan Financial Corporation, Aaron's, Inc., John Does (1-10), Aaron's Franchisees and Designerware, LLC*, filed on March 5, 2013 in the Los Angeles Superior Court (Case No. BC502304), plaintiffs assert claims against the Company and its independently owned and operated franchisee, Sultan Financial Corporation (as well as certain John Doe franchisees), for unauthorized wiretapping, eavesdropping, electronic stalking, and violation of California's Comprehensive Computer Data Access and Fraud Act and its Unfair

Competition Law. Each of these claims arises out of the alleged use of PC Rental Agent software. The plaintiffs are seeking injunctive relief and damages in connection with the allegations of the complaint. Plaintiffs are also seeking certification of a putative California class. Plaintiffs are represented by the same counsel as in the above-described Byrd litigation. In April 2013, the Company timely removed this matter to federal court. On May 8, 2013, the Company filed a motion to stay this litigation pending resolution of the Byrd litigation, a motion to dismiss for failure to state a claim, and a motion to strike certain allegations in the complaint. The Court subsequently stayed the case. The Company's motions to dismiss and strike certain allegations remain pending. On June 6, 2015, the plaintiffs filed a motion to lift the stay. The Company opposed that motion which remains pending.

In *Lomi Price v. Aaron's, Inc. and NW Freedom Corporation*, filed on February 27, 2013, in the State Court of Fulton County, Georgia (Case No. 13-EV-016812B), an individual plaintiff asserts claims against the Company and its independently owned and operated franchisee, NW Freedom Corporation, for invasion of privacy/intrusion on seclusion, computer invasion of privacy and infliction of emotional distress. Each of these claims arises out of the alleged use of PC Rental Agent software. The plaintiff is seeking compensatory and punitive damages of not less than \$250,000. On April 3, 2013, the Company filed an answer and affirmative defenses. On that same day, the Company also filed a motion to stay the litigation pending resolution of the Byrd litigation, a motion to dismiss for failure to state a claim and a motion to strike certain allegations in the complaint. The court stayed the proceeding pending rulings on certain motions in the Byrd case, which expired upon remand of the case back to the District Court. On April 24, 2015, the Company filed a renewed motion to stay, which was granted on June 1, 2015.

In *Michael Peterson v. Aaron's, Inc. and Aspen Way Enterprises, Inc.*, filed on June 19, 2014, in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia, several plaintiffs allege that they leased computers for use in their law practice. The plaintiffs claim that the Company and Aspen Way knowingly violated plaintiffs' privacy and the privacy of plaintiff's legal clients in violation of the ECPA and the Computer Fraud Abuse Act. Plaintiffs seek certification of a putative nationwide class. Plaintiffs based these claims on Aspen Way's use of PC Rental Agent software. The plaintiffs claim that information and data obtained by defendants through PC Rental Agent was attorney-client privileged. The Company has filed a motion to dismiss plaintiffs' amended complaint.

#### Regulatory Investigations

**California Attorney General Investigation.** The California Attorney General investigated the Company's retail transactional practices, including various leasing and marketing practices, information security and privacy policies and practices related to the alleged use of PC Rental Agent software by certain independently owned and operated Company franchisees. The Company reached a comprehensive resolution of this matter without litigation. The final settlement and consent order were announced on October 13, 2014. The Court filed the final judgment on February 10, 2015. Payments have begun under the anticipated schedule outlined in the judgment.

**Pennsylvania Attorney General Investigation.** There is a pending investigation by the Pennsylvania Attorney General relating to the Company's privacy practices in Pennsylvania. The privacy issues are related to the alleged use of PC Rental Agent software by certain independently owned and operated Company franchisees, and the Company's alleged responsibility for that use. The Company cooperated in the investigation and on June 18, 2015, reached a tentative settlement of the matter. Final documentation is pending.

#### Other Matters

**Noncompete Dispute.** In January 2014, Aaron's sold its Company-operated RIMCO stores and the rights to five franchised stores. The acquisition agreement provides that the Company will not compete with the acquiring entity for a specified period of time in certain geographic locations surrounding the purchased stores. In August 2014, the acquiring entity asserted that Aaron's was violating the noncompete covenant in the acquisition agreement. The Company disputes that the noncompete covenant is being violated, but engaged in discussions to resolve the dispute. The Company reached a settlement for an immaterial amount. The settlement agreement was signed on May 1, 2015, and the parties finalized payment and other agreed upon actions.

#### Other Commitments

At June 30, 2015, the Company had non-cancelable commitments primarily related to certain advertising and marketing programs of \$12.1 million.

The Company is a party to various claims and legal and regulatory proceedings arising in the ordinary course of business. Management regularly assesses the Company's insurance deductibles, monitors the Company's litigation and regulatory exposure with the Company's attorneys and evaluates its loss experience. The Company also enters into various contracts in the normal course of business that may subject it to risk of financial loss if counterparties fail to perform their contractual obligations.

See Note 8 to the consolidated financial statements in the 2014 Annual Report for further information.

## NOTE 6. RESTRUCTURING

On July 15, 2014, the Company announced that a rigorous evaluation of the Company-operated store portfolio had been performed. As a result of this evaluation and other cost-reduction initiatives, the Company closed 44 underperforming Company-operated stores and restructured its home office and field support under a restructuring plan to more closely align with current business conditions. The restructuring was completed during the third quarter of 2014 and total restructuring charges of \$9.1 million were recorded during the year ended December 31, 2014, comprised of \$4.8 million related to contractual lease obligations, \$3.3 million related to the write-off and impairment of property, plant and equipment, \$620,000 related to workforce reductions and \$395,000 related to other charges. During the six months ended June 30, 2014, total restructuring charges were \$2.3 million and were included in restructuring expenses in the consolidated statements of earnings. These charges were included in the Sales and Lease Ownership segment. The Company does not currently anticipate any remaining costs related to this restructuring plan to be material.

The following table summarizes the change in the liability associated with the restructuring charges:

| (In Thousands)             | Contractual<br>Obligations<br>Under<br>Canceled<br>Leases |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| Balance at January 1, 2015 | \$3,227                                                   |
| Payments                   | (1,266 )                                                  |
| Balance at June 30, 2015   | \$1,961                                                   |

In the ordinary course of business, we continually review, and as appropriate adjust, the amount and mix of Company-operated and franchised stores to help optimize overall performance. Costs incurred to close stores during the six months ended June 30, 2015 were not significant.

## NOTE 7. SEGMENTS

As of June 30, 2015, the Company had five operating and reportable segments: Sales and Lease Ownership, Progressive, HomeSmart, Franchise and Manufacturing. The results of Progressive, which is presented as a reportable segment, have been included in the Company's consolidated results from the April 14, 2014 acquisition date. The Aaron's Sales & Lease Ownership division offers furniture, electronics, appliances and computers to consumers primarily on a monthly payment basis with no credit requirements. Progressive is a leading virtual lease-to-own company that provides lease-purchase solutions through over 16,000 retail locations on a variety of products, including furniture and bedding, prepaid wireless phones, consumer electronics, appliances and jewelry. The HomeSmart division offers furniture, electronics, appliances and computers to consumers primarily on a weekly payment basis with no credit requirements. The Company's Franchise operation awards franchises and supports franchisees of its sales and lease ownership concept. The Manufacturing segment manufactures upholstered furniture and bedding predominantly for use by Company-operated and franchised stores. Therefore, the Manufacturing segment's revenues and earnings before income taxes are primarily the result of intercompany transactions, substantially all of which revenues and earnings are eliminated through the elimination of intersegment revenues and intersegment profit or loss.

| (In Thousands)                                       | Three Months Ended<br>June 30, |            | Six Months Ended<br>June 30, |             |
|------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|------------------------------|-------------|
|                                                      | 2015                           | 2014       | 2015                         | 2014        |
| Revenues From External Customers:                    |                                |            |                              |             |
| Sales and Lease Ownership                            | \$474,346                      | \$495,049  | \$1,010,506                  | \$1,043,760 |
| Progressive                                          | 255,946                        | 128,859    | 507,565                      | 128,859     |
| HomeSmart                                            | 15,275                         | 15,749     | 32,247                       | 33,153      |
| Franchise                                            | 15,491                         | 16,225     | 32,495                       | 34,309      |
| Manufacturing                                        | 25,228                         | 23,743     | 54,034                       | 54,898      |
| Other                                                | 326                            | 367        | 694                          | 2,265       |
| Revenues of Reportable Segments                      | 786,612                        | 679,992    | 1,637,541                    | 1,297,244   |
| Elimination of Intersegment Revenues                 | (24,691)                       | ) (23,404) | ) (52,980)                   | ) (53,662)  |
| Cash to Accrual Adjustments                          | 7,128                          | 5,902      | 6,302                        | 4,331       |
| Total Revenues from External Customers               | \$769,049                      | \$662,490  | \$1,590,863                  | \$1,247,913 |
| Earnings (Loss) Before Income Taxes:                 |                                |            |                              |             |
| Sales and Lease Ownership                            | \$30,859                       | \$32,132   | \$83,434                     | \$87,751    |
| Progressive                                          | 23,314                         | (323)      | ) 39,144                     | (323)       |
| HomeSmart                                            | (126)                          | ) (662)    | ) 411                        | (731)       |
| Franchise                                            | 11,993                         | 11,073     | 25,891                       | 25,631      |
| Manufacturing                                        | 376                            | (89)       | ) 1,658                      | 458         |
| Other                                                | (11,668)                       | ) (28,547) | ) (23,147)                   | ) (38,474)  |
| Earnings Before Income Taxes for Reportable Segments | 54,748                         | 13,584     | 127,391                      | 74,312      |
| Elimination of Intersegment (Profit) Loss            | (398)                          | ) 82       | (1,666)                      | ) (427)     |
| Cash to Accrual and Other Adjustments                | 10,004                         | (104)      | ) 16,459                     | 387         |
| Total Earnings Before Income Taxes                   | \$64,354                       | \$13,562   | \$142,184                    | \$74,272    |

Revenues in the Other category are primarily revenues attributable to (i) the RIMCO segment through the date of sale in January 2014, (ii) leasing space to unrelated third parties in the corporate headquarters building and (iii) several minor unrelated activities. The pre-tax losses or earnings in the Other category are the net result of the activity mentioned above, net of the portion of corporate overhead not allocated to the reportable segments for management purposes.

During the six months ended June 30, 2014, the results of the Company's operating segments were impacted by the following:

- Sales and Lease Ownership earnings before income taxes included \$2.3 million of restructuring charges related to the Company's strategic decision to close 44 Company-operated stores and restructure its home office and field support.

The results of the Other category loss before income taxes included \$13.3 million in financial and advisory costs related to addressing strategic matters, including proxy contests, of which \$12.4 million was incurred during the three months ended June 30, 2014. In addition, the Other category loss included \$6.3 million in transaction costs related to the Progressive acquisition, of which \$5.5 million was incurred during the three months ended June 30, 2014.

| (In Thousands)             | June 30,<br>2015 | December 31,<br>2014 |
|----------------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| Assets:                    |                  |                      |
| Sales and Lease Ownership  | \$1,175,071      | \$1,246,325          |
| Progressive                | 909,440          | 858,159              |
| HomeSmart                  | 43,950           | 47,585               |
| Franchise                  | 34,949           | 46,755               |
| Manufacturing <sup>1</sup> | 24,222           | 23,050               |
| Other                      | 167,075          | 234,970              |
| Total Assets               | \$2,354,707      | \$2,456,844          |

<sup>1</sup> Includes inventory (principally raw materials and work-in-process) that has been classified within lease merchandise in the condensed consolidated balance sheets of \$14.9 million and \$13.2 million as of June 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014, respectively.

Earnings (loss) before income taxes for the Progressive reportable segment are determined in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. The Company determines earnings (loss) before income taxes for all other reportable segments in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States with the following adjustments:

• Revenues in the Sales and Lease Ownership and HomeSmart segments are reported on a cash basis for management reporting purposes.

• A predetermined amount of each reportable segment's revenues is charged to the reportable segment as an allocation of corporate overhead. This allocation was generally 5% in 2015 and 2014.

• Accruals related to store closures are not recorded on the reportable segments' financial statements, but are maintained and controlled by corporate headquarters.

The capitalization and amortization of manufacturing variances are recorded on the consolidated financial statements as part of Cash to Accrual and Other Adjustments and are not allocated to the segment that holds the related lease merchandise.

Advertising expense in the Sales and Lease Ownership and HomeSmart segments is estimated at the beginning of each year and then allocated to the division ratably over time for management reporting purposes. For financial reporting purposes, advertising expense is recognized when the related advertising activities occur. The difference between these two methods is reflected as part of Cash to Accrual and Other Adjustments.

Sales and lease ownership lease merchandise write-offs are recorded using the direct write-off method for management reporting purposes and using the allowance method for financial reporting purposes. The difference between these two methods is reflected as part of Cash to Accrual and Other Adjustments.

• Interest on borrowings is estimated at the beginning of each year. Interest is then allocated to the Sales and Lease Ownership and HomeSmart segments based on relative total assets.

#### NOTE 8. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Company leases certain properties under capital leases from related parties that are described in Notes 6 and 13 to the consolidated financial statements in the 2014 Annual Report.

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

**Special Note Regarding Forward-Looking Information:** Except for historical information contained herein, the matters set forth in this Form 10-Q are forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements involve a number of risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from any such statements. Such forward-looking statements generally can be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology such as “may,” “expect,” “forecast,” “guidance,” “intend,” “believe,” “could,” “project,” “estimate,” “anticipate,” “should,” and similar terminology. These risks and uncertainties include factors such as changes in general economic conditions, competition, pricing, legal and regulatory proceedings, customer privacy, information security, customer demand, the integration of the Progressive acquisition, the execution and results of our new strategies, risks related to Progressive's "virtual" lease-to-own business with which the Company may be unfamiliar and the other risks and uncertainties discussed under Item 1A, “Risk Factors,” in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014 (“the 2014 Annual Report”), as updated in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, and in our other public filings. Statements in this Quarterly Report that are “forward-looking” include, without limitation, statements regarding the expected results of our new strategy and of the Progressive acquisition. You are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the filing date of this Quarterly Report. Except as required by law, the Company undertakes no obligation to update these forward-looking statements to reflect subsequent events or circumstances after the filing date of this Quarterly Report.

The following discussion should be read in conjunction with the condensed consolidated financial statements as of and for the three and six months ended June 30, 2015 and 2014, including the notes to those statements, appearing elsewhere in this report. We also suggest that management’s discussion and analysis appearing in this report be read in conjunction with the management’s discussion and analysis and consolidated financial statements included in our 2014 Annual Report.

### Business Overview

Aaron’s, Inc. (“we”, “our”, “us”, “Aaron’s” or the “Company”) is a leading specialty retailer of furniture, consumer electronics, computers, appliances and household accessories. On April 14, 2014, the Company acquired a 100% ownership interest in Progressive Finance Holdings, LLC (“Progressive”), a leading virtual lease-to-own company, for merger consideration of \$700.0 million, net of cash acquired. Progressive provides lease-purchase solutions through over 16,000 retail locations in 46 states on a variety of products, including furniture and bedding, prepaid wireless phones, consumer electronics, appliances and jewelry. It does so by purchasing merchandise from third-party retailers desired by those retailers' customers, and in turn leasing that merchandise to the customers on a lease-to-own basis. Progressive consequently has no stores of its own, but rather offers lease-purchase solutions to the customers of traditional retailers.

On July 15, 2014, the Company announced that a rigorous evaluation of the Company-operated store portfolio had been performed, which, along with other cost-reduction initiatives, resulted in the closure of 44 underperforming stores and the realignment of home office and field support. In the ordinary course of business, we continually review, and as appropriate adjust, the amount and mix of Company-operated and franchised stores to help optimize overall performance. These adjustments included closing 25 underperforming Company-operated stores during the three months ended June 30, 2015.

Our major operating divisions are the Aaron’s Sales & Lease Ownership division, Progressive, HomeSmart and Woodhaven Furniture Industries, which manufactures and supplies the majority of the upholstered furniture and bedding leased and sold in our stores.

Total revenues increased from \$2.213 billion in 2012 to \$2.695 billion in 2014, primarily as a result of the Progressive acquisition during 2014.

For the three months ended June 30, 2015, total revenues were \$769.0 million, an increase of 16.1%, over the comparable period in 2014. The increase of \$106.6 million was due to a \$127.1 million increase in revenues from Progressive, partially offset by a decrease of \$20.5 million in revenues from our traditional lease-to-own (“core”) business primarily resulting from a 4.4% decrease in Company-operated same store revenues. Revenues from franchise royalties and fees for the three months ended June 30, 2015 were \$15.5 million, a decrease of \$734,000, or 4.5%, from the comparable period in 2014.

For the six months ended June 30, 2015, total revenues were \$1.6 billion, an increase of 27.5%, over the comparable period in 2014. The increase of \$343.0 million was primarily due to a \$378.7 million increase in revenues from Progressive, partially offset by a decrease of \$35.8 million in revenues from our core business primarily resulting from a 4.7% decrease in Company-operated same store revenues. Revenues from franchise royalties and fees for the six months ended June 30, 2015 were \$32.5 million, a decrease of \$1.8 million, or 5.3%, from the comparable period in 2014.

**Same Store Revenues.** We believe that changes in same store revenues are a key performance indicator of our core business. For the three months ended June 30, 2015, we calculated this amount by comparing revenues for the three months ended June 30, 2015 to revenues for the comparable period in 2014 for all stores open for the entire 15-month period ended June 30, 2015, excluding stores that received lease agreements from other acquired, closed or merged stores. For the six months ended June 30, 2015, we calculated this amount by comparing revenues for the six months ended June 30, 2015 to revenues for the comparable period in 2014 for all stores open for the entire 24-month period ended June 30, 2015, excluding stores that received lease agreements from other acquired, closed or merged stores. During the first quarter of 2015, the Company revised the methodology for calculating same store revenues to reflect a full lifecycle for customer retention after stores are closed. As a result, revenues for stores that have been consolidated/merged are now included in the comparable same store calculation after 24 months. Previously, merged stores were included in the same store calculation after 15 months. The change in the same store calculation had an immaterial impact on comparable store revenues for 2015 and 2014.

#### Business Environment and Company Outlook

Like many industries, the lease-to-own industry has been transformed by the internet and virtual marketplace. We believe the Progressive acquisition will be strategically transformational for the Company in this respect and will strengthen our business. We also believe the lease-to-own industry has suffered in recent periods due to economic challenges faced by our core customers. In response to these changing market conditions, we are executing a strategic plan for the core business that focuses on the following items and that we believe positions us for success over the long-term:

- Renewing our focus on same store revenue growth for our core portfolio, through improved execution, optimization of merchandising and pricing and an enhanced go-to-market strategy;
- Enhancing and growing our online platform;
- Driving cost efficiency to recapture margin, including through selling, general and administrative cost savings and rationalizing underperforming stores;
- Moderating new Company-operated store growth to result in no net store growth after store closings; and
- Strengthening and growing the franchise store base.

#### Key Components of Earnings

In this management's discussion and analysis section we review our consolidated results. For the six months ended June 30, 2015, and the comparable prior year period, some of the key revenue and cost and expense items that affected earnings were as follows:

**Revenues.** We separate our total revenues into five components: lease revenues and fees, retail sales, non-retail sales, franchise royalties and fees, and other. Lease revenues and fees include all revenues derived from lease agreements at Company-operated stores and retail locations serviced by Progressive. Retail sales represent sales of both new and returned lease merchandise from our Company-operated stores. Non-retail sales mainly represent new merchandise sales to our Aaron's Sales & Lease Ownership franchisees. Franchise royalties and fees represent fees from the sale of franchise rights and royalty payments from franchisees, as well as other related income from our franchised stores. Other revenues primarily relate to revenues from leasing real estate properties to unrelated third parties, as well as other miscellaneous revenues.

**Depreciation of Lease Merchandise.** Depreciation of lease merchandise reflects the expense associated with depreciating merchandise held for lease and leased to customers by our Company-operated stores and Progressive.

**Retail Cost of Sales.** Retail cost of sales represents the original or depreciated cost of merchandise sold through our Company-operated stores.

**Non-Retail Cost of Sales.** Non-retail cost of sales primarily represents the cost of merchandise sold to our franchisees.

**Operating Expenses.** Operating expenses include personnel costs, selling costs, occupancy and delivery costs, bad debt expense, and lease merchandise write-offs, among other expenses.

**Other Operating Expense (Income), Net.** Other operating expense (income), net consists of gains or losses on sales of Company-operated stores and delivery vehicles, fair value adjustments on assets held for sale and gains or losses on other dispositions of property, plant and equipment.



## Critical Accounting Policies

Refer to the 2014 Annual Report.

## Results of Operations

As of June 30, 2015, the Company had five operating and reportable segments: Sales and Lease Ownership, Progressive, HomeSmart, Franchise and Manufacturing. The results of Progressive, which are presented as a reportable segment, have been included in the Company's consolidated results from the April 14, 2014 acquisition date. In January 2014, the Company sold the 27 Company-operated RIMCO stores and the rights to five franchised RIMCO stores, which are included as part of the Other category.

The Company's Sales and Lease Ownership, Progressive, HomeSmart and Franchise segments accounted for substantially all of the operations of the Company and, therefore, unless otherwise noted, only material changes within these four segments are discussed. The production of our Manufacturing segment, consisting of the Woodhaven Furniture Industries division, is primarily leased or sold through the Company-operated and franchised stores, and consequently, substantially all of that segment's revenues and earnings before income taxes are eliminated through the elimination of intersegment revenues and intersegment profit or loss.

## Results of Operations – Three months ended June 30, 2015 and 2014

|                                       | Three Months Ended<br>June 30, |           | Change    |        |   |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|-----------|--------|---|
| (In Thousands)                        | 2015                           | 2014      | \$        | %      |   |
| <b>REVENUES:</b>                      |                                |           |           |        |   |
| Lease Revenues and Fees               | \$660,472                      | \$552,494 | \$107,978 | 19.5   | % |
| Retail Sales                          | 7,073                          | 8,419     | (1,346)   | (16.0) | ) |
| Non-Retail Sales                      | 84,449                         | 83,893    | 556       | .7     |   |
| Franchise Royalties and Fees          | 15,491                         | 16,225    | (734)     | (4.5)  | ) |
| Other                                 | 1,564                          | 1,459     | 105       | 7.2    |   |
|                                       | 769,049                        | 662,490   | 106,559   | 16.1   |   |
| <b>COSTS AND EXPENSES:</b>            |                                |           |           |        |   |
| Depreciation of Lease Merchandise     | 294,362                        | 232,715   | 61,647    | 26.5   |   |
| Retail Cost of Sales                  | 4,849                          | 5,478     | (629)     | (11.5) | ) |
| Non-Retail Cost of Sales              | 76,463                         | 76,227    | 236       | .3     |   |
| Operating Expenses                    | 325,555                        | 311,116   | 14,439    | 4.6    |   |
| Financial Advisory and Legal Costs    | —                              | 12,404    | (12,404)  | nmf    |   |
| Progressive-Related Transaction Costs | —                              | 5,464     | (5,464)   | nmf    |   |
| Restructuring Expenses                | —                              | 2,264     | (2,264)   | nmf    |   |
| Other Operating Expense, Net          | 277                            | 5         | 272       | nmf    |   |
|                                       | 701,506                        | 645,673   | 55,833    | 8.6    |   |
| <b>OPERATING PROFIT</b>               | 67,543                         | 16,817    | 50,726    | 301.6  |   |
| Interest Income                       | 792                            | 1,074     | (282)     | (26.3) | ) |
| Interest Expense                      | (5,622)                        | (5,479)   | 143       | 2.6    |   |
| Other Non-Operating Income, Net       | 1,641                          | 1,150     | 491       | 42.7   |   |
| <b>EARNINGS BEFORE INCOME TAXES</b>   | 64,354                         | 13,562    | 50,792    | 374.5  |   |
| <b>INCOME TAXES</b>                   | 23,808                         | 5,057     | 18,751    | 370.8  |   |
| <b>NET EARNINGS</b>                   | \$40,546                       | \$8,505   | \$32,041  | 376.7  | % |

nmf - Calculation is not meaningful

## Revenues

Information about our revenues by reportable segment is as follows:

| (In Thousands)                         | Three Months Ended<br>June 30, |           | Change     |        |    |
|----------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|------------|--------|----|
|                                        | 2015                           | 2014      | \$         | %      |    |
| <b>REVENUES:</b>                       |                                |           |            |        |    |
| Sales and Lease Ownership <sup>1</sup> | \$474,346                      | \$495,049 | \$(20,703) | (4.2)  | )% |
| Progressive <sup>2</sup>               | 255,946                        | 128,859   | 127,087    | 98.6   |    |
| HomeSmart <sup>1</sup>                 | 15,275                         | 15,749    | (474)      | (3.0)  | )  |
| Franchise <sup>3</sup>                 | 15,491                         | 16,225    | (734)      | (4.5)  | )  |
| Manufacturing                          | 25,228                         | 23,743    | 1,485      | 6.3    |    |
| Other                                  | 326                            | 367       | (41)       | (11.2) | )  |
| Revenues of Reportable Segments        | 786,612                        | 679,992   | 106,620    | 15.7   |    |
| Elimination of Intersegment Revenues   | (24,691)                       | (23,404)  | (1,287)    | (5.5)  | )  |
| Cash to Accrual Adjustments            | 7,128                          | 5,902     | 1,226      | 20.8   |    |
| Total Revenues from External Customers | \$769,049                      | \$662,490 | \$106,559  | 16.1   | %  |

<sup>1</sup> Segment revenue principally consists of lease revenues and fees, retail sales and non-retail sales, and is presented on a cash basis.

<sup>2</sup> Segment revenue consists of lease revenues and fees.

<sup>3</sup> Segment revenue consists of franchise royalties and fees.

**Sales and Lease Ownership.** Sales and Lease Ownership segment revenues decreased \$20.7 million to \$474.3 million primarily due to a \$20.0 million decrease in lease revenues and fees and a \$1.3 million decrease in retail sales, partially offset by a \$358,000 increase in non-retail sales. Lease revenues and fees within the Sales and Lease Ownership segment decreased due to a 4.4% decrease in same store revenues and the net reduction of 51 Sales and Lease Ownership stores during the 15-month period ended June 30, 2015.

**Progressive.** Progressive segment revenues increased \$127.1 million to \$255.9 million primarily due to increases in invoice volumes at existing retail locations as well as a net increase of approximately 1,000 retail locations served over a trailing twelve month period. Progressive segment revenues have been included in the Company's consolidated results from the April 14, 2014 acquisition date.

**HomeSmart.** HomeSmart segment revenues decreased \$474,000 to \$15.3 million primarily due to a 2.7% decrease in lease revenues and fees. Lease revenues and fees within the HomeSmart segment decreased due to a 4.0% decrease in same store revenues.

**Franchise.** Franchise segment revenues decreased \$734,000 to \$15.5 million due to a 1.6% decrease in same store revenues of existing franchised stores and the impact of the net reduction of one franchised store during the 15-month period ended June 30, 2015.

**Other.** Revenues in the Other category are primarily revenues attributable to leasing space to unrelated third parties in the corporate headquarters building and revenues from several minor unrelated activities.

## Costs and Expenses

**Depreciation of lease merchandise.** Depreciation of lease merchandise increased \$61.6 million, or 26.5%, to \$294.4 million during the three months ended June 30, 2015, from \$232.7 million during the comparable period in 2014. Levels of merchandise on lease for the Aaron's core business remained consistent year over year, resulting in idle merchandise representing approximately 6% of total depreciation expense in 2015 and 2014. As a percentage of total lease revenues and fees, depreciation of lease merchandise increased to 44.6% from 42.1% in the prior year period, primarily due to the inclusion of Progressive's results of operations from the April 14, 2014 acquisition date. Progressive's inclusion increased depreciation as a percentage of lease revenues because, among other factors, its merchandise has a shorter average life on lease and a higher rate of early buyouts than our traditional lease-to-own business.

**Retail cost of sales.** Retail cost of sales decreased \$629,000, or 11.5%, to \$4.8 million during the three months ended June 30, 2015, from \$5.5 million for the comparable period in 2014, and increased as a percentage of sales to 68.6% from 65.1% due to continued increased discounting of pre-leased merchandise.



Non-retail cost of sales. Non-retail cost of sales increased \$236,000, or .3%, to \$76.5 million during the three months ended June 30, 2015, from \$76.2 million for the comparable period in 2014, and as a percentage of non-retail sales, remained consistent at approximately 91% in both 2015 and 2014.

Operating expenses. Operating expenses increased \$14.4 million, or 4.6%, to \$325.6 million during the three months ended June 30, 2015, from \$311.1 million for the comparable period in 2014 due primarily to the consolidation of Progressive's results of operations from the April 2014 acquisition date. As a percentage of total revenues, operating expenses decreased to 42.3% in 2015 from 47.0% in 2014 as a result of cost reductions in personnel, advertising, facility rent, lease merchandise-related costs and other operating costs in Aaron's core business.

Financial advisory and legal costs. Financial advisory and legal costs of \$12.4 million were incurred during the three months ended June 30, 2014 related to addressing now-resolved strategic matters, including an unsolicited acquisition offer, two proxy contests and certain other shareholder proposals.

Progressive-related transaction costs. Financial advisory and legal costs of \$5.5 million were incurred during the three months ended June 30, 2014 in connection with the acquisition of Progressive.

Restructuring expenses. In connection with the Company's July 15, 2014 announced closure of 44 Company-operated stores and restructuring of its home office and field support, charges of \$2.3 million were incurred during the three months ended June 30, 2014 related to the write-off and impairment of property, plant and equipment.

#### Other Operating Expense, Net

Other operating expense, net consists of gains or losses on sales of Company-operated stores and delivery vehicles, fair value adjustments on assets held for sale and gains or losses on other dispositions of property, plant and equipment. Information about the components of other operating expense, net is as follows:

| (In Thousands)                                          | Three Months Ended<br>June 30, |         |
|---------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------|
|                                                         | 2015                           | 2014    |
| Losses (gains) on sales of stores and delivery vehicles | \$ 103                         | \$(245) |
| Losses on asset dispositions and assets held for sale   | 174                            | 250     |
| Other operating expense, net                            | \$ 277                         | \$ 5    |
| Operating Profit                                        |                                |         |

Interest income. Interest income decreased to \$792,000 during the three months ended June 30, 2015 compared with \$1.1 million for the comparable period in 2014.

Interest expense. Interest expense increased to \$5.6 million for the three months ended June 30, 2015 compared with \$5.5 million for the comparable period in 2014.

Other non-operating income, net. Other non-operating income, net includes the impact of foreign currency exchange gains and losses, as well as gains and losses resulting from changes in the cash surrender value of Company-owned life insurance related to the Company's deferred compensation plan. Included in other non-operating income, net were foreign exchange transaction gains of \$1.4 million and \$862,000 during the three months ended June 30, 2015 and 2014, respectively. Changes in the cash surrender value of Company-owned life insurance resulted in gains of \$230,000 and \$288,000 during the three months ended June 30, 2015 and June 30, 2014 respectively.

## Earnings Before Income Taxes

Information about our earnings (loss) before income taxes by reportable segment is as follows:

|                                                      | Three Months Ended June 30, |                 | Change          |               |          |
|------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|----------|
| (In Thousands)                                       | 2015                        | 2014            | \$              | 2015 vs. 2014 | %        |
| <b>EARNINGS (LOSS) BEFORE INCOME TAXES:</b>          |                             |                 |                 |               |          |
| Sales and Lease Ownership                            | \$30,859                    | \$32,132        | \$(1,273)       | (4.0)         | nmf      |
| Progressive                                          | 23,314                      | (323)           | 23,637          | 81.0          | 522.5    |
| HomeSmart                                            | (126)                       | (662)           | 536             | 59.1          |          |
| Franchise                                            | 11,993                      | 11,073          | 920             |               |          |
| Manufacturing                                        | 376                         | (89)            | 465             |               |          |
| Other                                                | (11,668)                    | (28,547)        | 16,879          |               |          |
| Earnings Before Income Taxes for Reportable Segments | 54,748                      | 13,584          | 41,164          | 303.0         |          |
| Elimination of Intersegment (Profit) Loss            | (398)                       | 82              | (480)           | (585.4)       |          |
| Cash to Accrual and Other Adjustments                | 10,004                      | (104)           | 10,108          | nmf           |          |
| <b>Total</b>                                         | <b>\$64,354</b>             | <b>\$13,562</b> | <b>\$50,792</b> | <b>374.5</b>  | <b>%</b> |

nmf - Calculation is not meaningful

Earnings before income taxes for the three months ended June 30, 2014 were impacted by \$12.4 million in financial advisory and legal costs related to addressing strategic matters, including proxy contests, and \$5.5 million in transaction costs related to the Progressive acquisition, both of which have been included in the Other category. In addition, earnings before income taxes for the three months ended June 30, 2014 included \$2.3 million in charges related to the closure of 44 Company-operated stores and restructuring of the Company's home office and field support, which has been included in the Sales and Lease Ownership segment results.

## Income Tax Expense

Income tax expense increased \$18.8 million to \$23.8 million for the three months ended June 30, 2015, compared to \$5.1 million for the comparable period in 2014, primarily due to the increase in earnings before income taxes between those two periods. The effective tax rate also decreased to 37.0% for the second quarter of 2015 from 37.3% for the second quarter of 2014.

## Net Earnings

Net earnings increased \$32.0 million to \$40.5 million during the three months ended June 30, 2015 from \$8.5 million during the three months ended June 30, 2014. As a percentage of total revenues, net earnings were 5.3% and 1.3% in 2015 and 2014, respectively.

## Results of Operations – Six months ended June 30, 2015 and 2014

|                                       | Six Months Ended |             | Change    |        |   |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|-------------|-----------|--------|---|
| (In Thousands)                        | June 30,         |             |           |        |   |
|                                       | 2015             | 2014        | \$        | %      |   |
| REVENUES:                             |                  |             |           |        |   |
| Lease Revenues and Fees               | \$1,355,754      | \$1,012,310 | \$343,444 | 33.9   | % |
| Retail Sales                          | 19,067           | 22,929      | (3,862)   | (16.8) | ) |
| Non-Retail Sales                      | 180,486          | 175,518     | 4,968     | 2.8    |   |
| Franchise Royalties and Fees          | 32,495           | 34,309      | (1,814)   | (5.3)  | ) |
| Other                                 | 3,061            | 2,847       | 214       | 7.5    |   |
|                                       | 1,590,863        | 1,247,913   | 342,950   | 27.5   |   |
| COSTS AND EXPENSES:                   |                  |             |           |        |   |
| Depreciation of Lease Merchandise     | 610,348          | 400,627     | 209,721   | 52.3   |   |
| Retail Cost of Sales                  | 12,553           | 14,491      | (1,938)   | (13.4) | ) |
| Non-Retail Cost of Sales              | 163,315          | 159,134     | 4,181     | 2.6    |   |
| Operating Expenses                    | 653,475          | 573,815     | 79,660    | 13.9   |   |
| Financial Advisory and Legal Costs    | —                | 13,276      | (13,276)  | nmf    | ) |
| Progressive-Related Transaction Costs | —                | 6,267       | (6,267)   | nmf    | ) |
| Restructuring Expenses                | —                | 2,264       | (2,264)   | nmf    | ) |
| Other Operating Income, Net           | (1,183)          | (672)       | (511)     | (76.0) | ) |
|                                       | 1,438,508        | 1,169,202   | 269,306   | 23.0   |   |
| OPERATING PROFIT                      | 152,355          | 78,711      | 73,644    | 93.6   |   |
| Interest Income                       | 1,231            | 1,827       | (596)     | (32.6) | ) |
| Interest Expense                      | (11,591)         | (7,012)     | 4,579     | 65.3   | ) |
| Other Non-Operating Income, Net       | 189              | 746         | (557)     | (74.7) | ) |
| EARNINGS BEFORE INCOME TAXES          | 142,184          | 74,272      | 67,912    | 91.4   |   |
| INCOME TAXES                          | 52,395           | 27,428      | 24,967    | 91.0   |   |
| NET EARNINGS                          | \$89,789         | \$46,844    | \$42,945  | 91.7   | % |

nmf - Calculation is not meaningful

Revenues

Information about our revenues by reportable segment is as follows:

|                                        | Six Months Ended |             | Change     |        |    |
|----------------------------------------|------------------|-------------|------------|--------|----|
| (In Thousands)                         | June 30,         |             |            |        |    |
|                                        | 2015             | 2014        | \$         | %      |    |
| REVENUES:                              |                  |             |            |        |    |
| Sales and Lease Ownership <sup>1</sup> | \$1,010,506      | \$1,043,760 | \$(33,254) | (3.2)  | )% |
| Progressive <sup>2</sup>               | 507,565          | 128,859     | 378,706    | 293.9  |    |
| HomeSmart <sup>1</sup>                 | 32,247           | 33,153      | (906)      | (2.7)  | )  |
| Franchise <sup>3</sup>                 | 32,495           | 34,309      | (1,814)    | (5.3)  | )  |
| Manufacturing                          | 54,034           | 54,898      | (864)      | (1.6)  | )  |
| Other                                  | 694              | 2,265       | (1,571)    | (69.4) | )  |
| Revenues of Reportable Segments        | 1,637,541        | 1,297,244   | 340,297    | 26.2   |    |
| Elimination of Intersegment Revenues   | (52,980)         | (53,662)    | 682        | 1.3    |    |
| Cash to Accrual Adjustments            | 6,302            | 4,331       | 1,971      | 45.5   |    |
| Total Revenues from External Customers | \$1,590,863      | \$1,247,913 | \$342,950  | 27.5   | %  |

<sup>1</sup> Segment revenue principally consists of lease revenues and fees, retail sales and non-retail sales, and is presented on a cash basis.

<sup>2</sup> Segment revenue consists of lease revenues and fees.

<sup>3</sup> Segment revenue consists of franchise royalties and fees.

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**Sales and Lease Ownership.** Sales and Lease Ownership segment revenues decreased \$33.3 million to \$1.0 billion primarily due to a \$35.0 million decrease in lease revenues and fees and a \$3.7 million decrease in retail sales, partially offset by a \$5.1 million increase in non-retail sales. Lease revenues and fees within the Sales and Lease Ownership segment decreased due to a 4.6% decrease in same store revenues and the net reduction of 24 Sales and Lease Ownership stores during the 24-month period ended June 30, 2015.

**Progressive.** Progressive segment revenues increased \$378.7 million to \$507.6 million primarily because Progressive was acquired on April 14, 2014 and its results have been included in the Company's consolidated results only from that date.

**HomeSmart.** HomeSmart segment revenues decreased \$906,000 to \$32.2 million primarily due to a 2.7% decrease in lease revenues and fees. Lease revenues and fees within the HomeSmart segment decreased due to a 6.4% decrease in same store revenues, which more than offset the impact of the net addition of five Company-owned stores during the 24-month period ended June 30, 2015.

**Franchise.** Franchise segment revenues decreased \$1.8 million to \$32.5 million due to a 2.5% decrease in same store revenues of existing franchised stores, which more than offset the impact of the net addition of 23 franchised stores during the 24-month period ended June 30, 2015.

**Other.** Revenues in the Other category are primarily revenues attributable to (i) the RIMCO segment through the date of sale in January 2014, (ii) leasing space to unrelated third parties in the corporate headquarters building and (iii) revenues from several minor unrelated activities.

#### Costs and Expenses

**Depreciation of lease merchandise.** Depreciation of lease merchandise increased \$209.7 million, or 52.3%, to \$610.3 million during the six months ended June 30, 2015, from \$400.6 million during the comparable period in 2014. Levels of merchandise on lease for the Aaron's core business remained consistent year over year, resulting in idle merchandise representing approximately 6% of total depreciation expense in 2015 and 2014. As a percentage of total lease revenues and fees, depreciation of lease merchandise increased to 45.0% from 39.6% in the prior year period, primarily due to the inclusion of Progressive's results of operations from the April 14, 2014 acquisition date. Progressive's inclusion increased depreciation as a percentage of lease revenues because, among other factors, its merchandise has a shorter average life on lease and a higher rate of early buyouts than our traditional lease-to-own business.

**Retail cost of sales.** Retail cost of sales decreased \$1.9 million, or 13.4%, to \$12.6 million during the six months ended June 30, 2015, from \$14.5 million for the comparable period in 2014, and as a percentage of retail sales, increased to 65.8% from 63.2% due to continued increased discounting of pre-leased merchandise.

**Non-retail cost of sales.** Non-retail cost of sales increased \$4.2 million, or 2.6%, to \$163.3 million during the six months ended June 30, 2015, from \$159.1 million for the comparable period in 2014, and as a percentage of non-retail sales, remained consistent at approximately 91% in both periods.

**Operating expenses.** Operating expenses increased \$79.7 million, or 13.9%, to \$653.5 million during the six months ended June 30, 2015, from \$573.8 million for the comparable period in 2014 due primarily to the consolidation of Progressive's results of operations from the April 2014 acquisition date. As a percentage of total revenues, operating expenses decreased to 41.1% in 2015 from 46.0% in 2014 as a result of cost reductions in personnel, advertising, facility rent, lease merchandise-related costs and other operating costs in Aaron's core business, as well as the acquisition of Progressive in April 2014.

**Financial advisory and legal costs.** Financial advisory and legal costs of \$13.3 million were incurred during the six months ended June 30, 2014 related to addressing now-resolved strategic matters, including an unsolicited acquisition offer, two proxy contests and certain other shareholder proposals.

**Progressive-related transaction costs.** Financial advisory and legal costs of \$6.3 million were incurred during the six months ended June 30, 2014 in connection with the acquisition of Progressive.

**Restructuring expenses.** In connection with the Company's July 15, 2014 announced closure of 44 Company-operated stores and restructuring of its home office and field support, charges of \$2.3 million were incurred during the six months ended June 30, 2014 related to the write-off and impairment of property, plant and equipment.



## Other Operating Income, Net

Other operating income, net consists of gains or losses on sales of Company-operated stores and delivery vehicles, impairment of property, plant and equipment, fair value adjustments on assets held for sale and gains or losses on other dispositions of property, plant and equipment. Information about the components of other operating income, net is as follows:

| (In Thousands)                                      | Six Months Ended<br>June 30, |             |
|-----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------|
|                                                     | 2015                         | 2014        |
| Gains on sales of stores and delivery vehicles      | \$ (2,290 )                  | \$ (2,050 ) |
| Impairment charges and losses on asset dispositions | 1,107                        | 1,378       |
| Other operating income, net                         | \$ (1,183 )                  | \$ (672 )   |

During the six months ended June 30, 2015, other operating income, net included net gains of \$1.3 million from the sale of 19 Aaron's Sales & Lease Ownership stores. In addition, the Company recognized impairment charges of \$793,000 on leasehold improvements related to Company-operated stores that were closed during the period.

During the six months ended June 30, 2014, other operating income, net included \$838,000 in losses incurred on the sale of the 27 Company-operated RIMCO stores in January 2014. In addition, the Company recognized gains of \$1.5 million from the sale of five Aaron's Sales & Lease Ownership stores during the six months ended June 30, 2014.

## Operating Profit

Interest income. Interest income decreased to \$1.2 million during the six months ended June 30, 2015 compared with \$1.8 million for the comparable period in 2014.

Interest expense. Interest expense increased \$4.6 million to \$11.6 million for the six months ended June 30, 2015 from \$7.0 million in 2014 due primarily to \$491.3 million of additional debt financing incurred in connection with the April 2014 Progressive acquisition.

Other non-operating income, net. Other non-operating income, net includes the impact of foreign currency exchange gains and losses, as well as gains and losses resulting from changes in the cash surrender value of Company-owned life insurance related to the Company's deferred compensation plan. Included in other non-operating income, net were foreign exchange transaction losses of \$312,000 and gains of \$461,000 during the six months ended June 30, 2015 and 2014, respectively. Gains related to the changes in the cash surrender value of Company-owned life insurance were \$501,000 and \$285,000 during the six months ended June 30, 2015 and June 30, 2014 respectively.

## Earnings Before Income Taxes

Information about our earnings (loss) before income taxes by reportable segment is as follows:

| (In Thousands)                                       | Six Months Ended June 30, |           | Change<br>2015 vs. 2014 |          |
|------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|----------|
|                                                      | 2015                      | 2014      | \$                      | %        |
| <b>EARNINGS (LOSS) BEFORE INCOME TAXES:</b>          |                           |           |                         |          |
| Sales and Lease Ownership                            | \$83,434                  | \$87,751  | \$ (4,317 )             | (4.9 )%  |
| Progressive                                          | 39,144                    | (323 )    | 39,467                  | nmf      |
| HomeSmart                                            | 411                       | (731 )    | 1,142                   | 156.2    |
| Franchise                                            | 25,891                    | 25,631    | 260                     | 1.0      |
| Manufacturing                                        | 1,658                     | 458       | 1,200                   | 262.0    |
| Other                                                | (23,147 )                 | (38,474 ) | 15,327                  | 39.8     |
| Earnings Before Income Taxes for Reportable Segments | 127,391                   | 74,312    | 53,079                  | 71.4     |
| Elimination of Intersegment Profit                   | (1,666 )                  | (427 )    | (1,239 )                | (290.2 ) |
| Cash to Accrual and Other Adjustments                | 16,459                    | 387       | 16,072                  | nmf      |
| Total                                                | \$142,184                 | \$74,272  | \$67,912                | 91.4 %   |

nmf - Calculation is not meaningful

Earnings before income taxes for the six months ended June 30, 2014 were impacted by \$13.3 million in financial advisory and legal costs related to addressing strategic matters, including proxy contests, and \$6.3 million in transaction costs related to the Progressive acquisition, both of which have been included in the Other category. In addition, earnings before income taxes for the six months ended June 30, 2014 included \$2.3 million in charges related to the closure of 44 Company-operated stores and restructuring of the Company's home office and field support, which has been included in the Sales and Lease Ownership segment results.

#### Income Tax Expense

Income tax expense increased \$25.0 million to \$52.4 million for the six months ended June 30, 2015 compared to \$27.4 million for the same period in 2014. The effective tax rate was 36.9% for the six months ended June 30, 2015 and 2014.

#### Net Earnings

Net earnings increased \$42.9 million to \$89.8 million during the six months ended June 30, 2015 from \$46.8 million during the six months ended June 30, 2014, representing a 91.7% increase. As a percentage of total revenues, net earnings were 5.6% and 3.8% in 2015 and 2014, respectively.

#### Overview of Financial Position

The major changes in the condensed consolidated balance sheet from December 31, 2014 to June 30, 2015 are as follows:

Cash and cash equivalents increased \$87.6 million to \$91.1 million at June 30, 2015 from \$3.5 million at December 31, 2014. For additional information, refer to the "Liquidity and Capital Resources" section below.

Income tax receivable decreased \$112.4 million due to the enactment of the Tax Increase Prevention Act of 2014 in December 2014, which extended bonus depreciation on eligible inventory held during 2014. Throughout 2014, the Company made payments based on the previously enacted law, resulting in an overpayment when the current act was signed. During the six months ended June 30, 2015, the Company applied for and received a \$100.0 million refund from the Internal Revenue Service ("IRS").

Deferred income taxes decreased \$70.4 million due primarily to the reversal of accelerated bonus depreciation deductions on lease merchandise that were taken in prior periods.

Debt decreased \$111.2 million due primarily to the net repayment of \$81.6 million in revolving credit borrowings and term loans outstanding as of December 31, 2014. Refer to "Liquidity and Capital Resources" below for further details regarding the Company's financing arrangements.

#### Liquidity and Capital Resources

##### General

For the six months ended June 30, 2015 and 2014, cash provided by operating activities was \$219.3 million and cash used in operating activities was \$24.6 million, respectively. The \$243.9 million increase in operating cash flows during the six months ended June 30, 2015 as compared to the six months ended June 30, 2014 was due primarily to a \$115.6 million increase related to a reduction in the Company's income tax receivable that existed as of December 31, 2014 and a \$77.6 million decrease in lease merchandise, net of the effects of acquisitions and dispositions. The change in income tax receivable is due to the enactment of the Tax Increase Prevention Act of 2014 in December 2014, which extended bonus depreciation on eligible inventory held during 2014. Throughout 2014, the Company made payments based on the previously enacted law, resulting in an overpayment when the current act was signed. During the six months ended June 30, 2015, the Company applied for and received a \$100.0 million income tax refund from the IRS.

Purchases of sales and lease ownership stores initially have a positive impact on operating cash flows because the lease merchandise, other assets and intangibles acquired are recognized as investing cash outflows in the period of acquisition. However, the initial positive impact may not be indicative of the extent to which these stores will contribute positively to operating cash flows in future periods. The amount of lease merchandise purchased in store acquisitions and shown under investing activities was \$3.1 million during the six months ended June 30, 2015. The amount of lease merchandise purchased and shown under investing activities was \$141.9 million during the six months ended June 30, 2014, substantially all of which was the direct result of the April 14, 2014 Progressive acquisition.



Sales of Company-operated stores are an additional source of investing cash flows, and resulted in net cash proceeds of \$8.3 million during the six months ended June 30, 2015. Proceeds from such sales were \$15.8 million during the six months ended June 30, 2014 and included cash consideration of \$10.0 million from a third party in connection with the sale of the 27 Company-operated RIMCO stores and the rights to five franchised RIMCO stores in January 2014. The amount of lease merchandise sold in these sales and shown under investing activities was \$6.5 million and \$2.7 million during the six months ended June 30, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

Our primary capital requirements consist of buying lease merchandise for sales and lease ownership stores and Progressive's operations. As we continue to grow, the need for additional lease merchandise is expected to remain our major capital requirement. Other capital requirements include purchases of property, plant and equipment, expenditures for acquisitions and income tax payments. These capital requirements historically have been financed through:

- cash flows from operations;
- trade credit with vendors;
- private debt offerings;
- bank debt;
- proceeds from the sale of lease return merchandise; and
- stock offerings.

#### Debt Financing

As of June 30, 2015, \$109.4 million in term loans were outstanding under the revolving credit agreement. Our current revolving credit facility matures December 9, 2019 and the total available credit on the facility as of June 30, 2015 was \$225.0 million.

As of June 30, 2015, the Company had outstanding \$300.0 million in aggregate principal amount of senior unsecured notes issued in a private placement in connection with the April 14, 2014 Progressive acquisition. The notes bear interest at the rate of 4.75% per year and mature on April 14, 2021. Payments of interest are due quarterly, commencing July 14, 2014, with principal payments of \$60.0 million each due annually commencing April 14, 2017. As of June 30, 2015, the Company had outstanding \$75.0 million in senior unsecured notes originally issued to several insurance companies in a private placement in July 2011. Effective April 28, 2014, the notes bear interest at the rate of 3.95% per year and mature on April 27, 2018. Quarterly payments of interest commenced July 27, 2011, and annual principal payments of \$25.0 million commenced April 27, 2014.

Our revolving credit and term loan agreement and senior unsecured notes, and our franchisee loan agreement discussed below, contain certain financial covenants. These covenants include requirements that the Company maintain ratios of (i) EBITDA plus lease expense to fixed charges of no less than 1.75:1.00 through December 31, 2015 and 2.00:1.00 thereafter and (ii) total debt to EBITDA of no greater than 3.25:1.00 through December 31, 2015 and 3.00:1.00 thereafter. In each case, EBITDA refers to the Company's consolidated earnings before interest and tax expense, depreciation (other than lease merchandise depreciation), amortization expense and other non-cash charges. If we fail to comply with these covenants, we will be in default under these agreements, and all amounts will become due immediately. We were in compliance with all of these covenants at June 30, 2015 and believe that we will continue to be in compliance in the future.

#### Share Repurchases

We purchase our stock in the market from time to time as authorized by our Board of Directors. As of June 30, 2015, we have the authority to purchase 10,496,421 additional shares.

#### Dividends

We have a consistent history of paying dividends, having paid dividends for 28 consecutive years. At its November 2014 meeting, our board of directors increased the quarterly dividend by 9.5%, raising it to \$.023 per share from \$.021 per share. Aggregate dividend payments for the six months ended June 30, 2015 were \$1.7 million. Subject to sufficient operating profits, any future capital needs and other contingencies, we currently expect to continue our policy of paying dividends.

If we achieve our expected level of growth in our operations, we anticipate we will supplement our expected cash flows from operations, existing credit facilities, vendor credit and proceeds from the sale of lease return merchandise by expanding our existing credit facilities, by securing additional debt financing, or by seeking other sources of capital

to ensure we will be able to fund our capital and liquidity needs for at least the next 12 to 24 months.

## Commitments

**Income Taxes.** During the six months ended June 30, 2015, we received income tax refunds, net of payments, of \$13.1 million. Within the next six months, we anticipate that we will make cash payments for federal and state income taxes of approximately \$113.0 million.

The Tax Relief, Unemployment Insurance Reauthorization, and Job Creation Act of 2010 allowed for deduction of 100% of the adjusted basis of qualified property for assets placed in service after September 8, 2010 and before December 31, 2011. The American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012 extended bonus depreciation of 50% through the end of 2013. The Tax Increase Prevention Act of 2014 signed into law on December 20, 2014 extended bonus depreciation and reauthorized work opportunity tax credits through the end of 2014. As a result, the Company received a \$100.0 million refund from the IRS during the six months ended June 30, 2015. Accordingly, our cash flow benefited from having a lower cash tax obligation, which, in turn, provided additional cash flow from operations.

Because of our sales and lease ownership model, in which the Company remains the owner of merchandise on lease, we benefit more from bonus depreciation, relatively, than traditional furniture, electronics and appliance retailers. In future years, we may have to make increased tax payments on our earnings as a result of expected profitability and the reversal of the accelerated depreciation deductions that were taken in 2014 and prior periods. We estimate that at December 31, 2014, the remaining tax deferral associated with the acts described above was approximately \$176.0 million, of which approximately 79% is expected to reverse in 2015 and most of the remainder during 2016 and 2017.

**Leases.** We lease warehouse and retail store space for most of our store-based operations, call center space for Progressive's operations, and management and information technology space for corporate functions under operating leases expiring at various times through 2033. Most of the leases contain renewal options for additional periods ranging from one to 20 years or provide for options to purchase the related property at predetermined purchase prices that do not represent bargain purchase options. We also lease computer equipment and transportation vehicles under operating leases expiring during the next four years. We expect that most leases will be renewed or replaced by other leases in the normal course of business. Approximate future minimum rental payments required under operating leases that have initial or remaining non-cancelable terms in excess of one year as of June 30, 2015 are shown in the table below under "Contractual Obligations and Commitments."

As of June 30, 2015, we have 20 capital leases, 19 of which are with a limited liability company ("LLC") whose managers and owners are five current officers (of which four are current executive officers) and six former officers of the Company, with no individual owning more than 13.33% of the LLC. Nine of these related party leases relate to properties purchased from us in October and November of 2004 by the LLC for a total purchase price of \$6.8 million. The LLC is leasing back these properties to us for a 15-year term, with a five-year renewal at our option, at an aggregate annual lease amount of \$788,000. Another 10 of these related party leases relate to properties purchased from the Company in December 2002 by the LLC for a total purchase price of approximately \$5.0 million. The LLC leases back these properties to the Company for a 15-year term at an aggregate annual lease amount of \$1.2 million. We do not currently plan to enter into any similar related party lease transactions in the future.

In the past, we financed a small portion of our store expansion through sale-leaseback transactions. The properties were generally sold at net book value and the resulting leases qualified and are accounted for as operating leases. We do not have any retained or contingent interests in the stores nor do we provide any guarantees, other than a corporate level guarantee of lease payments, in connection with the sale-leasebacks. The operating leases that resulted from these transactions are included in the table below under "Contractual Obligations and Commitments."

**Franchise Loan Guaranty.** We have guaranteed the borrowings of certain independent franchisees under a franchise loan agreement with several banks. Our franchise loan facility matures December 9, 2015 and the maximum commitment available under the facility as of June 30, 2015 was \$175.0 million.

At June 30, 2015, the portion that we might be obligated to repay in the event franchisees defaulted was \$87.6 million. However, due to franchisee borrowing limits, we believe any losses associated with any defaults would be mitigated through recovery of lease merchandise and other assets. Since the inception of the franchise loan program in 1994, we have had no significant associated losses. We believe the likelihood of any significant amounts being funded in connection with these commitments to be remote.



Contractual Obligations and Commitments. The following table shows the approximate contractual obligations, including interest, and commitments to make future payments as of June 30, 2015:

| (In Thousands)                     | Total       | Period Less Than 1 Year | Period 1-3 Years | Period 3-5 Years | Period Over 5 Years |
|------------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Debt, Excluding Capital Leases     | \$484,375   | \$31,250                | \$195,000        | \$198,125        | \$60,000            |
| Capital Leases                     | 10,483      | 2,792                   | 4,608            | 2,360            | 723                 |
| Interest Obligations               | 74,015      | 20,457                  | 33,597           | 17,202           | 2,759               |
| Operating Leases                   | 491,612     | 111,413                 | 164,608          | 104,774          | 110,817             |
| Purchase Obligations               | 12,076      | 9,932                   | 2,144            | —                | —                   |
| Retirement Obligations             | 6,255       | 4,050                   | 2,150            | 26               | 29                  |
| Regulatory Obligations             | 17,500      | 17,500                  | —                | —                | —                   |
| Total Contractual Cash Obligations | \$1,096,316 | \$197,394               | \$402,107        | \$322,487        | \$174,328           |

For future interest payments on variable-rate debt, which are based on a specified margin plus a base rate (LIBOR), we used the variable rate in effect at June 30, 2015 to calculate these payments. Our variable rate debt at June 30, 2015 consisted of our borrowings under our revolving credit facilities. Future interest payments related to our revolving credit facilities are based on the borrowings outstanding at June 30, 2015 through their respective maturity dates, assuming such borrowings are outstanding at that time. The variable portion of the rate at June 30, 2015 ranged between 2.06% and 2.19% for all of our variable-rate debt. Future interest payments may be different depending on future borrowing activity and interest rates.

The following table shows the Company's approximate commercial commitments as of June 30, 2015:

| (In Thousands)                       | Total Amounts Committed | Period Less Than 1 Year | Period 1-3 Years | Period 3-5 Years | Period Over 5 Years |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Guaranteed Borrowings of Franchisees | \$ 87,620               | \$ 87,620               | \$—              | \$—              | \$—                 |

Purchase obligations are primarily related to certain advertising and marketing programs. We have no long-term commitments to purchase merchandise nor do we have significant purchase agreements that specify minimum quantities or set prices that exceed our expected requirements for three months.

Retirement obligations primarily represent future payments associated with the retirement of the Company's founder and Chairman of the Board during the year ended December 31, 2012 and both the Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Operating Officer during year ended December 31, 2014.

Regulatory obligations represent future payments associated with the resolution of the regulatory investigation by the California Attorney General into the Company's leasing, marketing, and privacy practices.

Deferred income tax liabilities as of June 30, 2015 were \$198.1 million. This amount does not directly relate to the federal and state income tax payments described above and is not included in the total contractual obligations table because we believe this presentation would not be meaningful. Deferred income tax liabilities are calculated based on temporary differences between the tax basis of assets and liabilities and their respective book basis, which will result in taxable amounts in future years when the liabilities are settled at their reported financial statement amounts. The results of these calculations do not have a direct connection with the amount of cash taxes to be paid in any future periods. As a result, scheduling deferred income tax liabilities as payments due by period could be misleading because this scheduling would not relate to liquidity needs.

#### Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

As of June 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014, we had no material off-balance sheet arrangements that had or are reasonably likely to have a current or future effect on our financial condition, results of operations, liquidity or capital resources.

#### Recent Accounting Pronouncements

Refer to Note 1 to the condensed consolidated financial statements for a discussion of recently issued accounting pronouncements.

### ITEM 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

In connection with the Progressive acquisition in April 2014, the Company amended and restated its revolving credit agreement, amended certain financing agreements and entered into two new note purchase agreements, which are discussed in further detail in Note 6 to the consolidated financial statements in the 2014 Annual Report.

As of June 30, 2015, we had \$375.0 million of senior unsecured notes outstanding at a weighted-average fixed rate of 4.6%. Amounts outstanding under our revolving credit agreement as of June 30, 2015 consisted of \$109.4 million in term loans. Borrowings under the revolving credit agreement are indexed to LIBOR or the prime rate, which exposes us to the risk of increased interest costs if interest rates rise. Based on the Company's variable-rate debt outstanding as of June 30, 2015, a hypothetical 1.0% increase or decrease in interest rates would increase or decrease interest expense by \$1.1 million on an annualized basis.

We do not use any significant market risk sensitive instruments to hedge commodity, foreign currency, or other risks, and hold no market risk sensitive instruments for trading or speculative purposes.

### ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

#### Disclosure Controls and Procedures.

An evaluation of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures, as defined in Rule 13a-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, was carried out by management, with the participation of the Chief Executive Officer ("CEO") and Chief Financial Officer ("CFO"), as of the end of the period covered by this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q.

No system of controls, no matter how well designed and operated, can provide absolute assurance that the objectives of the system of controls are met, and no evaluation of controls can provide absolute assurance that the system of controls has operated effectively in all cases. Our disclosure controls and procedures, however, are designed to provide reasonable assurance that the objectives of disclosure controls and procedures are met.

Based on management's evaluation, the CEO and CFO concluded that the Company's disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of the date of the evaluation to provide reasonable assurance that the objectives of disclosure controls and procedures are met.

#### Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting.

There were no changes in the Company's internal control over financial reporting, as defined in Rule 13a-15(f) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, during the six months ended June 30, 2015 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

## PART II – OTHER INFORMATION

### ITEM 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

From time to time, we are party to various legal proceedings arising in the ordinary course of business. While any proceedings contain an element of uncertainty, we do not currently believe that any of the outstanding legal proceedings to which we are a party will have a material adverse impact on our business, financial position or results of operations. However, an adverse resolution of a number of these items may have a material adverse impact on our business, financial position or results of operations. For further information, see Note 5 to the consolidated financial statements under the heading “Legal Proceedings,” which discussion is incorporated herein by reference.

### ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

Aaron's business is subject to certain risks and uncertainties. The Company has added the risk factor below to the list of risk factors previously reported in the 2014 Annual Report. Any of the risk factors disclosed below and in the 2014 Annual Report could cause our actual results to differ materially from historical or anticipated results. These risks and uncertainties are not the only ones we face, but represent the risks that we believe are material. However, there may be additional risks that we currently consider not to be material or of which we are not currently aware, and any of these risks could cause our actual results to differ materially from historical or anticipated results.

We may be subject to new or additional federal and state financial services and consumer protection laws and regulations that could expose us to government investigations, significant compliance costs or burdens or force us to change our business practices in a manner that may be materially adverse to our operations, prospects or financial condition.

Currently, 47 states and the District of Columbia specifically regulate rent-to-own transactions, including states in which we currently operate Aaron's Sales & Lease Ownership and HomeSmart stores, as well as states in which our Progressive business has retail partners. While no federal law currently specifically regulates the rent-to-own industry, federal legislation to regulate the industry has been proposed in the past and may be proposed in the future. For example, federal and regulatory authorities such as the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (the “CFPB”) and the Federal Trade Commission (the “FTC”) are increasingly focused on the subprime financial marketplace in which the rent-to-own industry operates, and may propose and adopt new legislation that could result in significant adverse changes in the regulatory landscape for businesses such as ours.

The risks in Progressive's “virtual” lease-to-own business differ in some potentially significant respects from the risks of Aaron's store-based lease-to-own business. These risks, whether arising from the offer by third party retailers of Progressive's lease-purchase solution alongside traditional cash, check or credit payment options or otherwise, may also be materially adverse to our operations, prospects or financial condition. Furthermore, Progressive's business relies on third party retailers (over whom Progressive cannot exercise the degree of control and oversight that Aaron's and its franchisees can assert over their own respective employees) for many important business functions, from advertising through lease transaction closing. Accordingly, there is the potential that regulators may target virtual lease-to-own transactions and/or new regulations or legislation could be adopted that negatively impact Progressive's ability to offer virtual lease-to-own programs through third party retail partners.

In addition, as we execute on our strategic plans, we may expand into complementary businesses that engage in financial, banking or lending services that are subject to a variety of statutes and regulatory requirements in addition to those regulations currently applicable to our legacy operations, which may impose significant costs, limitations or prohibitions on the manner in which we currently conduct our businesses as well as those we may acquire in the future. Any additional laws or regulations may result in changes in the way our operations are regulated, exposing us to increased regulatory oversight, more burdensome regulations and increased litigation risk, each of which could have a material adverse effect on us.

Any proposed rulemaking by the CFPB, the FTC or state regulators or other adverse changes in existing laws, the passage of new adverse legislation by states or the federal government, or the introduction of additional laws or

regulations applicable to complementary businesses could materially increase both our costs of complying with laws and the risk that we could be subject to government investigations and subject to sanctions if we are not in compliance. In addition, new burdensome rules or regulations could force us to modify our business model, expose us to increased litigation risk, and might reduce the economic potential of our sales and lease ownership operations.

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

The following table presents our share repurchase activity for the three months ended June 30, 2015:

| Period                               | Total Number of Shares Purchased <sup>1</sup> | Average Price Paid per Share <sup>2</sup> | Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs | Maximum Number of Shares that May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs <sup>3</sup> |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| April 1, 2015 through April 30, 2015 | —                                             | —                                         | —                                                                                | 10,496,421                                                                                  |
| May 1, 2015 through May 31, 2015     | —                                             | —                                         | —                                                                                | 10,496,421                                                                                  |
| June 1, 2015 through June 30, 2015   | —                                             | —                                         | —                                                                                | 10,496,421                                                                                  |
| Total                                | —                                             | —                                         | —                                                                                |                                                                                             |

<sup>1</sup> The total number of shares purchased includes shares surrendered, or deemed surrendered, in satisfaction of the exercise price and/or to satisfy tax withholding obligations in connection with the exercise of stock options and/or the vesting of restricted stock issued to employees.

<sup>2</sup> Average price paid per share for shares purchased as part of our share repurchase program (includes brokerage commissions).

<sup>3</sup> As of June 30, 2015, 10,496,421 shares of common stock remained available for repurchase under the purchase authority approved by the Company's Board of Directors and publicly announced from time-to-time.

## ITEM 3. DEFAULTS UPON SENIOR SECURITIES

None.

## ITEM 4. MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES

None.

## ITEM 5. OTHER INFORMATION

None.

ITEM 6. EXHIBITS

| EXHIBIT NO. | DESCRIPTION OF EXHIBIT                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 10.1*       | Amendment No. 4 to the Aaron's, Inc. Employees Retirement Plan and Trust, as amended and restated, dated as of April 23, 2014.                                                                                                                                         |
| 10.2*       | Amendment No. 5 to the Aaron's, Inc. Employees Retirement Plan and Trust, as amended and restated, dated as of November 12, 2014.                                                                                                                                      |
| 10.3        | Aaron's, Inc. 2015 Equity and Incentive Plan (incorporated by reference to Appendix A to the Company's Definitive Proxy Statement filed on April 7, 2015).                                                                                                             |
| 10.4        | Form of Employee Stock Option Award Agreement under the Aaron's, Inc. 2015 Equity and Incentive Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 99.2 of the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-8 (333-204014) filed with the SEC on May 8, 2015).                   |
| 10.5        | Form of Executive Performance Share Award Agreement under the Aaron's, Inc. 2015 Equity and Incentive Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 99.3 of the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-8 (333-204014) filed with the SEC on May 8, 2015).             |
| 10.6*       | Amendment to Form of Executive Performance Share Award Agreement under the Aaron's, Inc. 2015 Equity and Incentive Plan.                                                                                                                                               |
| 10.7        | Form of Executive Officer Restricted Stock Unit Award Agreement under the Aaron's, Inc. 2015 Equity and Incentive Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 99.4 of the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-8 (333-204014) filed with the SEC on May 8, 2015). |
| 10.8*       | Amendment to Form of Executive Officer Restricted Stock Unit Award Agreement under the Aaron's, Inc. 2015 Equity and Incentive Plan.                                                                                                                                   |
| 10.9        | Form of Director Restricted Stock Unit Award Agreement under the Aaron's, Inc. 2015 Equity and Incentive Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 99.5 of the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-8 (333-204014) filed with the SEC on May 8, 2015).          |
| 10.10*      | Amendment to Form of Option Award Agreement for awards made in or after February 2014.                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 10.11*      | Amendment to Form of Restricted Stock Unit Award Agreement for awards made prior to February 2014.                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 10.12*      | Amendment to Form of Performance Share Award Agreement for awards made in or after February 2014.                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 31.1*       | Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) and Rule 15d-14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act, as amended.                                                                                                                                     |
| 31.2*       | Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) and Rule 15d-14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act, as amended.                                                                                                                                     |
| 32.1*       | Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.                                                                                                                             |

32.2\* Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

101 The following financial information from the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2015, formatted in XBRL (eXtensible Business Reporting Language): (i) Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets as of June 30, 2015 and December 31, 2014, (ii) Condensed Consolidated Statements of Earnings for the six months ended June 30, 2015 and 2014, (iii) Condensed Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income for the six months ended June 30, 2015 and 2014, (iv) Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the six months ended June 30, 2015 and 2014, and (v) the Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

\*Filed herewith.

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.

AARON'S, INC.  
(Registrant)

Date: August 6, 2015

By: /s/ Gilbert L. Danielson  
Gilbert L. Danielson  
Executive Vice President,  
Chief Financial Officer

Date: August 6, 2015

By: /s/ Robert P. Sinclair, Jr.  
Robert P. Sinclair, Jr.  
Vice President,  
Corporate Controller